Madurai ornamental fisheries cluster – Union Fisheries Secretary inspects

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News

Union Fisheries Secretary Dr Abhilaksh Likhi visited the Madurai ornamental fisheries cluster – one of four 'priority clusters' under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) – on 12 Oct 2026. An integrated ornamental fish farm at Mukkampatti near Melur, set up under PMMSY for ₹25 lakh, breeds over 30 varieties including guppy, molly, goldfish and koi (about 2 lakh fish a year).

Key facts

Cluster	Madurai ornamental fisheries cluster – PMMSY priority cluster
Other priority clusters	Hazaribagh (Jharkhand) – pearl; Lakshadweep – seaweed; Andaman & Nicobar – tuna
Visit	12 Oct 2026 – Secretary Dr Abhilaksh Likhi; Mukkampatti, Melur
Farm	PMMSY – ₹25 lakh; 30+ varieties; about 2 lakh fish a year
Total clusters	34 fisheries clusters nationwide (all types)

Background

- PMMSY: launched 10 Sept 2020 with ₹20,050 crore – the largest-ever investment in fisheries; Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

- National Fish Farmers' Day – 10 July: in 1957 Dr Hiralal Chaudhury and Dr K.H. Alikunhi achieved induced breeding of Indian major carps. India's first organic fisheries cluster is Soreng (Sikkim).
- India is the world's second-largest fish producer (after China); the 'Blue Revolution' refers to fisheries development.

Tamil Nadu link: Kolathur in Chennai is the main hub of India's ornamental fish trade, followed by Madurai. Chennai hosts the ICAR-Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA); Nagapattinam has the Dr J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University.

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