

REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL CONCLAVE ON NEXTGEN TECHNOLOGIES IN SEAFOOD SECTOR

The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has consistently led the comprehensive development of the seafood sector through proactive and timely interventions in both capture and culture fisheries. In the year 2023-24, India's seafood export sector achieved a remarkable milestone by exporting 17,81,602 metric tons of seafood, valued at ₹60,523.89 crore (US\$7.38 billion). Looking ahead, the target for marine products exports is set at USD 18 billion by 2030. Achieving this ambitious goal will require cutting-edge interventions to support the entire value chain, enhancing production and productivity while ensuring profitability and sustainability.

To introduce and integrate modern technologies into the seafood sector, MPEDA organized the International Conclave on NextGen Technologies in the Seafood Sector on 30th August 2024 at the Hotel Grand Hyatt, Kochi. The event aimed to showcase established technologies that could be seamlessly integrated into the seafood value chain with minimal modifications. An international call for expressions of interest was extended to innovators and professionals, resulting in 44 proposals. These were rigorously evaluated by expert committees consisting of professionals from relevant fields. Based on the practicality of their innovations for industry application, 11 proposals were shortlisted for presentation at the conclave.

MPEDA invited stakeholders from across the seafood value chain, including farmers, hatchery operators, seafood exporters, researchers, academicians, bankers and fishery administrators to participate in the conclave. Based on the invitation, a total of 144 participants attended the conclave, representing research institutes, academic organizations, fisheries departments, stakeholders, bankers, and MPEDA officials. The event was inaugurated by Shri. Loknath Behera IPS (Rtd.), Managing Director of Kochi Metro Rail Ltd., who, in his address, emphasized the critical role of advanced technology and AI in enhancing the production and delivery of high-quality seafood for both domestic and international markets.

Dr. M. Karthikeyan, Director of MPEDA, welcomed the Chief Guest, dignitaries, speakers and participants from various institutes, departments, organizations and associations across the country. He also provided an overview of the conclave's objectives. Felicitations were offered by Dr. K. Inkarasal, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Mumbai and Shri. Alex Ninan, Vice President, SEAI. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. S. Kandan, Joint Director (Training), MPEDA.

Following the inaugural session, the presentations commenced, organized into three thematic sessions. A report on all 11 presentations along with the contact details is available in the website.

The panelists for each session are given below:

Session:1

1. Dr. M.Neelakandan, Chief Instructor , CIFNET
2. Dr. Radhika Rajasree S.R, Professor, Faculty of Fisheries Science, KUFOS
3. Mr. Alex K Nina., Vice President, SEAI

Session: 2

1. Dr. T. Ravisankar, Principal Scientist, Social Science Division, ICAR – CIBA
2. Dr. P. Suresh, Deputy Director, Department of Fisheries, Andhra Pradesh
3. Mr. Madhusudhan Reddy, President, Society of Aquaculture professionals

Session 3:

1. Dr. A. Kathirvelpandian, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBFGR
2. Dr. Sandhya Sukumaran, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CMFRI
3. Mr. Calraj, President, AISHA- Tamil Nadu chapter

Following the 11 presentations, Shri Anil Kumar P, Joint Director (Marketing) at MPEDA, provided a summary of the conclave. Dr. K. Inkarsal, Chief General Manager at NABARD, Mumbai, delivered the Valedictory Remarks. The conclave concluded with Dr. Ram Mohan M. K., Joint Director (Quality Control) at MPEDA, delivering a vote of thanks.



Lighting the lamp by Hon'ble Chief Guest, Shri Loknath Behera IPS (Rtd.), Managing Director, Kochi Metro Rail Ltd



Inaugural Speech by Hon'ble Chief Guest Shri. Loknath Behera IPS (Rtd.), Managing Director, Kochi Metro Rail Ltd.



Welcome address by Dr. M. Karthikeyan, Director, MPEDA



Felicitation speech by Dr. K. Inkarsal, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Mumbai



Felicitation speech by Shri. Alex Ninan, Vice President, SEAI



Dr. S. Kandan, Joint Director (Trg) delivering Vote of thanks



Summing up of the conclave by Anil Kumar P, Joint Director (Marketing), MPEDA



Valedictory remarks by Dr. K. Inkarsal, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Mumbai



Vote of thanks by Dr. Ram Mohan M K., Joint Director (QC), MPEDA

Participants during conclave
