



विदेश मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



BIMSTEC-India Marine Research Network (BIMReN) First Regional Partners Conclave

04 - 06 November 2025

ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research institute (CMFRI), Kochi



On the Sidelines of



MECOS 4

THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

4 - 6 November 2025, ICAR-CMFRI, Kochi



MECOS 4

THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

4 - 6 November 2025, ICAR-CMFRI, Kochi

Inauguration of MECOS 4

Provisional Agenda

04 November 2025

0930-1730 hrs

1000-1005	ICAR song and CMFRI Song	
1005-1010	Inauguration by Lighting the Lamp	
1010-1015	Welcome Address & Honouring the Chief Guest and other Dignitaries	Dr. Grinson George <i>Director, ICAR-CMFRI, Kochi</i> <i>Convenor, MECOS 4</i>
1015-1025	BIMReN Overview	Dr. P. Krishnan <i>Director, BOBP-IGO, Chennai</i>
1025-1030	Address by Guest of Honour	Dr. Cherdsak Virapat <i>Executive Director, IITP</i> <i>Former DG, NACA & UN-CIRDAP</i>
1030-1035	Address by Guest of Honour	Dr. Bijay Kumar Behera, ARS <i>Chief Executive NFDB</i>
1035-1040	Address by Guest of Honour	Amb. CSR Ram, IFS <i>Jt. Secretary (BIMSTEC & SAARC),</i> <i>MEA, Govt. of India</i>
1040-1045	Address by Guest of Honour	Shri Dodda Venkata Swamy, IAS <i>Chairman, MPEDA</i>
1045-1100	Presidential Address	Dr. J.K. Jena <i>DDG (Fisheries Science & Education)</i>
1100-1115	Inaugural Address	Dr. S. Somnath <i>Vikram Sarabhai Distinguished Professor</i> <i>& Former Chairman, ISRO</i>
1115-1120	Announcement of Award	Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan <i>Former Director, ICAR-CMFRI</i> <i>& Immediate Past President, MBAI</i> <i>& Former Chairman, ISRO</i>
1120-1125	Presentation of Dr. S. Jones Prize	
1125-1130	Release of Publications & Products	
1130-1135	Vote of Thanks	Dr. Rekha J. Nair <i>Principal Scientist, ICAR-CMFRI &</i> <i>Organizing Secretary MECOS 4</i>
1135-1137	National Anthem	
1140-1145	Inauguration of Fisheries and Agricultural Expo	
1145-1330	BIMREeN First Regional Partners Conclave	
1330-1430	Lunch Break	
1430-1730	MECOS Technical Sessions & Other Side Events	

04 - 06 Nov 2025

*Researchers from BIMSTEC countries participate in MECOS 4; Visit labs based on Kochi;
Network with fellow researchers for future collaborations.*



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Provisional Agenda

04 November 2025

1145-1330 hrs

1145-1200	Welcome & Opening Remarks BIMReN Overview: Progress So far and Proposals for Future	Dr. Grinson George <i>Director, ICAR-CMFRI</i> Dr. P. Krishnan <i>Director, BOBP-IGO, Chennai</i>
1200-1240	Presentation by the BIMReN Partners Brief progress and aspirations of the collaborators; opportunities unfolded by the BIMREN platform	<i>Researchers from Lead Institutes in India & Partners from Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh</i>
1240-1250	Interactions: Eminent Fisheries Scientists participating MECOS 4; Task Force Members of BOBP-BIMREN representing Research & Academic Institutions from India & from the Region	<i>All concerned & Senior officials from Govt of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand</i>
1250-1325	Special Remarks (a) Strategies for Strengthening Research Cooperation in the Region (b) Breaking Boundaries - ICAR Spearheading the Cooperation Drive (c) BIMREN in the Emerging Regional Scenario and Opportunities for Scaleup	Dr. Cherdsak Virapat <i>Ex-DG, NACA & Ex-DG, CIRDAP</i> Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan <i>Former Director, ICAR-CMFRI</i> Dr. J.K. Jena <i>DDG (Fy), ICAR, New Delhi</i> Amb. CSR Ram, IFS <i>Jt. Secretary (BIMSTEC & SAARC), MEA, Govt. of India</i>
1325-1330	Closing Remarks	Dr. P. Krishnan <i>Director, BOBP-IGO, Chennai</i>



BIMSTEC-India Marine Research Network (BIMReN)

BIMReN, a joint initiative by the Ministry of External Affairs of India (MEA) and the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO), is a platform for facilitating collaboration among the researchers in the Bay of Bengal Region, for sustainable development of blue economy by networking the researchers in the BIMSTEC Member Countries.

The BIMReN has the following two components:

1. **BIMReN Split-site Fellowship** is for doctoral candidates from BIMSTEC countries to undertake part of their PhD research in Indian Universities and Research Institutions.
2. **BIMReN Twinning Research Project Grant** is a Small Grant Scheme that aims at facilitating collaborations between institutions and individuals with expertise in fisheries/marine/ocean sciences from BIMSTEC Member Countries, to implement research programs of regional interest. This component has an inherent provision for 12 person-months of faculty exchange, wherein four project partners shall undertake 3 months of research in the labs of their BIMSTEC counterparts.



Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation

91 St. Mary's Road, Chennai - 600 018, India. Tel: +91 44 42040024

Email: info@bobbigo.org | www.bobbigo.org