

## **Hon'ble MP , Kerala Shri. Benny Behanan inaugurates CIFT-Solar Hybrid Dryer with LPG back-up at Peringala, Ernakulam**

In India, out of the total fish production of 10 million metric tonnes, 20-30 % is dried or processed for export and local markets. Sun drying (open air drying) is the traditional method employed in most parts of the country to dry fishery products. But it offers inferior quality dried products due to its dependence of weather conditions and vulnerability to the attack of dust, dirt, rains, insects, pests, and microorganisms. To overcome the limitations observed, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin has developed low cost, energy efficient and eco-friendly solar dryers for hygienic and quality drying of fish. The developed dryers are available in various capacities and models and having LPG, biomass or electricity as alternate back up heating source for continuous hygienic drying of fish even under unfavourable weather conditions. CIFT developed eco-friendly and energy efficient solar hybrid dryers are gaining attraction among fishermen community and dry fish business start-ups. Being a clean, green and affordable technology, many fishers, fisherwomen and entrepreneurs have taken up dryfish production using solar hybrid dryers.

Shri. Anesh Pareed, Peringala, Cochin, a small scale entrepreneur and an incubate of CIFT ABI has installed a solar hybrid dryer with LPG back-up for the production of dried shrimp hygienically. This dryer was inaugurated on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Peringala, Cochin by Shri. Benny Behanan (MP, Chalakudy constituency) in the presence of Shri. V. K. Sajeendran (MLA, Kunnathunadu), Dr. C.N. Ravishankar (Director, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin), Dr. Manoj P Samuel (Principal Scientist and Head, Engineering Division, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin), Dr. A.K. Mohanty (Principal Scientist and Head, EIS Division, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin) Dr. George Ninan (Principal Scientist and In-charge, ABI, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin), other officials from ICAR-CIFT, Cochin. Members from Kunnathunad Grama Panchayat and public in large numbers attended the function. Shri. Anesh Pareed, is marketing high quality dried shrimp in the brand name of Isra Foods through his shop located in Peringala.



**Shri. Benny Behanan (MP, Chalakudy constituency) inaugurating the solar hybrid dryer and Isra Foods, Peringala in the presence of Dr. C.N. Ravishankar (Director, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin)**



**Dr. C.N. Ravishankar (Director, ICAR-CIFT, Cochin) making the first sale**