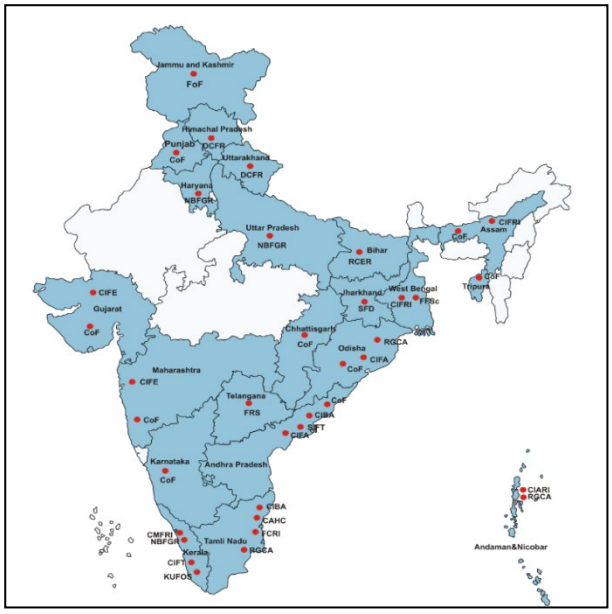
National Fish Quality Management Network Programme

The NFDB envisaged 'National Fish Quality Management Network Programme' to address the diseases and food safety issues in aquaculture.

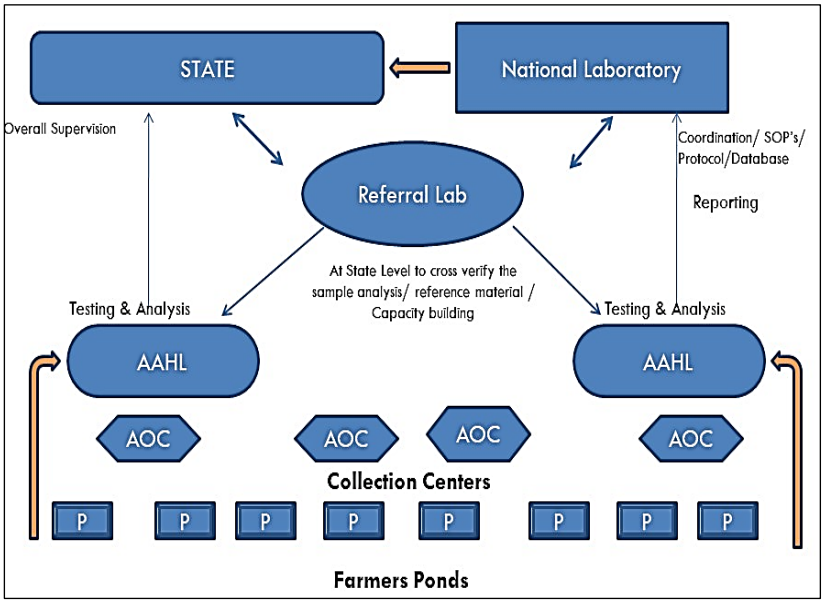
Background

To meet national obligations (*Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act 2009)*, the **National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD)** has been implemented since 2013-14; covered 4,558 farms and 53,403 samples in 16 states and two Union Territories through 29 National/State Fisheries Research Institutes/colleges. A total of 10 OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) listed pathogens identified from different aquatic environments.



States/UTs covered under NSPAAD

To expand coverage and scope of the existing network of surveillance, NFDB is providing financial assistance to set up **Aquatic Animal Health Laboratories (AAHL) and Referral laboratories (RL)** in public and private sector. The specific roles of these laboratories are as follows:



Institutional Framework and Functional Flow of Services under National Fish Quality Management Network Programme

Aquatic Animal Health Labs (AAHL) aim to provide diagnostic support services to the aquaculture farmers in terms of water quality analysis, microbiological and molecular diagnosis of pathogens of national and international concern. It is targeted to setup 24 AAHL across the country.

Referral Laboratory (RL) aims to analyse fish samples for antibiotic residues, pesticides,

preservatives and bio-toxicants besides conducting disease diagnosis. It is targeted to establish 8 Referral Labs in public & private sector during the year.

Aims & Objectives

- To supplement the existing network of diagnostic laboratories by creating new laboratories with enhanced competency and wider scope.
- To establish a system for monitoring the residues of aquaculture drugs, environment contaminants, etc. in shrimp, scampi, freshwater fish, hatchery seed and feed samples through primary producers' enrolment.
- Establish IT enabled networking of testing laboratories, State Governments, and other stakeholders

Scope/Survey Area

All aquaculture farms, hatcheries, cages and rafts linked to shrimp, scampi, freshwater & brackish water fish farming, seed, mussels and ornamental fish production units, markets and processing centres.

Unit Cost

1. Setting up of Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory – Unit cost Rs. 120 lakh
2. Setting up/Upgradation of Referral Laboratory – subject to NFDB terms & conditions

Components of the Laboratory

Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory	Referral Laboratory
Water Quality Lab	Water Quality Lab
Microbiology Lab	Microbiology Lab
Sterilization Room	PCR Lab
PCR Lab	Virology/Histo-Pathology
Laboratory Furnishing	Residual testing Lab (LCMS/GCMS/HPLC etc.)
Recurring	Laboratory Furnishing & Recurring

Proposed Outcomes

- The programme will lead to institutionalization of disease surveillance and fish quality monitoring and reporting system.
- There would be a shift from an unorganised quality management in domestic trade to a structured and organized governance.
- The programme will strengthen disease reporting to OIE and NACA.