

Synopsis

The fisheries sector plays an indispensable role in the economy of Sri Lanka. Fish products are an important source of animal protein, providing around 70% of the animal protein consumed in the country (Food Balance Sheet, Department of Census and Statistics, 2009). The sector provides direct and indirect employment to around 650,000 people and is directly linked with the lives of approximately 50% of the population who resides in the coastal belt. Fisheries sector contribution to the total export earnings of the country is around 2.5%. The fisheries sector has a significant scope for increasing the contribution to the national economy, exploiting the huge untapped potential (Fisheries sector in Sri Lanka by the Ceylon chamber of commerce, 2011).

To increase the contribution of aquaculture in the economy and for the sustainable aquaculture production, they should follow rules and regulation. To regulate the fisheries and aquaculture sector, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development was formed. Under this ministry, there are some institution to carry on the fisheries and aquaculture activities. One of that is National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA).

I got an opportunity to do the in-plant training at NARA. In chapter one, I have mentioned about the status of aquaculture and fisheries sector in Sri Lanka, institutional frame work, brief description of NARA, its main functions, training areas inside the NARA and objectives of the training plan.

In chapter two, I have covered most of the divisions in NARA, selection of five research divisions, their objectives, main functions and activities of each division and ongoing researches under each division during my training period.

In chapter three, I have some suggestions to improve the quality of the institution in my point of view. Other than working experience got from NARA, further knowledge collected from many literatures from my university library, internet and NARA library.