

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

The True Mirror of A & N Islands

January 21, 2026

ICAR-CIARI Deploys Second Fish Aggregating Device at Minicoy to Strengthen Fisher Livelihood

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Sri Vijaya Puram, Jan 20: The Regional Station (RS), Minicoy of ICAR–Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CIARI), Sri Vijaya Puram, in collaboration with the MalukuMasveringeJamaat (Maliku Fishermen Society), Lakshadweep, successfully deployed the second Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) on 18 January 2026 to enhance livelihood security of the fisher community of Minicoy Island. Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) are floating structures designed to attract pelagic tuna species by creating a conducive micro-habitat through floating and attracting components. The technology improves fishing efficiency by increasing fish availability while significantly reducing searching time and operational costs.

The FAD was anchored in the open ocean at a distance of 8.5 nautical miles from the shore at Latitude 08°24'18.66" N and Longitude 72°57'15.38" E. The deployment was carried out by Dr. Gladston Y., Dr. S. M. Ajina, Dr. Saneera E. K., Mr. Shareefuddeen Hassan K., and Mr. Arif M. I.

The event was graced by Mrs. Farseenaa, Fisheries Unit In-charge, Minicoy, and Mr. Shamsuddeen Annarugothi, President, Maluku Masveringe Jamaat (Maliku Fishermen Society).

The deployment was carried out under the supervision and coordination of Dr. Jai Sunder, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram, and Dr. I. Jaisankar, Principal Scientist & Nodal Officer, RS Minicoy. They appreciated the collaborative efforts of the Maluku Masveringe Jamaat and emphasized the importance of FAD technology in promoting sustainable fisheries and strengthening the socio-economic conditions of island fishing communities.