

Project Update: November 2010

The team has decided to scale up the project. The health of riverine habitat and aquatic biodiversity is dependent on the river basin. If the river basin is protected then river habitats and aquatic biodiversity will be protected. In this regard through rigorous fieldwork we selected 25 villages of the Bembla river basin for future in-depth study and eco-restoration activities. We have contacted village heads (*Sarpanch*) of the 25 villages and obtained consent for the future work. The local district administration is providing administrative support for this initiative. The district collector provided all facilities to complete the eco-restoration at these 25 villages through *Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guaranty Act 2005*.

The testing of fish growth has been done with the fishermen, at *Dhamandari Tank, Dhamani Khadi* village. The average fish growth is found to be 500 gin 4-month periods, which is encouraging.

Two people from anglers' group went to observe and understand scientific fish culture at *Hyderabad*. It was 1-week expedition.



Left: Fish Sampling (Date 25 November 2010). Right: Village Meeting. (Date 17 November 2010).