

Two-Day Workshop on Advances in Marine Macroalgal Research for Functional Food and Nutraceutical Development

*Funded by ICAR-Norman Borlaug
Challenge Research Project
(2025-2026)*

25th – 26th September, 2025



ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)
Post Box No. 1603, Ernakulam North P.O., Kochi-682 018
Kerala, India

Background

A two-day workshop titled "Advances in Marine Macroalgal Research for Functional Food and Nutraceutical Development" will be organized under the ICAR-Norman Borlaug Challenge Research Project in the Marine Biotechnology, Fish Nutrition and Health Division of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute. The workshop, scheduled for 25th–26th September 2025, aims to build capacity and promote translational research in the domain of marine macroalgae and their applications in health and nutrition. This scientific program will include lectures and practical sessions focusing on the bioprospecting of seaweeds for bioactive compounds. The course is tailored to highlight recent advancements and opportunities in the development of marine-derived high-value products for the management of lifestyle-related diseases. In alignment with national goals on health and nutrition, this workshop will serve as a platform to foster innovation and academic–industry collaboration in the field of marine algal biotechnology.

Two-day workshop for faculties

This two-day workshop, organized under the ICAR-Norman Borlaug Challenge Research Project, is intended for faculty members (25 in number) from nearby academic and research institutions in the fields of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Marine Biology, Biotechnology, Food Science, Chemistry, and Life Sciences (including Botany and Zoology). The focus is on building capacity in marine macroalgal research for functional food development to address lifestyle diseases.

Participants will gain exposure to advanced methods in extraction of bioactive compounds from seaweeds and training in characterization techniques and bioprocessing strategies. Eligible candidates should hold a Master's degree in the relevant disciplines and be actively engaged in teaching, research, or extension work. Preference will be given to those holding the rank of Assistant Professor or higher, and to candidates with demonstrated interest or experience in seaweed products, nutraceuticals, or macroalgae-based biotechnological applications.

A maximum of 25 participants will be selected based on academic background, area of specialization, and relevance to the workshop theme.

A glance of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) and Marine Biotechnology Fish Nutrition and Health (MBFNH) Division

During the course of over 75 years, ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has emerged as a leading tropical marine fisheries research institute in the world. Marine Biotechnology, Fish Nutrition and Health (MBFNH) Division has the mandate to work in the frontier areas of bioactive compound discovery from seaweeds, and high value nutraceutical products for use as dietary supplements and health management. The research theme in the division is working on broad national interest of producing marine bioactive compounds/high value nutraceuticals from seaweeds which will provide us promising therapeutic agents against various diseases.



About the Two-day Workshop

This two-day workshop titled “Advances in Marine Macroalgal Research for Functional Food and Nutraceutical Development” will be conducted on 25th–26th September 2025 under the ICAR Norman Borlaug Challenge Research Project by the Marine Biotechnology, Fish Nutrition and Health Division, ICAR–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi.

The workshop focuses on building capacity and promoting translational research in the field of marine macroalgae and their applications in health and nutrition. It includes lectures and training sessions on bioprospecting of seaweeds for bioactive compounds and their role in managing lifestyle-related diseases. The program aims to support national goals in health, nutrition, and innovation through academic and industry collaboration.

Topics under Discussion

- To evaluate the nutritional and associated health properties of the seaweed/marine macroalgal species for promotion as healthy seafood.
- Extraction, purification, and functional assessment of seaweed-derived pharmacophores
- Marine polysaccharides in the prevention and management of lifestyle diseases
- Bioprocessing and characterization strategies for algal compounds

Faculty

Faculty will comprise leading experts, teachers, scientists and researchers in the field of specialization who have experience in research/teaching in relation to seaweeds, nutraceutical, lifestyle diseases and macroalgal compounds

Important dates:

Last date for receipt of nomination : 15th September 2025
Last date of confirmation of candidates : 18th September 2025

Candidates who wish attend the workshop may send an email to cmfrichallenge@gmail.com along with their brief biodata on or before September 15th 2025

Program Coordinator:

Dr. Kajal Chakraborty

PI of ICAR Norman Borlaug Challenge Research Project & Director
ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources
Lucknow
Phone No. 91 8921985355
Email: kajalchakraborty@cmfri@gmail.com

Dr. Adnan H. Gora

Scientist & Co-principal investigator
ICAR Norman Borlaug Challenge Research Project
ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Post Box No. 1603, Ennakulam North P.O., Kochi 682018, Kerala

Contact details:

Dr. Adnan H. Gora

ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Phone: +91-6006458410
Email: adnan.gora@icar.org.in
goraadnan@gmail.com

Contact of Associates:

Bhagyashree 9526302166
Shifa Jalal 7902790605
Chaithanya Bose 9961323783

Patron:

Dr. Grinson George

Director
ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Post Box No. 1603
Ennakulam North P.O.
Kochi-682 018, Kerala, India

Research Scholars

Shifa Jalal
Bhagyashree Bhat
Chaithanya Bose
Shilpa K. Pai
Ans Mariya George
Theresa Thankachan
Silpa KP
Ashwin A. Pai
Anoop P. Vijay
Qurat ul Ain

Technical Assistant

Keerthy Krishna

