

The Andaman and Nicobar administration has begun online survey of marine fish catch . Researchers at the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi collected data .

CHENNAI: The Andaman and Nicobar administration has begun online survey of marine fish catch from fish landing centres in the archipelago, with help from researchers at the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi. CMFRI said in a press release that this was the first time the marine fish catch data from the archipelago was collected using statistically supported tools. The change was triggered by an agreement between the ICAR-CMFRI and the Department of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration. ICAR-CMFRI developed a sampling scheme for the collection and analysis of the catch data from islands' landing centres as part of the MoU.

According to Sudhakar, the islands' fisheries secretary, CMFRIs will help the islands establish a reliable database on marine fish catch and fishing activities, which will then be used to determine the islands' development plans. According to him, the ICAR-CMFRI's assistance would help estimate fish landings both on land and waterways. In the Andaman Islands, he sought ICAR-CMFRI technical assistance in the field of deep-sea fishing, seaweed farming, and cage fish farming. ICAR-CMFRI director A Gopalakrishnan said that the organization was regularly collecting marine fish catch data from all the fish landing centers in the region using this system, which is officially accepted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

In terms of collecting marine fish catch data, the ICAR-CMFRI has already signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. According to him, the Andaman Islands are ripe for the marine ornamental fishery, seaweed growing, and cage fish raising.