

CMFRI reels in 3 winners

OUR BUREAU

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The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has successfully developed the seed production technology of a food fish, a marine ornamental fish and a marine ornamental shrimp, which are high-value species in the export market.

The Vizhinjam Research Centre of the CMFRI developed the breeding technology of the food fish pink ear emperor, locally known as *yeri*, the ornamental fish Marcia's anthias, and the ornamental shrimp named camel shrimp.

This is the world's first record of the development of captive brood stock and breeding of these species. The CMFRI developed the technology using the Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) at the institute.

A scientific team led by MK Anil, scientist-in-charge of the Vizhinjam Research Centre, developed the technology.

The pink ear emperor (*Lethrinus lentjan*), a high-value

food fish with superior flesh qualities, is a delicacy in the domestic market and has a potential demand in global seafood markets. This is a sought-after fish, which grows to 2 kg and fetches ₹400-600/kg in the domestic market.

The seed production of Marcia's anthias (*Pseudanthias Marcia*), a high-value marine ornamental fish, is an achievement, given its complicated breeding habits. According to Anil, this is one of the most expensive reef fishes traded in the marine aquarium export market and fetches around \$30 a fish in the international market.

The hatchery production and larval rearing technology of the camel shrimp (*Rhynchocinetes durbanensis*) was developed at the CMFRI. The shrimp grows up to 4-5 cm in length and fetches \$10-12 in the international market; in the local market it sells for ₹500-700 per piece.