

CMFRI Confirms Tuna Caught in Indian Waters is Safe for Consumption

The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has issued a formal advisory confirming that tuna harvested from Indian coastal waters is safe for human consumption. The statement aims to address growing public concern following international reports regarding parasitic infestations in fish populations elsewhere in the world.

According to the institute, there is no evidence of harmful parasites in tuna caught locally, and the fish remains a healthy and recommended part of a balanced diet. Officials are urging consumers to continue purchasing and consuming commercially available fish without fear, noting that local catches should not be judged based on findings from distant geographical locations.

Addressing International Parasite Reports

The clarification from the CMFRI follows recent media reports that identified parasitic infections in skipjack tuna. Those specific findings were based on a scientific study conducted on fish populations located in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Brazil. The institute emphasized that such regional data cannot be generalized to the fish stocks found within the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone.

CMFRI Director Grinson George stated that the institute maintains a rigorous monitoring process. As part of their ongoing fish biology research, scientists at the institute regularly examine various species, including skipjack tuna, to monitor their health. These routine inspections include checking for physical abnormalities and potential parasitic presence whenever necessary.

Ongoing Monitoring and Public Assurance

Director George confirmed that the fish examined by the institute's researchers have shown no external signs or manifestations of harmful parasitic infestations. By maintaining this consistent surveillance, the CMFRI aims to provide accurate, science-based information to the public and the fishing industry.

The institute's advisory serves as a direct response to potential misinformation that could impact local consumer habits and the domestic fishing market. By distinguishing between the health status of Atlantic tuna and those found in Indian waters, the CMFRI hopes to restore consumer confidence in the safety and quality of locally sourced seafood. The institute continues to monitor marine life as part of its mandate to ensure the health and sustainability of India's fisheries.