

Flower Scorpionfish

Why in News

Recently, a fish species named **Flower Scorpionfish** (*Hoplosebastes Armatus*) which was only found in the <u>Pacific Ocean</u> has been discovered in the <u>Indian Ocean</u>.

• The **rise in the temperature** of sea water due to global warming might have induced the migration of this species from different regions.

Key Points //



About

- It belongs to the order of ray-finned fish that are also known as Scorpaeniforme.
 - It was discovered in the Pacific Ocean off Japan almost a century ago in 1929.
- Fish of the scorpionfish family are some of the most poisonous animals in the ocean
- The head of the species is comparatively large and greater than the body.
- The length of the species ranged from 75-127 mm, while its body width was from 14-22 mm.
- Scorpionfish blend in perfectly with their coral and rocky surroundings because of their mottled color patterns.

Habitat

• Earlier, they were only found in the **Pacific Ocean**. However, its range now extends from the **Northwest Pacific to the Indian Ocean**

Scorpaeniformes

- Also called mail-cheeked fish, any one of a group of bony fishes that are characterized by a plate of bone running across each cheek.
- They are widespread throughout the oceans of the world.
- They are believed to have originated in warm marine waters but have invaded temperate and even <u>Arctic</u> and <u>Antarctic seas</u>, as well as fresh waters of the <u>Northern</u> <u>Hemisphere</u>.

Source: DTE

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