

## Climate change awareness campaign for Kerala fishing communities

PTI / KOCHI

In response to the harsh impact of climate change on fishing communities, the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CM-FRI) has launched an initiative to create awareness on the issues among fisherfolk.

The awareness campaign

was carried out under the National Innovation in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project recently.

As part of the initiative, experts of the institute explained to the fishermen community in Kuzhippilly and Chellanam, two major fishing hamlets here, about the science behind the climate

change, its effects on fishery and the adaptation strategies to reduce its impacts on the livelihood. According to the scientists, increasing sea surface temperature results in migration of many economically harvestable fish stock to relatively cooler waters leading to a shift in fish distribution thus affecting the fish

catch. They also said that rising temperature is causing a decline in dissolved oxygen levels in inland water bodies.

Awareness campaign was led by Dr. Grinson George, Principal Investigator of the project, Dr. Ratheesh Kumar R, Centre Coordinator and Dr. Reshma Gills, Co-Principal Investigator.