

Participatory management to overhaul fisheries sector

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

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Participatory management councils, envisaged in the amended Kerala Marine Fisheries Regulation Act, will play a crucial role in re-vamping the fisheries management system in the State, according to experts.

Marine scientists, who spoke at a workshop on scientific management of marine fisheries held at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)

here on Tuesday, observed that the proposed management councils would ensure involvement of all the stakeholders, including fishermen.

Sunil Mohamed, principal scientist at the CMFRI, said the councils would open a platform for dialogues and discussions to take decisions on a particular issue in democratic way.

“This participatory management will address the requirements for sustainabili-

ty, equity and efficiency in fisheries and coastal resources management,” he said.

The management council, which was included in the Act following a proposal from the CMFRI, would function as a three-tier system at the village, district and State levels. The council would represent fishermen, government officials, boat owners, boat builders, fish traders, NGOs, and scientists.