



SUCCESS STORY



PMMSY helped rebuild career after job loss due to Covid Pandemic!

Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic has been tough on many people. Some have lost their jobs, others had drastic reduction in take home salary. During this difficult phase, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) turned out to be a life-saver for Shri. Kapil Talwar. Mr. Talwar is a native of Khatima block in Udham Singh Nagar district of Uttarakhand. He used to run a training and consulting firm along with his co-partner which came to a halt as a result of COVID-19 pandemic in 2019. There was no income, and all his accumulated capital was utilized to manage the needs of his family.



Picture 1: Shri. Kapil Talwar

His life once again came to the point from where he began his career years ago with no funds at hand. While he was looking for income generation model during these tough times, he came across Biofloc Fish Technology on internet as one of the most sought after and revenue generating fisheries activity. Having zero knowledge on Fisheries, still he planned to take up the challenge and contacted Department of Fisheries, Uttarakhand Government to gain more knowledge where he was apprised by the officials about the process of setting up of Biofloc unit under financial assistance of PMMSY scheme.

From Survival to Revival:

During the FY 2020-21, he was selected by the Department of Fisheries, Uttarakhand as one of the beneficiaries under PMMSY for setting up large Biofloc unit having 50 tanks of 4m diameter and 1.5 m height at Khatima area in Udham Nagar district. Under the scheme he received 40% financial assistance as subsidy of the total project cost of Rs. 50 lakhs and managed the balance required fund out of his own pocket investment.



Picture 2: Biofloc unit constructed under PMMSY Scheme

In the unit, he selected Pangasius and Singhi species to culture. He has dedicated 12 tanks as Pangasius fish nursery tank to ensure availability of fish seed throughout the year and have dedicated one tank as hospital tank to take care of the diseased fish/infected fish. Being the first time in fisheries, he has stocked 500-600 Pangasius fish per tank.

Sl. No	Type of Infrastructure	Infrastructure established			
		Year of establishment	No. of units established	Total Extent (Ha)	Production capacity per unit (Tonnes)
1	Biofloc Unit	2021	50 tanks	0.5	0.5 per tank



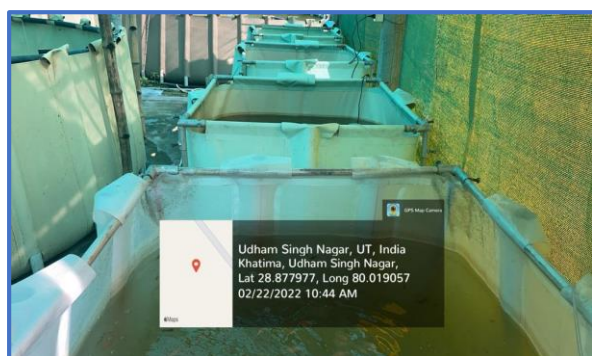
Additionally, realizing the market potential of Ornamental fish in India, he has also set up a small PVC fish tank for breeding ornamental fish species as an expansion to his business. Which brought him the crown of being first Ornamental fish brooder in Northern India. Using expertise services, he is producing Biofloc using probiotics. He has successfully reared 50,000 pangasius in nursery tank and the average weight of each harvested pangasius is above 1kg. In 2022, and he is targeting to stock 1,000 Pangasius fish and 500 Roopchand fish/Pacu species in each tank.

Tanks are installed at a controlled environment to manage the water temperature in the tanks during winter as per requirements. He has also experimented in harvesting snakehead fish in his unit and have successfully produced approx. 5,000 snakehead fish.

Harvest and Income:

Financial assistance under PMMSY and technical guidance from the Department of Fisheries, Uttarakhand has acted as a revival and reconstruction of Shri. Kapil Talwar's livelihood. His performance and earnings over the last year is depicted in the below table:

Year	Business Activity (Production/ Service)	Production Related		Service Related	Net profit (Rs. in Lakhs)
		Annual Production (in Tonnes)	Annual Quantity marketed (in Tonnes)	Annual Value of Services Provided (Rs. in Lakhs)	
2020-21	Production	18	18	-	7.70
	Service	-	-	0.30	0.10
	Seed Sale	0.55	0.55	-	0.50



Picture 3: Ornamental Fish Tanks



Picture 4: Pangasius Nursery

Impact of the Intervention:

Setting up the Biofloc unit not only helped Mr. Talwar to recover his source of earnings after the Covid havoc but also but helped seven people (Male – Five, Female – Two) from his area to earn a decent livelihood as a result of this initiative. In collaboration with Dept. of Fisheries, he is also helping rural women to set up fish breeding tanks in their backyards to create a sustainable business model.
