

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25





# MPEDA-NETFISH

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2024-25



### **Network for Fish Quality Management and Sustainable Fishing (NETFISH)**

(MPEDA, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

Vallarpadam P.O., Kochi-682 504

[www.netfishmpeda.org](http://www.netfishmpeda.org)

# NETFISH

## Annual Report 2024-25

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## ACRONYMS

- ❑ CIFT – Central Institute of Fisheries Technology
- ❑ CIFNET – Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training
- ❑ CMFRI – Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
- ❑ CIFE – Central Institute of Fisheries Education
- ❑ CCARI – Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute
- ❑ RD – Regional Division
- ❑ AD – Assistant Director
- ❑ DD – Deputy Director
- ❑ JD – Joint Director
- ❑ CE – Chief Executive
- ❑ SCO – State Coordinator
- ❑ HDC – Harbour Data Collector
- ❑ PPC – Pre-Processing Centre
- ❑ DoF – Department of Fisheries
- ❑ EIA – Export Inspection Agency
- ❑ NaCSA – National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture
- ❑ NFDB – National Fisheries Development Board
- ❑ NCDC – National Cooperative Development Corporation
- ❑ NABARD – National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- ❑ FVO – Food and Veterinary Office (EU)
- ❑ FPO – Farmer Producer Organisation
- ❑ PMMSY – Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- ❑ MFRA – Marine Fisheries Regulation Act
- ❑ PPA – Paradip Port Authority
- ❑ ISRO – Indian Space Research Organisation
- ❑ KVK – Krishi Vigyan Kendra
- ❑ UT – Union Territory
- ❑ CSR – Corporate Social Responsibility
- ❑ MMSAI – Marine Mammal Stock Assessment of India
- ❑ DROP – Drive to Recover Ocean Plastic
- ❑ MLS – Minimum Legal Size
- ❑ PMFME – Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme
- ❑ IFB – Insulated Fish Box
- ❑ BRD – Bycatch Reduction Device
- ❑ MMPA – Marine Mammal Protection Act
- ❑ FLC – Fish Landing Centre
- ❑ LC – Landing Centre
- ❑ FH – Fishing Harbour
- ❑ HACCP – Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
- ❑ GMP – Good Manufacturing Practice
- ❑ SSOP – Sanitation Standard Operating Procedure
- ❑ EU – European Union
- ❑ MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
- ❑ QC – Quality Control

# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the financial year 2024–25, MPEDA–NETFISH implemented a wide spectrum of extension and capacity-building activities across all maritime states and the UT of Puducherry. A total of 4,801 programmes were conducted, reaching 54,572 beneficiaries, marking a significant expansion in scale, scope, and impact compared to previous years. The interventions were under the following themes: quality management, sustainable fisheries and conservation, cleanliness and environmental initiatives, skill development and value addition, CSR-supported programmes, exposure visits, and data/information services.

## KEY ACTIVITIES

### ➤ Quality Management Programmes

- **Harbour-Based Awareness:** 485 programmes at selected harbours/landing centres to reduce post-harvest loss and conserve resources.
- **Dry Fish Development:** 43 training programmes to promote hygienic drying practices and quality improvement.
- **Pre-processing Centres:** 85 programmes on hygiene and sanitation for pre-processing centre workers.
- **Seafood Units:** 44 training programmes for seafood processing workers and technologists, improving hygienic practices and generating ₹ 4.4 lakh in external income.
- **SC/ST Welfare:** 199 programmes – 176 for SC fishers, 15 for ST fishers, and 8 for SC/ST seafood workers. Distributed aluminium vessels, insulated boxes, plastic cans, and solar dryers to SC fishers in collaboration with ICAR–CIFT.

### ➤ Sustainable Fisheries & Conservation

- **TED Implementation:** 11 stakeholder workshops across all coastal states with participation from fisheries departments, ICAR–CIFT, boat owners, net manufacturers & menders; 256 awareness classes reaching 8,351 fishers and boat owners; and 29 TED fishing trials conducted on commercial trawlers to demonstrate effectiveness.

- **Marine Mammal Stock Assessment (DoF–PMMSY project):** conducted 8,853 fisher surveys on marine mammal/turtle by-catch and collected 30 sightings and 47 fishery interactions recorded under the marine observer programme.
- **Stakeholder Meetings:** 63 stakeholder meetings to discuss on hygienic handling, post-harvest loss reduction, plastic eradication, marine mammal and turtle conservation, and government support schemes.
- **Harbour Micro-Awareness:** 3,091 short sessions conducted by Harbour Data Collectors (HDCs), supported by continuous dissemination of information through harbour-based WhatsApp groups.

### ➤ Cleanliness, Waste Management & Environmental Initiatives

- **Harbour/Coastal Clean-Up:** 12 programmes across nine states and Puducherry.
- **World Oceans Day:** Celebrated at Mangrol Fishing Harbour, Gujarat, with 100 fishers promoting clean and plastic-free seas.
- **DROP (Drive to Recover Ocean Plastic):** Joined with Plan@Earth, MFHMS, and stakeholder associations at Munambam Fishing Harbour, and so far collected **30,916 kg of plastic waste** (17,761 kg from sea, 13,155 kg from harbour); 602 fishing vessels participated actively; the waste collected was shredded and recycled.

### ➤ Skill Development & Value Addition

- **CIFNET Collaboration:** 10 skill development programmes across six states, training 653 fishers in safety, navigation, electronics, and boat engine repair.
- **Entrepreneurship Training:** One-day value addition programme at Sirsi, Karnataka, for 40 new food entrepreneurs, organized with Arunodhay Trust, generating ₹ 5,000 in institutional income.
- **NETFISH SCOs as Trainers:** Supported 36 MPEDA-organized seafood value addition training programmes, with SCOs serving as master trainers.

- **Ornamental Fish Certification:** 72 export consignments inspected and certified for health standards.

### ➞ CSR & Local Initiatives

- **Paradeep Port Authority CSR:** Received ₹ 28 lakh (₹10 lakh received in the previous year), enabling 72 capacity-building programmes for 2,495 fishers in Odisha.
- **Munambam FH Management Society:** ₹ 2 lakh support utilized for five awareness programmes and the promotion of a harbour worker dress code, resulting in 109 workers adopting uniforms.

### ➞ Exposure Visits

- **Dry Fish Processors (Umargam, Gujarat):** Exposure visits to CIFT, NIPHATT, MPEDA, NETFISH, solar plant, and fish drying units in Kochi, Kollam, and Alappuzha for learning hygienic drying, packaging, and market access.
- **Boat Owners & Fisheries Officials (Puducherry):** Visits to harbours and seafood plants in Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, and Maharashtra; interactive sessions with fishers and buyers on fishing methods, hygienic handling, subsidy schemes, and marketing.

### ➞ Data Collection & Information Services

- **Catch Certification Support:** Real-time harbour-level data collected from 82 fishing harbours/landing centres for MPEDA Catch Certification.
- **Fish Price Data:** Provided weekly data on species-wise fish rates from 35 landing sites to NFDB.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Capacity Building Impact:** Widespread adoption of insulated fish boxes, pre-cooling, hygienic handling, and personal hygiene, leading to reduced post-harvest

losses, improved quality and better market returns.

- **Conservation efforts:** led to broader acceptance of TEDs among fishers & trawl owners, reduction of juvenile fishing, adoption of responsible fishing practices, voluntary fishing bans, and amendments in policy to support sustainable fishing.
- **Improved Cleanliness:** Initiatives like DROP and Swachhata campaigns improved harbour sanitation, waste management, and plastic recycling.
- **SC/ST Empowerment:** More than 6,000 SC/ST fishers and seafood workers trained, with material and infrastructure support enhancing livelihoods.
- **CSR & External Funding Mobilization:** ₹ 28 lakh from Paradeep Port Authority and ₹ 2 lakh from Munambam FH Society, alongside institutional support from Arunodhay Trust, significantly expanded outreach.
- **Income Generation:** ₹ 4.4 lakh earned through seafood unit trainings, strengthening financial self-sufficiency.
- **Collaborations:** Strengthened partnerships with CIFNET, ICAR-CIFT, State Fisheries Departments, and Harbour Management Societies, reinforcing institutional support for NETFISH.

In short, 2024–25 has been the an impactful year of NETFISH, marked by the highest programme coverage, record number of beneficiaries, strong conservation outcomes, increased financial sustainability, and deeper collaborations with institutional partners. The performance trajectory of the past five years demonstrates consistent growth, with 2024–25 setting new benchmarks for the Society’s role in strengthening India’s marine fisheries and seafood export sector.



## 2

## THE SOCIETY

Network for Fish Quality Management and Sustainable Fishing (NETFISH) was formed as a society under the aegis of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), registered on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2006 at Ernakulam under the Travancore–Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act, 1955. The society was formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India, on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 at Kochi. NETFISH was formulated to concentrate deeply on capacity building in fish quality management and conservation of aquatic resources at the grass root level by networking with fishermen societies, federations and other non-governmental organizations. Being the extension arm of MPEDA, NETFISH stands for improving the quality of fishery products exported from the country and the sustainability of fishery resources as well.

### FUNCTIONS OF THE SOCIETY

- ◆ MPEDA-NETFISH plays a pivotal role in strengthening India's marine fisheries sector and boosting seafood exports. NETFISH has been instrumental in promoting seafood safety, sustainability, and trade facilitation, enhancing India's global standing as a leading seafood exporter.
- ◆ NETFISH focuses on empowering stakeholders, including fishers, processors, and fish handling workers, through extensive training programmes on hygienic fish handling, responsible fishing practices, and post-harvest loss reduction.

### ADMINISTRATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

NETFISH functions under the overall supervision of the Chairman MPEDA, supported by Director, Secretary and Joint Directors of MPEDA and a team of officials both at the Head Office and the Field Offices.

Shri D.V. Swamy IAS, Chairman MPEDA served as the President of NETFISH during the period under report. Dr. Joice V. Thomas, Chief Executive MPEDA-NETFISH is the Secretary of the society and Sri. Anilkumar P., Joint Director (Marketing), MPEDA served as the Treasurer of NETFISH.

#### Head Office:

Head office of the society is located at Vallarpadam, Kochi and all its field staffs are attached to the respective MPEDA field offices across all the maritime states. The President is responsible for the proper functioning of the Society and the discharge of its function under the MoA & By-law.

#### Organogram:

Staff strength as on 31.03.2024: The NETFISH staff includes the Chief Executive, 11 State Coordinators, 2 Research Assistants, an Accountant and an Accounts Assistant. Additionally, about 84 Harbour Data Collector (Trainees) were deployed through NETFISH under the MPEDA's Catch Certification scheme.

## 3

## MEETINGS

- ◆ 37th Executive Committee Meeting of MPEDA-NETFISH was held on 10th September 2024 at 11.00 am through virtual mode under the Presidentship of Director, MPEDA and with the participation of 18 members
- ◆ 18th Annual General Body Meeting of NETFISH held at 11.30 a.m. on 10th September, 2024, through Video Conferencing under the Presidentship of Director, MPEDA and with the participation of 43 members

# 4

## PROGRAMME TARGET 2024-25

**Major Themes:** Reduction of Post-harvest loss in fisheries

**Minor Themes:** Conservation and Sustainability, Skill development & Livelihood improvement

### Region-wise Programme Target for 2024-25

Type of Programme	WB	OD	APN	APS	TNN	TNS	KLS	KLN	KA	Go	MH	GJ	Total
Harbour Based Awareness Programmes on fish quality management & conservation	16	3	35	58	70	70	50	60	50	18	71	55	<b>556</b>
Dry Fish programme on fish quality management	5	1	-	7	8	8	-	-	5	-	2	8	<b>44</b>
Pre-processing Centre programme on fish quality management	5	8	25	15	-	-	30	21	5	-	-	-	<b>109</b>
Swachhata programme	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	<b>10</b>
Seafood Unit Training on fish quality management (paid)	10	10	10	5	10	10	5	5	10	6	10	10	<b>101</b>
Paradeep Port Trust Funded programme	0	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>51</b>
Paradeep Port Trust Funded programme	0	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>51</b>
Harbour Based Awareness Programme on TED	25	20	20	16	25	16	16	16	25	8	25	25	<b>237</b>
State level workshop on TED implementation	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	<b>11</b>
Onboard Trials using TED	6	9	8	5	12	13	5	7	18	4	12	17	<b>116</b>
Harbour Programme for SC Fishers on fish quality management & conservation	50	30	-	-	12	15	20	7	15	-	-	-	<b>149</b>
Harbour Programme for ST Fishers on fish quality management & conservation	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	<b>9</b>
Seafood Unit Training for SC/ST workers on fish quality management	-	-	15	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	<b>27</b>
Munambam Society Fund Programme for Harbour workers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>1425</b>

# 5

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS: 2024-25

**Total No: of extension activities conducted during 2024-25**

Type of Programme	No: of programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>GENERAL GRANT-IN-AID FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
Harbour based programme	485	9436
Dry fish programme	43	885
Pre-processing Centre programme	85	2328
Swachhata clean-ups	12	1304
Stakeholder Meetings organized by SCOs	63	357
World Ocean Day programme	1	100
Exposure visit	2	40
<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
Harbour based programme for SC Fishers	165	4929
Harbour based programme for ST Fishers	11	307
Joint programme with CIFT for input distribution	1	165
<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
Harbour based programme for SC Fishers	11	315
Harbour based programme for ST Fishers	4	135
SC/ST Seafood worker's training	8	237
<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
Harbour based TED awareness programme	256	8351
TED Workshop	11	1307
TED On-board Trial	29	904
<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
Seafood Unit training programme	44	1459
Paradeep funded programme	72	2495
Munambam Fund programme	5	109
MMSAI-Training to Marine observer	21	326
Value addition sponsored by Arunoday Trust	1	40
<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
Awareness through HDCs	3091	18390
Meeting / Training / Evaluation of HDCs	85	-
Participation in meetings/ classes/ activities organized by others	169	-
Coordination of visit of officials	8	-
Collaboration with CIFNET	10	653
Ornamental fish Health Certification	72	-
SCO as Trainer in MPEDA Seafood Value addition program	36	-
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4801</b>	<b>54572</b>

## STATE-WISE ACTIVITIES



State/Region wise number of programmes conducted during 2024-25

## WEST BENGAL

Mr. Atany Ray, State Coordinator of NETFISH, successfully coordinated a total of 697 programmes across West Bengal. These included 46 General Fund programmes, 55 SC/ST programmes, 19 TED Fund programmes, 10 seafood

unit training sessions, 513 awareness classes conducted by HDCs, and 53 other activities (refer to Table). Altogether, these initiatives benefited 8721 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in West Bengal during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	28	686
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	5	135
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	12	95
	Swachhata programme	1	80
<b>2</b>	<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	51	1519
	ST Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	4	98
<b>3</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programmes	16	545
	State level Workshop	1	70
	Onboard Trials	2	100
<b>4</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	10	332
<b>5</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness by HDCs	513	4586
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	2	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/Workshops etc. Organized by others	21	-
	Participation of SCO as Trainer in MPEDA Organized Seafood Unit Value Addition Training	8	400
	Joint Programmes with CIFNET	2	75
	Ornamental Fish Health Certification	21	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>8721</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

- ◆ Awareness on reducing post-harvest losses, quality management, and sustainable fishing practices was provided to 686 fishers, fishing crew, fish handling workers, and boat owners through 28 harbour-based programs. To support better practices, participants were given T-shirts, hand gloves, and soap. Key topics included: causes and reduction of post-harvest loss, use of plastic baskets, crates, and shovels, hygiene at landing centres and onboard, proper icing and cold chain practices, personal hygiene, use of insulated boxes, chill killing to retain freshness, and the importance of square mesh cod ends and TED in trawl nets. Details of the

programmes conducted at each harbour are provided in the table below.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Freserganj FH	3	75
Kakdwip FH	9	225
Deshapran FH	3	66
Sankarpur FH	4	95
Patharpratima	9	225
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>686</b>



Awareness classes on post harvest loss and conservation

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Freserganj	69	730	Fishermen, net menders etc. Boat owners,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reducing post-harvest loss through pre-cooling</li> <li>● Marine mammal conservation</li> <li>● Sea safety awareness</li> <li>● Single-use plastic pollution</li> <li>● Importance of square mesh/TED in trawl nets</li> <li>● Use of plastic sheets, baskets, and PVC shovels for hygienic catch handling.</li> </ul>
Kakdwip	100	1100		
Namkhana	92	1190		
Raidighi	76	536		
Deshapran	56	340		
Sankarpur	60	350		
Shoula	60	340		
<b>Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>4586</b>		

## OUTCOMES

- Chilling of fish is being adopted in 40–65% of fishing boats, significantly reducing post-harvest loss. Most vessels are now carrying adequate, good-quality ice, and ice carriers have improved hygiene by avoiding dragging ice on bare jetties.
- Fish handling has improved with the use of plastic baskets, PVC shovels, and hand gloves. Sorting is now commonly done on plastic sheets instead of bare floors. Tarpaulin sheets or plastic covers are being used during transport to prevent contamination and reduce ice melt.
- Around 30% of fishers have started using insulated fish boxes (IFB) to better preserve catch and improve market value. Fishes are transported to auction markets and processing unit through IFB to reduce post-harvest loss.

- 55–80% of fishers are now aware of the utility of life-saving equipment, and most boats, especially in Deshapran and Shankarpur, are equipped with them.
- More than 45–60% of fishers understand the ecological importance of marine mammals and sea turtles. In cases of accidental entanglement, fishers are releasing them back into the sea alive.



Chill killing of catch & usage of insulated fish boxes onboard



Usage of sufficient quantity of ice & plastic baskets & crates

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- Conducted five dryfish development programmes in the areas of Freserganj, Ramnagar, and Kakdwip, benefiting 135 fishers. T-shirts and hand gloves were distributed to the trainees. Topics covered during the programmes included: sanitation and hygienic practices on fishing boats, handling and sorting of catches, the role and application of ice, fish spoilage and microbial activity, maintaining fish freshness, personal hygiene, various fish drying technologies, use of permitted chemicals

for proper preservation, solar drying and packaging methods, and packaging of dry fish products.

### Details of Dryfish programmes conducted

Location	No: of Programmes	No: of beneficiaries
Freserganj	1	25
Ramnagar	3	85
Kakdwip	1	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>135</b>



Awareness programme for dryfish processors

## OUTCOMES

The following positive changes were observed in Freserganj, Ramnagar, and Kakdwip as a result of the dryfish training programmes. Fishers are now receiving better prices and gaining more acceptance in the markets:

- Fishers have started using ice during transportation of fish to the drying yards.
- Instead of drying fish on mud or sand, they have adopted

hygienic drying methods such as using scaffolds, racks, straw and net beds, or cemented platforms.

- Most dryfish yards are now fenced to prevent the entry of pets and other animals.
- The use of harmful chemicals in dry fish processing has significantly reduced. Fishers are now more aware of the risks associated with chemical misuse.

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ On 14.11.2024, a Harbour Cleanup Programme was organized at Deshapran Fishing Harbour, Pratappur Petuaghat, Purba Medinipur, as part of the Swachhata Pakhwada initiative. The event was attended by 80 participants, including the AD MPEDA, Special Officer of Deshapran FH, FEO (Marine), harbour officials, HDCs, NaCSA officials, and the NETFISH SCO. The programme focused on the environmental impact of marine litter, especially single-use plastics, thermocol, and torn nets that contribute to ghost fishing. Speakers highlighted the importance of cleanliness, personal hygiene, and the significance of observing Swachhata Pakhwada. They also stressed the need to reduce marine pollution, adhere to marine regulations, and maintain clean

harbour premises. Participants collected plastic waste, torn nets, thermocol, and other debris from the harbour and jetty, which were handed over to the cleaning staff for proper disposal. Geo-tagged photographs of the area before and after cleaning were taken. MPEDA-NETFISH distributed T-shirts, caps, gloves, and masks to the volunteers and provided two waste bins to the harbour for regular waste collection. The programme helped raise awareness among fishers and other stakeholders about hygiene, sanitation, and the harmful effects of plastic waste. Their active participation demonstrated a collective effort to maintain cleanliness in fishing vessels and harbour areas.



Cleanup Programme at Deshapran Fishing Harbour

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC/ST FISHERS

- ◆ Capacity building trainings on hygiene, sanitation, and sustainable fishing were conducted for fishers, fishing crew, fish handling workers, boat owners, etc., belonging to the SC/ST communities. A total of 51

programmes were conducted for 1,519 SC beneficiaries and 4 programmes for 98 ST beneficiaries. Training materials such as T-shirts, half pants, caps, hand gloves, raincoats, cotton bags, pens, and writing pads were provided to the trainees.



Capacity building training for SC/ST fishers

### Details of SC/ST programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of beneficiaries
<b>SC Fisher programmes</b>		
Freserganj FH	8	240
Deshapran FH	7	210
Kakdwip FH	13	389
Namkhana LC	3	90
Raidighi LC	6	180
Patharpratima	10	290
Shoula LC	4	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>1519</b>
<b>ST Fisher programmes</b>		
Freserganj FH	1	28
Kakdwip FH	1	30
Raidighi LC	2	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>98</b>

## OUTCOMES

As a result of the SC/ST fisher training programmes, several positive changes have been observed in Freserganj FH, Deshapran FH, Kakdwip FH, Namkhana LC, Raidighi LC, Patharpratima, Shoula LC, Basanti, and Gosaba. By adopting improved hygienic and sustainable practices, fishers are now earning an additional ₹ 25–50 per kg due to better fish quality. Key outcomes include:

- Chilling practices adopted in 45% of fishing boats to reduce post-harvest losses.
- Plastic baskets used for hygienic handling of the catch on-board.

- Catch sorting is now done on plastic sheets instead of directly on the jetty floor.
- Ice handling improved; ice carriers avoid dragging ice on dirty surfaces.
- Adequate good quality ice is being taken on fishing trips to maintain catch quality.
- PVC shovels and plastic baskets are used for handling fish and ice hygienically.
- Fishers use hand gloves to minimize contamination while handling fish and ice.
- Tarpaulin/plastic covers are used during fish transport to prevent contamination and ice melt.
- About 55% of the fish are now transported through insulated fish boxes, reducing spoilage.
- 70% of fishers are aware of life-saving equipment and its importance.
- Over 60% of fishers understand the ecological role of marine mammals and sea turtles and therefore release incidentally caught animals back into the sea alive.

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ MPEDA-NETFISH and MPEDA Regional Division, Kolkata, in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Government of West Bengal, organized a State-Level Stakeholders Workshop on the Implementation of TED in Trawl Gears on 25th September 2024 at Kolkata. The event saw the participation of around 70 stakeholders, including officials from the State Fisheries and Forest Departments, CIFE, CMFRI, SEAI, exporters, NGOs, and various fishermen associations. The State Coordinator of MPEDA-NETFISH emphasized the need for TED

adoption. During the interactive session, fishers raised concerns about the escapement of larger fish and the implications of TED requirements by importing countries. Positive feedback was also shared from Digha fishers regarding reduced fuel consumption observed during TED trials in Cochin. Boat owner associations expressed interest in conducting field trials

of TED in their trawl nets. It was decided that MPEDA-NETFISH would organize training for net menders and awareness programmes for boat owners, fishers, and net makers across fishing harbours and landing centres. The State Fisheries Department also assured support by conducting onboard TED trial programmes to demonstrate its effectiveness in West Bengal waters.



State-Level Stakeholders Workshop on the Implementation of TED

- Conducted 16 awareness training sessions on TED, reaching 545 participants including fishers, fishing crew, boat owners, and net menders at various harbours and landing centres. T-shirts with TED awareness messages were distributed to the trainees. The programme details are provided below. Pasted TED stickers in the all the fishing harbours and fish landing centres by the HDCs to create awareness among the fishers on significances of TED in trawl net.

**Details of TED awareness programmes conducted**

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of beneficiaries
Deshapran FH	5	190
Kakdwip FH	4	133
Sankarpur FH	2	60
Shoula LC	2	75
Sankijahan,	2	30
Patharpratma	1	25
Freserganj FH	1	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>545</b>



TED awareness programmes for fishers

- Onboard fishing trials using TED-fitted trawl nets were conducted on 12th and 21st March 2025 at Deshapran and Raidighi, with financial support from the State Fisheries Department. A total of 100 participants, including fishers, crew, boat owners, association secretaries, net menders, fisheries and forest officials attended these trials. The results demonstrated that TED-fitted nets significantly improved catch quality by reducing debris and by-catch. The commercial catch mainly included shrimp, croakers, anchovies, catfish, stingrays, sole fish, and cuttlefish, with visibly better appearance and size. By-catch in TED nets was notably

lower, ranging from 12% to 34%, while in non-TED nets it ranged from 20% to 55%, with more debris such as plastic waste, torn nets, wood, and leaves. A small portion of the catch (about 2%) was also collected in the TED cover net. Boat owners and skippers expressed satisfaction with the results and showed willingness to adopt TEDs in their trawl nets. The success of these trials highlights the effectiveness of TEDs in promoting sustainable fishing and reducing by-catch. More onboard trials are recommended to support the wider adoption of TEDs in West Bengal.



Fishing trials using TED

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

### Details of Seafood Unit trainings conducted

S.N.	Name of the Processing Unit	Programmes Date	No of Beneficiaries
1	M/s. BASU International, Unit-V, Digha, Purba Medinipur	12.06.24	45
2	M/s. Essex Marine Pvt. Ltd, Sankarpur, Purba Medinipur	13.06.24	29
3	M/s. BASU International, Unit-I, New Madhavpur, Diamond Harbour, South 24 Parganas	14.06.24	40
4	M/s. Innova Export, 42A East Rajapur, Kolkata	07.08.24	14
5	M/s. Milsa Agro Pvt. Ltd., Unit No.-2, ISFPC, BENFISH Complex, Kolkata	16.10.24	30
6	M/s. Rupsa Fish Pvt. Ltd., Ruiya Industrial State, Khardah, Kolkata	17.10.24	30
7	M/s. Nezami Rekha Seafood Pvt. Ltd., Unit No.-8, ISFPC, BENFISH Complex, Kolkata	18.10.24	30
8	M/s. Milsa Sea Product, Unit No.-2, ISFPC, BENFISH Complex, Kolkata	19.10.24	36
9	M/s. Digha Seafood Export Pvt. Ltd., Unit No.-9, ISFPC, BENFISH Complex, Kolkata	16.11.24	36
10	M/s. Elque Ventures Pvt. Ltd., Udayrajpur, Kolkata	06.12.24	42

- ◆ A total of 10 one-day training programmes were conducted for 332 technologists, workers, and supervisors at various seafood processing units in West Bengal, as detailed in the table below. The sessions covered key topics such as hygiene and sanitation practices, personal hygiene, handling of shrimp and fish, basics of HACCP, GMP, SSOP, traceability systems, EU regulations, microbial hazards, fish spoilage, ice usage, and value-added products.

Training methods included presentations, posters, short films, interactive discussions, and animated videos. After the training, participants showed improved awareness of hygiene standards, EU regulations, and traceability systems and committed to maintaining hygiene protocols, including regular handwashing. The programmes were well-received and generated a total of ₹ 95,000 as training fees from the processing units.



Training for processing workers

## PARTICIPATION OF SCO AS TRAINER IN MPEDA ORGANIZED SEAFOOD UNIT VALUE ADDITION TRAINING

- ◆ The SCO provided hands-on skill development training on seafood value addition to processing workers in seafood units, as given in the table below. During the training programmes organized by MPEDA RD/SRDs, participants were trained in preparing various value-added seafood products such as Breaded Nobashi Shrimp, Breaded Butterfly Shrimp, Skewer Shrimp, Marinated Skewer Shrimp, Vegetable Skewer Shrimp, Sushi Butterfly Shrimp, Ring PDO Shrimp, Cooked PD Shrimp, Popcorn Shrimp, and Fritter Shrimp. The programmes were well received by the processing units, and some exporters have already started producing these value-added items and expressed interest in expanding their production for export.



SCO giving training on value addition of seafood

### Details of Value Addition trainings

S.N.	Date	Venue	No of Trainees
1	06.09.24	M/s. Magnum Export, Khurda	50
2	13.09.24	M/s. Snow World Export, Odisha	50
3	21.09.24	M/s. Contai Marine Fish Export Pvt. Ltd. Purba Medinipur	50
4	23.09.24	M/s. Shankha Deep Exports Pvt. Ltd. North 24 Parganas	50
5	16.01.25	M/s. Pasupati Aquatics Pvt Ltd, Heria, Purba Medinipur	50
6	17.01.25	M/s. Digha Seafood Export Pvt Ltd, Kolkata	50
7	23.01.25	M/s. Hari Marine Pvt. Ltd, Balasore, Odisha	50
8	24.01.25	M/s. B- One Business House, Deras, Odisha	50

### JOINT PROGRAMME WITH CIFNET

- ◆ As requested by CIFNET, the State Coordinator coordinated two training programmes conducted by ICAR-CIFNET, Vizag at Digha Mohana, Purba Medinipur. On 24th March 2025, an awareness programme on Sea Safety was organized for 50 fishers. On 25th March 2025, the SCO, along with the Deputy Director, MPEDA Kolkata, organized and attended a three-day Skill Development Training Programme on Seamanship, Navigation, and Marine Electronic Equipment, in which 25 skippers and boat owners participated. Both programmes were well-received, with participants gaining valuable knowledge on sea safety and navigation. The fishermen's association requested NETFISH and CIFNET to conduct more such trainings for marine fishers during the fishing ban period.

### STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS



Stakeholder meeting on TED

- ◆ Several stakeholder meetings were conducted with key stakeholders across West Bengal to facilitate the implementation of TED. Discussions were held with officials from the Directorate of Fisheries, including the Director, Joint Director, Deputy Directors, as well as representatives from the College of Fisheries and EIA. Meetings also involved boat owners, net menders, and associations at major fishing locations such as Contai

(Meen Bhaban), Raidighi, Sultanpur FH, and Digha Mohana. The focus of these meetings was to plan TED onboard trials, promote the use of TED in trawlers, and coordinate necessary arrangements for awareness and implementation activities. Stakeholders showed interest and extended support for effective TED adoption across the region.

- ◆ Several meetings were held to discuss harbour development, and capacity-building programmes for SC/ST fishers. Key discussions took place with the Kakdwip Fishermen Association, Deshapran Fishing Harbour officials, and stakeholders. Meetings also addressed NETFISH activities, financial assistance schemes, and the promotion of BRDs.
- ◆ A meeting was held on 07.05.24 at RD MPEDA, Kolkata with the Assistant Manager of Prima Plastics Ltd. regarding IFB and related matters.
- ◆ Another meeting was held on 26.04.24 at RD MPEDA, Kolkata with State Fisheries officials, EIA officials, and MPEDA officials to discuss the formation of a task force and the testing of banned antibiotics in aquaculture.
- ◆ Meetings and discussions were held with officials from the Department of Fisheries and representatives of Kasturi Aqua Life Products Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Pasupati Aqua to review the preparedness and current status in view of the EU visit to India. Discussions and inspections were held on 23.10.24 at Deshapran and Sankarpur Fishing Harbours, Purba Medinipur, to review the current status of the harbours.
- ◆ On 20.01.25, a meeting was held at MPEDA RD, Kolkata with a boat owner regarding the TED trial programme at Kakdwip and the establishment of a new dry fish unit for export.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ On 09.04.24, an awareness programme on sea fish conservation was held at Digha Mohana, Purba Medinipur, organized by the West Bengal United Fishermen Association, with participation from over 200 boat owners from West Bengal and Odisha, and officials from MPEDA-NETFISH, the State Fisheries Department, and industry representatives. The programme emphasized the implementation of square mesh cod ends in trawl nets, with Odisha boat owners sharing successful experiences, and stakeholders expressing support for its adoption to conserve juvenile fish and reduce fuel consumption.
- ◆ On 18.04.24, the State Coordinator gave a talk on MPEDA-NETFISH activities, seafood exports, processing technology, and value-added fishery products to students from Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, at MPEDA RD, Kolkata.
- ◆ On 18.03.25, the SCO recorded a talk on the prospects and exports of marine fisheries in West Bengal. The SCO emphasized the importance of TED implementation for exports, turtle conservation, and economic benefits.
- ◆ As part of the Swachhata Campaign 2024, the SCO participated in a public place cleanup drive at Brabourne Road, Kolkata on 18.10.24, and presented on "Abuse of Single Use Plastic" during an awareness programme organized by MPEDA RD, Kolkata on 13.11.24.
- ◆ The SCO, along with officials from RD MPEDA, conducted inspections at various seafood units including fresh & chilled fish units, processing plants, dry fish units, a fish meal unit, and live fish handling centres in Purba Medinipur and Kolkata. Key units inspected were M/s. Blue Ocean Exports (Dankuni), M/s. BASU International, M/s. Sea Doris Marine Exports, M/s. Kolkata Marine Products Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Rittwick Enterprise, and M/s. KNC Agro Pvt. Ltd. The inspections assessed operational status, hygiene standards, and readiness for export-oriented production.
- ◆ The SCO conducted review meetings with HDCs, verified their data collection, provided training, and carried out by-catch surveys in coordination with them.
- ◆ The SCO conducted inspection and certification of 21 consignments of ornamental fishes from M/s. Rupsa Aquatic Enterprise, Ramrajatala, and M/s. Aqua Adventure, Panchanantala, Howrah, for export to various countries.
- ◆ Awareness messages were regularly disseminated through 7 WhatsApp groups across 7 harbours. A total of 343 messages were shared during the year, reaching 912 stakeholders.



Participation of SCO in bycatch survey & Swachhata Hi Seva programme

## ODISHA

Mr. S. K. Mohapatra, State Coordinator of NETFISH, successfully coordinated a total of 361 programmes across Odisha. These included 14 General fund programmes, 29 SC/ST programmes, 36 TED fund programmes, 10 seafood unit training

sessions, 72 Paradeep Port Authority funded programmes, 193 awareness classes conducted by HDCs, and 7 other activities (refer to Table). Altogether, these initiatives benefited 7545 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Odisha during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	3	90
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	1	30
	Pre-Processing Centre Training	8	240
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	1	5
	Swachhata programme	1	100
<b>2</b>	<b>SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	NETFISH- SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	26	778
	RD MPEDA- SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	3	90
<b>3</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	30	1212
	Statelevel Workshop	1	100
	Onboard Trials	5	126
<b>4</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	10	360
	Paradeep Port Authority funded Capacity Building	72	2495
<b>5</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness by HDCs	193	1919
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. organized by others	7	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>7545</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

- Conducted 3 awareness training programmes on hygienic handling of fish & ice, personal hygiene,

sanitation and sustainable fishing for 90 fishers, fishing crew and boat owners in Paradeep & Dhamara. T-shirts & refreshments were provided to the participants.



Harbour based programmes in Paradeep, Dhamara & Balaramgadi

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Paradeep	115	1145	Fishing crew	Chill killing, use of square mesh & TED, sanitation, hygiene, handling and sorting of catch, role of ice, handling of ice, icing of catch, sea safety and navigation
Dhamara	38	376		
Balaramgadi	40	398		
	<b>193</b>	<b>1919</b>		

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Paradeep	2	60
Dhamara	1	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>90</b>

### OUTCOMES

- 30 nos. of fishing vessels adopted chill killing/pre-cooling practices, reducing post-harvest loss by 10 % and the traders purchased the raw material with better price

### Detail of Fishing Vessels adopted pre-cooling

Sl.No	Reg No	Vessel Name	Owner Name
1	IND-OR-04-MM-244	Dharmasakhi-3	Ashabati Patra
2	IND-OR-04-MM-139	Om Maa Gayatri	Maheswar Behera
3	IND-OR-04-MM-462	Maa Usha Rani	Mitanjali Swain
4	IND-OR-04-MM-294	Radha Saradhi-3	Mutthi Karunanidhi
5	IND-OR-04-MM-424	Abhiram-2	Bhagyarathi Behera
6	IND-OR-04-MM-3	Om Jhankadeswari	Ashok Kumar Das
7	IND-OR-05-MM-42	Sitaram	Manamohan Mohapatra
8	IND-OR-05-MM-1102	Shamuka	Kishor Kumar Ray
9	IND-OR-04-MM-190	Anjana	Akshaya Kumar Das
10	IND-OR-05-MM-70	Ananya	Akshaya Kumar Das
11	IND-OR-04-MM-323	Sri Lokanath-3	Rakesh Kumar Nayak
12	IND-OR-04-MM-302	Dharma Sankar-4	Rashmi Ranjan Biswal
13	IND-OR-04-MM-380	Grameswar-4	Abinash Hati
14	IND-OR-04-MM-175	Baba Lokanath	Balaram Nayak
15	IND-OR-04-MM-44	Dharma Sankar	Ritupriya Biswal
16	IND-OR-04-MM-139	Om Maa Gayatri	Maheswar Behera
17	IND-OR-04-MM-78	Om Maa Mangala	Abakash Mallick
18	IND-OR-04-MM-155	Kalia Suna	Krushna Chandra Behera
19	IND-OR-04-MM-300	Yaa Ajmeree	S.K. Mojahid
20	IND-OR-04-MM-68	Parbati	Pramila Parida
21	IND-OR-04-MM-29	Jay Ramachandi Varasa	Puspalata Pattanayak
22	IND-OR-04-MM-150	Sriram-li	Rakesh Kumar Parida
23	IND-OR-04-MM-476	Omm Maa Gangoyatri	Sambhunath Behera
24	IND-OR-04-MM-1066	Jadupati-li	Pramila Choudhury
25	IND-OR-04-MM-148	Pitamata Varasa	Lata Pradhan
26	IND-OR-04-MM-110	Laxmi Narayan	Anusaya Behera
27	IND-OR-04-MM-149	Omm Gadibrahma	Dusmant Kumar Sahoo
28	IND-OR-04-MM-173	Maa Mangala Shakti-lii	Sarat Behera
29	IND-OR-04-MM-466	Ayushman	Sangram Mohapatra
30	IND-OR-04-MM-362	Jadupati	Bibhu Prasad Choudhury

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- ◆ An awareness programme for 30 dryfish processing workers was conducted at Paradeep on selection of raw materials, sanitation, hygiene, packing etc.

## PRE-PROCESSING CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Conducted 8 training programme on "Fish Quality and Personal Hygiene aspects" for 240 Pre-Processing

Centre workers, supervisors, owners at Balaramgadi, Balasore. SCO delivered lectures on various selected topics such as food safety, sanitation & hygiene practices, handling and sorting of catch, role of ice, handling of ice and icing of catches, fish spoilage, post-harvest loss and importance of cold chain, importance of chlorination and disinfection of equipment / facilities, importance of registration of unauthorised pre-processing centres etc.



Pre-processing worker's training programme at Balaramgadi

## OUTCOMES

- Steel tables are used for pre-processing activity
- All floors are concrete
- Pre-processing worker's income has increased by Rs. 2-3 per kg

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ As part of the Swachhata Campaign, a cleanliness drive was conducted at Dhamara Fishing Harbour on 8th November 2024. Students, teachers, and staff from Dhamara Upper Primary Government School participated in a rally to promote cleanliness in and around the harbour. Awareness sessions were led by SCO, NETFISH, who spoke on waste management,

cleanliness, and the impact of single-use plastics. Participants were provided with T-shirts, caps, and gloves. Plastic waste, thermocol, and torn nets were collected and handed over to the harbour management for proper disposal. Bleaching powder was applied in unsanitary areas. With fifty participants involved, the event concluded with a strong commitment to cleanliness in daily and work environments. The fishing harbour is now cleaned regularly.



Clean-up drive at Dhamara harbour

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC/ST FISHERS

- Conducted 26 one-day capacity-building training programmes on "Biosecurity and Personal Hygiene" for 778 fishers belonging to the SC community. The training sessions were held for primary fisherman co-operative society (PFCS) members at Dhamara, Paradeep, Balamgadi, Balasore and Chilika areas. The training aimed to enhance awareness and practices related to hygiene, safety, and sustainable fishing. SCO delivered lectures and practical training on food safety, sanitation and hygiene at landing centres and onboard, handling and sorting of catch, the role of ice in preserving fish, icing techniques, fish spoilage, post-harvest loss, cold chain importance, sea safety and navigation, sustainable fishing methods etc. The importance of chlorination and disinfection of equipment and facilities

### Details of SC fisher programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Paradeep	10	300
Dhamara	9	270
Talesari, Balasore	3	90
Chilika	2	58
Balamgadi	2	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>778</b>

was also emphasized. Each trainee received a participation certificate along with a kit, which included a life jacket, cap, T-shirt, half pant, and a folder with pad and pen.

Additionally, three training programmes for 90 SC fishers were conducted at Chilika, Dhamara, and Paradeep using the RD Bhubaneswar's SC fund.



Capacity building training for SC fishers

## OUTCOMES

- Around 30 fishing boats have adopted chill killing methods to reduce post-harvest loss
  - Plastic baskets and PVC shovels are now being used for hygienic handling of catch and ice
  - Fishing vessels are carrying adequate high-quality ice to maintain fish freshness
  - Insulated fish boxes are being used to minimize spoilage
  - Life jackets are being carried for safety.
- These practices have led to better quality fish, enabling fishers to earn an additional ₹ 25-50 per kg.

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- A state-level stakeholders' workshop was held on 27th September 2024 at Bhubaneswar, with 100 participants including trawler owners, net menders, fisheries officials, scientists, and exporters. Organized by MPEDA-NETFISH in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Odisha, the workshop focused on the

urgent need to implement TEDs in trawling practices. Demonstration of TED was done, and discussions were held on TED fitting, compliance, and export relevance. It was decided to conduct further training for net menders, TED onboard trial programmes, and more awareness campaigns across fishing harbours in Odisha.



Stakeholders workshop on implementation of TED in Odisha

◆ A total of 30 TED awareness programmes were conducted across five major harbours and landing centres in Odisha-Paradeep, Dhamara, Balaramgadi, Bahabalapur, and Astranga-benefiting 1,212 fishers, boat crew members, and owners. These sessions focused on the implementation of TEDs in trawl gear and compliance with international export standards. The programme featured rallies, poster distributions, TED demonstrations, and the distribution of T-shirts to all participants. During the rallies, leaflets were distributed, and TED awareness stickers were pasted on fishing

**Details of TED awareness conducted**

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Paradeep	11	470
Dhamara	6	242
Balaramgadi	7	270
Astranga	3	100
Bahabalapur	3	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1212</b>



Programmes to create awareness on TED among fishers and boat owners

vessels. A vehicle displaying TED awareness posters and a TED model moved around the harbour areas to further spread awareness. Many fishers expressed

willingness to adopt TEDs in their vessels and requested that TEDs be provided free of cost.

◆ Five onboard TED demonstration trials were conducted between 13th December 2024 and 8th January 2025 at Paradeep, Bahabalapur, Balaramgadi, Astranga, and Dhamara, involving 126 fishers, boat owners, and officials. The trials were supported by the State Fisheries Department and coordinated by MPEDA-NETFISH. Except at Astranga, each location used two fishing vessels to conduct simultaneous hauls with and without TEDs. The appearance of the catch was similar in both cases, but trawls with TEDs often had a slightly higher total catch. The escape rate of catch through TEDs ranged from 1% to 10%, averaging 4%. Olive ridley turtles were found in the escape cover net twice during

TED trials at Astranga, while turtle bycatch occurred three times in non-TED trials at Bahabalapur, Astranga, and Dhamara. No bycatch or debris was found in hauls using TEDs, indicating their effectiveness in reducing unwanted catch and marine litter. Shrimps appeared in 3 out of 10 TED trials, with shrimp shares of 13% and 4% in two Paradeep hauls and 2% in one Astranga haul. The catch of shrimps and other target species was not significantly affected by TED use. Overall, TEDs were effective in allowing turtles to escape, reducing debris, and maintaining good catch rates of key species like pomfrets, ribbonfish, shrimps, catfish, and mackerels. Participants confirmed readiness to adopt TEDs.



Fishing trials using TED; Olive ridley turtle escaped through TED found in cover net

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

◆ Ten one-day training programmes were conducted in ten seafood processing units across Odisha, benefiting 360 participants including workers, supervisors, and quality control personnel. The training covered key topics such as hygiene and sanitation practices in processing centres, hygienic handling of shrimps and fish, basic concepts of HACCP, GMP, and SSOPs, types

of hazards, the role of ice, fish spoilage and preservation, personal hygiene, use of change rooms, misuse of antibiotics, product traceability, microbiology, value-added fishery products, and hygiene documentation. Training included classroom sessions, display of posters and charts, short films, animated film shows, and interactive sessions. A total of ₹ 1 lakh was earned as training fees from the participating processing plants.



Training programme in seafood processing units

### Details of Seafood unit trainings conducted

S.N.	Name of the Processing Unit	Programmes Date	No of Beneficiaries
1	Alasore Marine Exports Pvt. Ltd., Balasore.	24.8.24	34
2	Falcon Marine Exports Ltd., Patai, Bhubaneswar	27.8.24	39
3	Hiland Agro Exports Ltd., Balasore	21.10.24	38
4	Falcon Marine Exports Ltd., Balasore	22.10.24	32
5	Harimarine Exports Ltd., Balasore	23.10.24	31
6	Unitraveni Exports, Malipada, Khurda	24.10.24	40
7	Rams Assorted Cold Storage, Paradeep	27.10.24	35
8	Padmashree Exports, Malipada, Khurda	28.10.24	31
9	Shimpo Exports, Bhubaneswar	13.11.24	40
10	Sabri Seafoods, Bhubaneswar	23.12.24	40

## PARADEEP PORT AUTHORITY CSR FUND PROGRAMMES

- MPEDA-NETFISH receives CSR funding from the Paradip Port Authority (PPA) to implement capacity-building programmes for fishers in Odisha. Last Financial year (2023-24) we received ₹ 10 lakh. Utilizing the balance fund from this amount, 11 vehicle-based awareness campaigns and one workshop on the

popularization of square mesh cod ends were conducted during June 2024. Further in December 2025, a CSR grant of ₹ 28 lakh was sanctioned by PPA and using this fund, organized 60 programmes during February and March 2025. In total, 72 training programmes were conducted during FY 2024-25, benefiting 2,495 stakeholders, including fishers, trawler crew members, boat owners, and net menders.

### Details of PPA funded programmes conducted

Name of the Processing Unit	Programmes Date	No of Beneficiaries
Fishing Vessel-Based Programmes in Paradeep & Balaramgadi	36	390
Harbour-Based Programmes in Paradeep & Dhamara	15	388
Vehicle-based awareness campaigns on square mesh cod ends in Paradeep, Dhamara, Balaramgadi & Bahabalapur	19	1587
Workshop on Square mesh cod end	2	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2495</b>

These training sessions covered a range of topics such as fish quality management, food safety, hygiene practices, cold chain maintenance, handling and icing of catch, sea safety, sustainable fishing practices, reduction of juvenile catch, marine pollution, by-catch mitigation, wild seed collection, and the use of TEDs and square mesh cod ends. Training materials such as posters, leaflets, short films were made use of to enhance awareness. Also, T-shirts were given to all the participants of the trainings.

As part of the square mesh popularization campaign, 200 square mesh cod ends—100 each at Paradeep and Balaramgadi were distributed. Awareness programmes were

conducted at major fish landing centres using specially decorated vehicles. These vehicles, equipped with printed banners, audio-visual systems, square mesh models, posters, leaflets, and awareness photo frames, travelled across Odisha to promote the adoption of square mesh cod ends.

Two major workshops on the “**Merits of Square Mesh Cod End**” were organized at Paradeep Fishing Harbour with active participation from MPEDA, PPA, Odisha Marine Fish Producers’ Association (OMFPA), and local trawler associations. Key discussions emphasized concerns such as the decline in marine fish stocks due to overfishing, juvenile catch, pollution, and wild seed collection. The workshops

concluded with important recommendations, including the standardization of mesh sizes, promotion of square mesh cod ends, and provision of oil subsidies to support the trawler

industry. During these sessions, square mesh cod ends were distributed to participants, who also pledged to adopt and use them in their fishing operations.



Programmes under the Paradeep Port Authority CSR fund

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Attended an awareness programme on square mesh codend organized by Tufropes and Balramgadi Trawler Association on 30th August 2025.
- ◆ Took part in the Matsya Pranee Samavesh Exhibition held from 14th to 16th February 2025 at Bhubaneswar and attended the MPEDA stall at the expo.
- ◆ Provided support to RD Bhubaneswar in arranging four seafood value-addition training programmes in Odisha during September 2024 and January 2025.
- ◆ Participated in two seafood processing plant clean-up programmes organized by RD MPEDA as part of Swachhata Pakhwada.
- ◆ Participated in an awareness programme for pre-processing centres organized by the State Fisheries Department on 23rd August 2024 at Balasore.
- ◆ Provided training to HDCs on data collection, hygienic handling, conservation aspects, etc.
- ◆ Shared 240 messages through three WhatsApp groups at three harbours, reaching nearly 50 stakeholders daily.



## ANDHRA PRADESH NORTH

Mr. P. Hanumantha Rao, State Coordinator, NETFISH has coordinated all the NETFISH activities in Northern coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh, which totaled to 236 programmes including 55 nos. of general fund programmes, 6 SC/ST

programmes, 18 TED fund programmes, 107 awareness classes by HDCs and 50 other activities (see Table). A total of 3132 fishery stakeholders in Andhra Pradesh North were benefitted by these programmes.

### Activities Conducted in Andhra Pradesh North during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	38	649
	Pre-Processing Centre Training	12	300
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	4	22
	Swachhata programme	1	120
<b>2.</b>	<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC &amp; ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC/ST Seafood Worker's Training	6	180
<b>3.</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	15	539
	State-level Workshop	1	59
	Onboard Trials	2	75
<b>4.</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes by HDCs	107	558
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	7	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. organized by others	28	-
	Participation of SCO as TRAINER in MPEDA Organized Seafood Unit Value Addition Training	13	630
	Coordination of Visit of Officials	2	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>3132</b>

### HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

- Conducted 38 harbour based regular awareness programmes in Andhra Pradesh Northern regions, reaching 649 stakeholders including fishers, boat owners, crew members, fisherwomen, fish traders etc. in Visakhapatnam, Kakinada, Pudimadaka & Bhairavapalem. The sessions covered proper chilling and handling of catch to reduce post-harvest losses and ensure quality seafood for export. Fishers were trained on sustainable practices like using square mesh cod-ends, TEDs, and eco-friendly fishing methods. Key issues such as poor handling, delays in icing, and lack of harbour infrastructure were also discussed. Awareness was also raised on preventing juvenile fishing, protecting marine life, and avoiding harmful practices like IUU and light

fishing. PowerPoint presentations and videos in Telugu on hygienic catch handling, square mesh cod-ends, and TEDs were shown to enhance understanding. As an incentive to adopt better practices, aid materials such as hand gloves, stools, fish tubs, and tarpaulin sheets were distributed to participants.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Location	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Visakhapatnam	12	227
Kakinada	18	228
Pudimadaka	6	172
Bhairavapalem	2	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>649</b>



Awareness training on pre-cooling & square mesh fabrication

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Visakhapatnam	35	172	Boat owner, boat crew, net menders, dry fishers	Fish quality, post harvest loss, Conservation of Turtles, Fishery conservation, Plastic pollution at sea etc
Kakinada	37	196		
Pudimadaka	35	190		
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>558</b>		



Awareness classes by HDCs in Kakinada & Pudimadaka

## OUTCOMES

During this financial year, several good practices were adopted across harbours in Andhra Pradesh, leading to notable improvements.

- In Tuna fishing, chill/pre-cooling practices were followed by 40% of boats in Visakhapatnam, 30% in Kakinada, and 60% in Pudimadaka, resulting in an increased price of ₹ 5-15 per kg of Tuna.
- At Visakhapatnam, shifting the domestic fish market to the new building attracted standard buyers, giving an additional ₹ 20 per kg.
- Based on inputs from MPEDA-NETFISH, infrastructure upgrades were carried out at Visakhapatnam harbour, including the allocation of funds for fish and shrimp pre-processing facilities away from landing areas.
- In Kakinada, restricted entry was implemented by fixing gates, which controlled vehicle movement by 50%, resolving traffic issues at the jetty. The harbour management committee plans to implement a toll system in the upcoming season.
- Chill-killed Tuna fish from 16 fishing boats trained by

NETFISH were preferred by exporters for export to the USA. The quality was appreciated by buyers, leading to increased orders for the exporter.

- Based on suggestions given by MPEDA-NETFISH during a meeting convened by the District Collector of Visakhapatnam and Chairman of the Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour High-Level Management Committee, officers of the Fisheries Department and Port Authority were instructed to generate revenue for harbour cleaning

activities through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). Restricted entry gates and toll collection points at the harbour entrance are currently under construction.

- Out of 670 trawl fishing boats at Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour, 310 have been converted into tuna fishing boats using selective fishing gear. Additionally, around 23 boats are currently being converted exclusively for hook-and-line fishing.



Usage of sufficient ice for fish packing & new gate at Kakinada harbour

## PRE-PROCESSING CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- Conducted 12 training programmes on hygiene and sanitation in Vizag and Kakinada, reaching around 300 pre-processing workers, supervisors, and managers. Aprons were distributed to encourage hygienic practices and reduce contamination risks. The training sessions focused on hygiene and sanitation practices for workers

at both registered and unregistered independent pre-processing centres, aiming to minimize contamination and maintain the quality of raw materials intended for export. MPEDA-NETFISH organized awareness classes and hands-on training sessions on hygienic handling and personal hygiene for PPC workers. Presentations and regional language (Telugu) videos on hygienic pre-processing practices were shown to trainees during the programmes.



Training for Pre-processing workers

## OUTCOMES

- Hand dip stations were arranged at Neelakantham Seafood, Bheemunipatnam, and 80% of workers are

now using them consistently before entering the pre-processing area.

- At M/s. Sandhya Aqua Exports, Tallarevu, East Godavari District, 70% of workers are following proper handwashing procedures regularly.
- The management of the PPCs has instructed workers

to adopt good hygienic practices for improved product quality.

- The PPCs have applied to EIA and MPEDA for approval and registration of their facilities.



## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ As part of Swachhata Pakhwada, a fish landing center cleanup programme was organized on 14.11.2024 at Pudimadaka, Anakapally District. The event saw the participation of 120 individuals, including fishers, school children, the President of the Gram Panchayat, AD SRD MPEDA, FDO from the Department of Fisheries, Marine Police, SI from the Andhra Pradesh Police

Department, SCO, and HDC. The programme began with an awareness meeting, which highlighted the importance of Swachhata Pakhwada, measures to reduce plastic pollution in the sea, and the need to maintain cleanliness at fish landing centers. This was followed by a cleanup drive at the landing center, with active participation from officials and attendees. Fishers assured their commitment to maintaining a clean fish landing center.



Landing center cleanup programme at Pudimadaka

## IMPACTS

- The President of the Gram Panchayat assured that efforts would be taken to maintain cleanliness by arranging dustbins for regular waste collection.
- Plans were announced to install CCTV cameras at identified locations to monitor and prevent unauthorized waste dumping by villagers.
- Regular waste collection from local residents has already been initiated.

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

- ◆ Conducted 6 nos of one-day awareness and hands-on training programmes for seafood unit supervisors and pre-processing and processing workers belonging to SC/ST communities utilizing the RD MPEDA fund. The participants were trained on good and hygienic handling practices to maintain product quality as per international standards. The training included both theoretical and practical sessions with the support of PowerPoint

presentations, animated awareness videos developed by MPEDA-NETFISH in Telugu, and NETFISH leaflets on relevant topics in Telugu. The trainees responded

very positively, stating that the content was work-related, easy to understand, and practical for implementation in their daily activities.



Training for seafood processing workers

## OUTCOMES

- 90% of workers in the seafood processing units have adopted regular hand washing, the use of hand dips and foot dips, and are consistently wearing clean uniforms during processing operations.

### Details of trainings conducted for SC/ST workers in Seafood Units

S.N.	Name of the Processing Unit	Programmes Date	No of Beneficiaries
1	M/s. Nekkanti Sea foods Ltd., Kakinada	03.4.24	30
2	M/s. Coastal Corporation Ltd., Kakinada	04.4.24	30
3	M/s. Veerabhadra Exports Pvt. Ltd., Kakinada	06.4.24	30
4	M/s. Godavari Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Bhimavaram	17.9.24	30
5	M/s. Welcome Fisheries Ltd., Bhimavaram	18.9.25	30
6	M/s. Jagadeesh Marine Exports Pvt. Ltd., Bhimavaram	19.9.25	30

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- A state-level workshop on TED implementation was conducted on 14.08.2024 at Kakinada, with 75 participants, including boat owners and officials from the Department of Fisheries, Forest Department, CIFT, CMFRI, FSI, and CIFNET. The State Coordinator delivered an awareness presentation on TED in Telugu.

A TED model was demonstrated, and underwater videos showing the escape of turtles through TED were screened. Handouts and T-shirts printed with messages on TED were distributed. The fishers and other stakeholders provided positive feedback and expressed their commitment to implementing TED in Andhra Pradesh.



State-level workshop on TED implementation at Kakinada

- ◆ A total of 15 harbour-based awareness programmes were conducted to educate stakeholders on the importance of TED, its advantages, and the need for implementation. These programmes trained 539 participants, including trawl boat owners, crew members, and net menders. TED leaflets were distributed, and T-shirts and caps were provided to the participants.

**Details of TED awareness conducted**

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Visakhapatnam	9	348
Kakinada	4	110
Yanam	2	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>539</b>



Programmes on TED awareness for fishers & boat owners

- ◆ Two onboard fishing trials were conducted in February 2025 at Visakhapatnam, using trawl nets fitted with TEDs and without TEDs, to demonstrate the device's effectiveness. Participants included boat owners, crew, net menders, officials from Andhra Pradesh Fisheries Department, FSI, CIFNET, and scientists from ICAR-CIFT and CMFRI. Awareness sessions were organized at Visakhapatnam Harbour before the trials with 59 participants. The trials involved two bottom trawl fishing vessels, of which, one fitted with TED and a cover net to capture the escaped catch from the TED opening.

Species-wise data were collected and recorded. The TED-fitted net recorded 40% higher catch than the non-TED net. Only 0.98% of the catch escaped through the TED opening and was captured in the cover net. The escaped catch mostly consisted of juvenile fish less than 3 inches in size. The non-TED net had a higher proportion of debris, ghost nets, and plastic, with a lower overall catch. Fishers observed no significant shrimp loss in the TED-fitted net and expressed satisfaction with the trial results.



Fishing trial using TED fitted trawl net & pasting TED sticker

**IMPACTS**

- Awareness among major stakeholders has increased significantly.
- Fishers have recognized the role of TEDs in addressing the U.S. ban on wild-caught shrimp exports from India and in the conservation of sea turtles. Many expressed

their willingness to install TEDs, provided adequate government subsidies are made available. They also added that a minimum of 6-8 TEDs are required per trawl boat, as multiple nets are used to target different species.

- A positive shift in attitude has been observed among fishers, many of whom are now ready to equip their

trawl boats with TEDs to minimize economic losses and regain export opportunities. The onboard trials further enhanced awareness among boat owners, crew members, and net menders, who are now convinced that TEDs can be installed without compromising catch efficiency.

## PARTICIPATION OF SCO AS TRAINER IN MPEDA ORGANIZED SEAFOOD UNIT VALUE ADDITION TRAINING

- ◆ The SCO has functioned as trainer in 13 seafood unit value addition trainings organized by RD/SRD MPEDA at various locations as given below. Each training was attended by 50 nos. of seafood processing workers & supervisors. They were provided hands on training on

preparation of Butter fly shrimps, Breaded Butter fly shrimps, Cooked breaded butter fly shrimps, Shrimps Veg. Skiwer, Shrimps Marinated Skiwer, Dusted Squid Ring, Breaded Squid Rings, Breaded & batter Cooked squid rings, Cooked PDTO and Popcorn.

### Details of value addition trainings conducted

S.N.	Date	Venue	No of Trainees
1	28.08.24	M/s. St. Peter & Paul Exports Pvt Ltd., Tiruvallur, Chennai	50
2	06.09.24	M/s. Magnum Export, Khurda	50
3	13.09.24	M/s. Snow World Export, Odisha	50
4	25.09.24	M/s.Jagadeesh Marine Exports, Bhimavaram	50
5	26.09.24	M/s.Godavari Mega Food Park Pvt Ltd, Bhimavaram	50
6	27.09.24	M/s. Sandhya Aqua Exports, Pamarru	50
7	28.09.24	M/s. Penvar Products Pvt Ltd, Guduru	50
8	30.09.24	M/s.Abad Overseas Anandapuram	50
9	22.01.25	M/s. Aquatica Frozen foods global Pvt Ltd, Chirala, Bapatla	50
10	23.01.25	M/s. Southern Tropical Foods Pvt Ltd, Singarayakonda	50
11	24.01.25	M/s.Welcome Fisheries Limimted, Bhimavaram	50
12	27.01.25	M/s.Nekkanti Seafoods Ltd, Marikavalasa, Visakhapatnam	50
13	30.01.25	M/s. Monsoon Bounty Foods Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd, Chennai	50



SCO giving training on preparation of value added seafood products

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Conducted a series of meetings with fisheries officials, boat owners, fishermen's associations, and institutional heads across Vizag, Kakinada, Yanam, and Amalapuram from June 2024 to February 2025 to facilitate the TED implementation programs. These efforts included discussions on TED awareness, identifying venues, confirming participation for workshops, and organizing onboard trial programmes in collaboration with officials from MPEDA-NETFISH and the Department of Fisheries.
- ◆ Held a meeting with Port officials on 04.01.25 at SRD MPEDA.
- ◆ Conducted a meeting with the Boat Owners' Association regarding TED programmes and coordinated with Port Authority officials on harbour upgradation works on 10.07.24 at Vizag.
- ◆ Attended the officer's meeting to finalize auction rates of catches of FSI vessels at FSI, Vizag on 17.05.24.
- ◆ Delivered a guest lecture on sustainable conservation methods and food safety standards at a programme organized by Avanti Foundation, Andhra University, Vizag on 22.05.24.
- ◆ Participated in the fishery stakeholder's awareness programme on marine litter under the GloLitter project conducted by FSI Vizag on 30.05.24.
- ◆ Attended the CMFRI annual stakeholders meeting at CMFRI, Vizag on 12.06.24.
- ◆ Participated in the "Workshop on Working Together to Fight AMR in Asia and the Pacific" at Hotel Radisson Blu, Vizag on 11.07.24.
- ◆ Coordinated with the Department of Fisheries for the harbour visit of Shri A. Babu IAS, Secretary, AP Fisheries to see the harbour upgradation works at Vizag on 11.07.24.
- ◆ Attended the fishery stakeholder's workshop on small-scale fishers' livelihood status and suggestions for development conducted by FISCON at Youth Hostel, YMCA on 22.07.24.
- ◆ Participated in the inaugural function of the 4-day MPEDA Seafood HACCP Training Programme at Best Western Plus, Vizag on 20.08.24.
- ◆ Participated in a stakeholders awareness programme on marine protected species organized by CMFRI at Vizag on 10.09.24.
- ◆ Attended the fishery stakeholders workshop on tuna handling and WTO fisheries subsidies at FSI Visakhapatnam on 26.09.24.
- ◆ Attended the Harbour Management Society meeting at the Collectorate, Vizag on 29.10.24.
- ◆ Attended the World Fisheries Day programme organized by CIFT at Pudimadaka.
- ◆ Coordinated with SRD MPEDA for the seafood exporters meeting with the Fisheries Minister and Secretary of Uttarakhand at Vizag on 26.11.24.
- ◆ Attended the stakeholders meeting on upgradation issues of the fishing harbour at Port Trust Office, Vizag on 23.04.24.
- ◆ Delivered a guest lecture on fish quality management in seafood export to fisheries students from West Bengal at NIFPHATT, Vizag on 25.04.24.
- ◆ Participated in the 67th Foundation Day celebration of CIFT at CIFT, Vizag on 29.04.24.
- ◆ Participated in a school children turtle conservation awareness programme organized by NFDB at Bhairavapalem on 27.02.25.
- ◆ Participated in a meeting with the District Collector and Local MLA at Amalapuram on 27.02.25.
- ◆ Participated in the TED awareness programme organized by NFDB at Bhairavapalem on 28.02.25.
- ◆ Participated in the TED awareness programme and distribution of TEDs organized by NFDB at Bhairavapalem on 01.03.25.
- ◆ Attended the stakeholders meeting with exporters, entrepreneurs, and government officials at Dr. V.S. Krishna Government Degree College, Vizag on 07.03.25.
- ◆ Attended the meeting organized by SEAI regarding the Seafood Task Force (STF) with experts from Vietnam to discuss US seafood issues like traceability and labour at Hotel Devee Grand Bay, Vizag on 25.02.25.
- ◆ Attended the fishery stakeholders meeting organized by the Department of Fisheries, AP at FSI, Vizag on 21.02.25.

- ◆ Attended the 78th Foundation Day celebration of CMFRI at CMFRI, Vizag on 03.02.25.
- ◆ Participated in an exhibition stall at Police Grounds, Vizag on 26.01.25.
- ◆ Attended the District Level Harbour Committee meeting at the Collector Office on 16.01.25.
- ◆ Coordinated and attended the NITI Aayog meeting with exporters and entrepreneurs on regional development as HUB at VMRDA Office, Vizag on 11.01.25.
- ◆ Coordinated with JD Fisheries for the ODOP New Delhi team visit to Fishing harbour and Seafood processing unit in Vizag on 16.12.24
- ◆ Coordinated the visit of officials for the Central and fishery, inter departmental officials and Seafood Exporters Associations members meeting at Vizag on 17.04.24
- ◆ Conducted timely meetings with HDCs of Pudimadaka, Vizag & Kakinada regarding data collection, awareness programmes and By-catch Surveys and also evaluated their activities.
- ◆ About 2943 awareness messages were shared through 6 whatsapp groups formed at 3 harbours each message reaching nearly 254 stakeholders



Coordination of visit of CE NETFISH & Secretary AP Fisheries to Vizag; Participation in Republic day celebration of AP Fisheries Dept.



Participation of SCO in various programmes organized by others

## ANDHRA PRADESH SOUTH

Dr. Murali Mohan M. State Coordinator, NETFISH has coordinated all the NETFISH activities in Southern coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh, which totaled to 285 programmes including 82 nos. of general fund programmes, 18 TED fund

programmes, 173 awareness classes by HDCs and 12 other activities (see Table). A total of 2611 fishery stakeholders in Andhra Pradesh South were benefitted by these programmes.

### Activities Conducted in Andhra Pradesh South during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	58	665
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	10	212
	Pre-Processing Centre Training	11	320
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	2	9
	Swachhata programme	1	125
<b>2.</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	17	451
	Onboard Trials	1	30
<b>3.</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings Conducted by HDCs	173	799
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	3	15
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. Organized by others	8	-
	Coordination of Visit of Officials	1	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>2611</b>

### HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

- ◆ A total of 58 harbour-based awareness programmes were conducted at Machilipatnam, Nizampatnam, and Vodarevu as detailed below. These programmes benefitted 665 participants, including fishing crew members, boat owners, and fish handling workers, who were sensitized on hygienic fish handling, preservation methods to reduce post-harvest loss, and responsible fishing practices for the sustainability of marine fisheries. HDPE tarpaulins, reusable rubber gloves, and shovels

were distributed as aid materials to encourage hygienic practices.

#### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Machilipatnam	43	463
Nizampatnam	14	190
Vodarevu	1	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>665</b>



Harbour based awareness

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Machilipatnam	78	356	Fishermen, crew	Hygienic fish handling & preservation methods, reduction of post-harvest loss, responsible fishing practices, reduction of plastic pollution
Vodarevu	95	443		
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>799</b>		



Awareness session by HDCs

## OUTCOMES

- A cluster approach was established at Machilipatnam and Nizampatnam fishing harbours, promoting best practices in 25 boats at Machilipatnam and 20 boats at Nizampatnam.
- The practice of chill killing, especially for shrimp and high-value fish, was promoted, resulting in a 40% reduction in blackening of shrimp gills and an increase of ₹ 20 per kilogram in the selling price of shrimp.



Practice of chill killing onboard

- Fishers have adopted the use of gum boots, gloves, and PVC shovels.
- Through NETFISH efforts, a new auction and sorting area has been made ready for use at Machilipatnam.
- NETFISH, in collaboration with the Mechanized Boat Association, has initiated a regular cleaning schedule at Machilipatnam harbour, ensuring the harbour is cleaned twice a week-every Wednesday and Saturday-to maintain a clean and hygienic environment.



New auction area at Machilipatnam Harbour

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Conducted 10 awareness programmes for 212 dry fish processing fisherwomen at Vodarevu. HDPE tarpaulins and reusable rubber gloves were provided to the trainees to encourage the adoption of hygienic practices.



Awareness training for dryfish workers

## OUTCOMES



Improved fish drying practices

- Two self-help groups, each comprising 10 women members, have been formed to undertake dry fish processing, packing, and marketing. These groups focus on packing dry fish in a hygienic manner to ensure quality and food safety, supplying the packed products to nearby mini and medium-sized retail outlets and malls, and fulfilling bulk orders to meet larger market demands. By organizing themselves into groups, the women are enhancing their livelihoods through income generation,

developing skills in processing, packing, and marketing, and contributing to the local economy through entrepreneurship and job creation.

- The drying process has been upgraded with the use of HDPE (High-Density Polyethylene) tarpaulin sheets, ensuring a cleaner and more hygienic method.
- Small-scale shops and household-level market points have been established to provide convenient and accessible outlets for the sale of dry fish products.

## PRE-PROCESSING CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- Organized 11 awareness programmes for workers at pre-processing centres in Vodarevu and Nizampatnam, benefiting a total of 320 participants. The sessions focused on hygienic handling of raw materials, sanitation practices at PPCs, and personal hygiene. Trainees were provided with aprons, head caps, gloves, and masks.

### Details of PPC programmes conducted

Location	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Vodarevu	6	170
Nizampatnam	5	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>320</b>



Training for pre-processing workers

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- As part of Swachhata Campaign 4.0, themed "Institutionalizing Swachhata & Reducing Pendency," a coastal clean-up and awareness programme was conducted on 29.10.2024 at Manginipudi Beach, Machilipatnam, Krishna District. Officials from the Andhra Pradesh State Fisheries Department, Forest Department, Marine Police, MSSRF, and members of the Matyakara Sankshema Samithi participated in the event. An awareness session was led by the SCO, NETFISH and the FDO, Machilipatnam, emphasizing the importance of institutionalizing cleanliness, reducing

pendency, and eliminating single-use plastics. Plastic waste, including disposable plastics, thermocol, and abandoned fishing nets, was collected along the beach and adjoining roads, with disposal facilitated by the local Panchayat. A total of 109 students and staff from Tallarevu ZPH School, along with 29 Fisheries Department officials-including Village Fisheries Assistants and Sagar Mitra staff-MSSRF members, and other stakeholders actively took part in the clean-up drive. Two truckloads of plastic and other waste were collected and handed over to the Panchayat for proper disposal.



Clean-up drive at Manginipudi Beach, Machilipatnam

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

◆ A total of 17 awareness programmes on TED, highlighting their importance and benefits, were conducted for 451 fishers, boat owners, and crew members at Machilipatnam and Nizampatnam. As part of the programme, T-shirts printed with TED messages were distributed to the participants. Following the sessions, the fishers gained a clear understanding of the US ban on shrimp and the significance of using TEDs. They expressed their commitment to incorporating TEDs in their trawl nets and assured that they would adopt this vital conservation measure.

### Details of TED awareness programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Machilipatnam	13	331
Nizampatnam	4	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>451</b>

◆ An onboard trial was conducted on 4th March 2024 at approximately 12 nautical miles off Machilipatnam, with and without TEDs. The trial showed a higher catch with TED, with a negligible escape rate of only 0.10%. The use of TED resulted in a catch free from trash and mud, whereas fishing without TED led to more trash in the catch.



TED awareness classes



Fishing trials using TED

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Coordinated the visit of the Chairman, MPEDA, to Vijayawada.
- ◆ Conducted meetings with HDCs and enlightened them on data collection, hygienic and sustainable fishing practices.
- ◆ Organized a stakeholders' meeting on 07.06.2024 at Machilipatnam.
- ◆ Attended the harbour coordination meeting held at the Collectorate, Nellore, on 10.12.2024.
- ◆ Participated in a 3-day programme on "Diversified Aquaculture" organized by RD MPEDA at Nizampatnam on 13.02.2025 and delivered a presentation on NETFISH activities.
- ◆ Took part in Swachhata programmes organized by RD MPEDA at Ragavayya Park on 08.10.2024 and at RD Vijayawada on 07.11.2024.
- ◆ Participated in Seafood Value Addition Training Programmes organized by RD MPEDA at Chirala and Ongole during January 2025.
- ◆ Participated in the State-level workshop on "Implementation of TED in Trawl Gears in Andhra Pradesh" held at Kakinada on 14.08.2024.
- ◆ Held a series of meetings with the Commissioner of Fisheries, Andhra Pradesh, regarding the implementation of TED programmes in the state.
- ◆ Conducted by-catch survey through 195 fisher interviews covering 3 harbours/landing centres in Andhra Pradesh South.



SCO attending the visit of Chairman, MPEDA to Vijayawada



Participation of the SCO in various other activities

## TAMIL NADU NORTH

Dr. Arulmoorthy M.P., State Coordinator, NETFISH has coordinated all the NETFISH activities in Northern coastal districts of Tamilnadu & in Pondicherry, which totaled to 465 programmes including 51 nos. of general fund programmes, 22 SC/ST programmes, 28 TED fund programmes, 7 external

funded programmes, 321 awareness classes by HDCs and 36 other activities (see Table). A total of 3697 fishery stakeholders in Tamilnadu were benefitted by these programmes.

### Activities Conducted in Tamilnadu North during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	35	562
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	8	146
	Swachhata programme	2	220
	Stakeholder Meetings organized by SCOs	5	-
	Exposure Visit	1	30
<b>2</b>	<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	12	360
	ST Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	3	90
<b>3</b>	<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC &amp; ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programme for SC Fishers	5	150
	Harbour Based Programme for ST Fishers	2	60
<b>4</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	21	634
	Statelevel Workshop	2	215
	Onboard Trials	5	172
<b>5</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	2	60
	No: of Trainings for Marine Observers under Marine Mammal Project	5	20
<b>6</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes by HDCs	321	978
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	3	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. organized by others	17	-
	Ornamental Fish Health Certification	16	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>3697</b>

### HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

◆ Conducted 35 harbour based regular awareness programmes in Tamilnadu Northern regions, reaching 562 stakeholders including fishers, boat owners, crew members, etc. in Pazhayar, Mudasalodai, Nagapattinam, Tharangambadi & Cuddalore. The trainees were

enlightened on hygienic fish handling & preservation practices onboard and in harbours for keeping the quality of the material to earn better price and sustainable fishing practices for conservation of fishery resources. Aid materials such as plastic baskets, t-shirts & crates were given to the participants as an encouragement to adopt good practices.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Pazhayar	21	325
Mudasalodai	06	115
Nagapattinam	03	40
Tharangambadi	01	20
Cuddalore	04	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>563</b>



Awareness programme on hygiene & conservation

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Chennai	47	157	Fishers, FV Captains, fishing crews	Fish Quality Management, Sustainable fishing, use of TED & Square mesh
Puducherry	27	96		
Cuddalore	33	116		
Mudasalodai	32	108		
Pazhayar	42	94		
Poombuhar	34	90		
Karaikal	33	80		
Nagapattinam	36	96		
Kodiyakkarai	37	140		
<b>Total</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>977</b>		

## OUTCOMES

- In 60% of the fishing vessels operating from Thengathittu Harbour, Puducherry collect plastic wastes during trawling and dispose it in the designated waste collection bins.
- In Pazhayaru the practice of collection of plastic wastes during trawling was adopted in 5% of fishing vessels.



Collection of plastic wastes from sea during fishing trips

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Conducted 8 awareness trainings for 146 fishers involved in dryfish processing in Nagapattinam & Mudasalodai, educating them on personal hygiene,

Hygienic preparation of dryfish including fish washing, salting and drying methods etc. The trainees were provided with plastic baskets & plastic sheets, helping them to adopt the hygienic practices.



Awareness programme for dryfish processors

## OUTCOMES

- Improved hygienic handling of fish at dryfish areas in Mudasalodai by around 60%



Before & After condition of fish drying

## EXPOSURE VISIT

- ◆ A week-long exposure visit from 2-9 December 2024 was organized for 30 boat owners and fishers from Puducherry to key fishing harbours and seafood processing plants in Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, and Maharashtra, in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry. The initiative, led by Dr. M.P. Arulmoorthy, SCO, MPEDA-NETFISH and Mr. P. Simon Leo, Sub-Inspector of Fisheries, Puducherry, aimed to enhance awareness

among boat owners about hygienic fish handling, harbour management, seafood processing, and marketing strategies. The team visited major harbours like Thoppumpady, Munambam, Mangalore, Malpe, Vasco, Ratnagiri, and New Ferry Wharf, and interacted with fishers, NETFISH Coordinators, and state fisheries officials to learn about best practices and government support schemes. The team also visited a processing plant in Munambam and gained valuable insights into seafood processing for export. The programme also

facilitated buyer-boat owner meetings in Kochi and Mangalore to address the lack of fish buyers in Puducherry and to build trade linkages. During these meetings, Puducherry boat owners highlighted issues such as poor pricing and limited buyer access, while buyers expressed interest in sourcing from Puducherry

and agreed to explore the region's fish landings. The exposure visit proved to be a transformative experience for the boat owners, offering valuable insights and potential business opportunities that could strengthen Puducherry's marine fisheries sector.



Exposure visit of boat owners and fishers from Puducherry and meeting with buyers

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ **Nallavadu Beach, Pondicherry:** As part of the MPEDA's Swachhata action plan for the year 2024-25, a Beach Cleanup Programme was organized on 20th August 2024 at Nallavadu Beach, Pondicherry. The event saw active participation from 100 volunteers, including students from Rajiv Gandhi Arts and Science College, members of the village committee, representatives from fisherwomen's self-help groups, and local fishers from Nallavadu Village. The event commenced with an inaugural session, where key dignitaries delivered insightful lecture on the significance of coastal cleanliness and emphasized the collaborative efforts required to ensure a sustainable environment. Mr. Luther Samy, Field Officer from MSSRF, and a prominent leader of the fishermen's association, inaugurated the clean-up drive. Participants, divided into 10 teams collected debris and other waste materials,

filling up a total of 20 gunny and plastic bags. The waste was then transported to municipal handling centers, ensuring that all collected materials were disposed of properly. The campaign not only resulted in a cleaner beach but also fostered a sense of responsibility among the local communities towards preserving coastal environments.

- ◆ **Poombuhar Beach Cleanup:** A beach cleanup programme was conducted at Poombuhar Beach, Mayiladuthurai District, Tamil Nadu, on 23rd September 2024. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about the importance of keeping coastal and beach areas clean among college students, the public, and the local fishing communities. A total of 120 individuals, including students from Poombuhar College, officials from the Tamil Nadu Marine Police, the Enforcement Wing, the Tamil Nadu Tourism Board, members of village committees, women from Fisherwomen Self Help Groups, and local fishers, participated in the cleanup

effort. The programme was inaugurated by Tmt. Thirumalai, Sub-Inspector of Marine Police, Poombuhar. The dignitaries present shared insights into the vital role of coastal ecosystems, and discussed the harmful impact of plastic pollution on marine life. The volunteers were divided into ten groups and collected wastes in

20 large gunny and plastic bags. These materials were later handed over to municipal cleaning workers for proper disposal. This collective effort is a reminder of the importance of community involvement in preserving our coastal environment and fostering sustainable practices.



Clean-up drives at Nallavadu & Poombuhar beaches

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC/ST FISHERS

◆ One day capacity building trainings were arranged for SC & ST fishers in Tamilnadu North regions utilizing the SC/ST funds available with NETFISH as well as with the MPEDA RD Chennai. A total of 12 programmes benefiting 360 SC fishers & 3 programmes benefitting 90 ST fishers were conducted utilizing the NETFISH fund whereas 5 programmes reaching 150 SC fishers and 2 programmes reaching 60 ST fishers were arranged using RD Chennai's fund. The trainees were enlightened on fish quality management measures, personal hygiene, reduction of post-harvest loss and conservation of marine resources for sustainable fisheries. The participants were given crates, plastic baskets, hand gloves bundles & t-shirts during the trainings. The region-wise programme details are given below.

### Details of SC/ST programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
<b>Harbour Based programmes for SC fishers -NETFISH fund</b>		
Kottaikadu	6	180
Kodiyakarai	3	90
Kundrukadu	3	90
<b>Harbour Based programmes for SC fishers -RD Chennai fund</b>		
T.S.Pettai	1	30
Pazhaverkadu	4	120
<b>Harbour Based programmes for ST fishers-NETFISH fund</b>		
Kalaingar Nagar	2	60
T.S.Pettai	1	30
<b>Harbour Based programmes for ST fishers-RD Chennai fund</b>		
Kalaingar Nagar	1	30
Sesil Nagar	1	30



Capacity building trainings for SC fishers



Distribution of aid materials to SC fishers

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES



Stakeholder workshops at Chennai & Pondicherry

◆ Statelevel Workshops were conducted in Chennai & Puducherry on 24.8.24 & 13.9.24. The Chennai workshop was attended by 115 participants, including representatives from the Department of Fisheries, Government of Tamil nadu, members of fishermen associations, research institutes, and NGOs. A presentation on the implementation of TED was delivered by Dr. M.P.Arulmoorthy, SCO, MPEDA-NETFISH and a TED model demonstration was conducted for the fishermen. Fishermen union leaders from Tamil Nadu expressed their consent for conducting field trials of TED in trawl nets. The workshop at Puducherry was attended by 100 participants, including representatives from the Department of Fisheries, Government of Puducherry, members of fishermen

associations, research institutes, and NGOs. A presentation on the implementation of TED was delivered by Dr. M.P.Arulmoorthy, SCO, MPEDA-NETFISH and a TED model demonstration was conducted for the fishermen. Fishermen union leaders from Puducherry expressed their consent for conducting field trials of TED in trawl nets

◆ Conducted 21 awareness classes for trawl boat owners, fishers and fishing crew to educate them on the importance of TED and its implementation in trawlers in Tamilnadu. Leaflet on TED prepared in Tamil were distributed during the trainings. Also, stickers with information on TED were pasted in fishing vessels. Caps & T-shirts with TED awareness messages were also distributed to the participants.

**Details of TED awareness conducted**

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Pazhayar	3	70
Thirumullaivasal	2	65
Karaikal	1	40
Mudasalodai	2	65
Tharangambadi	2	64
Cuddalore	5	150
Nagapattinam	4	120
Puducherry	2	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>634</b>



TED awareness programmes

- ◆ Conducted 5 fishing trials onboard commercial fishing vessels to convince the fishers on the efficacy of TEDs. The trials were conducted at Pazhayar, Nagapattinam, Puducherry, Thirumullaivasal & Cuddalore. Two fishing vessel were used for each onboard trial programme

and two hauls were done with TED in one vessel and two hauls without TED on the other. A total of 172 participants including Trawl Boat Owners, Fishers & Fisheries officials had attended the trials.



Fishing trials using TED

**SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME**

- ◆ Conducted 2 nos. of one day training programme for 60 processing workers of Abad overseas, Chennai & Jackwin Seafoods, Cuddalore on 14.11.2024 & 20.12.2024 respectively. Each programme was charged a training fee of Rs. 10,000/- from the exporters. The various topics covered in the training were Fish spoilage, Role of ice & water, Hygiene and sanitation, Good handling practices & Personal Hygiene,

Pre-processing, grading & processing, Value added fishery products, HACCP, Microbiology & Traceability. Practical demonstration on Sanitation and Hygiene practices/protocol inside the processing plants were also done. Finally the trainees were assessed and distributed certificate. All the participants agreed for maintaining strict personal hygiene, reduce post-harvest loss, keep clean food contact surface before after used etc.



Training for processing workers

## STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

- ◆ A series of meetings and discussions were conducted with State Fisheries Officials and other fishery stakeholders regularly based on the field requirements. Some of the important meetings were:
  - A discussion with DD-TAFCOFED regarding implementation of IFB Scheme for SC/ST fishers was held on 24.04.24 at State Fisheries Office.
  - On 06.01.25 the SCO had a discussion with JD, DD & Boat owner association leader about TED trial programme at Puducherry fisheries office.
  - Regarding Marine mammal by-catch survey discussion was held with fishers association on 07.03.25 at Mudasalodai Harbour.
  - On 7.06.24, the SCO had a discussion with Boat owner Association leaders of Pondicherry about TED training.
  - A discussion was held with fishers about TED Onboard Trial programme on 21.01.25 at Pazhayaru.
- ◆ Attended ACTIV conclave programme on 23.10.24 at Puducherry
- ◆ Attended Harbour management committee meeting at Kasimedu on 19.03.25
- ◆ Attended Hatchery technician training organized by SRD Nagapattinam on 16.12.24 and delivered a talk on MPEDA & its activities
- ◆ Attended the National workshop - "PONSHRIMP 24" on 13.12.24 at Fisheries College, Thiruvalluvar
- ◆ Attended the Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), organized by the Bay of Bengal Programme during 27-28 August 2024 at Chennai
- ◆ Attended the training programme for Hatchery technician at Puducherry on 25.11.24 and presented on "Marine product Export and Challenges"
- ◆ Participated in Fish farmers day celebration and given a talk about Ornamental fish culture on 10.07.24 at Karaikal
- ◆ Participated in Swachhata clean-up programme and Swachhata hi seva - clean-up programme organized by RD MPEDA at Neelankarai on 24.10.24 and at Pazhaverkadu on 13.11.24
- ◆ Participated in World Fisheries Day programme organized by CAS MB, Annamalai University on 21.11.24 at Samiyarpettai
- ◆ SCO along with DD MPEDA had attended State Agricultural Product Export Promotion Conference at Mannargudi on 06.08.24
- ◆ Coordinated the meeting organized by the State fisheries department on 17.12.24 with exporters and fishermen

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Provided training to 21 fishers from Pazhayar, Poombuhar, Cuddalore, Mudasalodai & Karaikal regions during January 2025 towards engaging them as Marine Observers to collect information on marine mammal and sea turtle sightings and fishery interactions at sea during fishing trips. They were enlightened on identification of marine mammal and sea turtle, data collections and submission of reports. Identification booklet & brochure were also given to the fishers.

association from Kasimedu harbour regarding Tuna rate issue.

- ◆ SCO along with DD MPEDA RD Chennai, coordinated the Consultative workshop on RPA and TTB held at Chennai on 17.07.24.
- ◆ Did the monitoring of activities of HDCs at Cuddalore,

Puducherry, Pazhayaru, Poombuhar, Mudasalodai and Karaikal

- ◆ Carried out inspection of 16 Ornamental fish consignments at Kolathur and issued health certificates.
- ◆ About 55 awareness messages were shared through 24 whatsapp groups formed at 10 harbours each message reaching nearly 150 stakeholders



Various other activities by the SCO

## TAMILNADU SOUTH

Dr. Vinoth S. Ravindran, State Coordinator, NETFISH has coordinated all the NETFISH activities in Southern coastal districts of Tamilnadu, which totaled to 474 programmes including 61 nos. of general fund programmes, 18 SC/ST

programmes, 22 TED fund programmes, 8 external funded programmes, 355 awareness classes by HDCs and 10 other activities (see Table). A total of 4190 fishery stakeholders in Tamilnadu South were benefitted by these programs.

### Activities Conducted in Tamilnadu South during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	34	559
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	8	155
	Pre-Processing Centre Training	1	35
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	16	70
	Swachhata programme	2	120
<b>2</b>	<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	15	450
<b>3</b>	<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC &amp; ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programme for SC Fishers	3	75
<b>4</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	19	507
	Statelevel Workshop	1	170
	Onboard Trials	2	37
<b>5</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	8	277
<b>6</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings Conducted by HDCs	355	1735
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	1	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. Organized by Others	8	-
	Coordination of Visit of Officials from MPEDA & Other Dept.	1	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>4190</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME



Awareness training to fishers on pre-cooling practice and hygiene & conservation aspects

◆ NETFISH conducted 34 harbour-based awareness programmes in southern coastal Tamil Nadu, reaching 559 stakeholders in Tharuvaikulam, Thengapattinam, Tuticorin, and Muttom. The training focused on hygienic fish handling, use of clean ice and equipment, and maintaining cleanliness at landing sites. Fishers were educated on spoilage, export standards, and the impact of poor practices on market rejection. Sessions also emphasized sustainable fishing practices, avoiding banned gears, protecting breeding seasons, and conserving habitats like coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves. Awareness was created on endangered species protection, vessel registration, and fishing

regulations. Training materials included videos, posters, and pamphlets, and hygiene kits like plastic baskets, gloves, and shovels were distributed.

#### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Thengapattinam	20	294
Tharuvaikulam	8	120
Tuticorin FH	5	95
JPR Muttom	1	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>565</b>

#### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Tuticorin	66	286	Fishermen / Fisheries stakeholders / auctioneers / fish vendor	Proper Icing, Chill Processing, Hygienic Handling of Seafood, Sustainable Fishing, Boat & Harbor maintenance
Colachel	53	243		
Thengapattinam	63	281		
Chinnamuttom	95	465		
Rameswaram	22	84		
Mandapam	38	163		
Mallipattinam	44	176		
Kottaipattinam	40	58		
<b>Total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>1756</b>		

## OUTCOMES

#### Tharuvaikulam

- The fisher unions decided to conduct fish auctions on raised platforms/polythene sheets.
- Vendors and fishers have abstained from stamping the fishes with legs.
- Daily harbour cleaning is being maintained.
- Improvements observed in personal hygiene, including regular nail and hair cutting.
- Increased use of gumboots, hand gloves, plastic shovels, and plastic crates/baskets for handling and transporting fish.
- Large fishes like tuna and sailfish are now covered with tarpaulin during transport to avoid heat shock.
- Deep-sea fishers have started adopting on-board chill processing. For fishes above 30 kg, gilling, gutting, and

veining (G&G processing) are practiced. Exporters offer Rs. 10-20/kg more for such fish.

- Fishes are chill killed or slurry treated (2:1 ratio) and stored in good-quality ice at 4°C in fish holds, minimizing temperature shocks and heat burns.
- Boats are cleaned with bleaching powder and water before and after voyages.

#### Thengapattinam

- Improved hygiene practices such as avoiding spitting, smoking, or sneezing inside the harbour; cleaning hands with soap after toilet use; and refraining from wearing unclean footwear.
- Increased use of clean ice, plastic shovels without rust, and proper protective gear like gumboots and gloves. Fish is stored in ice following 1:1 ratio.

- Daily harbour cleaning is ensured.
- Fishers have gained awareness on marine mammal and turtle conservation and have started taking measures avoiding accidental by-catch of these animals.
- Chill processing is adopted for large fish, with G&G processing being practiced. While chill killing and slurry treatment (2:1 ratio) are done, some concerns remain regarding fair pricing by exporters.

### Tuticorin

- Awareness has improved on hygienic fish handling to meet export and EU standards.
- Fish is transported from boat to the auction hall only in plastic crates or baskets.
- Daily cleaning of harbour and auction halls is practiced.
- Boats are cleaned with bleaching powder and water before and after voyages.
- Clean and sufficient ice is carried onboard, and fish is preserved in a 1:1 ice-to-fish ratio.

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Eight awareness programmes on quality improvement in the dry fish sector were conducted in Tuticorin,

Kovalam, and Kanyakumari, benefiting about 155 stakeholders, including women processors, merchants, and traders. Plastic baskets and tarpaulin sheets were distributed to promote hygienic drying practices. The sessions highlighted proper drying methods like using raised nets instead of cement floors or wet sandy areas, avoiding spoiled fish, and using food-grade preservatives. Participants were introduced to various solar dryers such as tent dryers, cabinet dryers, and dome dryers, and their benefits like faster drying, better quality, and protection from pests. The programmes also covered the growing demand for dry fish in local and export markets and discussed basic marketing strategies.

### Details of Dryfish programmes conducted

Location	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Tuticorin FH	6	115
Kovalam	1	20
Kanyakumari	1	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>155</b>



Awareness classes for dryfish processors and distribution of aid materials

## OUTCOMES

- Kovalam is a key landing center for anchovies, which have good export demand. Earlier, fish were dried on sand or roads, but with MPEDA-NETFISH's efforts, fisherfolk have shifted to using HDPE mats, improving hygiene and product quality. This has attracted more buyers and increased income for women processors, supporting growth in the sector.
- In Tuticorin district, areas like Vivekanandanagar, Muthurayar Nagar, Vellapatti, Therespuram, and Tsunami Colony have also adopted HDPE sheets for drying fish, replacing traditional floor or coir mat drying. This practice has improved the quality and market value of dried fish.

## PRE-PROCESSING CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- ◆ A training programme on hygiene and sanitation was conducted for 35 stakeholders, including PPC workers, supervisors, technologists, and the owner at Hynslin Fish Pre-processing Centre, Muttom, Kanyakumari District. As part of the training, gloves were distributed to promote hygienic handling of raw materials. NETFISH videos on hygienic practices in seafood processing and pre-processing were shown to the participants. The session emphasized the importance of fish as a food

item and the need for personal hygiene, such as nail cutting, tying hair, avoiding jewelry and cosmetics, proper hand washing, and using protective gear like head caps, gloves, aprons, and masks. Workers were advised to report any illness or wounds. The training also covered microbial spoilage in fish, the importance of quick and chilled processing, and the health risks associated with microbes like *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, and *Vibrio*. Additional topics included the quality of water and ice, cleanliness of equipment and infrastructure, waste disposal, pest control, and the importance of following MPEDA and EIA norms.



Training for pre-processing workers

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ As part of Swachhata Pakhwada, a harbour cleanup programme was conducted on 13.11.2024 at Thengapattanam Fishing Harbour, Kanyakumari District, with around 100 participants, including officials from the Fisheries Department, NETFISH, and members of boat unions, fish vendors, auctioneers, merchants, and deep-sea fishers. After an inaugural session highlighting the importance of clean harbours and coastal areas, a rally was held with slogans like "Clean India, Green India" and "Waste to Wealth." Participants were divided into five groups. Two groups cleaned and disinfected the auction hall using bleaching powder and water, while another group removed plastic waste and cleared bushes along the beach using tools and a JCB. Cleaning materials like gloves, brooms, bleaching powder, and

baskets were provided, along with T-shirts, caps, and gum boots. Around 300 kg of collected waste was handed over to the Thengapattanam Village Panchayat for proper disposal.

- ◆ Another cleanup drive was held at Thengapattanam Fishing Harbour in connection with the EU-FVO visit, with a participation of 75 people, including officials from the Fisheries Department, MPEDA-NETFISH, and Marine Enforcement Wing, along with fishers, vendors, and boat owners. Debris was removed from the seacoast, signboards were installed, and hygiene materials like plastic shovels, gum boots, gloves, soap oil, and bleaching powder were provided. The auction hall was cleaned and disinfected.



Cleanup programme at Thengapattanam harbour

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC FISHERS

- ◆ A total of 15 capacity-building trainings were conducted for SC fishers in Thondi and Soliyakudi FLCs (covering areas like Morepannai, Mullimunai, Thirupillakudi, Pudhupattinam, Soliyakudi, Lanjiadi, M.V. Pattinam, and Thondi), benefiting around 450 fishers, crew members,

fish handlers, and boat owners. Plastic baskets and shovels were provided as aid materials. Additionally, 3 more trainings were conducted at Tharuvaikulam, Thondi, and Soliyakudi FLCs for 75 participants using MPEDA RD Tuticorin's SC fund.



Capacity building trainings for SC fishers

## OUTCOMES

- Fisherfolk are now more aware of hygienic seafood handling practices.
- Daily cleaning of landing centers and auction halls is followed.
- Plastic shovels have replaced iron ones.
- Use of gum boots and gloves in fish holds has increased.
- Use of ice in a 1:1 ratio has improved.
- A noticeable reduction in microbial and physical contamination has led to fewer rejections.

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ A state-level stakeholder's workshop on the implementation of Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) in trawl nets was held on 6th September 2024 at TNJFU, Tuticorin, organized by MPEDA-NETFISH & MPEDA

SRD Tuticorin along with the Department of Fisheries, Tamil Nadu. The workshop aimed to raise awareness on the importance of TEDs for sea turtle conservation and compliance with U.S. shrimp import norms. Around

170 participants from fisheries departments, research institutes, FPOs, and fishing communities attended. Officials and scientists explained the design, benefits, and field performance of TEDs, including reduced by-catch, improved shrimp quality, and potential to regain access to the U.S. market. The event featured presentations, discussions, and stakeholder feedback. Fishermen shared concerns about possible catch loss

and requested for 100% subsidy support. Some regions with negligible shrimp catch, like Colachel, sought exemptions. Despite varied opinions, most stakeholders supported TED trials in Tamil Nadu to assess their impact. The workshop concluded with commitments from officials and fishermen groups across districts to collaborate on on-board trials.



Stakeholder's workshop on TED at Tuticorin

- ◆ A total of 19 awareness programmes on TED were conducted at various harbours/landing centres, reaching 507 fishers, fishing crew, boat owners, and others. Officials from the State Fisheries Department also participated in the programmes. T-shirts with TED messages and caps were distributed to the participants, along with TED leaflets in Tamil. The participants gained an understanding of the functioning and importance of TED and agreed to conduct onboard trials before its adoption.

**Details of TED awareness programmes conducted**

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Colachel & Vaniyakudi	3	77
Tuticorin & Vembar	2	70

JPR Muttom	1	15
Chinnamuttom	1	25
Thengapattinam	1	20
Rameswaram	2	40
Mandapam	1	25
Pamban	1	25
Mallipattinam	1	30
Sethubavachatram	1	30
Thondi	2	60
Soliyakudi	1	30
Lanjiyadi	1	30
M.V.Pattinam	1	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>507</b>



TED awareness classes

- ◆ Two onboard trials were conducted, one at Rameswaram on 24.02.25 and the other at Mallipattinam on 14.03.25, with the participation of around 37 individuals, including fishers, fishing crew, boat owners, and fisheries officials. During the training, T-shirts, caps, shovels, gum boots, and plastic baskets were provided. In each trial, two trawlers, one fitted with a TED and one without, were operated under similar fishing conditions to evaluate the effectiveness of TEDs.

The trials showed negligible shrimp loss and similar catch compositions between the TED and non-TED nets. The quality of the catch was noticeably better in TED-equipped nets, with cleaner shrimp and less debris. Participants at both locations acknowledged the benefits of TEDs in improving catch quality and promoting sustainable fishing. They expressed willingness to adopt TEDs if the costs are fully borne by government agencies.



Fishing trials using TED fitted trawl nets

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

- ◆ A total of 8 one-day training programmes were conducted for 277 participants, including processing workers, supervisors, and managers. Each programme was conducted with a training fee of Rs. 10,000/-, generating a total of Rs. 80,000/- from exporters. The training covered a wide range of topics such as fish spoilage, role of ice and water, hygiene and sanitation, good handling practices, personal hygiene, COVID-19 guidelines, pre-processing, grading and processing, value-added fishery products, HACCP, microbiology, and traceability. The training modules included an inaugural session, followed by lectures on value addition

of fishery products, traceability, HACCP, hygiene and sanitation, good handling practices, COVID-19 protocols, fish spoilage, the role of ice and water, and microbiology. Practical sessions focused on traceability, pre-processing, grading and processing, hygienic handling practices, personal hygiene, and sanitation protocols. The training concluded with an assessment and distribution of certificates. Participants reported a significant improvement in their knowledge of fish processing technologies. Overall, participants expressed satisfaction with the training and acknowledged its usefulness in improving their daily operations.

### Details of Seafood Unit Trainings conducted

S.N.	Name of the Processing Unit	Programmes Date	No of Beneficiaries
1	Asvini Fisheries, Palayakayal	08-10-24	35
2	Deva Sea Foods (Crab Meat), Madathoor	09-10-24	35
3	Deva Sea Foods (IQF & Plate freezer), Madathoor	10-10-24	35
4	Kader Exports (P) Ltd., Pattinamaruthur	17-10-24	36
5	Kondiya Fresh Foods, Melaarasadi	18-10-24	35
6	Kader Exports, Mandapam	27-12-24	33
7	Phillips Foods, Tuticorin	11-02-25	35
8	Asvini Fisheries, Palayakayal	10-03-25	35



Training for seafood processing workers

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Several stakeholder meetings were conducted to address key issues in the fisheries sector. On 08.08.2024, a meeting was held with the ADF (Marine) to resolve issues related to data collection by HDCs at the Tuticorin Fishing Harbour. On 15.05.2024, a meeting with dry fish merchants in Tuticorin focused on identifying bottlenecks in the exportable dry fish trade. A stakeholder meeting on 24.05.2024 with boat union members at Tharuvaikulam discussed the mass implementation of chill processing at the Fish Landing Centre. On 19.07.2024, a meeting was conducted at Thoothoor/E.P. Thurai with deep sea fishers to deliberate on tuna fishing and onboard handling practices. Additionally, on 25.07.2024, stakeholders met at Vanniyakudi FLC, Colachel Fishing Harbour, and the office of the DDF, Kanyakumari, to discuss concerns related to juvenile and trash fish landings at Colachel.
- ◆ As part of the TED implementation program, multiple stakeholder meetings were conducted across Tamil Nadu to plan onboard trials, awareness programs, and training activities. Key discussions were held with boat owners in Chinnamuttom, Thengapattinam, and Tuticorin; and with fisheries officials at Nagercoil, Colachel, and Ramnad. Meetings addressed TED specifications, onboard trials, training for SC/ST and fisherwomen groups, and preparations for the state-level TED workshop. Additional consultations were held with institutions like TNJFU and FC&RI, as well as mobilization activities in Vembar and awareness programmes in Rameswaram and Gulf of Mannar regions.
- ◆ Several preparatory activities were carried out in connection with the EU FVO visit. Repeated harbour inspections were conducted at JPR Muttom, Thengapattanam, and Tuticorin Harbours. Additionally, stakeholders' meetings were organized to discuss and coordinate preparations for the visit.
- ◆ Coordinated the EU-FVO Mission 2025 visit to JPR Fishing Harbour, Muttom on 14-11-2024, in collaboration with the EIA, State Fisheries Department, stakeholders, and the EU assessment team. Provided explanations to the EU-FVO assessment team on the best practices being followed at the fishing harbours.
- ◆ Organized the PMMSY Value-Added Seafood Training at VV Marine Products, Tuticorin on 21.08.2024.
- ◆ Delivered an invited lecture on "Sustainable Fishing and Hygienic Handling for Community Development" during the inauguration of the Direct-Aid Programme titled "Community Initiative for Sustainable Fisheries in Kanyakumari District," organized by SFDFS, Kanyakumari on 14.07.2024.
- ◆ Served as a resource person in the "Stakeholders Meeting on Marine Capture Fisheries" organized by CMFRI at Tuticorin on 09.05.2024 and again at a similar meeting organized by TRC-CMFRI, Tuticorin on 20.03.2025.
- ◆ Participated in the consultative multi-stakeholder meeting organized by MSSRF on 08.01.2025 at Rameswaram, focusing on addressing marine litter in the Gulf of Mannar.

- ◆ Arranged an awareness programme for SC/ST entrepreneurs in Ramanathapuram District, conducted by the National SC/ST Hub Office, Chennai - The National Small Industries Corporation Limited on 15.02.2025.
- ◆ Provided entrepreneurship training to SC/ST fishers on alternate livelihoods through an invited lecture organized by NBFGR-ICAR, Cochin and the Department of Oceanography and Coastal Area Studies, Alagappa University, Thondi Campus on 08.03.2025.
- ◆ Participated in Swachata Hi Sewa Clean-up programme organized by RD MPEDA on 30.09.24 at Tharuvaikulam
- ◆ Participated in the Value addition training programme organized by SRD MPEDA at M/s. V V. Marine Products, Tuticorin on 22.08.24
- ◆ Provided timely training on data collection to HDCs at Rameswaram, Thengapattinam, Mandapam, Mallipattinam, Chinnamuttom, Colachel, Tuticorin & Kottaipattinam and also did evaluation of their activities.
- ◆ 199 Awareness messages were disseminated on regular basis through 9 Whatsapp groups formed at 9 harbours.



Participation of SCO in various other activities



## KERALA SOUTH

Mrs. Sangeetha N.R., State Coordinator of NETFISH, coordinated a total of 372 programmes across Southern coastal regions of Kerala. These comprised 83 General Fund programmes, 41 SC fisher programmes, 30 TED Fund

programmes, 7 external fund programmes, 162 awareness classes by HDCs, and 49 other activities (as detailed in the Table). Collectively, these efforts reached and benefited 5468 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Kerala South during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	HarbourBased Programmes	50	1060
	Pre-Processing Centre Training	30	881
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	2	19
	Swachhata programme	1	150
<b>2</b>	<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	40	1200
	Input Distribution for SC/ST Fishers	1	165
<b>3</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	25	648
	Onboard Trials	5	164
<b>4</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	No: of Trainings for Marine Observers under Marine Mammal Project	7	254
<b>5</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings Conducted by HDCs	162	877
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	8	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. Organized by others	14	-
	Joint Programmes with CIFNET	1	50
	Ornamental Fish Health Certification	26	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>5468</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

- Conducted 50 awareness classes on hygiene and conservation for 1,060 fishing crew members, fishers, and boat owners from 102 cluster fishing vessels in Thoppumpady, Thottappally, Kayamkulam, and Sakthikulangara. Plastic jumbo crates, plastic net boxes, and gloves were provided as aid materials. Topics covered in the harbour-based programmes included personal hygiene, hygienic handling of fish and ice, pre-cooling, sustainability, conservation, TED, plastic and ocean pollution, sea safety, KMFRA, and export promotion.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Thoppumpady	18	361
Thottappally	8	159
Azheekkal Kayamkulam	14	329
Sakthikulangara	10	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1060</b>



Distribution of gloves during harbour based programme

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Thoppumpady	23	145	Fishers, Fish handling workers, Boat crew, Boat owners, Ice handling workers	Hygienic handling, Pre-cooling, TED, Marine Mammals
Thottappally	29	140		
Azheekkal-Kayamkulam	24	154		
Sakthikulangara	29	166		
Muthalappozhy	34	132		
Adimalathura	23	140		
<b>Total</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>877</b>		

## OUTCOMES

- At Thoppumpady and Thottappally, boats selected as clusters adopted the pre-cooling method, and fishers received higher prices compared to the normal method-earning around ₹ 500 more per basket in auctions.
- At Azheekkal-Kayamkulam, cluster boats started pre-cooling high-value fish, which resulted in an increase of ₹ 20-50 per kg for fish and shrimp at auction, depending on the variety, compared to catches without pre-cooling. Similarly, at Sakthikulangara, 20 cluster boats adopted pre-cooling practices for high-value fish, earning about ₹ 500 more per basket.
- Personal hygiene at Thottappally and Kayamkulam improved through the use of gloves for fish handling.
- At Thoppumpady, to maintain good quality, Yellowfin tuna is wrapped in plastic coverings. This practice fetched an additional ₹ 10-30 per kg. After auctions, the plastic wrapping is cleaned, dried, stored, and sold. A proper plastic collection system, set up by NETFISH and continuously operated, removed 24 tonnes of plastic waste last financial year.
- At Thottappally, plastic baskets have replaced bamboo baskets for fish handling. Initially, only traditional boats switched to plastic boxes, but now all boats use plastic baskets. This has improved hygienic quality. Fishers have purchased 2,000 plastic baskets using their own funds.
- The auction hall at Thottappally is cleaned regularly before and after auctions using the motor and pump

supplied by MPEDA-NETFISH two years ago. In addition to self-cleaning by toll agents, exporters have also started cleaning activities, resulting in improved hygiene and attracting more buyers.

- At Azheekkal-Kayamkulam, the Harithakarmasena team carries out periodic plastic waste removal, collecting waste from harbour shops and disposing of it regularly.

## PRE-PROCESSING CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- Conducted 30 awareness training programmes for 881 peeling workers at various pre-processing centres in Aroor, Aroorkutty, and Eramallur in Alappuzha district. Aprons and work uniforms were provided as aid

materials. The sessions covered topics such as personal hygiene, hygienic handling, spoilage, microbes, washing procedures, HACCP, SSOP, exports, product quality, and safety.

### Details of PPC programmes conducted

Sl. No	Name of PPC/Location	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
1	Jasmine Industries	4	120
2	Bharath Seafood	4	120
3	Aroor Seafood Industries	5	140
5	DSS Marine Aroor	4	106
6	Pulluveli Marine Eramallur	4	125
7	My moons Marine, Eramallur	4	120
8	Jaffiz Marine	2	60
9	DSS Marine Aroorkutty	2	60
10	Deepak Seafoods Eramallur	1	30



Training for pre-processing workers

## OUTCOMES

- Workers replaced street clothes with uniforms and aprons, reducing microbial contamination, improving personal hygiene, and enhancing overall product quality. This change led to fewer broken pieces, reduced filth,

and better awareness among new peelers, while experienced peelers upgraded their knowledge. As a result, quality improved and higher prices were achieved.

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ MPEDA-NETFISH, in association with the Coast Guard, Coastal Police, Department of Fisheries, Purakkad Grama Panchayath, Harbour Engineering Department, Sree Budha College of Engineering (Pattor), harbour workers, and union members, organised a Swachhata Pakhwada Harbour Cleanup Programme at Thottappally Fishing Harbour on 1st November 2024 with 150 participants. State Coordinator, NETFISH highlighted the

importance of Swachhata Pakhwada and encouraged fisher participation. The Swachhata Pakhwada pledge was taken. Following a harbour rally, participants were divided into five groups to collect plastic waste, bottles, scraps, and net pieces, gathering around 160 kg of waste which was handed over to Haritha Karma Sena for safe disposal.



Harbour clean-up at Thottappally

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC/ST FISHERS

- ◆ Conducted 40 capacity-building trainings on hygiene, sanitation, and sustainable fishing for 1200 beneficiaries including fishers, fish-handling workers, and black clam harvesters from the SC community in Ernakulam,

Kottayam, Alappuzha, and Kollam districts of Kerala. Aluminium vessels for clam processing and raincoats were distributed as aid materials for the participants.



Training for SC fishers & distribution of aid materials

## OUTCOMES

- Increased knowledge levels among participants; fish now handled more hygienically.
- Hygienic aluminium vessels are now used for washing black clam meat instead of paint buckets.
- The capacity-building programmes for clam fishers led to the formation of Clam Kerala Farmer Producer Company Ltd., Kerala's first fisheries-sector FPC dedicated to the clam industry, with support from

NABARD, CIFT, Agronature, and Gramajyothi FPC. Under the guidance of the State Coordinator, nearly 200 SC clam fishers became shareholders, adopting better hygiene and modern handling practices that improved product quality, raised market prices, and enabled value-added production under the 'Neithal' brand. Information

on sustainable harvesting and grading was shared with exporters, resulting in export orders for 20 tonnes of XL clams. These were sold at ₹ 300/kg, compared to the ₹ 250/kg domestic rate, thereby boosting incomes, expanding market access, and promoting sustainable livelihoods.

## INPUT DISTRIBUTION FOR SC FISHERS

- ◆ During the SC training programme, the State Coordinator identified a group of women who expressed interest in dry fish production. A SC group consisting of nine members was formed, and NETFISH approached ICAR-CIFT for support. Dr. Ashaletha, Principal Scientist at CIFT, visited the site, conducted a meeting with the

group, and organized a joint programme with CIFT and NETFISH. Under the SC Fishers Input Distribution Scheme, aluminium vessels, insulated box, plastic cans & solar dryer were distributed to fishers in a function held on 21.6.24 at Kaduthuruthy & Udayanapuram.



Distribution of aid materials to SC fishers

## OUTCOMES

- The SC SHG sold dried products worth ₹ 6 lakhs, including dried prawn (head-on and headless), dried prawn chutney powder, dried prawn roast, and other items.
- The use of aluminium vessels reduced processing time and labour requirements by 50% and energy consumption by 25%, resulting in significant cost savings, improved hygiene, and inspiring other workers in the sector to adopt the practice.

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Harbour Based Awareness Programme on usage of TED and the need for its implementation were conducted for fishers, boat owners, fishing crew etc. A total of 25 awareness programmes were conducted reaching 648

beneficiaries. T-shirts printed with TED messages, gloves and plastic net boxes were provided to the participants.

### Details of TED Awareness Programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Thoppumpady	6	163
Thottappally	5	116
Azheekkal, Kayamkulam	6	159
Sakthikulangara	8	210
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>648</b>



Awareness on TED to Fishers

- ◆ Fishing trials were conducted onboard commercial trawlers to demonstrate the efficacy of TEDs to fishers and boat owners. A total of five onboard trials were carried out at Thottappally, Kayamkulam, Thoppumpady, and Sakthikulangara-Neendakara, with participation from boat owners, fishers, fishing crew, and fisheries officials. Trials were conducted both with and without TEDs on shrimp trawlers and fish trawlers. There was no significant reduction in catch when using TEDs, and in some cases, the catch was higher in TED-fitted nets. The proportion of catch exiting through TEDs ranged from 0.5% to 1.22%, with most escapes consisting of

non-shrimp species or bycatch. TED hauls generally had lower bycatch quantities compared to non-TED hauls, and shrimp loss was minimal or nil. One Olive Ridley turtle was recorded in the escape cover during a TED trial at Sakthikulangara-alive and safely released- indicating the device's effectiveness in turtle exclusion. No turtles were caught in the codends of TED hauls. Additionally, some TED hauls showed reduced debris (mud/plastics) compared to non-TED tows, and there was no notable difference in fuel consumption between TED and non-TED hauls for similar tow durations.



Fishing trials using TED

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ As part of the Marine Mammal Project, trained 254 fishers at Thottappally, Kayamkulam, Thoppumpady, and Sakthikulangara on identification of marine mammals/turtles, data collection, conservation

practices, importance of the MMSAI project, and general awareness on protected marine species. Distributed identification keys to boat skippers for use onboard fishing vessels. The training aimed to create interest

among fishers in marine mammal and sea turtle conservation and encourage them to act as marine observers, reporting sightings and fishery interactions.

- ◆ Conducted a one-day joint programme with CIFNET on *Safety at Sea and Marine Electronic Equipment Onboard Fishing Vessels* on 27th March 2025 at Arthungal, benefiting 50 fishers.
- ◆ Conducted a stakeholder meeting with 15 clam harvesters at Thykkattussery on 10.07.24 to discuss export possibilities of black clam.
- ◆ Held a meeting with the Director of Fisheries, Kerala regarding the TED Workshop.
- ◆ Attended an online meeting on TED implementation jointly organized by MPEDA & Department of Fisheries, Kerala on 09.04.24.
- ◆ Participated in a peeling shed workers' meeting organized by the Deputy Director, Department of Fisheries, Ernakulam, on 24.05.24.
- ◆ Conducted an awareness programme at Chellanam on 07.06.24 jointly with the Department of Fisheries, MPEDA-NETFISH, Indian Coast Guard, and Reliance Foundation.
- ◆ Attended Thottappally Harbour Management Committee meetings at the Collectorate, Alappuzha.
- ◆ Participated in a Department of Fisheries programme

at Kollam on 07.01.25 and delivered training sessions for fishers.

- ◆ Coordinated the Beach Cleanup Programme at Puthuvype Beach on 27.09.24, conducted by MPEDA-HO as part of the *Swachhata* campaign.
- ◆ Had a meeting at Cochin Shipyard on possibility of getting CSR fund for plastic waste management at Chellanam.
- ◆ Conducted hygiene inspections at Thoppumpady and Sakthikulangara as part of preparations for EU visit.
- ◆ Associated with EIA in conducting a Harbour Cleanup Programme at Sakthikulangara Harbour on 01.10.24.
- ◆ Collaborated with Cochin Shipyard, Jain University, and the Rise Up Programme in conducting cleanup programmes at Chellanam Harbour and Andhakaranazhy Beach on 29.10.25.
- ◆ Attended a seafood value addition training programme organized by MPEDA RD Kochi at M/s Mangala Exim, Aroor, on 09.09.24.
- ◆ Attended the product launch and share certificate distribution event of *Clam Kerala Farmer Producer Company Ltd.* at Thottappally on 15.02.25.
- ◆ Conducted training and evaluation of HDCs through both physical and online modes.
- ◆ Inspected 26 ornamental fish export consignments and issued health certificates.



Participation in clean-up drives at Andhakaranazhi & Sakthikulangara

## KERALA NORTH

Mr. Santhosh N.K., State Coordinator of NETFISH, efficiently coordinated a total of 290 programmes across northern coastal regions of Kerala. These comprised 82 General Fund programmes, 7 SC/ST programmes, 28 TED Fund

programmes, 5 externally funded programmes, 128 awareness classes conducted by HDCs, and 40 other activities (as detailed in the Table). Collectively, these efforts reached and benefited 3,970 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Kerala North during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No. of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	58	1077
	Pre-Processing Centre Training	23	552
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	1	4
<b>2</b>	<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	7	210
<b>3</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	23	608
	State level Workshop	1	150
	Onboard Trials	4	129
<b>4</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Munambam Fishing Harbour Management Society	5	109
<b>5</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings Conducted by HDCs	128	804
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	8	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. Organized by others	22	-
	Participation of SCO as TRAINER in MPEDA Organized Seafood Unit Value Addition Training	8	327
	Coordination of Visit of Officials from MPEDA & Other Dept.	2	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>3970</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME



Harbour based awareness programmes

◆ To improve hygienic practices in fish and ice handling, reduce post-harvest losses and contamination, and promote the conservation of marine resources, a total of 51 awareness classes were conducted for fishers and fish handling workers at Vypin, Munambam, Chettuva, Munakkakadavu, and Beypore. The training emphasized the importance of maintaining personal hygiene at work. To support the adoption of these practices, participants were provided with work uniforms (track pants, gloves, and shoes), plastic crates, baskets, boxes, containers, and round baskets. A total of 1,051 stakeholders benefited from these programmes. In addition, regular awareness classes

were conducted by Harbour Data Collectors at their respective harbours.

**Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted**

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Vypin	6	116
Munambam	28	413
Chettuva	6	199
Munakkakadavu	8	148
Beypore	10	201
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1077</b>

**Awareness by HDCs**

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Azheekkal	11	51	Fishers, Fish handlers	TED, Marine mammals & Turtles, Juvenile fishing, personal hygiene, Pre cooling of catch, Fish quality management
Beypore	5	29		
Cheruvathur	15	123		
Chettuva	7	74		
Koyilandy	14	78		
Munakkakadavu	10	79		
Munambam	16	141		
Ponnani	18	159		
Puthiyappa	32	70		
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>804</b>		



Awareness classes by HDCs

**OUTCOMES**

■ Adoption of dress code by 100 harbour workers each at Vypin and Munakkakadavu. This led to improved ease of work due to the comfortable and practical uniforms, enabling workers to perform tasks more efficiently and

with greater comfort. It also resulted in increased work speed, better adherence to personal hygiene standards, enhanced social acceptance, and a greater sense of professionalism. The initiative boosted self-esteem and

fostered a feeling of recognition and pride among workers, while also strengthening unity and team spirit.

- Implementation of pre-cooling of catch in 50 fishing boats in Munambam led to improved quality and better market prices for the raw material.



Adoption of dress code by harbour workers at Munakkakadavu & Vypin



Pre-cooling of catch



Storage of catch with sufficient ice

## PRE-PROCESSING CENTRE TRAINING PROGRAMMES



Training for pre-processing workers

### Details of PPC programmes conducted

Sl. No	Name of PPC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
1	OKP PPC shed 1 Munambam	3	76
2	OKP PPC shed 2 Munambam	2	54
3	PKP PPC shed 1 Munambam	2	52
4	PKP PPC shed 2 Munambam	2	58
5	Arsha PPC Edavanakkad	3	82
6	Grace Marine PPC Edvanakkad	4	111
7	APD Co. Narakkal shed 1	3	43
8	APD Co. Narakkal shed 2	4	76
	<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>552</b>

- Workers and supervisors of six PPCs located near Munambam harbour were given awareness classes and training on topics such as fish and ice handling, personal hygiene, temperature control, fish spoilage,

and fish quality management. A total of 23 PPC programmes were conducted during the year, benefiting 552 workers and supervisors. The trainees were also provided with uniforms and aprons for use during work.

## OUTCOMES

- A total of 580 workers from the aforementioned PPCs are consistently following the dress code system. Additionally, 100 workers from Grace Marine PPC, Edavanakkad, and APD Co., Narakkal Shed 2 have newly adopted the dress code. The use of uniforms has contributed to greater ease of work due to the comfort and practicality of the attire, increased work efficiency,

improved personal hygiene, and enhanced social acceptance. It has also fostered a sense of recognition, boosted self-esteem, and strengthened unity among workers. Furthermore, the adoption of the dress code has played a role in reducing contamination during fish handling.



Adoption of dress code by PPC workers

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC FISHERS

- Capacity-building trainings on hygiene, sanitation, and sustainable fishing were conducted for fishers and fish handling workers belonging to the SC community. A total of 7 programmes were organized, benefiting 210 SC participants. As part of the support initiative, trainees

were provided with plastic containers, boxes, and round baskets to encourage the adoption of improved practices. All the beneficiaries continued to use these materials for hygienic fish handling activities such as sorting, washing, weighing, and storing fish in iced conditions.



Training and aid material distribution to SC fishers

### Details of SC programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Nedungad, Vypin	1	30
Chettuva	2	60
Nayarambalam	4	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>210</b>

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ MPEDA Regional Division Kochi and MPEDA-NETFISH, in collaboration with the Kerala Fisheries Department and ICAR-CIFT, organized a Stakeholders' Workshop

on the implementation of TED in trawl gears on 18th July 2024 at CIFT, Kochi. The workshop aimed to raise awareness among fishery stakeholders about adopting TEDs to lift the U.S. trade ban on Indian wild-caught shrimp. Around 150 participants, including trawl boat owners and officials from various fisheries institutions, attended. The event featured presentations, a TED model demonstration, and video screenings. Most participants supported TED implementation as a solution to resume shrimp exports to the U.S., though a few raised concerns and suggested international negotiations. The workshop provided a clear understanding of TED and its importance in meeting U.S. import regulations.



TED workshop at Kochi

- ◆ A total of 23 awareness training sessions on TED were conducted, reaching 608 participants including fishers, fishing crew, and boat owners at various harbours and landing centres. As part of the program, T-shirts with TED awareness messages, round baskets, plastic boxes, and containers were distributed to the trainees. Additionally, TED awareness stickers were pasted on fishing vessels, and informative leaflets were distributed to effectively spread the message at the grassroots level. These widespread awareness efforts through multiple channels significantly enhanced understanding and acceptance of TED among fishers and other stakeholders in the harbours.

### Details of TED Awareness Programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Ponnani	7	164
Tanur	1	36
Munakkakadavu	4	120
Puthiyappa	2	50
Beypore	2	70
Munambam	7	168
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>608</b>



TED awareness for boat owners & fishers

◆ In March 2025, four onboard TED trials were conducted at Munambam, Puthiyappa, Beypore, and Munakkakadavu, with participation from 129 fishers, boat owners, fishing crew, and fisheries officials. The trials aimed to demonstrate the effectiveness of TED in allowing turtle escape without significant catch loss or extra fuel use, and to familiarize fishers with its

operation. Identical trawl boats were used at each location—one fitted with TED and one without—to ensure fair comparison. Results showed that catch loss with TED was consistently below 4%, and mostly under 2%, with cleaner catches and less mud. Participants appreciated the trials and acknowledged that TED use does not significantly affect catch quantity.



Fishing trial using TED

## MUNAMBAM HARBOUR MANAGEMENT SOCIETY FUNDED PROGRAMS

◆ Munambam Fishing Harbour Management Society sanctioned ₹ 2,00,000 to NETFISH for implementing fish quality improvement activities during 2024-25. Five awareness programmes were conducted between September 2024 and January 2025, reaching 109 workers. Additionally, 126 workers from nine companies (KRF, ABJ, PEARL, SSS, ABK, MIC, AVG, PMA, and NTM) were brought under a standardized dress code. Black track pants and navy blue T-shirts were chosen as the uniform, and each worker received two sets. Further, 21 fish handling union workers were

given two pairs of navy blue track pants. Uniforms were also provided to MFHMS office staff, harbour data collectors, cleaning staff, and support personnel. Additionally, 200 pairs of high-quality rubber gloves were distributed to fish handling workers. The use of gloves, now widely adopted in the harbour, has improved hygiene practices. These efforts were well-received, boosting the reputation of MFHMS among workers and stakeholders for improving the working environment.



Training and distribution of uniform to workers at Munambam harbour

## PARTICIPATION OF SCO AS TRAINER IN MPEDA ORGANIZED SEAFOOD UNIT VALUE ADDITION TRAINING

◆ The State Coordinator provided hands-on skill development training on seafood value addition to processing workers, as detailed in the table below. Organized by MPEDA RD/SRDs, the training covered the preparation of value-added products such as fish fillet, breaded fish fillet, cooked PDO shrimp, peeled and deveined tail-on skewers, marinated shrimp, squid

cut rings, and breaded squid rings. Each session trained 50 workers from various seafood processing plants, and a practical skill test was conducted to assess their learning. The training was well-received, with some exporters already beginning production of these value-added products and showing interest in expanding output for export.

### Details of Value Addition trainings conducted

S.N.	Date	Venue	No of Trainees
1	22.8.24	M/s V V Marine products, Tuticorin	50
2	28.8.24	M/s St Peter and Paul Seafood Exports Pvt. Ltd., Chennai	50
3	9.9.24	Mangala Marine Exim Pvt Ltd, Kochi	50
4	24.9.24	M/s Ocean Proteins Pvt. Ltd., Mangalore	50
5	26.9.24	M/s Albys Seafood Pvt. Ltd., Goa	50
6	23.1.25	Asvini Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Tuticorin	50
7	28.1.25	Indo Fisheries Pvt Ltd., Mangalore	50
8	30.1.25	Joecons Marine Exports Pvt. Ltd., Goa	50



Training on preparation of value added seafood products

## DROP PROJECT AT MUNAMBAM HARBOUR

◆ DROP (Drive to Recover Ocean Plastic) is a marine plastic recovery initiative implemented at Munambam

Fishing Harbour since 2022-23 by the NGO PlanAtEarth, in collaboration with the Munambam Fishing Harbour Management Society (MFHMS), MPEDA-NETFISH, Munambam Fishing Boat Owners and Operators

Coordination Committee and Tharakans Associations. The project is supported through CSR funding from the HCL Foundation and was inaugurated on 27th May 2023 by the Kerala State Fisheries Minister. In 2024-25, 651 fishing boats participated in recovering 21,748 kg of marine plastic. Additionally, 18,624 kg of plastic waste was collected from the harbour premises, including litter from the compound, net repair sheds, and commercial shops. A total of 2,60,716 kg of plastic waste has been collected so far from various localities for shredding and recycling. For harbour workers' well-

being, an open gym and indoor recreational facilities (carrom, chess, tables, and chairs) were set up under the project. The facility was inaugurated on 17.11.24. As part of the project, 10 fishing vessels and fishers with the highest plastic recovery were awarded mementos, gifts, and T-shirts. Mementos were also presented to representatives of supportive boat owners' and auctioneers' associations. The awards were distributed by the Joint Director, Fisheries Department, during a function held at Munambam Harbour on 18.03.25.



Plastic waste collection system at Munambam harbour, under the DROP project



Awareness wall painting and open gym at Munambam harbour

## OTHER ACTIVITIES



Chairman MPEDA visits Munambam harbour



- ◆ Coordinated MPEDA Chairman's Visit to Munambam Harbour: Arranged the visit of Shri. D.V. Swamy IAS, Chairman MPEDA/President NETFISH, to Munambam Fishing Harbour on 17.05.24. The Chairman assessed harbour facilities, interacted with MFHMS members, fisheries officials, and stakeholders, and appreciated the hygiene management. He suggested mechanization to enhance worker efficiency. The visit was accompanied by CE NETFISH and facilitated by the SCO, who presented structure and activities of MFHMS as well as the efforts by NETFISH over the years for making Munabam as a model fishing harbour in the country. An appreciation letter was later sent by the Chairman to JD Fisheries.
- ◆ Coordinated the visit of 10 dry fish producers from Gujarat to NIFPHATT and CIFT Kochi, as well as to dry fish units in Alappuzha and Kollam.
- ◆ Facilitated the visit of 30 boat owners from Puducherry to Munambam Fishing Harbour and the processing plant of Abad Exports Pvt. Ltd.
- ◆ Participated as a panelist in the stakeholder meet organized by KUFOS and IMIA at Kochi, highlighting the need for uniform regulations across coastal states and addressing key seafood export-related issues.
- ◆ Participated in Executive Committee and General Body meetings of the Munambam Fishing Harbour Management Society.
- ◆ Attended stakeholder meetings on peeling sheds organized by the Department of Fisheries at Ernakulam on 24.05.2024 and 06.06.2024.
- ◆ Attended the Harbour Management Committee meeting at Munakkakadavu on 05.08.2024.
- ◆ Participated in the display, sale, and tasting session of seafood products prepared by VHSE students, organized at Beypore.
- ◆ Participated in the pre-EU audit at Munambam Fishing Harbour with MPEDA and EIA officials. Coordinated stakeholder meetings, made necessary pre-arrangements, and facilitated the EU team's visit on 20.11.2024.
- ◆ Attended the renewal event of NETFISH's MoU with CIFNET in the presence of CE NETFISH, Director CIFNET, and officials.
- ◆ Participated in the community outreach programme organized by the Indian Coast Guard at Vypin on 21.02.2025.
- ◆ Conducted online training sessions for Harbour Data Collectors on harbour data collection, marine mammal and turtle surveys, and TED onboard trials. Also evaluated the performance of the HDC at Chettuva.
- ◆ Submitted a ₹ 2 lakh proposal to MFHMS for implementing activities to improve fish handling standards at Munambam Harbour during 2025-26.
- ◆ Shared 330 awareness messages through 10 WhatsApp groups across 9 harbours, reaching 1,380 stakeholders daily.



1. Visit of boat owners from Puducherry to Abad Exports 2. SCO attends Seminar at KUFOS  
3. Community interaction programme at Vypin 4. SCo attending EC meeting of MFHMS

## KARNATAKA

Mr. Narayana K.A, State Coordinator of NETFISH, successfully coordinated a total of 192 programmes across Karnataka. These included 37 General Fund programmes, 19 SC/ST programmes, 24 TED Fund programmes, 3 external

funded programmes, 73 awareness classes conducted by HDCs, and 36 other activities (refer to Table). Altogether, these initiatives benefited 3394 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Karnataka during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	36	886
	Swachhata programme	1	180
<b>2</b>	<b>NETFISH SC/ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	14	412
	ST Fisher Harbour Based Programmes	4	119
<b>3</b>	<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC &amp; ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programme for ST Fishers	1	45
<b>4</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	22	530
	Statelevel Workshop	1	136
	Onboard Trials	1	24
<b>5</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	2	70
	Value Addition Training Sponsored by External Agencies	1	40
<b>6</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings Conducted by HDCs	73	802
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	20	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. organized by others	11	-
	Joint Programmes with CIFNET	2	150
	Ornamental Fish Health Certification	2	-
	Coordination of Visit of Officials from MPEDA & Other Dept.	1	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>3394</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

◆ Awareness on Fish Quality Management and Sustainable Fishing practices was generated among fishers, fishing crew, fish handling workers, and boat owners through 36 harbour-based programs. Hand gloves were provided as aid materials to the trainees for use while handling the catch at harbours or onboard fishing vessels. Emphasis was given to topics such as chill killing, chilling/icing of fish onboard, the importance of ice in maintaining fish quality, effective icing

techniques, high-quality fish handling, contaminants, use of chlorine in fishing vessels, temperature measurement, and maintaining high standards of personal hygiene, including hand washing and the benefits of wearing clean clothes, gloves, and gum boots. For sustainable fishing, focus was placed on the use of square mesh in trawl cod ends and the implementation of TEDs in shrimp trawls. A total of 886 stakeholders attended these training programs.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Mangalore	5	115
Malpe	16	394
Gangolli	3	79
Bhatkal	5	126
Karwar	2	53
Belekeri	1	24
Honnavar	1	24
Tadri	3	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>886</b>



Harbour based awareness programme at Malpe & Mangalore

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Mangalore	11	122	Crew members net menders, loading & unloading workers, packing workers	Fish quality management, post-harvest loss reduction, Sustainable fishing methods, TED awareness
Gangolli	10	97		
Honnavar	6	61		
Tadri	11	124		
Belikeri	12	123		
Amdalli	10	105		
Karwar	13	170		
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>802</b>		



Awareness classes by HDCs

## OUTCOMES

- Adoption of chill killing/pre-cooling practices in 10 boats at Malpe, 6% of boats at Gangolli, and 10% at Bhatkal has led to increased demand for fish and shrimps from these trained boats.
- Improved hand washing practices observed at Mangalore & Malpe harbours
- Issues of lack or insufficient ice were addressed by demonstrating the high temperatures recorded in raw materials due to inadequate icing.
- Though gloves were already in use, their cleaning and sanitation practices improved.
- Fish hold storage improved by reducing stacking height.



System in Malpe and Mangalore for loading of ice directly into the fish hold



Regular washing at Amdalli & Karwar



Plastic collection at Amdalli & Good handling and storage practices at Malpe

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

◆ Harbour Cleanup Programme under Swachhata Pakhwada 2024 was conducted on 07.11.2024 at Tadri Fishing Harbour with 180 participants, including officials from the State Fisheries and Forest Departments, Coastal Security Police, SHG members, fishers, and faculty and students (NCC/NSS) from Bhadrakali College, Gokarna. The event began with a stage function featuring talks by dignitaries on Fish Quality Management, harbour sanitation, single-use plastics, and water pollution. All participants took the Swachhata Pledge. Caps and refreshments were

distributed to the volunteers. This was followed by Shramadan, during which participants cleaned fishing vessels, the wharf, auction hall, packing, and parking areas. Around 760 kg of plastic waste, bottles, metal scraps, and net pieces were collected, sorted, and handed over to Gokarna Panchayat for disposal at the nearest Solid and Liquid Resource Management (SLRM) unit. Participants emphasized the need for a permanent and continuous cleaning process inside the harbour.



Cleanup drive at Tadri Fishing Harbour

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR SC/ST FISHERS

- ◆ A total of 14 capacity building training programmes were conducted for SC fishers, including fish handling workers, dry fish workers, and fresh fish vendors at Malpe, Gangolli, Tadri, Belikeri, Amdalli, and Karwar. For ST fishers, 4 training programmes were organized at Tadri, Belikeri, and Amdalli, with participation from

fish handling workers, dry fish workers, and fresh fish vendors. Aid materials such as raincoats, rubber hand gloves, and uniform sarees were distributed to the trainees. Additionally, 1 capacity building training programme for ST fishers was conducted at Tadri, utilizing ST funds from RD MPEDA, Mangalore.

### Details of SC/ST programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
<b>SC Fisher programs</b>		
Malpe (Thottam, udupi)	3	90
Gangolli (Balkur, Kundapur)	1	30
Tadri (Nadumaskeri, Sagadgeri, Agragona, Jamgod)	4	120
Belikeri & Amdalli (Soorvey, Aversa, Vandige, Kudrige, Belase)	5	142
Karwar (Kinner)	1	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>412</b>
<b>ST Fisher programs</b>		
Tadri (Malalgao, Achave, Ankola)	3	105
Belikeri & Amdalli (Angadibail, Kemani)	2	59
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>164</b>



Training for SC/ST fishers

## OUTCOMES

- Due to NETFISH's efforts, the trainees gained awareness about PMMSY and State Fisheries Department schemes, and some of them availed subsidies for the purchase of 2-wheelers/3-wheelers to support fresh fish and dry fish marketing.
- Some young SC trainees, after the training, became aware of the PMFME scheme and began seeking assistance through the District Resource Person.
- A few trainees initiated or enhanced their dry fish businesses, including the sale of value-added products such as shrimp pickle and dried shrimp powder.
- An overall improvement was also observed in hand washing and personal hygiene practices among the trainees.

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ A TED awareness workshop was conducted on 3rd September 2024 at Mangalore, with 136 participants, including officials from the Department of Fisheries, Bangalore, coastal Karnataka fisheries offices, MPEDA, NETFISH, CMFRI, College of Fisheries Mangalore, Forest Department, Coastal Police, and representatives from trawl boat unions and fishermen's associations. The workshop included welcome and inaugural addresses, technical sessions on TED by CE-NETFISH, SCO, and CIFT, video demonstrations, and discussions. Key speakers highlighted the importance of TED for sustainable fishing and the need for compliance with US regulations to lift the ban on Indian wild-caught shrimp exports. Concerns raised by boat owners about shrimp loss and escape of large fish through TED were addressed with scientific evidence from CIFT trials. Stakeholders agreed to cooperate with TED trials in Karnataka, and the Fisheries Department assured efforts to provide TEDs free of cost in consultation with the Union Government. The session concluded with a voice vote expressing willingness for TED implementation.
- ◆ A total of 22 harbour based awareness programmes were conducted, reaching 530 beneficiaries including boat owners, fishers, fishing crew, and net menders. Caps were distributed to participants during the training sessions. Awareness on TEDs was created among trawl boat owners across various locations. Boat owners expressed that they understood the function and benefits of TEDs in trawl cod ends and requested that TEDs be provided free of cost for all trawl boats. They also suggested that more TED trials are needed for deep-sea shrimp trawling operations.



### Details of TED awareness programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Mangalore	2	50
Malpe	4	93
Gangolli	6	145
Bhatkal	2	52
Honnavar	2	50
Tadri	2	44
Belekeri	1	29
Amdalli	1	21
Karwar	2	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>530</b>



TED awareness classes

- ◆ Onboard TED trial was conducted on 28th February 2025 at Amdalli with 24 participants, including fishers, boat owners, officials from the Fisheries and Forest Departments, marine biology scholars, the SCO, HDCs, and NGOs. The trials involved two shrimp trawl vessels - one fitted with a TED and a cover net to assess escaped catch. Species-wise data was collected and recorded. The TED-fitted net yielded a cleaner catch with more

shrimp and showed less than 0.5% escape through the TED opening, while the non-TED net collected more debris, ghost nets, and plastics with comparatively less catch. Participants observed minimal shrimp/fish escape, improved catch quality, and the cleaning effect of the TED grid. Boat owners requested government support for providing TEDs to all trawlers and emphasized the need for strict monitoring.



TED onboard trial at Amdalli

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

- ◆ Two training programmes were conducted at seafood processing units - Everest Sea Food Exports Pvt. Ltd., Mangalore on 27.07.24 and Malpe Fresh Marine Exports Pvt. Ltd., Udupi on 20.12.24 - benefiting a total of 70 participants, including supervisors, fish handling and processing workers, storage personnel, and QC staff. The trainings covered topics such as fish spoilage and preservation, hygiene and sanitation, value addition, traceability, and Covid-19 protocols. Practical sessions

focused on hand washing, personal hygiene, pre-processing, grading, and sanitation practices. Feedback indicated that many participants were attending such training for the first time, and production managers requested quarterly sessions for all workers. Post-training, the SCO observed noticeable improvements in hygiene practices, with supervisors and QC personnel initiating steps to promote GMPs among workers.



Training for seafood processing workers

## VALUE ADDITION TRAINING

- ◆ Sponsored by Arunoday Trust, Sirsi, a value addition training programme was conducted on 16.06.24 at Sirsi, with 41 beneficiaries, including members of SHGs and

new small-scale entrepreneurs. Aid materials such as hand gloves, head caps, and masks were distributed. The training included sessions on personal hygiene,

sanitation, fish quality management, and value-added fishery products, followed by hands-on training in the preparation of shrimp pickle, fish fingers, fish balls,

cutlets, and dried shrimp chutney powder. NETFISH received Rs. 5,000/- as institutional charge for organizing the training.



Value addition training programme

## JOINT PROGRAMMES WITH CIFNET

- ◆ A three-day skill development training on "Basics of Seamanship, Navigation, and Marine Electronic Equipment" was organized in collaboration with CIFNET during 5-7 November 2024 at the Department of Studies in Marine Biology, KUPG Centre, Karwar, for 50 fishers.
- ◆ Additionally, a one-day training programme on Safety at Sea, Marine Electronic Equipment, and Engine Maintenance was conducted at the same venue on 8th November 2024, benefiting 100 fishers.



Joint training with CIFNET

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Attended the National Space Day 2024 programme organized by ISRO, Bangalore and Department of Fisheries, Mangalore at College of Fisheries, Mangalore on 16.08.24.
- ◆ Coordinated the visit of Thai buyers from Best Global Marketing Company Ltd., Bangkok on 23.09.24 to 3 seafood units in Karnataka.
- ◆ Participated in Byndoor Utsav 2024 organized by the Udupi District Administration, from 1-3 November 2024. Displayed a TED grid and explained its use, at the Department of Fisheries stall. Over 10,000 visitors attended.
- ◆ Assisted in coordination and planning of the Swachhata Programme organized by RD, MPEDA, Mangalore at Tannerbavi Beach, Mangalore on 12.11.24.
- ◆ Participated in Matsya Mela 2024 and World Fisheries Day 2024 organized by Department of Fisheries, Bangalore at RN Shetty Resort Ground, Murudeshwar from 21-23 November 2024. Arranged MPEDA & NETFISH stall and displayed TED grid. Over 10,000 visitors attended.
- ◆ Coordinated the exposure visit of Puducherry fishers in Karnataka, facilitated meetings with local buyers, and

- arranged visits to Mangalore & Malpe harbours.
- ◆ Delivered a lecture at KVK, Mangalore on 18.02.25 during Aquaculture Technician Training organized by RD, MPEDA, Mangalore, on "Harvesting and Post-Harvest Handling of Cultured Shrimps/Fish".
- ◆ Attended a meeting with DoF, Bangalore along with DD, MPEDA at the Directorate of Fisheries, Bangalore on 21.02.25.
- ◆ Visited Sashimi Foods Pvt. Ltd., a chilled fish export unit at Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore, with DD, MPEDA on 21.02.25.
- ◆ Attended the Stakeholders' Meeting on Sustainable Fisheries organized by CMFRI, Karwar on 24.02.25 and delivered a talk on TED implementation in Karnataka & Goa.
- ◆ Assisted and coordinated during value addition trainings organized by RD, MPEDA, Mangalore at M/s Ocean Proteins Pvt. Ltd., Mangalore on 24.09.24 & Indo Fisheries Exports, Mangalore on 28.01.25. Also delivered a session on hygiene and sanitation.
- ◆ Conducted online training for HDCs on marine mammal/turtle survey, data collection, TED awareness, and carried out performance evaluations at Mangalore, Gangolli, Honnavar, Amdalli, Tadri, Belikeri, and Karwar harbours.
- ◆ Inspected and issued Ornamental Fish Health Certificates for two consignments from Bangalore.
- ◆ Disseminated awareness messages through 14 WhatsApp groups formed across 10 fishing harbours.



Coordinated value addition trainings by RD Mangalore & Visit of boat owners to Mangalore



Participation in Matsya Mela & Byndoor Utsav



Lecture at KVK, Mangalore & in Stakeholders' Meeting organized by CMFRI, Karwar

## GOA

Mr. Narayana K.A, State Coordinator of NETFISH, successfully coordinated a total of 44 programmes across Goa. These included 5 General Fund programmes, 1 ST

programmes, 9 TED Fund programmes, 25 awareness classes by HDCs, and 4 other activities (refer to Table). Altogether, these initiatives benefited 995 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Goa during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	5	141
<b>2</b>	<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC &amp; ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programme for ST Fishers	1	30
<b>3</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	7	396
	Statelevel Workshop	1	106
	Onboard Trials	1	22
<b>4</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings Conducted by HDCs	25	275
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	1	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. Organized by others	2	-
	Joint Programmemes with CIFNET	1	25
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>995</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

- Conducted 5 awareness programmes for 141 fishing crew members and fish handling workers in Vasco and Cutbana. A pair of hand gloves was distributed to each participant as an aid for hygienic fish handling. The sessions covered key topics such as chill killing, chilling/icing of fish onboard, proper use of ice, advantages of effective icing, production of high-quality fish, contamination risks, use of chlorine in fishing vessels, temperature measurement, and the importance of maintaining high standards of personal hygiene. Emphasis

was placed on proper hand washing techniques and the benefits of wearing clean clothes, gloves, and gumboots. Additionally, the programme highlighted the use of square mesh cod ends in trawl nets and the implementation of TEDs in shrimp trawls.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Cutbone	2	64
Vasco	3	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>141</b>



Harbour based programmes in Cutbana & Vasco

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Cutbone	6	75	Crew members, net menders, loading & unloading workers, packing workers	Fish quality management, post-harvest loss reduction, Sustainable fishing methods, TED awareness
Vasco	9	100		
Malim	5	45		
Chapora	5	55		
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>275</b>		



Awareness creation through HDCs at Malim & Chapora

## OUTCOMES

- About 20% improvement was observed in hand washing practices among fishers and fish handling workers at Vasco and Cutbona.
- Although crew members were already using gloves, the cleaning and sanitation of gloves showed improvement.
- Storage practices improved, with better stacking at reduced heights in the fish holds.



Hygienic Handling of fish & Loading of ice directly into the fish hold at Vasco

## CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING FOR ST FISHERS

- ◆ A one-day capacity building training programme was conducted at Bogmalo, Vasco for 30 fish handling workers, dry fish workers, and fresh fish vendors belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (ST) community. Insulated fish boxes were distributed to the participants as aid materials to help them store their catch under ideal temperature conditions and maintain fish quality. The programme was organized by utilizing the ST fund available with MPEDA Regional Division, Mangaluru.



Participants of the ST fisher training at Vasco

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

◆ A State-Level Stakeholders' Workshop on the Implementation of TED in trawl gears of Goa was held on 19th July 2024 at Panaji, Goa, with the participation of 106 stakeholders. The event was organized by MPEDA-NETFISH in association with the Directorate of Fisheries, Goa, and ICAR-CCARI. Director, ICAR-CCARI, inaugurated the workshop. Chief Executive, NETFISH,

did a detailed presentation on TED developed by CIFT-MPEDA and conducted a video demonstration of its usage. The workshop included an interactive discussion session with active participation from officials, representatives of fishermen co-operative societies, and boat owners' associations.



Stakeholder Workshop on TED at Panaji

◆ Awareness Programmes on TED were conducted for boat owners, fishers, and fishing crew at Cutbona and Chapora. Additionally, a 3-day mass awareness campaign was organized through a NETFISH stall at the Aqua Goa Mega Fish Festival 2024-25 in Panaji. TED grid was displayed and many research personnel, media persons, fishers, students and general publics visited the stall. Boat owners reported that they understood the function and benefits of TEDs in trawl cod ends and requested that TEDs be provided free of cost for all trawl boats. Awareness on TED was

effectively created among trawl boat owners across different regions.

### Details of TED awareness programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Cutbone	3	75
Panaji	3	300
Chapora	1	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>396</b>



TED awareness at Chapora & during Aqua Goa festival at Panaji

◆ Onboard TED Trial was conducted at Chapora on 6th March 2025 with 22 participants, including fishers, fishing crew, boat owners, officials from the Fisheries Department, SCO, HDCs, and NGO representatives. The trial involved two shrimp bottom trawl vessels-one fitted with a TED and cover net to assess escaped catch, and the other without a TED. The TED-fitted net yielded a cleaner and higher catch, with less than 0.5% escape

recorded in the cover net. In contrast, the non-TED vessel recorded more debris, ghost nets, and plastic, with reduced catch. Participants observed that the TED enabled clean catch, had a washing effect due to the grid, and reduced bycatch. Boat owners emphasized the need for government support to supply TEDs to all trawlers and implement strict monitoring.



Fishing trial using TED at Chapora

## JOINT PROGRAMME WITH CIFNET

◆ In collaboration with CIFNET, a 3 days Skill Development Training on "Basics of Seamanship, Navigation and Marine Electronic Equipments" was conducted at Baina

Fishing Canoe Owner Society hall, Katem Baina, Vasco during 25.3.25 to 27.3.25 with the participation of 25 fishers.



Sea safety & Navigation training at Vasco

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Conducted regular meetings with HDCs, evaluated their performance, and carried out by-catch surveys at selected locations with them.
- ◆ The CE, NETFISH, along with SCOs from Maharashtra and Karnataka, visited Chapora Jetty, Malim Jetty, and Vasco Jetty on 19th and 20th July 2024 and held discussions with fisher union members and fisheries officials.
- ◆ Facilitated harbour visit of Puducherry fishers to Vasco Jetty and arranged for their meeting with local buyers on 5th December 2024.
- ◆ The SCO participated in seafood value addition training programmes organized by RD Mangalore at Albys Agro Pvt. Ltd., Goa on 26th September 2024 and Joecon Marine Exports, Goa on 30th January 2025. He delivered a talk on hygiene and sanitation and assisted the main trainers in coordination.
- ◆ Disseminated awareness messages regularly through four WhatsApp groups formed at four harbours in Goa.



1. Visit of Puducherry fishers to Vasco Jetty 2. SCO participats in seafood value addition training 3. CE NETFISH visits Vasco jetty 4.HDC Chapora participates in World Saw Fish Day organized by CMFRI at Malim Jetty



## MAHARASHTRA

Shri. Santosh Kadam & Dr. Girija Saurabh Behere, State Coordinators, have effectively executed all the extension activities of NETFISH in the coastal districts of Maharashtra. These efforts consisted of a total of 897 programs, including

91 general fund programs, 32 TED programs, 9 externally funded programs, 719 awareness classes by HDCs, and 46 other activities (refer to the Table). These initiatives collectively benefitted 6359 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Maharashtra during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	74	1756
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	2	50
	Stakeholder Meetings Organized by SCOs	14	75
	Swachhata programme	1	84
<b>2</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	30	742
	State level Workshop	1	160
	Onboard Trials	1	41
<b>3</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMEMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	3	105
	Marine Observer Training	6	39
<b>4</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes/Meetings by HDCs	719	3154
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	24	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. Organized by others	12	-
	Coordination of visit of Officials	1	-
	Joint Programmemeswith CIFNET	2	153
	Ornamental Fish Health Certification	7	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>6359</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

◆ A total of 74 awareness programmes were conducted for fishers, fish handling workers, fishing crew, boat owners, suppliers, and other stakeholders based at harbours and onboard fishing vessels. These programmes benefitted 1,756 participants. To promote the adoption of better practices, various materials such as T-shirts with awareness messages, waste collection bins, liquid soap dispensers, handwash sachets, rubber

gloves, cleaning brushes, plastic baskets with handles, and first aid kits were distributed to the trainees. The sessions covered a range of topics including MLS, lobster conservation, hygienic handling of fish, importance of square mesh cod ends, personal hygiene, good sanitation practices, pre-cooling of fish, TED, MFRA, MMPA, and the harmful effects of plastic pollution on the marine environment.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Harnai	16	402
Dabhol	2	50
Mirkarwada	8	182
Sakharinate	1	20
Devgad	2	37
Alibaug	3	61
Rewas-Bodni	2	46
Sassoon dock	3	75
New Ferry Wharf	3	75
Satpati	11	277
Arnala	7	161
Vasai	4	97
Uttan	9	198
Dahanu	2	50
Dapoli	1	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>1756</b>



Harbour based programme

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Satpati	49	259	Boat owners, Crew members, Suppliers, Agents, etc.	Sea Turtles, Usage of TED, Square mesh cod-end, Hygienic handling of fish, promote plastic free ocean, Conservation of Silver Pomfret & Lobster, M.L.S.
Arnala	45	237		
Vasai	41	223		
Uttan	55	297		
Versova	6	31		
Sassoon dock	4	12		
Alibaug	45	148		
Harnai	95	325		
Dabhol	88	330		
Mirkarwada	85	354		
Sakharinate	64	335		
Devgad	84	349		
Malvan	58	254		
<b>Total</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>3154</b>		



Awareness by HDCs

## OUTCOMES

- Weekly cleaning activities, initiated at Mirkarwada Harbour in 2023, are being consistently continued.
- At Harne, the practice of keeping fish in crates and baskets for auction-introduced in 2020-has been sustained, resulting in a reduction of rejection rates from 7% to 3%.
- Lobster conservation efforts at Harne, which began in 2023 with one supplier releasing berried female lobsters back to the sea, have expanded during 2024-25 to include 20 fishermen, around 40 small boat owners, and 10 suppliers.
- At Dabhol, regular cleaning of crates, fishing vessels, and the landing centre wharf area is being maintained.
- Fishers are also ensuring proper icing by carrying sufficient ice during voyages.
- In Devgad, regular cleaning of the auction shed, crates, tubs, and related equipment is being practiced.
- At Satpati and Vasai, fishers are consistently using adequate ice to preserve raw material quality.
- In Vasai, a self-imposed fishing ban from January to March has been observed to protect juvenile Silver Pomfret stocks.
- Fishers have been actively rescuing turtles accidentally caught in nets and releasing them safely back into the sea.



Using sufficient ice in raw material for keeping the cold chain



Usage of clean crates and trolleys



Good quality raw material



Juvenile & Berried Lobsters released back to sea

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- Two awareness programmes were conducted for fisherwomen engaged in fish drying activities at Thal and Alibaug. A total of 50 dry fish processing workers were sensitized on topics such as hygienic handling of

fish, personal hygiene, sanitation, and hygienic dry fish production. To promote the adoption of hygienic practices, aprons and rubber gloves were distributed to the participants.



Training for dryfish processors

## OUTCOMES

- Improved handling of raw material was observed in Alibaug, where previously fish were dried directly on bare ground. Now, shrimps are dried on clean cemented

platforms, and bamboo stakes are used for drying Bombay duck.



Dryfish without (before) & with (after) surrounding net in Arnala

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

- ◆ A beach clean-up programme under Swachhata Pakhwada-2024 was organized on 12.11.24 at Arnala Beach Landing Centre, Palghar. A total of 84 participants, including 75 fishers, students from the fishing community, and officers and staff from various agencies attended the event. The State Coordinator, MPEDA-NETFISH, welcomed the dignitaries and participants. Mr. Bhushan Patil, Assistant Director, MPEDA, delivered a speech highlighting the significance of Swachhata Pakhwada-2024 and urged the public not to discard plastic waste and glass bottles on beaches. T-shirts bearing the Swachhata Pakhwada image along with the MPEDA and NETFISH logos were distributed to 75 participants. During the cleanup, various plastic wastes such as polythene bags, food wrappers, water bottles, thermocol pieces, plastic slippers, etc., were collected-amounting to approximately one ton. The waste was promptly taken for disposal by the Gram Panchayat Arnala after the programme. Refreshments were

provided to all participants, followed by the distribution of participation certificates. As a result of the programme, regular cleaning activities are now being carried out by fishers at the Arnala Landing Centre.



Beach clean-up programme at Arnala

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ MPEDA, RD Mumbai & NETFISH, in association with CIFE, CIFT, and the Department of Fisheries, Maharashtra, conducted a State-Level Stakeholders' Workshop on TED implementation in trawl gears on 14th June 2024 in Mumbai. The workshop saw participation from 160 stakeholders, including officials from various fisheries institutes and Maharashtra boat owners. CE, NETFISH, presented on the US ban on import of wild-

caught shrimp from India, MPEDA's interventions, and TED development by ICAR-CIFT. A live display of the TED was also done for better understanding of the participants on its functioning. All the stakeholders actively participated in the discussions. The key takeaway from the workshop was the collective realization of the importance of TED implementation.



TED workshop at Mumbai

- ◆ Conducted 30 harbour-based awareness programmes on TED, its importance, and implementation for fishers, fishing crew, boat owners, and others, as detailed below. A total of 742 stakeholders participated in these

programmes. They were provided with T-shirts bearing the MPEDA and NETFISH logos along with the slogan "Use TED and Save Turtles." As a result, fishermen are now well aware of what TED is and its importance.

### Details of TED awareness programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Sassoon dock	1	25
New Ferry Wharf	1	25
Versova	2	46
Karanja	2	50
Rewas-Bodni	3	84
Alibaug	2	47
Harnai	5	136
Dabhol	1	25
Mirkarwada	5	115
Sakharinate	5	122
Devgad	2	42
Malvan	1	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>742</b>



Awareness on TED for fishers & boat owners

- ◆ An onboard fishing trial with and without TEDs was conducted on 26th March 2025 at Harnai with the participation of 41 individuals, including fishers, boat owners, and officials from the Fisheries Department and MPEDA-NETFISH. The demonstration involved two bottom trawl shrimp fishing vessels-one fitted with a TED and the other without. Both vessels operated simultaneously off the coast of Harnai. The catch was consistently higher in the TED-fitted net compared to the non-TED net. The escape percentage while using TED was negligible, around 2%, and no turtles were caught during any of the trials. The success of this demonstration highlights the effectiveness of TEDs in promoting sustainable fishing practices and reducing by-catch.



Fishing trial conducted using TED fitted trawl net

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

- ◆ Training was conducted for managers, QC staff, supervisors, and workers of three seafood processing units covering various topics such as fish and shellfish quality, spoilage, hygiene, GMPs, SSOPs, traceability,

and COVID-19 safety. Sessions included lectures with PowerPoint presentations, video shows and live demonstrations on hand washing and social distancing. The interactive approach ensured better understanding

among participants. Feedback was positive, with a request for advanced training on documentation. As a result, units began regular temperature checks during

processing and improved hand hygiene practices at entry points.

**Details of Seafood Unit programmes conducted**

Sl. No	Name of the Processing Unit	Programmes Date	No: of Beneficiaries
1	Naik Seafoods Pvt Ltd., Karla, Ratnagiri	31.05.24	30
2	Harbour Arabian Exports, Sakharinate, Ratnagiri	04.01.25	40
3	M/s. Seasaga Enterprises P. Ltd., Taloja, Raigad	28.05.24	35

**JOINT PROGRAMME WITH CIFNET**

◆ In collaboration with CIFNET, a one-day Skill Development Training on "Safety at Sea, Marine Electronic Equipment, and Maintenance of Marine Engines" was conducted at Palghar, Satpati on 27.07.24

◆ A three-day Skill Development Training on "Life-Saving and Fire-Fighting Appliances & Electronic Equipment" was conducted at Palghar, Dakti Dahanu from 29.07.24 to 31.07.24. A total of 153 fishers and boat owners benefitted from these programmes.



Joint training with CIFNET

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

◆ Organized a workshop on Conservation of Red Blood Clam at Vashi on 20th February 2025, jointly by MPEDA RD Mumbai, MPEDA-NETFISH and CMFRI in collaboration with M/s. Lalchand Enterprises. The programme highlighted the need to prevent harvesting of undersized clams, with technical sessions on life cycle, sorting methods using dredges, and possibilities

of clam cultivation at suitable sites. Fishers and exporters participated actively, raising concerns over declining clam resources due to pollution from untreated industrial and domestic waste. They urged immediate action to control pollution in creeks and estuaries to ensure sustainable clam production.



Workshop on Conservation of Blood Clam

- ◆ To create awareness on marine mammals and sea turtles among fishers and to involve them in the Marine Observer Programme, six awareness training programmes were conducted and interested fishers were trained on marine mammal/sea turtle sighting and fishery interaction data collection as part of the MMSAI project. A total of 36 fishers were trained to serve as Marine Observers.
- ◆ Inspected 7 ornamental fish consignments from Maharashtra and issued health certificates.
- ◆ Conducted meetings with HDCs regarding data collection, awareness programmes, and reviewed their ongoing activities.
- ◆ Coordinated the visit of Director, MPEDA, to Mumbai.
- ◆ Participated in an introductory session on the Seafood Task Force (STF), Thailand, organized by STF, Thailand, on 29.04.24 in Mumbai.
- ◆ Coordinated an exposure visit of boat owners from Pondicherry to Mirkarwada Fishing Harbour, Ratnagiri, and New Ferry Wharf Fishing Harbour, Mumbai, during 6-7 December 2024.
- ◆ Attended a one-day hands-on training programme on "Upskilling of Processing Workers in Seafood Value Addition" under PMMSY, organized by MPEDA RD Mumbai at M/s. Rizwan Ice & Cold Storage, Unit-2, Taloja, Raigad, on 06.09.24.
- ◆ Held a series of meetings with stakeholders and fisheries officials regarding TED implementation, the marine mammal project, and control of juvenile fishing.
- ◆ Attended a meeting chaired by Shri Varun Kumar Bharadwaj, IAS, Personal Secretary to the Hon'ble CIM, at Mumbai on 03.01.25 to discuss fish landing centre development, modern market development, use of technology for sustainability, disaster management, deep sea fishing, and fisher community empowerment.
- ◆ Participated in a one-day awareness-cum-training programme on PMMSY, organized by NCDC and the Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India, at Mumbai on 19.03.25, and delivered a presentation to raise awareness on TED.
- ◆ Disseminated 87 awareness messages through 15 WhatsApp groups, reaching 1,370 stakeholders across 15 harbours in Maharashtra.



SCO participating in various meetings



## GUJARAT

Shri. Jignesh M. Visavadia, State Coordinator, has effectively executed all the extension activities of NETFISH in the coastal districts of Gujarat. These efforts consisted of a total of 490 programs, including 84 general fund programmes,

32 TED programmes, 2 SC/ST programmes, 12 externally funded programmes, 322 awareness classes by HDCs, and 38 other activities (refer to the Table). These initiatives collectively benefitted 6347 fishery stakeholders.

### Activities Conducted in Gujarat during 2024-25

No.	Type of Programme	No: of Programmes	No of Beneficiaries
<b>1.</b>	<b>NETFISH GENERAL FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Programmes	66	1305
	Dry Fish Development Programmes	9	157
	Swachhata programme	1	125
	Stakeholder Meetings organized by SCOs	6	58
	Exposure Visit	1	10
	World Oceans Day Celebration	1	100
<b>2</b>	<b>MPEDA RD/SRD SC &amp; ST FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	SC/ST Seafood Worker's Training	2	57
<b>3</b>	<b>TED FUND PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Harbour Based Awareness Programme	31	1539
	State-level Workshop	1	125
<b>4</b>	<b>EXTERNAL FUNDED PROGRAMMES</b>		
	Seafood Unit Training Programme (Paid)	9	255
	No: of Trainings for Marine Observers under Marine Mammal Project	3	13
<b>5</b>	<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>		
	Awareness Classes by HDCs	322	1903
	Training/Evaluation of HDCs	8	-
	Participation of SCO in Meetings/Classes/Trainings/ Expo/ Workshops etc. organized by others	19	-
	Joint Programmes with CIFNET Participation of SCO as TRAINER in MPEDA organized Seafood	2	200
	Unit Value Addition Training	9	500
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>6347</b>

## HARBOUR BASED PROGRAMME

◆ Conducted 66 harbour based regular awareness programmes in Gujarat, reaching 1305 stakeholders including fishers, boat owners, crew members, fish handlers, etc. in Veraval, Mangrol & Porbandar. The trainees were enlightened on hygienic fish handling & preservation practices onboard and in harbours for keeping the quality of the material to earn better price

and sustainable fishing practices for conservation of fishery resources. Aid materials such as crates, shovels, gumboots, gloves, detergent powder & brushes were given to the participants as an encouragement to adopt good practices. Major topics addressed during harbour-based programmes included pre-cooling of catch, cleaning fishing vessels before and after each trip,

bringing clean seawater to wash catch, fish holds, and fishing vessels, using square mesh cod ends to stop juvenile fishing, using TEDs to save turtles, bringing back plastic waste to land to create a plastic-free marine ecosystem, practicing hygienic fish and ice handling, and maintaining personal hygiene.

### Details of Harbour-wise programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Veraval	44	868
Mangrol	09	206
Porbandar	13	231
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1305</b>



SCO Gujarat conducting awareness sessions for fishers

### Awareness by HDCs

Harbour	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries	Beneficiary group	Topics
Veraval	70	354	Fishers, FV Captains, fishing crews	Fish Quality Management, Sustainable fishing, use of TED & Square mesh
Mangrol	30	215		
Porbandar	67	403		
Chorwad	54	260		
Vanakbara	100	665		
Kotada	1	06		
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>1903</b>		



Awareness sessions by HDCs

## OUTCOMES

- Adoption of on-board quick chilling practices in Veraval (60%), Mangrol (40%) & Porbandar (30%) and the fishers are getting ₹ 50000 to ₹ 150000 more per trip based on material & quantity.



Awareness sessions by HDCs

- Using clean sea water to wash catch, fish hold and fishing vessels in Veraval (60%), Mangrol (50%) & Porbandar (50%).
- Cleaning of fishing vessel before and after each trip observed in Veraval (70%), Mangrol (50%) & Porbandar (50%) thereby reducing contamination.



Collecting sea water in large cans and using it for cleaning of fishing vessels & equipments



Bringing back plastic from sea and disposing at designated places

- Fishers in Veraval (50%), Mangrol (100%) & Porbandar (30%) bring plastic waste to land, avoiding marine pollution.
- Hygienic handling of ice in Veraval (100%), Mangrol (100%) & Porbandar (100%) has reduced melting of ice and bacterial cross contamination.
- Adoption of square mesh cod-end in Veraval & Porbandar.
- Due to NETFISH awareness programs/meetings/social medial posts etc. on conservation of marine mammals and turtle, the fishers at all major and minor fishing harbours in Gujarat are always vigilant to avoid incidental catch of marine mammals and turtles and animals caught if any are released back to sea in live condition.
- As a result of creating awareness on use of square mesh cod end to conserve the juvenile of fishes, Mr. Pankaj Gohel, Boat owner of Porbandar purchased square mesh cod end for the first time.
- At the plastic waste collection center operated by the Mahavir Fisheries Cooperative Society in Mangrol since November 2021, approximately 8-10 metric tons of plastic waste were collected and properly disposed of this year and the society rewarded the participants.
- Plastic waste collection centers in Veraval and Vanakbara are still operational.



Using coveyor crushers for hygienic loading of ice into fishing vessels



Conservation efforts- releasing back sea turtles & using square mesh cod ends

## DRYFISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Conducted 9 awareness trainings for 157 dryfish processors in Umargam, educating them on personal hygiene, hygienic fish drying, fish drying technology, role of ice, packaging, use of pesticides, cleaning of

utensils etc. The trainees were provided with plastic baskets, plastic tubs & plastic sheets, helping them to adopt the hygienic practices.

## OUTCOMES

- 70% of dry fish processors in Umargam adopted hygienic handling practices, resulting in increased finished product quality.
- Sufficient ice is utilized to maintain fish quality.
- Plastic sheets were used by 100% of processors to maintain fish quality during drying.
- 60% of processors wash fish using good quality water.
- A change in packing style led to 30% of processors fetching better prices (Rs. 50 to Rs. 150 more per kg) compared to traditional packaging.



Awareness for dryfish processors & adoption of hygienic practices

## EXPOSURE VISIT

- ◆ An exposure visit to Kerala was organized during 24-27 June 2024 for 10 dryfish processors from Umargam, Gujarat. The aim was to introduce them to advanced dry fish technologies, including hygienic preparation, modern packaging, and solar dryers, to improve market access. Accompanied by NETFISH State Coordinators, the team of 10 fishers visited NIFPHATT and CIFT, where they learned about various fish processing techniques, salting, drying, packaging, and solar drying methods. The team visited NETFISH & MPEDA headquarters and held a meeting with D.V. Swamy IAS, Chairman MPEDA and other officials about supporting upgraded drying and packaging. The team also explored solar dryer

options at M/s. Kraftwork Engineering and observed their installations in Edakochi & in Purakkad. They also visited an export-oriented dry fish plant, M/s. Samudra Seafoods & Kerala State Coastal Area Development Corporation Ltd. (KSCADC) in Kollam, to understand export requirements. The team also visited supermarkets to understand market presentation and consumer preferences for dry fish products. The participants expressed their commitment to adopting improved drying and packaging techniques for better livelihoods. They conveyed their sincere gratitude to the Chairman of MPEDA and the NETFISH team for organizing this enriching exposure visit.



Team visiting various entities and having meeting with Chairman MPEDA

## OUTCOMES

- A dryfish processor of Umargam invested ₹150,000 - ₹ 200,000 and installed a mechanical dryer for hygienic fish drying. This first mechanical fish dryer developed for hygienic drying yielded approximately ₹150 more per kg compared to traditionally dried fish. Furthermore, the fish retained more weight after mechanical drying.



Mechanical dryer installed for hygienic fish drying

## SWACHHATA PROGRAMME

◆ The Swachhata Pakhwada programme was conducted on 14th Nov. 2024 at Veraval Fishing Harbour, in association with the Department of Fisheries, Veraval, and various boat associations of Veraval Fishing Harbour. The programme was attended by Shri Vaniya Kishorkumar, Assistant Director, MPEDA; Shri Tulsibhai Gohel, President of the Boat Association and Sagarputra Foundation, Veraval; and Shri Jignesh Visavadia, State Coordinator, NETFISH. SCO briefed the gathering on the importance of maintaining cleanliness at the harbour, while Shri Kishorkumar Vaniya emphasized the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in ensuring the harbour

and its surroundings are kept clean and up to standard. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Vimal Pandya, Senior Fisheries Officer, Department of Fisheries, Veraval. Around 100 participants actively took part in the harbour cleaning activity, covering the market hall, wharf area, and harbour premises, and removed approximately 5 tonnes of solid waste. The stakeholders continued the cleaning efforts for another 15 days, following the event and around 50MT solid waste was removed from the harbour.



Swachhata Pakhwada programme at Veraval Harbour

## WORLD OCEANS DAY CELEBRATION

◆ On 8th June 2024, World Oceans Day was celebrated at Mangrol Fishing Harbour to raise awareness among fisherfolk about clean oceans, sustainability, and

reducing plastic pollution. Community leaders, including Shri Parshotambhai Khorava, Shri Veljibhai Masani, Shri Damodar Chamudiya, Shri Khimjibhai Parmar, and Shri

Jitesh Khorava, spoke on the importance of protecting marine resources. SCO highlighted the need for using TED in shrimp trawlers. He also stressed stopping juvenile fishing by using square mesh cod ends, avoiding

overfishing, and promoting seaweed farming to protect the marine environment and ensure the future of the seafood industry. The event was attended by fishing vessel captains and crews.



World Oceans Day celebration at Mangrol Harbour

## SEAFOOD UNIT TRAINING PROGRAMME

◆ Conducted 9 nos. of one day training programme for 255 workers and supervisors of seafood units in Gujarat (see table). Each programme was charged a training fee of Rs. 10,000/- and thus a total of Rs. 90,000 was received by NETFISH from various exporters. The various topics covered in the training were Fish spoilage, Role of ice & water, Hygiene and sanitation, Good handling practices & Personal Hygiene, Pre-processing,

grading & processing, Value added fishery products, HACCP, Microbiology & Traceability. Practical demonstration on Sanitation and Hygiene practices/ protocol inside the processing plants were also done. Finally the trainees were assessed and distributed certificate. All the participants agreed for maintaining strict personal hygiene, reduce post-harvest loss, keep clean food contact surface before after used etc.



Training to Processing workers at Porbandar

### Details of Seafood unit trainings conducted

Sl. No	Name of the Processing Unit	Programme Date	No: of Beneficiaries
1	Aaliya Foods, GIDC, Veraval	24.04.24	26
2	Kan Victual Pvt.Ltd., GIDC, Porbandar	30.04.24	30
3	Hiravati Marine Products Pvt. Ltd., Porbandar	13.06.24	30
4	S S International, GIDC, Veraval	23.12.24	35
5	Zenith Exports, GIDC, Veraval	21.11.24	26
6	Vanita Cold Storage, GIDC, Veraval	04.12.24	30
7	Honest Frozen Foods, GIDC, Veraval	09.12.24	28
8	Tejal Sea Food, Jawarnaka, Porbandar	08.01.25	30
9	Sumra Exports, Vanana, Porbandar	19.02.25	20

- ◆ Trainings exclusively for SC/ST Seafood worker's were also conducted during the year, at Castlerock Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., GIDC, Veraval on 27.02.25 and Amar Sea

Food, Porbandar on 07.03.25, with a participation of 27 & 30 nos. of workers respectively.



Training of SC/ST workers in processing units

## OUTCOMES

- Personal hygiene of workers have improved
- Maintaining cleanliness of food contact surface
- Reduced post-harvest loss by maintaining time and temperature while handling & storage of the products

## TED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMMES

- ◆ Conducted a state-level stakeholder's workshop on 30th September 2025 at Veraval by MPEDA Regional Division, Veraval, and MPEDA-NETFISH, in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Government of Gujarat and ICAR-CIFT Veraval. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Veljibhai Masani, former MPEDA Authority Member. Key figures such as Shri Ketanbhai Suyani, SEAI Gujarat President, and Shri V.K. Gohel, Deputy Director, Fisheries, also attended. The workshop saw the participation of 125 stakeholders, including officials from the Department of Fisheries, fishermen's associations from Veraval, Mangrol, Porbandar, Okha, and Vanakbara, representatives from research institutes,

and NGOs. The technical session was led by Shri Jignesh Visavadiya, State Coordinator of MPEDA-NETFISH, who delivered a detailed presentation on the immediate need for TEDs in trawlers. He explained the functionality and benefits of TEDs in preventing turtle bycatch, ensuring the sustainability of marine ecosystems, and compliance with international trade regulations. Following the presentation, a live demonstration of the TED model was done along with a few underwater videos on TED trial operations. The workshop concluded with a positive outlook, as fishermen expressed their willingness to participate in field trials of TEDs and to implement them in trawl gears.



TED workshop at Veraval

- Conducted 31 awareness classes for boat owners, captains, and fishing crew to educate them on the importance of TED and its implementation in trawlers in Gujarat. Leaflet on TED prepared in Gujarati were distributed during the trainings. Also, stickers with information on TED were pasted in fishing vessels. Around 3000 TED Sticker pasted at Veraval, Mangrol, Porbandar, Okha, Vanakbara & Jakhau Fishing harbour.

#### Details of TED awareness programmes conducted

Harbour/LC	No: of Programmes	No: of Beneficiaries
Veraval	12	494
Porbandar	07	330
Mangrol	02	175
Vanakbara	02	120
Dholai	02	60
Okha	03	210
Jakhau	03	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1539</b>



TED Awareness programme



TED stickers pasted on fishing vessels

## PARTICIPATION OF SCO AS TRAINER IN MPEDA ORGANIZED SEAFOOD UNIT VALUE ADDITION TRAINING

- The SCO has functioned as trainer in 10 seafood unit value addition trainings organized by RD/SRD MPEDA at various locations as given below. Each training was attended by 50 nos. of seafood processing workers & supervisors. They were provided hands on training on

preparation of Butter fly shrimps, Breaded Butter fly shrimps, Cooked breaded butter fly shrimps, Shrimps Veg. Skiwer, Shrimps Marinated Skiwer, Dusted Squid Ring, Breaded Squid Rings, Breaded & batter Cooked squid rings, Cooked PDTO and Popcorn.



## JOINT PROGRAMMES WITH CIFNET

- ◆ In collaboration with CIFNET, conducted 3 days Skill Development Training on "Life saving and firefighting appliances & electronic equipment" at Mangrol during 23.07.24 to 25.07.24 for two batches of fishers, each with a participation of 50 fishers
- ◆ A 1 day Skill Development Training on "Safety at sea, Marine Electronic equipment and Maintenance of Marine Engines" was conducted at Mangrol on 26.07.24 with the participation of 100 fishers.



Joint training with CIFNET

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ On 14.8.24, the SCO along with AD, MPEDA met the Fisheries Minister of Gujarat Shri. Raghvijbhai Patel along and had discussions on State Action Plan of Gujarat, implementation of MLS, TED, Square mesh cod end, fishing ban period, TED workshop etc.
- ◆ Met Director of Fisheries, Gujarat at the office of DoF, Gandhinagar on three occasions during the year-on 05.08.24, 25.10.24, and 20.02.25-and held discussions on various key issues, including TED implementation, proposed amendments to the Gujarat

- MFRA, curbing juvenile fishing through the use of square mesh cod ends, formation of a Task Force, implementation of the State Action Plan, Harbour Management Committee, MLS, visit of the FVO mission & necessary preparations in coordination with various stakeholders.
- ◆ Held a meeting with the 15 Exporters and their representatives on 23.10.24 at the Sea Food Exporters Association Hall, Veraval and discussed on FVO mission visit.
  - ◆ Meetings with boat owners in connection with FVO visit were arranged at Dholai on 7.11.24 & at Vanakbara on 15.11.24.
  - ◆ As part of MMSAI project, provided training to 12 fishers during May 2024 & February 2025 towards engaging them as Marine Observers to collect information on marine mammal and sea turtle sightings and fishery interactions at sea during fishing trips. They were enlightened on identification of marine mammal and sea turtle, data collections and submission of reports. Identification booklet & brochure were also given to the fishers.
  - ◆ Arranged an exposure visit on 27.6.24 for 23 students of G.B Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand to Veraval harbour and explained on harbor activity, handling of ice & fish, transportation, exports, training programme for fishermen, seafood value addition, role of MPEDA and NETFISH for development of Fisheries Sector in Gujarat etc.
  - ◆ Participated in Annual Stakeholder meeting organized by CMFRI Veraval on 12.07.24
  - ◆ Participated in Chintan Shivir organized by District Collector of Gir Somnath on 06.12.24 & 07.12.24 at Sagar Darsan Bhavan, Somnath, Veraval and briefed on maintenance of cleaning process of harbour, juvenile fish catch, use of TED and square mesh cod end, shown presentation with Photos of Muttom fishing harbour.
  - ◆ Participated in Exporters meeting organized by RD, Veraval on 16.04.24 at GIDC, Veraval and insisted exporters to take the NETFISH training programme for sea food processing plant workers and to buy materials from NETFISH trained FVs
  - ◆ Participated in meeting with QC Manager/Technologist on 11.11.24 at Veraval
  - ◆ Participated in NABARD's officers meeting programme on 12.12.24 at DIU-UT and given guest lecture on Role of MPEDA and NETFISH for development of Fisheries Sector in Gujarat
  - ◆ Participated in NCDSC Scheme awareness programme on 21.10.24 at Veraval
  - ◆ Participated in Swachhta Programme organized by RD Veraval on 01.10.24 at Veraval
  - ◆ Participated in VC meeting organized by DoF with all field office in connection with expected visit of FVO mission in India on 25.10.24
  - ◆ Participated in webinar on fully automated patented off ground waste-water treatment technology and installation of solar powered chiller plant on board a fishing trawler on 06.11.24
  - ◆ Arranged a Harbour clean up on 08.11.24 at Navsari, Dholai in connection with FVO visit
  - ◆ Visited 7- Pre-processing plant (unregistered) during May 2024 at Veraval Fishing harbor and made primary survey on basic facilities available with them and details submitted to AD, RD, Veraval for further action.
  - ◆ On 21.11.24 the SCO participated in the World Fisheries Day celebration organized by Reliance Foundation and delivered a lecture on Responsible fishing for Sustainable future for various stakeholders of sea food industries
  - ◆ Held online review meeting and trainings to the 8 HDCs in Gujarat
  - ◆ For getting external financial assistance, Project Proposals for Rs.1.68 crore were submitted to Director of Fisheries, Gandhinagar as well as to District Development Manager, NABARD, Gir Somanth for conducting training programme for fishermen and distribution of TED and Square mesh cod-end etc. The proposals are under consideration.
  - ◆ About 1403 awareness messages were shared through 13 whatsapp groups formed at 10 harbours each message reaching nearly 2434 stakeholders
  - ◆ HDCs collected 1047 vessel log sheets from fishing vessels to support MPEDA's catch certification system.

**Details of vessel log sheets collected**

SI no.	Name of harbour	Number of log sheet collected during year 2024-25
1	Veraval	249
2	Mangrol	185
3	Porbandar	200
5	Vanakbara	314
6	Kotada	99
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1047</b>



1.Meeting with Fisheries Minister of Gujarat 2.Participating in NABARD meeting  
3.Meeting with exporters 4.Exposure visit to Veraval harbour for students of G.B Pant University



**Renewal of MOU between CIFNET & MPEDA-NETFISH for 2 more years  
for conducting collaborative programmes**

# PMMSY PROJECT- MARINE MAMMAL STOCK ASSESSMENT IN INDIA (MMSAI)

◆ During the financial year 2024-25, the by-catch surveys involved interview of 8853 fishers, engaged in mechanized, motorized and non-motorized boats along

the east and west coasts of India. The surveys were completed in two phases by a team of 80 HDCs from MPEDA-NETFISH.

## State wise details of Bycatch surveys conducted during 2024-25

State	Phase 5		Phase 6	
	No. of Harbours covered	No: of fishers interviewed	No. of Harbours covered	No: of fishers interviewed
Gujarat	6	1565	6	1189
Maharashtra	14	615	14	462
Goa	4	92	3	42
Karnataka	7	416	6	201
Kerala	15	468	14	460
Tamil Nadu	18	1127	16	770
Andhra Pradesh	6	359	5	318
Odisha	3	145	3	97
West Bengal	7	280	7	247
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>5067</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>3786</b>

◆ During the period, data of a total of 30 sighting events and 47 fishery interaction events were obtained from the marine observers. Sightings of Blue Whale, Bottlenose dolphin, Irrawaddy dolphin, Pantropical

spotted dolphin, Rough-toothed Dolphin, Spinner dolphin & Olive Ridley turtle were reported from the coasts of Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha & West Bengal.



1. Spinner dolphin off Gujarat 2. Spotted dolphin off Tamilnadu 3. Bottlenose dolphin off West Bengal 4. Rough toothed dolphin off Odisha 5. Irrawaddy dolphin off West Bengal 6. Blue whale off Kerala coast

# 6

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: 2024-25

### NEWWORK FOR FISH QUALITY MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABLE FISHING (NETFISH)

KOCHI (REG. NO. ER 509/06)

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31-03-2025

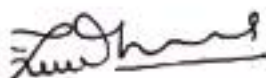
LIABILITIES		Sch	2024-25	2023-24
A	CAPITAL FUND			
	Opening Balance		2,99,26,471.23	58,20,929.38
	Add: Fund from MPEDA during the year		1,40,00,000.00	1,91,00,000.00
	Add: Surplus/(Deficit) from Income & expenditure		-2,91,89,870.23	48,84,800.84
	Add: Gain/(Loss) of SEAFOOD India stall		-	1,20,741.01
			1,47,36,601.00	2,99,26,471.23
B	MPEDA SC Welfare Project Fund		11,923.31	1,37,87,664.00
	<b>TOTAL (A+B)</b>		<b>1,47,48,524.31</b>	<b>4,37,14,135.23</b>
	ASSETS			
C	PROPERTY PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
	Written Down Value	1	3,23,785.67	4,35,557.17
	Less: Depreciation		81,763.00	1,14,471.50
	Closing WDV		2,42,022.67	3,21,085.67
D	CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS AND ADVANCES			
	Inventory	2	-	-
	Cash & Bank Balance	3	1,48,55,169.64	4,78,52,563.00
	Loans & Advances	4	29,64,086.00	44,400.00
	Sundry Debtors	5	-	-
			1,78,19,255.64	4,78,96,963.00
E	LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS			
	Salary Payable	6	11,20,618.00	10,63,778.00
	Expense Payable	7	21,43,503.00	33,14,132.44
	Other current liabilities	7	48,633.00	1,26,003.00
	Sundry Creditors	7	-	-
			33,12,754.00	45,03,913.44
F	NET CURRENT ASSETS (D-E)		1,45,06,501.64	4,33,93,049.56
	<b>TOTAL (C+F)</b>		<b>1,47,48,524.31</b>	<b>4,37,14,135.23</b>

Subject to notes forming part of accounts and my report of even date

Place - KOCHI

Date - 06-08-2025

UDIN 25229912 BMHTGB5244



(Chief Executive Officer)



(Treasurer)



(Director)

For ROSHAN THOMAS & Co  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
FRN - 0136115



CA. ROSHAN THOMAS, FCA, DISA, ICAI  
Membership No: 228912

(Auditor)

Mr. Joice V. Thomas  
Chief Executive  
NETFISH-MPEDA  
Vallarpadam (P O)  
Kochi-682 504, Kerala

अनिल कुमार.पी./Anil Kumar. P  
संयुक्त निदेशक / Joint Director  
समुद्री उत्पाद निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण  
Marine Products Export Development Authority  
(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India,  
पनम्पिल्ली नगर / Panampilly Nagar  
कोच्ची / Kochi-36

Dr. राममोहन ए. के. / Dr. RAMMOHAN M. K  
निदेशक / DIRECTOR  
समुद्री उत्पाद निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण  
The Marine Products Export Development Authority  
वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
भारत सरकार / Govt of India  
कोच्ची / Kochi-682 076



**NETWORK FOR FISH QUALITY MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABLE FISHING (NETFISH)  
KOCHI (REG. NO. ER 509/06)**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2025**

Particulars		2024-25	2023-24
<b>INCOME</b>			
Fund received for Extension Activities	8	1,71,62,341.69	4,28,45,868.00
Other Income	8A	0	6,120.08
		1,71,62,341.69	4,28,51,988.08
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Depreciation	1	81,763.00	1,14,471.50
Extension Activities	9	3,14,00,787.76	2,30,23,364.74
Employee Cost	10	1,37,05,141.00	1,36,51,692.00
Administrative Expenses	11	11,64,520.16	11,77,659.00
		4,63,52,211.92	3,79,67,187.24
Surplus/ (Deficit)		-2,91,89,870.23	48,84,800.84

Subject to notes forming part of accounts and my report of even date

Place : KOCHI  
Date : 06-08-2025  
UDIN : 262219120MHTG05744

  
(Chief Executive Officer)

  
(Treasurer)

  
(Director)

For ROSHAN THOMAS & Co.  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
FKN - 0136115  
  
CA. ROSHAN THOMAS, FCA, DISA, ICAI  
Membership No: 228912  
(Auditor)

Dr. Joice V. Thomas  
Chief Executive  
NETFISH-MPEDA  
Vallarpadam (P.O)  
Kochi-682 504, Kerala

अनिल कुमार.पी./Anil Kumar. P  
संयुक्त निदेशक / Joint Director  
समुद्री उत्पाद निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण  
Marine Products Export Development Authority  
(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)  
पनम्पिल्ली नगर / Panampilly Nagar  
कोच्ची / Kochi-35.

डॉ. रामोहन ए. के. / Dr. RAMMOHAN M. K.  
निदेशक / DIRECTOR  
समुद्री उत्पाद निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण  
The Marine Products Export Development Authority  
वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
भारत सरकार / Govt. of India  
कोच्ची / Kochi-682 014



## OFFICE BEARERS 2024-25

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. President           | Sri. D.V. Swamy IAS, Chairman MPEDA  |
| 2. Chief Executive     | Dr. Joice V. Thomas  |
| 3. Treasurer           | Sri. Anilkumar P., JD(Mktg) MPEDA  |
| 4. State Coordinators  | Sri. Atanu Ray, West Bengal<br>Sri. Subhrakanta Mohapatra, Odisha<br>Sri. P. Hanumantha Rao, Andhra Pradesh North<br>Dr. Murali Mohan Matturti, Andhra Pradesh South<br>Dr. Arulmoorthy M.P., Tamil Nadu North<br>Dr. Vinoth S. Ravindran, Tamil Nadu South<br>Smt. Sangeetha N. R., Kerala South<br>Sri. Santhosh N. K., Kerala North<br>Sri. Narayana K.A., Karnataka & Goa<br>Sri. Santosh Kadam, Maharashtra<br>Sri. Jignesh M. Visavadia, Gujarat |
| 5. Research Assistants | Dr. Afsal V.V.<br>Smt. Neethu N. J.  |
| 6. Accountant          | Smt. Remya K. R.   |
| 7. Accounts Assistant  | Smt. Swapana Cleatus   |





## The Network for Fish Quality Management & Sustainable Fishing (NETFISH)

**A registered society of MPEDA, MoCI, Govt. of India.**

**Vallarpadam P.O., Kochi- 682504**

**Kerala, India.**

**Email: [netfish@mpeda.gov.in](mailto:netfish@mpeda.gov.in)**

**Website: [www.netfishmpeda.org](http://www.netfishmpeda.org)**