

FORMATION OF FISH FARMER GROUP

For promotion of advance aquaculture and introduction of modern technologies Fisheries Development Board is establishing fish farmer groups and self help groups. First effort was done in the month of December 2010. The detail is as under:

A meeting of local fish farmers of Alipur chatha was convened on the fish farm of Mr Bashart Ali Cheema in which about 30-40 local fish farmers participated. After formal introduction farmers were asked to tell the name of progressive fish farmers of the area and with their help a list of progressive fish farmer is prepared (Flag A) for future contact and usage.

The farmers were told the benefits of the group farming and what they will achieve when they will be united in a group. The development agencies will be attracted to them due to easy access through group. The representatives of the groups will be invited in workshops, seminars and trainings etc.

The farmers of Alipur Chatha area was keen to start Advance farming but they raised the following points during conversation and asked for their solutions:

1. Gift Tilapia is a species very much alike with Tilapia mozambique, which is already present in the local fish farms and considered as a pest species, it is proliferate breeder and fetches very small prices in the local fish market.
2. Pangasius species is not known in the area and its culture and marketing need research and investment.
3. The both above mentioned species will require artificial fish feed which is not available in the Pakistani markets.
4. To start mass culture of these two species, the farmers demanded demonstration of farming of these species in their area with full growth potentials.
5. Advance aquaculture needs much investment and the local farmers cannot bear such expenses to start intensive culture practices. They demanded that some loan facility may be provided to them which they will return on harvest of the crop.
6. Fisheries Development Board may facilitate the farmers by providing them the information and material assistance for start of advance aquaculture, like free supply of fish seed and artificial fish feed and assistance in marketing of the fish.

7. If the rate in fish market are low, even then the fish farmer are bound to sale their fish due to non availability of cold storage facilities in the local fish markets.

To establish self help groups and to solve problems listed above the farmers were motivated to organize themselves in a group like self help group so the group as a whole can reap the benefits of information and networking etc. Procedure and modalities of self help group was described in the meeting and some progressive fish farmers were found agreed to form a self help group and register themselves under the social welfare department as a fish farmer group/ organization. Further updates will come when the groups are formed.

List of progressive fish farmers in the area of Alipur Chatha

1. Shahid Abbad, Syyed Nagar
2. Rayasat Ali Shah, Hazarat Kalian wala
3. Tanweer Abbas, syyed Nagar
4. Rana Nazar Ahmad, Kamokey
5. Ghulam Abbad, Bucha Chatha
6. Imtiaz Naseem cheena, Ojlan kalan
7. Sobay Khan Bhatti,
8. Haji Arshad Ullah Chatha, Hazarat kalian wali
9. Khalid hameed jarah, jirah village
10. Haji zaka ullah chatha, kot hara
11. Haji Nasur ullah chatha, kot hara
12. Aftab ahmad chatha, kot hara
13. Malik Mushataq Ahmad, alipur
14. Farooq Javaid chatha, madrasa chatha
15. Haji Muhammad Iqbal chatha, jalal pur chatha
16. Haji Inam ullah Tatla, jora shaler
17. Ikhlmaq ulhaq mazhar, Marajkay chatha
18. Sayyed Farasat Ali Bukhari, hazart kalian wala