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Review fisheries sops: NITI Aayog advisor

OUR BUREAU

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Ashok Jain, Advisor to the NITI Aayog, has called for reviewing some subsidies in the marine fisheries sector as a primary step to effectively manage marine resources.

The impact of various types of subsidies should be analysed prior to formulating a sustainable marine ecosystem management, he said at the opening session of a two-day national workshop on inclusive management of marine ecosystems at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute.

The subsidies, which are leading to overfishing or illegal fishing, should be eliminated for the sustainable development of marine fisheries, he added.

Referring to the delay by States in implementing the latest technologies, he said the NITI Aayog would send

directions regarding this to the States directly. "India is committed to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) set by the UN. We have to look into the possibilities of sustainable marine tourism towards achieving the SDG-14, which is related to ocean resources," he said.

A Gopalakrishnan, CMFRI Director, stressed on the need to sustainably manage marine resources. Globally, the market value of marine and coastal resources and industries is estimated at \$ 3 trillion per year, which is 5 per cent of global GDP.

The workshop is being jointly organised by the NITI Aayog, CMFRI and the WWF-India.

Experts who spoke at the workshop stressed on the need for positive incentives such as green certification to promote sustainable practices in the fisheries sector.