

## PRESS RELEASE



### **Fisheries Minister T.D. Shira Inaugurates Recreational Fisheries Project at Katongre, North Garo Hills**

**Resubelpara, December 6, 2025:** The Minister of Fisheries, Tourism and Agriculture, Shri Timothy D. Shira, today inaugurated a Recreational Fisheries Project at Katongre under Bajengdoba C&RD Block, North Garo Hills, aimed at promoting eco-tourism and community-based fisheries.



Set amidst scenic surroundings and enriched with natural aquatic resources, the newly launched project offers an ideal destination for angling, boating, and family recreation. The initiative is expected to become a key attraction for eco-friendly tourism in the region.





The project has been implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) at a cost of ₹50 lakh, with 60 percent financial support from the State Government and 40 percent beneficiary contribution. Named “Mountain Lake,” the recreational fishery project is being managed by Smt. Presdalline Momin along with a managing committee.



Addressing the gathering, Shri Timothy D. Shira said the project would significantly enhance livelihood opportunities and generate sustainable income for the rural population. He noted that the initiative would promote recreational fisheries and angling tourism, provide alternative income sources for local fishers, enhance fish biodiversity conservation, create awareness on aquatic ecology, increase fish production, and attract tourists to Katongre.

The Minister urged community members to develop a sense of ownership of the project and emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness in and around the area. He also encouraged the planting of ornamental trees along the approach roads to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the site. Shri Shira further highlighted various flagship welfare schemes such as FOCUS, FOCUS+, CM Elevate, and other public initiatives aimed at improving livelihoods across the State.



MLA of Bajengdoba, Shri Pongseng R. Marak, who was also present at the event, described the project as a significant step towards the conservation of endangered aquatic species while simultaneously boosting tourism. He commended the Fisheries Department for conceptualizing and implementing the project with an eco-tourism-centric approach.

The inaugural programme was attended by Director of Fisheries, Smti. Aitinolin L. Mawlong, MCS; Deputy Commissioner, North Garo Hills, Dr. Abhishek Saini, IAS; and Superintendent of Police, North Garo Hills, Shri. Pawar Swapnil Vasantrao, IPS along with other officials, public representatives, and local residents.

As part of the inaugural programme, Fisheries Minister Shri Timothy D. Shira, along with other dignitaries, released fish fingerlings at the project site.