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CMFRI: Marine fisheries needs priority

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Kochi: Priority may be given to reform marine fisheries while utilising the financial package of Rs 20,000 cr announced by the Centre under ongoing 'Matsya Samapada Yojana', according to the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

Assisting fishermen in modernising their fishing vessels with focus on sea safety, navigation and fish finding capabilities, advance warning receptivity, cold storage capacity and hygienic handling of fish onboard may be given immediate attention.

According to CMFRI officials, the financial package for fisheries sector needs careful tinkering and strategic roll-out so as to achieve desired results in a sector that is severely battered by the prolonged Covid-induced lockdown and associated multiple ramifications.

Special focus may be given to enhance the export potential of fishes such as tunas.