

13 November 2017

## 'Insurance cover for fisherfolk poor'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kochi:** A study by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) on the insurance coverage of fisherfolk has found that the coverage in the sector is poor compared to other sub-sectors of agriculture.

The only coverage in the fisheries sector is for accident risk of fisherfolk.

According to the study, the sector has received little attention both at the Centre or state levels except for the presence of a few public insurance companies and cooperative bodies at the local level with limited scale of activity.

Apart from the accident risk insurance coverage,

insurance for loss and damage to fishing vessels, damage to land and houses of fishermen are covered only at a limited scale across the country, including Kerala.

The study was conducted in 14 fishing centres in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Odisha and among the fish farmers in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, said CMFRI scientist Dr Shinøj Parappurath.

The study further states that no insurance policy is available for risks such as large-scale decline in stock of fish species, damage of sea cages, loss of fish crops and damage to farm structures.