

ICAR Foundation Day Celebrated at CICFR, Bhimtal

16th July, 2026, Bhimtal

The Central Institute of Coldwater Fisheries Research (CICFR), Bhimtal, celebrated the 98th Foundation Day of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) by participating in the live webcast of the national celebrations held at New Delhi.

The programme was attended virtually by all scientists, technical officers, administrative personnel, supporting staff, students, and research scholars of the Institute. The national event, held in New Delhi, was graced by the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Cabinet Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Panchayati Raj Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Ministers of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, and Shri Ram Nath Thakur, Director General, ICAR and Secretary, DARE, Dr. M. L. Jat along with other distinguished dignitaries.

Dr. M. L. Jat, Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR, welcomed the gathering and presented a comprehensive overview of the Council's major achievements, ongoing initiatives, and future strategic priorities aimed at advancing agricultural research, innovation, and technology-led agricultural development in the country.

In his address, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan highlighted the remarkable achievements of ICAR during its 98-year journey and emphasized the pivotal role of research and innovation in advancing agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and fisheries. He stated that achieving the vision of a developed agriculture sector and prosperous farmers requires constant efforts in research, developing advanced technologies, and the effective transfer of innovations to farmers. He called upon the Council to develop 100 Smart Villages over the next two years as a landmark initiative to commemorate 100 years of ICAR and to demonstrate the transformative impact of agricultural research and innovation on rural development.

Shri Bhagirath Choudhary and Shri Ram Nath Thakur emphasized the need to align agricultural research with farmers' requirements and to develop technologies that address the emerging challenges of climate change.

The Foundation Day celebrations showcased ICAR's outstanding achievements, including the development of hundreds of improved crop varieties, climate resilient technologies, advances in horticulture, fisheries and livestock production, digital agriculture, sustainable farming practices, and extensive capacity building of farmers. ICAR's research has significantly contributed to record foodgrain production, enhanced fish and milk production, and strengthened India's position as a global leader in agricultural innovation.

During the programme, ICAR officially released "**Ovaqua**," an induced breeding agent developed by ICAR-CICFR, marking another significant technological contribution of the Institute towards advancing fish seed production for coldwater aquaculture. On this occasion, the Institute has also organized a tree plantation drive as part of its commitment to environmental sustainability and the promotion of a greener campus.

The programme concluded with the National Anthem



