

Salient achievements

- ✍ A strong national level database on fishery and resource characteristics of commercially important species of sardines, anchovies, seerfishes, tunas, mackerel, carangids, ribbonfishes, Bombay duck has been built up which has been used for stock assessment studies as well as the recent studies on impact of climate change on the distribution and abundance of marine resources
- ✍ Stock characteristics, exploitation rates and sustainable yield levels in respect of 25 commercially important pelagic fish species have been determined and published. Exploitation rate is optimum on most of the pelagic stocks, except for seerfish, certain carangids and ribbonfish resources which are more intensively fished
- ✍ Extensive onboard surveys have documented the distribution and abundance of various deep sea resources of the Indian EEZ including finfishes, crustaceans and glass sponge.
- ✍ The Division has built up a database on oceanic tuna fisheries of Minicoy island, Lakshadweep and the developing tuna fisheries in the region. A Fisheries Development Plan for the islands has been prepared
- ✍ Phylogenetic analysis using mt DNA cytochrome b sequences has been done for the yellowfin tuna *Thunnus albacares* along the south east Arabian sea and international waters (22⁰N ,68⁰ E) is contributed by single panmictic population.
- ✍ Roadmap for the development of Andaman and Nicobar islands has been prepared
- ✍ Division is involved in evolving sustainable fishing practices. Exploitation of juveniles of commercially important pelagic finfish has been quantified and awareness campaigns among fisherfolk initiated.
- ✍ The Division contributes data on gearwise fishing effort and species composition of coastal tuna landings of India to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)