India’s total marine fish catch goes up by 6.6%

India’s total marine fish catch recorded a slight increase of 4.6 per cent to 5.51 million tonnes during 2016-17 compared to 5.20 million tonnes in 2015-16 for the fourth consecutive year with mackerel topping in the catch.

According to Kochi-based Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) this is for the first time after 2008 sardine was not the top-ranked species in terms of catch in the country.

According to CMFRI the catch of sardine, which ranked second in 2015-16, took a nose dive by 11.4 per cent to 1.56 million tonnes from 1.76 million tonnes in 2015-16.

The CMFRI data released on Tuesday, the fourth consecutive year, followed by Tindal (Nadida), Surat, and Puducherry.

"Gujarat remained at the top position for the fourth consecutive year with the total value of marine fish landings estimated at 4.18 lakh tonnes, registering an increase of 6.7 per cent.

Kerala was pushed to fourth place as Karnataka took the third spot.

The value of the catch was estimated at 4.18 lakh tonnes.

The production of sardine rose to nearly 80,000 tonnes from 10,000 tonnes in the preceding year with the catch dropping significantly in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha mainly due to the adverse weather conditions that reduced the availability of traditional fishing grounds in these states.

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