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## CMFRI develops seed production technology for golden trevally



Golden trevally has a fast growth rate, good meat quality and market demand

### Our Bureau

Kochi

In a significant achievement in India's mariculture sector, the researchers of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has succeeded in captive breeding of golden trevally (*Gnathanodon speciosus*), a high-value marine fish. Scientists at CMFRI's Visakhapatnam Regional Centre achieved successful bloodstock development, captive breeding and larval rearing of the fish after five years of research.

The achievement is expected to open up a new avenue for sustainable seafood production and boost the country's mariculture activities, including sea cage farming.

Golden trevally or golden king fish is an ideal candidate species for mariculture (marine aquaculture) due to its faster growth rates, good meat quality and huge market demand for both consumption and ornamental purposes. The farm-gate value of the fish is ₹400-500 per kg.

### ORNAMENTAL VARIETY

It is a reef-associated fish and lives in the company of larger fishes like skates, sharks, groupers etc. Interestingly, juveniles of this species act as pilots for sharks. It is a silver grey fish with yellowish colouration on the belly, with scattered black patches and all fins coloured yellow and a black tail. The juveniles are more golden in colour with the black bands giving them a very attractive look and hence a preference for aquarium keeping. As an ornamental variety, the fish is priced between ₹150-250 per piece.