

Goa University under Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan program initiated oysters farming and now harvested oysters from the Madkai village

Under Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan, Goa University started oyster farming at two of its adopted villages among five at Madkai and Palle Siridao. Three rafts were deployed at each site in both the villages. Oyster farming program was inaugurated by then Chancellor of Goa University and Governor of Goa, his excellency Shree Bhagat Singh Koshiyari ji, Honourable Vice chancellor of Goa University, Prof. Varun Sahni ji, Officiating Registrar of Goa University Prof. Radhika Nayak and Madkai MLA shri Sudin Dhavalikar ji in presence of various faculties of Goa University, village people, school teachers and students.

Oyster ropes were deployed during March 2021 in a Zuari estuary stretch at Madkai and Palle Siridao village. Total 3 rafts of 3x 3 meters were deployed in each village. Each raft was tied with 38 ropes, each rope of 1 meter length. Each rope was tied with 4 oyster shells. Though the deployment of ropes was late, good settling /attachment of seedlings were observed on oyster shells. At the time of harvest, after three months of deployment, oyster growth ranged between 2- 6 cm. To get high yield, oyster farming should begin soon after the monsoon. Oyster farming is a program that has been initiated involving local people particularly women groups. In Madkai village mussel farming has become a success story. Like mussels, oysters are also in high demand in Goa and the tourism industry increases the demand of sea foods, among which shellfish is delicacy. The marine farming projects like mussel and oyster farming can be an alternate source of income, self-employment and low-cost entrepreneurship. Shell fish has huge demand globally as well. Goa being coastal state, there is a huge potential for such projects and can boost the economy of state. Government should provide and support to implement such projects at large scale in Goa. Also, it can be a sustainable sea food as well as sustainable livelihood option.

Goa University Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan program has made this effort to initiate marine farming with oysters and mussels and looking forward to contribute more with novel ideas in this field.





















2021/6/23 16:12