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Palghar district, blessed with a vast coastline, offers abundant opportunities for the fishing industry. Its pristine waters teem with a diverse array of fish, making it an ideal hub for sourcing raw fish for export. Moreover, the district's expertise in drying fish showcases its ability to produce high-quality dry fish, which holds immense market value both domestically and internationally. This opens up avenues for export and establishes Palghar as a significant player in the global fish trade.

-Sunil R. Akrekar, Director, Fish Cluster Palghar Foundation

Palghar: Unlocking the Untapped Potential of Raw, Dry Fish, and Value-Added Fish Exports

Problem Statement



- ▶ Despite the abundance of fish caught in Palghar, a significant portion goes to waste, impacting economic and environmental sustainability.
- ▶ Addressing fish wastage in Palghar holds immense potential for boosting local economy and livelihoods & Innovative solutions and improved infrastructure can help reduce post-harvest losses and maximize the value of each catch.
- ▶ By minimizing fish wastage, Palghar can unlock its full potential as a vibrant hub for sustainable fisheries and contribute to food security and economic growth.

Key Intervention



- ▶ With a vast coastline spanning 120km, Palghar district is poised with immense potential for exporting raw, dry fish, and value-added fish products. To capitalize on this opportunity, a marine product cluster has been established in Tal. Vikramgad.
- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Panvel Khar Institute and CIEF Andheri is currently under process, aiming to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing.
- ▶ Soft intervention initiatives under the MSI-CDP (Marine Product Sector Infrastructure - Common Facility Development Programme) have been completed. This includes capacity building and trust building programs conducted by MCED, marketing and selling techniques training by MPEDA, and quality aspects and standards training by CIEF.
- ▶ Advanced technology training programs have been organized at CIFNET, Kochi, and NIFPHATT, Ernakulam, Kerala, providing specialized knowledge to 30 candidates in the month of May 2023.

Impact



- ▶ Value-added products of fish, such as fish cutting and cleaning services, training and manufacturing of value-added products, and dry fish packaging and marketing, have proven to be highly beneficial for economic development. Additionally, the nitrogen packing of crabs, Bombay duck, and prawns has further enhanced their market value, contributing to economic growth of Palghar district.