40 YEARS
OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
IN
MARINE FISHERIES IN INDIA

A Souvenir issued at the National Symposium on Research and Development in Marine Fisheries held at Mandapam Camp, 16-18 September 1987, to mark the 40th Anniversary of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
P. B. No. 2704, E. R. G. Road, Cochin-682 031
The Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd. was established in the year 1974 as a Private Limited Company, under the Companies Act, 1974. It became a Public Limited Company with effect from 1-10-1977. Its authorised Share Capital is Rs. 50 million and the paid-up share is Rs. 29.257 million.

The main objective is to promote, establish, organise, administer, maintain, improve, develop, assist, finance both directly and indirectly and aid in India or elsewhere in the business of:

(a) Operation of trawlers and other vessels and mechanisation of fishing boats etc. for deepsea fishing

(b) Culture and harvesting of inland fisheries

(c) Procurement, purchase, sales (wholesale and retail), import and export of frozen and cured fish, shrimp, etc

(d) Providing services and assistance of all kinds with regard to fish culture and fishing for the benefit of fishermen community in particular and fishing industries in general.

SHRIMPING OPERATION

The Corporation is running three processing plants and trawlers viz, 'THANJAI' and 'NELAI' with Vizag as base for shrimp fishing.

PROCESSING PLANTS

The Corporation is running three processing plants and 4 ice plant-cum-cold storages for the benefit of fishermen and exporters for preservation of fish and prawns till they are marketed.

DIESEL OIL OUTLET

The Corporation is operating 4 diesel oil/retail outlets in fishing harbour complexes at Royaparum (Madras), Mallipattinam (Thanjavur District) and Tuticorin I & III (V.O. Chidambaranar District) for the benefit of mechanised fishing operators, who can now draw diesel supply at the fishing harbour premises itself.

FISH MARKETING

The Corporation commenced retail fish marketing activities in Madras city during December 1976 and gradually expanded in stages the fish marketing activities to the districts like Madurai, Coimbatore, Trichy, Periyar and North Arcot. There is a daily offtake of about 2 ton of fish.

DRY FISH GODOWN

The Marine Products Export Development Authority constructed a dry fish godown at a total cost of Rs. 12.41 lakhs inside the Fishing Harbour Complex at Tuticorin and the same is being operated by the Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd. There are 12 berths in this and they have been hired out to dry-fish exporters for storing their merchandise before export.

FISH NET MAKING FACTORY

A fish net making factory with a production capacity of 54 tonne per annum has been installed at Madras. Its machinery has been received from Japan under Japanese grant-in-aid.

BRACKISH WATER FARMING

Under centrally sponsored scheme, a prawn hatchery is being established at Neelamkavai near Madras. The Corporation has also proposed to establish a Brackishwater Fish Farm in an area of 50 hectares in Thondiakadu in Thanjavur District.

SCHEMES UNDER JOINT VENTURE

TAMIL NADU PEARLS (P) LTD.

In collaboration with M/s. Southern Petro Chemical Industries Corporation (SPIC) Ltd., Tuticorin, a Joint Sector Project, i.e. Tamil Nadu Pearls (P) Ltd., has been established to undertake culture of pearls for commercial purpose. The Canara Bank has sanctioned necessary term loan under Re-
finance assistance from NABARD for the implementation of this scheme. The company is having its pearl oyster farms at Mandapam and Kurusadai Island in Ramnad District. About 8.0 kg of culture pearls were produced from these operations.

TAMIL NADU MARINE PLAST LTD.

A Joint Sector Project, viz. Tamil Nadu Marine Plast Ltd., was established during August 1985 for the construction and marketing of fibreglass beach-landing craft in collaboration with M/s. Marine Plasts, Ferro Islands, Denmark, Industrialisation Development Fund (I.F.U.) and with two private industrialists in Tamilnadu. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 50.00 lakhs. This firm is having its boat-yard at Madras and will be producing 19', 20' and 22' fibreglass fishing vessels. The boats will be marketed in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and other places and also abroad.

FUTURE PROGRAMME OF THE CORPORATION

The Corporation has proposed to set up a 100 tonne cold storage, 100 t ice plant and 300 t frozen storage inside the Fishing Harbour Complex at Madras for preservation of fish catches and frozen products to benefit the fishermen and exporters. The cost of the project is Rs. 62 lakhs. The United Commercial Bank agreed to sanction a term loan of Rs. 41.12 lakhs under refinance assistance from NABARD and the Government of Tamilnadu has sanctioned Rs. 20.00 lakhs towards Share Capital for the implementation of this project.

The Corporation has already initiated steps to acquire more Deep Sea Fishing vessels for squid jigging, tuna fishing and to exploit the Wadge Bank.

_Communicated by_
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