CIFT director calls for upscaling of technologies

Institute to celebrate diamond jubilee on April 29

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The technologies developed by the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) are need-based, problem-oriented and with a futuristic outlook, but they need upscaling, its director C.N. Ravishankar said here on Tuesday.

Speaking at a meeting organised by the institute with various seafood industries ahead of its upcoming diamond jubilee celebrations on April 29, he said that there usually occurred a gap between research and their applicability, but CIFT technologies were largely lapped up by the seafood processing industries. The institute took the lead in developing start-up ventures in fish business through its agri-business unit and facilitates trial-run production and testing.

The meet highlighted a list of CIFT technologies that have been commercialised and those that are ready to follow suit. Various stakeholders in the fish sector including industrialists, scientists, emerging entrepreneurs, media and the public took part in the meeting.

Industrialist A.J. Tharakan highlighted the problems of seafood processing units in the context of market demand and export regulations in the fishery sector. He said there was a need to develop technologies for drying squid for enhancing export earnings.

National meet ends

Meanwhile, the national consultation meet on fisheries policy held here for the past two days ended on Tuesday. Stakeholders consisting of farmers, fishers, processors, government officials, researchers, bank officers and NABARD officers from across the country took part in the meet.