## Aqua Fest 2019 held in East Jaintia Hills

Shillong, December 5, 2019: The Office of the Superintendent of Fisheries, East Jaintia Hills District organized an Aqua Fest 2019 today at the Deputy Commissioner's office. Minister of Social Welfare, Shri. Kyrmen Shylla was the chief guest on the occasion. Others who were present included Shri F.M Dopth, Deputy Commissioner, East Jaintia Hills District, Shri. S.S Syiemlieh, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, East Jaintia Hills District, Smt. D.M Suja, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, East Jaintia Hills District, Shri. Hubert Kharbukhi, Superintendent of Fisheries, East Jaintia Hills District and the District Heads of the different departments of the District.

Shri. Kyrmen Shylla, in his speech congratulated all the fish farmers of the district for their hardwork and dedication in making use of the various schemes provided by the fisheries department of the District. He said that local fish found in different part of the district are free from chemicals and very good and healthy for consumptions. He encouraged the fish farmers to work hard to increase the production of local fish which will boost their livelihood.

Shri. F.M Dopth spoke about the aquaculture mission and said that after considering the increase of fish consumption in the state the aim of the mission is to boost the fish production in the state. He also said that there are many schemes implemented by the government such as aqua culture mission, 1000 ponds to help, encourage and promote the aspiring fish farmers of the district and to increase the production of fish.

He further stated that there is a need to identify a local fish market where local fish from the district can be sold which will promote and encourage the fish farmers of the district to meet the demand of the consumers.

The Deputy Commissioner also declared Umlangsha as a fish sanctuary for preserving and protecting the indigenous fishes of the river and he also prohibits any form of fishing within the sanctuary.

The minister also awarded Shri. Phomris Lyngdoh from Semasi village, Smt. Weinidabiang Lamin from Dkhiah East and Shri. Autonomous Phawa from Tuber Kamaishnong for their overall development in fish farming and their motivation and support to other fish farmers in the district. Prizes were also distributed to the winners of the school level drawing competition organized by the office of Superintendent of Fisheries, Khliehriat.