



## SUCCESS STORY



### Impact of Eco-Hatchery project in improving the livelihood!!

#### Background:

Smt. Majeda Khatun is a native of Dakhinamari village in Manikpur block of Bongaigaon district in the northeastern state Assam. She completed her basic school education till standard four. After getting married she was playing the dual role of a housewife and a fish grower in the family. Out of fish growing, she used to earn her livelihood.



Picture 1: Smt. Majeda Khatun

While she was exploring activities, which would yield high returns to her, she gradually discovered that in the nearby areas of her district, Bongaigaon there is a big challenge of getting quality seed and the supply is erratic. This led her to think about undertaking such activity which will produce good quality fish seed and she got in touch with the Department of Fisheries, Assam Government.

On the other hand, the Department of Assam was identifying beneficiaries under Blue Revolution Scheme to increase the fish and quality seed production in the State with optimum utilization of resources. Smt. Majeda Khatun was selected as one of the beneficiaries under the Blue Revolution Scheme during the FY 2017-18 for implementing the Eco-Hatchery project in Bongaigaon district of Assam.

#### Journey of Establishing Eco-Hatchery:

Under Blue Revolution Scheme, Smt. Majeda Khatun got project approval for setting up Eco-Hatchery with a total project cost of Rs. 13 lakhs, out of which she received Rs. 5.20 lakhs as financial assistance under the Scheme. The entire subsidy amount was disbursed to her utilizing which she completed the construction work and began the breeding activities in the year 2021.

Initially, she possessed an area of 1.19 ha and comprised of eight tanks for undertaking various fisheries-related activities. Of the total eight tanks, three tanks (0.18 ha) are used as nursery tanks, two tanks (0.26 ha) as rearing tanks, and the other three tanks (0.75 ha) as stocking tanks. Out of 1.19 ha, 0.39 ha is her own land, and the remaining 0.81 ha is taken on lease. After availing of the scheme, she has expanded the unit further by taking a 6.80 ha area on lease and constructed fishpond and eco-hatchery.

Sl. No	Type of Infrastructure	Infrastructure established			
		Year of establishment	No. of units established	Total Extent (Ha)	Production capacity per unit
1	Pond	2015-16	8	1.19 ha	3.5 tonnes/ha
2	Eco-Hatchery	2017-18	1	-	10 million



## Maintenance and Strategies adopted in the Hatchery:

Smt. Majeda Khatun manages brood stock with protein rich feed after segregation of male-female and maintains the ratio of 1:1. She also monitors the water quality parameters regularly and follows Best Management Practices (BMP) during breeding operation.



Picture 2: Eco-Hatchery established under Blue Revolution Scheme

## Outcome of the Hatchery Operations:

Currently, she is producing fish seed as well as table fish which is being sold within and outside the district as well. Year-wise performance from her hatchery is provided in the below table:

Year	Business Activity (Production/Service)	Production Related		Net profit (Rs. in Lakhs)
		Annual Production (in Million)	Annual Quantity marketed (in Million)	
2020-21	Spawn	8.00	6.00	0.10
	Fry	1.00	0.50	1.50
	Fingerling	0.15	0.10	6.00
2021-22	Spawn	10.00	7.00	0.15
	Fry	1.50	1.00	1.50
	Fingerling	0.20	0.15	8.00

## Impact:

By undertaking the implementation of the Eco-Hatchery project, Smt. Majeda Khatun has generated employment for eight more local people from her district (Male – Six, Female – Two). Additionally, there is an improvement in her livelihood as the production of quality seed feed has led to the doubling of her income.

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