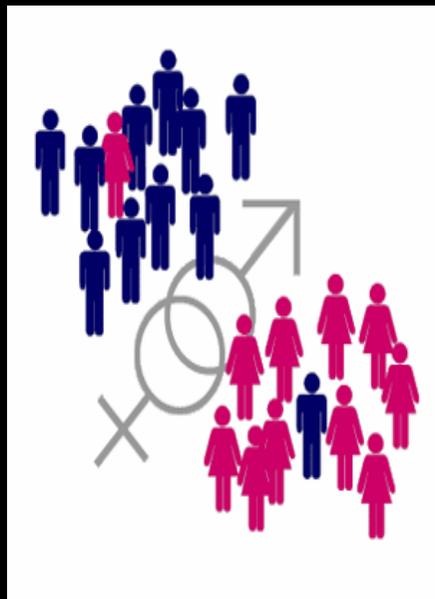


Gendered spaces, **Technological Change** and **Fisheries Sustainability**: A comparative analysis of women in **Tuna Fisheries** in Lakshadweep and **Bivalve Fisheries** in Kerala



Ramchandran,C, Sathiadhas,R
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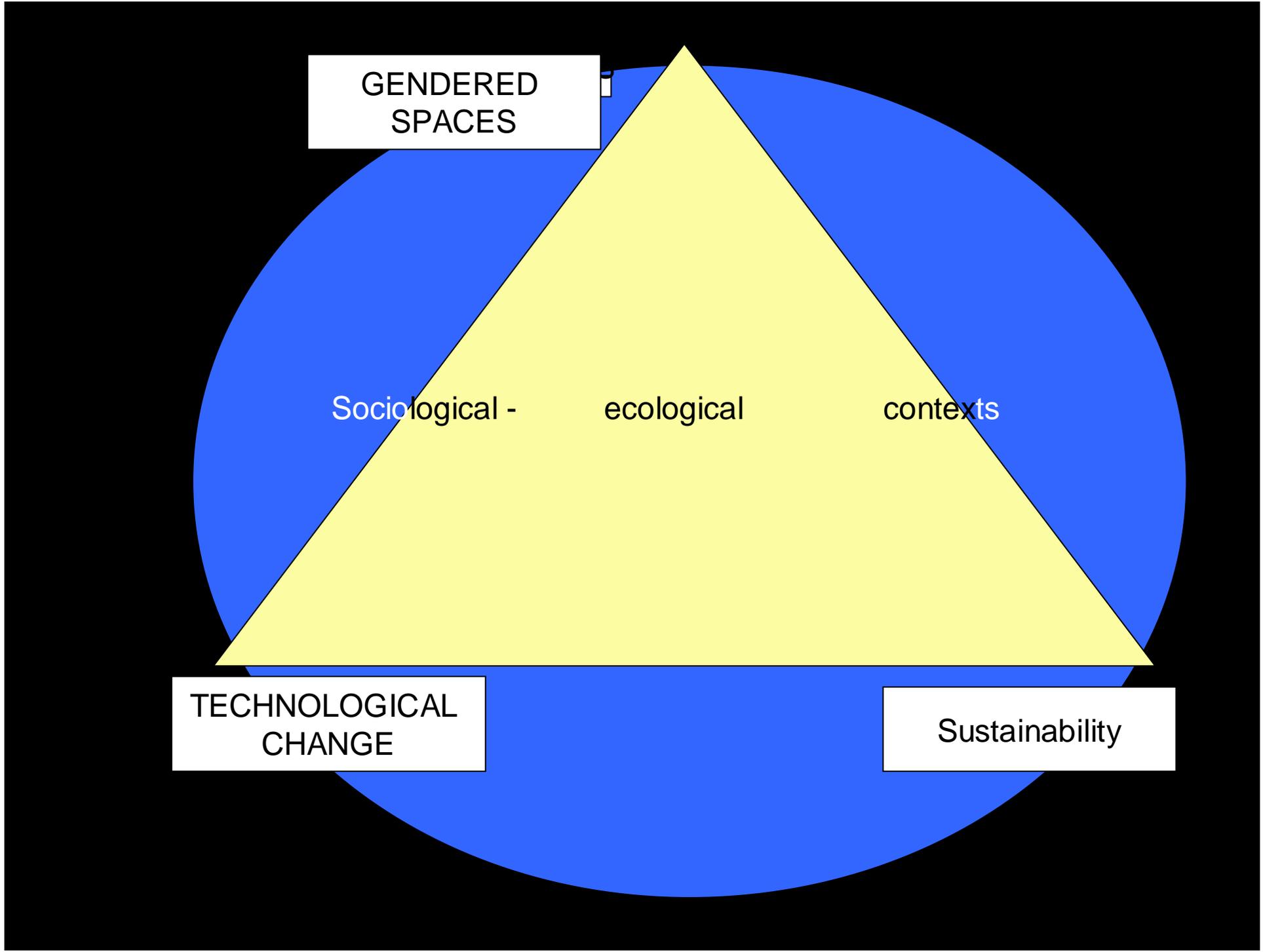


GENDERED
SPACES

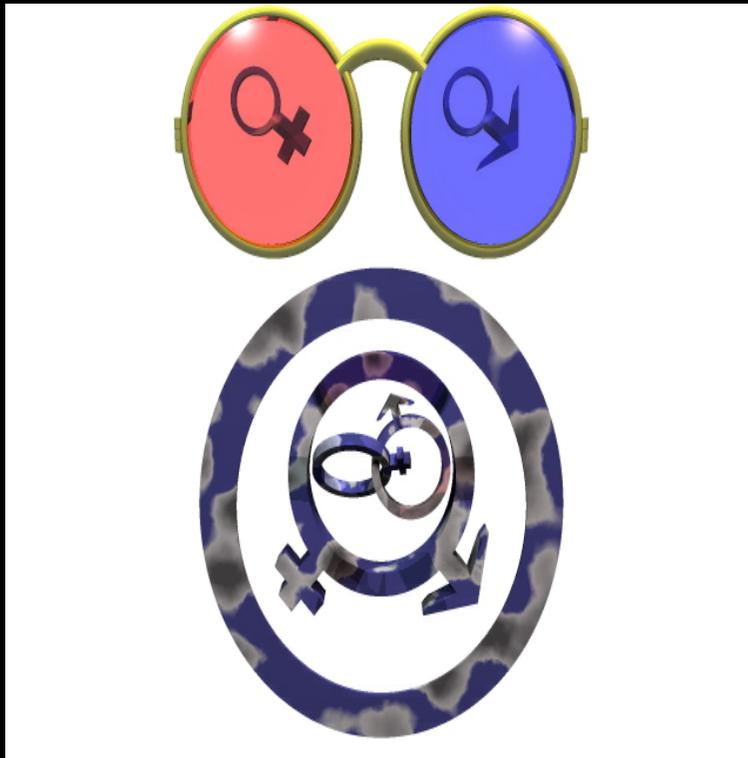
Sociological - ecological contexts

TECHNOLOGICAL
CHANGE

Sustainability



Borrowed Lenses.....



Hapke 2001

Overa 2003

Williams 2002

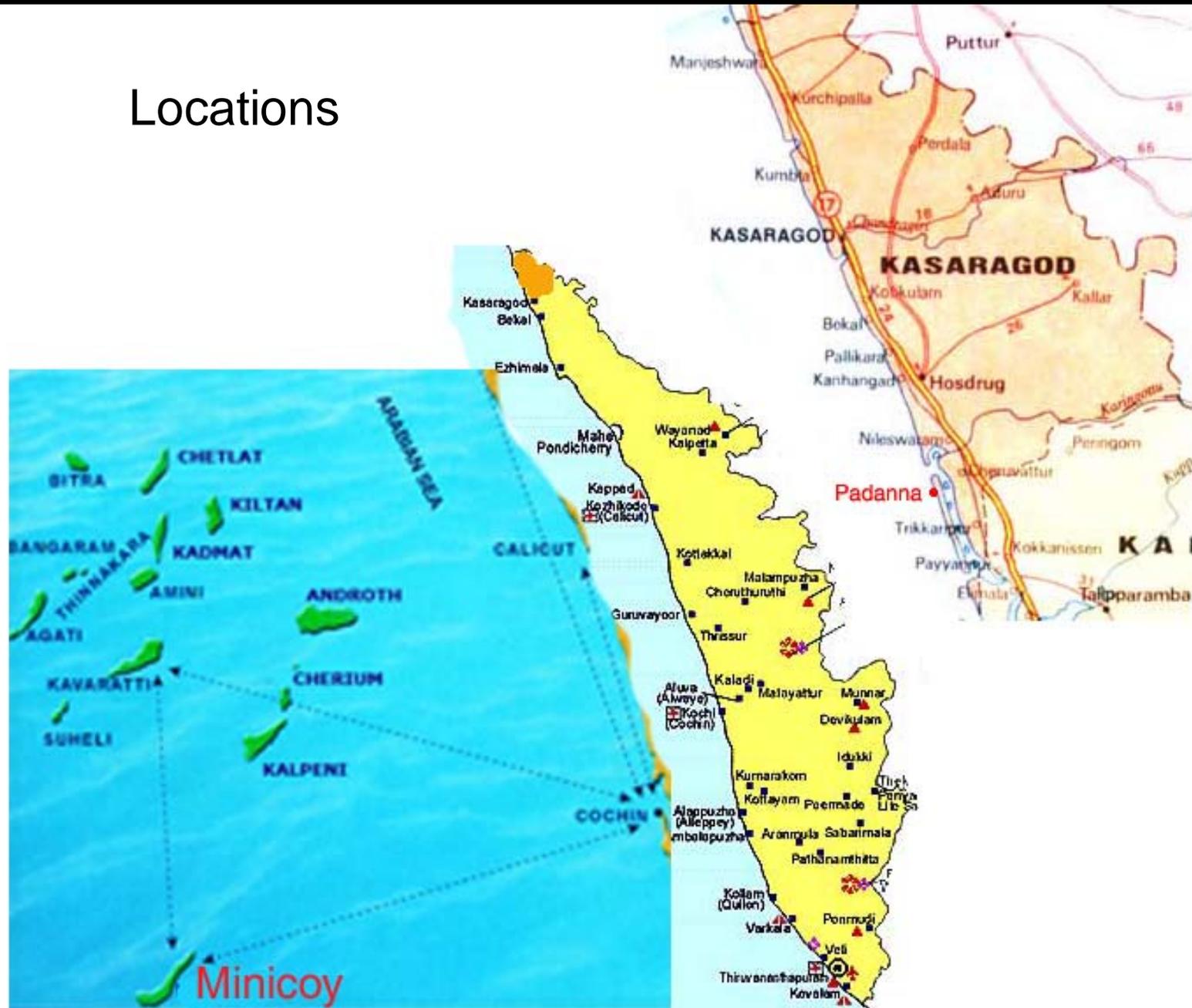
Bina Agarwal 2003

Amartya Sen 2005

PI excuse for the “*Male gaze*” if any



Locations



Case 1. Tuna fisheries In Miniocy

Hikimas women gaining Critical mass against
AIDS?



Epicenter of tuna fisheries

Higher status to women

Matriliny

Joint family system

Traditional governance institutions

Village houses -ladies

Village Boats

Gendered division of labour.....





Hikimass

Technology change.....



CF

motorisation

DATA BUOYS

Hikimas Revival

Year

Catch

Rs/ Kg

1969

120 T

seamen

Post CF slumber

2000

749 T

25-30

2002

1314 T

75-85

2004

2506 T

110-125

2006

3003 T

250

AIDS.....

Fighting AIDS



Hikimass revival-socialization space-whisper campaign getting- snowballed to imposition of compulsory ELIZA

Case II.a. Bivalve fisheries in Kerala

“Mussel power” to Malabar coastal women



Open sea mariculture 1970-estuarine system
90s-Popular empowerment tool in 2000s

Nil (1995) to 11876 t (2006)

At 0.002 adoption –Rs32.86 million net benefit

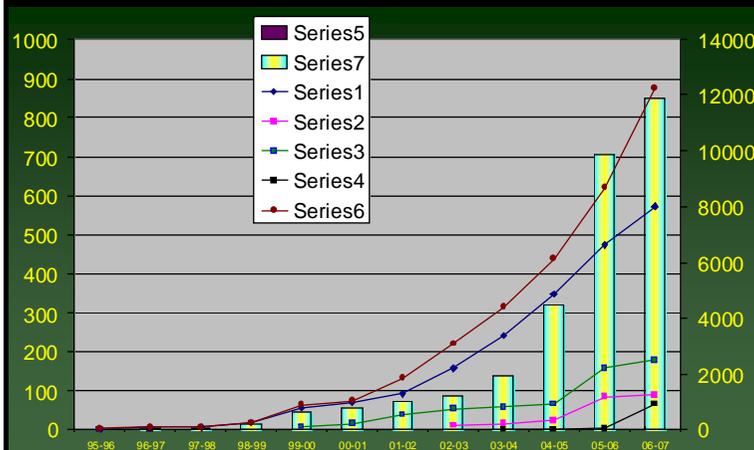
Dominated by Women SHGs

132/180 in KSRGD alone -2640 women farmers

Rs15,000-20000/as profit(20 member groups)

Elimination of social evils-money lenders,
Alcoholism etc.,

(agency & well being role –Sen2005)





1995

Technological change in Thekkekkad

- Unique Innovator-Transferring to women SHGs
- Research system as promoter-
- Women-friendliness & Profitability of technology
- Bund & loss of farm jobs-No dowry among *thiyya* - Resource Connectedness-
- Support from men-family enterprise



2002/01/01



- Institutional pluralism-
- State sponsored Empowerment platform-
- Political progressiveness-

2005-06



2007/06/30



2007/10/05



2002/01/01

Gendered activities in MF



Activity	Male	Female
1.Rack making	***	
2.Cloth bag making		***
3.Seeding		***
4.Seed procurement	*	
5.Seed setting on rack	**	*
6.Weekly monitoring	*	***
7.Harvesting	**	***
8.Cleaning		**
9.Processing		**

Case II b. Muslim women & MF

“Gendered space in embedded K system”



MF Dominated by *Thiyya* women

Only two Muslim ladies in 2000

First Muslim group 2003
Failed

Second group 2006 –No MF
but traditional Muslim delicacies
Success-
Planning Mussel pickles

Inferences of comparative analysis

1. Technology change and Gendered space

Role of empowerment platforms either indigenous or introduced Significant

Empowerment perceived as multidimensional

Comparative analysis done at Three levels of GS-
Personal, Domestic, Social

Using Four normative parameters

(presence & intensity, attributed relationship with technological change, institutional change and social system)

PERSONAL GENDERED SPACE(PGS)

Dimensions	Response pattern	
	Case 1	Case 2
Increase in <i>self- esteem</i> and <i>self confidence</i>	* #	** ^^^
Higher sense of wellbeing	* #	*** ^^^
Technological empowerment	*	*** ^^^ +++
Better feeling of self –organization	*	*** ^^^ ++
Better control over personal hygiene	***	***

*presence and intensity

^ attributed relationship with technological change

+ attributed relationship with institutional change

attributed relationship with social system

x not present

DOMESTIC GENDERED SPACE(DGS)

Dimensions

Response pattern

Case 1

Case 2

Higher self-worth in front of men due to financial autonomy

##

^^

+

Husbands sharing "double burden"

x

x

Husbands "lending patient ears"

*

x

* presence and intensity

^ attributed relationship with technological change

+ attributed relationship with institutional change

attributed relationship with social system

x not present

SOCIAL GENDERED SPACE (SGS)

Dimensions	Response pattern		
	Case 1	Case 2	
Shared feelings of solidarity	** ###	** ++	^
Occasion for open emotional catharsis	*	*** ++	^
Agency role	** ^ #	*** +++	^
Influencing political decisions	*	***	#

* presence and intensity

^ attributed relationship with technological change

+ attributed relationship with institutional change

attributed relationship with social system

x not present

2. Men Feeling disempowered?



*“Yes, urgent money /credit easy through women.
but I feel worthless afterwards”*

**Sharing “double burden” and the ambivalence*

“We will be branded henpecked”

“I feel guilty of not doing my duties...’

”Sea is ours ..No women will catch tuna”

3. Grass Root level response to globalisation

EU ban –glut in production-Women selling mussel –Developing local market

4. GS in embedded knowledge systems

* Failure of Muslim women group (case2b)

* *Hikimass* -not a “women monopoly” in other islands of Lakshadweep

5. Conservation orientation index of women significantly high

Emerging Conclusions.....

- The way gendered spaces get configured is normatively layered, defying generalizations or cause effect linearity
- Emergence of state sponsored empowerment platforms ,though increased the bargaining power, exert different levels of influence in the way connectedness to the resource get mediated

Emerging conclusions

- Women outsmart men in “agency & wellbeing role as well as cooperative conflicts
- Domestic space still gender skewed compared to public space.
- Ambivalence of women towards men entering female domestic space –implies that internalization of an idealized sense of family even from very childhood make women value harmony attained through intra house hierarchy instead of conscious concern for gender equality or conventional evolutionary traits like trust or reciprocity that make family a unit of social contract
- Gender is situational –always interacts with other social factors that jointly constitute social persons, whereby individuals are positioned in relation to each other in the local power geometry.

- This implies 1) that policies that pursue the creation of livelihood and resource sustainability in fisheries dependent coastal communities should view gendered space as an inclusive process equally mindful of the context specific factors that construct role segregation
- 2) in the emerging context of a transition from women in fisheries to gender in fisheries , conceiving GS as an arena of psycho-sociological performance throws new epistemological challenges

Will feminization of CPR space ensure more sustainable mariculture & livelihoods? Should empowerment platforms be made gender neutral?)

The next time you relish
Minicoy Hikimass
or
Kerala Mussel

- Please Remember that you are not merely satiating your taste buds....

But

Getting engaged in a newly defined space of gender sensibilities.....

Thank you