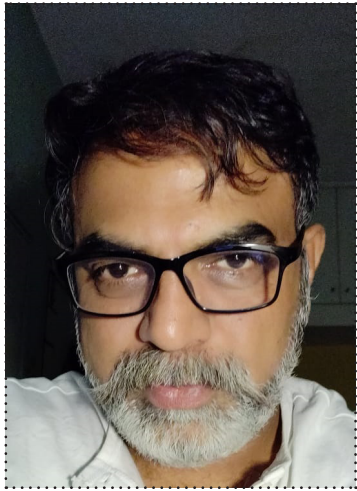




Blue Economy-Wave 30



Capt. Gajanan Karanjikar,
Blue Economy Social Activist
& Multi Modal Logistics
Expert

Way Forward:

- Formation of WGBE (Blue economy Working Group): Jakarta Declaration on blue economy emphasized on optimum use of existing financial instruments and also envisaged that the Blue Economy Development will



be strengthened with the establishment of the Blue Economy Working Group (WGBE).

- SAGAR: The current Indian efforts like SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and the port-led development through the Sagarmala project are the essential multi-pronged strategy in the right direction to revolutionize the blue economy, supporting and strengthening not only India but countries in the IOR.

- Net security provider: Assuming the role of 'net-security provider' is also a thoughtful and much-needed initiative.

(Series on “Blue Economy” By Capt. Gajanan Karanjikar)

Table : Tweaking the Indicators to Suit India

- Better governance: Besides, there is a need to formulate and strengthen the governance framework that should overarch the sub-regional and sectoral approaches encompassing marine areas, allocation of fishing rights, combating pollution, climate change mitigation, and other systemic issues, also reducing the policy overlaps.

- Enforcement: This should be coupled with strengthening monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. Ban on Destructive Fishing Methods
 - o Dynamite fishing
 - o Cyanide poisoning
 - o Pair trawling in GoM and Palk Bay
 - o Thalluvalai (minitrawl) in GoM and Palk Bay

- Infrastructure: Fish harvest distribution is difficult within India because of poor rural road infrastructure, lack of cold storage and absence of organized retail in most parts of the country.

- Need for assertive and proactive role: In China,

amongst the various sectors of the blue economy, the marine fishery accounts for the biggest employment generating sectors. China formulated “An Outline of the Planning of National Marine Economy Development” in 2003 that helped China to effectively tap in the values of marine economic activities. Bangladesh, Mauritius and Seychelles have been vocal and proactive about Blue Economy. For instance, as many as 30 million in Bangladesh are dependent on the sea for a livelihood, engaged in fishing and commercial transportation.

Although it is at the early stages, the Blue Economy is a high priority on its national agenda. Similar thrust is paramount in the Indian scenario. Further, the coastal population of India is bigger than the population of entire South America. Yet, global discussions on the resources of the ocean are led by the small island states indicating the need for an assertive and proactive role by India.

As per NFDB (National Fisheries development board) giving due credit to Blue economy

states, Blue Revolution (Neel Kranti Mission) has the vision to achieve economic prosperity of the country and the fishers and fish farmers as well as contribute towards food and nutritional security through full potential utilization of water resources for fisheries development in a sustainable manner, while keeping in view the bio-security and environmental concerns. The Neel Kranti Mission will have multi-dimensional approach to all activities concerned with development of the fisheries sector as a modern world-class industry in India. It will focus on tapping the full production potential and substantially enhance productivity from aquaculture and fisheries resources, both inland and marine. It will ensure doubling the income of the fishers and fish farmers with inclusive participation of the socio-economically weaker sections and ensure sustainability with environment and bio-security. It is targeted to achieve an annual production of 15.00 million metric tonnes by 2020. The key goal would be to substantially increase the share of Indian fisheries in the export market.

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