

CIFNET - Functions

Realising the urgent need and importance of organising suitable fisheries training institute at the national level to meet the demands of Fishing Industry, the Government of India established the Central Institute of Fisheries Operatives (subsequently renamed as the Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training - CIFNET) in 1963 at Kochi to meet the statutory manning requirements of deep sea fishing vessels as laid down in the Merchant Shipping Act (1958) and skilled personnel required by the supporting shore installations. The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act 1987 stipulated that all fishing vessels with mechanical propulsion are required to be manned by duly certificated personnel capable of effectively handling the type and class of vessels readily available to increase marine productivity. Two units of the Institute were set up at Chennai in 1968 and at Visakhapatnam in 1981 to cater to the increased demands of trained manpower in the country.

CIFNET is the only National institute of its kind in the country to meet the training requirements of technical and certificated personnel such as Skippers, Mates, Engineers, Engine Drivers of powered fishing vessels as stipulated in the M.S. (Amendment) Act. 1987. CIFNET is also responsible for developing the required technical manpower for supporting shore establishments and for the effective operation of fishing vessels. The various short-term courses conducted by the Institute covering an integrated multidisciplinary area of Fishing Technology, Nautical Science and Marine Engineering has benefited personnel working in International Institutions and various organisations under the Central/State Government departments, colleges and other Public/Private sector establishments.

Objectives of CIFNET

- To create technical manpower for the operation of ocean going fishing vessels.
- To create manpower to run the shore establishments that supports the operation of ocean going fishing vessels.
- To create teachers for Fishermen Training Centres run by the maritime states and Union Territories.
- To conduct various refresher training programmes for the Vessel operatives and shore technicians/ managers.
- To provide technical consultancy services in all matters concerning marine fishing with special reference to technical manpower requirements.
- To help developing nations in the South-East Asia, Middle-East and Africa regions to create technical manpower for the operation of their fishing fleets and running of the supporting shore establishments.
- To develop and popularise appropriate fishery technology through short-term courses for the growth of marine fisheries.

Organisation set up of CIFNET

CIFNET Head Quarters at Kochi has 3 Technical Divisions and an Administration Section. Technical divisions are Seamanship & Navigation, Craft & Gear and Marine Engineering. Seamanship & Navigation and Craft & Gear Division are Headed by Chief Instructors and Marine Engineering Division is Headed by Mechanical Marine Engineer. Administration Section is Headed by Sr. Administrative Officer. Sr. Administrative Officer is also functioning as Drawing and Disbursing Officer. All Division Heads and Sr. Administrative Officer are controlled by Director who is the Head of the Department.

Training Facilities

CIFNET at its HQ and Units have well equipped facilities for imparting training in Fisheries Technology. The training programmes and other activities of the Institute are implemented through the following divisions/ sections.

Seamanship & Navigation Division	Dealing with Seamanship and Navigation, Marine Meteorology etc.
Marine Engineering Division	Dealing with Marine Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Refrigeration, Hydraulics etc.; maintenance and repairs of the fishing vessels, equipments and machinery.
Fishing Technology Division (Erstwhile Craft and Gear Division)	Dealing with Fishing Gear Technology, Fishing Gear Materials, Design and Fishing Techniques and deck equipments.
Training Section	Dealing with programming and conduct of various Training courses, post institutional training, examinations, in employment guidance etc.
Information and Publication Section	Making of various CIFNET Publications
Library Section	Providing Library services to the students and the staff