Devastating fire affected the fishing industry of Kasaragod
Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka State

On 12.11.1995 around 11.30 P.M. a fire occurred in
the boat building yard at Kasaragod, 100 km south of
Karwar in Uttara Kannada District, resulting in unprec­
edented devastation of property and materials. The fire
damaged totally 3 boat building and repairing yards
(the only ones available in the area) located on the left
bank of the river Sharavati at its lower reaches in close
proximity to the fish landing centre of Kasaragod.
Extent of area affected by the fire is approximately 150
m. Kasaragod - Honnavar base is one of the major
mechanised fishing centres of the region. The fire
greatly affected the fishing industry of the area.
Seventeen boats were totally burnt to ashes. Of these
15 boats were newly constructed and ready to be
launched for fishing. Two boats were brought to the

Fig. 1. One boat damaged in fire.
Fig. 2. One boat yard gutted in fire.

shore for repair work. Besides boats, a lot of materials utilised for building and repairing fishing crafts were also totally burnt out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>O.A.L. &amp; H.P.</th>
<th>No. of boats burnt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yard-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55' 110</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50' 110</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49' 102</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48' 102</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42' 95</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32' 50</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Loss (in Lakh Rs) 32 99 6

* Reported by N. Chennappa Gowda, Karwar Research Centre of CMFRI, Karwar - 581 301.