

IFT Expo 2025: Catalyzing India's Blue Economy Through Innovation and Sustainability

The International Fishery Tech Expo (IFT Expo) 2025 marked a defining moment for India's fisheries and aquaculture sectors by hosting the nation's first-ever dedicated fishery technology showcase inaugurated by Maharashtra Ports Development Minister Nitesh Narayan Rane. Held from June 12 to 13, 2025, at the Bombay Exhibition Center in Mumbai, the two-day event symbolized India's strong commitment to building a future-ready, technology-driven Blue Economy.

IFT Expo 2025 served as a convergence point for a diverse array of stakeholders across the fisheries value chain, including fish producers, aquaculture entrepreneurs, seafood processors, exporters, importers, research institutions, investors, and technology providers. This landmark expo aimed to drive innovation, encourage investment, and promote sustainable practices in marine and inland fisheries.

The exhibition showcased a broad spectrum of products, services, and technological innovations under key categories such as fishing vessels and modern equipment, advanced aquaculture technologies, seafood processing and value addition, packaging solutions, cold chain and storage systems, logistics, and digital tools for fisheries management.

Live demonstrations were a key attraction, offering attendees an interactive experience with the latest advancements in automation, drone-based aquaculture monitoring, IoT-driven water quality management, and smart feed delivery systems. The expo provided exhibitors a platform to highlight not only product innovation but also integrated solu-



tions aimed at improving efficiency, traceability, environmental compliance, and profitability within the sector.

One of the standout themes of IFT Expo 2025 was its focus on sustainability and responsible fisheries development. The event spotlighted various government initiatives and policy interventions aimed at conserving marine biodiversity while enhancing livelihoods.

This aligned with India's broader marine conservation goals and reflected a balanced approach to increasing productivity without compromising ecological integrity.

Exhibitors also showcased climate-resilient aquaculture models, organic feed alternatives, and eco-friendly processing systems that support low-carbon growth in fisheries.

Complementing the exhibition was the Knowledge Symposium, a high-level forum that featured expert talks, panel discussions, and round-tables involving national and international thought leaders.

Topics included sustainable aquaculture practices, fishery digitization, post-harvest innovation, global seafood market trends, blue financing mechanisms, and the role of artificial intelligence in fisheries resource

management.

These sessions fostered collaborative dialogue between policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and coastal community representatives. Importantly, the expo's timing coincided with the announcement of the Union Budget 2025–26, which earmarked a significant financial allocation to the fisheries sector, underlining the government's prioritization of the industry.

IFT Expo 2025 was supported by key government departments and leading industry associations, making it a flagship event for accelerating India's position in the global seafood industry.

With seafood exports already exceeding Rs.64,000 crore in FY2023–24, the expo aimed to further strengthen India's export competitiveness, promote domestic entrepreneurship, and encourage the adoption of sustainable technologies across coastal and inland fisheries.

By bridging innovation, investment, and policy, IFT Expo 2025 set the stage for the next era of smart, inclusive, and sustainable growth in India's fisheries sector, firmly positioning the country as a rising global hub in marine and aquaculture innovation.