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Database on fishing activities to help Navy bolster security

A CMFRI-developed database providing information on fish landing centres and database activities along the country's coast will help the Indian Navy bolster the Geographic Information System (GIS) location of all fish landing centres, fishing activities and seasonality of fishing. It would ensure the safety of fishermen at the sea and the security of the country.

CMFRI Director A Gopalakrishnan handed over the document to Vice Admiral A R Karve, Flag officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Southern Naval Command for implementing the security measures across the coastal waters of the country on basis of these data. Principal Scientist A P Dineshbabu of CMFRI's Mangalore Research Centre said, "The database will help in efficient marine spatial planning of various activities in the sea by protecting the security and livelihood concerns of the fisherfolk along the Indian coast."

He also said the sea route of fishermen and the expanse of fishing along the Indian coast could easily be identified with the help of the database, which would help the Navy or other security agencies to pass on the information regarding presence of the fishermen to foreign ships or other navigators. The information relating to the landing centres and the operational area of fishing would be useful in easily identifying the regions where fishing activities are taking place and protecting the fishermen's lives, Babu added.