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केन्द्रीय समुद्री मात्स्पिकी CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES अनुसंधान संस्थान RESEARCH INSTITUTE कोचिन, भारत COCHIN, INDIA

> भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

THE FIRE ACCIDENT OCCURRED AT THE MALPE FISHERIES HARBOUR PREMISES ON 31-12-1993*

An incident of a fire mishap at the fish curing & storage yard at the Malpe Fisheries Harbour premises occurred on 31.12.'93 at about 22 00 hours in the night. The fire broke out at the fish curing and storage yard situated outside the Malpe Fishing Harbour, opposite to the second (exit) gate of the harbour, towards the eastern side. The fire affected an area of one acre lying between the road leading to the second entrance of the harbour and the Malpe boat building yard.

The fire completely ravaged 20 fish curing and storage sheds, 3 sheds storing the boatmaterial, one hotel and one beedi shop besides, fish curing tanks made of wood or cement reinforced with iron sheets (5-7 such tanks in each shed), fish drying mats (average 4 mats/shed), salt (about 20 bags/shed), fish carrying baskets (20/shed) and large quantity of dried fishes such as soles (about 5t), sharks (1t), rays (1t), white baits (2t), mackerel (1.5t) and miscellaneous fishes (squilla mix and other fishes 3t)

^{*}Reported by: C. Muthiah, B. Shridhara and R. Appaya Naik, Mangalore Research Centre of CMFRI, Mangalore - 571 001.

fishing equipments like nets (bull trawl net - 4 Nos, gill nets - 2 Nos), otterboards, chains (iron), coir ropes, floats, tarpaulins, empty oil cans etc.

Each fish curing shed built in an area of 25 - 50 m² had tiled roofs, supported by stone/ wooden pillars and with or without side walls. In some sheds, the side walls were of coconut leaf mats. The fish curing sheds were owned mostly by fisherwomen engaged in fish trade.

The total itemwise loss is estimated as follows:

1.	Fish curing sheds (20 Nos)	Rs 3,00,000	
	Boat sheds (2 Nos) -	Rs	50,000
	(Storing boat material)		
	One shed used for storing coir ropes,	Rs	15,000
	petromax & tarpaulins		
	Hotel & beedi shop	Rs	45,000
2.	Fish curing tanks		
	Wooden 120 Nos X Rs 800 -	Rs	96,000
	Cement 40 Nos X Rs 2,000 -	Rs	80,000
3.	Fish carrying baskets 400 Nos X Rs 50-	Rs	20, 000
4.	Fish drying mats 80 Nos X Rs 500 -	Rs	40,000

5.	Salt	400 bags	-	Rs	20,000
6.	Dried fishes				
	Soles 5t		-	Rs	1,00,000
	Sharks It		-	Rs	50,000
	Rays 1t		-	Rs	30,000
	White balts 2t '	• •	-	Rs	40,000
	Mackerel 1.5t		-	Rs	60,000
	Misc. fishes 3t		-	Rs	45,000
	Squilla mix			Rs	30,000
7.	Boat materials	•	_	Rs	40,000
	(Nets, otter boards,	chains,			
	floats, coir ropes, tar	rpaulins etc.)			
8.	Hotel & beedt shop	establishment	-	Rs	50,000
9.	Others		-	Rs	50,000
		Total		Rs	11,61,000
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In this connection, it may be mentioned here that this was the second major fire accident at the Malpe Fisheries Harbour premises, the earlier major accident having occurred in 1979, and the loss their was estimated at Rs. 2.3 crore rupees (MFIS No.9).