

Brace for potential shifts in community structure of marine resources: CMFRI

Our Bureau

Kochi

Significant changes are occurring in the marine ecosystem owing to the climate crisis, according to Grinson George, Director of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

Highlighting the impact of climate change on marine fisheries, he stressed the need for all stakeholders to brace for potential shifts in the community structure of marine resources. “Many fish species, which were once abundant in certain coastal areas, are now scarce; instead new resources are emerging. This offers both opportunities and challenges,” George said.

CMFRI is actively involved in regular assessment of marine fish stocks in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone and studying the impact of climate change in marine fisheries.

CLIMATE CHANGE

He pointed out that physical changes, such as rise in sea surface temperatures and ocean currents, will have a direct impact on planktons, which form the base of the marine food web.

“While we may lose some traditional fisheries, this also presents opportunities to develop new fisheries targeting the emerging species. However, this requires careful research and monitoring and a proactive approach to sustainable fishing,” George added.