

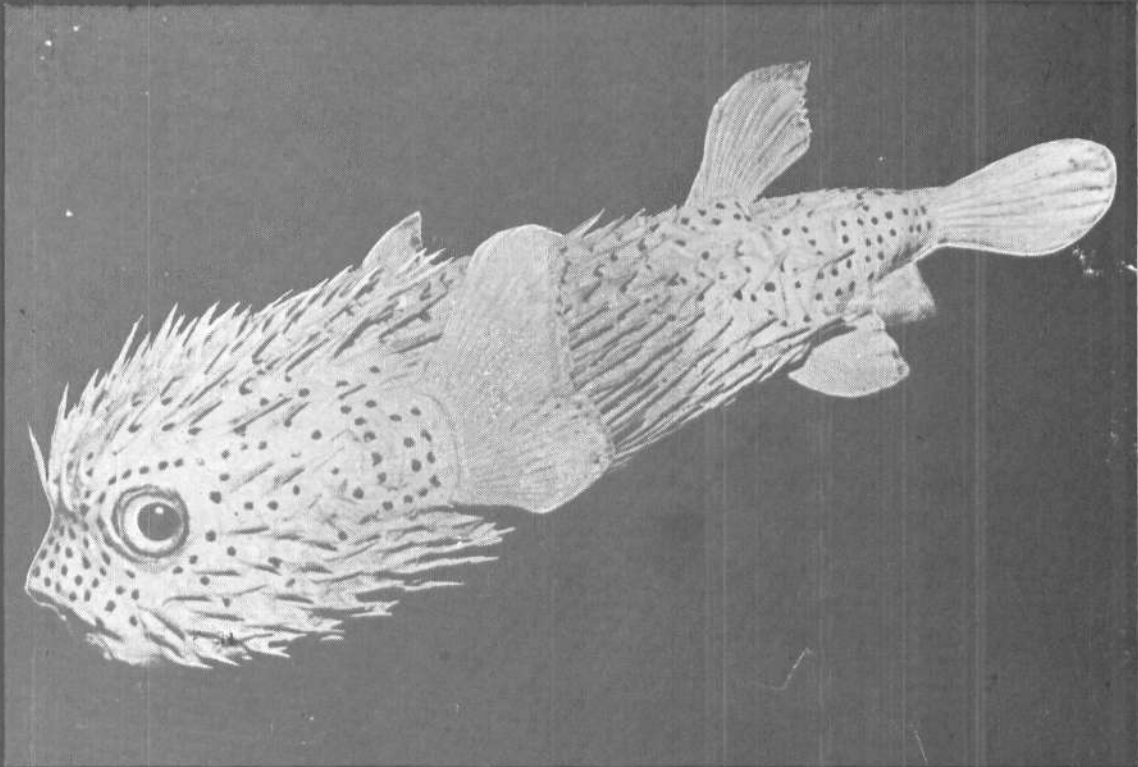


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# समुद्री मात्स्यिकी सूचना सेवा MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

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## **Impact of recent cyclone lashed along West Bengal, Orissa and northern Andhra Pradesh coasts on the marine fishery sector\***

Extensive damages including loss of lives to fishermen were caused by the cyclonic winds which lashed along the West Bengal, Orissa and northern Andhra Pradesh coasts. A report on the havoc caused by the cyclone on the marine fishery sector of the above states is summarised here under.

### **West Bengal**

The West Bengal coast experienced cyclones on 16-9-'95 and 9-11-'95. The wind on 16-9-'95 caused havoc especially to the south west of Frazarganj, south of Digha and Digha Mohana centres. Nearly 60 fishermen engaged in fishing operation were rescued.



Fig. 1. Fishing trawler buried in sand in Dighamohana centre.



Fig. 3. Devastated huts of fishermen in Dighamohana centre.

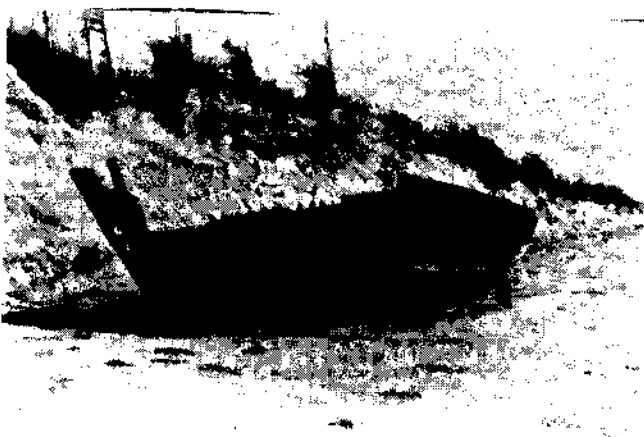


Fig. 2. One of the trawlers completely destroyed.



Fig. 4. Another view of damaged fishermen huts.



Fig. 5. Another view of Dighamohana centre destroyed by strong wave action.

but ten others lost their lives. Along Sundarban coast, 12 mechanised gill netters were completely damaged while 2 were missing. Approximately rupees one crore worth craft and gear were lost due to this cyclone.

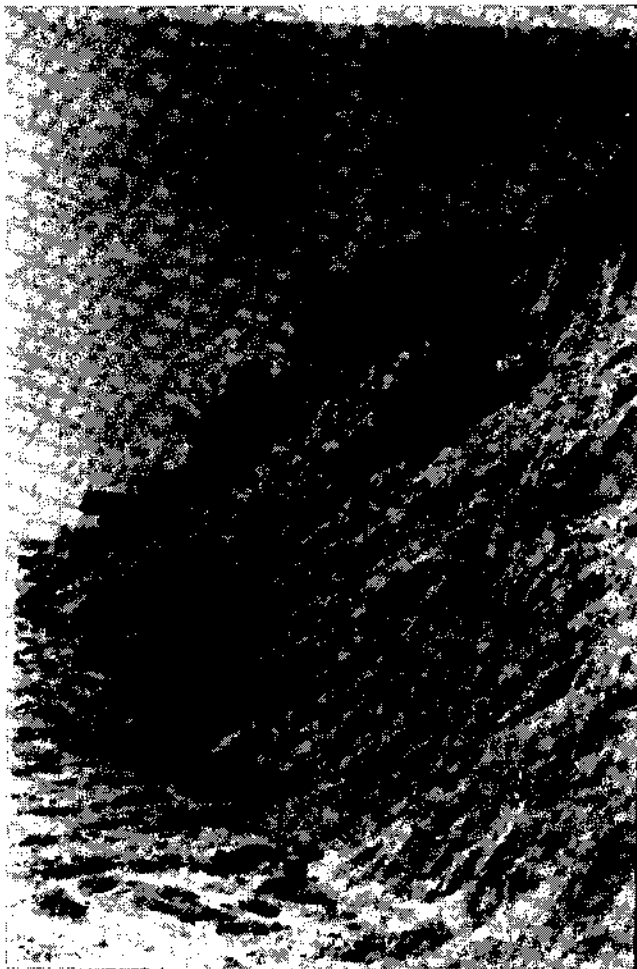


Fig. 6. Seashore of Dighamohana centre after wave action.

Another cyclone with increased fury swept the coast on 9-11-'95. A depression lay centered, 1,000 km south east of Machilipatnam in the Bay of Bengal on 7-11-'95 which intensified into a severe cyclonic wind and crossed the coast in the early hours of 9-11-'95 at a speed of 100-130 km/hr between Kalingapattinam in Andhra Pradesh and Gopalpur in Orissa and also along the Midnapur and Balasore districts. Three coastal centres of Midnapore districts viz. Digha Mohana, Junput and Digha were the worst affected. Four bodies of fishermen were washed ashore and another eight people were missing. Eighteen fishing crafts including two trawlers were completely damaged. In the Midnapur district as a whole a total of nearly 1,000 fishermen were affected by way of damage to their huts and personal belongings. Twenty eight fishing gear including bag nets and gill nets worth rupees 1.5 lakhs were destroyed. A total loss of rupees 8.3 lakhs have been reported due to cyclone along this coastal district.

### Orissa

The coastal districts of Puri, Jagatsinghpur (Cuttack) and Kendrapara of Orissa experienced severe devastation due to cyclone (Figs. 1-10). It was reported that 39 fishermen along with 4 cattamaran were missing. Nearly 500 boats partially and another 40 boats completely were damaged in addition to fishing nets worth about rupees 1.6 million. Total estimated loss along the district was about rupees seven million.

Along the Balasore district of Orissa, 17 mechanised boats including few trawlers were badly damaged. Main centres affected were Balaramgudi, Chudamani and Kasafal where three fishermen lost their lives. The loss of fishing craft and gear was estimated at rupees one million.

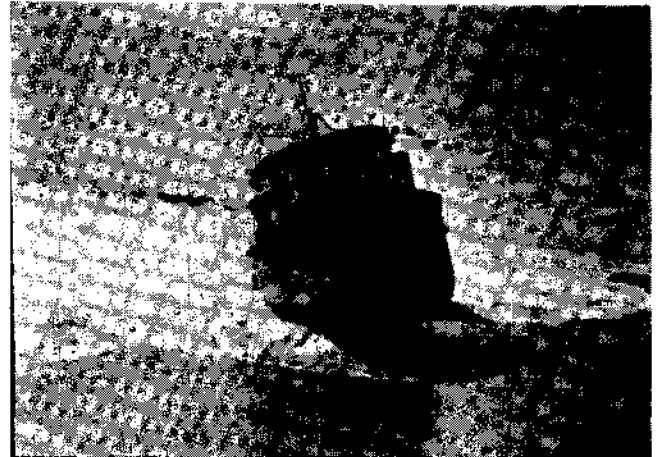


Fig. 7. Damaged fishing trawler stranded along the beach.

Along Paradeep to Gopalpur coast, 50 bodies of fishermen were washed ashore. This include about 35 fishermen who belonged to Andhra Pradesh who were engaged in fishing operations. Due to heavy cyclonic winds, most of the trawlers berthed at Paradeep dock sank completely though few of them were salvaged

later. It was also reported that many *Sona* type trawlers numbering about 50 were partially or fully damaged and some of them were washed ashore.

#### **Andhra Pradesh**

Though the cyclonic wind started blowing from the afternoon hours of 8-11-95 the actual intensity and fury of the cyclone was experienced during the early hours of 9-11-95 all along northern coastal districts.

Though few mechanised boats faced damages the loss was not comparable as has been reported along West Bengal and Orissa coasts.

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