

Jellyfish Fisheries Present Economic Opportunities in India



Experts from the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) highlight that jellyfish fisheries have the potential to offer a significant source of income for fishermen and contribute to the national economy in India. Dr. A Gopalakrishnan, Director of CMFRI, emphasized the need for sustainable management practices, quality control, market acceptance, and adaptation of jellyfish to fishing and environmental changes

for the long-term viability of this industry. With India registering a landing of 11,756 tons of jellyfish in 2021, the fishery has re-emerged as a well-networked enterprise since 2005.

The main contributing species include *Rhopilema hispidum*, *Catostylus perezii*, *Crambionella annandeli*, and *C. Orsini*. Dr. J. Bindu, Head of the Fish Processing Division at ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, highlighted that India exported jellyfish products worth Rs 1312.88 lakhs during 2022-23, with a significant portion destined for China, the world's largest producer and consumer of jellyfish. Efforts are needed to shift public perception and promote the acceptance of jellyfish as a novel food item within the country.