



# The Seafood Exporters Association of India

CIN: U91200KL1970NPL002301

'Seafood House', Willingdon Island, Kochi - 682 003, Kerala INDIA  
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April 4, 2022

Shri. Jatindra Nath Swain, IAS  
Secretary - Fisheries  
Department of Fisheries  
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying  
Krishi Bhawan, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Marg  
Rajpath Area, Central Secretariat  
New Delhi-110 001.

Respected Sir,

As you are aware, the SEAI has been supporting bringing sustainability to Indian fisheries by promoting the MSC certification (ecolabelling). To this end, the SEAI has financed the certification of nearly a dozen marine species caught by trawls in Kerala. These fisheries are now undergoing time-limited Fishery Improvement Programmes (FIP), where the gaps in reaching the full MSC certificate are addressed by multiple scientific and fishery management agencies.

In this context, the SEAI would like to use the services of the Fishery Survey of India (FSI) which is under your administrative control. The FSI's expertise and data holdings on the trawling grounds off Kerala are required to fulfil the requirement of habitat maps on vulnerable habitats/benthos that overlap with the footprint of the trawl fishery off Kerala.

Therefore, I request you to kindly permit us to collaborate with FSI and to enter into an MoU to carry out the work in a time-limited manner. I would like to thank the MoFAHD for all the support provided to SEAI for furthering the certification and sustainability of India's marine fisheries. Needless to say, this will help us to reach better and premium export markets for sustainable seafood.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

For THE SEAFOOD EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

A.J. THARAKAN  
CHAIRMAN, OCEAN CATCH COMMITTEE.

Copy:

1. Dr. Jujjavarapu Balaji, Joint Secretary (Fisheries), Dept. of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
2. Dr. R. Jeyabaskaran, Director General, Fishery Survey of India, 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr., Plot No. 2A, Unit No. 12, New Fishing Harbour, Sassoon Dock, Colaba, Mumbai-400 005.

NOO:cc: 1. M/s. Jagdish Fofandi / Alex Ninan / Mrs. Sibal / Ranjit Suseelan / Sunil Mohamed / Vineetha Aravind.  
2. MSC Members.