



# Capacity Building in Coastal Resource Management

**Fishermen  
Children  
Education  
Assistance Scheme**



Society of Integrated Coastal Management  
**Ministry of Environment and Forests**



## Foreword

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Fisheries are an important livelihood for 9 coastal states and 4 Union Territories of India. Traditional fishing communities have a deep knowledge and skill. In the area of marine conservation, protection of the critical habitats, harvesting the resources in a judicious and sustainable manner and also taking appropriate measures in safeguarding life during natural disasters. These they have inherited from their forefathers. However, these traditional skills and capacity of the fishing communities have been not been appropriately utilized in the area of coastal & marine management.

To develop skilled manpower and to utilize the traditional knowledge of the fishing communities in the area of coastal and marine resources management, Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM) proposes to provide educational assistance to children specially to those belonging to traditional fishing communities. This will provide a unique opportunity to develop human resources on a long-term basis that has both traditional and scientific knowledge in the area of coastal and marine management.

I am confident that this long-term investment in developing a cadre of empowered traditional youth from the fishing community will significantly contribute to the socio-economic upliftment of the coastal community as well as conservation of the marine resources across the country for effective coastal management practice in India.

I wish this programme all success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jairam Ramesh". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jairam Ramesh

# Background

## Fishermens' Children Education Assistance Scheme

Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM), Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) institutes a Capacity Development Scheme known as the "Fishermens' Children Education Assistance Scheme" for the children of families of fishermen living in Coastal States and Union Territories of India. The educational assistance is provided to pursue Bachelors' (or) Masters' degree in marine/coastal/fisheries major.

Five students (2 boys and 3 girls) for Bachelors' degree and 2 students (1 boy and 1 girl) for Masters' degree from each coastal state/ Union Territories will be provided financial assistance per year.

For the Bachelors' programme, Rs 1,500/pm for hostel fees and Rs 15,000/p.a. or the actual university fees shall be provided for a period of 3 years or the course period.

For the Masters' programme, Rs 2,000/pm for hostel fees and Rs. 20,000/p.a. tuition fees or on actual basis shall be provided for a period of 2 years.

The scheme will be implemented by SICOM with the support of nineteen host institutions; eleven cooperating institutions of National Centre of Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) and seven College of Fisheries located in the coastal States along with NCSCM, as the focal institute.

## Indicative Host Institutions

The current list of University/environmental schools/ institutions / organisations which will act as host institutions, is given below;

1. National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management
2. Centre for Studies on Bay of Bengal, Andhra University
3. University of Calcutta, West Bengal
4. Anna University, Tamil Nadu
5. M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Tamil Nadu
6. Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivandrum, Kerala
7. Pondicherry University, Puducherry
8. National Institute of Technology, Karnataka
9. University of Mumbai, Maharashtra
10. Goa University, Goa
11. Bhavnagar University, Gujarat
12. Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
13. College of Fisheries, Mangalore, Karnataka
14. College of Fisheries, Panangad, Kochi, Kerala
15. College of Fisheries Science, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
16. College of Fisheries, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu
17. College of Fisheries, Rangailuna, Behrampur, Orissa
18. College of Fisheries, Shirgaon, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra
19. College of Fisheries Science, Kulia, West Bengal

## **Eligibility Criteria for Selection**

1. The applicants should be a fishermen's children belonging to coastal states or Union Territories of India
2. Should have passed higher secondary or equivalent, for educational assistance for Bachelors' degree
3. Should have passed Bachelors' degree in science / engineering / management / art for educational assistance for Masters' degree
4. Upper age limit for financial assistance towards Bachelors' degree is 22 years. However, in exceptional cases a relaxation upto five years in accordance with the hosting institutional eligibility criteria of Bachelors' degree will be accepted
5. Upper age limit for financial assistance towards Masters' degree is 25 years. However, in exceptional cases a relaxation upto five years in accordance with the hosting institutional eligibility criteria of Masters' degree will be accepted.

## **Selection Process**

Every year, invitation for application will be published in websites of SICOM /MoEF, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management and all cooperating host institutions' website during May / June. Short notices of the above advertisement will be published in two national English dailies of the region during this period.

The applicants shall apply in the prescribed proforma given along with the advertisement. Selection committee of the indicative host institution including a member of National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management shall screen and select the candidate(s). The selection will be approved by SICOM to release the sanction.

## Budget

Total estimated expenditure for the above programme for the project period of 5 years is Rs. 3,60,36,000 /-. Breakup of the expenditure is given below;

Programmes	Year and Number of Students					
	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Bachelors' Degree	65	130	195	195	195	780
Masters' Degree	26	52	52	52	52	234
Estimated expenditure (Rs.)						
Bachelors' Degree	21,45,000	42,90,000	64,35,000	64,35,000	64,35,000	2,57,40,000
Masters' Degree	11,44,000	22,88,000	22,88,000	22,88,000	22,88,000	1,02,96,000

## Deliverables / Outcomes of the Programme

- The qualified pool of fishermen trained in the participating colleges would be able to communicate with their community regarding the benefits of integrated coastal management and its impact on conservation of marine and coastal resources
- A pool of qualified, motivated and eligible manpower from the fishing community for coastal management will be available
- There would be a visible improvement in the cooperation of coastal fishermen's participation in coastal management
- Traditional fishermen's knowledge on fishing and coastal management would be strengthened
- State level capacity on coastal management would be strengthened
- Awareness about the importance of integrated coastal management would be increased
- Skilled fishermen's manpower would be available for implementing coastal / marine schemes / programme

