

## **CM INAUGURATES INDIA INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD SHOW**

Margao: January 27, 2018

Chief Minister, Shri Manohar Parrikar inaugurated the 21st edition of India International Seafood Show (IISS) organised by The Marine Products Export Development Authority and Seafood Exporters Association of India at Margao today showcasing India's best marine products for buyers from around the world at this three days show which will conclude on January 29, 2017.

In this show Seafood industry leaders and experts will deliberate on policies, market trends, technology and roadmaps to achieving an export target of US\$ 10 billion by 2022.

'Safe & Sustainable Seafood from India' is the focal theme of this show.

While speaking on the occasion in seafood export industry West Coast is the area of concern Shri Parrikar said and requested organisers to brief and explain to the fishing community of the State as to how they too can contribute in seafood export business. Over exploitation in the area at the breeding place is the major concern and this area needs to be carefully monitored, he urged.

In the State LED fishing has been completely banned so that over exploitation does not take place, he informed. Stressing on the use of chemical fertilizers he said it results into wash off into the sea increasing nitrogen level into the sea water which creates problem for the healthy fish growth. All these areas of concern need to be addressed so that India can become power house of fish export, he said.

TCP Minister, Shri Vijai Sardesai said, fish means a lot to the State. Government is thinking of common man and it is the endeavour to provide subsidized fish to the Goans he said. Government is working towards integrated farming which will include agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries together which will minimise wastage and boost the farmer's income he said. Today 70 % of the seafood exports are aquaculture based and it is the major challenge he said. Goa is a small but a progressive State and it takes all the measures which a progressive State should take, he added.

Fisheries Minister, Shri Vinoda Paliencar said apart from tourist destination State is known at the world stage for its abundance in seafood. Fishing is one of the important factors and the primary source of livelihood for the sizable community of the traditional local fisherman contributing towards the fish production of the State. Fisheries Department is conducting various interaction programme to address the issues of the fisherman.

Member of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh and MPEDA Member Shri Hari Babu and Shri N Padmanabham also spoke on the occasion.

Leader of Opposition Shri Chandrakant (Babu) Kavlekar; MP and MPEDA Member, Shri Hari Babu; Chairman, The Marine Products at Export Development Authority, Dr A Jayathilak; National President, Seafood Exporters Association of India, Shri N Padmanabham and M M Ibrahim were amongst those prominent persons present on the occasion.

The formal inaugural function was held at Ravindra Bhavan while the exhibition is organised at open Sports Complex Ground, Fatorda.

“A key objective of the event is to highlight the country’s commitment towards sustainability in the entire value chain of seafood products such as primary production, processing and transportation.

Around 3,000 delegates and more than 2,000 visitors from India and abroad, including the US, the UK, Spain, Japan, Australia, China, Vietnam, South Korea, Thailand, Malaysia and the Middle East are participating at this event. It has 300 stalls spread over 7,000 sq m, showcasing a wide range of products, automation technologies, machinery and allied sector in the export processing sector. The delegates include exporters, machinery suppliers, importers, other service providers, researchers, policy makers etc. from India and overseas.

Internationally acclaimed experts from India and abroad will address technical sessions on topics of current interest such as GST and its implications for Seafood Sector, Food Safety requirements in major markets, e-commerce, Seafood Certification, and price influencing factors in the demand and supply of seafood. A separate session on Indian – EU Shrimp Dialogue in association with the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands is also a part of the Show.

On January 28, 2018, MPEDA will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Coop, Switzerland, a supermarket chain with over 2500 stores, on developing organic seafood supply systems in India to be marketed through their stores.

The event will also showcase the latest strides in seafood export processing sector that shows continuous growth for over the last few years. The live fish display and product sales under the brand “Machilipatanam” by the research wing of MPEDA, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA) is an added attraction to the show.