RECOMMENDATIONS
It is evident from the present study that economic growth, population pressure and changes in the dietary pattern have contributed to the increase in demand for fish in India. In addition, fisheries provide maximum employment in the primary sector and form the major source of income and livelihood security. The results of the present study also reveal that motorization and mechanization of fishing craft has brought some serious consequences such as over exploitation, increase in number of craft, dwindling catches/landings and many other coastal issues that have created a threat to the fisher folk livelihood.

Concomitantly, women play a key role in the development of fisheries sector in addition to their role of sole household managers in most fisher families. The social mobilization process taken by Indira Kranthi Patham (IKP) project on pilot basis encouraged fisher women to work together by sharing common interests for the development of their own community. IKP is addressing several issues through Self Help Group (SHG) linkage - A vital instrument to combat poverty and step into the fold of social alleviation.

Keeping abreast of the onGovernment of India trends of traditional and mechanized fishing sector vis-a-vis with livelihood linkage and social alleviation, the following recommendations are made for further progress of the sector in the long run:

- Intensive surveys particularly on marine fishery resource assessment both in inshore as well as off-shore area of the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- As a first step for rebuilding stocks, trawl effort has to be reduced in mechanized sector.
- Optimum exploitation of marine resources through a judicious mix of traditional country boats, mechanized boats and deep-sea fishing vessels.
- Providing subsidies to poor fishermen for motorizing their traditional craft which increases the fishing area and the frequency of operation with a consequent increase in catch and earnings of fishermen.
• Diesel oil subsidy for motorized and mechanized fishing craft has to be judiciously implemented to encourage the fisher folk to reduce their operational cost.

• Providing adequate landing and berthing facilities to fishing vessels by completing the onGovernment of Indiang construction of major and minor fishing harbours.

• By-catch reduction requires immediate attention. Discards from the mechanized trawlers should be properly processed.

• Infrastructure development and improved post-harvest management particularly for supply of quality fish/fishery products.

• Strict enforcement of Andhra Pradesh Marine Fishing Regulation Act in implementation of the legal cod-end mesh sizes in trawls would particularly help in preventing growth overfishing and restoration of stocks.

• Improving marketing particularly by the fisherwomen i.e. members of Self Help Groups (SHGs).

• Tapping the vast potential for export of marine products i.e. Indigenous value added products prepared by fisherwomen.

• Fisherwomen(members of SHG’s) to be encouraged to start fresh fish retail outlets with novel fishery products like ready to eat and Ready to eat products.

• Fisherwomen to be encouraged to take up preparation of value added products as demanded at local markets.

• Identification of new forms of livelihood in coastal villages, especially for women and youth. Prepare projects for pilot testing of alternatives identified.

• Implementation of the code of conduct for responsible fisheries thereby inculcating among the fishers the benefit of the code.

• Community participation in the management of marine fisheries should be introduced and given much priority.

• As fisheries form the main source of income to the vast majority of coastal communities, experts in capture fisheries, including socio-economic
experts, should be included in the preparation of coastal zone management and development plans and strategic planning has to be chalked out for proper marine fisheries development in the district, state as well in the country.

- Ensuring adequate linkages between different developmental organisations and harnessing their efforts would help the fisherfolk enjoy the fruits of various developmental programmes designed by the government for this sector.

- Involvement of middle persons who incur exorbitant price spreads during the marketing process has to be curtailed to the maximum extent possible. Empowering the cooperatives of fishers and equipping them with legal authority and facilities to procure fish and market fish would bring about positive results.

- A lack of credit facilities is yet another problem that hinders development in this sector. Liberal policies that would enable the fisherfolk to get credit at lower interest rates would speed up motorization and eventually improve their socioeconomic status. Making people aware of the importance of prompt repayment of loans is very important, since this is a reason widely quoted by the money-lending agencies to turn down loan requests of fishers.

- More welfare schemes exclusively catering to the needs of different socioeconomic groups of the fisherfolk, viz. women, backward communities, schedule caste, etc., are to be instituted.

- Complementary and supplementary activities such as aquaculture, poultry and livestock rearing, would help fisherfolk increase their income.

- A scientific and objective review of the onGovernment of Indiang developmental programmes needs to be conducted. The lacunae noted by the implementing agencies at different levels have to be sorted out in consultation with experts and the beneficiaries from the concerned mechanized as well as traditional sectors duly giving importance to fisher women.
“Sustainable development is the management and conservation of the natural resource base and the orientation of technological and institutional change in such a manner as to ensure the attainment and continued satisfaction of human needs for present and future generations”. It is hoped that this study will help the fishing communities along the coast of Andhra Pradesh state, India in general and East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh in particular to adhere to rational exploitation of fishery resource and strive in the long run for a decent living with better social living standards.