

Call to use remote sensing to assess fisheries potential

OUR BUREAU

Kochi, November 21

India should use remote sensing data to assess the potential of fisheries and to implement a sustainable fisheries management suitable to the country, Trevor Platt, an eminent marine-optics scientist from the UK, has said.

Platt, Professorial Fellow at Plymouth Marine Laboratory in the UK, was speaking after inaugurating national training programme on 'Monitoring Structure and Functions of Pelagic Ecosystem at Regional Sectors: Relevant for Fisheries' organised by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute in association with the Jawaharlal Nehru Science Fellow (JNSF), currently with the institute.

According to Platt, marine scientists should think from the point of view of an ecolo-

gist to formulate effective management strategies for the fisheries sector.

The Indian fisheries sector is facing a number of challenges, including the depletion of commercially important fish species, he said, adding that ecosystem based approach was essential for maintaining the sustainability of the fishery.

He also stressed the need for incorporating the latest technology in the marine sector, giving prior focus to the ecological importance.

The training programme is aimed at boosting the research base towards the development of an eco-friendly fishery management practices in the country.

The programme was sponsored by National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA).