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CMFRI, Which Studied Data On Catch Fluctuations Over The Past 60 Years, Found That After Each El Nino, Oil Sardine Catches Fell Here.

Kerala: The fluctuations in oil sardine landings are due to El Nino events, which occur every 10-12 years. El Nino is a natural climate phenomenon that occurs in the tropical Pacific Ocean, where warm surface water moves from the western to the eastern Pacific, reducing rainfall in the western Pacific and increasing it in the eastern Pacific. This change in oceanic conditions can have significant impacts on marine ecosystems, including fish populations.

The study by the Cochin Marine Fishery Research Institute (CMFRI) found that after each El Nino event, oil sardine catches in Kerala fell significantly. This is because El Nino events can lead to changes in ocean currents, which can affect the distribution and abundance of fish species. For Malayali families, 'mathi' is always special.

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