

International Symposium on



**Towards Green Technologies in Fisheries**

**21-23 May, 2013, Cochin**

# **ABSTRACTS**



**Society of Fisheries Technologists (India)**

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## **Diesel consumption in the mechanized fishing sector in India and the impact of fuel subsidy regulations**

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The diesel consumption in marine fishing sector in India was estimated for the period 2000 to 2010 based on the number of boats operated per year, average fuel consumption per fishing trip and diesel subsidy schemes. The total number of mechanized units in India increased from 48,093 in 1998 to 72,559 in 2010. The total diesel consumed in the mechanized sector in India increased from 774 million liters in 2000 to 1200 million liters in 2010. Nearly 70 percent of the total diesel consumed was in the trawl sector followed by dol net sector. The diesel subsidy schemes in different states were also analyzed in the context of WTO regulations. The government of Maharashtra and Karnataka provides 100% VAT exemption. The diesel cost accounted 41% of the total operating cost in the mechanized sector. The fuel subsidies are considered as harmful under the WTO agreement on subsidies regulations. However, the diesel subsidy in India at present is only 1% of the gross earnings from marine fish production and is very less when compared to many of the developed countries.

**Keywords:** Diesel consumption, mechanized fishing sector, impact analysis, fuel subsidy, India