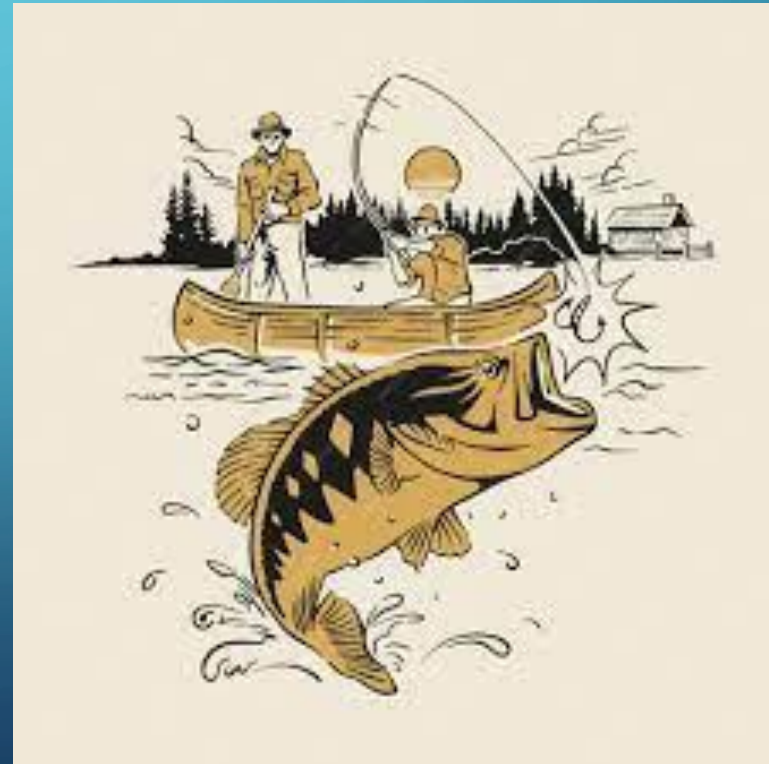


CHALLENGES IN MARINE FISHING SECTOR

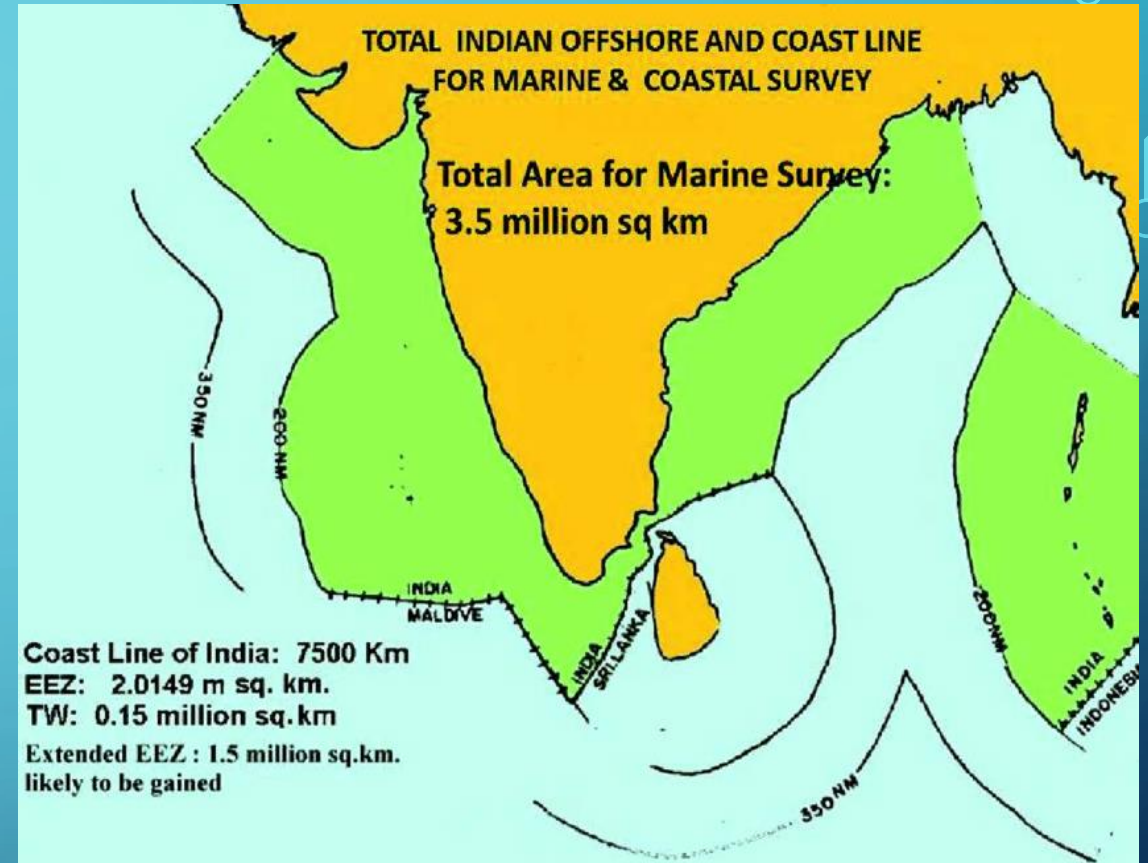
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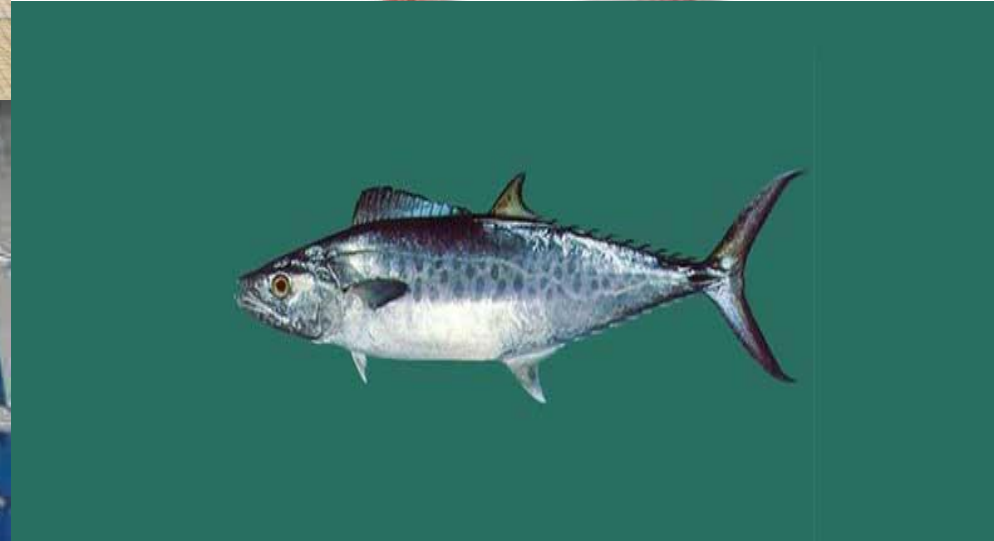
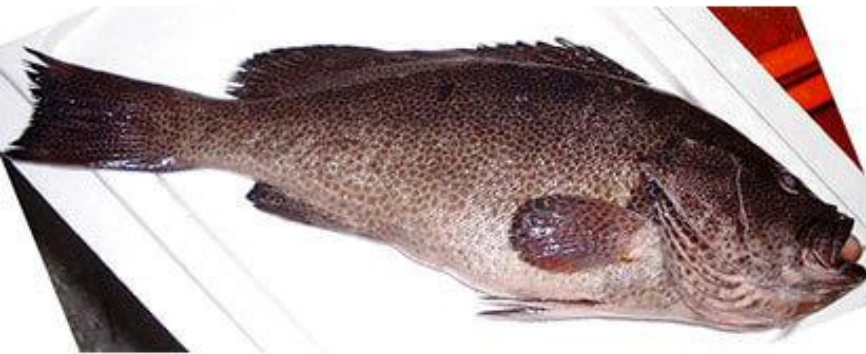
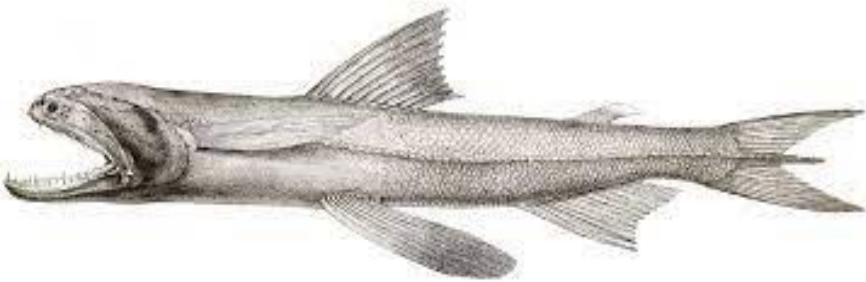
INDIA'S BLESSED GEOGRAPHY

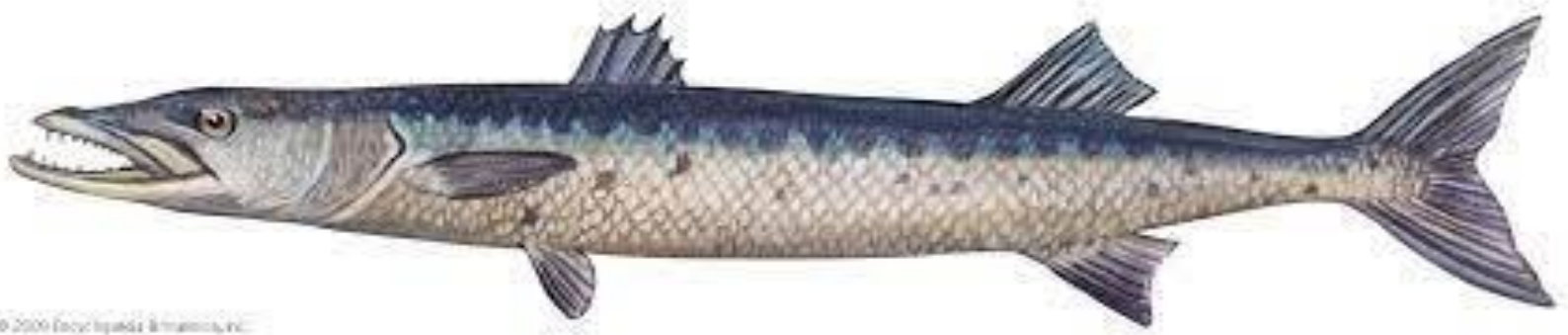


- INDIA HAS ONE OF THE LARGEST COASTLINES IN THE WORLD OF APPROXIMATELY 7500KMs.
- THIS IS THE GREATEST BLESSING THE MARINE FISHING SECTOR IN INDIA POSSESSES.
- IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT WE WOULD HAVE A WIDE VARIETY OF MARINE RESOURCES.



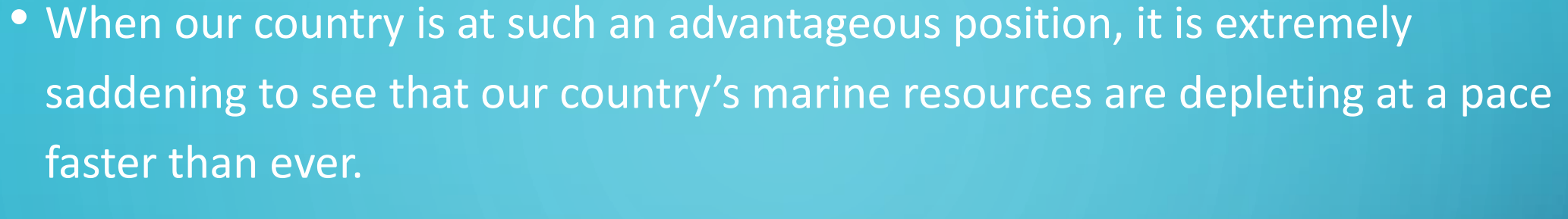
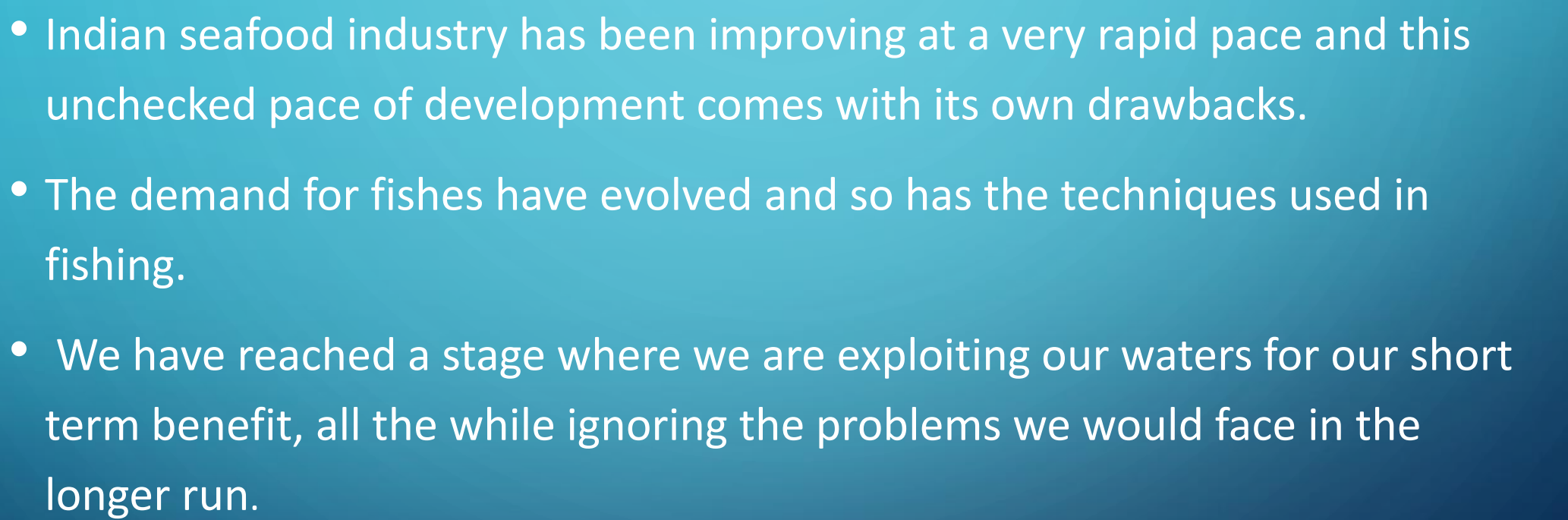
INDIAN VARIETIES





Source: Seafish Image



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- When our country is at such an advantageous position, it is extremely saddening to see that our country's marine resources are depleting at a pace faster than ever.
 - Indian seafood industry has been improving at a very rapid pace and this unchecked pace of development comes with its own drawbacks.
 - The demand for fishes have evolved and so has the techniques used in fishing.
 - We have reached a stage where we are exploiting our waters for our short term benefit, all the while ignoring the problems we would face in the longer run.
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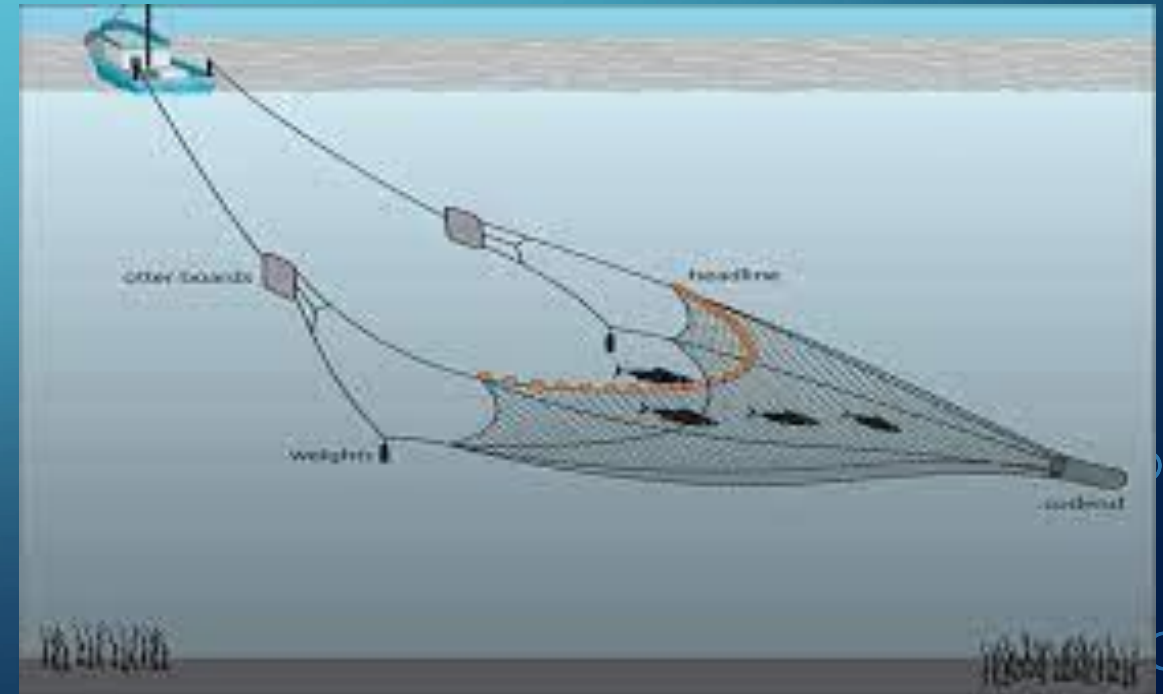
- The Indian coastline, a few decades back was rich in various species of marine life, and up until few years back it boasted of exports of various varieties of fishes, which unfortunately is not the case today.
- Earlier, species like Kingfish, Pomfret, Snapper, Black pomfret, Ribbonfish, Trevally, Reef cod, Cuttlefish, Squid, etc were all available in huge volumes and were being exported by the companies along the coastline.
- But today, all that is remaining in sizeable quantity is mackerel, and squid and cuttlefish to a lesser extent with small sizes.
- All other varieties of fishes have now been reduced to rare varieties, which were earlier very commonly available.

- The primary reason for the case stated above is '**JUVENILE FISHING**'.
- It's a practise that has evolved into the Indian fishing methods, which has proven disastrous to not only the ecosystem, but to everyone that are associated with the fishing industry.

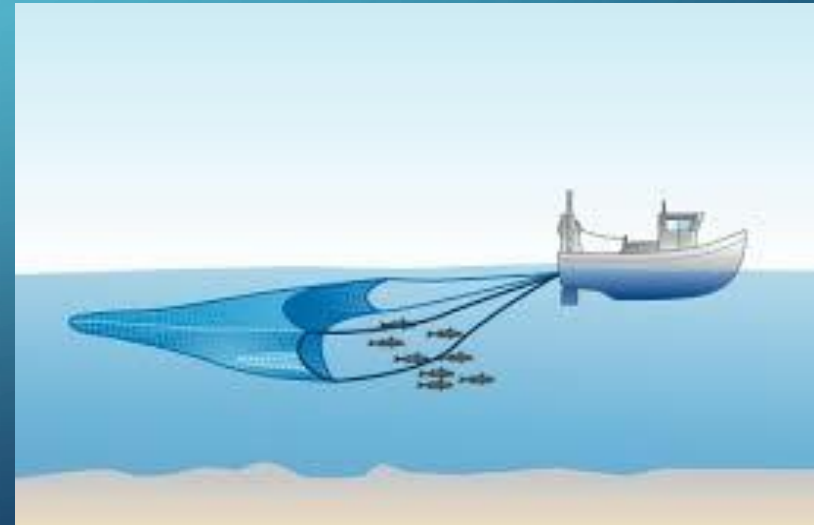


- It is imperative to understand that the small fishes caught are the ones that will grow into big fishes which will be multiple times its size (Quantity) and produce offsprings of its own.
- Today, on any average day during the fishing season, there's between 1000 – 2000 tonnes of juvenile fish caught in just the two states of Kerala and Karnataka.
- If the government does not intervene, this figure will very soon move to 10000 – 20000 tonnes in a very short period of time. That would mean the complete destruction of the sea, its ecosystem and every single party that is associated with it.

- The High speed trawlers of “Muttam, Colachel, Munambam, Beypore, Mangalore and Malpe harbours are the main culprits of this merciless destruction of marine eco system.
- For every day it goes unchecked, we lose a part of our marine life that shall never come back.



- In the earlier days, there were lesser factories that processed fish, and hence there was more fish in the sea.
- But with time, as the number of factories started rising, the demand for it escalated too, that led to greater amount of fishing and in turn dangerous methods of fishing too.
- The practises of fishing turned to be more dangerous with time.
- The practise of **high speed trawling** combined with the introduction of **smaller mesh size** and **diamond shape nets**, resulted major catch of **Juveniles and Trash fishes**, which are very sensitive in the marine ecosystem.



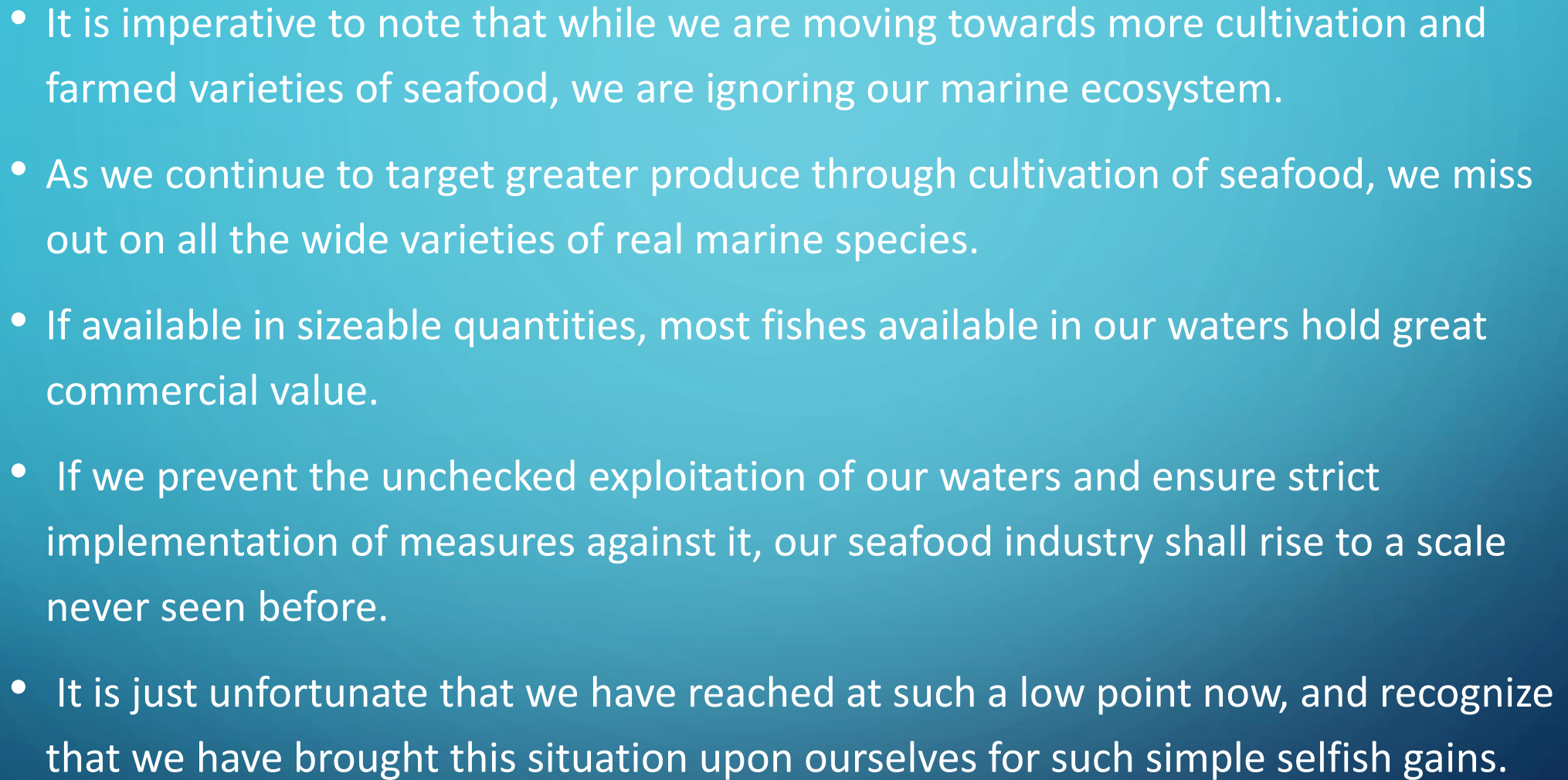
TRASH FISHING

- This has to be the most destructive form of fishing we have ever seen.
- In earlier days, boats would sell excess fishes not fit for human consumption to fishmeal factories.
- But with rise in demand for fishmeal, now boats go fishing exclusively for such varieties of fish.
- This has caused unimaginable destruction as these fishes are often the primary backbone for the sustenance of the marine ecosystem.
- These fishes play a role in providing and maintaining the balance of nature in the sea and fishing them will lead to total destruction of the oceans and seas.



SHIFT TO FARMED FISHES

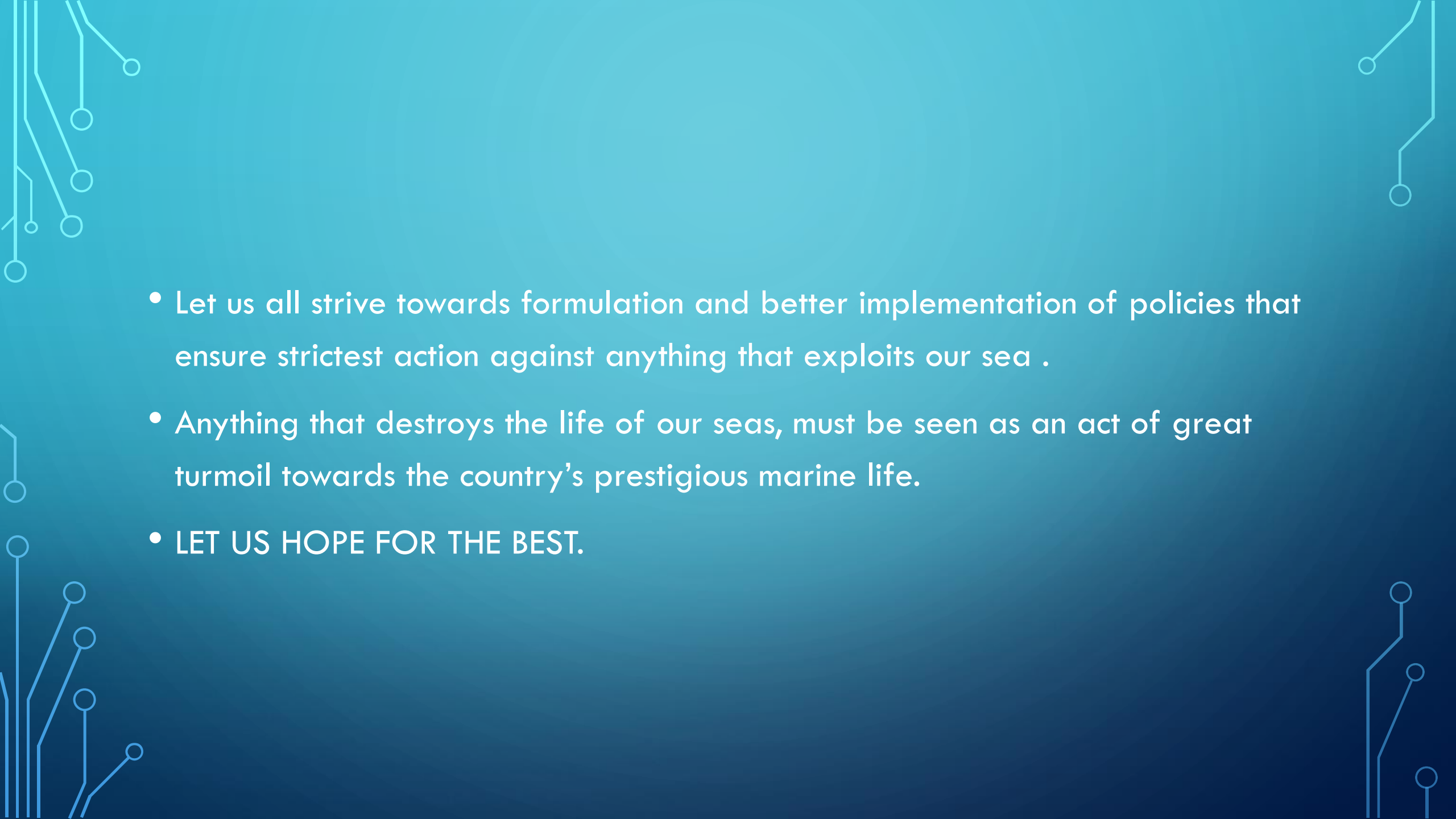
- It is quite unfortunate that we are now focusing on cultivation of fishes on farms, rather than preserving them in their habitat.
- Fishes from the sea are the most valuable and no farmed varieties can compete with that.
- Indian fishes have very high demand all over the world but there is no sufficient quantity left in the sea anymore. The abundance of every variety is long gone.
- It is the need of the hour that this be prevented and we focus on replenishing our seas with what belongs to the sea.

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- The image features a dark teal background with decorative white circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines consist of straight segments connected by small circles, resembling a network or data flow diagram. The lines are positioned in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners, framing the central text area.
- It is imperative to note that while we are moving towards more cultivation and farmed varieties of seafood, we are ignoring our marine ecosystem.
 - As we continue to target greater produce through cultivation of seafood, we miss out on all the wide varieties of real marine species.
 - If available in sizeable quantities, most fishes available in our waters hold great commercial value.
 - If we prevent the unchecked exploitation of our waters and ensure strict implementation of measures against it, our seafood industry shall rise to a scale never seen before.
 - It is just unfortunate that we have reached at such a low point now, and recognize that we have brought this situation upon ourselves for such simple selfish gains.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE!

- Ban the practice of bull trawling.
- Implement strict measures on mesh size and design.
- Juvenile fishing needs to be prosecuted.
- Complete ban on fishing exclusively for trash fishes.
- Implement minimum size requirements for fishes that can be caught.



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- The background is a dark teal gradient. In the corners, there are decorative white line-art elements resembling circuit boards or neural networks, with lines connecting to small circles.
- Let us all strive towards formulation and better implementation of policies that ensure strictest action against anything that exploits our sea .
 - Anything that destroys the life of our seas, must be seen as an act of great turmoil towards the country's prestigious marine life.
 - LET US HOPE FOR THE BEST.



Thank
YOU!

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