

# JOIN ALL INDIA FISHERIES BANDH

1994 FEBRUARY 4 FRIDAY  
6 AM TO 6 PM



**STOP JOINT VENTURES  
CHANGE ANTI FISHER PEOPLE  
DEEP SEA FISHING POLICY  
NATIONAL FISH WORKERS FORUM  
(NFF) ZINDABAD**

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## A DOSSIER ON THE BANDH

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**A DOSSIER ON  
ALL INDIA FISHERIES BANDH  
FEBRUARY 4, 1994**

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## Introduction

February 4, 1994 has been a significant day in the history of National Fishworkers' Forum and the Traditional Fishworkers in India. It was on that day, the National Fishworkers' Forum, in collaboration with the Small Mechanised Boat Owners Associations, the Associations of Whole sale Fish Merchants, the Processing Plants and Exporters, successfully conducted a Fisheries Bandh. The Bandh was unique in the sense that it was a self-imposed and self-sacrificing Bandh without imposing or forcing others to observe the Bandh. The All India Fisheries Bandh has been called to protest the anti-fisherpeople Deep Sea Fishing Policy being pursued by the Government of India, the details which are given in the Dossier.

The Bandh has been an un-precedented success in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The major fish markets in Gujarat, Bombay, Goa, Kerala and Diamond Harbour were completely paralysed. No selling and buying took place in these wholesale and retail markets. The participation of the artisanal fishworkers and small mechanised boat owners were such that not a single boat, artisanal or mechanised, went into the sea for fishing. The States Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are not included in this Dossier as reports from these States didn't reach us in time.

I would like to mention here that NFF strongly intervened and protested as early in 1991, the opening up of the Seas to foreign companies and the absence of Laws regulating Deep Sea Fishing, when a National Workshop on Deep Sea Fishing was organised in Cochin, by the Agricultural and the Food Processing Ministries. During the Workshop, the Officers in the Food Processing Ministry publicly promised that they would enact Deep Sea Fishing Regulation within six months. Since then the NFF has been in contact with the Food Processing Ministry. Unfortunately, the Sea beyond 22 km has been thrown out to the Multi-national companies with no regulations at all. In 1993, NFF submitted memorandum to the Prime Minister seeking his intervention in controlling the Food Processing Ministry from the unregulated issuing of the licenses to joint ventures. Memoranda were also submitted to the Food Processing Ministry, the Commerce Ministry, the Environment Ministry and the Agricultural Ministry. The Food Processing Ministry with no prior experience or knowledge in Agricultural practices and no concern for the environment, refused to listen to the repeated requests of the Fisherpeople and instead, vigorously pursued a 'foreign exchange determined and export oriented' policy. It was in this context NFF was forced to declare the All India Fisheries Bandh.

It is high time that the Government take note of the overwhelming and spontaneous support the Bandh call had evoked among the Fishing Community. In no uncertain terms, the fisherpeople were conveying to the Policy Makers that while aiming at Foreign Exchange, the Government cannot abdicate its responsibility to a large number of citizens in the country. People were unambiguous in their protest against the opening up of the seas to the foreign vessels. No one can hide the relationship this invasion has with the New Economic Policy of the Government and the meek acceptance of the Dunkel proposals.

In short, this new fishing policy of the Central Government of the opening up of the Seas to the foreign vessels that are 100% export oriented, would displace 75 lakhs of active fishworkers, would deprive 30 crores of Indian consumers of cheap protein and would pose serious security threats to the Nation. Therefore, *NFF considers this New Deep Sea Fishing Policy as anti-fisherpeople, anti-consumers, anti-constitutional and anti-national.*

The Fishworkers and the National Fishworkers' Forum demand a socially and environmentally sustainable Deep Sea Fishing Policy with the participation of Fishworkers in the decision making process.

In many places, the consumers consciously abstained from buying and eating fish on the day of the Bandh. It was a very positive development. It should be acknowledged that the Press was, by and large, open and very supportive of the Bandh.

I am happy to introduce to you this *Dossier on the 4th February Bandh*. How this Dossier has been organised is given in the Preface. The Dossier is meant to be a medium of communication - to communicate among ourselves and to others - as to how the Bandh has been observed in different parts of the country.

Thomas Kocherry  
Chairperson, NFF  
F10/12, Malviya Nagar  
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24-02-1994

## Preface

The Dossier is divided into Five Sections. Section I begins with a paper that clarifies NFF's position on Deep Sea Fishing. NFF's call for the Bandh, the Memorandum submitted by NFF and its affiliated Unions to the Prime Minister of India and the Press Release on the Observance of the Bandh are included in this section.

The Reports from various States as to how the Bandh has been observed, constitute Section II. Reports from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are included in this section.

Newspaper reports on the Deep Sea Fishing Policy of the Government as it appeared in Newspapers since May 1989 are given in Section III. You may also find reports on the new entrants into the Deep Sea Fishing and their tie-ups with foreign companies. Towards the end of this section are articles that give an overall picture of the Deep Sea Fishing scene.

The Global scene is presented in Section IV. Critical appraisals of Deep Sea Fishing Practices in other countries and descriptions on how the indiscriminate World - wide exploitation has resulted in diminished supply of the important source of protein are included in this section.

The report of the Technology Mission (The Working Group On Revalidation of the Potential of Marine Fishery Resources of EEZ of India) has become the basis of the Deep Sea Fishing Policy of the Country. The Section V begins with the extracts from this report. Two articles on Deep Sea Fishing written from the perspective of the policy makers are included in this section. The documents from the Association of Indian Fisheries Industries give their perspective and demands regarding Deep Sea Fishing. Included along with this article is another document that explains the Government's approach to the request for rehabilitation made by AIFI. The Guidelines for Entrepreneurs give in detail, the bonanza offered to the industrialists who intend to invest in Deep Sea Fishing.

We acknowledge the help received from Centre For Education and Communication in collecting some of the documents used in this Dossier. Some documents published in the earlier Dossier on Deep Sea Fishing prepared by PCO Fisheries Cell are reproduced in this Dossier.

J. John  
24-02-1994



## CONTENTS

### Section I

Deep Sea Fishing: The Need for a New Policy Approach - NFF's position	1 - 8
NFF's Announcement of Fisheries Bandh	9 - 10
NFF's Memorandum to the Prime Minister	11 - 14
NFF's Press Release after the Observance of the Bandh	14 - 16

### Section II

#### A. Gujarat

Gujarat Minister Shashikant Lakhani's letter to Shri Tarun Gogoi, Minister of State for Food Processing Industry, GOI.	17 - 21
Letter to the Minister, Food Processing Industries from Shri Akhil Gujarat Machimar Mahamandal	21 - 23
Pamphlet on Bandh produced by Gujarat Organisations	24
Telegrams declaring support to the Bandh by various Gujarat Organisations	25 - 31
Newspaper reports on the Bandh-before and on the day	32 - 44

#### B. Maharashtra:

Announcement of Maharashtra Bandh	44A-44B
Newspaper reports on the Bandh - before and on the day	44C-44N

#### C. Goa

Announcement of Goa Bandh	45 - 47
Newspaper reports on the Bandh - before and on the day	47 - 50

#### D. Kerala

Announcement of Kerala Bandh	51 - 53
Newspaper reports on the Bandh - before and on the day	54 - 70

#### E. Tamilnadu

Announcement of Tamil Nadu Bandh	71
Newspaper reports on the Bandh - before and on the day	71- 80

#### F. West Bengal

Newspaper reports on the West Bengal Bandh - before and on the day	81 - 85
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**G. New Delhi**  
Announcement and Newspaper reports on the Bandh from New Delhi -  
before and on the day

86 - 89

**Section III**

Newspaper reports on Deep Sea Fishing Policy of the Central Government;  
since May 1989 , Report on Joint Ventures and Analytical Articles

90 - 113

**Section IV**

Articles/Informations on Deep Sea Fishing Scenario  
International Scene

114 - 118

**Section V**

Recommendation of Technology Mission - Excerpts from their Report

119 - 121

Marine Resources in EEZ of India with Reference to Deep Sea Fishing

122 - 128

Design and Development of Deep Sea Fishing in India

129 - 132

Deep Sea Fishing Industry's Problems

133 - 135

Rehabilitation Package for Export-Intensive DSF Industry

136 - 137

Deep Sea Fishing - Guidelines for Entrepreneurs

138 - 143

**SECTION I**

## DEEP SEA FISHING: THE NEED FOR A NEW POLICY APPROACH

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1. *New Thrust on Deep Sea Fishing :*

With the announcement of the new economic reforms and licensing policies, there has been a visible awakening in the Deep Sea Fishing (DFS) sector of India. A large number of multinational companies have shown active interests to enter into collaboration with Indian Companies to take up DSF on commercial lines.

Govt. of India (GOI) has conceived DSF as a core scheme in the Eighth Five Year Plan with the main objectives of augmenting fish production and sea food export earnings. A Technology Mission constituted by the GOI has drawn up a massive programme for the introduction of over 2,600 deep sea fishing vessels in the range of 12 m to 40 m sizes. These vessels are capable of harvesting 120 to 2000 tonnes/unit (depending on the size and class of vessel) totalling 0.83 million tonnes of fish, which is half of the potential available in our EEZ. For the past few years, the new Department of Food Processing Industries has been actively involving for the promotion of deep sea fishing in our country. This new department is under the Commerce Ministry, and they look at our valuable fish resource, which is a natural renewable resource, only as an important source for export and earning more foreign exchange. This new department is working parallel and in addition to the Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture. Licences are issued by the Government through this new department to many Indian business houses to import fishing vessels and enter into collaboration with foreign fishing companies involving crores of rupees. A few large factory ships have already started fishing operations in our high seas.

#### 1.2. *Broad implications of the programme :*

The broad implications of this programme implemented on a massive scale are manifold. The relevant questions are briefly referred to below:

- a. Are we sure to increase fish production from the deep seas at sustainable level? Will export also be picking up a similar trend?



- b. Will the DSF programme deliver more fish to the domestic consumers ?
- c. What will be the ecological consequences of deep sea fishing on a massive scale ? How will it affect the bio-ecological aspects of resource recovery ?
- d. What have been our past experiences in Deep Sea Fishing ? Whether the new thrust to DSF is based on our own experiences in DSF in the country and those of other countries ?
- e. What effects will all these have on the lives of the small scale fishermen ? Are they being integrated in the DSF Programme or being sidelined?

We are pretty sure that Government in their over anxiety to push through the new Deep Sea Fishing programme in reality have not taken these basic questions into serious consideration before launching the scheme.

## 2. What does NFF stand for ?

The National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) stands for the small fishermen as well as conservation of the fishery resources. It cannot remain a passive witness to the unbridled exploitation of the virgin deep sea fishery resources, leading to its devastation. The fishermen cannot conceive another sight of resource destruction as we had in the inshore sea through ill conceived and inappropriate technology interventions. We believe, it is our sovereign duty and responsibility to forewarn the administrators and policy makers, the dangers of throwing open our seas to the multi-national companies.

## 3. Present fishery scenario in the inshore sea of India:

We have in India a large number of marine fishermen whose population has been growing at a faster rate than the overall population growth in the country. While they have been harvesting the resources within the sustainable limits, the advent of mechanised boats using modern fishing gears like trawling and purse-seining have virtually exhausted the inshore resources, leaving little for the growing population to fall back. The over exploitation tends to deplete resource even. We already have signs of overfishing and depletion of fish resources in many important marine fishing centres of the country. This has also led to competition, conflict and clashes among and between different sections of fishermen in many States.

For the growing fishermen dependent on inshore fisheries, the use of the offshore/deep sea resource is one way to find additional employment and succour for their growing population. A number of the offshore resources are common with the inshore resources. A good portion of these lying outside the inshore sea could be harvested by our own fishermen provided they are given improved craft, gear and other necessary infrastructure facilities.

The deep sea fishing in India which began in 1970s had hitherto confined to the Upper East Coast for shrimp and other valuable species. In this the merchant capitalists were the beneficiaries, sidelining the traditional fishermen in toto. Their main interests were to avail of the Government subsidies and liberalised credits, the margins and concessions in the import of vessels and other quick monies in the deal. Many of these so called entrepreneurs who had no background in fishing made good money in this manner. Their interest was not development of deep sea fishing but aggrandisement of profit at any cost. They seldom cared to repay the loans even in good seasons. So they actually made good capital at the cost of public exchequer.

The deep sea entrepreneurs at Visakhapatnam were guilty of discarding large quantity of trawl by-catch and thus wasted protein rich fish in the deep seas. They brought to the shore only export varieties and quality fish caught during the last few days of a voyage.

The labour unrest in the large vessels was quite frequent. This was because the vessel owners were heavily exploiting the crew. They were not paying the labour proper wages and incentive shares. Many of the large vessels based at Visakhapatnam were left idling for uneconomic returns consequent to fall in shrimp catches.

Government did not play any role for strict management of the resources. Unlimited entry of the large vessels in shrimp trawling at Visakhapatnam and the scramble for prawns tended to result in fall in profits, and the vessel owners began to leave the vessels at the disposal of Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI).

The lessons learnt from the deep sea operations by the Indian companies at Visakhapatnam could be summed up as follows:

- » the traditional fishermen were bypassed in the exploitation of the offshore deep sea fisheries.
- » the DSF fleets were interested only in export varieties and valuable species, thus in no way satisfied the needs of the domestic consumers.
- » in their pursuit for shrimp, they discarded other species, thus destroying and depleting large quantities of fish wealth.
- » heavy financial loss to public exchequer.

#### 4. Chartered Vessel Operations:

Government of India introduced the scheme of chartering of foreign vessels during the year 1977. The charter scheme had the following objectives.

- a. To establish the abundance and distribution of fishery resources in deep seas in Indian EEZ.
- b. To assess suitable craft and gear for economic operations.
- c. Transfer of technology
- d. To enlarge deep sea fishing fleet on ownership basis and
- e. To establish overseas market for non-conventional fish species.

The charter policy of 1977 could not fully achieve its desired objectives in the absence of any statutory powers to regulate the operation of chartered vessels. The policy enunciated in 1981 helped to reduce incidents of poaching by unauthorised foreign fishing vessels and regulated the operation of foreign chartered vessels in areas which did not come into conflict with the traditional sector and the mechanised boat operators. Although the Fishery Survey of India has commended the operations of the chartered vessels, the fishermen's organisations have reported that these vessels very often crossed into the inshore sea, destroying the gears of the small fishermen. These vessels also competed with them to exploit the inshore resources.

Eventually the Government was forced to intervene and issued a directive to prevent any more new "bull trawling" within the 40 fm. depth sea. Bose Committee (1989) observed that this measure has helped the small fishermen to increase their catches subsequently.

Indian entrepreneurs with their experiences of deep sea operations are not keen on pursuing Deep Sea Fishing on their own in the EEZ of India. For, they know the limitations of economically unimportant species in the deep seas.

#### 5. A new boom in foreign investment in the EEZ of India:

Our new economic reforms and liberalised investment policies have removed all barriers for the foreign entrepreneurs to invest in fishing in Indian EEZ. The terms are now more easy for the foreign investors. They use Indian entrepreneurs just as their agents who have no defacto control in decision making.

Why are the foreign entrepreneurs so fascinated to enter the deep sea fishing sector of India where the Indian companies miserably failed? The foreign investors actually have so many advantages. They are:

(I) No new vessel investment: The seas of most of the foreign countries are already over-exploited. Their fishing in homeseas is governed by strict management measures, including quota system. These have forced them to keep a large number of vessels idle and have become virtually redundant. Quite probably they must have already recovered the capital costs. Hence they need not incur any new capital costs in entering deep sea fishing in the EEZ of India. They need to cover only operational costs to remain in fishing and the rest is their profit.

(II) The Indian EEZ will be only one of the many areas of operation for the foreign entrepreneurs. They will operate here, only when the season is good. When the bad season strikes they will move out to other seas, as these foreign entrepreneurs will have similar deep sea collaborations with other third world countries which have untapped deep sea resources.

III) Absence of strict management measures and regulations to conserve our fish resources in our EEZ is an added advantage for the foreign vessels. They can catch whatever species of any quantity, using highly sophisticated technologies.



## 6. Consequences of Indiscriminate fishing by foreign vessels

After exhausting the valuable species, which hardly constitute 15% of the total deep sea potential of India (260,000 tonnes) these new entrants will go in for the cheap varieties also for making products like fish meal for which there is good market in the west to feed pet animals like cats and dogs and also for growing chicks, pigs, etc. It is a fact that the cats and other pet animals of the western countries have more purchasing power than the human in the third world countries!

### *(a) Impact on Resources*

We imagine what will happen to our fishery wealth when along with the over-exploitation of the inshore resources, if the deep sea potential is also harvested beyond the sustainable limits.

The fishing technologies of the imported vessels are actually more suited to the temperate waters, where large stocks of each species is available. So when similar technology is applied here to tropical seas, where comparatively only smaller stocks of many different species with varying sizes are found, it will definitely lead to depletion at a much faster rate. As fish is a renewable natural resource, the large fishes like tuna, perches, shark and cat fish etc. once depleted will take many years to recover. Each fishery in a particular region is a link on the chain of total fish resources. Destruction of one link will break the entire fish chain which can lead to a total collapse.

### *(b) Impact on employment*

Promotion of deep sea fishing will not accelerate employment opportunities for the existing fishermen in India. Why?

- (i) The Deep Sea Fishing is based on highly, intensive and specialised technology which require only less labour. The highly paid skilled jobs will be for the foreigners. It is the menial jobs like deck hands and cooks which will go to the Indian labour.
- (ii) There is no need for shore based labour as the catches will not be landed in the Indian ports. The processing, and grading of the products will be done on board. The markets will be in foreign countries. Hence the labour opportunities on these fronts will also be closed to the Indian people on the shore.

- iii) The Indian labour on board the fishing vessels will be mere stooges and they will have no control over the management and pricing of the catches.

*(c) Information gaps*

- (i) There may be fish trade in the high seas. This will tend to give a false picture about the product and product value.
- (ii) The Indian authority will never be able to get a clear picture about the catches and catch values. Whatever the skipper (he will be a foreign national) say will be the final word and shall have to be accepted by the Indian Company/Indian authority.

*(d) Waste of costly fuel*

The fuel consumption of these sophisticated vessels will be very high. This will result in huge erosion of fuel which will be too costly to bear for a developing nation like ours.

**7. Future strategy**

The present approach to deep sea fishing leading to indiscriminate destruction of resources as well as endangering the sustenance of the fishermen should be strongly opposed. This does not mean that the fishworkers are against a policy of deep sea fishing aimed at sustainable development of the sector, sharing the benefit to the fishermen and the national economy. 100% EOUs and defacto full control of the vessels in the hands of the foreign skipper will be suicidal to the interests of the nation.

We wish GOI evolve a new policy approach in deep sea fishing. In that, the following aspects must be accorded due consideration.

1. The new Deep Sea fishing policy should ensure expansion of the ambit of operations of the small fishermen to deeper waters for harvesting the resources. Encouragement and support structure for the enterprising working fishermen to move into off-shore waters should be given top priority. Plan allocations shall be made with this perspective. To facilitate this the following steps may be taken:

- » Low cost and small scale communication equipments should be made available and training for its use may be imparted to small-scale artisanal fishermen.
  - » Safely equipments be made popular and available for fishermen. Liberal insurance schemes with subsidies for small crafts and gears must be implemented.
  - » Beach landing artisanal crafts should be improved and squid jigging, drift netting and long-line fishing should be encouraged among the artisanal fishermen. Training and exchange/extension programmes in this line should be promoted.
2. The present policy of investment support to the big business houses and other merchant capitalists should be curbed. Instead of that, the new policy should ensure liberalised central subsidies and credits for our small fishermen who venture into the deep seas.
  3. The deep sea fishing policy should lead to increased supply of fish for domestic consumption and be given equal importance with export promotion. GOI should evolve a 'fish subsidy plan' in the line of food grain subsidy to promote deep sea fishing as well as to cater to rural consumers.
  4. The Government should confer suitable legal rights and reserve exclusive fishing zones for small-scale artisanal fishermen at least upto the contiguous zone.
  5. Ensure adequate measures for proper resource management to protect our fishery wealth at sustainable level avoiding overfishing and depletion. Introduction of quota systems, fishing holidays, surveillance etc. should form part of the management measures. Annual fishery management plans with estimates of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and fishing effort required shall be formulated regularly. The implementation of these plans shall be entrusted to an enforcement authority to prevent overfishing with the backing of necessary legal provisions.

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PRESS RELEASE

Date 18-1-1994.....

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The National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) in collaboration with small mechanised boat operators associations in India decided to hold an All India Fisheries Bandh on 4th February 1994 from 6 am to 6 pm. During that time there will not be any fishing, fish landing and fish selling. This Bandh is to register our protest against the Central Government's anti-fisher-people deep sea fishing policy. We made many representations to the Ministries concerned and there was no positive response yet. Therefore we are forced to hold this Bandh to express our protest. All are requested to collaborate with this Fisheries Bandh.

**The recommendation of the Technology Mission**

constituted by G.O.I to introduce 2600 deep sea fishing vessels in the range of 12 to 40 m sizes and the recent rush by a big number of large industrial houses to enter into deep sea fishing with foreign equity participation is totally anti-fisherpeople and against both small mechanised boat operators and the traditional fish workers.

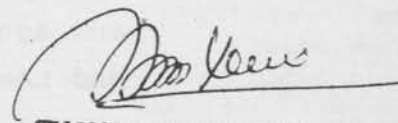
Government of India's policy to promote joint ventures most of which are 100% export oriented units is anti-national. The past experience of the country in deep sea fishing, especially of those vessels based at Vishakapatnam which has incurred a loss of Rs.100 crores to the national exchequer. It bypassed the traditional fishworkers and in no way satisfied the needs of the domestic fish consumers. In



their pursuit for shrimp, they discarded other species, thus destroying and depleting large quantities of fish wealth.

We want a new fisheries policy that should ensure the following aspects:

1. The new Deep Sea Fishing **Policy** should ensure expansion of the ambit of operations of the small fishermen to deeper waters for harvesting the resources. Encouragement and support structure for the enterprising working fishermen to move into off-shore waters should be given priority. Plan allocations shall be made with this perspective.
2. The present policy of investment support to the big business houses and other merchant capitalists should be curbed. Instead of that, the new policy should ensure liberalised central subsidies and credits for small fishermen who venture into deep seas.
3. The deep sea fishing policy should lead to increased supply of fish for domestic consumption. G.O.I. should evolve a 'fish subsidy plan' in the line of food grain subsidy to promote deep sea fishing as well as to rural consumers.
4. The Government of India should confer suitable legal rights and reserve exclusive fishing zones for small-scale artisanal fishermen at least upto the contiguous zone.
5. Ensure adequate measures for proper resource management to protect our fishery wealth at suitable levels, avoiding over-fishing and depletion.



THOMAS KOCHERRY  
(Chairperson)

# NATIONAL FISHWORKERS' FORUM (NFF)

Reg. No. 487/85

(A United body of Fishworkers' Trade Unions in India)

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The Prime Minister of India  
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**Secretary-1**

**Ramesh Dhuri**  
Malwan Taluka Shramik Machimar Sangh  
Dhuri Wada,  
Malwan (Sindhudurg Dist)  
Maharashtra: 416 606.

Dear Sir,

We, the undersigned, representatives of the National Fishworkers' Forum and Small Mechanised Boat Operators of India, submit this memorandum for your serious and immediate consideration.

**Secretary-2**

**Tatayya K.**  
Kalinga Fishermen's Union  
At. Venkatrayapur,  
Via Gopalpur-on-sea  
Dist. Ganjam  
Orissa. 761 002.

The recommendations of the Technology Mission of G.O.I. to introduce 2600 deep sea fishing vessels in the range of 12 to 40m sizes and the recent rush by a big number of large industrial houses to enter into deep sea fishing with foreign equity participation is a decision without taking into account our already existing chartered vessels and other deep sea fishing performance and proper commercially viable resource availability in the deep sea.

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**Bhai Bandarkar**

Maharashtra Machimar Kriti Samiti- (MMKS)

**Santhosh Das**

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Samudralu S. (SSMSU)

(Andhra Pradesh Fishworkers' Union (APFU)

Mary Therese (TFU)

R. K. Pattil (MMKS)

Government of India's policy, to promote joint ventures, most of which are 100% export oriented units, is anti-fisherpeople and anti-national. The past experience of deep

see fishing has incurred a loss of Rs.100 crores to the national exchequer. It bypassed the traditional fishermen and in no way satisfied the needs of domestic fish consumers. In their pursuit for shrimp, they discarded other species, thus destroying and depleting large quantities of fish wealth. Therefore, we oppose all new joint ventures and the introduction of 2600 new deep sea fish vessels and we request you to revoke the licences already issued.

We recommend that our deep sea fishing policy should have a strong inputs from the traditional fishing community, the skills of traditional fishermen already involved in deep sea fishing should be encouraged and their capacity enhanced. They should also be encouraged to diversify their fishing and go deeper to harvest new resources. We request you, while formulating the policy and plans on deep sea fishing, views of traditional fish workers' organisations should be consulted.

We request the government to enact a deep sea fishing regulations Act which should encourage harvesting resources in the deep seas on sustainable basis, while at the same time protect the interests of the artisanal fishermen.

We also request the government to consider the following recommendations in formulating a new policy approach on deep sea fishing :-

1. The new Deep Sea fishing policy should ensure expansion of the ambit of operations of the small fishermen to deeper waters for harvesting the resources. Encouragement and support structure for the enterprising working fishermen to move into off-shore waters should be given top priority. Plan allocations shall

be made with this perspective. To facilitate this, the following steps may be taken -

- a) Low cost and small scale communication equipments should be made available and training for its use may be imparted to small scale artisanal fishermen.
  - b) Safety equipments be made popular and available for fishermen. Liberal Insurance Schemes with subsidies for small crafts and gears must be implemented.
  - c) Beach landing artisanal crafts should be improved and squid jigging, drift netting and long-line fishing should be encouraged among the artisanal fishermen. Training and exchange/extension programmes in this line should be promoted.
2. The present policy of investment support to the big houses and other merchant capitalists should be curbed. Instead of that, the new policy should ensure liberalised central subsidies and credits for our small fishermen who venture into the deep seas.
  3. The deep sea fishing policy should lead to increased supply of fish for domestic consumption and be given equal importance with export promotion. G.O.I. should evolve a 'fish subsidy plan' in the line of food grain subsidy to promote deep sea fishing as well as to cater to rural consumers.
  4. The Government should confer suitable legal rights and reserve exclusive fishing zones for small-scale artisanal fishermen at least upto the con-



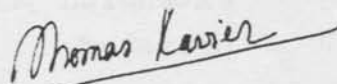
iguous zone.

5. ensure adequate measures for proper resource management to protect our fishery wealth at sustainable level avoiding overfishing and depletion. Introduction of quota systems, fishing holidays, surveillance etc, should form part of the management measures. Annual fisher management plans with estimates of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and fishing effort required shall be formulated regularly. The implementation of these plans shall be entrusted to an enforcement authority to prevent overfishing with the backing of necessary legal provisions.

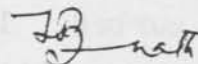
Thanking you and expecting a favourable reply,

Yours faithfully,

For NATIONAL FISHWORKERS' FORUM (NFF)



(THOMAS KOCHERRY)  
CHAIRPERSON



( HAREKRISHNA DEBANATH )  
GENERAL SECRETARY



( BHAI BANDARKAR )

MAHARASHTRA MACHIMAR KRITI SAMITI, BOMBAY.

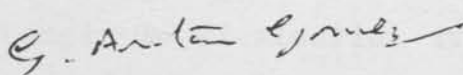


( BIMAL DAS )  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
KAKDWIP FISHERMEN ASSOCIATION,  
KAKDWIP, WEST BENGAL

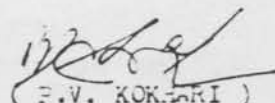


( RAMESH DHURI )  
MALWAN TALUK SHRAMIK MACHIMAR SANGH  
MALWAN, SINDHUDURG, MAHARASHTRA

For NATIONAL FISHWORKERS' FORUM (NFF)



( ANTON GOMEZ )  
TAMILNADU FISHERMENS UNION, SOUTH STREET  
PUNNAIKKAYAL, TAMILNADU



( P.V. KORKARI )  
SECRETARY  
SHREE PORBANDAR MACHIMAR BOAT ASSOCIATION, GUJ.

NATIONAL FISHWORKERS' FORUM (NFF)

Reg.No. 487/85

(A United Body of Fishworkers' Trade Unions in India)

Central Office:

41/1771, Veekshanam Road

Kochi - 682018

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PRESS RELEASE

The All India Fisheries Bandh has been a big success. In Maharashtra, Kerala, Gujarat, Goa and West Bengal where the bandh has been complete, both the small mechanised sector and the artisanal sector did not go to sea. In all these States, the main Fisheries Harbours remained completely paralysed. The fish markets were empty. Whole sale markets in Bombay, Gujarat, Sealdah, Howrah, Diamond Harbour, Palayam were empty, with no fish arriving and consumers too abstaining from buying fish. All the mechanised boats operating from Quilon (Kerala) stayed away from fishing.

In Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa too, the Bandh call received enthusiastic response. The artisanal sector completely boycotted fishing. Mechanised sector also joined the Bandh in many places.

In Trivandrum thousands of fishworkers, leaving behind their fishing and fish vending marched to the Government Secretariat to express their protest and anger against the Central Governments anti-fisher people Deep Sea Fishing Policy. Thomas Kocherry, Chairperson of the NFF inaugurated the march. A.J. Vijayan, T.Peter, Mercy Alaxander, Bridgit and Fazila spoke on the occasion.

The call for an All India Fisheries Bandh was given by The National FishWorkers Forum to protest the Deep Sea Fishing Policy announced by the Central Government which will pave the way for both the National and Foreign Private companies to have a free hand in the exploitation of Fish resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. The Technology Mission constituted by the Central Government has come up with a proposal of giving licenses to 2653 Deep Sea Fishing Vessels ranging from 14 -40m length and with 500 - 2000 BHP capacity.

The Vishakapatnam based 148 Deep Sea Fishing Vessels have already been proved a failure. They have incurred a debt of Rs.100 crores to the SCICI. Among the 148 vessels, only 20 of them are making a profit. Since there is no commercially viable species of fish available in plenty in the deep sea, the vessels have resorted to fishing in the territorial waters. This has created endless tension in West Bengal between the mechanised gill-netters and the deep sea fishing vessels from Vishakapattanam. It is very unfortunate that the Government of India has not taken into account this fact while issuing licenses for deep sea fishing.

The opening up of our sea to the Foreign Vessels is a threat to the sovereignty of the country. This anti-fisherpeople fishing policy of the Government of India is going to displace fisherpeople and deprive the consumer of fish. All the Vessels being licensed are hundred percent export oriented units. Therefore, this Deep Sea Fishing Policy is a contravention of the rights guaranteed under the Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

The National Fishworkers Forum take this opportunity to thank all the

organisations and the fishworkers and consumers who made the Bandh a success. The press and the Newspapers have also played a positive role. We call upon the fishworkers and the fish consumers to continue the protest till the Central Government make changes in the Deep Sea Fishing Policy.

Responding to the call for an All India Fisheries Bandh by the National Fishworker's Forum, the following organizations and trade unions participated in the Bandh:

1. Light and Medium Size Mechanised Fishing Boats Operators' Association (Gujarat),
2. Palayam Wholesale Fish Merchants' Association, Trivandrum
3. Pangodu Wholesale Fish Merchants' Association, Trivandrum,
4. Shree Porbandar Machimar Boat Association, Gujarat
5. Maharashtra Machimar Kriti Sangh,
6. Kerala Swathantra Malsya Thozhilali Federation,
7. Mechanised Boat Operators' Association, Kerala
8. Malwan Machimar Sangh, Maharashtra,
9. Tamilnadu Fishworkers' Union
10. Nagapattinam Fishworkers' Union, Tamilnadu,
11. Dakshina Bangla Malsyajibi Forum, West Bengal
12. Kakdwip Fishermen's Association, West Bengal
13. Sunderban Shramik Malsyajibi Shramik Union, West Bengal
14. Ganga Mukti Andolan, Bihar
15. Canara Fishermen's Union, Karnataka
16. Andhra Pradesh Fishworker's Union,
17. Kalinga Fishermen's Union, Orissa
18. Chilika Fishermen's Union, Orissa
19. All Goa Fishermen's Union,
20. Paschim Bangla Matsyajibi Samiti, West Bengal
21. South Sunderban Fishermen's Union, West Bengal
22. Women Net Workers Union, West Bengal
23. Howrah H.I.T. Wholesale Fish Traders' Association, West Bengal
24. Sealdha Wholesale Fish Traders' Association, West Bengal
25. Kakdwip Birendra Market Fish Trader's Association, West Bengal
26. Chinnammul Sramajibi Adhikar Samiti, West Bengal
27. Purba Bangla Kshat Majdoor Samiti, West Bengal
28. Purba Bangla Sankhyalagu Kalyan Parishad
29. Nishod Shramik Sanghatana, Bihar
30. North Chilika Fishermen's Association,
31. Punnakayal Fishermen's Association, Tamil Nadu

Thomas Kocherry  
Chairperson  
04.02.1994.

**SECTION II**



**SECTION II**  
**GUJARAT**

આંતર રાષ્ટ્રીય સમજૂતી મુજબ ભારતના અધિકૃત આર્થિક ઝોનના સમુદાયમાં તાઇવાન અને હોંગકોંગના મોટા આધુનિક ફીશીંગ ટ્રોલરોને 'ડીપ સી ફીશીંગ'ના નામે ફીશીંગ ક્લ્યા મેરીટાઇમ ઝોન એક્ટ નીચે ભારત સરકારે પરવાના આપેલ છે. તે રદ કરવા અને આ પરદેશી ટ્રોલરોને ભારતના આર્થિક ઝોનમાં પ્રવેશવા સામે પ્રતિબંધ મૂકવા દેશભરના માછીમારોએ માંગણી કરી એક દિવસની હડતાલનું એલાન આપેલ છે. આ હડતાલ સંપૂર્ણ રહેશે તેમ ગુજરાતના જુદા જુદા માછીમાર પ્રતિનિધિઓ સાથેની વાતચીત ઉપરથી માલુમ પડેલ છે. આ માંગણી અંગે અભ્યાસ કરતા માછીમારોની માંગણી તદ્દન વાજબી છે કારણ કે ગુજરાતને લાગે વળગે છે ત્યાં સુધી ગુજરાતમાં આશરે ત્રણ લાખથી વધુ કુટુંબો આ પરંપરાગત મત્સ્યોદ્યોગમાં ગ્રેકાયેલા છે. ગુજરાત સરકારના વિકાસ કાર્યક્રમ અને મત્સ્યોદ્યોગને પ્રોત્સાહન આપવાની નીતિના કારણે આજે ૧૮,૬૧૫ ફીશીંગ બોટો સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કચ્છમાં મત્સ્યોદ્યોગ પ્રવૃત્તિમાં ઉપયોગમાં લેવાય છે તેમાંથી ૯,૮૭૦માં મશીનો પણ ફીટ થઇ ગયેલ છે અને વર્ષો વર્ષ મત્સ્ય ઉત્પાદન આ માછીમારો પોતાના પ્રયત્નો પરિશ્રમથી વધારી રહ્યા છે. જે વધીને ગુજરાતનું મત્સ્ય ઉત્પાદન ૬.૧૦ લાખ ટન થયું છે અને આ મત્સ્ય ઉત્પાદનના પ્રોસેસ પ્લાન્ટો મારફત આ ઉદ્યોગો વર્ષો વર્ષ નિકાસ વધારી દેશમાં પ્રથમ સ્થાન મેળવી રૂ. ૨૪૧ કરોડની મત્સ્ય નિકાસ કરી છે ત્યારે ભારત સરકારે તાઇવાન, હોંગકોંગના ફીશીંગ ટ્રોલરોને કેટલીક દિલ્હીની કંપનીઓ મારફત પરવાના આપતા આવા ૬૦૦ થી વધુ આધુનિક ટ્રોલરો મારફત ઉપયોગી અને કિંમતી માછલીઓ ગુજરાતના અને દેશના બીજા બંદરોના કાંઠા સુધી આવી લઇ જાય છે. એટલું જ નહીં પણ નક્કમી મરછી પાછી દરિયામાં ફેંકી દઇ તથા સ્થાનિક માછીમારોની જાળ વિગેરે તોડી નુકશાન કરે છે. આ વિદેશી ટ્રોલરો આધુનિક મોટી કોર્પોરેટીના એરકંડીશન હેાય છે અને તેમાં આ પરદેશના લોકો આધુનિક હથિયારો સાથે આવે છે. સ્થાનિક માછીમારોને માછીમારી કરવા દેતા નથી અને ભગાડી મૂકે છે અને મોટા પ્રમાણમાં આ પરદેશની ટ્રોલરો કિંમતી મત્સ્ય ઉત્પાદન સીધુ તાઇવાન, સિંગાપુર, જાપાન લઇ જાય છે. તેથી કિંમત વૃદ્ધિનો અને હુંડીયામણનો લાભ દેશને મળતો નથી. એટલું જ નહીં પણ દેશનો અને ખાસ કરીને ગુજરાતનો સ્થાનિક પરંપરાગત મત્સ્યોદ્યોગ ભંગતો જાય છે. સ્થાનિક માછીમારો બેકાર થશે અને મત્સ્ય પ્રોસેસના કારખાના બંધ થશે તેવી પરિસ્થિતિ નિર્માણ થશે. આથી રાજ્યના ઉદ્યોગમંત્રીશ્રી શશીકાંત લાખાણીએ ભારત સરકારના ફુડ પ્રોસેસીંગ મીનીસ્ટરને વિગતવાર ફેક્સ મોકલી તાત્કાલિક વિદેશી ટ્રોલરોના પરવાના રદ કરવા અને આવા ટ્રોલરોને ભારતના અધિકૃત આર્થિક ઝોનમાં પ્રવેશવા ઉપર પ્રતિબંધ મૂકવા માંગણી કરી છે.

(શશીકાંત લાખાણી)



SHASHIKANT LAKHANI

I 20369, 6442

No.

Office of the

Minister of

Industries, Cottage Industries, Mines and  
Mineral, Printing and Stationery,

Sachin Bhavan,

Block No. 1, 6th Floor,

Gandhinagar.

Date: 3rd February, 1994.

Hon'ble Shri *Taran Kogicji*,

The fishermen of all India have declared strike on 4th February, 1994 and will stop fishing activities completely. The fishermen of Gujarat will also join with them. The demand of stopping the foreign vessels from fishing in Indian waters under charter and joint venture programme immediately by the fishermen is quite justifying as the West Coastline of India in General and Coastline of Saurashtra and Kutch in particular is being invaded by Korean and Taiwan fishing trawlers on large scale.

Gujarat has taken great strides in fishery development during the past three decades, especially in marine fisheries. Blessed with long coast line of 1500 kms. and dynamic community of fishermen, the great fisheries resources off the Gujarat coastline especially of the Saurashtra and Kutch areas has been actively developed by the Gujarat Government's developmental plans. The marine fish production in Gujarat has shown consistent rise over the years and during the year 1992-93 the marine fish production stood at 6.10 lakh tonnes thereby placing Gujarat Number One position. The North West coast bordering Saurashtra and Kutch especially has very rich fishing ground with prime varieties of fish. The efforts of the Gujarat Government has resulted in great expansion in the fishing fleet of Gujarat. Today Gujarat has 18615 vessels of which 9870 are mechanised. The total fishermen population of Gujarat is more than three lakhs. Almost all the fishing activity is of traditional and all the vessels are smaller



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Chandigarh.

Date "

type with the largest vessel not more than 16 to 17 mtrs. These include canoes both fibre glass and wooden, dollnetters and gilnetters and small trawlers. Gujarat's export was Rs. 241 crores worth of fish during the year 1992-93 to markets such as Japan, Far East, West Asia, Singapore, Hong Kong, U.S.A., Europe etc. All these achievements have been made possible by the traditional fishermen of Gujarat without the help of big mechanised fishing vessels.

During the last few years the Ministry of Food Processing Industry has been licencing foreign vessels under the charter and joint venture programme to fish off the Indian coasts. Large number of these vessels are in fact fishing off the Gujarat coast during the last few years. The State Governments are not consulted or even informed regarding the permission granted by the Ministry of Food Processing Industry to various companies. It is learnt that most of the Indian joint venture companies are registered in New Delhi. These Indian companies appear to be just fronts for the operation of foreign vessels within Indian waters. The details of the fish catch and foreign exchange realised etc. are not made known to the State Governments and as such we are not in a position to evaluate the usefulness of desirability of such joint ventures in fishing.

However, the fishing activity by foreign vessels has caused great concern and fear among the traditional Gujarat fishermen. Apart from the damage done to the nets and





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Gandhinagar.

Date

fishing gears of the Gujarat fishermen there is acute anxiety regarding the destructive methods employed by the huge vessals. It is feared that the continued operation of these vessals will lead to a situation wherein the rich fishing ground of Gujarat will be denuded of fish catch in the coming years. This will cause great distress and hardship among the hard working fishermen of Gujarat whose efforts had developed the fishing industry of Gujarat so much.

# As a State with major fishing industry, on behalf of Government of Gujarat I propose that the Ministry of Food Processing Industry, Government of India should check on the fishing activity of these foreign vessals.

The Indian Marine Food Export during the year 1992-93 are in the region of Rs. 1800 crores. The foreign exchange earned as a result of the charter activity is negligible fraction of this amount. The total revenue earned by the Government of India through this for the period from January to June 1990 was \$ 3.56 lakhs i.e. about Rs. 90 lakhs. Thus the foreign exchange earned by the charter policy is negligible as compared to foreign exchange earned by the Indian marine food export as a whole. Moreover, these foreign vessals are competing with the tradition fishermen within this area. As these vessals are not required to unload their catch on Indian ports there is little possibility of checking their catch. Neither does this activity result in any processing plant of the Indian coast. Thus it is clear that the damage caused by these foreing fishing boats on our coasts as mentioned above would be much more and long term damage to



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Block No. 1, 6th Floor,

Gandhinagar.

Date

fishing activity on Indian coast would be multifarious and on large scale.

I therefore, request you please to stop the foreign vessels from fishing in Indian waters under charter and joint venture programme immediately in the interest of fisheries development of Gujarat in particular and of India in general and in the interest of livelihood of large number of fishermen.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

(Shashikant Lakhani)

Hon'ble Shri Tarun Gogoi,  
Minister of State for Food Processing Industry,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.

Copy for necessary action to:

Shri Shyamal Ghosh, Resident Commissioner, Government of Gujarat. New Delhi.

Copy -

PV Khokhari

Secretary - Shree Patbendar Machinuar Beak  
Association -

શ્રી ગણેશ  
શ્રી ગણેશ  
શ્રી ગણેશ

કચ્છી  
કચ્છી  
કચ્છી (૨૨૨)



21611/22403  
Resl. : ૨૨૩૧૭

શ્રી ગણેશ ગુજરાત મીઠાણી મીર મહામંડળ  
Shree Akhil Gujarat Machhinar Mahamandal

Bunder Area,  
Kutch V AL,  
362 265  
Date 21-1-94 199

To:  
The Ministry of Food Processing Industries,  
Panch Silli Bhawan,  
New Delhi

Respected Sir,  
Sub:- DEEP SEA FISHING VESSELS

We are all under-ignned to draw your kind attention to the above subject to get the attention as under.

The Government Policy for Deep-Sea Fishing on the East and West coast of India. It's well specified and designed to operate. Such fishing vessels be objected under National Fishing Policy, Rules & Regulation.

A permission for fishing within the operation of vessels in Governed by Maritime Zone of India, they shall allowed to use the operation, for fish only beyond 24 nautical miles from the shore of the West coast and not the fish within 24 Nautical miles from the shore.

They were not allowed to catch the fishes from the Shallow Sea Water It's a legit rate right traditional fishermen, but recent by found by local fishermen that they operate freely, pierceless on the Saurashtra Shallow water it is invalid running the tradition fishermen. It is warned for present and future the protection

Therefore, We take the opportunity and putting before you in the save with requested so you see to reply to stopping the soonest timely as possible.

It is totally involved operating in Shallow Sea water this being a bunch of laws, Right and Reservation under permit and/or agreement.

our poor tradition fishermen of Gujarat/Gujarat have suggestest without any causes reason cut of nets and get the valuable nets and vital and valuable fishes from the sea. away the illegal sea area the local traditional fishermen have suffered and deprived from legitimate right by operating the Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels.

Kindly we all requested to you stop such invalid activities of the deep-sea fishing vessels. we are all now joint with all India fisheries Bandh on 4th Feb, 1994 from 6.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M. during that time will not be any fishing, fish landing and fish selling. Regarding protest against the Government and fisher people deep-sea fishing policy.

So please take immediately action above cancelled the licence of foreign Deep-Sea Vessels fishing. Hopping from you from present and serious action will be taken by you is any.

With warm respect & Hospitality requested.

Yours faithfully,

*A. I. Mahajan*

(D. D. MALAM)

President

Siva Avenue Gougamat Machhlinimay





# ‘ઓલ ઇન્ડિયા ફિશરીઝ બંધ’

(તા. ૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૯૪, શુક્રવાર \* સમય સવારના ૬ થી સાંજના ૬ સુધી)

## ફક્ત એક દિવસ બંધ

નેશનલ ફિશ વર્કર્સ ફોરમ, ન્યુ દિલ્હીની મચ્છીમારના હિત લક્ષમાં રાખનારી સંસ્થા છે. તેમની વાર્ષિક સભા તા. ૩ અને ૪ ડિસેમ્બર ૧૯૯૩ ના ગોપાલપુર- ઓરિસ્સામાં મળેલ, તેનાં સર્વાનુમતે થયેલા ઠરાવ મુજબ ‘ઓલ ઇન્ડિયા ફિશરીઝ બંધ’ બહાર ક્યું છે.

આ બંધ સફળ બનાવવા તમામ માચ્છીમાર લાઇ-બહેનો, મચ્છીમારીના ધંધા સાથે સંકડાયેલ, મત્સ્ય ઉદ્યોગ સાહસિકોને ‘શ્રી પોરબંદર માચ્છીમાર બોટ એશોશીએશન’ ની તા. ૧૬-૧-૯૪ ની કાર્યકારી કમિટિમાં ઠરાવેલ મુજબ અપીલ કરે છે કે;

આ બંધને સફળ બનાવવા બાબત યાચો અને મચ્છીમારના હિતની બાબતે કામ કરો, મચ્છીમારો અને તેની સાથે સંકડાયેલ સહુના હિતની વાત છે, ત્યારે સગૃહ સાથે સવેળા બાબત યાચો એ સહુનો ધર્મ છે.

તા. ૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૯૪ ને શુક્રવારને યાદ રાખો અને એ તારીખને ભારતીય મચ્છીમારીના ઇતિહાસમાં અંકિત કરો.

સફળ બંધના કાર્યક્રમ માટે નીચે મુજબનું પાલન કરો.

- \* સમય સવારના ૬ થી સાંજના ૬ સુધી મચ્છીમારીમાં બોટો જવા આવવા અટકો.
- \* મચ્છીનું બોટમાંથી ઉતરાણુ ન કરવું. \* મચ્છીનું વેચાણ બંધ કરવું.

### ઓલ ઇન્ડિયા ફિશરીઝ બંધ શા માટે ?

ભારતીય દરિયામાં મોટી કદની ફીશીંગ બોટ દ્વારા આધુનિક સાધનો સાથે ઊંડા દરિયામાં મચ્છીમારી કરે છે તે પરમીટ હોય છતાં કાયદાઓ, કરારો ભંગ કરીને છીછરા દરિયાનાં પાણીમાં મચ્છી મારે છે. નાની બોટોને નુકશાન કરે છે. આ બોટો કિનારામાં દાખલ થવાથી કિનારાની મચ્છીઓ પકડીને વિશાળ પ્રમાણમાં વિદેશ લઈ બંધ છે. આ અંગેનો મચ્છીમારોને અસંતોષ છે- દરિયાદો છે. નુકશાન બચાવવા કે અટકાવવા સરકારશ્રીએ કોઈ પગલાં લીધા નથી.

ભારતના પરંપરાગત મચ્છીમારોના હિત અને રક્ષણવાળી નવી ઊંડા દરિયાના પાણીની મચ્છીમારી યોજના ની માગણી છે. નેશનલ ફિશ વર્કર્સ ફોરમ અને તેમની સાથે સંકડાયેલ અનેક સંસ્થાએ ભારતના મચ્છીમારોને બચાવવા સંયુક્ત બંધ બહાર ક્યું છે. આ બંધને મહારાષ્ટ્ર, વેસ્ટ બેંગાલ, કેરલા, આંધ્ર-પ્રદેશ, તામિલનાડુ અને ગુજરાતના મરીનબાળી નાની બોટના માલિકો અને એશોશીએશન અને અન્ય સંસ્થાનો સાથે છે- સહકાર છે.

આ બંધને પોરબંદરમાં સહુ આવકારે છે. શ્રી પોરબંદર માચ્છીમાર બોટ એશોશીએશનના કાર્યકારી કમિટિના નિર્ણય મુજબ સહુ કાર્યકર્તાઓ આવકારે છે અને સભ્ય બંધુઓને બંધનું પાલન કરવા અપીલ કરે છે. સાથે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર, કચ્છ અને ગુજરાતના બંદરોના મચ્છીમારો જે બંદરે હોય તેમને પણ આ બંધમાં બંધાવવા નમ્ર અપીલ કરે છે. ‘બંધ’ ને સફળ બનાવો અને બચો.

ગુજરાતના સાગર કાંઠાની લંબાઈના ૧૬૦૦ કી મી ના કિનારે અનેક બંદરો અને લેન્ડીંગ સેન્ટરો પણ છે આજ કારણે આ બંદરો ઉપર લાખોની સંખ્યામાં મચ્છીમારો છે, તેમના ભાવિની ચિંતા કરનાર સંસ્થાએ બહાર કરેલ બંધને સફળ બનાવો. ગવર્નમેન્ટ ઓફ ઇન્ડિયાના એક ટેકનોલોજી મીશનની ભલામણ મુજબ ઊંડા દરિયાના પાણીની મચ્છીમારીની મોટી બોટોની સંખ્યા ૨૬૦૦ હશે. એ રીતે વિદેશી જહાજો ભારતના દરિયામાંથી કિંમતિ મચ્છીઓ ઊડાવી જશે. સમાન ભાગીદારી આ ઊંડા દરિયાના પાણીની મચ્છીમારીમાં આવે, સંયુક્ત સાહસ આવે અને નાના મચ્છીમારો મુશ્કેલીમાં મૂકાય તે પહેલાં નેશનલ ફિશ વર્કર્સ ફોરમે નિવેદનો - ન્યુ દિલ્હીને આપ્યા છે.

આપણી આ વાત સાંભળવા- સુધારા સાથે નવી ઊંડા દરિયાના પાણીની મચ્છીમારી યોજના લાવવા અને મચ્છીમારીને યોજનાનો લાભ ભારતના મચ્છીમારોને આપવા અને મચ્છીમારોને સુધારા સાથેની યોજનાનો લાભ આપવા, લોન ધરાણુ, સબસીડીઓ આપવા વિગેરે છે.

— બંધને સફળ બનાવો અને બચો —

જીવાલાઈ ગગન શિયાળ, પ્રમુખ  
પ્રેમજી વેલજી ખોખરી, સેક્રેટરી

લાલજીલાઈ બાદરશાહી, ઉપ-પ્રમુખ  
બાબુલાઈ દેવજી ગોસીયા, સહમંત્રી



\* શ્રી ધામજીજ કોળી-રાજપુત સંયુક્ત સમાજ \*

મું. ધામજીજ (ખંદર)

તા. વેરાવળ \* જિ. જુનાગઢ

તા. - ૧૯૯૪

TELEGRAM ORDINARY

To,

1: HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER  
SHRI NARASIRAO SAHEB  
SANSAD BHAVAN NEW DELHI

2: MINISTRY OF FOOD  
PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
PANCHSHIL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI.

WE ARE ALL JOINT WITH ALL INDIA FISHERIES BANDAR(.) 4TH  
FEB. 94 FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M. (.) PLEASE STOP JOINT  
VENTURES CHANGE ANTI FISHER PEOPLE DEEP SEA FISHING POLICY  
(.) TAKE OVER IMMEDIATELY ACTION ABOVE CANCELLED THE LICENCE  
OF FOREIGN DEEP SEA VESSELS FISHING.

દેવા ભાઈ

દેવા ભાઈ

H.T.T.

Veraval.

Date: 31-1-1994.

Confirmation copy for the necessary action, above matter details  
letter follows:

- 1: Hon'ble Prime Minister Narasi Rao Saheb, Sansad, Bhavan,  
New Delhi.
- 2: " Agriculture Minister Balram Jakher " " New Delhi
- 3: The Minister of Food Processing Industries, Panchahil
- 4: Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar.
- 5: Commissioner of Fisheries, Old Sachivalaya.
- 6: Shri Devjibhai Tindel, N.P. Nani Daman.
- 7: Genl. Bhayamber Chikhaliya, M.P. Junagadh.
- 8: Thomas Kochery, Cheruvashmi Centre, Valzathura TRIVANDRUM.



# ધામળેજ બંદર ખારવા સમાજ



ધામળેજ  
તા. વેરાવળ  
(જ. જુનાગઢ)

માત્ર

**TELEGRAM ORDINARY**

To

1. HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER  
SHRI N. R. SIVAO SAHEB  
SANSAD BHAVAN NEW DELHI
2. MINISTRY OF FOOD  
PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
PANCHSIL BHAVAN NEW DELHI

WE ARE ALL JOINT WITH ALL INDI. FISHERIES BNDAR(.) 4th  
FEB.- '94 FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M.(.) PLEASE STOP  
JOINT VENTURES CHANGE ANTI FISHER PEOPLE DEEP SEA FISHING  
POLICY (.) TAKE OVER IMMEDIATELY ACTION ABOVE CANCELLED  
THE LICENCE OF FOREIGN DEEP SEA VESSELS FISHING.

૨૧/૧/૨૦૧૪

N.T.T.

Veraval.

Date: 31-1-1994.

૨૧/૧/૨૦૧૪

Confirmation copy for the necessary action, above matter  
detail letter follows:

- 1 Hon'ble Prime Minister Nazari Rao Sahab, Sansad Bhavan, N. Delhi
- 2 Agriculture Minister Balram Jakher " " "
- 3 The Minister of Food Processing Industries, Panchsail
- 4 Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- 5: Commissioner of Fisheries, Old Sachivalaya,
- 6: Shri Devjibhai Tindal N.P. Nani Daman.
- 7: Smt. Bhavaben Chikhaliya, M.P. Junagadh.
- 8: Thomas Kochery, Chozrasmai Centre, Valzathura, TRIVANDRUM.



॥ १५ ॥

# श्री घोषलीया भारवा शक्ति

धामनेज अंकर

छन्दो जुनागढ

ता. वेरावण

(सौराष्ट्र)

ता. - - १६८

## GENERAL TELEGRAM

1. HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER  
SHRI B. S. P. SINGH  
5, 15, 0, 11, V. H.

2. MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
P. H. S. H. L. S. V. H. / NEW DELHI.

RE: ALL JOINT INT. ALL INDIA FISHERIES BOARD (.)

4th FEB. - 94 FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M. (.)

ALL INDIA JOINT VENTURES (IN) INT. FISHERIES

BOARD AND P. S. FISHERIES POLICY (.) THE OVER

BOARD ONLY OTHER ABOVE CHARTERED THE LICENSE OF

FOREIGN VESSEL VESSEL FISHERIES.

x ८१५ मगन

H. T. T.

Vengal

24. 1-1-94

x ८१५ मगन

Confirmation copy for the necessary action, above matter  
details letter follows:

1. Hon'ble Prime Minister Mohan Lal Sachdev, Sansad Bhavan  
New Delhi.

2. Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Balram Jethwa " " New Delhi

3. The Minister of Food Processing Industries, Mohan Lal  
Sachdev, New Delhi.

4. Chief Minister Chimanlal Patel, Sachivdoyo, Gandhinagar

5. Fisheries Minister Mohanlal Jethwa " "

6. Commissioner of Fisheries, Old Sachivdoyo " "

7. Chai Govindlal Tindal, M.P. New Buzon.

8. Smt. Bhavaben Chhotalal, M.P. Junagadh.

9. Thomas Kochary, Chaurashtal Centre, Valambusa, T.N. N. S. S.



SHREE NAVABUNDER KODI MAHAJAN ASSOCIATION.

श्री नवाबुंदर कोडी महाजन एसोसिएशन

पोस्ट : देलवाडा.  
मुं. : नवाबुंदर.  
उदर ५१०.  
(सोरठ).



Post : Delwada,  
NAVABUNDER.  
562 510.  
(Sorath)

दि. 1 - 2 - १९९४

ORDINARY

- 1) HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER  
SHRI NARASIRAO SAHEB,  
SANSAD BHAVAN,

MINISTRY OF Food,  
Processing Industries  
Panchshil Bhuvan  
New Delhi  
NEW DELHI

WE ARE ALL JOINT WITH ALL INDIA FISHERIES BANDH(.) 4TH FEB. 94  
FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M. (.) PLEASE STOP JOINT VENTURES  
CHANGE ANTI FISHER PEOPLE DEEP-SEA FISHING POLICY (.) TAKE  
OVER IMMEDIATELY ACTION ABOVE CANCELLED THE LICENCE OF FOREIGN  
DEEP-SEA VESSELS FISHING.

*Babulal Sornet Solankhi*  
President

n. t. t.  
Veraval  
Dt. 30-1-94

President,  
Akhil Gujarat Machhinar Mahanadal.

Confirmation copy for the necessary action, above matter details  
letter follows.

- 1) Hon'ble Prime Minister Narasi Rao Saheb, Sansad Bhavan, NEW DELHI  
2) "Agriculture Minister Balram Jakher, " " "  
3) The Minister of Food Processing Industries, Panchshil Bhavan, NEW DELHI  
4) Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar  
5) Fisheries Minister Mohansinh Rathva, " "  
6) Commissioner of Fisheries, Old Sachivalaya, "  
7) Shri Devjibhai Tindel, M.P. NANI DAMAN  
8) Smt. Bhavanben Chikhaliya, M.P. Junagadh.  
9) Thomas Kochery, Cherurashmi Centre, Valzathura, TRIVANDRUM  
10) Panjabhai Vans M.L.A. Una Taluka. Una

# શ્રી નવાબંદર સાગરખેડુ મરછીમાર ઉત્પાદક સહકારી મંડળી લી.

રજ. નં. ન.પી.ઉ.-૭૪૧૬ તા. ૨૮-૨-૭૮

નવાબંદર.

વાયા : દેવવાડા.

તા : ઉના. - ૩૨૨૫૦

રજ. નંબર

તા.

Date :- 2-2-94.

WE ARE ALL JOINT WITH ALL INDIA FISHERIES BANDH (.) 4TH FEB. 94 FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M. (.) PLEASE STOP JOINT VENTURES OF ANTI FISHER PROPLI DEEP-SEA FISHING POLICY (.) TAKE OVER IMMEDIATELY ACTION ABOVE CANCELLED THE LICENCE OF FOREIGN DEEP-SEA VESSELS FISHING.

PRESIDENT,

NAVABUNDER SAGAR KHEDU MACHHIMAR  
Abdul hasan

મયુખ,

શ્રી નવાબંદર સાગરખેડુ મરછીમાર ઉ. સ. મં. લી.  
President,

n. s. t.

Navabud

Dt. -1-94

Akhil Gujarat Machhimar Mahamadal

Confirmation copy for the necessary action, above latter detail  
s letter follows.

- 1) Hon' ble prime Minister Narasi Ioo Sahab, Sansand Bhavan,  
New Delhi.
- 2) " Agriculture Minister Daliam Jukher, " "
- 3) The Minister of Food processing industries, Panchshil  
Bhavan New Delhi.
- 4) Chief Minister Chimantrai Patel Sachivaleya GANDHINAGAR
- 5) Fisheries Minister Mohansinh Rathva, " "
- 6) Commissioner of Fisheries, Old Sachivaleya, " "
- 7) Shri Devjirai Tindal, N.P. KAWI DHAN " "
- 8) Smt. Bhavansan Chichalia N.P. Junagadh.
- 9) Thane Country Charurashid Centre, Valzathure, TRIVANDEUM
- 10) Punje Khat Vansh M.La Una.
- 11) Member of Una.

★ પટેલ અભારખા નથુભાઈ મઘીયારા ★

સમસ્ત મઘીયારા સામાજી

મુળકારકા ખંદર - ૩૬૨ ૭૨૫

[ તાલુકો : કોવીનાર \* જિલ્લો : અમરેલી ]

રેકૉર્ડ નં.

તારીખ ૧/૨/૯૪

ORDINARY TELEGRAM

- 1 ) HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER  
SHRI NARASIRAO SAHEB  
SANSAD BHAVAN.
- 2 ) MINISTRY OF FOOD  
PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
PANCHSHIL BHUVAN  
NEW DELHI

WE ARE ALL JOINT WITH ALL INDIA FISHERIES BANDH (.) 4TH FEB. 94  
FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M. (.) PLEASE STOP JOINT VENTURES  
CHANGE ANTI FISHER PEOPLE DEEP SEA FISHING POLICY (?) TAKE  
OVER IMMEDIATELY ACTION ABOVE. CANCELLED THE LICENCE OF FOREIGN  
DEEP SEA VESSELS FISHING.

N .T.T.  
V. raval.  
D t: 31 - 1 - 94

Confirmation copy for the necessary action above matter details  
letter follows:

- 1) Hon'ble Prime Minister Narasi Rao Saheb, Sansad Bhavan, New Delhi
- 2) " Agriculture Minister Balram Jakher " " "
- 3) The Minister of Food Processing Industries, Panchshil Bhavan "
- 4) Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar.
- 5) Fisheries Minister Mohansinh Rathva, " "
- 6) Commissioner of Fisheries, Old Sachivalaya, "
- 7) Shri. Devjibhai Tindel, M.P. Nani Daman.
- 8) Smt Bhavanben Chikhaliya, M.P. Junagadh
- 9) Thomas Kochery, Cherurashmi Centre, Valzathura, TRIVANDRUM.





# ભારતીય સમુદ્રમાં માછીમારી માટે વિદેશીઓનો પગપેસારો કરાવવા કેન્દ્ર સરકારની હિલચાલ

કેન્દ્રના નિર્ણયના વિરોધમાં ૪થી ફેબ્રુ.એ માછીમારોની દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલ

જામનગર તા.૨૧  
કેન્દ્ર સરકારે વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને માછીમારી કરવા માટે છુટછાટ આપવાનો નિર્ણય લીધો છે. તેના વિરોધમાં સ્થાનિક માછીમારી આલમમાં આંદોલનનું સંસ્થાપિત કુંડાવા માંડ્યું છે. અને આગામી તા. ૪ ફેબ્રુઆરીના રોજ દેશભરના માછીમારો હડતાલ ઉપર જનાર હોવાના અહેવાલો સાંપડે છે.

સિક્કા સરમત માછીમારી સહકારી મંડળી લી. ના એક નિવેદનમાં જાણાવ્યા પ્રમાણે કેન્દ્ર સરકારે વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને માછીમારી કરવા માટે છુટછાટ આપવાનો નિર્ણય લીધો છે. આ નિર્ણયથી ગુજરાતના બે હજાર કિલોમીટર લાંબા દરિયા કિનારામાં

અસંખ્ય માછીમારો રોજી કમાય છે. તેઓની રોજી આ નિર્ણયના અમલી કરાવવાની સાથે જ છીનવાઈ જશે. આ વિદેશી કંપનીઓની બોટોને જે માછીમારી કરવા માટેની પરવાનગી આપી દેવામાં આવે તો ગુજરાતના અસંખ્ય માછીમારો બેરોજગારીની ગતિમાં પડેલાઈ જશે. નિર્ણય સામે માછીમારોમાં ઘેરો અસંતોષ પ્રસર્થો છે.

કેન્દ્ર સરકારના આ નિર્ણયના વિરોધમાં ૪ થી ફેબ્રુઆરીના રોજ એક દિવસની પ્રતિક હડતાલમાં જોડાવાનો ગુજરાતના માછીમારોએ પાગ નિર્ણય લઈ દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલને ટેકો

આપવાનું નક્કી કર્યું છે. વિદેશી ટેકનોલોજી અને મશીનો દ્વારા વિદેશી બોટો લાંબરીને મોટા ઉદ્યોગગૃહોને દરિયામાં માછીમારી કરવાની પરવાનગી આપવામાં આવશે તો સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કચ્છ અને ગુજરાતના અસંખ્ય માછીમારો નવરાંધુપ થઈ જશે અને તેઓના પરિવારજનોને લુપ્ત મરવાનો વખત આવશે. આથી કેન્દ્ર સરકારે માછીમારોના હિત માટે અને સરહદની સલામતી માટે પુનઃ વિચારણા કરવા આ માછીમારી મંડળીએ અનુરોધ કર્યો છે તથા દરેક માછીમારોને તા. ૪-૨-૭૨ ની એક દિવસની પ્રતિક હડતાલને ટેકો આપી હડતાલમાં જોડાવા અપીલ કરી છે.

અખિલ ભારતીય માછીમાર હડતાળના અનુસંધાને

## આજે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના બે લાખ માછીમારો દરિયો નહીં ખેડે

પોરબંદર તા. ૩, [ટૂંકકોલ] : કેન્દ્ર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને દેશના પૂર્વથી પશ્ચિમ સમુદ્ર કિનારામાં માછીમારી માટે છુટછાટ આપવાની નીતિનો સામુદાયિક વિરોધ કરવા ગુજરાતભરના ત્રણ લાખ માછીમારો કાલે તા. ૪થીએ તેમની ૧૫ હજારથી વધુ બોટો દરિયામાં નહીં લઈ જઈ વિરોધ વ્યક્ત કરશે.

પોરબંદર માછીમાર બોટ એસો.ના પ્રમુખ છવાભાઈ શિયાળ, મંત્રી પ્રેમજીભાઈ ખોખરી, અને દ્વારકાથી દીવ સુધીની દરિયાઈ પટ્ટીના સમસ્ત ખાસ્વા જ્ઞાતિના ૫૮૯૫ પ્રમુખ હરિભાઈ કોટિયા, સહિત દરેક બંદરના માછીમાર આવેલાનો અને એસો.એ અગાઉથી જોઈએલી વ્યવસ્થાને કારણે આ

હડતાળમાં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના બે લાખથી વધુ માછીમારો જોડાઈ જશે.

કેન્દ્રના ટેકનોલોજી કમિશન ૨૬૦૦થી વધુ વિદેશી જહાજો મજાવીને મોટા ઉદ્યોગગૃહ અને પરદેશોને દરિયામાં માછીમારી કરવાની છુટ આપવા માગે છે તે હકિકત સ્થાનિક માછીમારો અને નિકાસલક્ષી મન્યોદ્યોગ માટે ઘાતક પૂરવાર થશે.

ગુજરાતમાં ૪૫ લાખથી વધુ ઉત્પાદન થાય છે ૫૦ હજાર ટનની નિકાસ સામે ૪૦૦ કરોડનું કુંડિયામણ મળે છે. એકલા પોરબંદરમાંથી ૧૩૫ કરોડની માછલીની નિકાસ થાય છે.

સૌરાષ્ટ્ર - કચ્છની ૧૮ કોલ્ડ સ્ટોરેજ ફેક્ટરીમાંથી આ નિકાસ થાય છે જેમાં તાઈવાન, કોરિયાની બોટોને મંજૂરી અપાયા બાદ હાલમાં સ્થાનિક માછીમારો ૫૦ મીટરની અંદર માછલા પકડે છે. મોટી બોટો ૨૦૦ મીટરની ઉંડાઈ તળિયા સુધી પહોંચી જશે. ત્યારે આવા માછલાઓ લાંબા ગાળે મળતા ઓછા થઈ જશે.

કેન્દ્ર સરકારના આંકડા મુજબ ૧૯૬૨માં વિદેશી જહાજોને અપાયેલી મંજૂરીથી રૂ. ૯૦ લાખની આવક થઈ હતી. તેની સામે કોસ્ટ ગાર્ડ જેન એજન્સીઓના ખર્ચનો આંકડો કરોડો ઉપર થયો છે.

મુદ્રક-પ્રકાશક : ડેડ્ડે સ્વિમિટેડના માલિકો વતી : જજેન્દ્ર એન્ડ પ્રકાશન : જનસતા કાર્યાલય, સદર, સજકોટ-૧, ફોન : ૪૫૬

# ભારતીય જળ સીમામાં વિદેશી ટ્રોલરોને માછીમારીના લાયકસબ આપવાના નિર્ણયના વિરોધમાં ૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરીએ માછીમારોની રાષ્ટ્રવ્યાપી હડતાલ

ભારતીય માછીમારોની રોજી છીનવાઈ જવાની દહેશત :

સરકાર પુનઃવિચારણા ન કરે તો બેમુદતી આંદોલનની ચીમકી

વેરાવળ તા. ૨૫ : ભારતીય જળ સીમા વિસ્તાર નહીંકના દરિયામાં વિદેશી માછીમારી ટ્રોલરોને માછીમારી માટેના કાયદેસરના લાયકસબ આપવા કેન્દ્ર સરકારના નિર્ણયના વિરોધમાં તેમજ ભારતીય માછીમારોને સત્તાવના અનેક પ્રશ્નોને વાચા આપવા તારીખ ૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરીના રોજ પ્રતિક હડતાલ ઘડવા માછીમાર સંઘકોએ નિર્ણય કર્યો છે. ખાસ્વા સંયુક્ત માછીમાર બોટ એસોસિએશન વેરાવળની યાદીમાં જણાવવાયા પ્રમાણે કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી સ્ટીમર ટાઈપની ફીશીંગ ટ્રોલરોને દેશના પૂર્વથી પશ્ચિમ સમુદ્ર કિનારામાં માછીમાર માટે છૂટછાટ આપવાની નીતિ સામે વેરાવળ બંદર સુધી ઓફ પોર્ટના સમગ્ર માછીમારોમાં ઘણાજ ઉગ્ર રોષ ફેલાયો છે. તેના વિરોધમાં નેશનલ ફીશ વર્કસ ફોરમ છંદાબાદ દ્વારા રાષ્ટ્રીય કક્ષાએ તા. ૪-૨-૮૪ના રોજ સંવાદના ૬ વાગ્યાથી સાંજના છ વાગ્યા સુધીની હડતાલનું એલાન છે. જુજરાતભરના તમામ માછીમારોની સાથે વેરાવળ બંદરના માછીમારો પણ આંદોલનમાં જાડાશે. વિદેશી સ્ટીમર ટાઈપની ફીશીંગ

ટ્રોલરો છેલ્લા ઘણા વરસોથી જુજરાતના દરિયાઈ વિસ્તારમાં પ્રવેશીને માતંબર પ્રમાણમાં માછીમારી કરી જાય છે. આથી ભારતીયોને આર્થિક નુકશાની થાય છે. આ અંગે અભ્યાર સુધીમાં સરકારમાં અનેકવાર રજૂઆત કરવા છતાં "આંખ આડા કાન" કરવામાં આવ્યા છે. જેના કારણે જુજરાત, સૌરાષ્ટ્ર, કચ્છના સમગ્ર માછીમારો પર ખતરો ઉભો થાય એવી પરિસ્થિતિ નિર્માણ થઈ છે. માછીમારોને છેલ્લા ઘણા સમયથી ધંધા કરવામાં પાર વગરની કઠણાઈનો સામનો કરવો પડે છે. પાકિસ્તાની ચાંચિયાગીરીનો કડવો અનુભવ થતાં જ રહ્યા છે. માછીમારોની બોટો કબજે કરી માછીમારોનું અપહરણ કરીને પાકિસ્તાની જલમાં મહિનાઓ સુધી સડવું પડે છે. અને છેલ્લા ચાર પાંચ વર્ષના ગાળામાં આવી ચાંચિયાગીરીની પ્રવૃત્તિ વધી પડી છે. બીજી બાજુ વિદેશી હરીફાઈનો સામનો કરવો પડે છે અને વિદેશી સાધનો પાસે ભારતીય ગરીબ અને અભણ માછીમારોને ટકવાનું જગુ

નથી. આમ કેન્દ્ર સરકારના વિદેશી બોટને આપણા દરિયાઈ વિસ્તારમાં માછીમારી કરવાની છૂટ આપવાના નિર્ણયની સામે ભવિષ્યમાં બે મુદતી હડતાલ આપવી ન પડે તે વેલાસર પુનઃ વિચારણા કરે તેવી માગણી છે. માંજરોજ : ભારતીય સમુદ્રમાં કેન્દ્ર સરકારે વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને માછીમારી કરવા છૂટછાટ આપવાનો નિર્ણય લીધા તેના વિરોધમાં માંજરોજ બંદરના માછીમારોએ માંજરોજ ખાસ્વા જ્ઞાતિના પટેલ શ્રી નારણભાઈના અધ્યક્ષસ્થાને બેઠક યોજી હતી. વક્તાઓએ કેન્દ્રની આ નીતિની સખત સમાલોચના કરી હતી. આનાથી માછીમારોના ધંધા પર પડનારી ભાવિ નકારાત્મક અસરોની ચર્ચા થઈ. આ નિર્ણય માછીમારોને બેરોજગારી તરફ ધકેલશે. સ્થાનિક માછીમારોના વિકાસના બોજે વિદેશીઓનું આર્થિક હિત સધાશે. અંતમાં આ નેશનલ ફીશ વર્કસ ફોરમ ચોથી ફેબ્રુઆરીના રોજ હડતાલના આપેલા એલાનમાં જોડાવાનું અને સરકારના આ નિર્ણયનો ઉચ્ચકક્ષા સુધી વિરોધ કરવાનો ઠરાવ સર્વાનુમતે પસાર કર્યો હતો.

# ભારતીય દરિયામાં વિદેશીઓને માછીમારી માટે છુટ આપવા સામે જાગેલો વિરોધ

તા. ૪થી માછીમારોની દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલને પોરબંદર ભાજપનો ટેકો

પોરબંદર તા. ૨૭ જાહેર કરવામાં આવ્યું છે.

કેન્દ્ર સરકારે સ્થાનીક ઉદ્યોગપતી અને વિદેશી ઉદ્યોગપતીઓને સંયુક્ત રીતે ભારતીય દરિયામાં માછીમારી માટે છુટપ્રાપ્ત આપતા તેના દેશ વ્યાપી વિરોધમાં તા. ૪ થી ફેબ્રુઆરીએ પડનારી હડતાલમાં માછીમારોને ભાજપ એ પાગ ટેકો જાહેર કરતા આ હડતાલને સોરામાં અંતરૂપ ટેકો સાંપડ્યો છે.

પોરબંદર ભાજપના મંત્રી મુકેશ દત્તાએ મુખ્યમંત્રીને એક પત્રમાં એવી રજુઆત કરી છે કે ભારતીય જળાશયોમાં વિદેશી માછીમારોને માછીમારી કરવા દેવાથી એ સ્થાનીક માછીમારોને ભુખમરામાં પકેલી દેવા સમાન છે.

આ પ્રશ્ને ભાજપની કારોબારી બેઠકમાં પાગ ઉઠાવવામાં આવશે અને પ્રદેશ પ્રમુખ કાશીરામ રાગા, ફેશુભાઈ પટેલ, પ્રદેશ મંત્રી નારસીંહભાઈ પર્દીવાર વગેરે આ પ્રશ્ને ઉચ્ચ આંદોલન જાગાવવાનું

પોરબંદર સાગર સર્વોદય મન્ડલ ઉદ્યોગ સહકારી મંડળીના પ્રમુખ બાબુભાઈ પાંકરીએ વિદેશી તાર્દવાનની ફીશીંગ બોટો અને અન્ય વિદેશી બોટોને માછીમારીની છુટપ્રાપ્ત આપવાના અનુસંધાને રાજ્યના ઉદ્યોગમંત્રી મોહનસિંહ રાઠવા, સંસદસભ્ય શ્રી હરીભાઈ પટેલ, ફીશરીઝ કમીશનર વગેરેએ પાઠવેલા પ્રત્યુત્તરમાં આ પ્રશ્ને કેન્દ્ર સરકાર સાથે હાથ ધરાયો હોવાનું અને યોગ્ય કરવા હેથાપારાગા અપાઈ હોવાનું જાગાવવામાં આવ્યું છે.

પોરબંદરના ખારવા જ્ઞાતિના ભુતપુર્વ પ્રમુખ પ્રધાને ભારતીય સમુદ્રમાં વિદેશી કંપનીઓને માછીમારી માટે આવવા નહીં દેવાના નિર્ણયની તાત્કાલીક જાહેરાત કરવા સરકાર સમક્ષ માંગણી કરી છે.

રાષ્ટ્રીય એકતા રેલી

પોરબંદરમાં આજામી તા. ૩૦ મી

જન્યુના રોજ ગાંધી નિર્વાગ દિન નિમિત્તે રાષ્ટ્રીય એકતા રેલીનું આયોજન કીર્તી મંદીર અને રાજકોટની ખાલ વિકાસ સંસ્થાના સંયુક્ત ઉપક્રમે કરવામાં આવેલ છે.

રાજ્યના ઉદ્યોગમંત્રીશ્રી અને કીર્તીમંદીર સંચાલન સમિતિના અધ્યક્ષ શશીકાંત લાખાગી, નાગામંત્રી છબીલદાસ મહેતા નર્મદા વિકાસ મંત્રીશ્રી બાબુભાઈ પટેલ, સહકાર મંત્રીશ્રી બાટી, સહિત સંસદીય સચિવો શ્રી કાલાવડીયા અને ભેસાગીયા વગેરે ઉપસ્થિત રહેશે.

સવારે ૮ વાગ્યે કમલાબાગ પાસેથી શરૂ થનારી આ રેલીમાં સોને જોડાવા ખાલ વિકાસ મંડળના અધ્યક્ષ જયંત પંડ્યાએ યાદી પાઠવી છે.

આ પ્રસંગે ગાંધી કીર્તી મંદીરમાં શહેરની વિવિધ સંસ્થાઓ દ્વારા ગાંધી પ્રાર્થના સભાનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે.

તાવજુડવા વકાલ મડળના સભ્યા

## પોરબંદરમાં ગાંધી વ્યાખ્યાન માળા અંતર્ગત શનિવારે કવિ સુરેશ દલાલનું વ્યાખ્યાન

૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરીની દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલને માછીમારોનો ટેકો

માછીમારોની હડતાલ

તા. ૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરીના દેશવ્યાપી માછીમારોની પડનારી હડતાલમાં પોતાનો સૂર પુરાવવા પોરબંદર ડાઈક્રિથ સપ્લાયર્સ એસોસીએશનના પ્રમુખ હિરાલાલ મસાગી અને ઉપપ્રમુખ સુનિલ ગોહીલે કેન્દ્ર સરકારને તાત્કાલીક તાર્દવાન સહિતની અન્ય પરદેશી બોટોને મંજૂરી નહીં આપવાની માંગણી કરી છે.

પરદેશની આ બોટોના પરિણામે સોરાષ્ટ્રના નાના ફિશરમેનોને ભારે આર્થિક નુકશાન થશે. આ ઉપરાંત પોરબંદર મહાસાગર મન્ડલ ઉદ્યોગ સહકારી મંડળીના પ્રમુખ સીદીભાઈ બોઢારીએ તેમજ ખારવા જ્ઞાતિના માછ વાગોટ પ્રધાનભાઈએ પાગ માછીમારોના આંદોલનને ટેકો જાહેર કર્યો છે.

### વિદેશીઓને માછીમારીના છુટના વિરોધમાં

માછીમારોની અખિલ ભારતીય હડતાલમાં દીવ પંથકના માછીમારો જોડાશે

દીવ તા. ૧ : ભારત સરકારે વિદેશી માછીમારોને ભારતીય જળાશયોમાં માછીમારી માટે આપેલી પરવાનગીના વિરોધમાં માછીમારોના અખિલ ભારતીય મંડળ તરફથી તા. ૪થી ફેબ્રુઆરીએ દેશભરમાં પડનારી હડતાલને વજાકબારા માછીમાર એસોસીએશને ટેકો જાહેર કરી વજાકબારા એસોસીએશન પણ એ દિવસે હડતાલમાં જોડાશે એમ એસોસીએશનના પ્રમુખ શ્રી સોમાભાઈ વરબંજ, વડીશેરી માછીમાર એસોસીએશનના શ્રી રામજી નમ્બુ સોલંકી વાડી વિસ્તાર માછીમાર એસોસીએશનના પ્રમુખ શ્રી લક્ષમણભાઈ પુંજ વગેરેએ એક સંયુક્ત નિવેદનમાં જણાવ્યું છે.







**જૂનાગઢ જિલ્લો**

**વેરાવળના માછીમારો આજની હડતાલમાં જોડાશે**

વેરાવળ : વેરાવળથી ભરૂચભાંડ સુધીના તમામ પેટાબંદરોના માછીમાર સમાજના પટેલો, પ્રમુખો તથા આવેલાં-તેની એક એક ખાસ્વા સમાજ વેરાવળમાં પટેલ શ્રી લખમણભાઈ વણીકના અધ્યક્ષવાને મળી હતી. જેમાં સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટને દરિયામાં માછીમારી કરવાના પરવાના આપ્યા છે તેનો વિરોધ કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો. આ અંગે એલ ઈન્ડિયા ફીશરીઝ એસોસીએશનની તા. ચોથીની હડતાલમાં જોડાવાનો નિર્ણય કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો. ભીડીયા બોટ એસોસીએશન પણ આ એલાનને પોતાનો ટેકો જાહેર કર્યો હતો.



“ધરના ઘંટી યાટે ને ઉપાધ્યાયને આટો” જેવી સરકારી નીતિ હોય તેમ વિદેશી અદ્યતન ફીશીંગ બોટોને ભારતીય જળસીમામાં માછીમારી માટે પરવાના અપાતા સાગરખેડૂને દરિયા ખુંદવાની સખત મહેનત માથે પડતી અને ખાલી હાથે પાછું ફરવું પડતું. પરિણામે આ પરવાના રદ કરવાની માગણી સાથે દેશભરના માછીમારોએ આપેલ “માછીમારી બંધ”ના એલાનને જખરો પ્રતિસાદ મળ્યો હતો. વેરાવળ બંદરે નાની-મોટી ૧૮૦૦ જેટલી બોટના ખલાસીઓએ હલેસા બંધની બોટને દરિયા કિનારે લાંગરી બોટોનો ખડકલો કરી દીધો હતો, તે તસવીરમાં જોવા મળે છે.

**વિદેશી માછીમારોને ભારતીય દરિયામાં માછીમારીની છુટ આપવાના વિરોધમાં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના બે લાખ માછીમારોની હડતાલ**

(પ્રતિનિધિઓ દ્વારા)  
 રાજકોટ, તા. ૪ : કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ટ્રોલરોને દેશના પૂર્વથી લઈમ કાંઠા સુધી માછીમારી કરવા માટે અપાયેલ મંજૂરીનો વિરોધ કરવા કેન્દ્રીય માછીમાર મહામંડળે આપેલા એલાન અંગે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના માચરકાંઠાના બે લાખ જેટલા માછીમારોએ ‘માછીમારી બંધ રાખી’ની કારમિયાન રાજ્યના ઉદ્યોગ પ્રધાન શ્રીકાન લાખાણીએ સ્થાનિક માછીમારી ઉદ્યોગના ભોજે વિદેશી માછીમારોને માછીમારીની છુટ નહીં

આપવા કેન્દ્ર સરકારને અનુરોધ કર્યો છે. વિદેશી માછીમારોને ભારતના દરિયામાં તેમની અનિ-આધુનિક ફીશીંગ ટ્રોલરો દ્વારા માછીમારી કરવાની સરકારે મંજૂરી આપતા તેની સામે આપણા માછીમારો વામણ સાબિત થાય છે. પરિણામે તેમના વ્યવસાય પર મોટું આર્થિક નુકસાન આવી પડ્યું છે. આ જ રીતે આ વ્યવસાય સાથે સંબંધ એવા આઈસ ફેક્ટરી કોલ્ડ સ્ટોરેજ નેટ માર્કેટીંગ વગેરેને પણ ભારે આર્થિક નુકસાન ભોગવવું પડે તેવી પરિસ્થિતિનું નિર્માણ થતાં કેન્દ્રીય માછીમાર મહામંડળે

આ પરવાનગીનો વિરોધ દર્શાવવા એક દિવસની પ્રતીક હડતાળનું એલાન આપ્યું હતું. પોરબંદર : માછીમાર બોટ એસોસીએશને આ હડતાળને ટેકો જાહેર કરતા તેમાં સ્થાનિક ૩૫૦ થી વધારે બોટ જોડાઈ હતી. પરિણામે બંદરના બારામાં આ બોટો સમાતી ન હતી. કેન્દ્ર સરકાર સામે માછીમારોનો આવો સામુદ્રિક વિરોધ પહેલીવાર જોવા મળ્યો હતો. એસો.ના પ્રમુખ જીવાભાઈ યિયાળ, પ્રેમજીભાઈ ખોખરી, ખારવા જ્ઞાતિના પ્રમુખ હરિભાઈ કોટિયા

વગેરેએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે, વિદેશી માછીમારોને ૨૬૦૦ જેટલી બોટ લઈ ભારતના દરિયામાં આવવા તેનાની પરવાનગીથી આપણાં માછીમારો ભૂખમરામાં પકેલાઈ જશે. તેઓએ આ હડતાળને સફળ બનાવવા બદલ માછીમારો, મંડળીઓ વગેરેને અભિનેદન આપ્યા હતાં. અને હવે પછી આવનારી ઉગ્ર હડત તથા સાંસદોને ધેરાવ વગેરે કાર્યક્રમોમાં જોડાવા માટે તૈયાર રહેવા અનુરોધ કર્યો હતો. ઓખા : માછીમારી બંધના (જુઓ પાનું ૯)

કુલદાશ-૫૧૨  
 તા. ૫-૨-૯૪

સંદર્ભમાં અહીંના બંદરે દોઢસો જેટલી બોટોમાંથી આશરે ૫૦ લાખ રૂપિયાનો માછલીનો જથ્થો ઉતારવાનું કાલ્લ બંધ રહેતા આ માછલીઓ પ્રડી.પડી સડી રહી હતી. જ્યારે ૩૦૦ જેટલી માછીમારી બોટો દરિયામાં પડી રહી હતી. માછીમારી કરી નહતી. આ એક દિવસની પ્રતીક હડતાળથી રૂ. છ કરોડનું નુકસાન થવાનો અંદાજ છે. સ્થાનિક માછીમારી મંડળના અગ્રણીઓ પ્રવીણભાઈ, સ્હીમભાઈ, રતીલાલ, દાદામીયા બાપુ વગેરેની આજેવાની હેઠળ રેલી નીકળી હતી. જેણે મત્સ્યોદ્યોગ ખાતાને આવેદન આપ્યું હતું.

ઉના : માછીમારોની આજની દેશ વ્યાપી હડતાલમાં નજીકનાં નવાં બંદરના સાગર ખેડુ જેડાયા હતાં. અહીંના ૩૦૦ ફિશીંગ બોટવાળાઓ દ્વારા તો આ પ્રશ્ને અચોક્કસ મુદત માટે સાગર ન ખેડવાનું એવાન અપાયુ છે. અને આજની પ્રતીક હડતાલ ચાલુ રાખવાની સાગર ખેડુ આજેવાનો બાબુ સામત તથા શ્રીરાજ ઈસ્માઈલ હાજીએ જાહેરાત કરી હતી. નવા બંદર પર દરરોજ ત્રીસેક હજાર લોકો મત્સ્યોદ્યોગમાંથી રોજી રળે છે.

જાહેરાત : આજે સવારે અહીં બંદર ચોકથી માછીમારોની મૌન રેલી નીકળી હતી. જે મામલતદાર કચેરી ખાતે પૂર્ણ થયા બાદ, માછીમાર આજેવાનોએ મામલતદારને આવેદન પત્ર સુપરત કર્યું હતું.

#### નારસિંહ પઠિયાર

જૂનાગઢ : ભાજપના અગ્રણી શ્રી નારસિંહભાઈ પઠિયારે એક નિવેદનમાં માછીમારોની હડતાળ અંગે જણાવ્યું છે કે, આપણી જળ સીમામાં વિદેશીઓને છુટ આપવી તે સંરક્ષણની દ્રષ્ટિએ કેટલું ઉચિત છે, તે અંગે જંભીરતાથી વિચારવાનો સમય હવે પાકી ગયો છે અને જે આ સીલસીલો ચાલુ રહેશે તો માછીમારોના આંદોલનને તેમના વ્યાજબીપણા અંગે ભાજપ ટેકો

આપીને તેમના આંદોલનમાં જેડાશે. વેરાવળ

અખિલ ગુજરાત માછીમાર મહામંડળના અગ્રણી તથા અહીંની ખાસ્વા સંયુક્ત માછીમાર બોટ એસોસીએશનના પ્રમુખ શ્રી દેવજીભાઈ ડી. માલગેને આ હડતાલ સો ટકા સફળ રહી હોવાનું જણાવી આ હડતાલથી આ પંથકના દરિયાઈ વિસ્તારોના માછીમારોને અંદાજે રૂ. એકાદ કરોડનું નુકસાન થયાનું જણાવ્યું હતું. જે સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશીઓના પરવાના રદ નહીં કરવામાં આવે તો નજીકના જ સમયમાં સમગ્ર ગુજરાતના માછીમારો જલદ પંજલા લેવાનું વિચારશે અને અચોક્કસ મુદત માટે "માછીમારી બંધ"નો નિર્ણય કરશે.

આજની માછીમાર હડતાલથી વેરાવળની જ ૧૮૦૦ જેટલી ફિશીંગ બોટોના સાડાપાંચ હજાર કુટુંબોની રોજી-રોટીનો પ્રશ્ન ઉભો થયો હતો.

વેરાવળ બંદર ઉપર જત મધરાતથી ફિશીંગ બોટો દરીયામાંથી પરત આવતા સમગ્ર બંદર ઉપર અઠારસો જેટલી બોટો લાંચરી દેવામાં આવતા સમગ્ર બંદરનું કામકાજ ઠપ્પ થઈ ગયું હતું. આ હડતાલથી મચ્છીની લેવેચ કરતા સપ્લાયનો કાંટા (ધંધા) બંધ રહ્યા હતાં.

વેરાવળ ઉપરાંત ચોરવાડ, માંજરોળ, માધુપુર, પોરબંદર, સુત્રાપાડા, ધામજેજ, મુળ દ્વારકા, હીરોકોટ, માઠવાડ, કોટડા, વણાંકબારા, દીવ, ઘોઘલા, નવા બંદર, સીમાર, રાજપરા તથા જાહેરાતની અંદાજે પાંચેક હજાર બોટો આ બંધમાં જેડાયેલ હતી.

આ હડતાલના સંદર્ભે વેરાવળ ખાસ્વા જ્ઞાતિના પટેલ લખમણભાઈ વણિકે સાચી જાહેરાત ઉઠાવી સમગ્ર પરિસ્થિતિ ઉપર નગર રાખી રહ્યા હતાં. આ ઉપરાંત બોટ એસોસીએશનના ભૂતપૂર્વ પ્રમુખ શ્રી કે. જી. સુયાણી તેમજ અન્ય આજેવાનોએ બંધને સંપૂર્ણ ટેકો આપતા સો ટકા સફળ રહી હતી.

# આજે માછીમારોની રાષ્ટ્રવ્યાપી હડતાળમાં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના બે લાખ માછીમારો જોડાશે

વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને છૂટછાટ // સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છની ૧૫ હજાર આપવાના વિરોધમાં હડતાલ // ફીશીંગ બોટો દરિયો નહીં ખેડે..

પોરબંદર, તા. ૩  
કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને દેશનાં પૂર્વ અને પશ્ચિમ સમુદ્ર કિનારે માછીમારી કરવા માટે છૂટછાટ આપવાની નીતિનો જોરદાર વિરોધ કરવા ગુજરાત ભરનાં ત્રણ લાખથી વધુ માછીમારો આગામી તા. ૪ થી ફેબ્રુઆરીની રાષ્ટ્રવ્યાપી હડતાળમાં જોડાશે. જેમાં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કચ્છનાં બે લાખ માછીમારો તેમજ ૧૫ હજાર ફીશીંગ બોટોને દરિયામાં જતી સેક્રી રાખીને આ હડતાળનાં એલાનને સફળ બનાવવામાં આવશે.

પોરબંદર માછીમાર બોટ એસોસિએશનનાં પ્રમુખ શ્રી જીવાભાઈ શિયાળ, મંત્રી શ્રી પ્રેમજીભાઈ ખોખરી, તેમજ દારકાથી દિવ સુધીનાં તમામ બંદરોની સમસ્ત ખારવા જાતિનાં પટેલ પ્રમુખ હરિભાઈ કોટીયા અને દરેક બંદરની મન્ય સહકારી મંડળીઓ અને માછીમાર એસોસિએશને ગોઠવેલી વ્યવસ્થાને કારણે આ હડતાળને પુરેપુરી સફળતા મળશે.

કેન્દ્ર સરકારનાં ટેકનોલોજી કમિશન દ્વારા ૨૬૦૦ થી વધુ વિદેશી જહાજોને મગાવીને મોટા ઉદ્યોગ ગૂહો અને વિદેશી માછીમારો દ્વારા માછીમારી કરવાની ધોજના સ્થાનિક માછીમારો તેમજ નિકાસ બંધી ઉદ્યોગો માટે ઘાતક પુરવાર થાય તેમ છે જેના વિરોધમાં ૪થી તારીખે હડતાળ પાડવામાં આવનાર છે.

આ પ્રશ્ને અલગ રીતે રજુ કરતા ગુજરાત મરીન પ્રોડક્ટ એક્સપોર્ટ એસોસિએશનનાં ઉપપ્રમુખ અને ચમ

સુપનાં જનરલ મેનેજર આર.પી. કુમારે એક્સપોર્ટ કાઉન્સિલને અને કેન્દ્ર સરકારને વિગતવાર પત્ર પાઠવ્યો છે.

શ્રી કુમારનાં જાગાવ્યા અનુસાર ગુજરાતમાં મન્ય ઉદ્યોગો છેલ્લા ત્રણ દાયકામાં મોટી હરાગ્રહાળ ભરી છે. અને સાડા ચાર લાખ ટનનાં ઉત્પાદનમાંથી ૫૦ હજાર ટન માછલીઓની નિકાસ કરીને રૂ. ૪૦૦ કરોડનું વિદેશી હુંડીયામાગ મેળવે છે.

આમાંથી માત્ર પોરબંદરનાં દરિયાકાંઠેથી જ રૂ. ૧૩૫ કરોડથી વધુ મચ્છીની નિકાસ કરવામાં આવે છે. આ ઉપરાંત આ ઉદ્યોગમાં ૧૮ કોલ્ડ સ્ટોરેજ ફેક્ટરીઓ રોકાયેલી છે. તેમની ૫ હજાર સ્ટોરેજની ક્ષમતા છે.

ગુજરાત સૌરાષ્ટ્રમાં ૫૧૦૦ મશીન બોટો અને ૮૯૦૦ મશીન વગરની બોટો દ્વારા અંદાજે એક લાખ માછીમારોને સીધી રોજ મળે છે. જ્યારે દોઢ લાખથી વધુ લોકો આડકતરી રીતે રોજ મેળવે છે.

કોલ્ડ સ્ટોરેજ ફેક્ટરી અને અન્ય રોજમાં ૨૦ હજાર કામદારો કામ કરે છે. શ્રી કુમારની પ્રશ્નને કેન્દ્રની નીતિથી બે મુખ્ય ગંભીર પ્રશ્નો આ ઉદ્યોગને મુજવશે જેમાં વિદેશી મોટા જહાજોને લાયસન્સ આપવા તેમજ પાક મરીન એજન્સી દ્વારા કચ્છ-જામીના દરિયામાં વધતો ત્રાસ.

આ ઉપરાંત તાર્દવાન અને કોરીયાની ફીશીંગ બોટોને શરતી લાયસન્સ આપવા જોઈએ પણ તેમ થતુ નથી.

સરકાર જરા ખચકાર પદ્ધતિ છેલ્લા

આંકડાઓ મુજબ આ માછલીઓની ક્રમિત કરતા વિદેશી બોટ ચલાવવાનું ખર્ચ વધી જાય છે તે ખતાવે છે કે વિદેશીઓ અહીં છેતરપીંડી કરે છે.

૧૯૯૨ માં સરકારે વિદેશી બોટોને મંજુરી આપી હતી જેમાંથી માત્ર ૯૦ લાખની આવક મળી હતી. જેમાંથી કોસ્ટ ગાર્ડ સહિતની સરકારી એજન્સીઓનો કરોડો રૂપીયાનો ખર્ચ થયો હતો.

વિદેશી બોટો ૧૫ થી ૪૦ મીટરની લંબાઈની હોવાને કારણે તે દરિયામાં ૨૦૦ મીટરની ઉંડાઈ તળીયા સુધી જઈ શકશે જેને કારણે લાંબે ગાળે માછલીઓ પાગ મળતી ઓછી થઈ જશે.

સરકાર આવી બોટોને મંજુરી આપવા માગતી હોય તો તેની જાતિમાં પરિવર્તન લાવીને સ્થાનિક માછીમારી કરતી નાની બોટોને મર્યાદિત પ્રમાણમાં મંજુરી આપવી જોઈએ.

જે સરકાર દરિયામાં આધુનિક સગવડો આપે તો ભારતની વિદેશી નિકાસ ૫૦ હજાર કરોડ ટનથી વધીને દોઢ લાખ ટન સુધી પહોંચી જાય તેમ છે.

ઉપવાસનો અંત  
પોરબંદર અખિલ ગુજરાત વિદ્યુત કામદાર સંઘનાં કામદારોને તેમના બાકી રહેતા ચુકવણીનો પ્રશ્ન ૩ દિ'ના પ્રતિક ઉપવાસ બાદ ઉકેલાઈ જતા આજે કામદાર આગવાનો નંદુભાઈ પરમાર, એ.જી. મશરૂ, વી.જી. થાનકી અને આર.એચ. કાળાવદરાના હસ્તે પારાગા થયા હતા.



# વેરાવળ-જાફરાબાદ પંથકના દરિયા કિનારે આજે ફીશીંગ બોટોનો ખડકલો થશે

વેરાવળ તા. ૩: (ટુંકકોલ) કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને માછીમારી માટે અપાયેલ પરવાના રદ કરવાની માગણી સાથે આવતીકાલે તા. ૪થીએ દેશભરના માછીમારોની હડતાલનું એલાન અપાયું છે. વેરાવળ ખાતે આજે વેરાવળ-જાફરાબાદ વચ્ચેના બંદરે આડ બંદરોના આવેવાનોની મળેલી બેઠકમાં ઉપરોક્ત હડતાલને ટેકો જાહેર કરાયો છે. અને આવતીકાલે તમામ માછીમારોને માછી મારી ન કરવા અનુરોધ કરાયો છે. તેમજ માછીમારોને તેની ફીશીંગ બોટો જે-ને બંદરો પર રાખી દેવાનું જણાવાતા, વેરાવળ બંદર પર સ્થાનિક માછીમારોની બોટોનો ભરાવો થવા લાગ્યો છે. મોડી રાત કે વહેલી સવાર સુધીમાં અહીંની જ ૧૩૦૦ ઉપરાંત અમુક ફીશીંગ બોટોનો જમલો વેરાવળ બંદરે જમશે. એમ ખાસ્વા સંયુક્ત માછીમાર બોટ એસોસિએશનના પ્રમુખ શ્રી ડી.ડી. માલમની યાદીમાં જણાવાયું છે.

આજે અહીં શ્રી લખમણભાઈ વણિકના અધ્યક્ષસ્થાને મળેલી બેઠકમાં હિરાકોટ, ધામજેજ, સુત્રાપાડા, કોટડા, નવી બંદર, ચોરવાડ, માંજરોળ વગેરે આડબંદરોના માછીમાર સમાજના આવેવાનો ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતાં.

જાણવા મળ્યા અનુસાર, કેન્દ્ર સરકારે પરવાના આપ્યા બાદ છેલ્લાં ઘણા સમયથી વિદેશી સ્ટીમર જેવી અદ્યતન ફીશીંગ બોટો ગુજરાતના દરિયામાં કાંઠા સુધી ધસી જઈ,

માછીમારી કરી જાય છે. મોટી સંગ્રહશક્તિ અને આધુનિક સાધનોથી સજ્જ એવા આ ટ્રોલરો મોટા પ્રમાણમાં માછીમારી કરી જતી હોઈ,

ગુજરાત અને ખાસ કરીને સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના અનેક માછીમાર પરિવારો આર્થિક રીતે મુશ્કેલીમાં મુકાયા છે. ગુજરાતનો બહોળો મત્સ્યોદ્યોગ ભાંગતો જાય છે. સ્થાનિક માછીમારો દેશની બેકારીની સમસ્યા વધુ જંભીર બનાવે એવી સ્થિતિ સર્જાઈ રહી છે અનેક મત્સ્ય પ્રોસેસના કારખાના બંધ કરવા પડે એવી દહેશત છે.

ઉપરોક્ત પ્રશ્ને માછીમાર સમાજ દ્વારા અનેક વખતે કરાયેલ રજૂઆતોનું કોઈ પરિણામ આવ્યું નથી. ત્યારે દેશભરના માછીમારો આવતીકાલે હડતાલ પાડી તેનો વિરોધ વ્યક્ત કરી, સંબંધિત સત્તાવાળાઓને જાગૃત્વા પ્રયાસ કરશે. પણ આ હડતાલનું પરિણામ માછીમારોની માગણીનો સ્વીકાર હશે ?

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જયહિન્દ 4/2/94

## વિદેશીઓને ગુજરાતના દરિયા કિનારામાં માછીમારી કરતા અટકાવો: હરીભાઈ

પોરબંદર, તા. ૩ કેન્દ્ર સરકારની માછીમારોને નુકસાન કરતી મેલી નિતીને કારણે તાઈવાનની આધુનિક ટેકનોલોજી ધરાવતી ફીશીંગ બોટો ગુજરાતના બે બંદર કિ.મી. જેટલા વિશાળ દરિયામાં પ્રવેશ કરીને માછીમારી કરી જાય છે. તેમજ તેમને કેન્દ્ર સરકાર માછીમારી કરવા પરવાનગી આપે છે. જેમનો સંસદસભ્ય શ્રી હરિભાઈ પટેલ સખ્ત ઘબ્દોમાં વિરોધ કરતાં જાગાવે છે કે, ગુજરાતના બંદરો માછીમારો દરિયા કિનારે માછીમારીનો ધંધો કરીને પોતાનું જીવન વિતાવી રહ્યા છે. ત્યારે કેન્દ્ર સરકારના જેર વ્યાજથી વલાણથી ગુજરાતના બંદરો માછીમારો બે રોજગારીની ગતિમાં ધકેલાઈ જશે. જેથી કેન્દ્ર સરકારે આ બાબતે સત્વરે ન્યાયી વલાણ દાખવીને વિદેશીઓને ગુજરાતના દરિયા

કિનારામાં માછીમારી કરતા અટકાવવા જોઈએ તેવો નિર્ણય કરવો જોઈએ. આ બાબતે સંસદસભ્ય શ્રી હરીભાઈ પટેલ ભારતના વડાપ્રધાન શ્રી નરસિંહરાવને પાગ રજૂઆત કરનાર છે તેમ જાગાવેલ છે. સંસદસભ્ય શ્રી હરિભાઈ પટેલ તેમના નિવેદનનાં અંતે જાગાવે છે કે, તા.

૩ અને ૪ ડીસેમ્બરના રોજ ઓરીસ્સાના ગોપાલપુરમાં નેશનલ ફીશ વર્ક્સ ફોરમનાં વાર્ષિક અધિવેશનમાં કરાવ કરીને તા. ૪ ફેબ્રુઆરીના રોજ શ્રી રાષ્ટ્રવ્યાપી ફીશીંગ બંધનું એલાન આપેલ છે. જેમાં ગુજરાતના માછીમારો પાગ જોડાયા છે. જેમને પાગ પોતાનો ટેકો જાહેર કર્યો છે.



# સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છના તમામ બંદરો પર માછીમારોની હડતાલને સજ્જડ પ્રતિસાદ

મત્સ્ય ઉદ્યોગ દ્વારા માત્ર ૧૯૯૨-૯૩નાં વર્ષમાં જ રૂ. ૧૭૬૭.૪૩ કરોડનું વિદેશી દુર્ગીયામણ દેશને મળ્યું હોવા છતાં દેશના દરિયા કિનારે વિદેશી માછીમારોને માછીમારી માટે આપવામાં આવેલી પરવાનગીના વિરોધમાં આજે દેશભરનાં માછીમારોએ એક દિવસની પ્રતિક હડતાલ જાહેર કરી હતી. આ હડતાલને સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છ સહિત દેશભરનાં તમામ બંદરોનાં માછીમારોએ સજ્જડ પ્રતિસાદ આપ્યો હતો તેમજ માછીમારી બોટને બંદર

પર લાંગરી દઈને આજે પોતાની માછીમારીની કામગીરીથી અળગા રહ્યા હતા. આ હડતાલ સંદર્ભે અખિલ ગુજરાત માછીમાર મહા મંડળનાં પ્રમુખશ્રી ડી.ડી. માલમે જણાવ્યું હતું કે જો વિદેશી ટ્રોલરોના પરવાના રદ કરવામાં નહીં આવે તો સાંત રીતે શરૂ થયેલી હડતાલ અચક્રક્રમ મુદતના આંદોલનમાં ફેરવાઈ જશે. આજે માછીમારોની દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલમાં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છનાં જુદા જુદા બંદરો પરની ૧૮ હજાર માછીમાર બોટ પોતાના કામથી અલિપ્ત રહી હતી.

## સમગ્ર ગુજરાતમાં બંદરો પર લોડીંગ-અનલોડીંગનું કામ બંધ રહ્યું: ખારાકુવાનાં મચ્છીનાં વેપારીઓ પણ હડતાલમાં જોડાયા: લડતને ઉગ્ર બનાવવા મહામંડળની ચીમકી

અખિલ ગુજરાત મહામંડળના પ્રમુખશ્રી ડી. માલમે વેરાવળ બંદરમાં અમારા નિધિ વૃજવાલ કક્કડને મુલાકાતમાં

એક દિવસની પ્રતિક હડતાલ પાડેલ છે. શ્રી માલમે રોષભર્યા શબ્દોમાં સ્પષ્ટ ચેતવણીના સુરમાં કહેલ કે તોફાન પહેલાની અમારી સાંત લડતના મેંચણ શરૂ કરેલ છે. જો અમાને ન્યાય ન મળે તો અચક્રક્રમ મુદતની હડતાલ શરૂ કરી ઉગ્ર તબક્કામાં લડત લઈ જઈ જનજીવન પણ ઠપ્પ કરી દેશું. આજે સમગ્ર ગુજરાતના બંદરોમાં લોડીંગ અનલોડીંગનું કાર્ય ઠપ્પ થઈ ગયેલ છે, એકમ પદ કરતી કંપનીઓ માલની લેવેચ કરે

છે તે કાર્ય પણ આજે બંધ છે. ખારાકુવા વિસ્તારમાં ૧૫૦ ઉપરાંત જથ્થાબંધ મચ્છીની લેવેચ કરતા જથ્થાબંધ વેપારીઓ પણ આ હડતાલમાં જોડાયેલ છે. વિદેશી ટ્રોલરોના નાણીય હિતો સુધીના કારણો પરવાના કેન્દ્ર સરકારે આપેલ છે તે સામે વિરોધ પ્રદર્શીત કરવા છવાગ્યાથી વેરાવળ બોટ એસોસીએશન તરફથી આ હડતાલમાં જોડવા એલાન આપેલ તેને સંપ્રત્તિ

### હડતાલ

#### [ છેલ્લા પાનાનું ચાલુ ]

સફળતા મળેલ હતી. ભારતીય મચ્છીમારોની રોજરોટી સુંટવાઈ જાય છે અને અકલ્પનાતીત નુકશાનની ભીતિ તેમજ દરિયામાં ફીશીંગ માટે જતા મચ્છીમારો પર કાયમી મોત ડોકાઈ રહ્યું છે જે આ પરદેશી બોટોની અવરજવરથી થશે તેવી સ્થિતિ સર્જાયેલ છે. આજે મોટો ટોલર (મોટા મશીનવાળી બોટો) ૧૮૦૦ તથા પીલાણા (નાના મશીનવાળી હોડી) ૫૦૦ અહીં લાંગરેલ છે જેમાં અમુક બહારગામની પણ બોટો હોડીઓ સામેલ થયેલ છે આજે દરિયામાં કોઈ બોટો તથા હોડીઓ મચ્છીમારી માટે ગયેલ નથી. આ હડતાલના કારણે બંદર વિસ્તારમાં માલ ચડાવવા-ઉતારવાની કામગીરી ઠપ્પ થયેલ તેમજ માલની હેરફેર સદંતર બંધ, વહેચાણ કરવા કે લેવા માટેની કાર્યવાહી ઘંભી ગયેલ છે જેથી બંદર વિસ્તાર સુમસામ ભાસે છે.

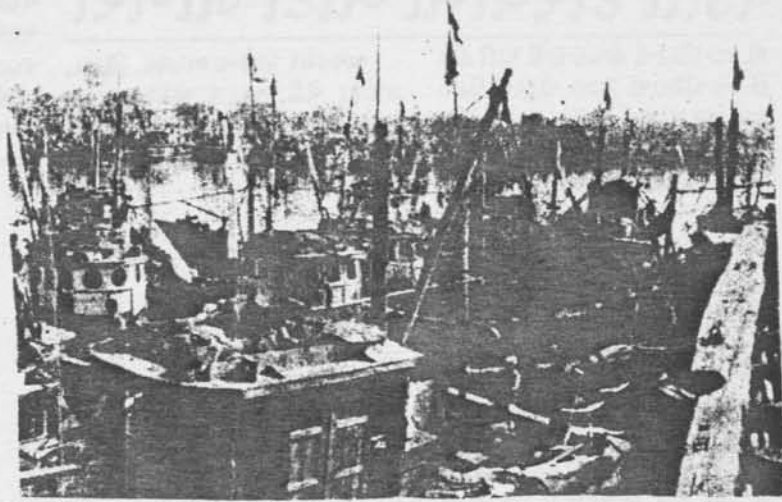
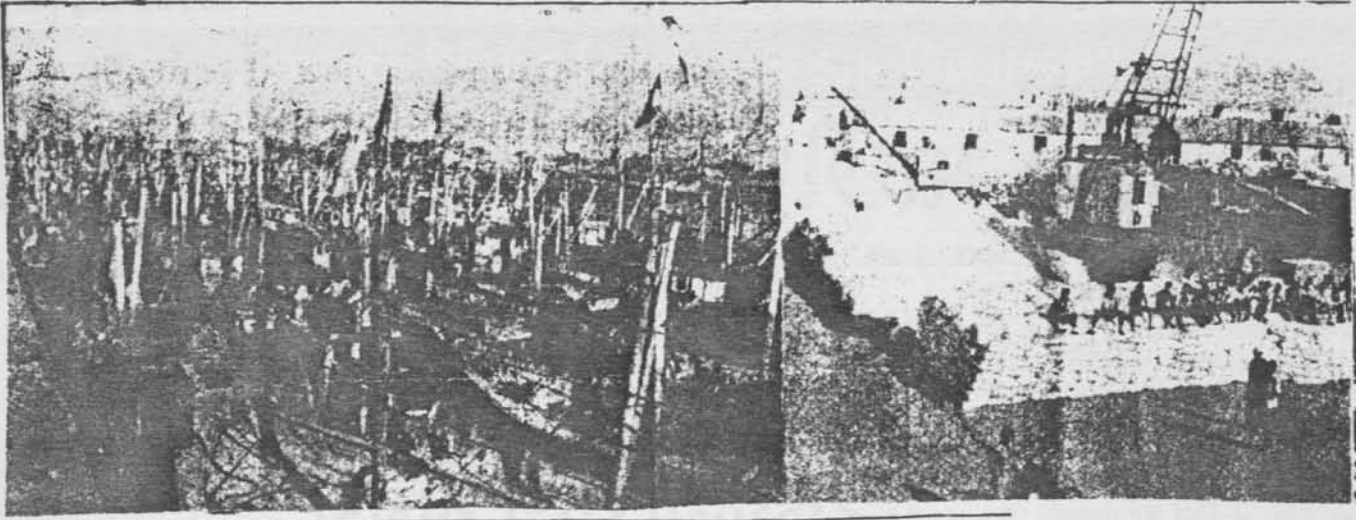
#### પોરબંદર

ભારતની દરિયાઈ સિમાઓ વિદેશી બોટોને માછીમારી કરવાની અપાયેલી છૂટના વિરોધમાં માછીમારોના દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલમાં પોરબંદરના માછીમારો પણ જોડાયા હતાં. પોરબંદર માછીમાર બોટ એસોસીએશનના એલાન મુજબ આજે પોરબંદરની ૭૫૦ ફીશીંગ બોટ માછીમારી કરવા ગઈ ન હતી. માછીમારી બંધ રહેતા આ ફીશીંગ બોટોને દરિયાકીનારે લાંગરવા માટે જગ્યા મળતી ન હતી. અને બોટ સાચવવા માટેનો મોટો પ્રશ્ન ખડો થયો હતો.

#### જૂનાગઢ

સમગ્ર ગુજરાતના માછીમારોએ એક દિવસની હડતાલ પાડીને, કેન્દ્ર સરકારની અણધારનીતીને ઉઘાડી પાડીને, પોતાની એકતા સંબંધિત કરી સમગ્ર દેશનું ધ્યાન ધ્યાન દોર્યું છે તેમ ભાજપના અગ્રણી નારસિંહભાઈ પઠીયારે એક નિવેદનમાં જણાવ્યું છે. આ પછી જળ સીમમાં વિદેશીઓને છૂટ, સંરક્ષણની દ્રષ્ટિથી પણ કેટલી ઉચીત છે તે પણ ગંભીરતાથી વિચારવું જોઈએ. જો આ સીલસીલો ચાલુ રહેશે તો માછીમારોના આંદોલનને, તેમના વ્યાજબીપણા અંગે ભા.જ.પ. પાર્ટીઓ પણ ટેકો આપીને તેમનાં આંદોલનમાં સામેલ થવું પડશે તેમ ભા.જ.પ.નાં શ્રી નારસિંહ પઠીયારે જણાવ્યું છે.

[ અત્યસંધાન ૧૬મે પાતે ]



સમગ્ર સૌરાષ્ટ્ર- કચ્છમાં આજે બંદરો પર માછીમાર પરિવારોએ વિદેશી માછીમારોને દેશના દરિયા કિનારા પર માછીમારી કરવા દેવાનાં વિરોધમાં પ્રતિક હડતાલ રાખી હતી. આ હડતાલમાં માછીમારીનાં વ્યવસાય સાથે જોડાયેલા તમામ લોકો સામેલ થયા હતા. દેશનાં મત્સ્યદોગ માટે મરણતોલ સરકારી નિર્ણયને પુનઃવિચારણા માટે દબાણ લાવવા સૌરાષ્ટ્રમાં માછીમારીનાં વેપારમાં અગ્રસ્થાન ભોગવનાર વેરાવળનાં માછીમાર પરિવારોએ તો આજે બંદર ઉપર નાની-મોટી ૧૫૦૦ બોટનો ખડકલો કરી વિરોધ નોંધાવ્યો હતો. તે જ રીતે બંદર પર લોડીંગ-અનલોડીંગનું

કામ પણ ઠપ્પ થઈ ગયું હતું. માછીમાર ભાઈઓએ નાના મશીનવાડી ૫૦૦ હોડીઓ પણ થંભાવી દીધી હતી. આ હડતાલના દ્રશ્યની ઝાંખી કરાવતી તસવીરો સાથે અંતિમ તસવીરમાં વેરાવળ બોટ એસોસિએશનનાં પ્રમુખ દેવજીભાઈ માલમ તથા માછીમાર આગેવાનો સર્વશ્રી શામજીભાઈ જેઠાભાઈ, ભરત કસ્તા, જે. કે. સોલંકી તથા અન્ય આગેવાનો દ્રષ્ટિગોચર થાય છે. તસવીર: કક્કડ બ્રધર્સ વેરાવળ

“ઘરના ઘંટી યાટે ને પાડોશી ને આંટો” કેમ યાલે...

# સૌરાષ્ટ્રમાં માછીમારોની સજ્જડ હડતાલ

રાજકોટ, તા. ૪ ભારતીય જળ સીમામાં વિદેશી માછીમારી સ્ટીમરોને પરવાનગી આપી રહ્યાના દેશ આંજાના માછીમારોને હાનિ પહોંચાડવા માટે તેવા પગલાના વિરોધમાં ભારત વ્યાપી માછીમારી બંધના એલાનમાં આજે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કચ્છના માછીમારો જોડાયા હતા અને માછીમારી બંધને સજ્જડ ને સંપૂર્ણ બંધ બનાવ્યો હતો.

સૌરાષ્ટ્ર પંથકના પોરબંદર, વેરાવળ, જામનગર, ઓખા, પંથકના માછીમારોએ માછીમારી બંધ રાખી સરકારની “ઘરના છોકરા ઘંટી યાટેને પરદેશીને આંટો” જેવી નીતિનો ઉગ્ર વિરોધ કર્યો હતો. કચ્છના માછીમારોએ પણ બંધ પાલ્યો હોવાના અહેવાલ મળે છે. વિવિધ સ્થળોએ માછીમારી બંધ અંગે અત્રે મળેલા અહેવાલો નીચે મુજબ છે.

## પોરબંદર

પોરબંદર માછીમાર બોટ એસો.ના એલાન અનુસંધાને આજથી દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલમાં જોડાયેલ પોરબંદરની ૭૫૦થી વધારે ફીશીંગબોટો બંદરમાંથી નહિ રૂપડતા તેનો સમાવેશ નહિ થઈ શકતા સમુદ્રમાં દૂર ઉભી રાખવી પડી હતી.

વર્ષો પછી આવી સામુદ્રિક વિરોધ હડતાલ ઉપર માછીમારો ગયા છે પરંતુ આજના શાંત બંધ બાદ કેન્દ્ર સરકાર નેમની નિતિમાં કોઈ ફેરફાર નહિ કરે તો કેમ આંદોલન, સાંસદોને ઘેરાવ વિગેરે કાર્યક્રમો હાથ ધરવાની ચીમકી આપવામાં આવેલ છે.

બોટ એસો.ના પ્રમુખ શ્રી જીવાભાઈ શેયાળ, મંત્રી શ્રી.પ્રેમજીભાઈ ખોખરી અને હરિભાઈ કોટીયાએ દ્વારકાથી દીવ મુખીના બંદરના તમામ માછીમારોને હડતાલને સફળ બનાવવા બદલ અભિનંદન આપ્યા હતા.

જ્યારે આ પ્રશ્ને ટેકો આપનાર ગુજરાત મરીન પ્રોડક્ટ એક્સપોર્ટ કોર્પોરેશનના આર.પી. કુમારે કેન્દ્ર સરકારને અલગ રજુઆત કરીને જણાવેલ છે કે આ ઉદ્યોગ ગુજરાતમાંથી રૂ. ૪૦૦ કરોડનું વિદેશી હુંડીયામણ કમાવી આપે છે.

જે વિદેશી જહાજોને માછીમારીની છૂટ

અપાશે તો લાંબે ગાળે ઉદ્યોગ ભાંગી પડશે.

કારણ કે વિદેશી બોટો અત્યંત આધુનિક, રડાર સીસ્ટમવાળી અને ૨૫

ગુજરાત સૌરાષ્ટ્ર અને કચ્છના દરિયા કિનારાના આજુ બાજુના લાખો માછીમારો પાતાના જીવન નિર્વાહ પેઢીઓથી આ જ ઉદ્યોગમાં કરે છે.

ફીશરીઝ એસોસીએશનના પ્રમુખશ્રી ઇશાક હાસમ જોડીયાવાલાએ જણાવ્યું હતું.

## વેરાવળ

કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને આપવામાં આવેલ માછીમારીની પરવાનગી રદ કરવાની માગણી સાથે માછીમારોની દેશવ્યાપી હડતાલમાં વેરાવળના માછીમારો જોડાયા હતા. માછીમારોએ પોતાની ૧૮૦૦ બોટ અને ૬૦૦ હોડીઓ બંધ રાખી હતી. જેના કારણે માછલીની લે-વેચ બંધ રહી હતી. તેમજ એક્સપોર્ટ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીમાં પણ માછલીની હેરફેર બંધ રહી હતી.

## અમુક સ્થળે બંદર પણ ટૂંકા પડતા દરિયામાં બોટો લાંગરી

થી ૪૦ મીટરની લંબાઈવાળી મોટી હોય છે. જે દરિયામાં ૨૦૦ મીટરની ઉડાઈ સુધી જળ બીછાવી માછલા પકડી શકે છે. જે સ્થાનિક માછીમારો કરી શકે તેમ નથી. આવી નીતિથી ઘર આંગણના માછીમારો જ મોટી મુશ્કેલીમાં મુકાઈ જશે અને એક દિવસ બેકાર અને બેહાલ થઈ જશે.

વિદેશી બોટોને ભારતના દરિયામાં માછીમારી માટેના પરવાના આપવાના વિરોધમાં અપાયેલા બંધમાં માંગરોળ બંદરના માછીમારો પણ જોડાયા હતા.

માછીમારોએ બંધમાં જોડાઈ સંપૂર્ણ સફળ બનાવ્યો હતો. અત્રેના બંદર પરથી ૧૫૦થી વધુ બોટો આજે ફીશીંગમાં ગઈ ન હતી અને માછીમારી બંધ રાખી પોતાનો સુર પુરાવ્યો હતો.

## જામનગર

ભારતની દરિયાઈ હદમાં વિદેશી માછીમારોને પરવાનગી આપવાના વિરોધમાં અપાયેલા માછીમારી બંધના એલાન મુજબ આજે જામનગર, ઓખા પંથકના માછીમારોએ હડતાલ પાડી હતી.

તા. ૪/૨/૯૪ના રોજ જામનગર જિલ્લાના માછીમારો એક દિવસની પ્રતીક હડતાલ રાખેલ છે. કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને આપણા સમુદ્રમાં માછી મારવાની છૂટ આપવામાં આવેલ છે તેના વિરોધમાં હડતાલ પાડી વિરોધ દર્શાવી ભારત સરકારના આ નિર્ણય માટે પુનઃ વિચારણા કરવા માછીમારોનું હિત ધ્યાનમાં લઈ અને ગુજરાત તથા જામનગર જિલ્લાના લાખો લોકો આ વ્યવસ્થા પર નબ્લે છે.

જે વિદેશી બોટો લાંગરીને મોટો ઉદ્યોગધરોને સમુદ્રમાં માછી મારવાની પરવાનગી આપવામાં આવે તો લાખો લોકો બેકાર અને બેરોજગાર બની જશે.

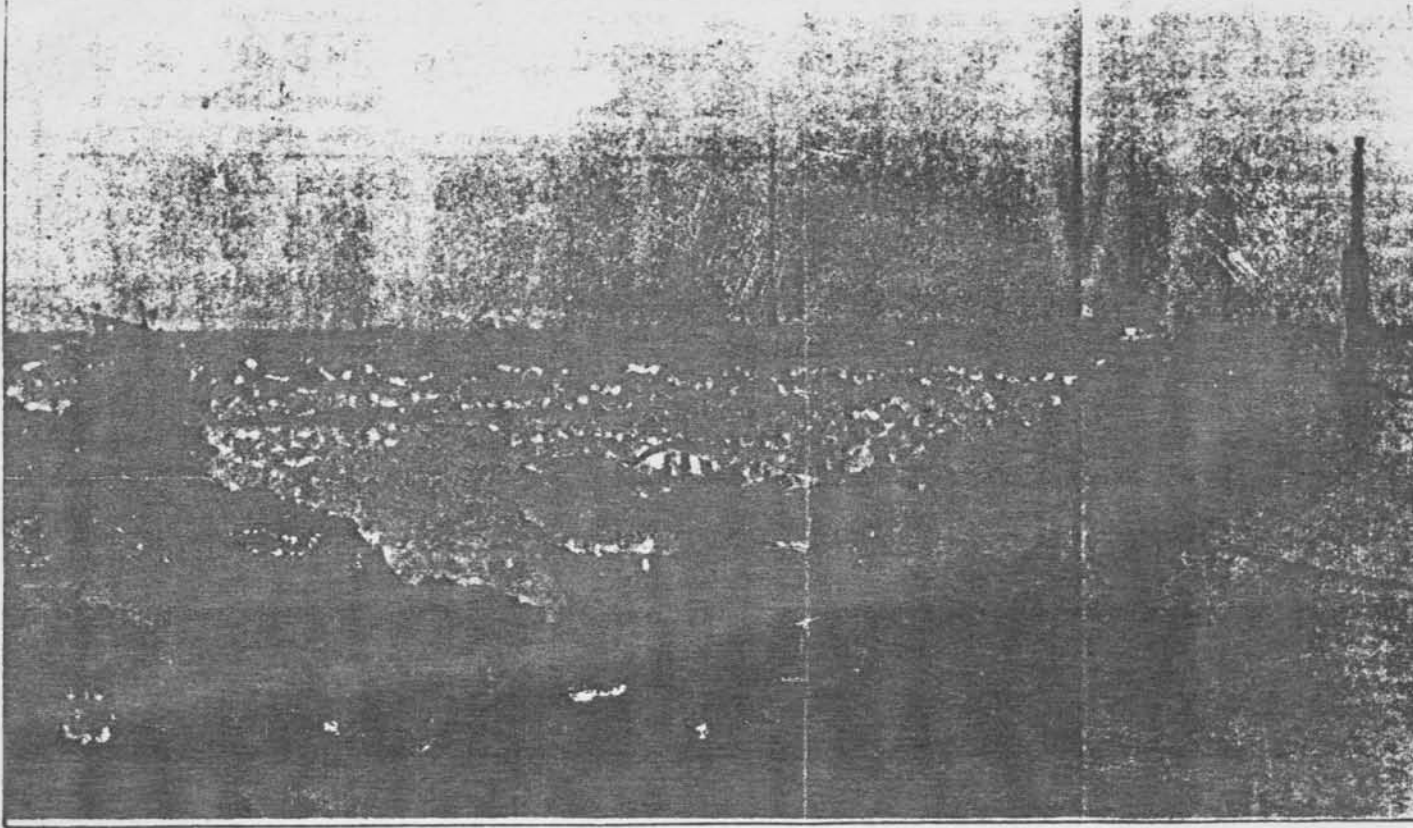
જામનગર પંથકના ભરાણા, સિક્કા, સયાણા, બેડી, સલાયા, જોડીયા, ઓખા વગેરે પંથકના હજારો માછીમારો આજની આ હડતાલમાં જોડાયા હતા તેમ જામનગર

અમીરજી - દેવલા પાને  
લા ૨૬-૧-૯૪

## વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને માછીમારીની છૂટ આપવા સામે ૪ થીએ ગુજરાતના માછીમારો દ્વારા હડતાલ: જામનગરના માછીમારોને અપીલ

પોરબંદર તા. ૨૬ : કેન્દ્ર સરકાર દ્વારા વિદેશી ફીશીંગ બોટોને માછી મારવા માટે છૂટછાટ આપવાના નિર્ણય સામે ગુજરાતના બે હજાર કી. મી. લાંબા દરિયા કિનારાના અને દરિયામાં માછીમારી કરવાની છૂટ માછીમારો પર પેટ પર પાટું મારવા સમાન અપાશે તો સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છ અને ગુજરાતના આ નિર્ણયનો વિરોધ કરવા તા. ૪ ના એક લાખોની સંખ્યામાં માછીમારો કરતાં લોકો દિવસની માછી મારોની પ્રતિક હડતાલમાં બેકાર બની જશે. આથી કેન્દ્ર સરકારે આ જોડાવવા જામનગર જિલ્લાના માછીમારોને માછીમારોના હિત માટે સરહદની સલામતી અપીલ કરી આ હડતાલને ટેકો આપવા માટે પુનઃ વિચારણા કરવા તથા દરેક ગુજરાત માછીમાર દ્વારા જણાવાયું છે. માછીમારોને આ હડતાલમાં જોડાઈ વિરોધ વિદેશી ટેકનોલોજી અને મશીનો દ્વારા પ્રદર્શિત કરવા સીકકા સરમન માછીમાર વિદેશી બોટો લાંગરીને મોટા ઉદ્યોગ ગૃહો મંડળી લી.ના પ્રમુખશ્રીની યાદી જણાવે છે.





ભારત દેશનાં દરીયા કિનારે વિદેશી ફિશીંગ ટ્રોલરોને માછીમારી માટે મંજૂરી આપતા સરકારનાં નિણયનાં વિરોધમાં સમગ્ર દેશ માં માછીમારોનું આજ માછીમારો અંધ રાખી પાતાનાં વિરાધ સૂચવ્યો હતા. દેશનાં માછીમારાનાં વિરાધમાં રૂરૂપવા ગુજરાતનાં ત્રણેક લાખ જેટલાં માછીમારોએ આજે અંક દિવસનાં પ્રાંતેક હડતાલ પાડી હતી.

અત્યાધુનિક વિદેશી ફિશીંગ ટ્રોલરો દેશની અને ખાસ કરીને ગુજરાતની પરંપરાગત માછીમારીને લપડાક મારશે જ તેવી દહેશતથી આ વિદેશી ટ્રોલરોને ભારતીય દરીયાઈ વિસ્તારમાંથી હટાવવાની માગણી સાથે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-કચ્છનાં માછીમારોએ આજે માછીમારી એક દિવસ માટે અંધ રાખી હતી. આ પ્રતિક હડતાલમાં વેરાવળ, પોરબંદર, માંગરોળ, ચોરવાડ, રૂપેણ તાલુકા ભરવાડ, વાપા, બેડી, અપ્પાચ, ઠાડીયા, બાંચા અને બનગર સહિત જિલ્લાની

માછીમાર મંડળીઓ જોડાઈને માછીમારી અંધ રાખી હતી અને ભારત સરકારને તેમનાં આ નિણયની પુનઃવિચારણા કરવા અને સ્વદેશી માછીમારોના હિતને ધ્યાનમાં લઈ તેઓનાં હક્ક અને હિતનાં સંક્રાંતિ કરવા બંધ કરી હતી.

સિક્કાનાં સાગરકાંઠે મધદેરીયે વિહરવાની વાટ જોતી સુનકાર બોટ આજે જોવા મળી હતી. તસવીરમાં સાગરકાંઠે લાગરેલી નાવ વિહવળ બની માછીનાં ઈતરમાં ઉભેલી જણાય છે. સરકારનાં જુકી વલણથી કદાચ ઉચ્ચ આંદોલન છેડાય તો દિવસો સુધી માછી વિહોણી નાવ અને બેકારીનાં બપ્પરમાં હોમાતાં માછીમારો જોવા મળશે આ તબક્કે તો માત્ર ઉજ્જવળ ભવિષ્યની આશા જ પૂરતી ગણાશે....

તસવીર: બકુલ ભાંલા

## Cancel MNCs fishing rights: Rana

*The Times of India News Service*

BARODA, February 6 Mr. Kashiram Rana, MP, and state BJP president, on Saturday demanded that the Centre immediately withdraw the rights given to multinational companies to fish off the Gujarat coast.

This had been done without taking the state government into confidence, and nearly three lakh fishermen had lost their livelihood because of the fishing by sophisticated trawlers, he told newsmen here.

He regretted that the state government had failed to draw the attention of the Centre to the issue effectively. Writing a letter to the Union government about it did not lessen the gravity of the problem. The BJP was ready to join an all-party delegation, along with the Chief Minister, Mr Chimanbhai Patel, to represent the state's strong feelings on the issue to the Centre, he said.

The bjp president regretted that in the governor's address to the state assembly the governor had not effectively reflected the concern of the people on the deteriorating law and order problem in the state. At a time when the coastal area of gujarat was used for unloading explosives with a number of cases reported from the state, the complicity of congressmen in these activities was more dangerous.

Mr. Rana alleged that a congress mla was preingsurrender of the alleged notorious criminal iiju shaikh of bulsar involved in contraband arms and explosives dealings. The former home ?? ૦7૨૩ ? minister, mr. C.D. Patel had attended the inauguration of a hotel owned by iiju shaikh.



**SECTION II**  
**MAHARASHTRA**

मच्छि बंद !

मच्छि बंद !!

मच्छि बंद !!!

राष्ट्रीय मच्छिमार संघटना (NFF) नवी दिल्ली

महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृति समिती, मुंबई

४ फेब्रुवारी १९९४

\* संपूर्ण भारत मच्छि बंद दिन \*

खोल समुद्रातील मासेमारीच्या गांडस नावाखाली, भारत सरकारने देशी व विदेशी भांडवलदारांच्या बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना २६०० अद्यावत बोटींसाठी परवाने देऊन भारतातील लाखो मच्छिमारांचे तोंडचा घासच काढून घेतला आहे.

पैकी कांही बोटी पूर्व किनाऱ्यावर येऊन मासेमारीही करू लागल्या आहेत. ह्या बोटींनी पकडलेले मासे किनाऱ्यावर न आणतां परभारे परदेशी रवाना होणार आहेत.

सरकारच्या ह्या प्रतिगामी धोरणाचा निषेध व जनतेचे लक्ष वेधण्यासाठी ४ फेब्रुवारी १९९४ ह्या दिवशी संपूर्ण भारतात मच्छिमारी व मासे विक्री बंद ठेवावी असे नम्र आवाहन राष्ट्रीय मच्छिमार संघटनेने सर्वांना केले आहे.

महाराष्ट्रातील सर्व मच्छिमार व कोळी भगिनींनी ह्या कार्यक्रमात सहभागी होऊन बंद कार्यक्रम यशस्वी करावा अशी नम्र विनंती करित आहोत.

आपले नम्र,

भाई बंदरकर

अध्यक्ष

रामभाऊ पाटील

सरचिटणीस

मोतिराम भावे

चिटणीस

मोresh्वर पाटील

चिटणीस

महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृति समिती, मुंबई

मोresh्वर वैती, व्हा. चेअरमन, मुंबई जिल्हा संघ, आ. रा. पाटील, चेअरमन, ठाणे जिल्हा मच्छिमार संघ लि.,

ज. स. तांबे, अध्यक्ष, मुकुंद पागधरे, सरचिटणीस, ठाणे जिल्हा मच्छिमार समाज संघ

सिमा के. मर्दे, धा. डहाणू, बाबुराव तांडेल, गुंगवाडा, शिडोबा न. नाईक, चेअरमन, सातपाटी मच्छिमार सो., शांताराम मेहेर, माजी चेअरमन, सातपाटी मच्छिमार सो. लि., माणिक म्हात्रे, चेअरमन, नरेंद्र य. पाटील, माजी चेअरमन, सातपाटी फिशरमेन्स सर्वोदय सो., हरिश्चंद्र कान्हा पाटील, चेअरमन, वडराई मच्छिमार सो. लि., प्रभाकर तांडेल, केळवा मच्छिमार सो. लि., अनंत मारुती तांडेल, दातिवरे सोसायटी लि., भास्कर तांडेल, कोरे मच्छिमार सोसायटी लि., नारायण पां. पाटील, अर्नाळा मच्छिमार, फिलीप मस्तान, वसई तालुका संघ, जोणल डोंगरकर, चेअरमन, उत्तन, अन्सेल कौत्या, माजी चेअरमन, उत्तन मच्छिमार, तोमास मनोरकर, गोरई, ज्ञानेश देऊळकर, रमेश धुरी, मालवण, मधुकर ल. जोशी, देवगड, गगन कोयंडे, देवगड, पा. ना. रेडकर, वेंगुर्ला, मधुकर खोबरेकर, आरोंदा, हसन अब्दुल हमीर, राजपुरकर मिरकरवाडा, रत्नागिरी, लिकायतखान, शाकरीनाटे, युसुफ मस्तान, बुरांडी, तुकाराम रा. नाखडा, बाळू नाखडा, करंबा मच्छिमार सो. लि., पोशा नाखडा, रेवड.

द. हि. तायडे, सरचिटणीस,

पांडुरंग मं. वैती, सहचिटणीस,

वसंत वि. खोपकर, खजिनदार

अखिल कोळी समाज परिषद - महाराष्ट्र, मुंबई

वसंत प्रिंटर्स, पेठ चाळ कपाऊड, लालबाग, मुंबई ४०० ०१२. \* दूरध्वनी : ४१३ ५१२४

# नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरमचे आवाहन

४ फेब्रुवारी, १४ रोजी

भारतातील मासेमारी, मत्स्यविक्री बंद !

मच्छिमार बंधुमगिनी,

भारताच्या पूर्व-पश्चिम पसरलेल्या सात हजार पाचशे कि. मि. किनारपट्टीवर २४०८ मच्छिमार गावातून आपण सुमारे ७१ लक्ष भारतीय मच्छिमार मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर उदरनिर्वाह करीत आहात. भारताचे समुद्रक्षेत्र किनाऱ्यापासून १२ नॉटीकल मैल म्हणजे सुमारे ४० वाव खोलपाण्या पर्यंतच्या समुद्राचे आहे. या क्षेत्रात वर्षानुवर्षे आपण मच्छिमारी व्यवसाय करतो. यात्रिकीकरणानंतर मच्छिमारीच्या क्षेत्राने अपाटपाने बदल होवून भारत सरकारच्या १९९१ च्या आकडेवारीनुसार १९५१ साली ७५३ लक्ष टन मिळणारी मासळी १९९१ साली ४०.३७ लक्ष टनापर्यंत वाढली. त्यामुळेच तुम्हा आम्हाला भाजी भाकरी मिळू लागली परंतु आठव्या पंचवर्षीक योजनेतील 'डॅकेल प्रस्तावाने' मात्र आपल्या मच्छिमारी र्घघावर बऱ्याघात केलेला आहे. डॅकेल प्रस्तावातील तरतुदीनुसार भारत सरकारने २० वावा पर्यंतचा समुद्र बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना खोलपाण्यातील मासेमारीसाठी खुला करण्याचे घोरण आसले आहे. ही योजना आहे खोल पाण्यातील मच्छिमारीची आणि हृदयारी आहे आम्हा मच्छिमारांची. बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या २६०० परवाने धारक अजून यंत्रनौका आपली ५ ते १५ कि.मी विस्ताराची जाली ओढून समुद्रात राक्षसी बंमान घालतील आणि अत्यावधीतच ४४० प्रकारच्या मामळीने समुद्र जतलेला भारतीय समुद्र खरपून मत्स्यहीन करून टाकतील आमच्या तोंडचा घास हिरावून नेतील म्हणूनच मच्छिमारांचे हित जपणूक करणाऱ्या भावनेने 'नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरम' सारख्या संघटनेने याविरुद्ध एखाडिंग सुरू करून राष्ट्रीय पातळीवर लढण्याचा पावित्रा घेतलेला आहे.

दि. २७ व २८ ऑक्टोबर या दोन दिवशी नऊ राज्यातील ५४ मच्छिमार प्रतिनिधींनी कलिंगा, मुंबई येथे सेमिनार आयोजित करून आठव्या पंचवर्षीक योजनेतील खोल समुद्रातील मासेमारी प्रस्तावावर सविस्तर चर्चा केली आणि निश्चित निष्कर्ष काढले की, खोल पाण्यातील नव्या मच्छिमारी योजनेमुळे मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर अनिष्ट परिणाम होतील. ४० लक्ष टन मासळी उत्पादनापैकी १६ लक्ष टन मामळी बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांचे ट्रॉलर्स पकडून नेतील. त्यामुळे पुरेशी मामळी मरतूक न झाल्यामुळे येथील मच्छिमार पूर्णपणे उध्वस्त होईल व या व्यवसायातून त्याचे उच्चाटन होईल. मच्छिमार समाजाला देशोधडीला लावण्याच्या व भारतीय मच्छिमारी नेस्तनाबूत करणाऱ्या या नव्या योजने विरुद्ध 'नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरम'ने भारताच्या पंतप्रधानांजवळ आपला कडवा विरोध नोंदविलेला आहे आणि जाहिर केले आहे की अखिल भारतीय मच्छिमार समाजाचा या नव्या योजनेला तीव्र विरोध असून प्रत्येक मच्छिमार घटक ही एखाडिंग हाणून पणढ्यासाठी संघटीतरित्या निकटचे प्रयत्न करेल.

डॅकेल प्रस्तावावर लोकसभेत हलकल्लोळ माझला, 'नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरम' सारख्या संघटनेने ठरावावर सविस्तर चर्चेने साधक बाधकता पडताळून मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावरील संभाव्य अरिष्टाची पूर्वसूचना दिली, पण भारत सरकारने कोणतीही दखल घेतली नाही. उलट आमच्याशी प्रतारणा केली. म्हणूनच मच्छिमार बांधवानो ज्ञाता तुम्ही "स्वतःच उठा" आणि अन्यायावर रोबर झुज देण्यास ममर्थ व्हा ! डॅकेल प्रस्तावाच्या रूपाने फणा काढून डॅकेल मारण्यासाठी सरसावलेल्या कालसर्पांच्या वेळीच ठेचून टाका. आपला व्यवसाय आणि अस्तित्त्वच पुनावयास घडावलेल्या नियोजित योजनावर ब्रम्हान्न मोडा ! म्हणजे येणारा भावीकाल तुमचीच मार्ग प्रतिक्षा करतोय. हाती वैभवकलश घेऊन

मच्छिमार बंधुनो, या विरुद्ध लढा देण्यासाठी तयार व्हा ! आणि ४ फेब्रुवारीच्या निषेधाने सामील व्हा ! अगदी पूर्णपणे आपला व्यवसाय बंद ठेवून.

## मच्छिमारांचा विराट मेळावा

शुक्रवार दि. ४-२-१९९४ सकाळी १० वा. ठिकाण- दांडेश्वर जवळ, मच्छिमारानी मोठ्या संख्येने उपस्थित रहावे

आपले नम्र,

ज्ञानेश देऊलकर

संस्थापक, मातृवर्ण नालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघ

रमेश धुरी

अध्यक्ष

मा. ता. श्र. म. संघ

चंद्रकांत तारी

कार्यवाह

मा. ता. श्र. म. संघ

अरविंद हुले

अध्यक्ष

म. कुर्जे मछिनी

कृष्णा ताम्हणकर, फिश मंचंट

जॉन नरोन्हा, राजकोट

द्वारकानाथ तोडणकर, वापरी

आनंद मालंडकर देवबाग, जानू राजाराम सावजी अध्यक्ष मजेंकोट म. स. सोसायटी, तुकाराम तथा तातोबा मायबा अध्यक्ष वाघेश्वर मच्छिमार संस्था, वामन सखाराम गांवकर अध्यक्ष रामेश्वर को-ऑपरेटीव्ह सोसायटी, नारायण भूतारजी बांदेकर तारकली, नंदूशेठ घाटे फिश मंचंट देवगड, बाळासाहेब ढोके सरपंच या. प. देवगड, नारायण पुंडलिक मणचेकर देवगड फिशमंचंट को-ऑपरेटीव्ह सोसायटी मधुकर लक्ष्मण जोशी अध्यक्ष तारामुंबरी म. व्. सोसायटी, गगन अर्जुन कोयंडे देवगड, बसंत तांडेल नवाबाग वेंगुर्ला, गणपत तोडणकर वेंगुर्ला, महादेव आरोंदेकर मट वेंगुर्ला, सद्गुरू म्हाकळे चेरमन शिरोडा म. स. सोसायटी, शिवा तथा बाबा नाईक केरवाडा, वसंत हुले रेडी वेंगुर्ला, मधुकर खोबरेकर आरोंदे, आबा सातोसकर मोचेमाड, रमाकांत मेतर निवती, कृष्णा नाईक श्रीरामवाडी, जनार्दन पाटकर वेंगुर्ला, सर्व रापण संघ, नियानी, वावळी, न्हय, ट्रॉलर, मच्छिम्यापारी यांचे प्रतिनीधी आणि महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृती समिती.

एन्. एफ. एफ. झिदाबाद

जय भारत

मच्छिमार एकजटीचा विजय असो.

# सिंधुदुर्गातील 'मच्छी बंद' आंदोलन

## यशस्वी करण्याचे आवाहन <sup>२९ जानेवारी</sup>

मालवण, ता. २९ (बातमीदार)- सिंधुदुर्गात ४ फेब्रुवारी ९४ चा 'मच्छी बंद' मच्छिमार बांधव, मासळी व्यापारी यांनी यशस्वी करावा, असे आवाहन मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाच्या काल झालेल्या सभेत करण्यात आले. अध्यक्षस्थानी संघाचे अध्यक्ष समेश घुरी होते.

मालवण तालुक्यातून या सभेत मच्छिमारांचे सुमारे ५० प्रतिनिधी व अनेक मच्छिमार बांधव उपस्थित होते. ४ फेब्रुवारीचा डंकल प्रस्ताव विरोधातील 'मच्छिमारी व मासळी व्यवसाय बंद' यशस्वी करण्यासाठी लोकांपर्यंत विचारांचे आदान-प्रदान व्हावे म्हणून प्रचार समिती स्थापन करण्यात आली. या समितीत मच्छिमार नेते अरविंद हुले,

जॉन नरोन्हा, रामेश्वर मच्छिमार संस्थेचे सर्जेकोटचे श्री. वामनराव गावकर, वाघेश्वर मच्छिमार संस्थेचे अध्यक्ष तातोबा मायबा, कृष्णनाथ तांडेल, कृष्णा ताम्हणकर, रमेश तोडणकर यांचा समावेश करण्यात आला आहे. हे सर्व कालच्या बैठकीत उपस्थित होते.

समितीतर्फे शिरोडा ते विजयदुर्गपर्यंत मच्छिमार व मच्छिमार प्रतिनिधींच्या भेटीगाठी घेणे, लोकप्रतिनिधींना निमंत्रित करणे व अन्य कामे करण्यात येणार आहेत. हा बंद यशस्वी करून मच्छिमारांची अभेदी एकजूट शासनाला दाखवून घ्यावी, असे आवाहन करण्यात आले आहे. 1994 29 जानेवारी

## 31 ज त शरी जयश्री

### ४ फेब्रुवारीच्या 'मच्छीबंदला' मच्छिमारांनी प्रतिसाद द्यावा मच्छिमार संघाचे आवाहन

मालवण, दि. २९- (प्रतिनिधी) डंकल प्रस्तावामुळे देशी व परदेशी बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या २६०० महाकाय यांत्रिक बोटी भारताच्या संपूर्ण किनारपट्टीवर मच्छिमारीसाठी आणल्या जाणार आहेत. विशाखा पट्टणमला काही बोटी आल्याही आहेत. यामुळे ७१ लक्ष भारतीयांच्या मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर विपरित परिणाम होणार असून मच्छिमार बांधव या व्यवसाय क्षेत्रातून हसकले जाणार आहेत. याकडे शासनाचे लक्ष वेधण्यासाठी व प्रस्तावाला विरोध

दर्शवण्यासाठी ४ फेब्रुवारी ९४ रोजी भारतातील मच्छिमारी व्यवसाय बंद ठेवण्यात येणार आहे तरी या बंदला सर्व मच्छिमारी बांधव व मत्स्य व्यावसायिक यांनी उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद द्यावा तसेच शुक्रवार ४ फेब्रुवारी रोजी दांडेश्वर जवळ ठीक दहा वाजता मच्छिमारांचा विराट मेळावा आयोजित करण्यात आला आहे त्यास मच्छिमारांनी उपस्थित राहावे असे आवाहन मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाचे अध्यक्ष रमेश घुरी यांनी केले आहे.

## मासेविक्री बंद आंदोलन

अ. ना. कांबळी यांचे आवाहन मालवण, दि- १८ शासनाचे मच्छिमारांवर बसवलेले कर आणि मच्छिमारांनाबत अवलंबिलेले धोरण यांच्या निषेधार्थ अखिल भारतीय मच्छिमार संघातर्फे दि. ४ फेब्रुवारी ९४ रोजी देश पातळीवर मासे विक्री बंद पाठवण्यात येणार असून मालवणातही हा बंद पाठवण्यात येईल अशी माहिती अ. ना. मच्छिमार संघाचे सदस्य अ. ना. कांबळी यांनी दिली.

या मासे विक्री बंदला प्रतिसाद म्हणून मालवण तालुका मच्छिमार संघातर्फे मालवणात बंद पाठवण्यात येईल. हिन्दुस्थान व सिलोन नेश्ही यांच्या कार्यात सापडलेल्या मच्छिमारांना वाचवा, चिलखा बचाव इतके प्रस्तावाचा निषेध म्हणून हा बंद पाठवण्यात येणार आहे या बंदमाळे मालवण तालुका मच्छिमारांनी सामील व्हावे असे आवाहन अ. ना. कांबळी यांनी केले.



# डुंकेलविरोधात मच्छिमारांचा देशभर बंद

शांततामय असाच आहे. तरीही शासनाने दुर्लक्ष केले तर अहिंसेच्याच मार्गाने मच्छिमारांचे उग्र आंदोलन राष्ट्रीय स्तरावर सुरू होईल. यामध्ये सत्याग्रह, उपोषणे, जेल भरी आंदोलने याचा समावेश राहिल. याकडेही शासनाने दुर्लक्ष केले तर शांततामय मार्गाने बहुराष्ट्रीय कपण्याच्या बोटीची नाकेबंदी करावी लागेल. त्यांना व्यवसाय करणे कठीण जाईल, असे देऊलकर म्हणाले.

आता 'नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स कोरप' या संघटनेचे राष्ट्रीय स्तरावर जोरकस कार्य सुरू आहे. देशातील २७ मच्छिमारी संघटना कोरपशी संलग्न आहेत. मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर हॉटव्हॉट केलेले अनेक लोक या संघटनेत आहेत.

केंद्र सरकारने बहुराष्ट्रीय कपण्यांना खोल समुद्रातील मच्छिमारीस मुक्त परवाना दिल्यावर २६०० बहुराष्ट्रीय कपण्यांच्या बोटी भारताच्या किनाऱ्यावर येणार. विशाखापट्टणमला अशा बोटी आल्याही आहेत. त्यांच्याकडे अद्यावत यंत्रसामुग्री व जाळी आहेत. गोक्याची गोष्ट म्हणजे या बोटी आपल्या हद्दीत १० कि.मी. आत येणार आहेत.

देऊलकर म्हणाले, गेल्या वर्षी ४ ऑक्टोबरला नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स कोरपच्या ७ सदस्यीय शिष्टमंडळाने राष्ट्रपतींची भेट घेतली व आपला या प्रस्तावास असलेला विरोध 'निवेदनाद्वारे नोंदविला.

४ फेब्रुवारीचा बंद सरकारने गेल्या तीन महिन्यात लक्ष दिले नाही म्हणून लक्ष वेधण्यासाठी आहे. या दिवशी मच्छिमारी व्यवसाय पूर्णपणे बंद राहिल. कोरपतर्फे आतापर्यंतचा लढा हा

मासळी आज जागतिक बाजारपेठेत भाव मिळवून आहे. किमती शंभर पटीने वाढल्या आहेत. कोळंबी, लॉन्डर (शिबडी), म्हाकुल, रिबन फिश (बळा) यांची उदाहरणे देता येतील. पण मत्स्योत्पादन जे वाढले ते खाजगी क्षेत्रात, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रात नव्हे. मासळीला उपलब्ध बाजारपेठा वाढल्या. किमती वाढल्या; फायद्याचे प्रमाण वाढले. परंतु हा फायदा पूर्वीच अर्थिकदृष्ट्या सक्षम असणाऱ्यांकडे गेला. सापान्याचे मासळी व्यवसाय बंद होऊ लागले.

१९८१ मध्ये मासेमारी अभिनियम (मरीन फिशरिज अॅक्ट) अस्तित्वात आला मात्र त्याची योग्य अंमलबजावणी झाली नाही. हा कायदा कागदावरच राहिला असा आरोप देऊलकर यांनी केला. आरडीएक्सच्या तत्करी प्रकरणानंतर आता कुठे संरक्षणाबाबत कार्यवाही होते आहे. पण त्याचबरोबर या गस्ती नौकांकडून मच्छिमारांना उपद्रव दिला जातोय. मच्छिमारीविषयक समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी, समन्वय साधण्यासाठी आजवर राष्ट्रीय स्तरावर कार्यरत मच्छिमारांची संघटनाच नव्हती.

भारताच्या किनाऱ्यावर भारत सरकारच्या खोल समुद्रात मच्छिमारी करणाऱ्या नौका मच्छिमारी करतात. परंतु आजवर कोणत्याही वर्षात त्या फायदेशीर ठरल्या नाहीत. एकूण खर्च व उत्पन्न यांचा मेळव बसला नाही.

आता मात्र पूर्वीच्या मानाने मत्स्य व्यवसायात बराच फरक पडला आहे. पूर्वीच्या काळी कवडी मोलाची ठरलेली

मच्छिमारांचा बंद करणारे २ लाख ५ हजार लोक आहेत. देशात सोळा विंगत्यंत्रिकी नौका एक लाख ८५ हजार आहेत. २३ हजार यंत्रनौका आहेत. खोल सागरात मासेमारी करणाऱ्या शासनाच्या १८० यंत्रनौका आहेत. १९९२ आठ्वर एकूण मत्स्योत्पादन ४० लाख ५० हजार टन झाले. महाराष्ट्र, गोवा, कर्नाटक, गुजरात व केरळ या राज्यांच्या समुद्रकिनाऱ्यावर राष्ट्रीय मत्स्योत्पादयार्धेकी वरील आकडेवारीत ७२ टक्के उत्पादनाचा वाटा आहे; तर याच भागात ७० टक्के एवढ्या मोठ्या प्रमाणात यंत्रनौका आहेत.

भारताचे किनाऱ्यापासूनचे समुद्रक्षेत्र १२ नॉटीकल मैल खोल पाण्यापर्यंतच्या समुद्राचे आहे. म्हणजेच हे क्षेत्र २० लाख चौरस किलोमीटर होईल.

देशातील मच्छिमारी व्यवसायाची व्याप्ती स्पष्ट करताना देऊलकर म्हणाले, अंदमान, निकोबार बेटांसाहित भारताला ७,१०० कि.मी. एवढा प्रचंड सागरकिनाऱ्या लाभला आहे. देशात १४१४ मच्छिमारी बंदरे आहेत. ७१ लाख लोक मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष

मच्छिमारी करणारे आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष

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मच्छिमारी करणारे आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष

मच्छिमारी करणारे आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष

# मच्छिमारांच्या चारच्या 'बंद'ला बहुसंख्य मच्छिमारांच्या पाठिंब्या

**शानेश देऊलकरांची माहिती**  
(प्रकाश बराबकर चाणक्यरुनी)

मासपत्र, ता. २८- भारत सरकारने

संसदत कोणत्याही प्रकारचे विधेयक न आणता जागतिक बाजारपेठेत सध्याची शेवट्यासाठी व कर्जासुल्य घोषवाकरीला गेट्या इकेल प्रस्ताव बमसात आणायचे ठरविले आहे. यामुळे खोल समुद्रात

बाहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना मच्छिमारीचा मुक्त प्रदान मिळाला आहे. परिणामी

देशातील मच्छिमारे त्यांच्या

आवसायानुन बाहेर केलेले जाणार आहेत. हा नवीन धोका ओळखूनच

मच्छिमारे संयंत्रांनी मच्छिमारी बंद देवून निवेष दिन पाळण्याचे ठरविले आहे. देशातील बहुसंख्य मच्छिमारांचा या निवेषदिनास पाठिंबा आहे, अशी माहिती मच्छिमारे नेते शानेश देऊलकर यांनी दिली.

देशातील मच्छिमारी व्यवसायाची व्याप्ती स्पष्ट करताना देऊलकर म्हणाले,

अनुमान, निकोबार बेटांसहित भारताला ७५०० किलोमीटर एवढा प्रबंड सागर किनारा सापला आहे. देशात १४१४ मच्छिमारी बंदरे (Landing Places/Ports) आहेत. ७१ लाख लोक मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष मच्छिमारे आहेत. ५ लाख ३० हजार यापूर्वी हा व्यवसाय पारंपरिक पद्धतीने क्रियाशील मच्छिमारे आहेत. वार लाख तीन हजार अर्धवेळ मच्छिमारे आहेत.

मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष मच्छिमारे आहेत. ५ लाख ३० हजार यापूर्वी हा व्यवसाय पारंपरिक पद्धतीने क्रियाशील मच्छिमारे आहेत. वार लाख तीन हजार अर्धवेळ मच्छिमारे आहेत. मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहेत. २२ लाख लोक प्रत्यक्ष मच्छिमारे आहेत. ५ लाख ३० हजार यापूर्वी हा व्यवसाय पारंपरिक पद्धतीने क्रियाशील मच्छिमारे आहेत.

साख २५ हजार लोक आहेत. मासळी व्यापारास व वाहतुकीस मदत करणारे २ लाख ५ हजार लोक आहेत. देशात उष्टेद्या विणार्यांचेही नोका एक लाख ८५ हजार आहेत. २३ हजार यंत्रनीका आहेत. खोल सागरात मासेमारी करणाऱ्या शेतानाच्या १८० यंत्रनीका आहेत. १९९२ अखेर एकूण मत्स्योत्पादन ४० लाख ५० हजार टन होते. महाराष्ट्र, गोवा, कर्नाटक, गुजरात व केरळ या राज्यांच्या मच्छिमारीच्या

मत्स्योत्पादनापैकी वरील आकडेवारीत ७२ टक्के उत्पादनाचा वाटा आहे, तर २७ टक्के उत्पादनाचा वाटा आहे. भारताचे किनाऱ्यापासूनचे समुद्रक्षेत्र १२ नॉटिकल मील म्हणजे सुमारे ४० हजार चौरस मैल आहे. म्हणजेच हे क्षेत्र २० लाख चौरस किलोमीटर क्षेत्र आहे. परदेशाच्या मत्स्यबोटी दुसऱ्या देशाच्या हद्दीत मच्छिमारीसाठी येत नाहीत. हा एक सामान्य नियम आहे व मच्छिमारीसाठी लागलेला सापलेला किनारा आशिया खंडात अन्य कोणत्याही देशास लागू नाही.

भारतीय मच्छिमारीत सर्वसाधारणतः भारतीय लोकच वापरत होते, आता मत्स्योत्पादन साहेबाच पटीने वाढले आहे. भारताच्या किनाऱ्यावर भारत सरकारच्या मच्छिमारी कंपन्या नोका खोल समुद्रात मच्छिमारी करतात, परंतु आजवर कोणत्याही वर्षात त्या फायदेशीर ठरल्या नाहीत. एकूण खर्च व उत्पन्न यांचा मेळव बसला नाही.

जगात मात्र पूर्वीच्या मानाने मत्स्य व्यवसायात बराच फरक पडला आहे. पूर्वीच्या काळी कवडी मोलाची ठरलेली भाव मिळवून आहे. किमती शंभर पटीने वाढल्या आहेत. पैकी कोळंबी, सोंबट्टर (शिवडी), म्हाकूत, पिबन किश (बळी) यांची उदाहरणे देता येतील. पण मत्स्योत्पादन जे वाढले ते खासगी क्षेत्रात, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रात नव्हे. मासळीला उपलब्ध बाजारपेठा वाढल्या, किमती वाढल्या, फायद्याचे प्रमाण वाढले. परंतु हा फायदा पूर्वीच आर्थिकदृष्ट्या सक्षम असणाऱ्यांकडे गेला. सामान्यांचे मासळी व्यवसाय बंद होऊ लागले. उदा. भारताच्या पश्चिम किनाऱ्यावर ४० वायव्येकडे (फ्रेंचम) शिवाच्या ब्रीड्या मच्छिमारीस जात होते. नारवा, फडके, वागाळ्या, मोठे मोरी मासे त्यांना मिळायचे. आता ही मच्छिमारी बंद झाली आहे.

१९८१ मध्ये मासेमारी अधिनियम (मरिन फिशरीज (अॅक्ट) अस्तित्वात आला. मात्र त्याची योग्य अंमलबजावणी झाली नाही. हा कायदा कायदावरच राहिला, असा आरोप श्री. देऊलकर यांनी केला. आर. डी. एस्. च्या

तकरी. प्रकाशानंतर आता कुठे संरक्षणवादात कार्यवाही होते आहे. पण त्याबरोबर या मत्सी नौकांकडून मच्छिमारांना उपद्रव दिसा जातो आहे. मच्छिमारेविषयक समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी, समन्वय साधण्यासाठी आजवर राष्ट्रीय स्तरावर कार्यरत मच्छिमारी संघटना नव्हती. आता संघटनेचे राष्ट्रीयस्तरावर जोरकस कार्य सुरू आहे. देशातील २७ मच्छिमारी संघटना फोरमशी संलग्न आहेत. मच्छिमारी व्यवसायावर डॉक्टरेट केलेले अनेक लोक या संघटनेत आहेत.

केंद्र सरकारने बाहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना खोल समुद्रातील मच्छिमारीस मुक्त परवाना दिल्यावर २६०० बाहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या बोटी भारताच्या किनाऱ्यावर येणार. विशाखापट्टणमला अशा बोटी आल्याही आहेत. त्यांच्याकडे अद्यावत यंत्रसामग्री व जाळी आहेत. थोकाच गोष्ट म्हणजे या बोटी आपल्या हद्दीत दहा किलोमीटरपर्यंत जात येणार. म्हणजे ४० फीटमच्या जात ३० फीटमपर्यंत मच्छिमारी करणार आहेत. याच क्षेत्रात १६ सक्ष टन मत्स्योत्पादन आहे. त्यास देशाला मुकावे सांगणार आहे.

देऊलकर म्हणाले, 'गेल्या वर्षी चार ऑक्टोबराला नॅशनल फिश वर्कस फोरमच्या सात सदस्यीय शिष्टमंडळाने राष्ट्रपतींची भेट घेतली व आपला या प्रस्तावावर असलेला विरोध निवेदनाद्वारे नोंदविला. याबाबत शासनपातळीवर विचार होईल म्हणून तीन महिने वाट पाहिली. परंतु सर्वेसाधी बोलाविण्याचे शासनाला जमले नाही. देऊलकर पुढे म्हणाले, 'राष्ट्राला शिस्त लागली पाहिजे. उत्पन्न वाढले पाहिजे व कर्ज ढलके झाले पाहिजे. हे शासनच घोरण जाम्ही मान्य कराते. त्यासाठी मच्छिमारी व्यवसायालाच वेळीस परते बरोबर नाही. आम्ही तसे होऊ देणार नाही. खोल सागरात मच्छिमारी करण्यात शरसकीय नौकांना अपयश आले. पण मग खासगी क्षेत्रातील बोटी खोल सागरातील मच्छिमारीत प्रगत संज्ञानाचा अवलंब केल्याने तरून गेल्या, अशा सहकारी संस्था देशात आहेत. त्यांच्या पाठीमागे शासन का उभे राहिले नाही, असा सवाल देऊलकर यांनी केला.

बाहेर फेडुवारीचा बंद सरकारने गेल्या तीन महिन्यात लक्ष दिले नाही. म्हणून लक्ष वेधण्यासाठी आहे. या दिवशी मच्छिमारी व्यवसाय पूर्णपणे बंद राहील. फोरमलर्क आतापर्यंतचा सदा हा शासनाचे दुर्लक्ष केले तर अहिंसेच्याच मार्गाने मच्छिमारांचे उग्र आंदोलन राष्ट्रीयस्तरावर सुरू होईल. यामध्ये सत्याग्रह, उपोषणे, जेलभरो आदीने यांचा समावेश राहील. याकडेही शासनाने दुर्लक्ष केले तर शांततामय मार्गाने बाहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या बोटीची नाकेबंदी करावी लागेल. त्यांना व्यवसाय करणे कठीण जाईल. मात्र नाकेबंदी याचा अर्थ मी यावेळी स्पष्ट करणार नाही, असे देऊलकर म्हणाले.

पुढे पाहिल्या जायची, तसे उपाय मच्छिमारांना येतावे लागतील. मच्छिमारीदेशीय आठ राज्यातील सुमारे १७ खासदारांना या आंदोलनास पाठिंबा घ्यावा लागेल. बाहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या बोटी भारतीय किनारपट्टीवर येणार असल्याने संरक्षण व्यवस्थेला एक मोठाच धोका निर्माण होणार आहे, याकडे निर्देश करून देऊलकर म्हणाले, 'या बोटींना किनाऱ्यावर सैध्याची परवानगी दिल्यावर किनाऱ्याचे सारे नकाशे (प्रारस) त्यांना मिळतील व देशाची सागरीय संरक्षण योजना उघडी पडेल. जगातील कोणत्याही देशाने बाहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना एवढे मुक्तपणे दिलेले नाही. ही बाब भारतातील विचार प्रस्तावाच्या पार्श्वभूमीवर विचार करणाऱ्यांणी आहे. सागरी क्षेत्रातील ताणुकांच्या तहकिलदारांना व फेडुवारीच्या 'डकेल' प्रस्तावाच्या विरोधात निवेदने देण्यात येणार आहेत. इकेल प्रस्तावामुळे देशातील उद्योग व्यवसाय धोक्यात आले आहेत. हे पाहता गांधीजींची स्वदेशी चळवळ पुन्हा एकदा जोरकसपणे सुरू करावी लागेल. ४ महिने जीवनात याची सुटवात करावी लागेल, असेही देऊलकर म्हणाले.

मच्छिमारी व्यवसायाचे अस्तित्त्वच पुढे पाहणाऱ्या या इकेल प्रस्तावाविषूद निकाराची लढाई आता सुरू झाली आहे. ४ फेडुवारीच्या 'मच्छिमारी बंद' मध्ये देशातील सर्व मच्छिमारे बांधव सध्याची होतील, असा विश्वास देऊलकर यांनी व्यक्त केला.

44 E

# आजच्या देशव्यापी बंदमध्ये जिल्ह्यातील मच्छीमारांचा सहभाग

मालवण, दि. ३ - भारतातील मच्छीमार समाजाला देशोधडीला लावणाऱ्या व भारतीय मच्छीमारी नेस्तानाबूत करणाऱ्या आठव्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेतील इकेल प्रस्तावाविरुद्ध नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरमने दंड थोपटले असून त्याचाच एक भाग म्हणून उद्या दि. ४ फेब्रुवारी ९४ रोजी भारतातील मासेमारी व मत्स्यविक्री बंदचे आवाहन केले आहे. मच्छीमारांचा विराट मेळावा

इकेल प्रस्तावाच्या निषेधासाठी मासेमारीच्या बंदमध्ये शुक्रवार दि. ४ फेब्रुवारी ९४ रोजी सकाळी १० वा. मालवण येथील दडिम्बरजवळ मालवण तालुक्यातील मच्छीमार बांधवांचा विराट मेळावा आयोजिण्यात आला असून त्यामध्ये सर्व मच्छीमारांनी मोठ्या संख्येने उपस्थित रहावे असे आवाहन मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छीमार संघाचे संस्थापक व मच्छीमार नेते श्री. ज्ञानेश देऊलकर यानी केले आहे.

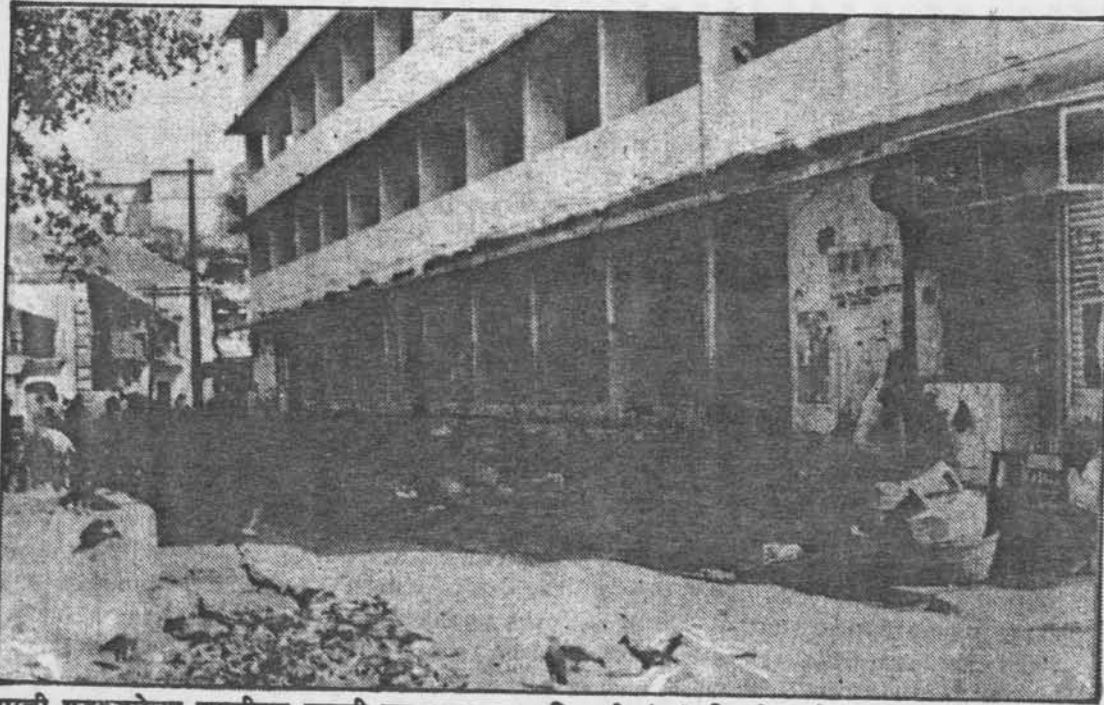
आमच्या देवगड प्रतिनिधीने दिलेल्या

वृत्तानुसार सिंधुदुर्गच्या १६० कि. मी. लांबीच्या समुद्र किनाऱ्यावर १६०० चौ. कि.मी. मासेमारी मैन क्षेत्र असून २५००० मे. टन मासळीचे उत्पादन होते. जिल्ह्यात १२५ ट्रॅलर्स, २९० लॉचिस, १३५० बिगरयांत्रिकी होड्या मासेमारी व्यवसायात गुंतल्या असून मासेमारांची लोकसंख्या २२,८४८ आहे. या सर्व लोकसंख्येवर बेकर होण्याची वेळ येणार आहे. एकट्या देवगड बंदरात तर जवळजवळ ७०-७५ ट्रॅलर्स आहेत व मासेमार व्यवसायाचे हे प्रमुख केंद्र आहे. हापूसनंतर मासा हेच येथील अर्थकारणाचे साधन आहे. भारताच्या नव्या धोरणामुळे हे सर्व उद्ध्वस्त होणार असल्याने आजच्या बंदमध्ये सर्व मासेमार सहभागी होणार आहेत.

शिरोडा, सिंधुदुर्ग (वार्ताहर)- इकेल प्रस्तावामुळे मच्छीमारांचे भयंकर नुकसान होणार एवढेच कथय तर छोटे (पान ३ वर)

मच्छीमार नेस्तानाबूत होणार आहेत. याच्या निषेधार्थ नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरमने पुकारलेल्या उद्याच्या देशव्यापी मत्स्यविक्री बंदमध्ये आरोडा ते मोचेमाडमधील मच्छीमारी बांधव सहभागी होणार आहेत, अशी माहिती शिरोड्यातील एक मच्छीमार नेते शिवा उर्फ बाबा नाईक यांनी पत्रकारांना दिली.

मासळी विक्री बंद आंदोलनात आरोडा ते मोचेमाडपर्यंतचे सुमारे १५०० मच्छीमार सक्रिय भाग घेणार आहेत. इकेल प्रस्तावाचा निषेध करणारे व मागणीरूपी निवेदन आम्हा बेंगुर्ला तालुक्यातील गावोगावच्या मच्छीमार नेत्यांनी आज बेंगुर्ला तहसीलदार यांना दिलेले आहे, असेही नाईक यांनी सांगितले.



एरबी गजळलेल्या पणजीच्या मासळी बाजारात काल मच्छीमारी बंदच्या दिवशी दुपारी बारानंतर शुकशुकाट होता. (छाया - एन. मिंगुळकर).

GOMANTAK FEB 5, 1994

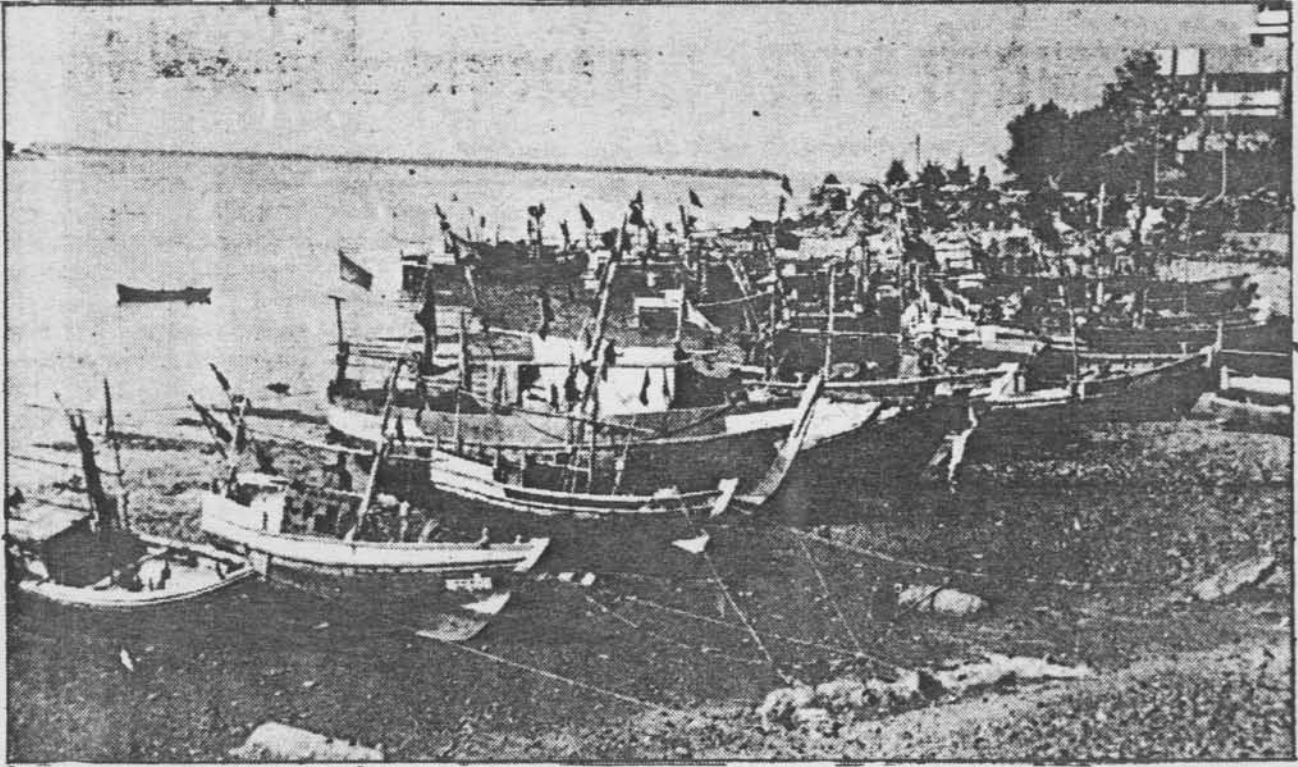




'बंद' मुळे वेसावे किनाऱ्यावर विसावलेल्या या होड्या... (छाया : हेमंत शिरोडकर)

MAHARASHTRA TIMES FEBRUARY 5, 1994





राष्ट्रीय मच्छिमार कृती समितीने केंद्र शासनाच्या धोरणाच्या निषेधार्थ शुक्रवारी 'बंद'चे आवाहन केले होते. या आवाहनाप्रमाणे मुंबईतील मच्छिमारांनी आपल्या होड्या समुद्राच्या किनारीचे ठेवल्या. या 'बंद'मध्ये सहभागी झालेल्या होड्यांचे छायाचित्र.

NAVA KAAL FEB. 5, 1994

## 'मच्छिमारांचा बंद' प्रचंड यशस्वी

मुंबई, शुक्रवार — मच्छिमारांनी पुकारलेला आजचा देशव्यापी बंद प्रचंड यशस्वी झाला. आज देशभरातील मासेविक्री बंद होती. कुणीही मासे विकण्यासाठी बसले नव्हते.

भारतातील मच्छिमार व्यवसायात परकीय भांडवलदारांना केंद्र सरकारने दिलेल्या परवानगीच्या निषेधार्थ हा देशव्यापी बंद पाळण्यात आला.

महाराष्ट्रासह संपूर्ण देशात या बंदला उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद मिळाला. मासेमारीसाठी एकही बोट समुद्रात गेली नाही.

महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृती समितीचे अध्यक्ष भाई बंदरकर यांनी सांगितले की, केंद्र सरकारने २ हजार ६०० विदेशी बोटींना भारतात मासेमारीसाठी परवानगी दिली आहे. यापैकी ८०० विदेशी बोटी पूर्व किनाऱ्यावर दाखलही झाल्या आहेत सरकारच्या निर्णयामुळे देशातील मासेमारीचा व्यवसाय पार कोलमडून पडेल.

भाई बंदरकर यांनी अमेही सांगितले की, महाराष्ट्रात सध्या १० हजार यांत्रिक बोटी आणि ७५ हजार साध्या बोटी आहेत. या

व्यवसायात १ लाख १० हजार लोक काम करतात. देशभरात ५ कोटी लोक या व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहेत. विदेशी बोटींमुळे देशाचा प्रचंड तोंटा होणार आहे. त्यामुळे आम्ही बंद पुकारला. जर शासनाने दुर्लक्ष केले तर आंदोलन अधिक तीव्र करण्यात येईल.

# सकाळ

वाना क्र. केएलपी ८

★★★ कोल्हापूर, शनिवार, ५ फेब्रुवारी १९९४

## कोकणातील मच्छिमारांचे मासेमारी बंद आंदोलन

मुंबई, ता. ४ (पी.टी.आय.)- भारतीय किनाऱ्यावर परदेशी कंपन्यांना मासेमारी करण्याची परवानगी केंद्र सरकारने दिल्याच्या निषेधार्थ देशव्यापी आंदोलनाचा एक भाग म्हणून महाराष्ट्रातील मच्छिमारांनी आज एक दिवस मासेमारी बंद आंदोलन केले. त्यामुळे राज्यातील घाऊक व किरकोळ मच्छी मार्केट आज बंद होती.

रत्नागिरी शासनाच्या डॅकेल प्रस्तावाला विरोध करण्यासाठी आणि या प्रस्तावाचा निषेध व्यक्त करण्यासाठी रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यातील मच्छिमारांनी आज मासेमारी बंद ठेवली. शुक्रवारी समुद्रातून मासे पकडून आलेल्या यांत्रिक नौका साधारणपणे दुपारपर्यंत बंद असतात आणि सायंकाळच्या सुमारास पुन्हा मासेमारीसाठी बाहेर पडतात. पण आज डॅकेल प्रस्तावाचा निषेध व्यक्तविण्यासाठी मासेमारी बंद होती. रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यामध्ये सुमारे पाच हजार यांत्रिक नौका आहेत. शिवाय छोट्या होड्यांतून मच्छिमारी करणारे मच्छिमारी आहेत. त्यांचे आज सर्व व्यवहार बंद होते. डिझेलचे दर वाढल्यामुळे यांत्रिक नौका चालविणे दिवसेंदिवस अवघड होत असताना अशाप्रकारचा प्रस्ताव येत असल्यामुळे मासेमारीचा व्यवसाय बंद पडण्याची शक्यता आहे, अशी प्रतिक्रिया मच्छिमारांनी व्यक्त केली.

मालवण : - डॅकेल प्रस्तावाच्या रुपाने भारतीय मासेमारीवर फार मोठे आक्रमण येऊ घातले आहे. भारतीय सागरी क्षेत्रावर, असणारा भारतीय मच्छिमारांचा हक्क अबाधित राहिला पाहिजे. यासाठीच मच्छिमारांनी १२ एप्रिलला भारत सरकारतर्फे डॅकेल

प्रस्ताव स्वीकारण्याला तीव्र विरोध केला पाहिजे व त्याविरोद्धे आंदोलन अधिकाधिक तीव्र केले पाहिजे असे आवाहन नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरमचे महाराष्ट्र व गोवा संघटक फादर झेवियर पिंटो (गोवा) यांनी मालवण दांडी येथे केले.

फादर पिंटो दांडी येथील मच्छिमारांच्या मेळाव्यात बोलत होते. डॅकेल विरोधात आज मालवणमध्ये 'मच्छिबंद' पाळण्यात आला यावेळी व्यासपीठावर कार्यक्रमाचे अध्यक्ष मच्छिमार नेते ज्ञानेश देऊलकर, जॉन नरोन्हा, मच्छिमार नेते अरविंद हुले, श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाचे अध्यक्ष रमेश धूरी, मासळी व्यापारी श्री. कृष्णा ताम्हणकर, सर्जेकोटचे वामन गावक आदी उपस्थित होते. श्रमिक मच्छिमारांचे कार्यवाह चंद्रकांत तारी यांनी सर्वांचे स्वागत केले.

अध्यक्षस्थानावरून बोलताना ज्ञानेश देऊलकर यांनी डॅकेल प्रस्ताव मच्छिमार व्यवसायावर कसे विपरीत परिणाम घडवून आणणार आहे याबाबत विस्ताराने माहिती दिली. ते म्हणाले, 'डॅकेल प्रस्तावामुळे दोन तृतीयांश भारतीय सागरी क्षेत्रावर बहुराष्ट्रीय मच्छिमारी बांटींचे आक्रमण येऊ घातले आहे. मालवणच्या विकासाच्या गप्पा कुणी मारू नयेत मत्स्योद्योग हाच आज मालवणचा व जिल्ह्यातील किनारपट्टीचा मुख्य व एकमेव व्यवसाय आहे या व्यवसायाला कोणी धक्का लाऊ पाहत अनेक तर ते जाम्ही सहन करणार नाही, खपवून घेणार नाही, मच्छिमारांची दिशाभूल आज खपणार नाही, कारण या बांधवामध्ये त्याविषयी जागरूकता निर्माण झाली आहे.

२६०० महाकाय परकीय मच्छिमारी

बोटी डॅकेल प्रस्तावामुळे जर भारतात आल्या तर जो मच्छिमार इथे आहे त्याचे जीवन उध्वस्त होणार आहे. त्यामुळे डॅकेल प्रस्तावामुळे येऊ घातलेला हा डाव मच्छिमारांनी उधळून लावला पाहिजे. भारत आज भिकेची झोळी घेऊन जगातल्या प्रत्येक राष्ट्रासमोर जात आहे व देशबंधवांना कर्जबाजारी करून ठेवतोय हे काय चालले आहे? कधी बंद होणार ही लाचारी? सत्याने न्याय मागणाऱ्यांना न्याय मिळत नाही गुन्हेगाराला शिक्षा होईलच अस राज्य राहिलेले नाही हे आपल दुर्दैव आहे, असे देऊलकर म्हणाले.

मरिन पार्कप्रेश्नी आपली पूर्वीची जी विरोधाची भूमिका होती ती आजही कायम आहे, असे सांगून देऊलकर म्हणाले, मच्छिमारांवर जेवढा अन्याय होतोय तेवढाच अन्याय देशातील शेतकऱ्यांवर गेली अनेक वर्षे होतोय. मच्छिमार व शेतकरी हे समदुःखी आहेत. त्यामुळे यापुढे शेतकऱ्यांनाही या लढ्यात सामावून घेण्यात येईल असे देऊलकर यांनी जाहीर केले. हा लढा डॅकेल प्रस्ताव व मच्छिमारीविरोधी धोरणे मागे घ्यायला लावेपर्यंत चालू ठेवण्याचा निर्धार यावेळी करण्यात आला.

मेळाव्याच्या प्रारंभी फादर झेवियर पिंटो यांनी दांडी येथील श्री देव दांडेश्वर मंदिरात सर्वांसमवेत जाऊन दांडेश्वरास पुष्पहार अर्पण केला. तेथे सामुदायिक गाऱ्याचे कार्यक्रम झाला.

मालवण तालुक्यातून देवबाग, तारकली, वायरी, दांडी, मालवण, कोळंब, सर्जेकोट, येथील अनेक मच्छिमार बांधव मोठ्या संख्येने या मेळाव्याला उपस्थित होते. मालवण तालुक्यात आज मच्छिमारी व्यवसाय

संबंधित व्यवहार पूर्णतः बंद होतं. मात्र मच्छिमार्केट मालवणच्या मागे काही मोजक्या रित्या मासळी विकताना आढळून आल्या. त्यांना समजावून सांगितल्यावर त्यांनी मासळी विक्री बंद केली.

मालवण बंदरात सर्वच्या सर्व मच्छिमारी नौका आज उभ्या होत्या. बंदमध्ये पूर्णतः सामील झाल्या होत्या. त्यामुळे प्रथमच सुमारे २०० च्या दर नौका मालवणच्या बंदरात एकत्र पाहण्याचा योग आला. शहरात ठिकठिकाणी मच्छिबंद आंदोलनाबाबत कापडी फलक लावलेले दिसत होते.

शिरोडा :

देशव्यापी मासळी विक्री बंदला शिरोडा परिसरात शंभर टक्के प्रतिसाद मिळाला. शिरोडा मासळी मार्केटमधून मासे विक्री न होण्याची ही पहिलीच घटना असल्याचे जाणकारांनी सांगितले. आज मासेमारी झाली नाही. झाहेरगावचे किरकोळ मासे विक्रेते शिरोड्याला येऊन मासे विक्री करतील या समजुतीने मदन चोडणकर, घाटवळ आदी कार्यकर्ते शिरोडा मासळी मार्केटमध्ये उपस्थित होते. परंतु झाहेरगावचे कोणी आले नसल्याचे त्यांनी सांगितले. आमचा बंद शंभर टक्के यशस्वी झाल्याची माहिती मच्छिमार नेत्यांनी दिली.

शिरोडा मासळीमार्केटच्या आवारात असलेल्या दुकानातून कोबडी विक्री चालू होती. मटण शॉप बंद होते.

दरम्यान, आमचा सावंतवाडीचा बातमीदार कळवितो, की सावंतवाडी शहरात आज मासेविक्री सुरू होती. मासळीची आवक कमी असल्याने, मासळीचे दर मात्र जास्त होते.

# मच्छिमारांचा 'बंद'

## मोठे आंदोलन उभारण्याचा इशारा

मुंबई, शुक्रवार - खोल समुद्रात मासेमारी करण्यासाठी बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना परवानागी देण्याच्या केंद्र सरकारच्या निर्णयाच्या विरोधात आज संपूर्ण देशभरातील मच्छिमारांनी आपल्या नौका पाण्यात घातल्याच नाहीत... आणि मग दररोज परमेश्वराच्या 'पहिल्या' अवतारा वर तुटून पडणाऱ्या मत्स्यप्रेमींची अवस्था जळविण माशासारखीच झाली!

केंद्र सरकारने खोल समुद्रातील मासेमारीसाठी मोठे मांडवलदार आणि बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या २ हजार ६५३ टॉलर्सना परवाने दिले आहेत. या निर्णयाचा निषेध करण्यासाठी राष्ट्रीय मच्छिमार संघटना आणि महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृती समितीने समुद्रातील एकही मासा आज बाजारात विक्रीसाठी येऊ दिला नाही.

'परदेशी टोलर समिंदरात आले तर आम्हाला म्हावरं (मासे) मिळणार नाय. आमचं जीवन धोक्यात येईल. त्यासाठीच आजचा बंद होता', अशी करंजा येथील गोविंदा काळ्या नाखवा या मासेमारी करणाऱ्यांची प्रतिक्रिया होती. अशाच भावना आजच्या बंदमध्ये सहभागी होणाऱ्या अनेक सर्वसामान्य नाखवांच्या होत्या.

### दीड कोटीची उलाढाल

मुंबईत शिवाजी मंडई, भाऊचा धक्का आणि ससून गोदी या मासेविक्रीच्या तीन प्रमुख घाऊक बाजारपेठा आहेत. मच्छिमारांच्या बंदमुळे दररोज दीड कोटीहून अधिक रुपयांची आर्थिक उलाढाल होणाऱ्या या मंड्यात आज व्यवहार पूर्णपणे बंद पडले होते. मुंबईसह देशातील नऊ राज्यांतही माशांची आवक तसेच विक्री पूर्णपणे बंद राहिल्यामुळे या व्यवसायातील लक्षावधी रुपयांचे व्यवहार बंद राहिले.

केंद्र सरकारच्या नवीन मासेमारी

### आमच्या प्रतिनिधीकडून

घोरणाचा निषेध करण्यासाठी पुकारण्यात आलेला हा बंद पूर्णपणे यशस्वी झाल्याचा दावा राष्ट्रीय मच्छिमार संघटना आणि महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृती समितीचे अध्यक्ष भाई बंदरकर यांनी केला. ससून गोदीमध्ये दुपारी झालेल्या जाहीर समेत, केंद्र सरकारने परदेशी व मोठ्या मांडवलदारांना दिलेले परवाने तातडीने रद्द करावेत अन्यथा मोठे आंदोलन उभारण्याचा इशारा श्री. बंदरकर यांच्यासह श्री. रामभाऊ पाटील, मोतीराम भावे, मोरेश्वर पाटील, तुकाराम नाखवा आदी नेत्यांनी दिला.

देशाच्या किनारपट्टीजवळच्या समुद्रात दररोज दिवसा आणि रात्री मासेमारीच्या व्यवसायात २२ लाख १२ हजार मच्छिमार गुंतलेले असतात. गोदी आणि बंदरामध्ये माशांची प्रतवारी, वाहतूक, पॅकिंग, बाजार व्यवसाय विक्री, जाळी विणकाम आणि छोट्या बिगर यांत्रिक नौका, होड्या, यंत्र नौका अशा मासेमारीच्या विविध क्षेत्रात देशामध्ये सुमारे पाच कोटी लोकांना रोजगार मिळतो.

### नाखवा समुद्राबाहेरच !

राष्ट्रीय मच्छिमार संघटना (नॅशनल फिश फेडरेशन) या मत्स्य व्यवसायिकांच्या देशातील शिखर संस्थेसह १७ प्रमुख संघटनांनी आज बंद पुकारला होता. त्यामुळे समुद्रात मासेमारी करण्यासाठी आज एकही 'नाखवा' गेला नाही. विविध बंदर आणि गोदीमध्ये छोट्या-मोठ्या होड्या विसावा घेताना दिसत होत्या. मात्र काल रात्री मासेमारी करून आलेल्या होड्यांनी आपल्या पोटातील मासेही विक्रीसाठी बाहेर काढले नाहीत. त्यामुळे मासे विक्रीसाठी विक्रेत्यांना उपलब्ध होऊ शकले नाहीत. बृहन्मुंबई परिसरात हजारो महिला किरकोळ स्वरूपात माशांची विक्री करतात. त्यांचा रोजगारही या बंदने हिरावून घेतला.

संपूर्ण भारतात दरवर्षी ५० लाख टन

मत्स्योत्पादन होते. १९९१ च्या उपलब्ध आकडेवारीनुसार देशात ४७.३७ लाख टन माशांचे उत्पादन होते. त्यामध्ये केरळचा पहिला क्रमांक असून त्या ठिकाणी वर्षाला ५ लाख ५४ हजार ७१७ टन, गुजरातमध्ये ५ लाख ३३ हजार ९७४ टन, तर महाराष्ट्राचा क्रमांक देशात तिसरा असून, राज्यात ४ लाख ५४ हजार ५४१ टन वर्षाला उत्पादन होते. देशातील मच्छिमार वर्षाला १० हजार कोटीचे परकीय चलन तर महाराष्ट्रात प्रतिवर्षी ३६० कोटी रुपयांहून अधिक परकीय चलन मिळवून देतात, असा दावा मच्छिमार कृती समितीतर्फे करण्यात आला आहे.

भारताच्या एकूण मत्स्योत्पादनापैकी ७२ टक्के मत्स्योत्पादन पूर्व किनाऱ्यावर होते. पश्चिम किनाऱ्यावर उर्वरित २८ टक्के होते. गेल्या चाळीस वर्षात भारताचे मत्स्योत्पादन क्रमाक्रमाने वाढत असून, ते सध्या जवळपास १० प्रतीने वाढले आहे.

सुमारे आठ ते दहा वर्षांपूर्वी केंद्र सरकारने खोल समुद्रातील मच्छिमारीसाठी तैवानच्या कंपनीला सशर्त परवाना दिला होता. संबंधित कंपनीने समुद्र किनाऱ्यापासून तीनशे फूट खोलीच्या आत मासेमारी करता कामा नये, असे त्यांच्यावर बंधन होते. मात्र त्या कंपनीने वरील नियमांचे वारंवार उल्लंघन केल्यामुळे नौदलासह संबंधित खात्याने त्या कंपनीवर खटले भरले होते, याचे स्मरण श्री. बंदरकर यांनी यावेळी करून दिले.

मोठे मांडवलदार आणि बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांना २ हजार ६५३ परवाने दिले. त्यांच्या अटी खूप शिथिल करण्यात आल्या असा आरोप आहे. नवीन परवानाधारकांना २० फॅदम (एक फॅदम म्हणजे सहा फूट खोल) खोलीपर्यंतच्या समुद्रात मासेमारी करण्यासाठी अनुमती देण्यात आली. हीच प्रमुख अट देशातील मच्छिमार संघटना आणि केंद्र सरकार यांच्यातील संघर्षात कारणीभूत ठरली आहे. ५० फॅदम पुढील खोल समुद्रात (३०० फूट) बाजारपेठेस उपयुक्त असे मासे

मिळत नाहीत. बाजारपेठेत मागणी असणारे विविध प्रकारचे मासे ५० फॅदम खोलीपर्यंतच्या समुद्रातच मिळतात. केंद्र सरकारने नव्याने दिलेले २ हजार ६५३ परवाने हे २० फॅदम पुढील खोल समुद्रातील मासेमारीसाठी आहेत. हा प्रकार म्हणजे भारतातील एकूण लोकसंख्येच्या जवळपास पाच टक्के लोकांवर आर्थिक आक्रमण आहे. इतकेच नव्हे तर पाच कोटी लोकांचा रोजगार हिरावून घेण्याचा केन्द्राचा कुटिल डाव आहे, असे मच्छिमार संघटनांचे म्हणणे आहे.

बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्या आणि मोठ्या मांडवलदारांना मासेमारी करण्यासाठी परवाना देण्यामुळे, भारतीय किनारपट्टीजवळच्या समुद्रातील माशांचा साठा अतिशय कमी होईल, अशी भीती व्यक्त करण्यात येते. तसेच मोठे मांडवलदार आणि बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्या भारतीय सागरातील माशांची प्रामुख्याने निर्यात करतील. त्यामुळे देशातील मासे विक्री आणि मासेमारी करणाऱ्या लक्षावधी लोकांना बेकार व्हावे लागेल. देशातील मत्स्यप्रेमींना किफायतशीर भावात आणि मुबलक प्रमाणात हवे ते मासे सहज उपलब्ध होऊ शकणार नाहीत, असा मच्छिमार संघटनांचा दावा आहे.



गोमंतक व दक्षिण कोकणचे पहिले आणि सर्वाधिक खपाचे अग्रेसर दैनिक



# गोमन्तक

कोकण आवृत्ती

शनिवार, दि. ५ फेब्रुवारी १९९४

## इंकेलविरोधी 'मच्छीमारी बंद' ला देशभर उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद

राज्यातील सर्व घाऊक व किरकोळ मासळी बाजार बंद राहिले.

महाराष्ट्र मच्छीमार कृती समितीचे सरचिटणीस भाई बंदरकर म्हणाले, सरकारच्या या मुक्त धोरणामुळे मोठ्या मच्छीमारी कंपन्यांच्या ताबडोबतून कसलेच मासे सुटणार नाहीत आणि या व्यवसायाशी संबंधित लाखो मच्छीमार बेकार होतील. दरसाल पकडलेल्या एकंदर मासळीपैकी एक षतुर्पाश म्हणजे १७.७५ लाख टन मासळी मच्छीमार निर्यात करतात आणि महाराष्ट्र राज्यातून पापैकी ५४४६.५ टन मासळी जाते. तिची किंमत ३०७ कोटी रु. इतकी आहे.

राज्यातील १० लाख लोकांचे जीवनमान केवळ मच्छीमारी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहे, असेही ते म्हणाले.

राष्ट्रीय मच्छीमारी कर्मचारी मंच

मुंबई, दि. ४ (प्रि.ट्र.)- भारतीय तसेच विदेशी कंपन्यांना

देशाच्या सागरी भागात मच्छीमारी करण्यास परवानगी देण्याच्या केंद्राच्या धोरणाच्या निषेधार्थ 'मच्छीमारी बंद' च्या देशव्यापी आवाहनाच्या प्रतिसादादाखल महाराष्ट्रातील मच्छीमारांचा आज उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद लाभला.

(एनएफएफ) आणि देशातील मच्छीमारी कामगार संघटनांच्या संयुक्त संघटनेने हा बंदचा आदेश दिला होता.

मच्छीमारी कर्मचारी मंचचे चेअरमन डॉमस कोचेरी केरळच्या तिरुवनंतपुरम येथील सचिवालयजवळ धरणे कार्यक्रमाचे उद्घाटन करताना म्हणाले, बंद संपूर्ण पश्चिमी भ्राला. मच्छीमारी बंदराचे कामकाज विस्कळीत झाले होते आणि बहुतेक ठिकाणी बाजार बंद राहिले. गुजरात, गोवा आणि पश्चिम बंगालमधील

कर्मचाऱ्यांनी आपल्या यांत्रिक मच्छीमारी बोट्टी आज समुद्रात घुसविल्या नाहीत.

केरळ, कर्नाटक, तामिळनाडू आणि आंध्र प्रदेशमधील मच्छीमारांचाही बंदला बांगला प्रतिसाद मिळाल्याचेही श्री. कोचेरी यांनी सांगितले.

शिरोड्यात मत्स्य विक्री बंदला प्रतिसाद

शिरोडा, दि. ४ (वार्ताहर) - इंकेल प्रस्तावा विरोधात नॅशनल फिश बँकर्स फोरम या संघटनेने दि. ४ फेब्रुवारी रोजी पुकारलेल्या मत्स्य विक्री बंदला शिरोडा मच्छीमार संघाने पूर्ण पाठिंबा देऊन मत्स्य विक्री पूर्णतः बंद ठेवली.

याबाबत बोलताना मच्छीमार नेते बाबा नाईक यांनी इंकेल प्रस्ताव म्हणजे सर्वसामान्य मच्छीमारांवर झालेला बजापातच आहे, अशा प्रकारे प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त करून सर्व धरातून यास विरोध होणे

आवश्यक असल्याचे मत व्यक्त केले. दरम्यान, शिरोडा बाजारपेठेतील

मासळी मार्केटमधील मत्स्य विक्री पूर्णतः बंद होती. शिरोडा व परिसरातून या मत्स्य विक्री बंदला शंभर टक्के प्रतिसाद मिळाला. मात्र नियमित मत्स्य सेवन करणाऱ्या गिऱ्हाईकांची तोंडे निराशाजनक दिसत होती. निदान एक दिवस तरी शाकाहार सेवन करून ईश्वरी पुण्य मिळेल, अशी नियमित मत्स्य गिऱ्हाईक व बाजारपेठेत वर्चा चानू होती.



# डंकेल प्रस्ताव विरोधी 'मच्छी' बंद आंदोलनास उत्तम प्रतिसाद

मालवण, दि. ४ (प्रतिनिधी) - डंकेल प्रस्तावाला विरोध म्हणून नॅशनल फिशर फोरमतर्फे पुकारण्यात आलेल्या देशव्यापी मच्छी बंदला आज मालवणात उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद मिळाला.

नेहमी मच्छिमक्तांनी गजबजलेले असे मालवणचे मच्छिमार्केट आज सुने सुने वाटत होते. आजच्या मच्छि बंद आंदोलनात मालवणचे मच्छिमार सामील झाले होते. मालवणच्या बंदरात अनेक होड्या ट्रॉलर्स उभे होते. आजच्या मच्छी बंदमुळे मालवण बाजारपेठेत काही परिणाम जाणवला. मालवणात मच्छी बंद आंदोलनाला शंभर टक्के प्रतिसाद मिळाला.

वेंगुर्ले तालुक्यात डंकेल विरोधी निषेध करण्यासाठी पुकारलेल्या मच्छिमारी विक्री

बंदला १०० टक्के प्रतिसाद मिळाला आहे. मच्छिमार बांधवांनी हा कडकडीत बंद ठेवल्याने नियमित मासे खाणाऱ्यांची मात्र पंचाईत झाली. मटण विक्रीही पूर्ण बंद होती. मासळी मार्केटमध्ये फेरी मारली असता नेहमी चालावयास जागा नसणारे मार्केट पूर्ण ओस पडले होते. काहीनी फ्रीजचा वापर यावेळी चांगलाच केला. बंद यशस्वी केल्याबद्दल मच्छिमार संघटनेने सर्वांचे आभार मानले आहेत.

आमचा शिरोड्याचा वार्ताहर कळवितो की, आज बंदमुळे शिरोड्यातील मासळी मार्केट पूर्णपणे बंद होते. स्थानिक जनता दलाने बंदला पाठिंबा दिला.

GOMANTAK FEBRUARY 5, 1994

## डंकेल प्रस्ताव मागे घेईपर्यंत मच्छीमारांचा लढा चालूच राहणार मच्छीमार मेळाव्यात ज्ञानेश देऊलकर यांचे प्रतिपादन

मालवण, दि. ४ (प्रफुल्ल देसाई यांजकडून) - भारतीय समुद्रात परकीय राष्ट्रांचे आक्रमण नको ही आमच्या मच्छिमारांची भूमिका असून, मच्छिमारीवर आक्रमण करणारा डंकेल प्रस्ताव मागे घेईपर्यंत हा लढा चालू राहील, असा इशारा मच्छिमार नेते ज्ञानेश देऊलकर यांनी येथे बोलताना दिला.

मालवण शहरातील दांडी भागातील दांडेश्वर मंदिरानजीक नॅशनल फिशर फोरम आणि मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघटना यांच्या वतीने मच्छिमार बांधवांचा मेळावा आयोजित करण्यात आला होता. त्यावेळी मच्छिमार नेते ज्ञानेश देऊलकर हे बोलत होते. यावेळी व्यासपीठावर फादर ब्रेव्हियर पिटो, मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघटनेचे अध्यक्ष रमेश धुरी, नगरसेवक अरविंद हुले, रामेश्वर मच्छिमार सोसायटीचे वेअरमन वामन गावकर, जॉन नरोन्हा, कृष्णा ताम्हणकर आदी मान्यवर उपस्थित होते.

प्रारंभी चंद्रकांत तारी यांनी उपस्थितांचे स्वागत केले. मच्छिमारांना मार्गदर्शन करताना मच्छिमार नेते ज्ञानेश देऊलकर म्हणाले, डंकेल प्रस्तावाची कार्यवाही सुरू झाल्यास आज जो मच्छिमार आहे त्यातील अल्प मच्छिमार या व्यवसायात राहातील आणि बाकी सर्व गुलाम म्हणून काम करतील. डंकेल प्रस्तावाला विरोध करण्यासाठी नॅशनल

फिशर फोरम सज्ज झाली असून, त्याच्या पाठीमागे नर्मदा बचाव आंदोलन समिती, त्याचप्रमाणे अनेक सेवाभावी संस्था आहेत. एकटेपणाची भावना मच्छिमारांना वाटता नये, असे सांगून ते पुढे म्हणाले, आपल्या मच्छिमार बांधवात दोन गट कार्यरत आहेत. एक श्रम करणारे आणि श्रमाचा मोबदला घेणारे. या सर्वांनी एकत्र येणे आवश्यक आहे.

भारत देशाला तीन बाजूंनी समुद्र लाभला आहे. आपल्या देशाला जशी सागरसंपत्ती लाभली आहे, तशी संपत्ती इतर देशाला लाभलेली नाही. ही संपत्ती भारताच्या मालकीची, सागर पुत्राच्या मालकीची आहे आणि आता या क्षेत्रावरच परकीय आक्रमण होण्याची शक्यता आहे, असे सांगून श्री. देऊलकर म्हणाले, संघर्ष करायचा आहे तो दुसऱ्याला पिटाळून लावण्यासाठी नाही तर त्यांच्याकडून काही तरी घेण्यासाठी आहे. मच्छिमार हा मच्छिमारीमध्ये राहिला पाहिजे ही आमची भावना आहे.

मरिन पार्कला आमचा शंभर टक्के विरोध आहे, परंतु हा विरोध करताना आम्ही शासनाजवळ मरिन पार्क ऐवजी सागरी उद्योग केंद्राची योजना आम्ही सादर केली, परंतु त्या योजनेची दखल शासनाने घेतली नाही. एकही मच्छिमार विस्थापित होता नये आणि मच्छिमारीला कुठेही तडा जाता नये ही मच्छिमारांची दृष्टी असल्याचे सांगून ते पुढे म्हणाले,

मत्स्योद्योग हाच मालवण त्याचबरोबर सिंधुदुर्गच्या किनारपट्टीच्या विकासाचा केंद्रबिंदू आहे. त्याला धक्का लागता कामा नये. मच्छिमार हा अडाणी राहिलेला नाही तो मच्छिमारी व्यवसायात आपली प्रगती साधत आहे.

मत्स्य व्यवसाय हा तिसऱ्या दर्जाचा व्यवसाय आहे. त्यामुळे शासन त्याकडे लक्ष देत नाही. भारत भिकेची झोळी घेऊन परकीय देशात जात आहेत आणि आमच्या कच्चा बऱ्याच्या होक्यावर कर्ज लादत आहेत. याला आमचा दोष काय, असा सवाल करून श्री. देऊलकर म्हणाले, सरकारच्या नीतीमतेचा, भ्रष्टाचाराचा हा परिपाक आहे.

डंकेल प्रस्तावामुळे मच्छिमारी उध्वस्त होणार असून, या प्रस्तावाला विरोध आहे. हा विरोध आम्ही अहिंसेने करणार आहोत. मच्छिमारांवर जेवढा अन्याय या प्रस्तावामुळे होणार आहे त्यापेक्षा भयानक अन्याय शेतकऱ्यांवर होणार आहे. शेतकरी बांधवांच्या पाठिशी आम्ही मच्छिमारांनी उभे राहिले पाहिजे. मच्छिमार आणि शेतकऱ्यांनी एकदिलाने काम करून डंकेल प्रस्तावाला विरोध करूया, असे आवाहन ज्ञानेश देऊलकर यांनी केले.

यावेळी फादर ब्रेव्हियर पिटो, अरविंद हुले आदींची भाषणे झाली. शेवटी रमेश धुरी यांनी आभार मानले. या मेळाव्यास मच्छिमार बांधव मोठ्या संख्येने उपस्थित होते.

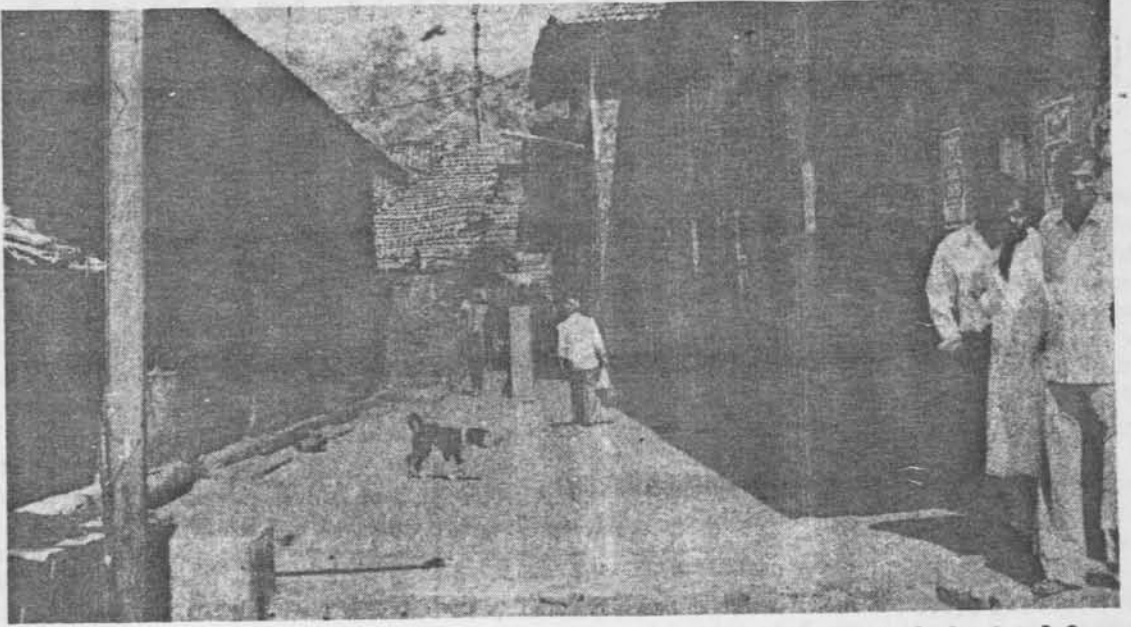
दैनिक

# किरण भारत

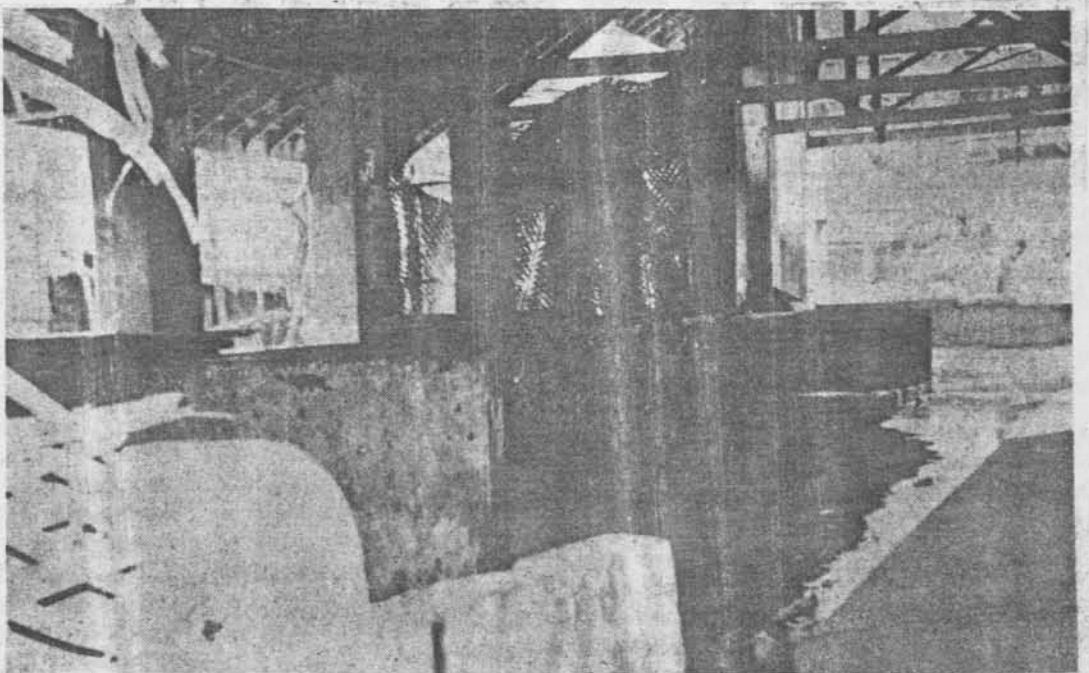
सिंधुदुर्ग



प्राव ठाकुर • संपादक : किरण ठाकुर ♦ सिंधुदुर्ग जिल्ह्यातील सर्वाधिक खपाचे लोकप्रिय दैनिक ♦ शनि. ५ फेब्रु. १९९४ पाने



डकेल प्रस्तावाला विरोध दर्शविण्यासाठी बेंगुले मासळी मार्केटमध्ये पूर्णपणे मासळी विक्री बंद होती. रोज गजबजलेल्या मार्केटमध्ये असा शुक्रशुक्राट होता.



इतर दिवशी रेवरेटी होणारे शिरोडा मासळी मार्केट आज विक्रेत्याविना सुने सुने बाटत होते.

(छाया : शिर्तल फोटो, शिरोडा)

मच्छिमारांचा भव्य मेळावा : बंद १०० टक्के

# इंकेल प्रस्ताव मागे घेईपर्यंत प्रखर आंदोलन चालूच ठेवू

- ज्ञानेश देऊलकर

मालवण, दि. ४ (प्रतिनिधी)- इंकेल प्रस्तावातील तरतुदीनुसार २० वर्षांपर्यंतचा समुद्र बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपन्यांच्या खोल पाण्यातील मासेमारीसाठी खुला करण्याच्या सरकारच्या धोरणाने येथील मच्छिमार विस्थापित होणार असल्याने नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरमसारख्या राष्ट्रीय पातळीवरील मच्छिमार संघटनेच्या ब्रॅंडघाखाली एक होऊन वेळ पडली तर भारतीय शेतकऱ्यांच्या खाद्याला खांदा लावून अहिसक मार्गाने तीव्र लढा उभारून सरकार इंकेल प्रस्ताव मागे घेईपर्यंत आम्ही थांबणार नाही, असा इशारा मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाचे संस्थापक व मच्छिमार संघाचे संस्थापक व मच्छिमार नेते श्री. ज्ञानेश देऊलकर यांनी मालवण दहिश्वर येथे बोलताना दिला.

भारतातील मासेमारी आणि मत्स्यविक्री आज दि. ४ फेब्रुवारी रोजी बंद ठेवण्याच्या नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरमचे राष्ट्रीयपि आवाहनास प्रतिसाद म्हणून मालवण तालुक्यातील मच्छिमार बांधवांनी आज एक दिवसाचा अभूतपूर्व कडकडीत हस्ताळ पाळून आपला बंद श्रम टक्के यशस्वी करून इंकेल प्रस्तावाला कडाकडून विरोध दर्शविला. त्या बंद बद्दल माहिती देण्यासाठी नॅशनल फिश वर्कर्स फोरम दिल्ली आणि महाराष्ट्र मच्छिमार कृती समिती (मुंबई) यांच्याशी संलग्न असलेल्या मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमारांच्या विराट मेळाव्याच्या अध्यक्षस्थानावरून श्री. ज्ञानेश देऊलकर बोलत होते. व्यासपीठावर गोव्याचे फादर झेवियर पिंटो, मालवण मच्छिमार कृती समितीचे अध्यक्ष व नगरसेवक श्री.

अरविंद हुले, मालवण ता. श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाचे अध्यक्ष नगरसेवक श्री. रमेश धुरी, मालवण मच्छिमार संघातील संस्थेचे अध्यक्ष व प्रसिद्ध फिश मर्वट श्री. कृष्णा ताम्हाणकर, रमेश्वर मच्छिमार सह. सोसायटीचे श्री. वामन गांवकर तसेच फिश मर्वट श्री. जॉन नोरोन्हा आदी मान्यवर उपस्थित होते.

प्रारंभी मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाचे कार्यवाह नगरसेवक श्री. चंद्रकांत तारी यांनी सर्वोच्च स्वागत करून प्रस्ताविक केले. तर मेळाव्याचे सूत्रसंचालन व संयोजन नगरसेवक श्री. अरविंद हुले यांनी केले.

यावेळी इंकेल प्रस्तावावर बोलताना श्री. देऊलकर पुढे म्हणाले, इंकेल प्रस्तावावर येत्या १२ एप्रिलला भारत सरकार सही करणार आहे. हा भारताच्या कृषी व मत्स्यशेती नेस्तनाबूत करणारा इंकेल प्रस्ताव स्वीकारण्याची भारतावर वेळ येऊन ठेपण्याचे एकमेव कारण म्हणजे देश कर्जबाजारी बनला असून, वेळोवेळी पिकेची बोळी घेऊन परदेशात जावे लागत आहे. ते होण्यावरचे कर्ज फेडण्यासाठी इंकेल स्वीकारावा लागत आहे. देश कर्जबाजारी होण्यामध्ये मच्छिमारांचा व शेतकऱ्यांचा काय दोष? असा सवाल करून हा सर्व दोष शासनाच्या चुकीच्या धोरणाचा, नीतीचा व प्रष्टाचाराचा असून, भारताला कर्जमुक्त करण्यासाठी हे हिपफिशिंगाचे, तंत्र आणून येथील मच्छिमारांना देशोधडीला लावण्याच्या या धोरणाला कडाडून विरोध करण्याची वेळ येऊन ठेपण्याचा इशारा त्यांनी यावेळी दिला.

यावेळी बोलताना श्री. देऊलकर पुढे म्हणाले की, आतापर्यंतच्या मालवण परिसरात मच्छिमारांच्या समस्यांच्या सोडवणुकीसाठी आपण जे विधायक लढे उभारले तेव्हा संघर्ष करावयाचा तो 'सुस-याला पिटाळून लावण्यासाठी नवे तर' ह्यांच्यासोबत काहीतरी घेण्यासाठीच हा 'टूटीक्रीन' ठेवला होता. त्याच न्यायाने नियोजित मीरन पार्कमधील सागरी संपत्तीच्या संरक्षणाचा जेवढा भाग आहे. त्याला आपला १०१ टक्के पाट्ट्या राहिल. पण त्याचबरोबर कुरणापासून तारकली आवारापर्यंतचे क्षेत्र मीरन पार्कच्या नावाखाली आपल्या ताब्यात ठेवून मालवण मच्छिमार बंदर बंद पाडण्याच्या प्रयत्नांना आपल्या २०० टक्के विरोध करत होता आजही आहे

आणि उद्याही राहिल. मग मला कोणीही काहीही दूषणे सावोत त्याची तमा न बाळगता मी माझ्या मताशी १९८५ पासून ठाम असून, दुटप्पी धोरण आपणास जमणे नाही असे परखड विचार व्यक्त करून येथील एकही मच्छिमार विस्थापित न होता त्यांच्या असलेल्या-पूर्वापार घंटांना कुठेही तडा जाता कामा नये, अशी भूमिका घेऊनच मत्स्यव्यवसाय हाच मालवणच्या विकासाचा एकमेव मार्ग असल्याने मालवणात सागरी उद्यानाऐवजी सागरी उद्योग केंद्र उभारण्याचा आपला पाठविलेला प्रस्ताव राज्यशासनाने बासनात का गुंडाळून ठेवला ? असा सवालही त्यांनी यावेळी उपस्थित करून त्यानंतरचा क्रम पर्यटन उद्योगाला देता येईल असे विचार मांडले.

फादर पिंटो

आमच्या सागरावर व त्यातील सागरी संपत्तीवर आपल्या देशाच्या जनतेचा सर्वस्वी अधिकार असतानाही इंकेल प्रस्तावाने मच्छिमारांचे हे हक्क परदेशी कंपन्यांकडे जाण्याचा धोका निर्माण झाला असून, इंकेल प्रस्तावातून रासस भारतच्या कृषी व मत्स्यविषयक हक्कांना

गिळंकृत करण्याची गरज आहे असे विचार गोव्याचे फादर पिंटो यांनी मांडले.

बंद १०० टक्के यशस्वी

आजच्या या मालवणच्या मत्स्यविक्री बंदमुळे आतापर्यंतच्या कोणत्याच बंद मध्ये नाशिवंत माल म्हणून मासळी मार्केट बगळण्यात येत होते ते आज प्रथमच पूर्ण रिकामे होते. फक्त मटणविक्री सुरू असल्याने गिऱ्हाईकांची बर्दळ तेवढी होती. तसेच मालवण बंदारात उभे करण्यात आलेले सर्व ट्रालर्स, लॉबीस् व मच्छिमार यांत्रिक व बिगर यांत्रिकी होड्या यामुळे मालवण मच्छिमार बंदर म्हणून शोभत होते. तसेच मालवणवासीय नागरिकांना मासळीशिवाय एक दिवस जेवण जात नाही त्यांचे आज चांगलेच हाल झाले होते.

मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघातर्फे आभार

इंकेल प्रस्ताव विरोधासाठी सिंधुदुर्ग जिल्ह्यातील देवगड, मालवण व वेंगुर्ला तालुक्यातील मच्छिमार बांधवांनी आज एक दिवस आपले सर्व व्यवहार १०० टक्के बंद ठेवून दाखविलेल्या एकजुटीबद्दल मालवण तालुका श्रमिक मच्छिमार संघाचे संस्थापक श्री. ज्ञानेश देऊलकर व सर्व पदाधिकार्यांनी जिल्ह्यातील सर्व मच्छिमार बांधवांचे सायंकाळी उशीरा प्रसिद्धीस दिलेल्या पत्रकाने आभार मानले आहेत.

देवगड (प्रतिनिधी)- इंकेल प्रस्तावाचा निषेध म्हणून देवगडातील मासेमारी व मत्स्यविक्री आज बंद होती. शुक्रवारचे बरेच मच्छिमार ट्रालर्स बंद असतात. मात्र भारत बंदचे आवाहन केले असल्यामुळे आज देवगड बंदरातील ट्रालर्स व मच्छिमारांनी आपला मत्स्यव्यवसाय बंद ठेवून उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद दिला आहे.

## मच्छिमारांचा देशव्यापी बंद पूर्णपणे यशस्वी

मुंबई, दि. ४ (प्रतिनिधी)- भारतातील मच्छिमार व्यवसायात परकीय मांडवलदारांना केंद्र सरकारने दिलेल्या परवानगीच्या निषेधार्थ आज संपूर्ण देशभरातील मासे विक्री व्यवसाय बंद पाडण्यात आला. महाराष्ट्रासह देशभरात या बंदला उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद मिळाला असून एकही मासेमारी बोट मासेमारीसाठी गेली नाही तसेच कोणीही मासे विक्रीसाठी बसले नाहीत.

**SECTION II**  
**GOA**



# FISHING BANDH

STOP SALE OF FISH ON 4TH FEBRUARY From 6.00 a.m to 6.00 p.m.  
to protest the policy of Government of India on deep sea fishing.

The Policy of the Government of India is to destroy both mechanised fishermen and also traditional fisheries sector by allowing foreign deep sea vessels to fish in the Indian waters.

This will destroy mechanised fishermen of Goa and India and fish will be more expensive as the foreign fishing vessels will export all the fish, creating shortage in domestic markets. We request boat owners, fisherwomen, ramponkars and fish sellers to join the bandh against the anti-national policies of the Government of India.

DON'T SELL FISH ON 4TH FEB - FROM 6.00 A.M. TO 6.00 P.M.

Saluzinho Vaz (*President*) All Goa Boat Owners Association.  
Pascoal Dias (*President*) Goenchea Ramponkarancho Ekvott.

4ter FEBRERACHE '94 - PONJE - GOYAM

# NUSTEM VIKPAK BOND

4 tarker Febrerache, sokallchea sov (6) tim sanjechea sov (6) horam porian bazarant nustem vikop nam, fokot eka dissak, marunk amcho nixed Bharat Serkarache ievzonnecher, videxi desantleam botikarank Bharotachea dorianim nustem marunk porvangi dilea tajer.

Bharat Serkaran tarailam botikarank toxench ramponkarank sompoupak, baileia botink Bharatachea dorianim nustem marunk diun.

Zem nustem hio bailio boti marteleot tem nustem baileam dessank dhadtele.

Amchea nustekarank ani nustem vikpeank nustem melchenam teach borabor nustem kaupeank nustem komi zaun chod marog zatelem tea katir ho virudh bandh Bharat Serkaracher.

Saluzinho Vaz (*President*) All Goa Boat Owners Association.  
Pascoal Dias (*President*) Goenchea Ramponkarancho Ekvott.

# NATIONAL FISHWORKERS' FORUM (NFF)

Reg. No. 487/85

(A United body of Fishworkers' Trade Unions in India)

Central Office :  
Cherurashmi Centre  
Valiathura  
Trivandrum-695008, India  
Contact Tel. 330408

Contact Office :  
H-24 Green Park Extension  
New Delhi-110016  
Tel: (Office) 64 26914  
688 3582 (Resi)

PRESS RELEASE

Ref: .....

Date 31-1-1994.....

Chairperson :

Thomas Kocherry  
41/1771, Vackhanam Road,  
Kochi-682018, India. Tel: .....

General Secretary : 370617

Harakrishna Debanath  
A. G. Colony, Manikata P. O.  
24 Parganas (N) Dist., West Bengal 743263  
Contact Tel. Calcutta 262227

Secretary-1

Ramesh Dhuri  
Malwan Taluka Shramik Machimar Sangh  
Dhuri Wada,  
Malwan (Sindhudurg Dist)  
Maharashtra: 418 606.

Secretary-2

Tatayya K  
Kalinga Fishermen's Union  
At: Venkateswarpur,  
Via Gopalpur-on-sea  
Dist. Ganjam,  
Orissa. 761 002.

Secretary-3

Francis De Salas  
St. Lawrence Thope,  
Thengapattanam P.O  
Kanyakumari Dist  
Tamilnadu. 629 173

Executive Members :

Matanhy Saldanha  
All Goa Fishermen's Union (AGFU)

Ravi P.  
Bay of Bengal Fishermen's  
Union (BBFU)

M. P. Abdul Rassik  
Kerala Swathanthra Matsya Thozhilali  
Federation ((KSMTF)  
Mercy Alexander (KSMTF)

B. Jaganadha Rao  
Kalinga Fishermen's Union (KFU)

Bhai Bandarkar  
Maharashtra Machimar Kirti Samiti- (MMKS)

Santhosh Das  
Sundarban Samudrik Matshajibi Sramik Union  
Samudrala S. (SSMSU)

(Andhra Pradesh Fishworkers' Union (APFU)

Mary Inerese (TFU)  
R. K. Pattil (MMKS)

## FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION:

The National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) Executive Committee member Mr. Matanhy Saldanha at a meeting held with all Goa Boat Owners Associations President Mr. Saluzinho Vaz and GRE President Mr. Pascoal Dias have decided to fully support all India fishing bandh on 4th February in protest against the National Policies on Deep Sea Fishing.

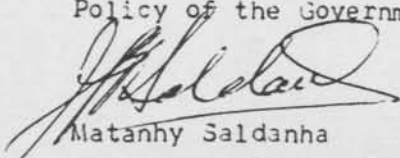
Mr. Saluzinho Vaz said that Bull Trawling conducted by Deep Sea Foreign vessels which is banned all over the world is allowed to destroy the Indian Marine Ecology and is harming the interest of Indian Fishermen.

Mr. Pascoal Dias said that the Government of India Policy of allowing the Foreign Companies is a crime against millions of fishermen whose only source of survival is fishing and said that this act on the part of the Indian Government is totally anti-national.

Mr. Matanhy Saldanha (NFF) said that the Deep Sea Foreign fishing vessels which will be allowed to fish in the Indian Economic Zone is a sellout of national interests to the Foreign Companies. He also said that this policy will neither help the Govt.

of India nor the consumers, as, the fish catch is for 100% export with 100% transference of profits to their parent companies abroad. This means that the Government is bartering away its interest just for low minial jobs which are also not guaranted on these vessels.

The representatives of GRE and ALL Goa Boat Owners Associations have requested the fishermen and fisherwomen not to sell fish in any of the market throughout Goa on 4th February 94 from 6.00 a.m to 6.00 p.m in protest against the Anti-Indian Deep Sea Fishing Policy of the Government of India.

  
Matanhy Saldanha  
(Executive Member NFF)

# GRE Calls For Fisheries Bandh

HERALD NEWS SERVICE

PANJIM, Feb 1

Goenchea Ramponkaranchi Ekvott (GRE) President Pascoal Dias in a statement issued here today said that the Executive Committee of the GRE met and decided to call for a fisheries bandh on February 4 from 6 am to 6 pm to protest against the Government of India policy on deep sea fishing.

The GRE studied the document on deep sea fishing and observed that foreign companies are allowed to do indiscriminate fishing, whereas in their own countries they are governed by strict management systems including quota system.

As all the vessels are old there is no capital cost for these companies. These vessels are to be given free to Government of India once the contract of fishing is over. By then the vessels will only be worth the scrap metal, says the press note.

The GRE also observed that the permission granted for operation of 2,600 deep sea vessels is an irresponsible act on the part of Government of India. The earlier experiment at Visakhapatnam of shrimp trawling was a total disaster when the owners of those deep sea fishing vessels abandoned the vessels at the disposal of Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI), who had financed these vessels.

The GRE also said that this policy will now destroy the mechanised

sector, and practically eliminate the coastal based traditional fisheries. The GRE demands that the Government should immediately review its decision, and avoid total destruction of the fishing industry by not allowing foreign companies to fish in Indian waters.

The GRE called upon the traditional fishermen of Goa not to sell fish in the markets of Goa on the day of the bandh.

GOA TRIBUNE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1994.

## Deep-sea fishing policy flayed

PANAJI: The Goenchea Ramponkaranchi Ekvott (GRE) President Mr. Pascoal Dias in a statement issued here yesterday said that the Executive Committee of the GRE met and decided to call for a fisheries bandh on February 4 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to protest against Government of India Policy on deep-sea fishing.

The GRE studied the document on deep sea fishing and observed that foreign companies are allowed to do indiscriminate fishing whereas in their own countries they are governed by strict management system including quota system. As all the vessels are old there is no capital costs for these companies. These vessels are to be given free to Government of India once the contract of fishing is over. By then the vessels will only be worth the scrap metal.

The GRE also observed the permission granted for operation of 2,600 deep sea vessels is an irresponsible act on the part of the Government of India. The earlier experiment at Visakhapatnam of shrimp trawling was a total disaster where the owners of those deep-sea fishing vessels abandoned the vessels at the disposal of Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI) which had financed these vessels. When this experiment on deep sea fishing was a failure, we fail to understand why the Government is out to destroy the fishing industry which sustains the livelihood of nearly 7 million people in the fisheries sector.

The GRE also said that this policy will now destroy the mechanised sector and practically eliminate the coastal-based traditional fisheries. The GRE demands that the Government should immediately review its decision and avoid total destruction of fishing industry by not allowing foreign companies to fish in the EEZ.

The GRE called upon the traditional fishermen of Goa not to sell fish in the markets of Goa on February 4 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and show the resentment against the anti-fishing policies of the Government of India.

## Call to abstain from selling fish on Feb 4

By A Staff Reporter

PANJIM, Feb 2: The Goenchea Ramponkaranchi Ekvott has urged traditional fishermen in Goa to abstain from selling fish in the markets on Friday, Feb 4 in protest against the central government's policy on deep sea fishing. A 12 hour fisheries bandh has been called on that day beginning from 6 am.

The GRE observed that the national policy would destroy the mechanised fishing sector and eliminate the coastal based traditional fisheries by allowing foreign companies to fish in Indian waters.

It recalled the failure of the earlier shrimp trawling experiment at Visakhapatnam and demanded a review of the policy decision, in a press note issued here.

The National Fishworkers Forum has also extended support to the bandh. Its executive committee member, Mr Matanhy Saldanha said the policy was a sell-out of national interests and would benefit neither the government nor fish consumers in the country.

THE NAVHIN TIMES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1994

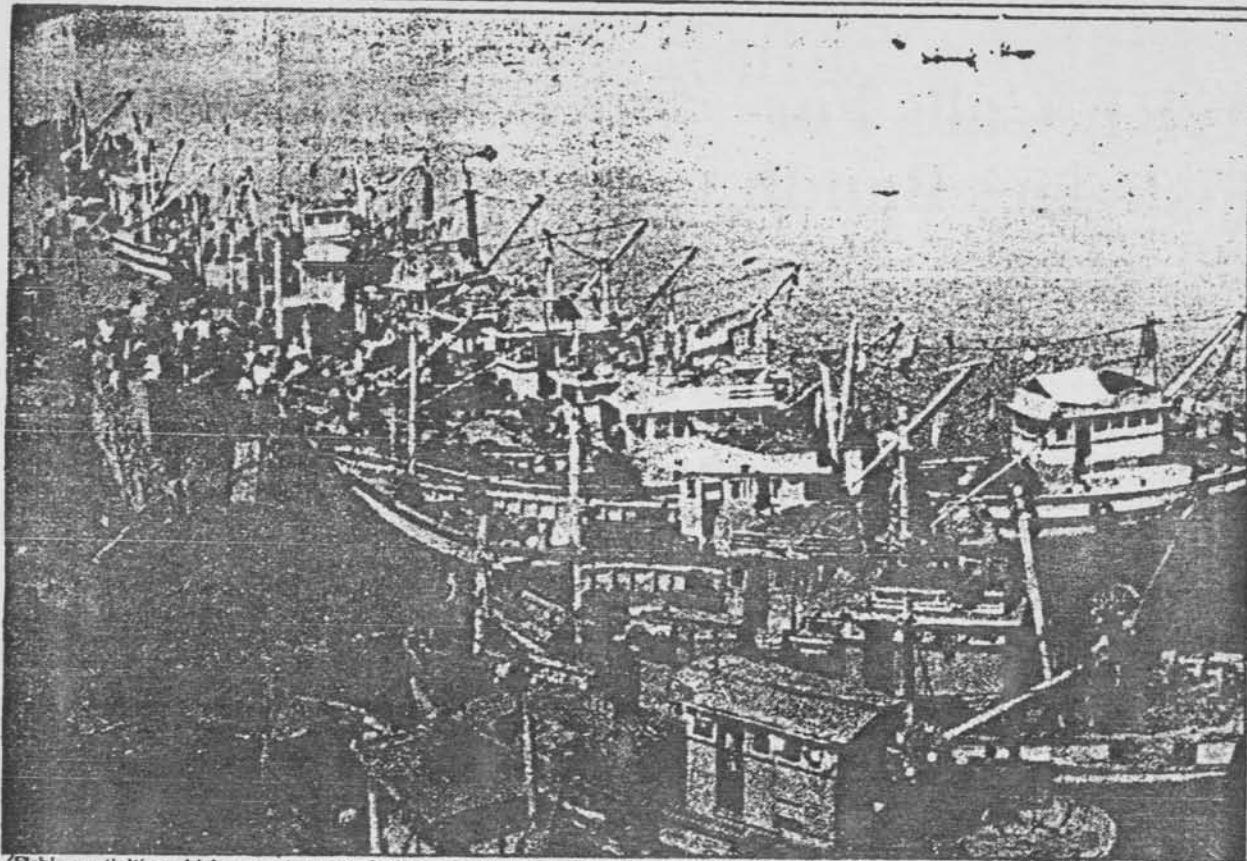
## SYNOPSIS

### Call to observe fish bandh

BOMBAY: The National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) has called to observe Fish bandh on February 4 in Maharashtra to protest against the Centre's deep-sea fishing policy allowing multi-national companies to fish in the field.

Announcing this here, Maharashtra Machimar Kriti Samiti leader Bhal Bandarkar said neither would fishing be done nor fish be sold anywhere in the country that day to register their protest against the government's policy. He alleged that mechanised commercial fishing vessels were resorting to fishing in territorial waters as no commercial species of fish were available in deep-sea waters, and, thus, displacing traditional fishermen from their occupation.





Fishing activities which came to a standstill at the city jetty during the all-India fisheries' strike on Friday. Pic: Sunil Naik

## Strike hits fish consumers in state

By A Staff Reporter

PANJIM, Feb 4 : Goans had a tough time to procure fish in all the major towns today as most of the fishermen and fish vendors observed strike to protest against the "Deep Sea Fishing Policy" of the Government of India.

The nation-wide call to observe strike was given by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) was supported in Goa by the All Goa Boat Owners' Association, Goenchea Ramponkaracho Ekvott, and fish vendors.

The Executive Member of the NFF, Mr Matanhy Saldanha stated that the strike received overwhelming response from the fishermen

throughout the State.

Although, none of the trawlers had gone for deep fishing since morning, some of the fisherwomen managed to collect the fish stock brought last night at the Panjim jetty for retail sale in the city market. Shell fish and other riverine fish was also available in the market.

The NFF in a press note warned the Government of India to immediately review its policy on deep sea fishing and stop all further licensing of fishing rights to foreign companies in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. (EEZ).

The NFF said that the policies of the Government of India to allow foreign vessels to fish in the Indian

waters was not only against the domestic fishing industry, but it has severe repercussions on the consumers in terms of price rise.

Meanwhile, the NFF Goa unit has convened a meeting of trawler owners and Ramponkars to plan for proposed rally to be held in New Delhi on March 4 to continue the protest against the policy.

Meanwhile, fishermen and fisheries workers in different states in the country today observed a day's bandh, abstaining from work in protest against the Centre's policy on deep sea fishing which, according to them, is against the fishermen's interest, reports PTI from Kerala.

The bandh had been called by the

National Fish Workers' Forum (NFF), the united body of fish workers trade unions in the country.

The NFF Chairman, Mr Thomas Kocherry, inaugurating a *dharma* by fishermen at the Secretariat here, said the *bandh* was a success. Fisheries harbours were paralysed and fish markets did not function in most places. In Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and West Bengal workers belonging to the mechanised sector did not put out to sea he said.

According to Mr Kocherry fishermen in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh also responded to the bandh call.

GOA TRIBUNE: 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY - 1994.

## NFF thanks fishermen and fish consumers

PANAJI: The National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) Executive Member, Mr Matanhy Saldanha has thanked All Goa Boat Owner Associations, Goenchea Ramponkaracho Ekvott, Magkars, Kantaicars and fish selling women for having voluntarily stopped the sale of fish all over Goa in protest against the deep sea fishing policy of the Government of India.

The NFF has also thanked the consumers for having collaborated by abstaining from buying fish, "which we consider as sacrifice to protect the interest of national fisheries and the national interest at the call given by NFF."

The NFF warned the Government of India to immediately review its policy on deep sea fishing and stop all further licensing of fishing rights to foreign companies in the Indian Exclusive Economic zone.

The NFF also warned the deep sea fishing vessels operating from Marmagao, Goa, to desist from carrying on bull fishing in the EEZ. Similarly we call upon the management of these companies not to fish within 100 km from the shore failing which the fishermen of Goa both mechanised and traditional, will be forced to take direct action against the so called deep sea fishing vessels.

The NFF said that the policies of the Government of India to allow foreign vessels to fish in the Indian waters was not only against the domestic fishing industry, but it has severe repercussion on the consumers in terms of price rise. This act of the Indian Government could be termed as totally anti-national.

Meanwhile, a meeting will be held of Trawler Owners and Ramponkars to plan for a rally which will be held in New Delhi on March 4 to continue the protest against deep sea fishing policy of the Government of India and to reject the Dunkel Proposal.



# Fishing bandh observed

A day's bandh called by the National Fishworkers' Forum was observed in most of the states yesterday.

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** FISHERMEN AND fisheries workers in different states in the country yesterday observed a day's bandh, abstaining from work in protest against the Centre's policy on deep sea fishing which, according to them, is against the fishermen's interest.

The bandh had been called by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), the united body of fish workers trade unions in the country.

NFF chairman Thomas Kocherry, inaugurating a dharna by fishermen at the Secretariat here, said the bandh was a success. Fisheries harbours were paralysed and fish markets did not function in most places. In Maharashtra, Gujarat (Goa) and West Bengal workers belonging to the mechanised sector did not put out to sea he said.

According to Kocherry fishermen in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh also responded to the bandh call. (PTI)

Meanwhile in Goa, NFF executive member Matanhy Saldanha has thanked the Goa Boat Owners' Association, Goenches Ramponkaranche Ekvott, magkars, kantaicars and fish vendors for observing the fishing bandh in Goa yesterday.

Saldanha also thanked the consumers for responding favourably to the bandh call.

Saldanha also thanked the consumers for responding favourably to the bandh call.

Saldanha stated that the policies of the Indian government to allow foreign vessels to fish in Indian waters was not only against the domestic fishing industry but had severe repercussions on the consumers in

terms of price rise.

According to a press note received here, a meeting of the trawler owners and Ramponkars will be held to plan for a rally to be held in Delhi on 4 March to continue the protest against deep sea fishing policy of the Government and to reject the Dunkel Proposal.

The press note adds that the NFF would agitate if the deep sea fishing vessels operating from Marmagao insisted in carrying on bull fishing in the exclusive economic zone.

It has also called upon the

management of the companies concerned to refrain from fishing within 100 kms from the sea-shore, failing which the Goa fishermen, both mechanised and traditional, would be forced to take direct action against the so called deep sea fishing vessels.

Meanwhile, General Secretary of Goa Fishing Association Marian Fernandes has claimed the bandh to be successful in the state yesterday. According to him the fishing industry was going through tough times and it was high time the govt realised the fishing industry's agony.

Gomantak 5<sup>th</sup> February - 94 -



एरवी गजबजलेल्या पणजीच्या मासळी बाजारात काल मच्छीमारी बंदच्या दिवशी दुपारी बारानंतर गुरुकुकाट होतं. (छाया-एन. पिगुळकर).

पणजी, दि. ४ (प्रतिनिधी)- राष्ट्रीय-मच्छीमारी कर्मगार मंचने आयोजित केलेल्या मच्छीमारी बंदला आज गोव्यात समिश्च प्रतिसाद मिळाला. केंद्र सरकारने जाहीर केलेल्या खोल समुद्रातील मच्छीमारी संदर्भातील घोरणांचा निषेध करण्यासाठी हा बंद आयोजित करण्यात आला होता.

पणजी मासळी बाजारात आज मासेविक्री सकाळी अकरा वाजेपर्यंत चालू होती. मासे विकणाऱ्या महिलांची संख्या काश्मीरप्रश्नी पाकिस्तानात

आज सार्वत्रिक संप  
इस्लामाबाद, दि. ४ (प्रि. ट्.)- काश्मीरला सार्वमत होण्याच्या संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघाच्या ठरावाच्या अंमलबजावणीच्या समर्थनार्थ बेनझीर भुत्तो सरकारने उठा संपूर्ण देशाच्या व पाकव्याप्त काश्मीरमध्ये संप पाठवण्याचे आवाहन केले आहे. ५ फेब्रुवारी हा दिवस राष्ट्रीय सुट्टीचा दिवस असेल, अशी घोषणा सरकारकडून करण्यात आली.

० नवी दिल्ली, दि. ४ (प्रि. ट्.)- माजी पेट्रोलियम सचिव लोवराज कुमार (६६) पांचे आज हृदयविकाराच्या तीव्र झटक्याने निधन झाले.

## मच्छीमारी बंदला गोव्यात संमिश्र प्रतिसाद

कमी होती त्याचप्रमाणे भरमसाट किंमत वाडवून ही विक्री करण्यात येत होती.

येथील मच्छीमारीयक्यावरही मासेविक्री व मच्छीमारी लुटक प्रमाणात दिवसभर चालूच होती. दरम्यान राष्ट्रीय

मच्छीमारी कामगार मंचाचे कार्यकारिणी समिती सदस्य माथानी साल्दाना यांनी गोव्यात मच्छीमारी बंदला पूर्ण पाठिंबा मिळाला असल्याचा दावा केला आहे. अखिल गोवा ट्रोलर मालक संघटना, गोंयच्या रापणकारांचे एकवोट, मागकार, कंट्रॉलर, मासेविक्री करणाऱ्या महिला व ग्राहकांनीही या बंदला प्रतिसाद दिल्याचे

श्री. साल्दाना यांनी काढलेल्या एक प्रसिध्दी पत्रकात म्हटले आहे. खोल समुद्रात मच्छीमारी करणाऱ्या गोव्यातील कंपन्यांनी आपला व्यवसाय चालूच ठेवल्यास त्यांच्याविरुद्ध कारवाई करण्याचा इशारा मंचाने दिला आहे.

नवी दिल्ली येथे येत्या ४ मार्च रोजी आयोजित केलेल्या मच्छीमारी मेळाव्यासंदर्भात विचार विनिमय करण्यासाठी ट्रोलरमालक व रापणकारांची एक बैठक लवकरच घेण्यात येणार असल्याचे माथानी साल्दाना यांनी जाहीर केले आहे.



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

BOMBAY: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1994

## Fishermen observe stir

By A Staff Reporter

BOMBAY, February 4: The state's fishermen observed a one day token strike today, to protest against the Centre's policy of allowing foreign companies to fish in Indian waters. All wholesale and retail fish markets throughout the state were closed.

According to the general secretary of the Maharashtra Macchimar Samiti, Mr. Bhai Bhandarkar, the open-door policy will leave hundreds of thousands of fishermen jobless. "No fish will be left for them once the big companies enter this field," he said.

Nearly one million people in the state are dependent on fisheries and related industries, he said. Maharashtra exports 54.5 thousand tonnes each year at a value of around Rs 300 crores.



WHERE'S THE CATCH? A forlorn feline waits at a deserted Andheri fish market in Bombay on Friday, as fishermen struck work in protest against a proposal to allow entry to multinationals in the industry.—Picture by Hemant Shirodkar.  
(Report on Page 3)

**SECTION II**  
**KERALA**





# Fishermen to observe nationwide bandh

From Our Staff Reporter

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Jan. 18

The National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) is spearheading an all-India fisheries bandh on February 4 to protest against the Centre's deep sea fishing policy.

Mr. Thomas Kocherry, NFF chairman and Mr. T. Peter, State secretary of the Kerala Swatantra Matsya Thozhilali Federation, told reporters here that fishing or sale would not take place for a 12-hour period.

Fishermen organisations in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and West Bengal besides others had vouched participation in the bandh. Mechanised boat operators, the rivals of the traditional fishermen community, are also joining the agitation.

The main grievance of the NFF is that the Union Government's Technology Mission had allowed 2,600 deep sea vessels, most of which were 12 to 40 metres long, to exploit the high seas. This new deep sea fishing programme permitting foreign agencies under joint venture was in violation of the Supreme Court ban and would deplete inshore resources.

The NFF pointed out that deep sea entrepreneurs who had deployed 148 huge trawlers operating in the high seas off Vishakhapatnam had run into losses and were now fishing along the coast. This had depleted inshore fisheries and led to conflicts with the traditional fishermen

community. Besides, in the rush for shrimps, these operators destroyed other fish catch varieties.

The NFF has demanded that small scale fishermen be encouraged to deep sea exploitation by suspending financial aid to large scale operators on the deep seas and instead helping the small scale fishing community. It also wants a fresh policy declaration that would supply fish quantities in proportion with domestic demand.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 19 1994 INDIAN EXPRESS

## DISTRICT ROUNDUP

### All-India fishing bandh on Feb 4

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - National Fishworkers Forum and small mechanised boat operators associations are jointly organising an all-India fishing bandh on February 4 in protest against Centre's pro-big-business deep-sea fishing policy. Forum president, Fr Thomas Kochery, said in a statement here on Tuesday that Technology Mission's recommendation to introduce 12-40 metre type 2,600 deep-sea fishing vessels and the big business tie-ups with foreign firms worked against the interests of the small mechanised and traditional sectors. Their shrimp hunt affected the overall fisheries sector. •ENS

# Fishermen bandh on Feb. 4

From Our Staff Reporter

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Feb. 2.

Resentment is rising in the country's fishing sector against the Centre's policy of opening the Indian seas to foreign companies. The National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), an organisation of several fishworkers' trade unions in the country, has called for an all-India fisheries bandh on Friday, against the policy.

The NFF chairman, Mr. Thomas Kocherry, said that for the first time, in many States, mechanised boat owners will also join hands with traditional fishermen against this "100 per cent export oriented policy which will deprive Indian consumers of their fish and displace thousands of fishworkers." He also said, 14 national fishworkers unions have expressed support for the bandh.

The agitation, which would stop fishing and related activity, is likely to be total, if claims by several organisations in Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat and West Bengal are to be believed. The Kerala Swatantra Matsya Thozhilali Federation, the Punnakayal Fishermen's Union and the Tamil Nadu Fishermens' Union several organisations from West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh have announced that they would join the bandh.

The Central Government has identified deep sea fishing for a major programme for augmenting fish production and sea food export earnings during the Eighth Plan. A Technology Mission constituted by the Centre had drawn up a major programme for the introduction of over 2,600 deep sea fishing vessels in the size range of 12 m to 14 m which are capable of harvesting 120 to 2,000 tonnes of fish per unit, depending on the size and class of the vessel. The total catch expected is half of the potential available in the In-

dian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

**Resources depleted:** Mr. Kocherry said, the NFF cannot remain a passive witness to this "anti-national policy" of throwing open Indian seas to multi-national companies and allowing large-scale destruction of resources. Already there are signs of over-exploitation and depletion of fish resources in many important fishing centres in the country.

According to Mr. A. J. Vijayan, of the Kerala Swatantra Matsya Thozhilali Federation, deep sea fishing in India, which began in the seventies, was so far confined to the upper east coast for shrimp and other valuable species. "In Visakhapatnam, the scramble for prawns and higher profits has led to over exploitation and fall in profits and the traditional fishermen of the area were sidelined.

**Questions raised:** Several questions are being raised by the NFF and other organisations in this context: Will the deep-sea fishing programme provide more fish to the domestic consumers? Is the Government sure of increasing fish production from the deep seas at sustainable levels? Will the policy earn the expected amount of foreign exchange. Would not the ecological consequences of deep sea fishing on a large scale be disastrous for the country? The Government has failed to provide convincing answers to these questions and also to the fears of displacement of those traditionally engaged in fishing and related activities, Mr. Kocherry said.

Mr. Vijayan said, the country should ask why foreign entrepreneurs are happy to enter the deep sea fishing sector in India where domestic companies had failed miserably.

Mr. Kocherry said, the absence of strict conservation laws in India is an added advantage for the foreign vessels aiming at over-exploitation

using sophisticated technology. There is also no monitoring mechanism to prevent these vessels from fishing in coastal waters. The Government would not be able to prevent fish trade in the high seas. Whatever declaration is made by the foreign vessel regarding the catch and its value would have to be accepted by the Government.

The unions also point out that the new 100 per cent export oriented ventures require specialised technology requiring less labour. Shore-based labour in India would have no benefit, as the catches will not reach Indian ports. The processing and grading would be done on board the vessels for consumers abroad.

INDIAN EXPRESS THURSDAY FEBRUARY 3 1994

## Support for fishery bandh

**KOZHIKODE** - The district committee of Kerala Swatantra Matsya Thozhilali Federation (KSMTF) has declared its support for the bandh called on February 4 by the National Fish Workers Forum against the deep sea fishing policy of the government. At a meeting, the KSMTF district unit also decided to launch an agitation for implementing the ban on night trawling, slash in kerosene rates and formulation of a fisheries policy. • ENS

## No fish on Friday, fast on Saturday

From Our Staff Reporter

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Feb. 3.** If two organisations have their way, the people of Kerala will have to do without fish tomorrow and without food on Saturday.

It is the National Fishermen's Forum which has asked the people to avoid taking fish tomorrow as a gesture of support for the fisheries bandh being organised by it to protest against the Centre's fisheries policy. The Forum has also come up with a valid reason for its call — the policy will affect the estimated 20 crores of people who eat fish as much as it will affect the 75 lakhs of fishermen. The policy will throw open the seas to foreign monopolies.

Fish will not be available as usual even otherwise tomorrow. This is because members and sympathisers of the Forum will not go out for fishing or vend fish.

Even though the Vyapari Vyavasayi Ekopana Samithi has not given any call for fasting, that will be the effect of its State-wide trade bandh on February 5 on many especially those living in hostels and lodges as the hotels will also remain closed. The trade bandh is to protest

against the increase in power tariff for the trade.

The Samithi is planning to organise a Secretariat march also in connection with the trade bandh. Some 75,000 volunteers mostly from Ernakulam downwards are expected to participate in the bandh. As the hotels will remain closed, the participants have been asked to bring their food along.

**Fast by Christians:** After managing without fish on Friday and food on Saturday, the devout Christians will have to fast on Sunday also because it is, Sabbath day. The devout and orthodox never used to allow even a fire to be lit in the house on Sabbath day in the past. Orthodox Hindu women fast and pray on Mondays for the well being of their husbands. One day without fish and two days without food might help to balance to an extent at least this month the family budget which is under severe strain due to the jacking up of the administered prices of a whole range of items by the Centre. Other organisations can also render a signal service to the people if they too call for avoiding some food or other or all food altogether for at least twice or thrice a month in the coming days.

The Hindu  
BUSINESS LINE

Thursday, February 3, 1994

## New fisheries policy soon

Our Staff Correspondent  
KOCHI, Feb. 2

**T**O capitalise on the achievements of the 'blue revolution', the Centre will announce a new fisheries policy in a couple of months, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Non-conventional Energy, Mr. S. Krishnakumar told *Business Line*. The draft document of the policy, which will have an impact on the 75 lakh persons engaged in the fishing industry, is ready and is presently under the scrutiny of a committee of agriculture secretaries, he added.

While describing the broad outlines, the Minister said that the policy would have to be adapted by the concerned user states to suit local requirements. The new policy will cover such diverse aspects of fisheries like the optimal exploitation of resources, international operations, deep-sea fishing, aquaculture, fisheries research, exports and processing, cooperatisation, security and welfare of fishermen and the generation of employment.

Though the new policy can prove vital to the on-going and envisaged deep-sea joint venture programmes, the Minister said that these aspects are presently within the ambit of the food processing ministry. Thus the new policy is not likely to solve the ongoing dispute between fisherpeople and the authorities regarding the introduction of big trawlers into the Indian waters. He clarified that the present Marine Regulation Act should be capable of resolving this vexed issue.

Mr. Krishnakumar pointed out that the introduction of the new policy does not mean the absence of relevant policies at present,

rather, what the country has today are various ad-hoc acts that need streamlining, clarity and direction.

While 74 per cent of the total fisherfolk of the country operate in small boats with out-board engines, 25 per cent use traditional crafts and only 1 per cent man deep-sea trawlers. The new policy would have to strike a balance between preservation of the livelihood of the traditional sector and accommodating the exporters' requirements. There are about 200 vessels with deep freezers but the deep freezing capacity of the industry comes to only 2,300 tonnes per day. This is bound to prove inadequate as exports go up. The canning capacity is also yet to grow, consuming just 1 per cent of the total fish production now.

Government sources here indicate that the committee scrutinising the policy includes officials from the states as well. A meeting of the committee is, however, yet to take place. Sources in the Seafood Exporters Association of India, quoting senior officials at the Centre, said that the first meeting of the scrutinising committee could not be convened because the concerned official had retired. They also said they were not consulted for their requirements on the policy issue.

The policy will however be qualitatively different from the previous acts in terms of its approach to the issues involved. The biggest fallout of the policy, sources say, would be the ability to prioritise sectors for development according to prevailing significance.

The chairperson of the National Fishworkers Forum, Mr. Thomas Kocherri, said that the Act had been weakened at birth through relegation to the state.













# മിംഗളം

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ചിന്താവിഷയം

നാവികകോണ്ടുള്ള മുറിവ് വാളുകൊണ്ടുള്ളതിനേക്കാൾ കഠിനമാണ്.

-ചിന്താഗാന്ധി

## മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയെ വിൽക്കരുത്

പ്രക്ഷുബ്ധമായ കടലിനെയോളെ പ്രക്ഷുബ്ധമായി മാറുകയാണ് കടലിന്റെ മകളായ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ മനസ്സ്. വള്ളങ്ങളും യന്ത്രവൽക്കൃത ബോട്ടുകളും തീരത്തടുപ്പിച്ച് ഇന്ത്യയിലെ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ ഒന്നടങ്കം ഇന്നു ബന്ധാപരിക്കുന്നു. നിലനിൽപ്പിനുവേണ്ടി കടലിരമ്പുന്നതുപോലെ ഇന്ത്യയിലെ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി കുടുംബങ്ങളിൽനിന്ന് രോഷം ഇരമ്പുകയാണ്. തങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിതം വഴിമുട്ടുന്നതിനെതിരെയുള്ള മുറവിളിയാണിത്.

ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിനായി വിദേശ കമ്പനികളെ ക്ഷണിച്ചുവരുത്തുന്ന കേന്ദ്ര നയത്തിനെതിരേയാണ് കടലിന്റെ മക്കൾ ഇന്നു അഖിലേന്ത്യാതലത്തിൽ ബന്ധാപരിക്കുന്നത്.

എട്ടാം പദ്ധതിയിൽ സമുദ്രാലിപന കയറ്റുമതിയിൽ ഗണ്യമായ വർദ്ധന ലക്ഷ്യമാക്കിയാണ് കേന്ദ്ര ഗവൺമെന്റ് ഇന്ത്യൻ അതിർത്തിയിലെ ആഴക്കടൽ മേഖലയിലേക്ക് ബഹുരാഷ്ട്ര കൃഷകകളെ വിളിച്ചുവരുത്തുന്നത്. പുതിയ മത്സ്യബന്ധന നയത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി മഞ്ചായിരത്തി അറുനൂറോളം വിദേശ കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് മത്സ്യബന്ധനാനുമതി നൽകാനാണ് കേന്ദ്ര തീരുമാനം. സംയുക്ത സംരംഭമെന്ന ഓമനപ്പേരിലാണ് ഈ പദ്ധതിയെക്കുറിച്ചും വിദേശ കമ്പനികൾ ഇന്ത്യയുടെ മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖല കൈയടക്കുകയാണിരിക്കും എന്ത്യയിലെ നിലവിലും കേന്ദ്രം രൂപീകരിച്ച ഒരു സാങ്കേതിക സമിതിയുടെ ശുപാർശ പ്രകാരമാണ് 12 മീറ്റർ മുതൽ 14 മീറ്റർവരെ വലിപ്പമുള്ള 2600 മത്സ്യബന്ധന നൗകകളെ ഇന്ത്യൻ സമുദ്രാതിർത്തിയിലേക്ക് വിളിക്കുന്നത്. ഇതിൽ ഓരോ യൂണിറ്റിനും 120 ടൺ മുതൽ 2000 ടൺ മത്സ്യംവരെ പിടിക്കാൻ ശേഷിയുണ്ട്. ഇന്ത്യൻ എസ്ക്യൂസീവ് ഇക്കോനോമിക് സോണിൽ (ഇ.ഇ.സെ.ഡ്.) ലഭ്യമായ മത്സ്യസമ്പത്തിന്റെ പകുതിയോളം ഈ നൗകകൾവഴി സംഭരിക്കാമെന്നാണ് പ്രതീക്ഷ. ഇതുതന്നെയാണ് ഇന്ത്യയിലെ പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കും യന്ത്രവൽക്കൃത മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയിലുള്ളവർക്കും ഹാനികരമാണീ നീക്കമെന്ന് ഞങ്ങൾ ഹായാൽ കാരണം. ഇന്ത്യൻ സമുദ്ര വിഭവങ്ങൾ വൻതോതിൽ നഷ്ടിക്കാൻ ഈ നീക്കം ഇടയാക്കും. രാജ്യത്തെ പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലകളിലെല്ലാം ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ പരിധികവിഞ്ഞുള്ള മത്സ്യബന്ധനമാണ് നടക്കുന്നതെന്നും മത്സ്യസമ്പത്ത് ക്ഷയിക്കാൻ ഇതിടയാകുമെന്നും പരക്കെ ആശങ്കയുള്ളപ്പോൾ വിദേശ കൃഷകകളെ കടൽ സമ്പത്തുവാരാൻ അനുവദിച്ചാൽ ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് മത്സ്യസമ്പത്ത് ലഭിക്കാതാകും. മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയെ ആശ്രയിച്ച് ജീവിക്കുന്ന ലക്ഷക്കണക്കിന് ഇന്ത്യൻ കുടുംബങ്ങൾ പട്ടിണിയിലാകും. ഇവിടെ മുഖ്യമായും ഉയരുന്ന കുറെ സംശയങ്ങളുണ്ട്. കേന്ദ്രം ആവിഷ്കരിച്ച ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധന പരിപാടി നടപ്പാക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇന്ത്യയുടെ ആഭ്യന്തരവ്യവസ്ഥിതി ഇന്നു ലഭിക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ മത്സ്യസമ്പത്ത് ലഭിക്കുമോ എന്നതാണ്

പ്രധാന ചോദ്യം. മത്സ്യസമ്പത്ത് നാശോന്മുഖമാകാതെത്തന്നെ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിലൂടെ ഇന്നുള്ളതിൽ കൂടുതൽ സമ്പത്ത് നേടാൻ കഴിയുമോ? വിദേശ കൃഷകകളെ ക്ഷണിച്ചു വരുത്തുന്നതിലൂടെ പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചത്ര വിദേശനാണ്യം നേടാൻ കഴിയുമോ? വൻതോതിൽ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്തിയാൽ ഉണ്ടാകാവുന്ന പാരിസ്ഥിതിക പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ രാജ്യത്തിനാകെ ഹാനികരമല്ലേ? വിദേശ കൃഷകകൾ ഇന്ത്യൻ മത്സ്യബന്ധന രംഗത്തിറങ്ങിയാൽ ഇന്ത്യയിലെ മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലകളിലെ ജീവനക്കാർ പട്ടിണിയിലാവില്ലേ? ഇങ്ങനെ പട്ടിണിയിൽ കഴിയേണ്ടിവരുന്ന കുടുംബങ്ങളെ പുനഃവധിവസിപ്പിക്കാൻ ഗവൺമെന്റ് എന്ത് ബദൽ നിർദ്ദേശമാണ് മുന്നോട്ടുവയ്ക്കുന്നത്? ന്യായമായും ഉയരുന്ന ഈ ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് കേന്ദ്രഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ തലപ്പത്തിരിക്കുന്നവർ-ഇനിയും യുക്തിസഹമായ മറുപടി നൽകിയിട്ടില്ല. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ കമ്പനികൾ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനരംഗത്ത് പരീക്ഷണാർത്ഥം ഇറങ്ങിയിരുന്നു. എഴുപതു കളിലാണിവിടെ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം സജീവമായത്. പക്ഷേ, ഇന്ത്യൻ കമ്പനികളിൽ പലതും പരീക്ഷിച്ചു പരാജയപ്പെട്ട മേഖലയിൽ വിദേശ കമ്പനികൾ ഉത്സാഹപൂർവ്വം മുന്നിട്ടുവന്നതിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശശുദ്ധിയും ചോദ്യംചെയ്യപ്പെടണം. ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ കവാടം മലർക്കെ തുറന്നുകിട്ടുമ്പോൾ വിദേശ കമ്പനികൾ തീരക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിനിറങ്ങിയാലും അത്ഭുതപ്പെടാനില്ല. ആ സ്ഥിതിവന്നാൽ പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ കഞ്ഞി കൂടി മുട്ടും.

മത്സ്യബന്ധന വള്ളങ്ങൾക്ക് അനുവദിച്ചിരുന്ന മണ്ണെണ്ണയുടെ കോട്ട സമ്പ്രദായം അവസാനിപ്പിക്കാനുള്ള കേന്ദ്ര തീരുമാനവും പുറത്തുവന്നതോടെ പ്രശ്നത്തിന്റെ ഗൗരവം വർദ്ധിച്ചു. പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യബന്ധനരംഗത്തെ ശാസനമുട്ടിക്കാനുള്ള ചുറ്റുപാടാണിത്. മണ്ണെണ്ണ നേരിട്ട് ഇറക്കുമതിചെയ്യാൻ വൻകിട വ്യവസായികൾക്കുമതി നൽകിയിരിക്കെ കോട്ട സമ്പ്രദായം അവസാനിപ്പിച്ചാൽ മണ്ണെണ്ണ വിലയിൽ വൻകിടക്കാർ പിടിമുറുക്കും. ഇതും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ പ്രതിസന്ധിയിലാക്കും.

ഇന്ത്യയിലെ മത്സ്യബന്ധനമേഖലയെ തകർക്കാനുള്ള ഈ നീക്കം ആപൽക്കരമാണ്. ഇന്ത്യൻ സമുദ്രസമ്പത്തിന് നാശമുണ്ടാകാതെയും ഇന്ത്യയിൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയെ ആശ്രയിച്ചുകഴിയുന്നവരുടെ താല്പര്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ഹാനികരമാകാതെയുമുള്ള നയസമീപനമേ ഗവൺമെന്റ് കൈക്കൊള്ളാവൂ. പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളും യന്ത്രവൽക്കൃത മേഖലയിലുള്ളവരും പരസ്പരം പോരാടിവന്നവരാണ്. നിലനിൽപ്പിനുനേരേ വെല്ലുവിളി ഉയർത്തുന്നപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും ഒന്നിച്ചുനിൽക്കാൻ ഇവർ തയ്യാർ തയ്യാറായത് നന്നായി.



# കേരള കാമുകി

1994 ഫെബ്രുവരി 4, 1169 മകരം 22 വെള്ളി



## അസാധാരണമായ ഒരു ബന്ധം

പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് പല വിധ ദ്രോഹങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യുന്ന ബന്ധുക്കളിൽ നിന്ന് വളരെ വിഭിന്നമായ ഒരു അവിഭലത്യാ ബന്ധാണ് ഇന്ന് നടക്കുന്നത്. കടകമ്പോളങ്ങൾ അടച്ചും വാഹന ഗതാഗതം സ്തംഭിപ്പിച്ചും പൊതുജീവിതം ക്ഷേമപൂർണ്ണമാക്കുകയില്ലെന്നതു കൊണ്ട് ഈ ബന്ധം വളരെയാണെന്നും ശ്രദ്ധിക്കപ്പെടാതെ കടന്നുപോകും. എന്നാൽ ലക്ഷണങ്ങളില്ലാത്തതൊഴിവാക്കിയാൽ അതുമാത്രമല്ല മറ്റൊരു കാരണത്താലും ചർച്ചാവിഷയമാകേണ്ടതാണ്. പുറംകടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിനു രണ്ടായിരം വിദേശ കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് ഇന്ത്യ ഗവൺമെന്റ് അനുമതി നൽകിയതിനെതിരായുള്ള പ്രതിഷേധം രേഖപ്പെടുത്താനാണ് ബന്ധം. വിദേശ മുതലാളികളും തദ്ദേശ മുതലാളികളും ചേർന്നുള്ള സംയുക്ത സംരംഭമെന്ന നിലയിലാണ് വിദേശക്കപ്പലുകൾ ഇന്ത്യൻ സമുദ്രാതിർത്തിയിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ കപ്പലുകൾ ഇന്ത്യൻ തുറമുഖങ്ങളിൽ എത്തുകപോലും ചെയ്തെന്നു വരുന്നതല്ല. ഇന്ത്യക്കാരായ തൊഴിലാളികൾക്ക് തന്നെ ഈ വൻ സംരംഭം വഴി ജോലി ലഭിക്കുകയില്ല. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ വൻകിട മുതലാളികൾക്കുവെച്ചെങ്കിലും മുതലാളികൾക്ക് ഈ പദ്ധതിയിൽ പങ്കുണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയുമില്ല.

നമ്മുടെ കമ്പോളത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ മീൻ ലഭ്യമാകുന്നതിനും വില കുറയുന്നതിനും കയറ്റുമതി വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതിനും ഉപകരിക്കും. എന്നാൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം ആശാവഹമായ രീതിയിൽ വികസിക്കുന്നില്ല. യന്ത്രവൽക്കൃത ബോട്ടുകൾ തൊഴിലാളി സംഘങ്ങൾക്കു നൽകിയും ശീതീകരണ സൗകര്യം ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയും ഗവൺമെന്റ് സ്വീകരിച്ച നടപടികൾ ആശാവഹമായ പുരോഗതി ഉണ്ടാക്കിയില്ല. ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ശീതീകരണശാലകൾ അടച്ചു പൂട്ടുകയും തൊഴിലാളികൾക്ക് നൽകിയ ബോട്ടുകൾ മുതലാളികൾക്ക് കൈമാറ്റം ചെയ്തു. നോർവ്വേയിലെ ഗവൺമെന്റ് നൽകിയതും നാം എന്നും കൃത്യജ്ഞതയോടുകൂടി സർവ്വീസെടുത്തുമാത്രമേ സഹായം വഴി മത്സ്യബന്ധനം യന്ത്രവൽക്കരിക്കുന്നതിനു കഴിഞ്ഞു. അപ്പോഴേക്കും പരമ്പരാഗത മീൻ പിടിത്തക്കാരും ബോട്ടുകാരും തമ്മിൽ തർക്കവും തീവ്രപ്രകൃതിയും സംഘട്ടനങ്ങളും പതിവായി. തങ്ങൾക്ക് ലഭിക്കേണ്ട മീനെല്ലാം ബോട്ടുകാർ പിടിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നുവെന്നതാണ് വളരെക്കാലമായി. കടലിലുള്ള മീനെല്ലാം പിടിച്ചെടുക്കാൻ വളരെക്കാലം കൊണ്ടാകുകയില്ലെന്നും പരമാവധി രണ്ടു വർഷത്തെ ആയുർ ദൈർഘ്യമുള്ള സാധാരണ ഇനം മീനിന്റെ വലിയ ഭാഗം ചത്തുപോകുന്നുവെന്നും മത്സ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ആഹാരമായി നൽകുന്നതും മനുഷ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ചുണ്ടിക്കാണിക്കുന്നു.

ധാരാളം ഇന്ത്യൻ ബോട്ടുകൾ പിടിച്ചു ഇന്ത്യൻ തീരത്ത് എത്തിക്കേണ്ട മീനെല്ലാം ഇവിടുത്തെ തീരം തൊടാതെ വിദേശത്തു പോകുമെന്നത് ഇവിടുത്തെ സാധാരണ ബോട്ടുകൾക്കും തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കും ഉപദോഷകരമാകുകയും നഷ്ടമുണ്ടാക്കും. ഇന്ത്യൻ ബോട്ടുകൾ പിടിക്കുന്ന മീനിന്റെ മൂല്യം കയറ്റുമതി ചെയ്യുന്നതിലും മേൽമൂല്യം നൽകി ഇന്ത്യൻ മാർക്കറ്റിലെത്തും. വിദേശ കപ്പലുകൾ പിടിക്കുന്ന മീൻ കരകാണുകയില്ല. മീൻ തീരദേശങ്ങളിലെ സാധാരണക്കാരുടെ പരമ്പരാഗത ആഹാരസാധനമായിരുന്നു. അതുപോലെ വില്പനയ്ക്കു ലഭിക്കുന്ന പോഷകാഹാരമായിരുന്നു. വിതരണ സൗകര്യവും ശീതീകരണ സൗകര്യവും ഉണ്ടായതോടുകൂടി വിദേശത്തു ഉൽപ്പാദനം നടന്നുപോകാൻ പ്രദേശവും വിദേശ രാജ്യങ്ങളും ആകർഷകമായ മാർക്കറ്റുകളായി തുറന്നുകിട്ടി. അതോടൊപ്പം മീനിന്റെ വിലയിൽ വൻതോതിലുള്ള വർദ്ധനവുണ്ടാകുകയും അതുപാവപ്പെട്ടവരിൽ നിന്ന് അകന്നുപോയിത്തുടങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തു. നല്ലതും മീൻ ഇപ്പോൾ സമ്പന്നമാക്കി മാത്രമേ വാങ്ങാൻ കഴിയുകയുള്ളൂവെന്ന അവാസ്ഥ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നു. കൂടുതൽ മീൻ പിടിക്കുന്നത് ആദ്യ

മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന വിവിധ വിഭാഗക്കാർ തമ്മിലുള്ള തർക്കം പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ളതുകുന്ന നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ സമർപ്പിക്കാൻ പങ്കു കമ്മിറ്റികളും രൂപീകരിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഒരു നിർദ്ദേശം എല്ലാവർക്കും സ്വീകാര്യമായിട്ടില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ മത്സ്യവ്യവസായത്തിനു ഒരു വൻ ഭീഷണി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്ന ഭയപ്പാടാണ്. വിദേശസഹായത്തോടുകൂടി പുറം കടലിൽ നടക്കുന്ന മീൻപിടിത്തം വഴി ധാരാളം മീൻ ശേഖരിക്കപ്പെടും. അങ്ങനെ പിടിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ ആ മീനെല്ലാം ഇന്ത്യൻ മീൻ പിടിത്തക്കാർക്ക് പിടിച്ചെടുക്കാൻ കഴിയുമെന്ന് ആരും പറയുന്നില്ല. ആ മീനും അതിനപ്പുറം പോയി കൂടുതൽ മീനും പിടിക്കാൻ ഇന്ത്യൻ സംരംഭകർക്ക് കഴിയണം. അതിനു അവരെ പ്രാപ്തമാക്കി ആഭ്യന്തര മാർക്കറ്റിൽ കൂടുതൽ മീൻ എത്തിക്കാനും കയറ്റുമതി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കാനും കൂടുതൽ പേർക്ക് തൊഴിൽ നൽകാനും കഴിയണം. മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിൽ പുതിയൊരു വികാസഘട്ടം ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. കേന്ദ്ര ഗവൺമെന്റ് അതിനു നേതൃത്വം നൽകണം.



# നീണ്ടകര മൽസ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയിൽ ഇന്ന് ബന്ധന

## മധ്യസൂദനൻ

• നന്നാ പേർട്ടുസ് സ്വന്തം സമ്പാദിച്ചതായി നടത്തിയ അന്വേഷണങ്ങളായും അദ്ദേഹം തന്മൂലം മധ്യസൂദനൻ പ്രോസിക്യൂഷൻ നടപടികൾക്കു നേരിടുന്നതു കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിന് സർക്കാരിന് നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതിന് കോടതി നൽകണമെന്നും അദ്ദേഹം സംബന്ധിച്ച ആരോപണ സ്ഥാന രഹിതമാണെന്ന ന്യായവരെ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് കൈയറ്റം നൽകുന്നത് മറ്റും ഹർജിക്കാരൻ അയച്ചു പരിശോധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും നടത്തിയ അന്വേഷണം ധിച്ചു റിപ്പോർട്ട് ചോർമ്മയ്ക്ക് നൽകി വീഴ്ച നൽകാൻ സർക്കാർ അംഗീകരിക്കാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനെന്നായി നടപടികൾ ആരംഭിക്കാൻ സർക്കാരിന് നൽകണമെന്നും ഹർജിയുടെ അന്ത്യം.

കൊല്ലം ഗവൺമെന്റ് കോളേജിന്റെ മേഖലയിൽ ഇന്ന് മെക്കനൈസിയം ഫിഷറീസ് ബോർഡ് റെഗുലേഷൻ അസോസിയേഷൻ സമര സമിതി ബന്ധനം നടത്തുന്നു. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു കേരളത്തിലെ യന്ത്രവൽക്കരണ മൽസ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയെ തകർക്കുന്നതിനായി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ മണ്ണിന്റെ ഗവൺമെന്റോട് ഫിഷറീസ് നിയന്ത്രിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള 2600 വർ വിദേശ മിൻപിടിത്ത ക്യാമ്പുകൾ ഇന്ത്യൻ കടലുകളിൽ ഇറക്കാൻ നടത്തുന്ന ശ്രമത്തിനെതിരെ യന്ത്രവൽക്കരണ മൽസ്യബന്ധന മേഖല എന്നെങ്കിലും പ്രതിഷേധം രേഖപ്പെടുത്തി.

കൾ മോയിൻറ് വെച്ചുവെച്ചു എന്ന മെക്കനൈസിയം ഇന്ത്യൻ കൃഷ്ണക മൂലമായി മാർക്കറ്റും റാഷ്യലൈസ് കടൽ കിഴക്കും നേട്ടം ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ ഉത്തകുന്ന രീതിയിൽ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ രൂപീകരിക്കുന്ന നയം തകർക്കപ്പെടുന്നതാണ്. ഫിഷറീസ് നയം രൂപീകരിക്കുമ്പോൾ കപ്പലുകൾ ഇന്ത്യൻ കടലുകളിൽ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുമ്പോൾ അവയുടെ മൽസ്യബന്ധനാർത്ഥം ഉൾപ്പെടുത്താത്ത നയം അംഗീകരിക്കപ്പെടാവുന്നതല്ലെന്നും സമര സമിതി കൺവീനർ നെയ്തിൽ വിൻസെന്റ് വ്യക്തമാക്കി.

യോമിശിസ്സു സംഘടനയുടെ മൽസ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയിൽ വൻ വിദേശ മിൻപിടിത്ത കപ്പലുകളെ കൂട്ടിക്കൊല്ലി നെടുമുടി സ്വയം ചിട്ട് നാട്ടുകാരായ മൽസ്യബന്ധനാർത്ഥം ലാഭിക്കുന്നതിന് അതിർത്തികൾ കേരളത്തിലെ പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു കൊല്ലത്തെ യന്ത്രവൽക്കരണ മേഖലയിലുള്ള എല്ലാ ബോട്ടുകളും ഇന്ന് രാവിലെ 6 മൂന്നുമ്പോൾ വൈകിട്ട് 6 വരെ പണിമുടക്കി ബന്ധനം പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

### പദ്ധതി നടപ്പാക്കാത്തതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധം

തൃശ്ശൂർ നിയോജക മണ്ഡലത്തിൽ ജലധാര പദ്ധതി നടപ്പാക്കാത്തതിൽ കേരള കോൺഗ്രസ് (എം) നിയോജകമണ്ഡലം കമ്മിറ്റി പ്രതിഷേധം രേഖപ്പെടുത്തി. 140 നിയോജകമണ്ഡലങ്ങളിലും ജലധാര പദ്ധതി നടപ്പാക്കിയെന്ന വകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി ടി. എം. ജോളിയുടെ അവകാശവാദം അടിസ്ഥാനരഹിതവും ജനങ്ങളെ തെറ്റിദ്ധരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതുമാണെന്ന് മണ്ഡലം പ്രസിഡന്റും ജലധാര കമ്മിറ്റി മെമ്പറുമായ പി.ടി. മാത്യു പറഞ്ഞു.

### സാമ്പത്തിക സഹായവും പെൻഷനും

കണ്ണൂർ മിനേഴ് ബീഡി സംഘങ്ങളിൽ നിന്ന് നിശ്ചയിച്ച സർവീസ് പൂർത്തിയാക്കി പിരിഞ്ഞുപോകുന്ന 10 പേർക്ക് ആഭിവാന്ദ്യ പ്രതിമാസ പെൻഷൻ അനുവദിക്കാൻ കേരള മിനേഴ് ബീഡി വെൽഫെയർ കൗൺസിൽ കമ്മിറ്റി യോഗത്തിൽ തീരുമാനമായി. സംഘം ചെയർമാൻ ജി. കെ. പണിക്കർ അറിയിച്ചതാണിതെന്നും കൂടാതെ അനാരോഗ്യം കാരണം മോശമായിട്ടുണ്ടാൻ വയ്യാത്ത 21 പേർക്ക് 3000 രൂപ വീതം 63,000 രൂപയും, സർവീസിലിരിക്കെ മരണമടഞ്ഞ 10 തൊഴിലാളികൾക്ക് 5000 രൂപ വീതം 50,000 രൂപയും ധനസഹായമായി അനുവദിച്ചതായി ചെയർമാൻ അറിയിച്ചു.



കേരള സ്പോർട്ട്സ് സെക്ഷൻ റിക്രൂട്ട് ചെയ്യാൻ തൊഴിലാളി സെന്ററിന്റെ സംസ്ഥാനതല ഫണ്ട് ഉദ്ദേശ്യം. പ്രോഗ്രാമിൽ മർച്ചന്റ്സ് അസോസിയേഷൻ സംസ്ഥാന ജനറൽ സെക്രട്ടറി പി.റ്റി. ചെമ്പയൻ സെന്റർ പ്രധാനമോഹൻദാസിന് സഹായന നൽകിക്കൊണ്ട് നിർവഹിച്ചുപോൾ.

### സംഘട്ടനത്തിൽ പരുക്കേറ്റു

തൃശ്ശൂർ പാലക്കാട് കൽമണ്ഡലത്തിനടുത്തുള്ള കള്ളപ്പാലിലുണ്ടായ സംഘട്ടനത്തിൽ കൂടേത്തു പാലക്കാട് കളോടെ പയ്യം (37), സുബ്രഹ്മണ്യൻ (35), വിശ്വനാഥൻ (42) എന്നിവരെ മെയിമെൻറ് കോളജ് ആസ്പത്രിയിൽ പ്രവേശിപ്പിച്ചു. ട്രൈബുണൽ വാണിപ്പിട്ട് പരുക്കേറ്റ കണ്ണാൻ ഇടപ്പാൻ ഐസക്കിനെ (40) മെയിമെൻറ് കോളജ് ആസ്പത്രിയിൽ പ്രവേശിപ്പിച്ചു. മർദ്ദനമേറ്റ പരിക്കുകളോടെ ചിറ്റിലപ്പിള്ളിയിൽ നിന്നും കർണാടി വേലായുധൻ (38) തുർക്കാനിക്കരയിൽ നിന്നും കരിമ്പനിക്കാൻ വേലായുധൻ (45) എന്നിവരെ മെയിമെൻറ് കോളജ് ആസ്പത്രിയിൽ പ്രവേശിപ്പിച്ചു.

### കത്തിനശിച്ചു

തൃശ്ശൂർ കോളത്തോട് ലാറ്ററിന്റെ ഉടമസ്ഥനായ ഗോഡൗൺ കണ്ടു ഉദ്ദേശം 5 ലക്ഷം രൂപ കണക്കാക്കുന്നു. ലക്ഷം രൂപയുടെ കൂടുതൽ വിഴുങ്ങി. തൃശ്ശൂർ ഫയർഫോഴ്സുകാരെ തന്നിട്ടുണ്ട് അധികാരികൾ.





1169 മകരം 23 ശനി  
1915 മാഘം 16 - 1414 ശരണാബാൻ 23

തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മയിൽ ധാന്യം വിതയ്ക്കുന്നവർ  
ധാന്യം നഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തുക മാത്രം ചെയ്യുന്നു  
-ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് പഴമൊഴി

### പ്രതിഷേധ പരമ്പര

ഇന്നു കേരളത്തിലുടനീളം കടകമ്പോളങ്ങൾ അടഞ്ഞുകിടക്കുന്നു. ഹോട്ടലുകളും മെഡിക്കൽ ഷോപ്പുകളും ഉൾപ്പെടെ ഏല്പാകടകളും അടയ്ക്കുമെന്നാണ് വ്യാപാരി-വ്യവസായി ഏകോപനസമിതി പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. നിത്യോപയോഗസാധനങ്ങളുടെയും എണ്ണയുല്പന്നങ്ങളുടെയും മറ്റും വിലവർദ്ധനയിലല്ല, വ്യാപാരസ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ നല്ലേണ വൈദ്യുതിനിരക്കിൽ വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള അന്യായവും വിവേചനപരവുമായ വർദ്ധനയിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു നടത്തുന്നതാണ് ഈ വ്യാപാരിഹർത്താൽ. വീടും, നാടും വിട്ട് അന്യസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ചെന്നു ജോലിചെയ്യുകയെന്നവരും ഭക്ഷണത്തിനു ഹോട്ടലുകൾ മാത്രം ആശ്രയമായിട്ടുള്ളവരുമായ ആളുകളെ പട്ടിണിയിടുന്നതും മരാഗികളുടെ ചികിത്സകൂടി മുടക്കുന്നതുമായ ഇത്തരമൊരു ഹർത്താലിനോടു ന്യായമായ എതിർപ്പുള്ളവർ ധാരാളമുണ്ടാവും. അവർക്കും വ്യാപാരികൾ ഉന്നയിക്കുന്ന പരാതി അന്യായമോ അയ്യക്തികമോ ആണെന്നു പറയാൻ പറ്റില്ല. കേരളത്തിലെ സാമ്പത്തികസമൂഹത്തിൽ ഏറ്റവും ഉയർന്ന വൈദ്യുതിനിരക്കു കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവരുന്നവരാണ് വ്യാപാരികൾ. ഒരു യൂണിറ്റ് വൈദ്യുതിക്കു കൊടുക്കേണ്ട ചാർജിൽ വൻവ്യവസായികൾക്കു പത്തുപൈസയും കൃഷിക്കാർക്കു 12 പൈസയും ചെറുകിടവ്യവസായികൾക്ക് 80 പൈസയും സിനിമക്കാർക്ക് 1.50 രൂപയും കൂട്ടിയപ്പോൾ, വ്യാപാരികൾക്കു കൂട്ടിയത് റെയ്യിട് 3.40 രൂപയാണ്. ഏതാണ്ട് ആറുമാസമായി ഈ വർദ്ധന നടപ്പായിട്ടുണ്ട്. പ്രതിഷേധപ്രകടനങ്ങൾ ഈ കാലമത്രയും നിരന്തരം നടന്നിരുന്നു. സർക്കാർ അവഗണിച്ചു. ചെറുകിട വ്യാപാരികൾക്ക് ചില ഇളവുകൾ അനുവദിക്കാമെന്നു വൈദ്യുതികാര്യമന്ത്രി സപ്തംബറിൽ ഏറ്റിരുന്നു. അതും ഉണ്ടായില്ല. ഉടൻതന്നെ ഇനിയും വർദ്ധനയുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു കേൾക്കുന്നു. ഈ സാഹചര്യത്തിലാണ് വ്യാപാരികൾ ഇന്നത്തെ ഹർത്താലിനു പുറപ്പെട്ടത്.

വ്യവസായികൾക്കും വ്യാപാരികൾക്കും കൃഷിക്കാർക്കുമെല്ലാം ഒരേ വൈദ്യുതിനിരക്കായിരിക്കണമെന്നതാണ് ഏകോപനസമിതിയുടെ ആവശ്യം. അതനുവദിച്ചാലും ഇല്ലെങ്കിലും, വ്യാപാരികൾക്ക് ഇത്ര വലിയൊരു വർദ്ധന വരുത്തിയതിന്റെ യുക്തി എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാവുന്നില്ല. ചെറിയൊരു പെട്ടിക്കട മുതൽ വളരെ വലിയ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റ് സ്റ്റോർ വരെ നടത്തുന്നവർ വ്യാപാരികളാണ്. ഇവരെല്ലാവരും വലിയ മുതലാളിമാരാണെന്നു പറയാൻ പറ്റില്ല. വലിയ പണക്കാരും തനിപാവങ്ങളും അകൂട്ടത്തിലുണ്ട്. ഭൂരിഭാഗവും ഇടത്തരക്കാരാണ്. കൂട്ടിയ നിരക്കു വളരെ വലുതായിപ്പോയെന്നുമാത്രമല്ല, ഏല്പാ വ്യാപാരികൾക്കും ആ ഒരേ നിരക്കുതന്നെ ബാധകമാക്കിയതു യുക്തിരഹിതവുമായി. വൈദ്യുതി ഉല്പാദനച്ചെലവു വർദ്ധിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടല്ല, വൈദ്യുതിബോർഡിന് ഒരു 50 കോടി രൂപകൂടി വരുമാനമുണ്ടാകാനാണ് ഈ വർദ്ധനയെന്നുകൂടി ഓർക്കുമ്പോഴാണ്. ഇതിലെ വിവേകശൂന്യത മുഴുവൻ വെളിപ്പെടുന്നതാണ്. തല്ലാലും ഒരുദിവസത്തെ വ്യാപാരബന്ദാണു നടത്തുന്നതെങ്കിലും, വേണ്ടിവന്നാൽ കൂടുതൽ നിങ്ങള സമരത്തിനുതന്നെ തയ്യാറായിരിക്കുവാൻ വ്യാപാരികൾ. അതിന്നിടവരുത്താതെ, ഈ അന്യായമായ നിരക്കുവർദ്ധനയുടെ പ്രശ്നം തീർക്കാൻ ഗവൺമെന്റ് നടപടിയെടുക്കണം. വൈദ്യുതികാര്യമന്ത്രിക്ക് ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ വിശേഷാൽ ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമുണ്ട്. ചെറുകിടക്കാർക്ക് ഇളവനുവദിക്കാമെന്നും അദ്ദേഹം അഞ്ചാറു മാസം മുമ്പു വാക്കുകൊടുത്തിരുന്നുവല്ലോ. അതിന്റെ തുടർനടപടിയെന്ന നിലയിൽ അദ്ദേഹം ഏകോപനസമിതിക്കാരുമായി സംസാരിച്ച് പരിഹാരം കാണണം. വ്യാപാരികളുടെ മേലായാലും, ചുമതലപ്പെടുന്ന അധിക സാമ്പത്തികരും അവസാനം വന്നുവീഴുന്നതും സാധാരണജനങ്ങളുടെ തലയിലാണെന്നുകൂടി ഓർക്കണം.

വിലവർദ്ധനകളുടെ പരമ്പയിൽ അവസാനമുണ്ടായത് പെട്രോളിയം ഉല്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ വിലകൂട്ടലാണ്. അതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു കോഴിക്കോട് ജില്ലയിൽ ഓട്ടോറിക്ഷകളും ടാക്സികളും ജീപ്പുകളുമൊക്കെ വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച ഓട്ടം നിർത്തി. ഓരോ ദിവസവും ഓരോ ജില്ലയിലായി അവർ സമരം തുടരുകയാണ്. മത്സ്യബന്ധന-വിപണന മേഖലകളിലും വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച ഒരു ബന്ധം നടന്നു. ഇന്ത്യയുടെ സമുദ്രാതിർത്തികളെന്ന് ആഴക്കടലിൽ മീൻപിടിക്കാൻ 2600ഓളം വിദേശീയ കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് അനുവാദം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചായിരുന്നു അത്. മത്സ്യോല്പന്നക്കയറ്റുമതി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കാനാണത്രെ വിദേശക്കുത്തകക്കാർക്ക് ഇങ്ങനെ മത്സ്യബന്ധനാനുമതി നല്കുന്നത്. ഇത്, ഇവിടെ പാരമ്പര്യ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കു മാത്രമല്ല, യന്ത്രബോട്ടുകാർക്കും തൊഴിലില്ലാത്തവർക്കും എന്ന ഭയം അസ്ഥാനത്താണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ട്. തീരക്കടലിലും ആഴക്കടലിലും മത്സ്യസമ്പത്തു ക്ഷയിക്കാൻ നമ്മുടെ അടക്കംകൊല്ലി വലകൾപോലും കാരണമാകുമെന്നിരിക്കെ, വിദേശികളുടെ അതിനവിനോപകരണങ്ങൾ എന്തൊക്കെ നാശമാണുണ്ടാക്കുകയെന്ന് ആർക്കാണറിയുക? അവരെ നമ്മുടെ സമുദ്രാതിർത്തികളെത്തക്കു കടത്തരുതെന്ന ആവശ്യം അസ്ഥാനത്താണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ട്. നിത്യോപയോഗസാധനങ്ങളുടെ ഇതുവരെയുള്ള വിലവർദ്ധനയിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിക്കാൻ ഭരണകക്ഷികളും ഭോജ്യന്മാരും ഏതാണ്ടെല്ലാ സംഘടനകളും രംഗത്തിറങ്ങിക്കഴിഞ്ഞു. ഡീസൽ-പെട്രോൾ വിലവർദ്ധനയുടെ പേരിൽ ടാൻ സ്റ്റോർട്ട് ചാർജും ഉടൻ കൂട്ടുമെന്നു കേൾക്കുന്നു. ഈ വർദ്ധനകളൊക്കെ സാമ്പത്തികനില നന്നാക്കാനുള്ളതാണ് എന്നു ഗവൺമെന്റിനാശ്വസിക്കാം. ജനങ്ങൾക്കാശ്വസിക്കാൻ പറ്റില്ല. നന്നാകുന്നതു ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികനിലയാണ്. ജനങ്ങളുടെയല്ല. അവരുടെ കീഴ കാലിയാകുകയാണ്; ആരുടെയും ഉപദേശം കൂടാതെത്തന്നെ അവരുടെ അത്താഴം മുടങ്ങുകയാണ്; അവർക്കു സഹികെടുകയാണ്.





ആർത്തിരവുന്ന ആവേശം: മൽസ്യബന്ധിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി മൽസ്യ തൊഴിലാളികൾ സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് പടിക്കൽ നടത്തിയ ധർമ്മം. - മനോരമ

# മൽസ്യബന്ധനാചരിച്ചു, വൻ പ്രകടനവും

സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: സർക്കാരിന്റെ മൽസ്യനയത്തിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു രാജ്യവ്യാപകമായി മൽസ്യബന്ധനാചരിച്ചു.

നാഷണൽ ഫിഷ് വർക്കേഴ്സ് ഫോറത്തിന്റെ ആഹ്വാനപ്രകാരം നടന്ന ബന്ധിതരുടെയും വൻ വിജയമായതായി ഫോറം ചെയർമാൻ ഫാ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി അറിയിച്ചു. മൽസ്യബന്ധനവും വിപണനവും മുടങ്ങിയതായും മൽസ്യബന്ധന തുറച്ചുവെങ്കിലും മൽസ്യബന്ധനവും അടങ്ങിപ്പോകുമെന്നും പറഞ്ഞു.

ആഴക്കടൽ മൽസ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ ഇന്ത്യയുടെ കടൽ വിദേശ കൃഷകർക്കു തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെയും നൂറു ശതമാനവും കയറ്റുമതി ലക്ഷ്യമാക്കി ലൈസൻസ് നൽകാനുള്ള നീക്കത്തെയും എതിർത്തായിരുന്നു ബന്ധിതരുടെയും പണിമുടക്കിയ നൂറുകണക്കിനു മൽസ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ ആവേശപൂർവ്വം സെക്രട്ടറിയറിലേക്കു മാർച്ച് ചെയ്തു. കിഴക്കേ കോട്ടയിൽ നിന്നാക്കിപ്പോയ രണ്ടു വരിയായി തീങ്ങിയ മാർച്ചിൽ ഉച്ചത്തിൽ മുദ്രാവാക്യങ്ങൾ മുഴക്കി അനേകം വനിതകളും അണിനിരന്നു.

സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് പടിക്കലെ യോഗം ഉദ്ദേശ്യം ചെയ്ത ഫാ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി അറയായ നയം തിരുത്തുവാനും സമരം തുടരുന്നതുപ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചു വൻ കൂലികളുമായി വന്നു കടൽ കൈയടക്കാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്ന കൃഷകളുടെ പെഴ്സിൻ വലകളിൽ കൂട്ടുങ്ങുന്നതിനു പകരം നരസിംഹ റാവുവിനെയും കരുണാകരനെച്ചുമ്മെക്കെ നമ്മുടെ വലകളിൽ കൂട്ടുകുകയാണു വേണ്ടതി- അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു.

ഇന്ത്യയുടെ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഭാഗം ഇതുവരെ വിദേശ കൃഷകർക്കു

പണയപ്പെടാതെയുണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ലെന്നുവെങ്കിൽ അതു കടലായിരുന്നുവെന്നും ഇപ്പോഴും ഭരണവർഗ്ഗം വിദേശികൾക്കു തീറെഴുതി നൽകിയിരിക്കാതെ അദ്ദേഹം കൂറ്റപ്പെടുത്തി.

മുക്കാൽ കോടിയോളം മൽസ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ തീറ്റിപ്പോറ്റുന്ന അമ്മയാണു നമുക്കു കടൽ. അമ്മയെ നശിപ്പിക്കാൻ നാം ആരെയും അനുവദിക്കില്ല. കോച്ചേരി പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചപ്പോൾ കാതപ്പിക്കുന്ന കരഘോഷം മുഴങ്ങി. പെഴ്സിൻ വല നിരോധിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള സ്വപ്രീകോടതി വിധിയുടെ ലംഘനമാണു വിദേശ കൃഷകർക്കു പെഴ്സിൻ മൽസ്യബന്ധനത്തിനനുവദിച്ചതുവഴി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ ചെയ്തതെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം ചൂണ്ടിക്കാട്ടി.

മൽസ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി സമാജങ്ങളായ എ. ഒ. വി. ജെ. വി. ജെ. സി. പി. റ്റർ, മെഴ്സി അലക്സാണ്ടർ, ബ്രിജിറ്റ്, ഫസില, സീറ്റ് തുടങ്ങിയവർ പ്രസംഗിച്ചു.

ബന്ധുവുമാം ജില്ലയിൽ മിക്കയിടത്തും മൽസ്യബന്ധനം നടന്നില്ല. മൽസ്യചന്തകളുടെ പ്രവർത്തനം മന്ദിച്ചു. പക്ഷേ തലേദിവസം തന്നെ വാങ്ങി സൂക്ഷിച്ചതിനാൽ ഹോട്ടലുകളിൽ പതിവു പോലെ മൽസ്യം വിറ്റു.

മൽസ്യബന്ധിൻ കോഴിക്കോട് കടലോരവും നിശ്ചലമായി. മീൻപിടിക്കാൻ ആരും തോണിയോ ബോട്ടോ കടലിലിറങ്ങിയില്ല.

പക്ഷേ, മാർക്കറ്റിൽ മൽസ്യം എത്തിയിരുന്നു. തലേദിവസം പിടിച്ചു സൂക്ഷിച്ചുവെച്ചു വിപര്യം. ഉള്ളതു നേരത്തേ വിറ്റുതിർന്നു.

മൽസ്യബന്ധന കണ്ണൂർ ജില്ലയിൽ മൽസ്യ ചന്തകളുടെ പ്രവർത്തനത്തെ തീരെ ബാധിച്ചില്ല. സാധാരണപോലെ മൽസ്യം വിപണിയിലെത്തിയിരുന്നു. ഒരു വിശേഷം ബോട്ടുകളെ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയിരുന്നില്ല.

## ജന്മഭൂമി

1994 ഫെബ്രുവരി 5 ശനി.

### മൽസ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ബന്ധിത ഭാഗികം

കൊച്ചി: ഇന്ത്യൻ സമുദ്രാതിർത്തി കുള്ളിൽ വിദേശ ട്രോളറുകൾക്ക് മൽസ്യബന്ധനത്തിന് അനുമതി നൽകിയതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു ആഹ്വാനം ചെയ്തിരുന്ന മൽസ്യബന്ധിതരുടെയും ബന്ധിതരുടെയും കോച്ചിയിൽ ഭാഗികമായിരുന്നു. തോപ്പും പടിക്കലത്ത് നിന്ന് മിക്കവാറും എല്ലാ യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകളും മൽസ്യബന്ധനത്തിന് പോയി.



# കൊല്ലത്ത് ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്റ് പൂർണം

കൊല്ലം: വ്യാഴാഴ്ച രാത്രി 12 മണി മുതൽ വെള്ളയാഴ്ച രാത്രി 12 മണിവരെ വളരുകൊല്ലം ബോട്ടു കാറ്റും പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചിരുന്ന ബന്റ് കൊല്ലം ജില്ലയിൽ വൻ വിജയമായിരുന്നു. വിദേശ കൃഷ്ണകളടങ്ങിയ കടലിൽ സമുദ്രത്തിൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്താൻ അനുവാദം നൽകിയതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചായിരുന്നു ബന്റ്.

മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന് അനുമതി നൽകിയതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചായിരുന്നു ബന്റ്. കടലിൽ സമുദ്രത്തിൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്താൻ അനുവാദം നൽകിയതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചായിരുന്നു ബന്റ്.

കൊല്ലം കടൽത്തീരത്തുനിന്നും കട്ടയം, കമ്പവല, ചെറുതോണി കൾ, വഴികൾ ഇവയൊന്നും മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിനായി മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയില്ല.

ജില്ലയിൽ കായൽ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്തിയില്ല.

ആയിരക്കണക്കിന് ജനങ്ങൾ തിങ്ങിയിരുന്ന ശക്തികുളങ്ങര-നീണ്ടകര ഫിഷിംഗ് ഹാർബർ പ്രദേശവും ഇന്നലെ ശൂന്യമായിരുന്നു. മത്സ്യബന്ധന ബോട്ടുകളൊന്നും കടലിലേക്കെത്തില്ല. പതിനായിരക്കണക്കിന് വരുന്ന ബോട്ട് തൊഴിലാളികളും വളരെത്തൊഴിലാളികളും തങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിത പ്രശ്നത്തിൽ ഉണക്കാകാവുന്ന അപകടം മുൻകൂട്ടി കണ്ട് നടത്തിയ ബന്റിന് കൊല്ലത്ത് ബോട്ട് ഓപ്പറേറ്റർസ് അസോസിയേഷൻ നേതാക്കളായ മാർഷൽ പ്രൊഫ്, നെൽതി വീൻസന്റ്, അഖില കേരള സമ്പന്ന മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ഓഡറേഷൻ നേതാക്കളായ ജെ. ആൻസൻ, എൻ. മുരളീധർ, കേരള സമ്പന്ന മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ഓഡറേഷൻ നേതാക്കളായ എം. അബ്ദുസം, എ. ആൻഡ്രൂസ് എന്നിവരും, കാതൽ മേഖലയിലെ മത്സ്യ

# ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്റ് പൂർണം

Kerala Times 5.2.94

## സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: രാജ്യവ്യാപകമായി ഇന്നലെ ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്റ് ആചരിച്ചു.

ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ ഇന്ത്യയുടെ കടൽ വിദേശ കൃഷ്ണകൾക്ക് തുറന്നു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചായിരുന്നു ബന്റ്. നാഷണൽ ഫിഷറീസ് കൗൺസിൽ ഹോമിനാലാണ് ബന്റിനാചരണം ചെയ്തത്.

സംസ്ഥാന വ്യാപകമായി ഇന്നലെ യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകൾ കടലിലിറങ്ങിയില്ല. തലസ്ഥാനത്ത് ചാങ്ങോട്, ചാളയാ, പേട്ട തീർത്ഥാടകർ വിജയമായിരുന്നു. മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ സെക്രട്ടറിയേറ്റ് ധർമ്മയും നടത്തി.

സർക്കാർ അവരുടെ ഫിഷിംഗ് നയം തിരുത്താതിരിക്കാൻ ശക്തമായ സമരത്തിന് ആഹ്വാനം ചെയ്തത് ധർമ്മയെ അഭിസംബോധന ചെയ്ത രേഖിത മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാ

ളി ഹോമിനാ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ ഫോ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി പറഞ്ഞു.

ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ 2630 വൻ കപ്പലുകൾ ഇറക്കുന്നതിനാണ് സർക്കാർ നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇപ്പോൾത്തന്നെ വിശാഖപട്ടണം കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ച് 148 വൻകിട ട്രോളറുകൾ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്തുന്നുണ്ട്. ആഴക്കടലിൽ മീൻ പിടിക്കുന്നതിനുപകരം ബംഗാൾ തീരക്കടലിലാണ് അവ മീൻ പിടിക്കുന്നത്. 2000 യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ഗിന്റനെറ്റ് ബോട്ടുകൾക്ക് ഇവ കഴിഞ്ഞുവെന്ന്. കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടു വർഷമായി ഇത്തരം പ്രദേശങ്ങൾ സംഘർഷ മേഖലകളായി നിലനിൽക്കുന്നു. മത്സ്യബന്ധനം കഴിഞ്ഞുവെന്ന്. കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടു വർഷമായി ഇത്തരം പ്രദേശങ്ങൾ സംഘർഷ മേഖലകളായി നിലനിൽക്കുന്നു. മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ വഴിയായാക്കാതെ കഴിയും ചെയ്യും. അങ്ങനെയൊക്കെ ചെയ്യാൻ യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകളുടെയും വൻകിട ട്രോളറുകളുടെ

യും പ്രവർത്തനത്തെ സംരക്ഷിക്കാനായി ബന്റ്.

22 കി.മീറ്റർ ദൂരം കടൽ സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളുടെ അധീനതയിലാണ്. അവിടെ കടൽ ഫിഷി നിയമങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവ കർശനമായി നടപ്പിലാക്കാൻ ഇന്ന് താങ്ങാറുവിയ സംവിധാനങ്ങളിലൊന്ന് ഫോ. കോച്ചേരി പറഞ്ഞു.

എന്നാണ് 22 കി.മീറ്ററിനപ്പുറമുള്ള കടൽ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിന്റെ അധീനതയിലാണ്. അവിടെ യാതൊരുവിധ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധന നിയന്ത്രണ നിയമങ്ങളുമില്ല. അതു കൊണ്ടുതന്നെ വിദേശ മത്സ്യബന്ധന കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് അഴിമുഖത്തുനിന്നും അടുത്തുപോകാൻ അനുമതി നൽകിയത്.

ബന്റ് രാജ്യത്തെ എട്ടു സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ തുറന്നുതന്നുവെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം അവകാശപ്പെട്ടു.

ടി.പി.എ. എ. ജെ. വിജയൻ, മേഴ്സി അഖലസംഘർഷ്, ബ്രിജിറ്റ് ഹരീഷ് എന്നിവർ തൊഴിലാളികളെ അഭിസംബോധന ചെയ്തു.

ദീപിക 1994 ഫെബ്രുവരി 5 ശനി 7

# മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ 'മുക്കാൻ' കുപ്പലിറങ്ങി

സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: കടലിലേക്കാണ് ഉപജീവനം നടത്തുന്ന 75 ലക്ഷം മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ വഴിയായാക്കാതെ കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിന്റെ പുതിയ ഫിഷറീസ് നയം കയറ്റുമതിയും വിദേശ നാണുവും മാത്രം ലക്ഷ്യവയ്ക്കുന്ന സർക്കാർ വിദേശകൃഷ്ണകളെ കടലിൽ ഇറക്കുന്നതിൽ ചെറുകിടക്കാരെയും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെയും മുക്കാൻ തയ്യാറെടുപ്പാണ് കടലോരം മുഴുവൻ ഭീതി.



തുറന്നു ശതമാനവും കയറ്റുമതിക്കുവേണ്ടിയുള്ള 49 ലൈസൻസുകൾ നൽകിക്കൊടുത്തു. അമ്പതെണ്ണംകൂടി കൊടുക്കാൻ ഭക്ഷ്യസംസ്കരണ മന്ത്രാലയം നടപടികൾ സ്വീകരിച്ചുവരുന്നു.

1953-ൽ ഇന്തോ-നോർവീജിയൻ പദ്ധതി കൊണ്ടുവന്നതും ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിലാണ്. പെഴ്സിൻ വല നിരോധിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള നടപടിയെ ചോദ്യം ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ട് സുപ്രീം കോടതിയിൽ നടന്ന കേസിൽ വിധി ന്യായം കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ കണക്കിലെടുത്തിട്ടില്ല. 1993 നവംബർ രണ്ടിന് ജെ.സി.എസ്.എസ്. സഹായം കൂടി പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ച വിധിന്യായത്തിൽ യന്ത്രവൽകരണംകൊണ്ട് പരമ്പരാഗത മേഖലയിൽ അമ്പതു ശതമാനം മീൻ കുറഞ്ഞുവെന്നും അതുകൊണ്ട് പെഴ്സിൻ വല നിരോധനത്തെ പരിസ്ഥിതി സംരക്ഷണത്തിനും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനും ആവശ്യമാണെന്നും പറയുന്നു.

ആ വിധിന്യായം കണക്കിലെടുക്കാതെയാണ് മെക്സിക്കൻ കമ്പനിയുമായി കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ അയ്യപ്പൻ ലക്ഷം ഡോളറിന്റെ പെഴ്സിൻ കരാറിലേർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്ന ലൈസൻസുകൾ എല്ലാത്തന്നെ നൂറു ശതമാനവും കയറ്റുമതിക്കുവേണ്ടിയാണ് ഈ പുതിയ നയം ചെറുകിട യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകളെയും ബാധിക്കും.

ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ 2630 വൻ കപ്പലുകൾ ഇറക്കുന്നതിനാണ് സർക്കാർ നിയമിച്ച ട്രോളറുകളെ കമ്മീഷൻ നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. 14 മീറ്റർ മുതൽ 40 മീറ്റർ വരെ നീളമുള്ള കപ്പലുകൾ 500 കൃതിരുകതി മുതൽ 2000 കൃതിരുകതി വരെയുള്ള എൻജിനുകളായിരിക്കും ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നത്.

ഇപ്പോൾത്തന്നെ വിശാഖപട്ടണം കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ച് 148 വൻകിട ട്രോളറുകൾ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ആഴക്കടലിൽ മീൻ പിടിക്കുന്നതിനു പകരം ബംഗാൾ തീരക്കടലിലാണ് അവ മീൻ പിടിക്കുന്നത്. 2000 യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ഗിന്റനെറ്റ് ബോട്ടുകൾക്ക് ഇവ നിരത്തേ കഴിഞ്ഞുവെന്ന്. കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടു വർഷങ്ങളായി ആ പ്രദേശം സംഘർഷമേഖലയായി നിലനിൽക്കുന്നു.

ഇരുപത്തിരണ്ടു കിലോമീറ്റർ ദൂരം കടൽ, സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളുടെ അധീനതയിലാണ്. അവിടെ കടൽപരിധി നിയമങ്ങളുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവ കർശനമായി നടപ്പിലാക്കുവാൻ ഇന്നു സംവിധാനങ്ങളൊന്നും തന്നെയില്ല. 22 കിലോമീറ്റർ ദൂരത്തിനപ്പുറമുള്ള കടൽ കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിന്റെ അധീനതയിലാണ്. അവിടെ യാതൊരുവിധ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധന നിയന്ത്രണ നിയമങ്ങളുമില്ല. അതു കൊണ്ടുതന്നെ വിദേശ മത്സ്യബന്ധന കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് അഴിമുഖത്തുനിന്നും അടുത്തുപോകാൻ അനുമതി നൽകിയത്.



# മംഗളം

1994 ഫെബ്രുവരി  
1169 മകരം

5  
23

1915 മാഘം  
1414 ശ്-അബ്ദം 23



കേന്ദ്രഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ഫിഷറീസ് നയത്തിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ച് മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ തിരുവനന്തപുരത്ത് നടത്തിയ സെക്രട്ടേറിയറ്റ് മാർച്ച് ദേശീയ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ഫെഡറേഷൻ ചെയർമാൻ ഫ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുന്നു

-മംഗളം

## ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്ദ് പൂർണം വിപണികൾ വിജനം

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്ദിനോടനുബന്ധിച്ച് പണിമുടക്കിയവർക്കുവേണ്ടി ആയിരക്കണക്കിന് മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ സെക്രട്ടേറിയറ്റിലേക്കു മാർച്ച് ചെയ്തു.

യന്ത്രവാൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകളൊന്നും ഇന്നലെ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയില്ല. തിരുവനന്തപുരം സിറ്റിയിലെ ഫാറോട്, പാളയം, പേട്ട മീൻപാതകൾ വിജനമായിരുന്നു.

സർക്കാർ അവാരുടെ ഫിഷറീസ് നയം തിരുത്തിയില്ലാതെമിൽ ശക്തമായ സമരത്തിനു തങ്ങൾ തയ്യാറാകും എന്നതിന്റെ തെളിവാണ് ഈ ബന്ദ്. എന്ത് ദേശീയ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ഫെററം അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ ഫ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി സെക്രട്ടേറിയറ്റ് നടയിൽ തിടയ്ക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ അടിസ്ഥാനപരമായതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രസ്താവിച്ചു.

ടി. ഹീറ്റർ, എ.കെ. വിജയൻ, മേഴ്സി അലക്സണ്ടർ, ബ്രിട്ടീഷ്, ഫസീല എന്നിവർ പ്രസംഗിച്ചു.

ഗൃഹമന്ത്രി, മന്ദാരാഷ്ട്ര, പശ്ചിമബംഗാൾ എന്നീ സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങൾ പൂർണമായും ബന്ധിതമാക്കിയതായാണ് റിപ്പോർട്ട്. മത്സ്യ കമ്പോളങ്ങൾ തുറന്നില്ല. റിസി, മംഗളം, താഴ്നാട്, ആന്ധ്രം, കർണാടകം എന്നീ സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിലും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ പണിമുടക്കി. യന്ത്രവാൽ

### സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

കൃത ബോട്ടുകളും മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്തിയില്ല. ഹന, സിയാൽഡാ, ഡയമണ്ട്ഡ് ഹാർബർ കമ്പോളങ്ങൾ നിൽപലതായി. ബന്ധിത പരമേശ്വരൻ 37 സംഘടനകളും കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിന്റെ പുതിയ ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനനയം തിരുത്തിക്കൊടുത്തിരിക്കണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

കേന്ദ്രീയ നില നിറയ്ക്കപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടുള്ള നടപടിയെ ചോദ്യം ചെയ്യുകയാണ് സുപ്രീംകോടതിയിൽ നടന്ന കേസിലെ വിധിന്യായം കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ കണക്കിലെടുത്തിട്ടില്ലെന്ന് ഫിഷറീസെൻ്റ് ഫെററം ചൂണ്ടിക്കാട്ടി.

കൊല്ലം ജില്ലയിലും ബന്ദ് പൂർണമായിരുന്നു. യന്ത്രവാൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകളും വള്ളങ്ങളും കൂട്ട മാർഗങ്ങളും ഒന്നുതന്നെ ഇന്നലെ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയില്ല. ഉത്സവ പ്രതിഭി ഉള്ളവരായിരുന്നു നീണ്ടകര തുറമുഖം ഇന്നലെ ശുശ്രൂഷയിരുന്നു. ശക്തികളുണ്ടായില്ല. വായിയിലും കടലേറും ശുശ്രൂഷയായി.

ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്ദ് ആദ്യപ്പേജിലായി പൂർണമായിരുന്നു. ജില്ലയിൽ വലിയഴീക്കൽ മുതൽ പള്ളത്തോട് വരെയുള്ള മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ, മത്സ്യ വ്യാപാരി-വ്യവസായികൾ, അനുബന്ധ തൊഴിലാളികൾ എന്നിവർ ബന്ധിതമാക്കി അനുഭവിച്ചു പണിമുടക്കി.

മത്സ്യമേഖലയുടെ നാശം ആഗ്രഹിക്കാത്ത എല്ലാ ബഹുഭവനങ്ങളും ഫെഡറേഷൻ ആരംഭിക്കാൻ പോകുന്ന സമരത്തിന് സർവ്വപിന്തുണയും തുടർന്നും നൽകണമെന്ന് ഇതുസംബന്ധിച്ച് പ്രസ്താവനയിൽ കേരള സമരനേതാക്കളും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ഫെഡറേഷൻ ജില്ലാപ്രസിഡൻ്റ് എ.വി. പരമേശ്വരൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു.

മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ നടത്തിയ ബന്ധിതനാണ് കൊച്ചിയിലെ ബോട്ടുടമകളും വഞ്ചിത്തൊഴിലാളികളും വിട്ടുനിന്നു കൂടിയതായാലാണിപ്പോഴത്തെ ഒരു വിഭാഗം ആളുകൾ ചേർന്ന് പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ച ബന്ധിത കൊച്ചിയിലെ ബോട്ടുടമകൾ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു.

സ്വാധാരണ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഇന്നലെ തോട്ടുകൾ ഫിഷറീസ് ഹാർബറിൽനിന്നും ലൈസൻ്റ് മേഖലയിൽനിന്നും ബോട്ടുകൾ കടലിൽപോയി.

# ദേശാഭിമാനി

## മത്സ്യബന്ധന ബന്ധം പൂർണ്ണം

### ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്ധം പൂർണ്ണം

തിരു, ഫെബ്രു. 4: അഖിലേന്ത്യാ ഫിഷറീസ് ബന്ധിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച ആയിരക്കണക്കിന് മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ പണിമുടക്കി സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റിലേക്ക് മാർച്ച് നടത്തി. യന്ത്രവൽകൃതബോട്ടുകൾ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയില്ല. പാട്രോൾ, പാളയം, പേട്ട മീൻ ചന്തകളും വിജനമായി.

ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ ഇന്ത്യയുടെ കടൽ വിദേശക്കുത്തകകൾക്ക് തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചായിരുന്നു ബന്ധം മാർച്ചിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത തൊഴിലാളികളെ ദേശീയ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളിഫോറം അധ്യക്ഷൻ തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി അഭിവാദ്യം ചെയ്തു. "വിദേശക്കുത്തകകളുടെ വലയിൽ നമ്മൾ കൂടുങ്ങും മുമ്പ് നമ്മുടെ വലയിൽ നരസിംഹറാവുവിനെയും കരുണാകരനെയും കുറുക്കണം"-അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു.

സമന്വയമത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി ഫെഡറേഷൻ നേതാക്കളായ ടി പീറ്റർ, എ ജെ വിജയൻ, മേഴ്സ് അലക്സാണ്ടർ, ബ്രിജിത്, ഫസില എന്നിവരും തൊഴിലാളികളെ അഭിവാദ്യം ചെയ്തു. ഗുജറാത്ത്, മഹാരാഷ്ട്ര, പശ്ചിമ ബംഗാൾ എന്നീ സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ നൂറു ശതമാനം തൊഴിലാളികളും ബന്ധിൻ പങ്കെടുത്തതായി തോമസ്

കൊല്ലം: ഇന്ത്യയുടെ സമുദ്ര മേഖലയിൽ 2650 വർകിട വിദേശ ബോട്ടുകൾക്ക് മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്താൻ അനുമതി നൽകിയ കേന്ദ്ര ഗവൺമെന്റ് നടപടിയിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളും യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ബോട്ട് ഉടമകളും വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച മത്സ്യബന്ധന മേഖലയിൽ നടത്തിയ ബന്ധം പൂർണ്ണമായിരുന്നു.

1000 മത്സ്യബന്ധന ബോട്ടുകളുള്ള ശക്തികളുണ്ടായിൽ ബോട്ടുകൾ ഒന്നും കടലിൽ ഇറക്കിയില്ല. പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളും മീൻ റിപ്പിടിക്കാൻ പോയില്ല. നിങ്ങളും മ

മത്സ്യബന്ധന തുറക്കും. ഗുന്തമായി കാണപ്പെട്ടു. നേരത്തെ പിടിച്ചു സൂക്ഷിച്ചിരുന്ന മത്സ്യത്തിന് തീ വിലയായിരുന്നു.

അതിനിടെ മെക്കനൈസ്ഡ് ബോട്ട് ഓപ്പറേറ്റർസ് അസോസിയേഷൻ കൊല്ലത്ത് ബിഷപ്പ് ജെറോം നഗറിൽ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ച സെമിനാർ വിദേശ കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് നമ്മുടെ സമുദ്രാതിർത്തിയിൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം നടത്താൻ നൽകിയ അനുമതി പട്ടനംപരിശോധിക്കണമെന്ന് കേന്ദ്ര ഗവൺമെന്റിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടവരുമായി ചർച്ച ചെയ്യാൻ മാത്രമേ സംസ്ഥാന ഗവൺമെന്റ് ഫിഷറീസ് നയം പ്രഖ്യാപിക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളൂവെന്നും യോഗം അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു. എൻ. ഓ. സുരൻപിള്ള സെമിനാർ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. മാർഷൽ ഫ്രാങ്ക്, റെയ്ത്തിൽ വൻസെൻ, ജി.പി ശശിധരൻപിള്ള, ഡി. ജോർജ്, പ്രസാദ് എ. നിവർ സംസാരിച്ചു.

### സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് മാർച്ച് നടത്തി

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനം വിദേശ കമ്പനികൾക്ക് തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് മാർച്ച് നടത്തി. യന്ത്രവൽകൃത ബോട്ടുകൾ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയില്ല. മീൻചന്തകളിൽ കച്ചവടം നടന്നില്ല.

സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റിനു മുന്നിൽ നടന്ന വമ്പിച്ച ധർമ്മനാഷണൽ ഷിപ്പ് വർക്കേഴ്സ് ഫോറം പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് ഫാ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

സുപ്രീംകോടതി വിധിയും കാറ്റിൽ പറത്തിയാണ് കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ ഈ തീരുമാനം എടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. 500 ലക്ഷം ഡോളറിന്റെ കരാർ ഇതു സംബന്ധിച്ചു മെക്സിക്കൻ കമ്പനിയുമായി ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട് - അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു.

ടി.പിറ്റർ, എ. ജെ. വിജയൻ, മേഴ്സി അലക്സാണ്ടർ, ബ്രിജിറ്റ്, ഫസില എന്നിവർ പ്രസംഗിച്ചു. കിഴക്കേ കോട്ടയിൽനിന്ന് പ്രകടനമായാണ് സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് മാർച്ചിന് എത്തിയത്.

കോച്ചേരി പ്രസ്താവനയിൽ പറഞ്ഞു. ഒറീസ്, തമിഴ്നാട്, ആന്ധ്ര, കർണാടകം എന്നിവിടങ്ങളിലും പണിമുടക്ക് നടന്നു. ഹാഗ, സിയാൽഡ, ഡയറഞ്ച് ഫാർബർ കമ്പോളങ്ങളും നിശ്ചലമായി. 37 സംഘടനകളാണ് ബന്ധിന് ആഹ്വാനം നൽകിയത്.

ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന് 49 ലൈസൻസുകൾ വിദേശക്കുത്തകകൾക്ക് കൊടുത്തതായി കോച്ചേരി പ്രസ്താവനയിൽ പറഞ്ഞു. നൂറുശതമാനം കയറ്റുമതിക്ക് വേണ്ടിയാണ്.

എണ്ണം കൂടി കൊടുക്കാൻ നീക്കമുണ്ട്. മെക്സിക്കൻ കമ്പനിയുമായി 500 ലക്ഷം ഡോളറിന്റെ പഴ്സിൻ വലക്കരാറില്യം സർക്കാർ ഏർപ്പെട്ടു. സുപ്രീം കോടതി വിധി പേറ്റലും ലംഘിച്ചാണിത്. 2630 വൻ കപ്പലുകളും ഇറങ്ങുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇവ വൻപിടിച്ചെടുത്തവയും വിദേശ മത്സ്യബന്ധനക്കപ്പലുകളുടെ അഴിഞ്ഞാട്ടത്തിന് കടൽ വേദിയാകും. ഇതിനെതിരായ പോരാട്ടത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി നടന്ന ബന്ധം ഗംഭീരവിജയത്തായായി കോച്ചേരി പറഞ്ഞു.

മാതൃഭൂമി 1994 ഫെബ്രുവരി 5 ശനിയാഴ്ച



ആഴക്കടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ പേരിൽ കേരളത്തിന്റെ കടലിൽ വിദേശ കപ്പലുകൾക്ക് അനുമതി നൽകുന്നതിൽ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചു വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ നടത്തിയ സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് മാർച്ച്



# Fisheries sector paralysed

Express News Service

## THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Hundreds of fishermen staged protest jathas even as the fisheries sector by and large remained paralysed in the State to mark the countrywide fisheries bandh on Friday.

Some 30 trade unions responded to the nationwide bandh call by the National Fishworkers' Forum to compel the Narasimha Rao Government to withdraw its anti-fisherman deep sea policy, permitting unrestricted multinational exploitation of the country's deep sea fish resources.

The bandh was co-sponsored by the Association of Mechanised Fishing Boat Operators' Association.

Both traditional fishermen and the small mechanised fishing boat operators have united in opposing the opening of deep seas to foreign or joint plunder.

Major fish markets in the State remained closed.

Palayam, Pangode and Pettah fish markets were deserted as the usual vendors, in their hundreds, thronged the Secretariat gate.

Forum chairman Father Thomas Kochery addressed the rally in front of the Secretariat.

Kerala Swatantra Matsyabhojilali leaders T. Peter, A.J. Vijayan, Mercy Alexander, Bridgit and Faseela addressed the

dharma.

The marchers came in a jatha from East Fort shouting slogans against the new fisheries policy.

The Secretariat witnessed a rally with a difference. Slogans were not abusive. Women volunteers formed a chain, like the net, around the rallyists who squatted at the sayyagraha gate.

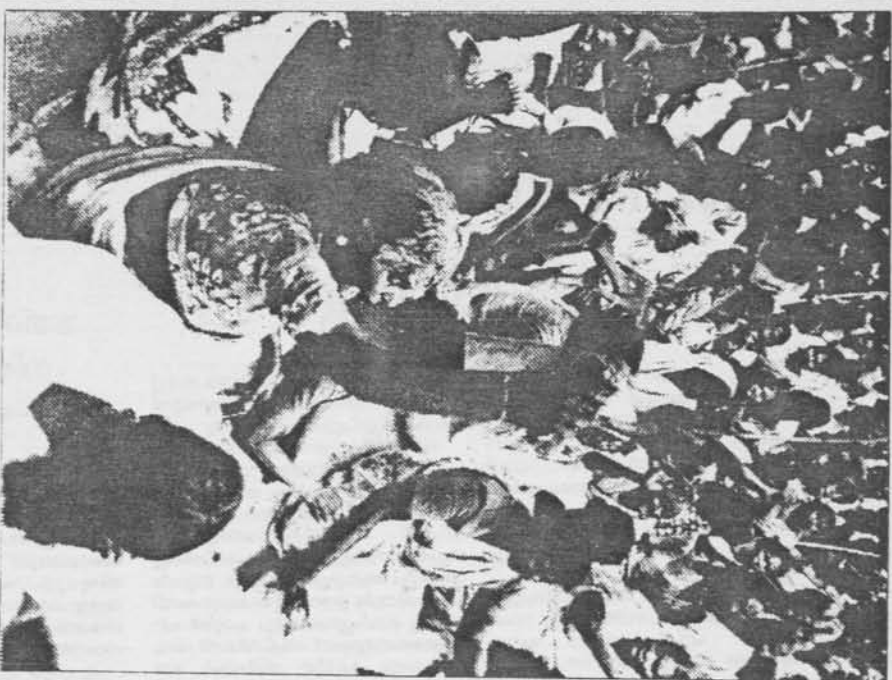
Half way through the dharma, the participants re-arranged themselves, when requested by Peter, to allow another jatha by the ABVP volunteers to pass by.

In the light of the proposals made by the technology mission to give licences to 2653 deep sea fishing vessels ranging from 14-40 metres length and with 500-2000 BHP capacity, the Government has already issued 49 individual licences and signed four joint ventures.

All are 100 per cent export-oriented units.

Vizag-based 148 deep sea fishing vessels have been in the red, incurring a debt of Rs 100 crore to the Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India.

Owing to lack of viable species of fish available in plenty in the deep sea, the vessels have resorted to fishing in the territorial waters. This has created endless tension in West Bengal between the mechanised gillnetters and the deep sea fishing vessels from Visakhapatnam.



The rally in front of the Secretariat on Friday, organised by the National Fishworkers Forum, as part of the fisheries bandh. - Express (Report on page 5)



# അമ്മേജി

തിരുവനന്തപുരം 1994 ഫെബ്രുവരി 5 ശനി

## മത്സ്യമേഖല പാടേ സ്മരണ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിന്റെ പുതിയ പുറംകടൽ മത്സ്യബന്ധന നയം തിരുത്തിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് നടന്ന ദേശീയ മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി സംസ്ഥാനത്ത് ഇന്നലെ മത്സ്യ മേഖലയാകെ സ്മരണകൾ.

മത്സ്യബന്ധന - വിപണന മേഖലയിലെ മുഴുവൻ തൊഴിലാളികളും ഇന്നലെ പങ്കെടുത്തു.

സംസ്ഥാനത്തെ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളും തന്നെ പ്രവർത്തിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. നാഷണൽ ഫിഷറീസ് കമ്മീഷൻ ഫോറത്തിന്റെ ആഹ്വാനമനുസരിച്ച് നടന്ന ബന്ധിത മത്സ്യമേഖലയിലെ 37 സംഘടനകൾ പങ്കെടുത്തിരുന്നു.

പങ്കെടുക്കിയ തൊഴിലാളികൾ സംസ്ഥാന വ്യാപകമായി ഇല്ലാതെ കേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിൽ പ്രകടനം നടത്തി തിരുവനന്തപുരത്ത് തൊഴിലാളികൾ സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് അടച്ച് നടത്തി.

മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ അതിശയകരമായ പ്രതിഷേധം ഇറമ്പിയ അടച്ച് ഫോറം ചെയർമാൻ ഫാദർ തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

യന്ത്രവൽക്കരണം കൊണ്ട് പരമ്പരാഗത മത്സ്യമേഖലയിൽ 50 ശതമാനം മീൻ കുറഞ്ഞുവെന്നും അതുകൊണ്ട് പഴമ്പിൻ വല നിരോധിക്കേണ്ടത് പരിസ്രിമിതി സംരക്ഷണത്തിനും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനും ആവശ്യമാണെന്നും സുപ്രീം കോടതിയുടെ ഉത്തരവു പോലും കണ്ടില്ലെന്നും മോവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും കോറ്റിൽ പറത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുമാണ് മെക്സിക്കൻ കമ്പനിയുമായി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ 500 ലക്ഷം ഡോളറിന്റെ പഴമ്പിൻ കരാറുണ്ടാക്കിയിരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് ഫാ. തോമസ് കോച്ചേരി കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്തി.

ഇരുപതു വർഷം നേരം വർഷങ്ങളായി കടൽകൊണ്ട് ഉപജീവനം നടത്തിവരുന്ന 75 ലക്ഷം മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികളെ വഴിയൊഴിയാക്കുമെന്ന അടർച്ചയ്ക്കും 8-00 പേജിൽ 4-00 കോളം)

## മത്സ്യമേഖല സ്മരണ

(ഒന്നാംപേജിൽ നിന്നും തുടർച്ച)

മോഹം പറഞ്ഞു.

രേണപ്രദനയെയോ പരമോന്നത നീതിപീഠത്തെയോ ബഹുമാനിക്കാത്ത ഭരണാധികാരികൾ നമ്മെ മെക്സിക്കോക്കാരായ വലയിൽ കുടുക്കുന്നതിനു മുൻപ് നരസിംഹനംവു ഉൾപ്പെടെ യുദ്ധമരണമയുടെ വലയിൽ കുടുക്കണമെന്ന് നീണ്ടുനിന്ന കരപ്രോക്ഷണങ്ങൾക്കിടയിൽ ഫാ. കോച്ചേരി പറഞ്ഞു.

ടി. പി.റ്റി, എ.ജെ. വിജയൻ, മേഴ്സ് അലക്സാണ്ടർ, ബ്രിജ്ജിറ്റ്, ഫസീല തുടങ്ങിയവർ സംസാരിച്ചു.

നീലക്കൊടികളുമായി സ്മരണകളുടെ കരുത്തുള്ള ആയിരക്കണക്കിന് മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ കിഴക്കേക്കോട്ടായി നിന്നാണ് സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് അടച്ച് നടത്തിയത്.



മത്സ്യബന്ധനമന്ദനം മുന്നോട്ടുവെച്ചിട്ട് സമഗ്ര മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി യൂണിയന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയറ്റ് ന്യൂയിൽ നടന്ന പ്രകടനം.



**SECTION II**  
**TAMIL NADU**

NFF's CALL FOR BANSH

## மத்திய அரசை எதிர்த்து மீனவர் ஸ்டிரைக்

புதுடில்லி, ஜன. 20—  
தேசிய மீனவர் சங்கம் அடுத்த  
மாநம் 4ம் தேதி ஸ்டிரைக் செய்ய  
முடிவு செய்துள்ளது.  
மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடிப்பு கொள்கையை எதிர்த்து  
தேசிய மீனவர் சங்கமும், சிறிய  
இயந்திரப் படகு இயக்குபவர்கள்  
சங்கமும் ஸ்டிரைக்கில் ஈடுபட  
முடிவு செய்துள்ளன.  
இது குறித்து தேசிய மீனவர் சங்க  
தகவல் தொடர்பாளர் ஜான்  
அறிக்கை ஒன்றில் கூறியிருப்பதா  
வது:  
மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடிப்பு கொள்கை தேசவிரோதமா  
னது. பெரிய நிறுவனங்கள், அன்  
னிய கம்பெனிகளுடன் சேர்ந்து  
அதிசலாபம் பெற இந்த புதிய  
கொள்கை வகை செய்கிறது.  
இதனால் பாரம்பரிய மீனவர்க

ளின் வாழ்க்கை பெரிதும் பாதிக்கப்  
படுகிறது.

பெரிய கம்பெனிகளின் ஆழ்க  
டல் மீன்பிடி படகுகள் இறால்  
களை பிடிப்பதையே குறிக்கோ  
ளாக கொண்டுள்ளன. இதனால்  
மற்ற வகை மீன்களின் வளம் பாதிக்க  
ப்படுகிறது.

மீனவர்களுக்கு மாண்பம் வழங்  
கும் திட்டத்தை அரசு கொண்டுவர  
வேண்டும்.

இது குறித்து சம்பந்தப்பட்ட  
அமைச்சர்களிடம் எடுத்து கூறியும்  
இதுவரை உரிய நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க  
ப்படவில்லை.

எனவே அடுத்த மாநம் 4ம் தேதி  
ஸ்டிரைக் செய்ய முடிவு செய்துள்ளோம்.

இவ்வாறு ஜான் அறிக்கையில்  
கூறியுள்ளார்.

காயிதேமில்லத் மாவட்டத்தில்

## 50 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம்

மத்திய அரசின்  
மீன்பிடி கொள்கையை எதிர்த்து

நாகப்பட்டினம்

மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடிப்பு கொள்கையை எதிர்த்து  
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சங்கமும் ஸ்டிரைக்கில் ஈடுபட  
முடிவு செய்துள்ளன.  
இது குறித்து தேசிய மீனவர் சங்க  
தகவல் தொடர்பாளர் ஜான்  
அறிக்கை ஒன்றில் கூறியிருப்பதா  
வது:  
மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடிப்பு கொள்கை தேசவிரோதமா  
னது. பெரிய நிறுவனங்கள், அன்  
னிய கம்பெனிகளுடன் சேர்ந்து  
அதிசலாபம் பெற இந்த புதிய  
கொள்கை வகை செய்கிறது.  
இதனால் பாரம்பரிய மீனவர்க

கண்டனம்

மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடிப்பு கொள்கையை எதிர்த்து  
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வது:  
மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடிப்பு கொள்கை தேசவிரோதமா  
னது. பெரிய நிறுவனங்கள், அன்  
னிய கம்பெனிகளுடன் சேர்ந்து  
அதிசலாபம் பெற இந்த புதிய  
கொள்கை வகை செய்கிறது.  
இதனால் பாரம்பரிய மீனவர்க

ஏறத்தாழ 50 ஆயிரம்  
மீனவர்கள் இந்த போராட்டத்  
தில் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.  
அவர்கள் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்ல  
வில்லை.

அகில இந்திய மீன்பிடி  
தொழிலாளர் பேரவையும்,  
விசைப்படகு மற்றும் கட்டுமர  
தொழிலாளர்களும் இணைந்து  
இந்த போராட்டத்தை நடத்தி  
னர்.

நம்பியார் நகர் கணேசன்,  
கீச்சாங்குப்பம், நமசிவாயம்  
ஆகியோர் முன்னின்று இந்த  
போராட்டத்தை நடத்தினர்.

மீன் விற்பனை இல்லை  
மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்  
தம் காரணமாக நாகை  
பகுதியில் மீன்  
விற்பனை நடைபெறவில்லை.



# THE HINDU



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## Fishing activities suspended

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Feb. 4.

Members of the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) marched to the Secretariat here on Friday, as part of the all-India fisheries bandh, in protest against the Centre's fisheries policy.

Traditional fishermen and vendors suspended work for a day. The mechanised boats, operating from Kollam, were also not put to sea. According to the chairman of NFF, Mr. Thomas Kocherry, the Government had already issued 49 individual licences and signed four joint ventures. These were effected in the light of the proposals made by the Technology Mission to grant licences to 2653 deep-sea fishing vessels, having a length ranging from 14 metre to 40 metre and a capacity between 500 BHP and 2000 BHP.

A memorandum of understanding was also recently signed with a Mexican company to start a project costing 50 million dollars. He said the 148 fishing vessels based in Vishakhapatnam had incurred a debt of Rs 100 crores. Of these, only 20 vessels were making a profit. As commercially profitable varieties of fish were not available in the deep sea, the vessels had resorted to fishing in the terrestrial waters. This had recently created tension in West Bengal when traditional fishermen clashed with operators of mechanised boats.

He added that the opening of the seas to foreign vessels would pose a threat to the sovereignty of the country.



The Secretariat march organised by the National Fishworkers Forum as part of its all-India fisheries bandh in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday.

## Fishermen observe bandh

From Our Staff Reporter

TIRUNELVELI, Feb. 4.

More than 75,000 fishermen using mechanised boats, country boats, vallams etc., in the districts of Tirunelveli, Kattabomman, Chidmbaranar and Kanyakumari did not go for fishing and observed a bandh today to protest against the Central Government's deep fishing policy. Small fish stalls too remained closed.

The call for the bandh was given by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) in collaboration with small mechanised boat operators. According to the fishermen, the present policy would lead to destruction of fish resources, endangering their sustenance. They opposed the joint deep sea fishing foreign ventures, all of which according to them were cent per cent export-oriented. The new liberalised investment policies have removed all barriers for foreign entrepreneurs to invest in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. They demanded a new deep sea fishing policy.

Our Nagapattinam Correspondent writes:

About 20,000 fishermen hailing from 54 coastal villages of Nagai-Quaid-e-Milleth district boycotted fishing today from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in response to the call of National Fishworkers Forum.

About 30,000 workers connected with the fishing industry were affected on account of the bandh.

நாகை மாவட்டத்தில்

50 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள்

வேலை நிறுத்தம்

மீன் விற்பனையும் நடக்கவில்லை

நாகப்பட்டினம், பிப். 4--  
நாகை மாவட்டத்தில் இன்று  
50 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள்  
வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்தனர்.  
வேலை நிறுத்தம்

மத்திய அரசு ஆழ்கடல் மீன்  
பிடி கொள்கையை கொண்டு  
வந்து உள்ளது. இது மீனவர்  
களுக்கு எதிராக உள்ளதாக  
கூறியும், மீனவர்களுக்கு சாதக  
மான புதிய ஆழ்கடல் மீன் பிடி  
கொள்கையை கொண்டு வர  
கொரியும், மீனவர்களுக்கு  
மாணியம் வழங்க வேண்டும்  
என்று வற்புறுத்தியும் நாளை  
காங்கிரஸ் மில்லத் மாவட்டம்  
மற்றும் காரைக்கால் மீனவர்கள்  
இன்று வேலை நிறுத்த  
போராட்டத்தில் குதித்தனர்.  
அகில இந்திய மீன் பிடி  
தொழிலாளர் பேரவையும்  
விசைபட்டகு மற்றும் சுட்டு மர

தொழிலாளர்களும் இணைந்து  
இந்த போராட்டத்தை நடத்  
தியது.

இதன்படி இன்று நாகை  
மாவட்டம் மற்றும் காரைக்  
காலில் உள்ள 154 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்  
கிராமங்களைச் சேர்ந்த 50  
ஆயிரம் பேர் இன்று கடலில்  
மீன் பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.  
மொத்தம் 3 ஆயிரம் விசைப்  
பட்டகங்களும், 15 ஆயிரம் சுட்டு  
மரங்களும் கரையில் அப்படியே  
நிறுத்தப்பட்டு இருந்தது.

மீன் விற்பனை இல்லை

மேலும் இன்று நாகை  
பகுதியில் மீன் விற்பனையும்  
நடக்க வில்லை.

நம்பியார் நகரைச் சேர்ந்த  
சுணைசண், கீச்சாக்குப்பத்தைச்  
சேர்ந்த நமச்சிவாயம், ஆகியோர்  
முன்னின்று இந்த போராட்  
டத்தை நடத்தினார்கள்.

50,000 fisherpeople on Bindh

## மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லாமல் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம்

தினமலர் - 5-2-94

நாகப்பட்டினம், பி.5—  
அகில இந்திய மீன்பிடி தொழிலாளர் பேரவையின் வேண்டுகோளின்படி நாகை மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள மீனவர்கள் அனைவரும் நேற்று கடலுக்கு மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லாமல் வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்தனர்.

அகில இந்திய மீன்பிடி தொழிலாளர் பேரவை மற்றும் விசைப்படகு கூட்டு மரபினவத்தொழிலாளர்கள் இணைந்து 4ம் தேதி வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்யப்பட்ட மீனவர்களை கேட்டுக் கொண்டு இருந்தனர். இந்திய அரசின் மீனவர்களுக்கு எதிரான ஆழ்கடல் மீன்பிடிப்பு கொள்கையை எதிர்த்தும், அனைத்து அன்னிய கூட்டுத்தாண்டல் முயற்சிகளை உடனே நிறுத்தச் செய்யும் மீனவர்களுக்கு

சாதகமான ஒரு மீன்பிடிக்கொள்கையை உருவாக்க கோரியும் வேலை நிறுத்த போராட்டத்துக்கு அழைப்பு விடுத்து இருந்தனர்.

அதன்படி நாகை மாவட்டத்தில் முத்துப்பேட்டையில் இருந்து கொடியம்பாளையம் வரையுள்ள 64 மீனவ கிராமங்களைச் சேர்ந்த மீனவர்கள் நேற்று காலை 6 மணி முதல் மாலை 6 மணி வரை கடலுக்கு மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லாமல் ஒருநாள் அடையாள வேலைநிறுத்தம் செய்தனர். நாகை மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள 1,461 விசைப்படகு, 3,516 கட்டுமரங்களில் மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லும் சுமார் 15 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம் காரணமாக நேற்று மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லவில்லை. காரைக்கால் மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள மீனவர்களும் நேற்று வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.

## வேதாரண்யம் பகுதியில் 30 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் ஸ்டிரைக்

வேதாரண்யம், பி.6—

இந்திய பெருங்கடலில் மீன்பிடிக்க விரிநாட்டு மீன்பிடி கப்பலுக்கு அனுமதி அளிக்க மத்திய அரசு திட்டமிட்டுள்ளதை எதிர்த்து வேதாரண்யம் பகுதியில் 30 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் ஒருநாள் வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.

வங்கக்கடல், இந்து மகாசமுத்திரம் அரபிக்கடல் பகுதிகளில் இந்திய எல்லைச் சூட்டப்பட்ட கடல் பகுதியில் இந்திய மீனவர்கள் மீன்பிடித்து வருகின்றனர். கட்டுமரம், விசைப்படகு, டிளாஸ்டிக் விசைப்படகு, எல்லம் போன்ற மீன்பிடி சாதனங்களை கொண்டு மீனவர்கள் கரையிலிருந்து சுமார் 40 கிலோ மீட்டர் தூரம் வரை சென்று மீன்பிடித்து வருகின்றனர். ஆழ்கடலில் (பெருங்கடல்) மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. அதற்கான சாதனங்களும் மீனவர்களிடம் இல்லை.

கரையோர மீனவர்கள் காலை யில் சென்று மாலையில் கரை திரும்புவர். ஆழ்கடலில் மீன்பிடிக்க கப்பல் போன்ற 'டிங்கி' மீன்பிடிக்கப்பலில் செல்பவர்கள் ஒருமாதம் கடலில் தங்கி மீன்களை பிடிப்பதுடன் பிடிபட்ட மீன்களை பதப்படுத்தி வைத்திருந்து கரைக்கு திரும்புவார்கள்.

இந்த 'டிங்கி' என்ற கப்பல் பம்பாய், கொச்சி, சென்னை, விஜயவாடா போன்ற துறைமுகத்தை ஒட்டியுள்ள பெரிய வர்த்தக நிறுவனங்களிடம் உள்ளன.

இந்நிலையில் ஆழ்கடலில் மீன்பிடிக்க இந்த மீனவர்களை தவிர வெளிநாட்டு மீன்பிடிக்கப்பல்களை அனுமதிக்க மத்திய அரசு திட்டமிட்டது. இதன்படி வெளிநாட்டு மீன்பிடி கப்பல்கள் கரையோர வரை வந்து மீன்பிடிக்க வருவார்கள். இதனால் இந்திய கடற்கரையோர சிறிய மீனவர்கள்

## மீனவர்கள்

### வேலை நிறுத்தம்

தினமலர் - 5-2-94

நாகப்பட்டினம், பி.7—  
மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்கடல் மீன்பிடிப்பு கொள்கையை எதிர்த்து தேசிய மீனவர்களும், சிறிய இயந்திரப் படகு இயக்குபவர்களும் சங்கமும் 4.2.94 ஒரு நாள் அடையாள வேலைநிறுத்தப் போராட்டம் செய்தனர்.

இதன்படி நாகை காரைமாவட்ட மீனவ மக்கள் கோடியக்கரை முதல் கொடியம்பாளையம் வரையிலும் காரைக்கால் மாவட்டத்திலுள்ள மண்டபத்தூர் முதல் திருமலைராயன்பட்டினம் வரையிலான அனைத்து மீனவ கிராமங்களும் 4.2.94 அன்று காலை 6 மணி முதல் மாலை 6 மணி வரை ஒரு நாள் முழு வேலைநிறுத்தம் செய்தனர்.

பாதிக்கப்படுவார்கள் என அகில இந்திய மீனவர்கள் சம்மேளனம் மத்திய அரசுக்கு எதிர்ப்பு தெரிவித்தது.

இதனை வலியுறுத்தும் வகையில் கடந்த 4ம் தேதி இந்தியா முழுவதும் மீன்பிடிக்க கடலுக்கு செல்லாமல் வேலைநிறுத்தம் செய்ய அழைப்பு விடுக்கப்பட்டது. இதன்படி வேதாரண்யம் பகுதியை சேர்ந்த கோடியக்கரை, ஆறுகாட்டுத்தறை, புட்பலனம், வெள்ளப்பள்ளம், மணியம் தீவு, சிறுதலைக்காடு, சிந்தாமணிக்காடு, ஆகிய மீனவ கிராமங்களை சேர்ந்த சுமார் 30 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் கடலுக்கு மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லாமல் வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர். மீனவர்களின் இந்த ஒருநாள் வேலைநிறுத்தத்தினால் கடல் உணவு உற்பத்தியில் சுமார் 10 லட்சம் ரூபாய் வருமானம் இழப்பு ஏற்பட்டதாக மீனவர்கள் கருத்து தெரிவித்தனர்.

# தீன மலர்

நிறுவனர் : டி. வி. ராமசுப்பையர்  
பிப்ரவரி 5 1994



மீனவர் ஸ்டிகரைக் காரணமாக சின்ன முட்டம் துறைமுகத்தில் மீன் பிடிக்க செல்லாமல் வரிசையாக நிறுத்தப்பட்டிருந்த விசை படகுகள்.

## மீனவர்கள் அகில இந்திய ஸ்டிகரைக் குமரியில் 25 ஆயிரம் பேர் பங்கேற்பு

தாகைரேவில், பிப்.5— மத்திய அரசின் ஆழ்க் கடல் மீன்பிடிப்பு திட்டத்தை கண்டித்து நேற்று அகில இந்திய அளவில் மீனவர்கள் ஸ்டிகரைக் செய்தனர். கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டத்தில் சுமார் 25 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் இதில் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

மத்திய அரசின் எட்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டு திட்டத்தின் கீழ் ஆழ்க் கடல் மீன்பிடிப்பு திட்டத்தை செயல்படுத்தியுள்ளது. இதன் மூலம் வெளிநாட்டு செலவாணியை அதிகரிக்கும் எண்ணத்தில் சுமார் 2 ஆயிரத்து 500க்கும் மேற்பட்ட வெளிநாட்டு கப்பல்கள் இந்திய கடல் பகுதிகளில் மீன் பிடி தொழிலை செய்ய உள்ளன. இத்திட்டத்தினால் மீன் உற்பத்தி, இறக்குமதி தொழிலாளர்கள் உள்நாட்டு மீன் வியாபாரமும், மீன்பிடி தொழிலை நம்பி கொண்டிருக்கும் இந்திய கடலோர மாநிலங்களும், மீன்பிடி தொழில் செய்யும் கட்டுமரம், வளளம், விசைப்படகு கொழிவு மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்படும்.

என மீனவர் சங்கங்கள் எதிர்ப்பு தெரிவித்துள்ளன. இத்திட்டத்தின் மூலம் இந்திய துறைமுகங்களில் மீன் ஏற்றுமதி தொழிலாளர்களும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள நிலை உருவாகும். மீனவர்கள், மீன் உணவு உண்பவர்கள், மீன்வியாபாரிகளை பாதிப்பதோடு உள்நாட்டில் மீன் வரத்து குறையும்.

எனவே மத்திய அரசின் இந்த ஆழ்க் கடல் மீன்பிடிப்பு திட்டத்தை கண்டித்து அகில இந்திய அளவில் நேற்று ஒரு நாள் ஸ்டிகரைக் நடத்த பல்வேறு சங்கங்கள் அழைப்பு விடுத்தன. இதனால் நேற்று மீன்பிடி தொழிலாளர்கள் இந்த ஸ்டிகரைக் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டத்தில் கடலோரப் பகுதிகளான முட்டம், மேலமணக்குடி, கீழமணக்குடி, சின்னமுட்டம், சின்னத்துறை, குளச்சல், கன்னியாகுமரி உட்பட சுமார் 50 மீனவ குடியங்கள் உள்ளன. இப்பகுதிகளில் யாரும் கடலில் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. வளளம், கட்டுமரம், விசைப்படகு உட்பட மீன்பிடி வாகனங்களும் கடலுக்கு மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. கடலோரத்தில் இந்த வாகனங்கள் நிறுத்தி வைக்கப்பட்டு மீன் வியாபாரமும் நடக்கவில்லை.

கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டத்தில் சுமார் 25 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் இந்த ஸ்டிகரைக்கில் கலந்து கொண்டனர். கன்னியாகுமரி: கன்னியாகுமரி பகுதியில் மீனவர் பந்த முழுமையாக அறம்படிக்கப்பட்டது. கன்னியாகுமரி, சின்னமுட்டம், கோவளம், ஆரோக்கியபுரம், மணக்குடி பகுதிகளில் மீனவர்கள் கடலில் மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லவில்லை.

இப்பகுதிகளில் மீன் மார்க்கெட்டுகள் வெறட்செய்ய கிடந்தது. சின்ன முட்டம் துறைமுகத்தில் சுமார் 100 விசைப்படகுகள் மற்றும் 2 ஆயிரத்து நூற்று மேற்பட்ட கட்டுமரங்கள் மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லவில்லை.





SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1994

## Fishing activities suspended

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Feb. 4

Members of the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) marched to the Secretariat here on Friday, as part of the all-India fisheries bandh, in protest against the Centre's fisheries policy.

Traditional fishermen and vendors suspended work for a day. The mechanised boats, operating from Kollam, were also not put to sea. According to the chairman of NFF, Mr. Thomas Kocherry, the Government had already issued 49 individual licences and signed four joint ventures. These were effected in the light of the proposals made by the Technology Mission to grant licences to 2653 deep-sea fishing vessels, having a length ranging from 14 metre to 40 metre and a capacity between 500 BHP and 2000 BHP.

A memorandum of understanding was also recently signed with a Mexican company to start a project costing 50 million dollars. He said the 148 fishing vessels based in Vishakhapatnam had incurred a debt of Rs 100 crores. Of these, only 20 vessels were making a profit. As commercially profitable varieties of fish were not available in the deep sea, the vessels had resorted to fishing in the terrestrial waters. This had recently created tension in West Bengal when traditional fishermen clashed with operators of mechanised boats.

He added that the opening of the seas to foreign vessels would pose a threat to the sovereignty of the country.

## Fishermen observe bandh

The Hindu  
5-2-94  
From Our Staff Reporter

TIRUNELVELI, Feb. 4.

More than 75,000 fishermen using mechanised boats, country boats, vallams etc., in the districts of Tirunelveli Kattabomman, Chidmbaranar and Kanyakumari did not go for fishing and observed a bandh today to protest against the Central Government's deep fishing policy. Small fish stalls too remained closed.

The call for the bandh was given by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) in collaboration with small mechanised boat operators. According to the fishermen, the present policy would lead to destruction of fish resources, endangering their sustenance. They opposed the joint deep sea fishing foreign ventures, all of which according to them were cent per cent export-oriented. The new liberalised investment policies have removed all barriers for foreign entrepreneurs to invest in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. They demanded a new deep sea fishing policy.

Our Nagapattinam Correspondent writes:

About 20,000 fishermen hailing from 54 coastal villages of Nagai-Quaid-e-Milleth district boycotted fishing today from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in response to the call of National Fishworkers Forum.

About 30,000 workers connected with the fishing industry were affected on account of the bandh.

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# கதிரவன்

NELLAI KADIRAVAN

5-2-94

KATHIRAVAN

5-2-94

Sakhi Farhayspeple Nvike  
Kik, Nellen A Voc Otr.

## குமரி, சிதம்பரனார், நெல்லை மாவட்டங்களில் 1 லட்சம் மீனவர்கள் வேலைநிறுத்தம்

நாகர்கோவில், பிப். 5-

நெல்லை, குமரி, சிதம்பரனார் மாவட்டங்களில் 1 லட்சம் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தப் போராட்டத்தில் கலந்து கொண்டனர். இவர்கள் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.

மீன்பிடித்தல், மீன் விற்பனை ஆகியவற்றுக்கான கூட்டு திட்டத்தை 117 நாடுகள் ஜெனீவாவில் கூடி ஒப்பந்தம் செய்து உள்ளது. இத்திட்டம் செயல்படுத்தும் போது இந்தியாவில் உள்ள அனைத்து மீனவர்களும் மீன்பிடித் தொழில் இல்லாத பாதிக்கும் அவல நிலை ஏற்படும்.

புதிய திட்டப்படி கடலில் மீன்கள் எந்தப் பகுதியில் உள்ளது என்பதை செயற்கை கோள் மூலம் கண்டறிப்பார்கள். அந்தப் பகுதியில் கப்பல்களில் சென்று மீன்பிடிப்பார்கள். இதனால் சாதாரண உள்நாட்டு மீனவர்கள் மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்படும் நிலை ஏற்படும்.

புதிய திட்டத்தின் படி மீன்பிடிக்க 3 ஆயிரத்து 630 கப்பல்கள் பயன்படுத்தப்படும் என்று கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதனால் கர்நாடகம், தமிழ்நாடு, கேரளா, ஆந்திரா உள்ளிட்ட 9 தென் மாநில மீனவர்கள் அங்கு பாதிக்கப்படலாம்.

மேலும் கூட்டு திட்டப்படி 50 மீட்டர் ஆழ்கடலிலும் மீன்பிடிக்கப்படுவதால் பருவ காலங்களில் கரையோரம் வரும் மீன்களும் வராது. இதனால் சாதாரண உள்நாட்டு மீனவர்கள் பாதிக்கப்படுவர். எனவே உள்நாட்டு மீனவர்களின் வாழ்க்கைக்கு உலை வைக்கக் கூடிய 'கா' திட்டத்தை ரத்து செய்ய வேண்டுமென வலியுறுத்தி நேற்று (4-ந் தேதி) அகில இந்திய அளவில் மீனவர்கள் ஒரு நாள் வேலை நிறுத்தப் போராட்டம் நடத்தினர்.

குமரி மாவட்டம்

குமரி மாவட்டத்தில் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்யக் கேட்டு, கடலோர மக்கள் சங்கம் மற்றும் தமிழ்நாடு மீன்பிடித் தொழிலாளர் யூனியன் மற்றும் அமைப்புகள் கோரிக்கை விட்டிருந்தனர்.

அதன்படி நேற்று காலை 6 மணி முதல் மாலை 6 மணி வரையிலும் மீனவர்கள் யாரும் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. மாவட்டத்தில் மொத்தம் 42 மீனவர் கிராமம் உள்ளது. மீன்பிடித் தொழில் மற்றும் வியாபாரம் செய்பவர்கள் 50 ஆயிரம் பேர் உள்ளனர்.

இவர்கள் ஒட்டுமொத்தமாக வேலை நிறுத்தப் போராட்டத்தில் கலந்து கொண்டனர். சின்னமுட்டம், கன்னியாகுமரி, கோவளம், ஆரோக்கியபுரம், உழமணக்குடி, மேலயணக்குடி, பள்ளம், ராஜாகமங்கலத்துறை, கடியப்பட்டணம், மண்டைக்காடு, குளச்சல், கோடிமுனை, இளையம், தேங்காய்பட்டணம், புத்தத்துறை, தூத்தூர், சின்னத்துறை, வள்ளலிளை, தீரோடி என்பட அனைத்துக் கடற்கரை கிராமங்களை சேர்ந்த மீனவர்களும் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.

கட்டுமரங்கள் கரையோரம் நிறுத்தப்பட்டிருந்தது.

நேற்று முன் தினம் இரவு முதலே பெரும்பான்மையான மீனவர்கள் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. இதனால் நேற்று காலை மற்றும் மாலை வேளைகளில் கூடும் நாகர்கோவில் நகரின் கணை சபரம், இளங்கடை, ராமன்புதூர் ஆகிய 'மீன் மார்க்கெட்' களையிழந்து காணப்பட்டன.

இது சம்பந்தமாக தமிழ்நாடு மீன்பிடித் தொழிலாளர் யூனியன் தலைவர் கான்ஸ்டன் டைன் கூறியதாவது:-

தமிழகத்தில் மீனவர் பந்த முழு வெற்றி அடைந்துள்ளது. குமரி மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள 42 மீனவ கிராமங்களை சேர்ந்த 50 ஆயிரம்

மீனவர் தொழிலாளர்கள் தொழிலை புறக்கணித்தனர். மீன்பிடிக்கவும் செல்லவில்லை. விற்பனைக்குச் செல்லவில்லை.

உள்நாட்டு மீனவர்களை பெருமளவில் பாதிக்கும் புதிய திட்டத்தை மத்திய அரசு உடனடியாக கைவிட வேண்டும்.

இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.

நெல்லை மாவட்டம்

நெல்லை மாவட்டத்தில் உவரி, கூட்டப்பனை, கூடுதாறை, இடித்தகரை, பெருமணல், கூட்டப்பூளி ஆகிய முக்கிய கடற்பகுதிகளில் மீனவர்கள் மீன்பிடிக்கச் செல்லவில்லை. 3 ஆயிரத்திற்கு மேற்பட்ட கட்டுமரங்களும் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான எந்திரப் படகுகளும் கடற்கரையில் நிறுத்தப்பட்டன. 25 ஆயிரத்துக்கு மேற்பட்ட மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்தனர்.

இதனால் மீன் சந்தை வியாபாரம் பாதிக்கப்பட்டது. மீன் உணவு நேற்று விடுதிகளில் இடைக்கவில்லை. தந்தைக்குடி, கன்னியாகுமரி பகுதிகளிலிருந்து வெளிநாடுகளுக்கு செய்யப்படும் இறால் ஏற்றுமதி பாதிக்கப்பட்டது.

சிதம்பரனார் மாவட்டம்

சிதம்பரனார் மாவட்டத்திலும் மீனவர்கள் நேற்று 'பந்த' நடத்தினார்கள். மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. கடற்கரை வெறிச்சோடிக்கிடந்தது. தாத்துக்குடி, பெரியதாறை, மணப்பாடு, புன்னக்காயல் ஆகிய பகுதிகளில் உள்ள மீனவர்கள் யாரும் மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.

சிதம்பரனார் மாவட்டத்தில் 25 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

2064 வள்ளல்களும், 817 கட்டுமரங்களும், 158 எந்திர படகுகளும் கடற்கரையில் காணப்பட்டன. வேலை நிறுத்தம் காரணமாக மீன் ஏற்றுமதி பாதிக்கப்பட்டது.

# மாலை மலர்

4-2-94

நெல்லை - சிதம்பரனார் - குமரியில்

## 75 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் இன்று 'பந்த'

குமரிமுனை, பிப் 4-  
நெல்லை, சிதம்பரனார்.  
குமரி மாவட்டத்தில்  
இன்று காலை 75 ஆயிரம்  
மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்த  
போராட்டத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.  
இதனால் எந்திர படகுகள்  
கட்டுமரங்கள் கடலுக்கு மீன்  
பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.

### அனுமதி

இந்திய கடல் பகுதிக்குள்  
வேளிநாட்டு கப்பல்கள் மீன்  
பிடிக்க அனுமதியை மத்திய  
சுரசு வழங்கி இருப்பதை  
கண்டித்து இந்தியா முழுவதும்  
இன்று மீனவர்கள் வேலை

நிறுத்த போராட்டத்தில் ஈடு  
பட்டனர்.

### நெல்லை, சிதம்பரனார்

நெல்லை, சிதம்பரனார் குமரி,  
மாவட்டத்திலும் இன்று  
காலை இந்த வேலை நிறுத்தம்  
தொடங்கியது. நெல்லை,  
சிதம்பரனார் மாவட்டத்தை  
சேர்ந்த கட்டுமர, இடந்திர  
படகு மீனவர்கள் சுமார் 50  
ஆயிரம் பேர் தங்கள் படகு  
களை கரையில் நிறுத்தி  
வைத்து உள்ளனர். யாரும் மீன்  
பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.  
இதனால் கடற்கரை பகுதி  
முழுவதும் படகுகளாக காட்சி  
கொள்கிறது. சில மீனவர்கள்  
தங்கள் வலை, படகுகளை  
பழுது பாக்கும் பணியில்

ஈடுபட்டு இருந்தனர். மீனவ  
சிறுவர்கள் படகுகளில் ஓடி  
பிடித்து விளையாடி கொண்டு  
இருந்தனர். வயதான மீனவர்கள்  
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எப்போதும் கவசப்பாக  
மீன் வாங்குவோர் விற்போர்  
கூட்டம் காணப்படும்  
கடற்கரை பகுதிகள் வெறிச்  
சோடி கிடந்தது.

### குமரி

குமரி மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள  
கடற்கரை கிராமங்களான  
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சின்னமுட்டம் ஆரோக்கிய  
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கீழமணக்குடி, பள்ளம்,  
முட்டம், வள்ளலிளை, தூத்  
தூர், சின்னதுறை, குளச்சல்,  
கோடிமுனை, இணையம்  
-த்தனிதுறை, மண்டைக்காடு  
உள்பட ஏராளமான கடற்கரை

கிராமங்களை சேர்ந்த  
மீனவர்கள் இந்த வேலை  
நிறுத்தத்தில் கலந்து கொண்

டனர்.

### 25 ஆயிரம் பேர்

சுமார் 25 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள்  
கலந்து கொண்டனர். யாரும்  
இன்று கடலுக்கு மீன் பிடிக்க  
செல்லவில்லை. எந்திர  
படகுகளோ, கட்டுமரங்களோ  
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இன்று மீன் வியாபாரம்  
இல்லை.

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# தீனத்தீனத்

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கேரளாவில்

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வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்

குற்றாலம் ரோட்டரி  
சங்கம் சார்பில்

பள்ளிக்கு உதவிகள்

பீட்டர் அல்போன்ஸ்  
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பாட்டா குறிச்சி என்ற  
கிராமத்தை தத்து எடுத்து  
பல்வேறு உதவிகளை  
செய்து வருகிறது. இங்குள்ள  
பஞ்சாயத்து யூனியன்  
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டது.  
இப்பள்ளியில் டெலிவிஷன்  
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வர் ஆர். சிவராமிசுவாமி  
வரவேற்று பேசினார்.  
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எல். ஏ. பீட்டர் அல்போன்ஸ்  
விழாவில் கலந்து கொண்டு,  
பஞ்சாயத்து யூனியன் சார்  
பில் பள்ளிக்கு ஒரு டெலி

னார்

வேலை நிறுத்தம்

வெளிநாட்டு மீன்பிடி படகுகளும், கப்பல்களும் இந்திய கடற்பகுதியில் மீன்பிடிக்க சமீபத்தில் மத்திய அரசு அனுமதி வழங்கியது.  
இதற்கு இந்தியா முழுவதும் உள்ள மீனவர்கள் எதிர்ப்பு தெரிவித்து வருகிறார்கள். தங்கள்

விஷயம், ரோட்டரி சங்கம் சார்பில் பெண்களும் வழங்கினார். பெண்களுக்கு கான செலவினை ரோட்டரி சங்க உறுப்பினர் ஏ. கே. சுப்புக்கனிநாடார் ஏற்றுக் கொண்டார்.

விழாவில் தென்காசி யூனியன் அதிகாரி எஸ். எஸ். பிரமநாயகம், டாக்டர்கள் கிருஷ்ணமூர்த்தி, செண்பக ராமன், ரோட்டரி சங்க மாவட்ட செயலாளர் டி. ஏ. நெல்லை நாயகம், சுப்பா ராயது, பி. சிதம்பரம் பிள்ளை, கோமதிநாயகம் ஸ்ரீசங்கர், ராமையா உள்பட பலர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.  
பள்ளியில் 9 தென்னங் கன்றுகள் நடப்பட்டன. விழா ஏற்பாடுகளை பாட்டா குறிச்சி பி. சுப்பிரமணியன் செய்து இருந்தார். முடிவில், சங்க செயலாளர் ஏ. கே. எஸ். கல்யாணசுமார் நன்றி கூறினார்.

கண்டனத்தை தெரிவிக்கும் வகையில் இந்தியா முழுவதும் நேற்று மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.

கேரளா

கேரளாவிலும் மீனவர்களின் வேலை நிறுத்தம் நேற்று நடந்தது. ஆயிரக் கணக்கான மீனவர்கள் நேற்று மீன்பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை.

திருவனந்தபுரத்தில் நேற்று மீனவர்கள் ஊர்வலம் நடந்தது. இதில் திரளான மீனவர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர். மீனவர்கள் தலைமை செயலகத்துக்கு ஊர்வலமாக சென்று மனு கொடுத்தார்கள்.

கேரளாவில் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம் முழு அளவில் நடந்ததாக மீனவா சங்க தலைவர் தாமஸ் கொச்சேரி தெரிவித்தார்.

# தீனத்தீனத்

நின்று நன்னடை நோக்கொண்ட பாவை நிலத்தில் யாக்கும் அஞ்சாத நெறிகள்

மதுரை - திங்கள்கிழமை - பிப்ரவரி 7, 1994

மீனவர்கள்

வேலை நிறுத்தம்

திருநெல்வேலி, பிப். 6-  
மத்திய அரசின் மீன்பிடிப்புக் கொள்கையைக் கண்டித்து, திருநெல்வேலி கட்டப்பொம்மன் மாவட்டத்தில் சுமார் 20 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் வெள்ளியன்று வேலை நிறுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.



நிர்வாகனம்  
5.2.44

Bandh in K-6 100  
Tamilnadu



பேற்று மீனவர்கள் கடலுக்கு மீன் பிடிக்க செல்லவில்லை. இதனால் சின்ன முட்டம் கடற்கரையில் படகுகள், கட்டுமரங்கள் கரையில் நிறுத்தப்பட்டுள்ள காட்சி.

குமரி மாவட்டத்தில்

## 25 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம்

குமரிமுனையில்  
கடை அடைப்பு

குமரிமுனை, பி.பி. 5-  
குமரி மாவட்டத்தில் 25  
ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள்  
நேற்று வேலை நிறுத்த  
போராட்டத்தில் ஈடுபட்ட  
னர். குமரிமுனையில்  
கடை அடைப்பும் நடந்  
து.

வேலைநிறுத்தம்

இந்திய கடல் பகுதியில்  
வெளிநாட்டுக் கப்பல்கள் மீன்  
பிடிக்க அனுமதி வழங்கும் மத்  
திய அரசின் "டப்கல்" திட்ட  
தடை கண்டித்து நேற்று இந்  
தியா முழுவதும் மீனவர்கள்  
வேலை நிறுத்த போராட்ட  
த்தில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.

குமரி மாவட்டத்திலும்  
நேற்று மீனவர்கள் வேலை  
நிறுத்தபோராட்டத்தில் ஈடு  
பட்டனர்.

குமரி மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள  
கடற்கரை கிராமங்களான கும  
ரிமுனை, சின்னமுட்டம்,  
ஆரோக்கியபுரம், கோவளம்,  
சீழமணக்குடி, மேலமணக்குடி,  
முட்டம், பள்ளம், தூத்துார், சின்  
னத்துறை, குளச்சல், குழும்  
பனை, இணையம், ராஜாக்கமங்  
கலமதுறை, கடியபட்டணம்,  
வள்ளவினை, கொட்டிப்பாடு,  
சேவனபுத்தத்துறை, மண  
டைக்காடு, உள்பட பல இடங்  
களில் உள்ள மீனவர்கள்  
நேற்று கடலுக்கு மீன் பிடிக்க  
செல்லவில்லைகாலை 6 மணி  
முதல் மாலை 6 மணி வரை  
இந்த வேலை நிறுத்தபோராட்  
டம் நடந்தது.

இதனால் குமரிமுனையை  
அடுத்து உள்ள சின்னமுட்டம்  
மீன்பிடி வுறைமுத்தில்

100க்கும் மேற்பட்ட இயந்திர  
படகுகள் கரையில் நிறுத்தி  
வைக்கப்பட்டு இருந்தன. இது  
தவிர குமரிமுனை, ஆரோக்கி  
யபுரம், கோவளம் போன்ற  
கடற்கரையில் 2 ஆயிரத்துக்கும்  
மேற்பட்ட கட்டுமரங்கள்  
நிறுத்தி வைக்கப்பட்டு இருந்

தன.

கடை அடைப்பு

குமரிமுனை கடற்கரை, மற  
றும் காந்தி பஜார் ஆகிய இடங்  
களில் உள்ள பெரும்பாலான  
கடைகளும் அடைக்கப்பட்டு  
இருந்தன. ஆட்டோக்களும் ஓட  
வில்லை. கடலில் யாரும் மீன்  
பிடிக்கச் செல்லாததால் மீன்  
சந்தைகளில் மீன் வியாபாரம்  
நடைபெறவில்லை. இதனால்  
மீன் சந்தை வெறிச்சோடி  
காணப்பட்டது.

கணைப்புரம்

நாகர்கோவில் கணைப்பு  
ரத்தில் உள்ள மீன் மார்க்கெட்  
மூலம் நேற்று மீன் வியாபாரம்  
நடைபெறவில்லை.

25 ஆயிரம் மீனவர்கள்

குமரி மாவட்டத்தில் மட்டும்  
மொத்தம் 25 ஆயிரம் மீன்  
வர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்த  
போராட்டத்தில் கலந்து  
கொண்டனர்.

**SECTION II**  
**WEST BENGAL**

FEBRUARY 5 1994

## Gujarat fishermen go on day-long strike

Our Senior Correspondent  
AHMEDABAD

Backed by the state government, fishermen along the Gujarat coast went on a day's strike yesterday to protest against foreign vessels fishing in Indian waters, thus depriving them of their only means of livelihood.

Under charter and joint venture programmes, the Centre has allowed trawlers from Taiwan and Hong Kong to fish in Indian waters.

This has threatened the very existence of the local fishermen who depend on fishing for their livelihood.

Earlier, to encourage fishing along the long coastline, the state government had provided fishermen with boats and subsidised nets, houses, fuel, walkie talkies and other accessories necessary to promote the trade.

Now the foreign trawlers are virtually catching all the fish and leaving the local fishermen with empty nets.

In the wake of yesterday's strike, industries minister Sashikant Lakhani told reporters that he wrote to Tarun Gogoi, Union minister of state for food processing, for help.

He pointed out that the permissions granted by the Centre were having an adverse effect on the local fishing community.

Gujarat produces over 6.10 lakh tonnes of fish amounting to a foreign exchange earning of Rs 241 crore.

The minister feared that the entry of foreign trawlers in Indian waters will make the country lose value addition and forex earnings. It would also lead to the closure of several existing processing houses.

He regretted that the state government was not consulted when the Centre issued the charter and joint venture permissions.

## All-India stir by fisheries tomorrow

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

*The Telegraph* 3.2.93

■ New Delhi, Feb. 2: For the first time, traditional fishworkers throughout the country will go on a day's strike on February 4. As a result, there will be no fishing, fish landing and selling on that day.

The fisheries bandh has been organised by the National Fishworkers' Forum and the Small Mechanised Boat Operators Associations to protest against the Centre's new deep sea fishing policy.

The policy is aimed at augmenting fish production and seafood earnings by allowing deep sea fishing by large foreign and Indian companies. They are demanding a change in policy to favour traditional and small fishworkers.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 5 1994

**FISHERIES STRIKE:** Fish markets remained closed yesterday and fishermen stayed ashore throughout Kerala as they joined the nation-wide 'fisheries bandh' called by the National Fishworkers Forum, reports UNI. It was to protest against the Centre's reported move to open the seas to foreign trawlers. Fishworkers marched to the state secretariat in Thiruvananthapuram demanding a review of this policy. Forum chairman Thomas Kocherry said the bandh was total in West Bengal, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 5, 1994

## Fishermen observe bandh

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Feb. 4.** — Fishermen and fishery workers in different States observed a bandh today, protesting against the Centre's policy on deep-sea fishing, reports UNI. They claimed the policy was against the fishermen's interests.

The bandh was called by the National Fish Workers' Forum — a united body of fish workers' trade unions in the country. The NFF chairman, Mr Thomas Kocherry, said the bandh had been a success. In Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and West Bengal, workers belonging to the mechanized sector had not gone out to sea, he said. Fishermen in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh had also responded to the bandh, Mr Kocherry added.

# কেন্দ্রীয় নীতির বিরুদ্ধে দেশজুড়ে মৎস্য বন্ধ সর্বাত্মক

স্টাফ রিপোর্টার : সারা দেশেই শুক্রবারের 'মৎস্য বন্ধ' সর্বাত্মক ও সফল হয়েছে বলে দাবি করেছে ন্যাশনাল ফিশারিয়ার্স ফোরাম বা এন এফ এফ। সংবাদসংগ্রহগুলির খবর অনুযায়ীও এদিন বিভিন্ন রাজ্যে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের গভীর সমুদ্রে মৎস্য শিকার নীতির প্রতিবাদে মৎসাজীবী ও মৎস্য শ্রমিকেরা ২৪ ঘণ্টার বন্ধ পালন করেছেন। পশ্চিমবঙ্গের শিয়ালদহ, হাওড়া, ডায়মন্ডহারবার, কাকদ্বীপ সহ বিভিন্ন মৎসাকেন্দ্রে ছাড়াও মহারাষ্ট্র, গুজরাট, গোয়া, কেবল, কর্ণাটক, তামিলনাড়ু, অন্ধ্রপ্রদেশের প্রায় সব মৎসাকেন্দ্রেই এদিন বন্ধ পালিত হয়েছে। কেন্দ্রের নতুন মৎস্য শিকার নীতির ফলে মৎসাজীবী ও মৎস্য শ্রমিকেরা জীবিকাচ্যুত ও মৎসাক্রেতাররা ভীষণভাবে বঞ্চিত হবে বলে অভিযোগ জানিয়ে এন এফ এফের পক্ষে টমাস কোচ্চেরি এদিন মন্তব্য করেন, সরকারি এই নীতি সংবিধানের একুশ ধারার বিরোধিতা করেছে। এদিন এন এফ এফের ডাক বন্ধের শেষে সংগঠনের চেয়ারম্যান তিব্বনপুপুরমের সরকারি সেক্রেটারিয়েটের সামনে এক ধরনায় আরও জানান, যেভাবে বিদেশী নৌযানগুলিকে ভারতীয় সমুদ্রে প্রবেশাধিকার দেওয়া হচ্ছে তা দেশের সার্বভৌমত্বকেও বিপদগ্রস্ত করবে। পশ্চিমবঙ্গে এই বন্ধে অংশ নেয় দক্ষিণ বাংলা মৎসাজীবী ফোরাম (পংবঃ), সুন্দরবন মৎসাজীবী প্রমিক ইউনিয়ন ও কাকদ্বীপ ফিশারমেন্স অ্যাসোসিয়েশন।

আই এন এর খবর : মেদিনীপুর জেলায় 'মৎস্য বন্ধ' সর্বাত্মক ও সফল হয়েছে। শুক্রবার সকাল থেকে মেদিনীপুরের সমুদ্র উপকূলবর্তী জুনপুট, জলখা, দীঘা, শঙ্করপুর প্রভৃতি মৎস্যবন্দরে মাছ ধরা বন্ধ ছিল। সাধারণ মানুষের কাছে এই বন্ধ ছিল অভিনব ও বিস্ময়ের। উল্লেখ্য, ন্যাশনাল ফিশারিয়ার্স ফোরাম ভারতীয় সমুদ্রে বিদেশী জলদস্যুদের হামলা ও বহুজাতিক সংস্থাকে সমুদ্রে অবাধে মাছ ধরার অনুমতি দেওয়ার প্রতিবাদে এই বন্ধের ডাক দিয়েছিল। জেলা প্রশাসন জানিয়েছে, বন্ধকে কেন্দ্র করে কোনও অপ্রীতিকর ঘটনার খবর নেই।

শুক্রবার সকাল থেকে মেদিনীপুরের মৎসাজীবীরা ছিলেন ছুটির মেজাজে। কোনও কোনও এলাকায় সাধারণ মানুষও এই বন্ধ পালনে সাহায্য করেছে। জেলা মৎসাজীবী উন্নয়ন সমিতির সম্পাদক ডাকুচরণ ধাক্টা দাবি করেন, সারা জেলায় মৎস্যশিকার কেন্দ্রগুলিতে কেউ মাছ ধরেনি।

# 'মৎস্য-বন্ধ' ২ ফেব্রুয়ারি

কাঁথি, ২২ জানুয়ারি (আই এন এ) : মৎসাজীবীদের সর্বভারতীয় সংগঠন ফিশারম্যান ন্যাশনাল ফোরাম আগামী ২ ফেব্রুয়ারি সারা দেশে 'মৎস্য-বন্ধ'র ডাক দিয়েছে। বন্ধের অপরিহার্য কর্মসূচি অনুযায়ী এদিন মৎসাজীবীরা মাছ ধরবেন না এবং মাছ বিক্রি করবেন না। ফোরামের সম্পাদক টম কোচারি মৎসাজীবীদের অন্যান্য সংগঠনগুলিকেও এই বন্ধ কর্মসূচি পালন করার আহ্বান জানিয়েছেন।

ভারতবর্ষের সমুদ্র-সীমায় চুকে বহিরাগত টুলারগুলি যেভাবে দিনের পর দিন মাছ লুট করে নিয়ে যাচ্ছে এবং প্রচুর ছোট মাছ নষ্ট করছে তার ফলে সমুদ্রে মৎস্যসমৃদ্ধ সৃষ্টি হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা দেখা দিয়েছে। বিশেষ করে থাইল্যান্ড, মালয়েশিয়া, ইন্দোনেশিয়া ও বাংলাদেশি টুলারগুলির বারবার হানায় তখনই হয়ে যাচ্ছে সামুদ্রিক পরিবেশ। টুলারগুলি বাছাই মাছ ধরে নিয়ে কুইটালের পর কুইটাল ছোট আকারের

মাছ মেরে সমুদ্রে ভাসিয়ে দিচ্ছে। সারা বছর ধরে সমুদ্র তোলপাড় করায় এবং অসংখ্য মাছ মেরে ফেলায় মাছদের প্রজনন ও বংশবিস্তারের ক্ষেত্রে সমস্যা বিরাট আকার ধারণ করেছে। এই সমস্যা প্রতিরোধ করার ব্যাপারে সরকার উদাসীন বলেই প্রতিবাদ জানাতে ফোরাম জাতীয় স্তরে এই বন্ধের ডাক দিয়েছে।

ফোরামের দ্বিতীয় দাবি, কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার বহুজাতিক সংস্থাকে দু'হাজার 'ডিপ সি ভেসেল' ভারতীয় সমুদ্রে নামানোর জন্য যে প্রতিশ্রুতি দিয়েছেন তা বাতিল করতে হবে। এই সমস্ত শক্তিশালী যত্নযানগুলি গভীর সমুদ্রে অনায়াসে হানা দিতে পারবে এবং সহজেই ধরে নিতে পারবে ৬০ থেকে ৭০ শতাংশ মাছ। এ ফলে দেশীয় মৎসাজীবীরাও সমুদ্র বিপদের সম্ভাবনা।

কাঁথি মহল্লায় ৮টি মৎসাজীবী উন্নয়ন সমিতি আগামী ২ ফেব্রুয়ারি ফিশারম্যান ন্যাশনাল ফোরামের আয়োজিত 'মৎস্য-বন্ধ'-এ शामिल হওয়ার সিদ্ধান্ত নিয়েছে। সমিতির সম্পাদক মৎসাজীবী নেতা ডাকুচরণ ধাক্টা এবং সহযোগী সংস্থা মানবসম্পদ ইকাশ ফোরামের প্রতিনিধি সমাজকর্মী রাজেশ্বর পাণ্ডা জানানলেন, ফিশারম্যান ন্যাশনাল ফোরাম যে দাবি তুলেছে তা অত্যন্ত যুক্তিসঙ্গত।

## মাছধরায় বন্ধ 3 Feb.

স্টাফ রিপোর্টার : আগামী ৪ ফেব্রুয়ারি সকাল ৬টা থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৭ পর্যন্ত মাছধরা ও মৎস্য সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় কার্যক্রম সম্পূর্ণ বন্ধ থাকবে। ভারতের গভীর সমুদ্রে মৎস্য শিকারের জন্যে ২২০০টি বিদেশী জাহাজকে লাইসেন্স দেবার প্রতিবাদে এই বন্ধ ডাকা হয়েছে। শুধুরা এক প্রেস বিবৃতিতে একথা জানিয়েছে ন্যাশনাল ফিশারিয়ার্স ফোরামের সাধারণ সম্পাদক হরেশ্বর দেবনাথ।



## ‘মৎস্য বন্ধ’-এর ডাক আজ

স্টাফ রিপোর্টার : আজ, শুক্রবার কলকাতায় ‘মৎস্য বন্ধ’-এর ডাক দিয়েছে ন্যাশনাল ফিস ওয়াকার্স ফোরাম। এই সংগঠনের মৎস্যজীবীরা মূলত সামুদ্রিক মাছ ধরা ও বিক্রি-বাটার সঙ্গে যুক্ত। ফলে তাঁদের ডাকা ‘মৎস্য বন্ধ’-এর ফলে কলকাতা ও হাওড়ার বাজারে সামুদ্রিক মাছ-আসা অনিশ্চিত হলেও, সাধারণ মাছের জ্বর-বিক্রয়ের উপর তাই বন্ধের প্রভাব পড়বে না বলে স্থানীয় ব্যবসায়ীরা জানিয়েছেন। জ্বরতের গভীর সমুদ্রে দু হাজারেরও বেশি বিদেশি জাহাজকে মাছ ধরার লাইসেন্স দেওয়ার প্রতিবাদে বন্ধ ডাকা হয়েছে। মৎস্যমন্ত্রী, কিরণময় নন্দ বলেছেন, রাজ্য সরকার বন্ধের বিরোধিতা করছেন না। সমর্থনও করছেন না। তাঁর মতে, যে দাবিতে বন্ধ ডাকা হয়েছে তা যুক্তিসঙ্গত।

বৃহস্পতিবার কলকাতা-হাওড়ার মাছের বড় বাজারগুলি ঘুরে জানা গিয়েছে, শুক্রবার মিঠে জলের মাছ বিক্রি বন্ধ থাকবে না। প্যাতিপুকুর বাজার মাছের বড় আড়ত। প্যাতিপুকুর বাজার ব্যবসায়ী সমিতির তরফে অর্পণ সরকার জানান : “বন্ধ নিয়ে কোনও সার্কুলার পাইনি। নোনা জলের মাছ না-এলেও একদিন খুব ক্ষতি হবে না। শুক্রবার মাছ যথারীতি বিক্রি হবে।” শিয়ালদহের কোলে মার্কেটে মাছের বড় বাজার। সার্কুলার যায়নি সেখানেও। ছাগলহাটা বাজার নামে পরিচিত মাছের বাজারে বৃহস্পতিবার ফিস ওয়াকার্স ফোরামের ‘মৎস্য বন্ধ’-এর পোস্টার দেখা যায়।

বিক্রেতারা অবশ্য জানান : মাছ বিক্রি বন্ধ নিয়ে কোনও সিদ্ধান্ত হয়নি। বন্ধের জন্য কাকতীপ, নামখানার মাছ না-ও আসতে পারে। একই কথা বলেছেন বৈঠকখানা বাজারের মাছ বিক্রেতারা। তাঁদের বক্তব্য হল : নোনা জলের মাছ না-এলেও রাজ্যের অসংখ্য পুকুর-ভেড়ির মাছ আসবেই।

## ২ ফেব্রুয়ারি মৎস্য বন্ধ

বোম্বাই ১৮ জানুয়ারি (পি টি আই) : আগামী ২ ফেব্রুয়ারি মৎস্য-বন্ধের ডাক দেওয়া হয়েছে। ওইদিন সারা দেশে জেলে এবং মৎস্য বিক্রেতারা মাছ বিক্রি করবেন না। ওইদিন তারা প্রতীকী ধর্মঘট পালন করবেন। ভারতের বিভিন্ন জলাশয়ে মাছ ধরার জন্য বহুজাতিক কোম্পানিগুলিকে লাইসেন্স দেওয়ার কেন্দ্রীয় সিদ্ধান্তের প্রতিবাদে জাতীয় ধীবর ফোরাম এই অভিনব বন্ধের ডাক দিয়েছে। উল্লেখ্য, ভারতের জলাশয়গুলিতে মাছ ধরার জন্য কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার বহুজাতিক সংস্থার জন্য ২ হাজার ৬ টি পারমিট অনুমোদন করেছে।

বর্তমান-  
৩০শে জানুয়ারি ১৯৪৮

## ৪ ফেব্রুয়ারি সারা দেশে মৎস্য বন্ধের ডাক

স্টাফ রিপোর্টার : মাছ ধরার ক্ষেত্রে বিদেশি বাণিজ্যিক সংস্থার ‘ঢালাও অনুপ্রবেশ’-এর প্রতিবাদে ন্যাশনাল ফিস ওয়াকার্স ফোরামে ৪ ফেব্রুয়ারি দেশ জুড়ে ‘মৎস্য বন্ধ’ ডেকেছে। ওই দিন দেশের কোথাও মাছ ধরা বা কেনা-বেচা, আমদানি-রপ্তানি কিছুই হবে না বলে ফোরাম জানিয়েছে। ফোরামের এই বন্ধকে সমর্থন জানিয়েছে দক্ষিণবঙ্গ মৎস্যজীবী ফোরাম, সুন্দরবন সামুদ্রিক মৎস্যজীবী শ্রমিক ইউনিয়ন, কাঁধি মহকুমা খুঁটি মৎস্যজীবী উন্নয়ন সমিতি, কাকতীপ মহিলা জাল শ্রমিক ইউনিয়ন প্রভৃতি সংগঠন।

## ওভারল্যান্ড



মৎস্য বন্দে কাজ বন্ধ জুনগুটেও। তাই ছুটির মেজাজে মৎস্যজীবীরা।

ছবি: সূতনু মাইতি (আই এন এ)

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Thomas Kocherry, 41/1771, Veekshanam Rd, Kochi-682010  
Tel: 370617, FAX: 0484-370914

Calcutta

February 4, 1994.

All India Fisheries Bandh successful in West Bengal. Reports collected from fish wholesale markets of Calcutta and Howrah indicate that no fish have come from estuarine and coastal fishing centres like Kakdwip, Namkhana, Diamond Harbour, Raidighi, Canning, Contai, Digha, Junput etc. Fish traders, whole-sellers and other fishermen organisations have sympathised with our cause. The State Fishery Minister has stated that the ground for All-India Fisheries Bandh is reasonable and justified. More news awaited from various fishing and landing centres.

HAREKRISHNA DEBNATH

## मत्स्य बन्ध सर्वात्मक, दारि

स्टाक रिपोर्टार: न्याशनल फिस ओयार्कर्स  
फोरामेर डाका 'मत्स्य बन्ध' उज्रवार गोटा  
देशे सफल एवं सर्वात्मक हयरेछे बले ओई  
फोराम दारि करेछे। शिरालदा, हण्डा,  
डायमण्डारवार सह देशेर विभिन्न बड  
पाइकारि ओ खुचरो बाजार एदिन, बन्ध ह्ये  
माह करार काजओ बन्ध हिल।

५२ अक्टूबरी १९९४  
शुक्रवार

## मत्स्य बन्ध शान्तिपूर्ण

मेदिनीपुरेर संबोधदाता : उज्रवार जेलाय मत्स्य  
बन्ध शान्तिपूर्णावे पालित हयरेछे। पञ्जाप  
हा. रेकरओ बेशि मत्स्यजीवीरा एई बन्धे आश  
नेय। मत्स्यजीवी उमरण समितिर डाके एई बन्ध  
पालित हयरेछे। एदिन डोर थेके नया, जूनपुट,  
सौला, शहरपुर, जलदा ह्युक्ति योटाते पाँच  
हाजारेरओ बेशि टूलार, लक एवं कुड़ि-पटिप  
हाजार नौका माह धरते बेरोयनि। मत्स्यजीवीरा  
एदिन बिकेले केहीर मत्री बलराम आथर ओ  
राज्य मत्स्यमत्री किरणमय नन्देर उद्देश्ये महकुमा  
शासकेर काहे डेपुटेशन सेन।

'सन्मार्ग' शनिवार, ५ फरवरी, १९९४

## देश - परदेश

### मछली बाजार बंद रहे

नयी दिल्ली, ४ फरवरी (वार्ता)।  
भारतीय समुद्री क्षेत्र मे विदेशी नौकाओं  
को अनुमति दिये जाने की सरकार की  
कथित योजना के विरोध में आज  
मछुआरे मछली पकड़ने समुद्र में नहीं  
गये और समूचे देश में मछली बाजार  
बंद रहे। राष्ट्रीय मछुआरा फोरम ने  
दावा किया कि अखिल भारतीय बंद  
महाराष्ट्र, केरल, गुजरात, गोआ और  
बंगाल में पूरी तरह सफल रहा और बंद  
के कारण मछली पकड़ने अथवा बेचने  
का कोई काम नहीं हुआ। बंद के कारण  
मछली बाजारों में कारोबार पूरी तरह ठप  
हो गया।

जनसत्ता, कलकत्ता, ५ फरवरी १९९४

## मछुआरों की हड़ताल रही

जनसत्ता संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, ४ फरवरी। विदेशी  
निजी कंपनियों को भारतीय क्षेत्र में  
मछली मारने की इजाजत देने से  
संबंधित केंद्र सरकार की नीतियों के  
खिलाफ शुक्रवार को मछुआरों ने देश  
भर में हड़ताल रखी। नेशनल फिश  
वर्कर्स फोरम ने हड़ताल को अपोल की  
थी।

फोरम के एक बयान में दावा किया  
गया है कि महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात, केरल,  
गोवा और पश्चिम बंगाल में मछुआरों  
की हड़ताल शत प्रतिशत सफल थी।  
तिरुअनंतपुरम में हजारों मछुआरों ने  
सरकार को मछुआरा नीति के खिलाफ  
जुलूस निकाला।

बयान में कहा गया है कि भारत के  
समुद्री क्षेत्र को विदेशी मछुआरों के  
जहाज के लिए खोलना देश की  
संप्रभुता के लिए खतरा है।

**SECTION II**  
**NEW DELHI**



# Coastal fishermen up in arms

FROM OUR SPECIAL  
CORRESPONDENT

**New Delhi, Oct. 15:** Traditional and small mechanised fishermen across the country's coastline are threatening a bandh if the Union government does not respond to their suggestions on the deep sea fishing policy. The bandh will affect 30 million fish eaters in the country. The date for the bandh has not yet been fixed.

Justifying their threat, the fisherfolk state that the government's decision to allow introduction of 2600 deep sea fishing vessels in the Indian waters and the recent rush by a number of large industrial houses to enter into deep sea fishing with foreign equity participation raises life and death issues for nearly seven million families involved in the fishing business.

"It will not only be a direct hit on the livelihood of traditional fisherfolk," says Father Thomas Kocherry, chairperson of the National Fish Worker's Forum, "and lead to increase in conflicts in India territorial and deep sea

waters but also cause overexploitation and environmental degradation in the seas."

The National Fish Worker's Forum, the apex body of fisherfolks' unions across the country, including West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kerala, is demanding that the government instead encourage the small fishermen to enter deep waters for harvesting the resources by providing support structure for them. The facilities being demanded include low cost and small-scale communication equipments, safety equipments, liberal insurance schemes with subsidies for small crafts and gears and improved beach landing artisanal crafts.

The government's decision to encourage deep sea fishing vessels and joint ventures was based upon a technology mission appointed in 1992 which concluded that 40 lakh tonnes of fish was available in Indian seas annually. Father Kocherry contends that of this 23 tonnes is already being caught by traditional and mechanised boats.

Of the remaining 17 lakh, which the government wishes to exploit, only 1.65 lakhs is commercially viable, he claims, adding that even a Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) evaluation in 1991 had testified this. The record of viable deep sea vessels would not have been as low as 20 out of the 148 that are sailing in Indian waters. According to an estimate provided by an organisation which financed the operations of the deep sea vessels, called SCISCI, these vessels are currently running a debt of Rs 100 crores.

But even if the government insists its claim is correct, Father Kocherry states, it is the small fishermen who should be encouraged to take it up. One of the main attraction for the foreign companies venturing into the business would be tuna, which is in big demand the world over. Nearly 2.65 lakh tonnes tuna is available in Indian waters annually, of which one lakh is being caught annually by traditional fisherfolk. "With technical support from the govern-

ment, these very folks can catch even the remaining amount," Father Kocherry contends.

A memorandum explaining the issues and listing all these demands was submitted to the Prime Minister recently. It was signed amongst others by the Kakdwip Fishermen Association, West Bengal, Shree Porbandar Machimar Boat Association, Gujarat and Malwan Taluk Shramik Machimar Sangh, Maharashtra. The memorandum suggested that the present policy of investment support to the big houses and other merchant capitalists should be curbed, instead a new policy should ensure liberalised central subsidies and credits for small fishermen, who venture into the deep seas.

The memorandum also questions the decision to permit the foreign companies to take 85 per cent of the catch while permitting Indian partners 15 per cent catch. Instead, they said the deep sea fishing policy should lead to increased supply of fish for domestic consumption.

## मछुआरा नीति के खिलाफ हड़ताल कल

जनसत्ता संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, २ फरवरी। सरकार की मछुआरा विरोधी नीति के खिलाफ इतिहास में पहली बार देश भर के मछुआरे चार फरवरी को आम हड़ताल करेंगे। इस दिन पूरे देश में न मछलियां पकड़ी जाएंगी और न ही बेची जाएंगी। 'नेशनल फिशवर्कर्स फोरम' के तहत मछुआरों की १६ ट्रेड यूनियनों ने समुद्र में मछली पकड़ने के लिए विदेशी कंपनियों को टी जाने वाली छूट के खिलाफ लड़ाई का डंका बजा दिया है।

मछुआरों के संगठनों की सबसे बड़ी मांग है कि छोटे मछुआरों के हितों का गला घोटने वाली मत्स्य नीति को बदल दिया जाए। लंबे असें तक अपने अपने स्तर पर इस नीति का विरोध करने से जब कुछ हासिल नहीं हुआ तो मछली पकड़ने वाली बड़ी विदेशी कंपनियों की वजह से बुरी

तरह टूटे हुए छोटे मछुआरों ने आंदोलन के रास्ते से अपनी बात सरकार तक पहुंचाने का फैसला किया।

राष्ट्रीय मछुआरा फोरम के प्रवक्ता जे. जॉन ने बताया कि सरकार की उदारीकरण की नीति से मछली पकड़ने के लिए विदेशी कंपनियों पर लगाई गई रोक खत्म हो गई है। विदेशी कंपनियां भारत के समुद्र में मछली पकड़ने आना चाहती हैं क्योंकि ज्यादातर देशों ने अपने मत्स्य धन का जरूरत से ज्यादा शोषण कर लिया है और अब उनके समुद्र में पर्याप्त मछलियां नहीं बची हैं। विदेशी कंपनियां भारतीय समुद्र में मछली पकड़ कर करोड़ों के वारे न्यारे करेंगी क्योंकि नई नीति के हिसाब से वे सौ फीसदी निर्यात करेंगी। पर इस नीति की सीधी मार छोटे मछुआरों पर पड़ेगी।

नवभारत टाइम्स, नयी दिल्ली, 5 फरवरी 1994

### देश भर में मछली व्यापार बंद रहा

नयी दिल्ली, 4 फरवरी (विसं)। आज देश भर में मछली व्यापार बंद रहा। केन्द्रीय मजदूर संगठन नेशनल फिशवर्कर्स फोरम और अन्य 31 संगठनों ने बन्द का आह्वान किया था। फोरम ने दावा किया है कि महाराष्ट्र, केरल, गुजरात, गोवा और पश्चिम बंगाल में बंद पूरी तरह सफल रहा। असंगठित और छोटे मशीनी क्षेत्र के मछुआरे समुद्र में मछली का शिकार करने नहीं गये। मछली का बाजार भी बन्द रहा।

गहरे समुद्र में मछली के शिकार की नयी नीति के विरोध में पहली बार देशव्यापी स्तर पर मछली बन्द का आयोजन किया गया था। फोरम के अनुसार कर्नाटक, तमिलनाडु, आंध्रप्रदेश और उड़ीसा में भी बन्द का व्यापक असर पड़ा। तिरुअनन्तपुरम् में मछुआरों ने प्रदर्शन और विरोध सभा का आयोजन किया।

फोरम के अनुसार यदि केन्द्र सरकार गहरे समुद्र में मछली के शिकार की नीति में संशोधन नहीं करती है, तब भविष्य में मछुआरों का आन्दोलन तेज किया जायेगा।

नवभारत टाइम्स, नयी दिल्ली, 4 फरवरी 1994

## केन्द्र की नीति के खिलाफ आज देश भर में मछली बंद

विशेष संवाददाता

नयी दिल्ली, 3 फरवरी।

केन्द्रीय मजदूर संगठन नेशनल फिशवर्कर्स फोरम ने कल देश भर में 'मछली बंद' का आह्वान किया है। केन्द्र सरकार की गहरे समुद्र में मछली का शिकार करने की नीति के विरोध में यह कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया है। आज तमिलनाडु, केरल, उड़ीसा, गुजरात, गोवा आदि विभिन्न राज्यों के 16 से ज्यादा राज्यस्तरीय मछुआरा संगठनों ने बंद का समर्थन किया है।

फोरम के प्रवक्ता जे. जॉन के अनुसार मछुआरा संगठनों की मांग है कि गहरे समुद्र में मछली का शिकार करने की नयी नीति में छोटे मछुआरों के अधिकारों की गारंटी होनी चाहिए। वर्तमान नीति के तहत समुद्र में मछली के शिकार के लिए बड़े व्यापारी घरानों और व्यावसायिकों

का समर्थन रोका जाना चाहिए। गहरे समुद्र में मछली के शिकार में वृद्धि के साथ-साथ देशी उपभोक्ताओं के लिए भी मछली की आपूर्ति बढ़ायी जानी चाहिए। संगठनों की यह मांग भी है कि छोटे मछुआरों के लिए समुद्र का विशेष क्षेत्र आरक्षित किया जाना चाहिए।

फोरम के अध्यक्ष थॉमस कोचरी के अनुसार भारत सरकार ने आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान गहरे समुद्र में मछली का शिकार करने को प्राथमिक महत्व दिया है। इसके तहत गहरे समुद्र में मछली का शिकार करनेवाले जहाजों की संख्या में भारी वृद्धि की सिफारिश की गयी है। और इसके आधार पर भारत सरकार ने कई व्यापारी घरानों को गहरे समुद्र में मछली का शिकार करनेवाले जहाज आयात करने और विदेशी कम्पनियों से समझौता करने की अनुमति दी है।

## Fisheries bandh on Feb. 4

From Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Feb. 2.

The National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) in collaboration with small mechanised boat operators has called for a nationwide fisheries bandh on February 4 in protest against the Centre's deep sea fishing policy.

In a statement issued here today, the NFF said the present policy would lead to destruction of fish resources, endangering the sustenance of the fishermen. It demanded a new policy. It opposed the recent joint deep sea fishing foreign ventures, all of which are 100 per cent exports oriented. The new liberalised investment policies have removed all barriers for foreign entrepreneurs to invest in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). As the seas of most countries were over exploited the foreign entrepreneurs were now entering the Indian EEZ. They hoped to make rich dividends without any strict management or regulation to conserve the country's fish resources, it said.

The NFF fears Deep Sea Fishing with its highly intensive and specialised technology will bring skilled jobs for foreigners and leave menial jobs — of deck hands and cooks — to Indian fish workers. The processing, grading and packing of products will be done on board without involvement of shore-based labour and the market will be in foreign countries.

The fish trade on the high seas would leave the Government of India with no information on the real catch value and could lead to exploitation of the country's fishery wealth, the NFF said.

The NFF said the new fisheries policy should make Plan allocations to expand the ambit of operations of small fishermen to deeper waters. It should curb investment support to big business houses who were collaborating with foreign corporations.

The new economic policy should ensure liberalised Central subsidies and credits for small fishermen who ventured into the deep sea

THE PIONEER THURSDAY FEBRUARY 3, 1994

# Fishermen's bandh tomorrow

Special Correspondent

New Delhi

TRADITIONAL FISHWORKERS will be holding an all-India fisheries bandh on Friday (February 4). There will not be any fishing, fish landing or selling on that day.

The all-India fisheries bandh has been called by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) in collaboration with Small Mechanised Boat Operators Associations to protest against the Government's deep sea fishing policy.

Deep sea fishing was evolved in the Eighth Five Year Plan with the main objective of augmenting fish production and sea food export earnings.

The technology mission of the Government drew up an ambitious programme to introduce 2,653 deep sea fishing vessels, capable of harvesting 120 to 2000 tonnes per unit.

The details of this export-oriented programme are being worked out by the Department of Food Processing.

The Government has already issued 17 individual licenses and entered into three joint venture agreements for setting up 100

per cent export-oriented units, the recent one being with a Mexican company, worth \$ 50 million.

The NFF press release cites various instances of what it calls the "dismal failure" of deep sea fishing since its inception 20 years ago in the upper east coast. Among the 148 deep sea vessels operating from Vishakhapatnam, only 20 make profit.

Altogether, these vessels have incurred a loss of Rs 100 crore to the Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI).

Since there is no commercially viable species of fish available in plenty in the deep sea, these vessels have resorted to fishing in the territorial waters.

This has created tension in West Bengal between the mechanised gillnetters and the deep sea vessels from Vishakhapatnam.

The deep sea vessels, according to NFF, discard large quantities of "trawl-by-catch" and bring to the shore only export varieties and quality fish caught during the last few days of a voyage.

The traditional fishermen, the release says, were bypassed in the exploitation of the offshore deep sea fisheries.

Similarly, the foreign vessel

charter policy of 1977 could also not achieve its desired objectives in the absence of any statutory powers to regulate the operation of chartered vessels.

Now, the new liberalised investment policies have removed all barriers for foreign entrepreneurs to invest in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The seas of most of the countries are overexploited and the foreign entrepreneurs have to escape from the virtual redundancy of their vessels.

The Indian EEZ, according to NFF, will only be one of the many areas of operation for the foreign entrepreneurs. They can make rich and easy dividends in the absence of any strict management measures and regulations to conserve fish resources in our EEZ.

The NFF states its reasons for opposition to deep sea vessels. Such fishing with its capital-intensive and specialised technology will leave the skilled jobs for the foreigners and the few menial jobs like deck hands and cooks for Indian labour.

The processing, grading and the packing of the products, the release says, will be done on boards with no shore-based labour

involved. And the markets will be in foreign countries.

Fish trade in the high seas will leave the Indian Government with no information about the real catch and catch values.

The NFF says the policy of helping big business should be curbed. The new policy should liberalise central subsidies and credits for small fishermen who venture into deep sea.

The new policy, according to NFF, should lead to increased supply of fish for domestic consumption.

The Government should evolve a "fish subsidy plan" in the line of foodgrain subsidy to promote deep sea fishing and cater to rural consumers.

Unions of artisanal fishworkers and associations of small mechanised boatpeople have, according to NFF, been declaring their participation in the All-India Fisheries Bandh.

They reiterated that there will not be any fishing, fish landings and fish selling on that day.

Announcing this, Thomas Kocherry, Chairperson, NFF said many representations were made to the ministries concerned but no positive response had come as yet.



# Nationwide fisheries bandh today

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI - The National Fishworkers Forum (NFF), in collaboration with the Small Mechanised Boat Operators Association will be observing a nationwide 'fisheries bandh' on Friday.

Protesting against the government's anti-fisherpeople deep sea fishing policy, the NFF has decided that there will be no fish landing or sale of fish on that day. This is the first time that the traditional fisherfolk will be observing such a bandh. The small fish workers, whose very survival is threatened, have demanded a new fisheries policy.

J. John of NFF said that deep sea fishing had been conceived as a core scheme of the Eighth Five Year Plan to augment fish production and sea food export earnings. The Technology Mission, constituted by the government, he said, had drawn up an ambitious programme to introduce 2653 deep sea fishing vessels which can harvest 120 to 2000 tonnes per unit. The De-

INDIAN EXPRESS NEW DELHI  
4th FEB. 1994

partment of Food Processing, he said, looked at fish only as an important source for export and foreign exchange. So far 17 individual licences have been issued and MoU signed on three joint ventures.

With the seas around most foreign countries being over-exploited and the new liberalised investment policies removing all barriers for foreign investments in India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), foreign entrepreneurs are expected to turn to India.

The NFF opposes the joint ventures as deep sea fishing will harvest the sea beyond the sustainable limit; the highly specialised technology is expected to benefit foreigners and leave just menial jobs as deck hands and cooks to the Indian labour; the processing, grading and packing of the products will be done on board with no shore-based labour involved.

And, the markets will be in foreign countries; the high seas fish trade, it is feared, will leave the government in the dark about the real catch and its value.

The new policy, NFF has said, should provide increased supply of fish for domestic consumption.

THE ECONOMIC TIMES NEW DELHI  
SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY 1994

## NFF-sponsored 'fish bandh' near total

Our Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM 4 FEBRUARY

THE ALL India Fisheries bandh called by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), on Friday, against the government of India's new policy of opening Indian seas to foreign companies was near total.

Mr Thomas Kocheri, chairman of the NFF, which coordinates activities in connection with the bandh in different parts of the country, said here that instates like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and West Bengal, the bandh was complete both in the small mechanised sector and artisanal sector. Fisheries harbours were deserted. Fish markets were empty. Wholesale fish markets in Bombay, Gujarat, Sealdha, Howrah, Diamond Harbour, Palayam were all empty.

**Bombay:** Fisherfolk in Maharashtra on Friday observed a day's strike in response to a country-

wide 'fish bandh' call to protest the Centre's policy.

All wholesale and retail fish markets remained closed throughout the state. The general secretary, Maharashtra Machchimar Kirti Samiti, Mr Bhai Bandarkar, said the open-door policy would render lakhs of fishermen and others connected with the trade jobless as no fish would be left out for them by the big fishing companies.

**Rajkot:** Over two lakh fishermen of Saurashtra and Kutch regions expressed their strong resentment by anchoring their 17,000 boats on the bank and refraining from going to sea for fishing in support of a nation-wide call jointly given by various fishermen association in protest against the Centre's policy.

Reports reaching here from various coastal towns stated that the protest evoked 'total' response as all fishermen joined and supported the call.



**SECTION III**

## Funds cleared for deep sea project at Paradip

Financial Express Bureau

NEW DELHI, March 1- The Centre has sanctioned the Rs 28.34 crore deep sea fishery harbour development project at Paradip in Orissa.

To be fully funded by the Centre, the project is expected to be completed in four years and facilitate harvesting of fishery resources in the exclusive economic zone of the country. The Paradip Port Trust will implement the project.

When completed, 50 deep sea and 500 mechanised fishing vessels will be able to operate in the harbour. The project will contribute to additional marine fish output of 45,000 tonnes per annum about 6,400 tonnes of catch is expected to be exported at a value of about Rs 26.77 crores. It will also generate direct employment for about 5,000 and indirect employment for 10,000 persons.

Paradip is the fifth Central deep sea fishery harbour project. It is expected, according to an official release, to satisfy the long-felt needs of the traditional and small mechanised fishermen operating from the area and will also act as a high back-up facility for deep sea fishing industry.

T. E. T. 30<sup>th</sup> MAY 1989

## Deep sea fishing

If the Union minister for food processing, Mr Jagdish Tytler is to be believed, deep sea fishing industry is poised for a breakthrough. Not surprisingly, the minister would like us to believe that this breakthrough has come through liberalisation. That the policy has indeed been liberalised is a fact. The Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI) provides loans for the entire project to be set up by an entrepreneur and includes the acquisition of vessels, operating cost and other pre-operative expenditure. According to the latest annual report of the ministry of food processing industries, 41 letters of intent, involving 87 deep sea fishing vessels, were issued. Fifteen deep sea vessels, both imported and indigenous, have been introduced in Indian waters by Indian companies. What may appear particularly heartening is the fact that nearly 153 deep sea fishing vessels are now operating in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). But more than 50 deep sea fishing companies are in trouble. They are sick, unable to repay their institutional loans. Losses have been piling up and business is tapering off. The loan amount, incurred by the companies from the now defunct shipping development fund committee (SDFC) that

is in default is not much — Rs. 9.7 crore — but the fact that these companies belong to the growing sector, cannot but cause some concern.

The companies have been by and large small. They concentrated on shrimp fishing and with a decline in shrimp prices the world over, suffered from the consequence of falling revenues. The new policy measures that follow the establishment of the SCICI in 1986, are in some ways more positive. For instance, projects will be encouraged only if deep sea vessels are to engage in the exploitation of resources other than shrimp. Needless to add, such diversification is only part of the solution. The current ailing conditions of some fishing companies should convince the skeptic that such operations cannot be undertaken by small companies. The larger the scale of operation, the greater the probability that economies of scale will work to the benefit of the entrepreneur.

In this context, the government's move to permit companies to acquire foreign vessels on charter should help. In any case, the small fisherman using country craft operates usually along the coast and there is no reason why large companies should not be welcomed to exploit the deep sea resource with the latest technology

T.O.I. 5/7/90

## Deep-sea fishing clearance faster

The Times of India News Service

NEW DELHI, July 4: The government has decided to set up an empowered committee of secretaries to accord single window clearance to all proposals relating to deep sea fishing in the country.

Another decision to promote marine exports is that Indian joint-venture companies would be allowed to acquire fishing vessels on long-lease and also to procure second-hand fishing vessels on the condition that the sea worthiness of the vessels is certified by approved surveyors.

Test fishing by foreign fishing companies in collaboration with Indian companies in the Indian Economic Zone (EEZ) would be allowed upto six months for encouraging specialised diversified fishing.

These decisions have been taken by the government in pursuance of the assurance given by Mr Arun Nehru, commerce and tourism minister, at the open house on exports held at Cochin last week.

# Australian tie-ups in fishing sector

F.E. 7/2/90 By Our Special Correspondent

A NUMBER of proposals to step up fishing operations in India with Australian collaboration have reached an advanced stage of finalisation.

Two of Australia's largest shipbuilding companies - Australian Shipbuilding Industries (W. A.) Pvt. Limited (ASI) and Kailis - are now negotiating with the Government and private parties to finalise the deals.

These proposals include direct supply of Australian fishing trawlers, a joint venture between the Indian and Australian companies to manufacture various types of fishing vessels including deep-sea fishing trawlers, and establishment of fish processing, refrigeration and storing

facilities at various centres in India.

ASI and Kailis have already supplied 22 different types of fishing vessels to India in the last two years. They are now in operation in Madras and other areas.

Australia, with its vast coastal areas, has a highly-developed fishing industry. Its modern vessels are now in operation in several countries, particularly Asia and West Asia.

A six-member Western Australian fisheries' delegation, representing their Government and industry, had been in India recently to explore collaboration between the two countries for deep-sea fishing.

## Japan studies fishing tieups

Tokyo, Feb. 4 (PTI): The Japanese government is examining a number of cooperation proposals of the Indian government to invest in the Indian fishing industry.

The eight-member delegation, headed by Mr C.T. Sukumaran, chairman of India's Marine Products Export Development Agency (MPEDA), met officials of the Japanese international trade and industry and fishery ministries. Mr Sukumaran said he explained to the Japanese fishing people and fish importers the ideal conditions now prevailing in India for them to invest.

## French help in deep sea fishing sought

From Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Friday. — Mr Sharad Yadav, Minister for Textiles and Food Processing Industries, today asked a French delegation, led by its Minister for Agriculture and Forestry, Mr Henri Nallet, to consider India's needs for technology and training in deep sea fishing to exploit the Exclusive Economic Zone fully.

He said exports of processed fish, fruits and vegetables should be studied.

An Indian seafood delegation recently ended a tour of Japan holding "buyers-sellers meets" where representatives of thousands of Japanese fishing and fish importers' organisations were invited to participate in the Indian fishing industry.

# Fishing industry capacity underutilised: MPEDA

B.P.O. 26/2/91

A THOTHATHRI RAMAN

HYDERABAD, FEB 25 PRECIOUS marine resources worth several crores is being lost every year due to over-exploitation of certain types of fishes on the one hand and gross underutilisation of available industrial capacity for processing, storage and marketing of marine products, according to a recent Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) report.

The shrimp catches in the recent years had shown no increase mainly on account of over-fishing and fishing of juveniles. The same was true in the case of lobsters. In both the varieties considerable value was being lost also due to poor processing capabilities resulting in largescale wastages.

In lobsters for instance nearly 60 per cent to 70 per cent was lost by poor processing methods. According to MPEDA, out of about 228 processing plants having a total capacity to process 2,500 tonnes per day, only 41 are working to the full while many of the other plants are on

closed down. The modern plants accounted for just 170 tonnes per day processing capacity.

The fate of canning plants was even worse with not even a single plant (out of 22 accounting for a total processing capacity of 73,500 tonnes per annum) was operating.

Ironically, almost all the canning companies had been established very recently and they incorporated the best technology in the world. Absence of internal market for canned products and poor demand for Indian canned products abroad were being cited as reasons for closing down of the entire canning industry in the country.

Unimaginative excessive capacities allowed in the industry is also another reason for early sickness in the industry. Likewise out of about 315 frozen storages accounting for about 48,468 tonnes capacity hardly half are working and only around 40 units which had been modernised and adopted industrial quick freezing (IQF) process to reduce freezing time are managing to operate at economic capacity.

Around 922 pre-processing

are languishing for want of orders from the large trawlers and deep sea fishing vessels. Fish meal plants, numbering 21, accounting for 3.86 lakh tonnes per annum capacity were doing considerably better business owing to increasing domestic demand.

Taking into consideration poor working of the industry, MPEDA has drawn up several action programmes to modernise and revitalise the industry. MPEDA is negotiating with foreign companies to bring in technology to produce ready-to-cook products from the marine sources, the details of which are expected to be available soon.

This would be followed by products of ready-to-eat variety for which technologies would be obtained from abroad. In order to check overexploitation of select marine varieties and to promote fishing of several other varieties of fish, MPEDA reached an understanding with some Japanese, Spanish and French companies for forming joint ventures between Indian companies and the foreign ones, for better and more scientific

## AGAINST JOINT-VENTURES

41/1771 VEEKSHANAM ROAD KOCHI 682 018 INDIA Tel. (0484) 370617, 370427: Fax. (91-484) 370914

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Akila Gujaraath Boat Owners  
Gujaraath

Bhai Bandarkar  
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R. K. Patil  
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Ramkant Gaonkar  
Karnataka

Matanhy Saldanha  
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Goa

A. J. Vijayan  
Traditional Fisherpeople  
Naithil Vincent  
Mechanised Boat Owners  
Kerala

Durgesh Prasad  
Badri Narayan  
Srinivasa Rao  
Andhra Pradesh

Servatius  
Consumers & Supporters  
Pannuhridayam  
Traditional Deep See Fishermen  
Tamil Nadu

Chitharanjan Saringhi  
Brakish Waters Fisheries  
Orissa

The Prime Minister of India  
Shri Narasimha Rao,  
Parliament House,  
New Delhi.

Dear Prime Minister,

RE: DEEP SEA FISHING POLICY

We are writing to protest the Deep Sea Fishing Policy adopted by the Government of India under the Eighth Five Year Plan. We request you to cancel all the licences issued for Joint-Venture and reconsider deep sea fishing policy. We believe that the current policy is destructive for the following reasons:

1. The provisions of licences to foreign fleets entails a loss of control over national resources without any benefits in terms of increased employment.

(i) The highly intensive and specialised technology required for Deep Sea Fishing means that the skilled jobs will be occupied by foreigners and only a few jobs like deck hand and cook will be open to Indian labour.

(ii) The processing, grading and packing of the products will be done on board so that shore based labour will not be needed. Marketing jobs, too, will not be opened up, as the markets are all abroad.

2. Since the Deep Sea Fishing units are 100% export oriented, there is a channelling away of fish supply from Indian people to foreign consumers. Many varieties of fish included in Indian diets are exported to make fish-meal and animal feed. This is unconscionable at a time when blindness caused by Vitamin A deficiency is being reported among children in fishing villages, a problem unheard of as long as fish was available to fishing families for domestic consumption.

3. Deep Sea fishing for export by foreign fleets and large Indian business houses has serious implications for the sustainability of the resource:

(i) The fish trade in the high seas will leave the India Government with no information about the size and nature of the catch and catch values. Resource depletion will thus be hard to monitor.

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(ii) Overfishing is already routine as deep sea vessels discard large quantities of 'trawler by-catch' in the high seas. The reported catch thus does not indicate the full number of fish and plant life destroyed.

(iii) Unlike small-scale fish workers who are dependent on the fishery for their livelihood, big business is more mobile, and hence less concerned with the sustainability of the resource over the long term.

Because of the above stated problems with the current Deep Sea Fishing Policy, we believe that it should be redesigned along the lines put forward by the National Fishworkers' Forum. The new policy should have the following objectives:

1. Employing small-scale fishworkers in harvesting deep-sea resources. Plan allocations should be made with this aim, and investment support in the form of credits and subsidies should be redirected from big business house to enterprising small-scale fishworkers.
2. Increasing the supply of fish, a valuable sources of necessary nutrients, for domestic consumption. A fish subsidy plan, similar to a food grain subsidy, would both promote deep sea fishing and improve nutrition in rural areas.
3. Preventing loss of jobs by conferring suitable legal rights on, and reserving exclusive fishing zones for, small-scale fishworkers, at least upto the contiguous zone.
4. Ensuring adequate measures of resource management to maintain India's marine wealth at sustainable levels, avoiding overfishing and depletion.

We urge that you reconsider the Deep Sea Fishing Policy and reformulate it in the interests of the Indian people and their development.

NAME

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

fact is that there are violent conflicts at sea. The so called deep sea fleet competes for the same resources (mainly shrimp) as the inshore fleet. The catch per unit effort in all fishing operations is decreasing. This makes fishing increasingly uneconomic and increases the pressure on the fish stocks. Small scale fishermen are forced to increase their investments 20 fold (requiring even up to Rs. 10 lakhs ) to remain operational. The only reason they manage to survive is that fish fetches unusually high prices today.

### So whither the consumers?

Fish has been a cheap source of protein for all the poor living along the coast. Today no fish is considered cheap and even fishermen often sell the last fish they catch. There are buyers to all varieties, and even the "trash" fish that comes as trawler bycatch has a price. There is a constant demand in the fish meal plants. This fish goes to feed the cats and pigs in the industrial world, and into the growing aquaculture industry.

### Why do the foreign vessels want to fish in Indian waters?

One of the main reasons probably is because the fisheries in the northern seas is in dire straits. Many fishing grounds have been closed because they have been over fished. Fishermen are given subsidies to wind up. Yet the existing fleets of many

countries are in search of new fishing grounds. They are heavily subsidised and even over capitalised. No new investments are required. The existing vessels are deployed in the name of "Joint Ventures" with licences to fish in different waters, these vessels chase the stocks with their sophisticated fish finders and haul in everything they spot with their over efficient nets. All processing take place on board, no matter what the variety. For the fish caught in Indian waters, no details are sought. Licences grant the rights to fish without any quota regulations. In fact there are no deep sea fishing regulations enacted yet in India.

Are these deep sea vessels going after other marine resources? Are deep sea vessels involved in other illegal trades? Are they also a threat to national security? The fishermen allege that they are.

### What is the National Fisheries Action Committee Demanding?

1. That all licences for Joint Ventures be withdrawn.
2. That deep sea fishing regulations are enacted.
3. That export varieties of fish are enlisted and fish ensured for local consumption.
4. That the local fishermen are equipped to fish in the off shore.

To press for these demands the NFAC has announced an indefinite strike from November 23rd onwards.

### An Appeal

Support the indefinite strike by:

- ◆ Organizing protests and supportive action in your city.
- ◆ Informing the public, the MLAs and MPs on the subject so that the issue is also raised in the Parliament
- ◆ Signing the memorandum to the Prime Minister to ask for the withdrawal of Joint Venture Licences
- ◆ No fishing, no fish sales, and no fish consumption during the strike.

**National Fisheries Action Committee**  
against Joint Venture,  
41-1771, Kochi - 682 018,  
INDIA.

Tel. : 0484/370617  
Fax. : 001/91/484 - 370914

## Support the Indefinite Fisheries Strike against the invasion of our seas by foreign fishing vessels.

On February 4th 1994, there was a near total Fisheries Bandh. There was no fishing, no fish sale and no fish for consumption. On July 20th Black Day was observed in all the Coastal States and there were protest marches to all MPEDA offices. All fish related organizations of boat owners, workers, fish merchants and vendors have got together to protest against the "Joint Ventures" in deep sea fishing.

Licensing joint ventures is a policy in line with the globalization trends the world over. The Government of India has decided to open the Indian waters to foreign vessels who will have the right to export 100 % of their catches for a mere 12% remittance of the earnings. This deep sea fishing industry, which falls under the Ministry of Food Processing, will benefit from various incentives including the

supply of diesel at international prices - now Rs. 2/- compared to Rs. 8/- in the local market. The results of this trend will be disastrous both for the fisher people and the consumers.

### Why?

India has a coastline of around 6,000 km. which is very densely populated. There are over 75 lakh people who depend directly on fishing for a livelihood in the 9 maritime states. These people operate in the inshore waters - ie., within the 50 meter depth range within the 22kms. limit. This zone is fairly rich with around 26 lakh tonnes of fish now being optimally exploited by adventurous and skilled fishermen. Large groups of these fishermen even fish upto the 100 meter depth with their large gillnetters, long lines and small trawlers. Except for minimal subsidies for kerosene in some states, these fishermen have received no incentives from the government and they operate in very precarious conditions. It is these fishermen who have been supplying fish to the Indian consumers. Both fresh and dried fish travel across this country with no special infrastructure provided by the government. Thousands of ingenious merchants, both women and men, have made this possible.

Hit by the modernization slogan, the government encouraged deep sea fishing

in the mid 80s. First through "Chartered" vessels and then through direct investments. There are now around 148 deep sea fishing vessels in India out of which only 20 are operating viably. The rest are looted and virtually dumped at the Vishakapatnam harbour with over Rs. 100 crore debt to financial institution like SCICI (Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India)

Despite this reality, a Technical Committee instituted by the GOI recommended an increase of the deep sea fleet presuming that there are fish stocks for 2630 deep sea vessels. Based on this the government issued 128 licences upto February 1994 (and stopped after the fisheries Bandh). Contrary to the advice of the Technical Committee, the FAO report of 1991 clearly states that of the 17 lakh tonnes of fish available in deep sea, only 13% is of economic value and this alone will make deep sea fishing viable. This report also states that the existing deep sea fleet, which is more than sufficient, has to be remodelled with diversified gear (they are presently all trawlers) to be able to operate viably. Bose Committee and Murari Committee too were against the present Deep Sea Fishing Policy of the Central Govt.

### Where does the truth lie ?

If we find it difficult to believe the scientists who contradict each other, the

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## 3 big houses plan to get into fishing

From Our Bombay Bureau

BOMBAY, Apr. 11.

The three big houses of Greaves Cotton, Shaw Wallace and Mahindra & Mahindra, are planning to get into the deep-sea fishing business, by setting up integrated fisheries development projects.

This comes close on the heels of The Tata Chemicals plan to set up an integrated project at Mithapur in Gujarat, jointly with the Shipping Credit & Investment Co of India. The project, with an outlay of between Rs 70 crores to Rs 80 crores, will involve the acquisition of trawling vessels, and the establishment of facilities for handling catches, processing, refrigerated storage, and transshipment.

Of the three new entrants, Greaves Cotton is believed to be most actively pursuing the proposal to enter the deep-sea fishing industry, and formal negotiations with the SCICI have already begun. Another 10 to 15 proposals from smaller operators are also with the SCICI, of which three are being actively considered.

The sudden interest in the deep-sea fishing business was sparked off by the clarion call given last year by SCICI chairman N. Vaghul, inviting large houses to set up fisheries development projects. The Tatas were the first to seize the opportunity, despite widely prevalent apprehension over the profit potential in such ventures.

ECONOMIC TIMES  
(DELHI) 27 JUN 1990

# Deep-sea fishing policy to be announced soon

From Our Special Correspondent

COCHIN, June 26.

The government will announce its new policy on deep-sea fishing soon, incorporating the suggestions by the marine products industry on chartering foreign trawlers and making available high-speed diesel oil trawlers at international prices.

This was disclosed by the Union commerce minister, Mr. Arun Kumar Nehru, at the "Open House on Exports" held in Cochin on Tuesday.

The commerce minister was replying to points raised by exporters at the meet, the first of its kind held in Kerala and the second in the country. Over 300 exporters attended the open house organised jointly by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations and the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry — Cochin. The Union minister of state for commerce, Mr. Arangil Sreedharan, was also present, in addition to top officials of the commerce ministry including the special secretary, Mr. K. Ardhanareeswaran, and a few members of the Board of Trade.

Mr. Nehru said that the ministry had made a detailed study on deep sea fishing. A report prepared by the commerce ministry was now before the Cabinet committee.

This, he said, was with a view to evolving a new policy taking into consideration the views and suggestions of the export industry and to boost exports.

He pointed out that at present, exports are negligible when compared to the resources available in the country, especially in regard to the marine sector. The commerce ministry has already initiated dialogues with the ministries for finance, food processing, defence and communications in this connection. The dialogue, he hoped, would help evolve a comprehensive policy.

The commerce minister, who was the chief guest and who presided over the open house, urged the exporters to concentrate on the export of value-added items rather than exporting raw materials. This would help enhance the price of exports and thereby step up India's share in the international export market. This was also essential to solve the country's balance of payment problems, he pointed out.

Mr. Nehru stressed the need for modernisation of the export-oriented industry to help achieve the broad objectives of the government of India. He called upon the industry to go in for sophisticated

technology and quality exports. The commerce minister assured the exporters that they would be further liberalisation in regard to export-oriented industries.

The policy of the government was to minimise control. Already, government measures in this area had confirmed it, he said. All bureaucratic controls over factors related to exports would be deregulated, he said. Cumbersome procedures would be done away with and the procedure would be further rationalised and simplified, he added.

In regard to points raised on the import of raw cashewnuts for the export-oriented cashew processing industry, the open house was told that the ministry of agriculture had been asked to look into the prospects of enhancing raw nut production within the country. Besides, the commerce ministry was tough with the concerned government departments about the import of raw nuts.

The commerce minister also told the open house that the state governments would be involved in the Centre's efforts to increase exports.



# Govt outlines steps to boost deep sea fishing

Our Staff Correspondent

The Government has announced a number of measures for providing impetus to the deep sea fishing industry in the country.

Food Processing Minister Sharad Yadav, while addressing the consultative committee meeting attached to his ministry on Monday, said the Government would provide subsidy of loans for acquiring deep sea fishing vessels.

The Government, the Minister said, would invite equity participation for deep sea fishing ventures. Mr Yadav said a feasibility study would soon be undertaken to provide cold chains to connect production centres and markets.

The subsidy scheme, he said, would also be available for converting vessels for diversified fishing. A scheme for utilisation of trash fish, Mr Yadav said, had already been approved. The thrust of the new schemes would be to induce entrepreneurs to diversify into areas like tuna fishing so as to reduce the burden on shrimp resources.

It has also been decided to abolish 45 days mandatory call for foreign chartered vessels after consulting various agencies like the fishery survey of India and coastguards. This will save valuable fishing time for the vessels and save fuel for coming and going from ports every 45 days.

## New deep sea fishing policy announced

The Government has announced a new deep sea fishing policy aimed at more than doubling exports of marine products by the end of the eight Plan, reports UNI.

As part of the package, it has been decided to set up an empowered committee of secretaries to give single window clearance to proposals relating to deep sea fishing in the country, an official release said in the Capital on Sunday.

Letters of intent have been made valid for a period of one and a half years and multiplicity of inspecting agencies (Mercantile Marine Department, Marine Products Export Development Authority) reduced.

Mr Yadav said deep sea fishing was primarily export-oriented and the country could earn valuable foreign exchange if the products were exported in hygienically processed conditions to get value addition. He said the industry was not fully equipped to process value added marine fish products for lack of adequate technology, manpower and marketing arrangement.

In view of this, he said the Government had been encouraging setting up of joint ventures and allowing charter of foreign fishing vessels for a specified period for exposing entrepreneurs to the latest techniques as a prelude to joint ventures.

He informed the members that though deep sea fishing sector contributes only about 1 per cent of the total marine fish production, its contribution in term of value is about 10 per cent of the total marine exports.

He said despite keen competition from China, Indonesia, Equador, Vietnam, Philippines and Taiwan the export growth of marine products has been satisfactory. The exports in 1989-90 amounted to 101.5 thousand tonnes valuing Rs

613.65 crore as against 99.7 thousand tonnes worth Rs 613.65 crore in 1988-89.

Referring to deep sea fishing vessels Mr Yadav said the total number of vessels would be about 200 by 1990-91. 171 vessels are already being operated in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone and about 30 vessels are being constructed in Indian shipyards which are expected to become operational.

He, however, informed the members that acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels had slowed down in recent years. This was largely because of the fall in shrimp catch per boat, absence of technology for catching and processing of non-shrimp resources and absence of skilled manpower and absence of infrastructural facilities, he said. Shri Yadav said in view of the fact that export of marine product in value added forces except shrimp require transfer of foreign technology and training of personnel, the government would encourage introduction of resource specific vessels namely tuna long liners, purse seiners, squid jiggers and gill netters.

Mr K M Joseph, Fisheries Commissioner, who was representing Agriculture Ministry informed the Members of the Committee that Agriculture Ministry was considering to set up Central Fisheries Harbour Authority to give a boost to the development of fishing harbours.

Indian joint venture companies would be allowed to acquire fishing vessels on long lease as well as procure second hand fishing vessels on the condition that sea worthiness of the vessels in certified by approved surveyors.

Test fishing by foreign fishing companies in collaboration with Indian companies in the Indian Economic Zone would be allowed upto six months for encouraging specialised diversified fishing, it said.

It has also been decided that high speed diesel oil would be supplied at international prices to Indian fishing vessels which meet specified export commitments.

The procedures for issue of entry permit for foreign crew engaged in deep sea fishing is being simplified.

Also, deep sea fishing vessels would be permitted to have HF long range sets to remain in continuous contact with the shore office.

Adequate finance on easy terms would be provided to the fishing industry to facilitate acquisition of specialised vessels, the release said.

# Trawling industry in deep waters

From Our Special Correspondent

VISAKHAPATNAM, July 18.

A fortnight into the peak season the trawlers are still at anchor. At the Visakhapatnam harbour, which is the base for the deep sea trawlers, working at the only commercially proven shrimping grounds, there is little indication that the engines, silent since February, will be re-vised-up for quite a while. The protracted labour problem, that has becalmed the deep sea fishing industry here, has become knottier and trawler operators say the situation has turned extremely critical.

A looming crisis of the past two years has turned into an acute problem with the number of sailings and catches going down drastically. Last year there were no sailings for three months and trawlers operated for just 120 days.

This year the prospect is bleaker with the representative organisations of both the officers, the All-India Deep Sea Fishing Technocrats Association (AIDSFTA) and that of the 2,500 deck hands, the Vizag Trawler Workers Union (VTWU) refusing to accept the new incentive scheme offered by the trawler operators.

Of the 120 trawlers plying the shrimping grounds—their number has been whittled down from 160 a few years ago—only 30 have been put out into the sea. These belong mostly to state-owned corporations whose employees are not members of either unions.

The viability of the industry is at stake, the president of the Association of Indian Fishery Industries (AIFI), Mr K. R. Prasad told *The Economic Times*. Operational costs, already very high, are still

spiralling while the international price for our produce has slumped. Unless we improve our productivity there is no way we can continue to operate the trawlers, he said.

Landings have come down sharply from 1,112.13 tonnes in 1988 to 757.16 tonnes last year while the catches up to May this year was just 221 tonnes. The rupee-earnings from export have however been higher because of the depreciation against the dollar. For the trawling industry the statistics, according to Mr Prasad, are a warning that the tides are closing in on it.

Deep sea and mini-trawlers account for just 25 per cent of the catch while the mechanised and new boats garner 45 per cent between them. The rest is brought in sauna boats etc. Trawlers in fact are competing with 500 other boats in these fishing grounds but are hampered by higher boats and lower returns. While a voyage costs an average Rs. 6 lakh for a trawler, dolphin and sauna boats need to put in about Rs. 1.5 lakh only.

And owners see little hope of arresting this trend unless the government comes to their rescue with a substantial fuel subsidy—fuel alone accounts for half the operating costs—along with a package of rescue measures, and the floating staff accepts the new wage plan.

What the AIFI has proposed is a productivity-linked agreement which Mr Prasad said would put pressure on the workers to spend longer periods at sea and also improve the catch. There is a 12 per cent increase in the emoluments, provided the trawlers work for 225 days a year. The increase comes

from the high sea and messing allowances and a sharp in 40 per cent of the profits.

AIDSFTA and VTWU however have set their faces firmly against this offer. They charged that the owners had gone in for new recruitments at half the existing wage rates even while a writ petition challenging the illegal termination of their members was pending in the Andhra Pradesh High Court. They have sought guarantees that trawler operators would assure them of 12 voyages of 21 days each a year, but without any change in the old salary structure.

As for the 40 per cent sharp in profits, the union leaders, rejecting the new agreement lock, stock and barrel, said the accounts would be manipulated by the owners to show a loss. The only chink in the adamant stance put up by the floating staff has been a sudden announcement by the Andhra Pradesh Deep Sea Fishing Association (APDSFA) that an agreement had been signed with trawler owners to end the five-month impasse. Although the other unions claim this is not a recognised body for negotiating agreements, trawler owners are viewing this development as a hopeful sign that the labour dispute would soon end.

All the same it would not solve their other problems, Mr Prasad emphasised. In a representation to the Union commerce ministry, the association has sought an immediate 50 per cent subsidy on diesel which would work out to Rs. 8 crore a year and a comprehensive liberalisation of financial norms to enable the industry to overcome

sickness of the past three years. This includes extension of the loan repayment period to 15 years and reduction of interest to four per cent, waiving interest and penalties for the past three years and a 50 per cent subsidy for modification and addition of fishing gear which would entail an expenditure of Rs. 15 crore.

Trawler owners said the lack of infrastructure for handling and processing other catch from the high seas was a serious handicap for the country. There was ample scope for export of tuna and squid on a substantial scale with technical assistance from far east countries and the government should provide proper facilities for exploiting these reserves.

Towards this end training programmes must be initiated for the crew on a crash basis to enable them to handle trawlers modified for tuna long lining and squid jigging. Even otherwise there was a serious shortage of trained manpower for the deep sea fishing industry which did not have the required captains, bosuns and engineers.

Unless a rehabilitation package was initiated soon, trawler operators have warned, the country would lose much needed foreign exchange. Several firms are already thinking of divesting their trawling operations and concentrating on other business where the returns are most assured. The industry has come to a point when it simply cannot operate on the old system any more, Mr Prasad said. It has cut a new furrow if it is to survive.

## Greaves Cotton to kick off tuna fishing tie-up by Dec

TS Viswanath

NEW DELHI 6 NOVEMBER

THE THAPAR group Greaves Cotton and Company Limited will soon enter deep sea tuna fishing in collaboration with a Manila-based foreign partner, Frabelle Fishing Corporation. The Rs 30-crore project will be 100 per cent export oriented.

While the foreign partner will hold 48 per cent equity, Greaves Cotton will hold the remaining 52 per cent.

The total equity to be brought in by the two partners will be Rs 5 crore, while the balance of Rs 25 crore will be financed by the Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI).

This will be the first Indian company to go into commercial deep sea tuna fishing. The government recently cleared the project along with seven others, which include Panaffin-Poronto, Hartford-Indo-mar Fishing Private Limited, Al-

tums-CM Food Trading Company and Korean Food Limited-Lelo Sea Foods.

These projects have been awaiting government clearance for the last one-and-a-half years.

The Greaves-Frabelle venture will concentrate on the country's Exclusive Economic Zone of Andaman and Nicobar as this area abounds in tuna.

Other tuna-rich areas will also be exploited, though the company plans to concentrate on this region currently.

Plans have also been formulated to exploit the adjacent areas outside the Indian waters.

Commercial fishing is expected to start by next October while test fishing will commence by the end of next month. The company is currently busy hiring trawlers for test fishing.

The total foreign exchange expected to be earned by this venture in the first five years has been put

at Rs 135 crore, while the net foreign exchange outflow for the same period is estimated at around Rs 80 crore.

This will be the fourth venture planned by Greaves Cotton in the last one year. The company has drawn up other such diversification projects to boost the group turnover.

Some of the other projects which the company is currently implementing include a venture to manufacture three wheelers in Bar-amati in Maharashtra, another project to manufacture industrial and marine gear boxes in West Bengal, and a third project to manufacture chemical plant machinery.

In the last four years Greaves Cotton has raised its turnover from Rs 132 crore to Rs 240 crore in the current year. The income in the first 11 months of the year ended March 31, 1990 has been Rs 209 crore, with profit before tax at Rs 8.32 crore and a net profit of Rs 5.47 crore.

ECON. TIMES  
7/11/90



# BBIL tie-up with Mitsubishi in deep sea Tuna fishing mooted

ECONOMIC TIMES

13 SEP 90

By Himangshu Watts

NEW DELHI, Sept. 12. Bharat Business International Limited (BBIL) proposes to enter into a dialogue with Mitsubishi Corporation of Japan for joint ventures in deep sea tuna fishing.

BBIL will also examine the feasibility of assisting 15 to 20 existing deep sea vessels to modify their equipment and processing facilities for fishing and processing non-shrimp resources under a marketing arrangement with Mitsubishi.

This was indicated by the chairman of BBIL, Mr. S.V.S. Raghavan, at a high-level meeting convened recently by the special secretary in the commerce ministry, Mr. K.N. Ardhanareeswaran.

The involvement of the country's apex trading organisation in deep sea fishing is a part of the government's effort to boost export of marine products immediately, in view of the country's critical balance of payments position.

The ministry is also considering the possibility of engaging vessels from the European Economic Community (EEC) for deep sea fishing. The Indian ambassador to the EEC informed the ministry that

the EEC had proposed transfer of a large number of vessels to fish in Indian waters, under licence arrangements.

The ministry has decided to work out detailed fishing agreements with the EEC, which will permit induction of tuna vessels, development of infrastructure and training of Indian crew.

To negotiate favourable terms with the EEC, the Marine Products Export Development Authority will study the agreements it entered into with other countries.

Sources in the commerce ministry point out that officials are concerned that the past policies regarding this sector have failed to develop deep sea fishing. Further, policies on charters have not led to implementation of joint ventures, and all deep sea vessels in operation, barring two, are engaged in shrimping only, sources say.

The government has already liberalised the debt-equity norms for diversified fishing vessels of 30 metres and above from the existing 3:1 to that not exceeding 6:1 of the total cost of the project, to develop this sector.

However, the industry is not satisfied with the policies announced so far. In a note to the commerce ministry, the Association of Indian Fishery Industry has complained that the "basic reason" why the sector has not developed sufficiently, is the lack of liberalisation in government policies, which it says must be reoriented.

Joint ventures with advanced fishing nations such as Japan, the US, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand can be speedily implemented through generous government assistance and liberalisation of policy, says the association.

It has also recommended abolition of the 49 per cent ceiling on foreign equity participation, and suggested that all fishery joint ventures be accorded the status of a 100 per cent export oriented unit.

Further, the association has recommended that the Maritime Zones of India Act should not be applicable to joint venture companies with foreign collaboration even if the vessel is operated under a dual flag to avoid "unnecessary" procedural clearances and harassment.

## Deep sea fishing policy relaxed

ECONOMIC TIMES

6th DEC 90

Our New Delhi Bureau  
NEW DELHI 5 DECEMBER

THE UNION government has liberalised its on towards joint ventures and foreign investment in deep sea fishing, as a first step, the cost of the vessels used by the collaborators would be treated as part of their equity. Secondly, the 40 per cent equity norms for foreign collaboration, will be relaxed, on a case by case basis.

The liberalisation is aimed at encouraging value addition and elimination of physical controls. Other measures towards this end include the permission to transport the catch to ports abroad and enhancement of the debt equity norms for acquisition of vessels to a level not exceeding 6:1.

Apart from the revised policy, the government has decided to allow the import of fish under advance licensing. Similarly, the duties for import of new machinery required for aquaculture and sea food processing have been brought down to 35 per cent from the existing level ranging between 105 per cent and 135 per cent.

Import of fish has been allowed to improve capacity and for re-export by value addition. Supply of

diesel at international prices from January 1, 1991, has also been permitted for deep sea fishing.

In addition to these steps, the government has allowed test fishing to facilitate pre-investment study for assessing commercial viability of specific fishing operations in the Indian exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Further, vessels on long lease have been permitted to operate in the Indian EEZ. Likewise, leasing of special vessels have been allowed.

Repayment can be in the form of a part of the fish catch. Leasing of second hand vessels too has been allowed. However, bank guarantees for leased vessels would be a must (equivalent to one year of lease rent) and would be valid through the lease period which would not exceed 15 years.

Meanwhile the government has encouraged test fishing for helping in the assessment of commercial viability and to bring established test fishing companies into deep sea fishing.

Test fishing would also be permitted for recognised associations of fishing companies in collabora-

tion with the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) or Indian parties. After six months, these test fishing exercises should lead to joint ventures. Incidentally, MPEDA will have its experts on these vessels for preparation of detailed reports.

It is envisaged that export earnings from deep sea fishing alone will change the direction of India's efforts, which till now has been confined to the US and Japan. This is because it will help in the opening of new markets.

The plan for the next five years, prepared by MPEDA, meanwhile, envisages that India's marine exports alone would be around Rs 1500 crore.

About 40 per cent of this earning is expected to come from deep sea fishing alone. In view of the new policy, which aims at attracting foreign investment and collaboration-technical and financial, procedural simplification and better coordination, expectations from the industry have, however, been raised substantially.

Accordingly, exports from deep sea fishing alone could be around Rs 1500 crores in the next few years.

17/9/91

# Deep sea fishing industry in deep water

FE Bureau

NEW DELHI, Sept 16

Deep sea fishing industry in India's exclusive economic zones will soon be wiped out. The current charter permits are to expire shortly and no new permits have been issued for the last five years in a classic case of governmental apathy.

The Food Processing Ministry continues to ignore the applications for fishing permits pending for the past three years. Meanwhile poachers from Taiwan and Thailand are having a field day on the Indian high seas.

The problems of the industry have been compounded by the refusal of the Coast Guard to give concurrence to the issue of permits. The Coast Guard authorities had indicated that with shortage of manpower and equipment for sur-

veillance they can only handle 40 vessels.

The empowered committee instituted by the Government to look into the matter has not met even once though it has been reconstituted three times in as many years.

The area about 200 nautical miles off the country's shores has capacity for 4,800 vessels. Ironically there are only 20 vessels plying on the seas as of now.

Joint venture proposals from foreign vessel owners have been gathering dust on the Ministry's shelves since 1986, belying the industry's efforts to corner a share of the lucrative sea food global market estimated to be worth Rs 10,500 crore.

The gross underutilisation of capacity has been mainly due to the faulty charter policies drawn up by the Food Processing Ministry, it is learnt.

Attempts were made by the Government through the Maritime Zones of India Act (MZI), 1981, to encourage the acquisition of fishing trawlers and build up an indigenous fleet. However, a leasing scheme as an alternative to the charter policy, 1981, does not make it obligatory to acquire vessels.

The Charter policy itself had such contradictory provisions that by the end of the decade only about 100 small vessels were acquired. These can operate on the territorial waters, up to 12 nautical miles off the shore.

Under the Charter policy, 1981, a provision was made imposing a ceiling of \$ six lakhs per annum for charter hire for foreign vessels. Since in most cases such a limit would be reached within six months, operations would be suspended mid way at high seas. This

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## CONTINUED

provision also impeded the acquisition of vessels.

When the policy was amended in 1986, the period of chartering was reduced to a one-year term from the earlier three years extendable by two years. Now a charter vessel could be allowed extension for one year only.

Extensions were delayed till the Ministry was able to extract an additional Rs two lakhs as security, allege industry sources.

The new policy also restricted charter permits to only new applicants, keeping out the old and experienced charterers. Further, a contradictory provision ensured that while the permit period was only for a year, the acquisition obligation was spread over 18 months.

Bull trawlers, considered to be the most efficient fishing vessels, were prohibited to operate in the exclusive economic zone on environmental grounds. Subsequently with typical bureaucratic bungling, bull trawlers were again per-

mitted to operate after a government commission submitted a report stating that bull trawlers do not ruin the ecology.

The deep sea fishing industry has been demanding that a charterer should be allowed five trawlers for five years as provided in the MZI Act, with the obligation to buy one trawler in five years. The charterer should deposit only five per cent of his 20 per cent share per voyage with the Government as seed money.

The industry has also demanded the release of the letters of intent to all applicants of 1989 policy or allow the refund of the security and bank guarantee for the proposals submitted to the government and which have not yet been processed.

The Coast Guard should be spared of extra jurisdictional functions relating to fisheries, the industry has suggested. The role of the Coast Guard should be limited to checking of equipment, physical presence of personnel and prohibited area violations.



# FAO for 7-member mission to exploit deep sea fisheries

Jyoti Pande

NEW DELHI 26 JULY

THE FOOD and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and the government have recommended the constitution of a seven-member mission to work out detailed plans for exploiting the deep sea fishing sector.

This follows an FAO report on the sustainability and viable development of deep sea fisheries in India being widely discussed in the Union agriculture, food processing and commerce ministries.

The FAO had also recommended to the World Bank that funds be made available to develop deep sea fisheries in India. Several meetings with the Association of the Indian Fishery Industry as well as an inter-ministerial meeting have since been held to discuss the report.

The recommendation for a mission was floated at the inter-ministerial meeting held under the chair-

manship of the agricultural ministry in June this year, to study the main problems of deep-sea fishing before tapping resources.

Two FAO members and three representatives of the Association of Indian Fishery Industries were among the non-governmental participants at the meeting.

It was observed at the meeting that the \$100,000 needed for the mission have yet to be found. However, the food processing ministry said funds would not be a constraint once the approach of such a mission was agreed upon.

The fishery technologist of FAO, Rome, who attended the meeting specified the constitution of the mission. He said it would consist of a naval engineer, a resource person and a charter fisherman. Besides these three, the mission will also have three Indian counterparts and a person conversant with the institutional framework.

## FAO to give technical aid for deep sea fisheries project

ECONOMIC  
TIMES 29/7/92

Our New Delhi Bureau

NEW DELHI 28 JULY

THE FOOD and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) is ready to give technical assistance to India at a cost of Rs 15 crore on project management and consultancies in the deep sea fishing sector.

The FAO has recommended funding of this project to the World Bank.

This is part of a Rs 264-crore package recommended by a project report submitted to the food processing ministry here on Monday, to be routed to the agricultural ministry.

The brief report by the Association of Indian Fishery Industries is based on a comprehensive FAO report on sustainable and viable development of deep sea fisheries submitted to the government and the World Bank recently.

Industry sources are hopeful of getting funds from the World Bank. In a letter to the industry, FAO said the Bank has shown interest in deep sea fisheries development in India. The FAO has told them the

Bank has been "informally sounded" on the issue and had given a positive response, they added.

It is understood that the Indian government as well as the FAO would like the Bank to treat the FAO report as a pre-investment study. The report has been cleared in principle by the government in an inter-ministerial meeting by the food processing well as the agricultural ministries.

Meanwhile, an inter-ministerial meeting on June 19 has recommended that a project report based on the FAO report be jointly worked out by the food processing ministry and the Association of Indian fishery Industries to be submitted to the agriculture ministry by July 20. This report was submitted by the AIFI to the food processing ministry here on July 27.

The project report on diversifying fishing operations of 85 trawlers at Visakhapatnam has recommended setting up a coordination body to review implementation of the project.

The body, the report says, should be composed of representa-

tives of the government, Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India, FSI, Marine Products Export Development Agency, AIFI and FAO.

SCICI and the review body are expected to assist in providing personnel and services for the project with a total expenditure of \$ 49,35,000. The report proposes to diversify shrimp trawlers to exploit marine resources of a high to medium commercial value in the deep waters of the Indian EEZ. It has estimated a yield of Rs 850 crore per annum in exports.

The report has recommended as a first step to re-fit and modify the existing fleet and convert, over a phased programme spread over three to four years, into the following fishing methods; oceanic pelagic long lining, demersal lining and trapping, and deep sea trawling.

Of the total estimated cost of Rs 264 crore, Rs 240 crore has been estimated as infrastructural requirements such as cold storage, processing plants and super market centres as well as refrigerated vans for rapid transit.

# Deep sea fishing attracts many new entrants

An increasing number of large industrial houses have been venturing into the fisheries sector in recent years. A major attraction for them is the high prices of prawn, tuna and other marine products in the international market. These are major export items from the developing countries of Asia and South America to the U.S., Japan and Europe.

The scope for sizable foreign exchange earnings from the export of prawns has been a significant factor in the development of deep sea fishing in India.

The management of tuna stocks poses a real challenge. Techniques have been developed to assess and predict the exploitable stocks of tuna and manage them on a continuing basis at the optimum

levels. A holistic picture of stocks can greatly help in deciding the fishing effort and the optimum investment for economic exploitation.

With the liberalisation of policy relating to foreign collaborations, there has been a rush for promoting deep sea fishing projects. The Union Government has cleared as many as 17 such projects, all 100 per cent export oriented units and most of them with foreign equity participation. The proposed total investment in all these is Rs. 844.45 crores. The details are spelt out in a reply to a starred question in the Rajya Sabha.

The biggest among the proposals relates to the joint venture of Indian Fisheries Limited (New Delhi) with an outlay of Rs. 598 crores. The company

has proposed to lease/acquire 48 mini-liners, 12 multi-liners and two tenders. The foreign investment in the project will be \$ 800,000 or a 40 per cent equity participation.

Other projects involve outlays between Rs. 47 crores and Rs. 4.7 crores. The bases of operation for these ventures will be Madras, Visakhapatnam, Kochi, Paradeep, Mangalore and Goa. The vessels to be deployed include tuna long liners, stern trawlers and tuna purse seiners.

Another big investment relates to Soviet Sea Foods (New Delhi) amounting to Rs. 47.05 crore with a foreign equity participation of \$ 116,000 accounting for 70 per cent. The company will be operating from Goa.

## Details of deep sea fishing ventures cleared

Company name	Type of vessels for operation	Nature of project	Projected investment (Rs. in crores)	Foreign investment (in thousand dollars) and equity percentage (in brackets)	Base of operation
Fishing Falcon Ltd., Hyderabad	Two tuna long liners	100 per cent EOU Acquisition Joint venture	29.50	860 (40)	Madras
Oceania Merchandise Ltd., Hyderabad	Three stern trawlers	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Leasing	17.47	167 (40)	Visakhapatnam
Target Marine and Engineers Ltd., New Delhi	Two stern trawlers	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Acquisition	6.30	40 (40)	Goa
Leo Sea Foods Ltd., New Delhi	Four stern trawlers and one factory trawler	Joint venture Acquisition	15.94	56 (40)	Goa
Shivganga Fisheries Ltd., New Delhi	One tuna purse seiner	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Acquisition	25	140 (42.4)	Cochin/Madras
CM Trading Co. Ltd., Calcutta	Two stern trawlers and one tuna long liner	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU	15.75	1452 (49)	Gopalpur/Paradeep
Greaves Cotton Ltd., Bombay	One unit of tuna purse seiner consisting of three vessels (catcher and two scout boats)- fish aggregating device	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Test fishing	5.40	800 (48)	Madras
Leela Sea Foods Pvt. Ltd., Visakhapatnam	Four stern trawlers	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Acquisition	3.73	14 (19.35)	Visakhapatnam
INKO Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Two stern trawlers	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Acquisition	11.25	167 (51)	Madras/Cochin/Mangalore
Buoyancy, New Delhi	Two stern trawlers	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Leasing	18.75	—	Goa
Sea Joy Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	One stern trawler	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Leasing	3.97	—	Goa
Sovin Sea Foods Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	One factory freezer Trawler	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Test fishing	47.05	116 (70)	Goa
Chaika Exports Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	One stern trawler	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Test fishing	10.53	43 (50)	Madras
Indian Fisheries Ltd., New Delhi	48 mini-liners and 12 multi-liners and two tenders	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Leasing/acquisition	598	800 (40)	To be determined
Indamar Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Three stern trawlers	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Acquisition	2.90	40 (40)	Madras
Oriental High Sea Fisheries Ltd., Calcutta	One factory trawler	Joint venture 100 per cent EOU Acquisition	14	230 (40)	Vizag/Madras/Goa/Mangalore
K.S.K. Fisheries Ltd., Calcutta	One unit of tuna purse seiner consist of one catcher, three skiff boat and two carriers	Test fishing	18.90	920 (40)	Madras

# States asked to protect rights of traditional fishermen

Our Agriculture Editor  
NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked all maritime states to strictly enforce the Marine Fishing Regulation Act to enable artisanal fishermen to have exclusive fishing rights within 10 kilometres.

This is expected to help strengthen community-based fishing rights.

The government also proposed to introduce artificial reefs and mariculture along the coastline so that culture of selected marine organisms could be undertaken.

Besides, there is a plan to introduce a programme for exploitation of pelagic fishery resources in a phased manner.

All this is being done as part of the government's policy to give top priority to the development of the fisheries sector.

As it is, fish production in the country has registered a growth rate of over five per cent for the fifth consecutive year at a time when the world fish output has shown a declining trend. India's contribution to the total world fish production has, consequently, risen steadily.

Marine fish production has increased from 16.58 lakh tonnes in 1987-88 to 25.76 lakh tonnes in 1992-93. Similarly, inland fish output has increased from 13.01 lakh tonnes to 17.89 lakh tonnes.

There has also been a spectacular growth in the export of marine products. In quantitative terms, the exports have gone up from 86,000 tonnes in 1984-85 to 2.09 lakh tonnes in 1992-93 — an increase of over 21.5 times.

In terms of value, the marine exports have registered a 41-fold rise — from Rs

385 crore to Rs 1767.43 crore.

Though shrimp accounted for about 44 per cent of quantity and 71 per cent of value of exports, recently marine exports have been diversified with frozen squid, cuttle fish and a variety of fishes being exported to several countries.

The programmes and policies for giving further impetus to this sector is currently being discussed at the two-day meeting of the central board of fisheries. Fisheries ministers and officials of fisheries departments in states are members of this board.

In his inaugural address, agriculture minister Balram Jakhar cautioned the inland fisheries to avoid over-exploitation. He pointed out that in states like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, precautionary

measures were needed to regulate shrimp farming in all ecologically sensitive areas.

He called for measures to continuously monitor adverse impacts of aquaculture projects.

Jakhar urged commercial banks and the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (Nabard) to provide loans to fish farmers on favourable terms.

Jakhar said the government had introduced a central sector scheme in 1992-93 to create the infrastructure for inland fish marketing in the country.

A central grant of Rs 3.55 crore was made available to 15 states to establish 18 fish marketing units.

Jakhar also called for an integrated approach to augment fish production and also to improve the socio-economic condition of fishermen.

HT 12/9/92

## Deep sea fishing resources not fully exploited

NEW DELHI, Sept. 10 (HTC)

The Association of Chartered Fishing Trawler Operators of India (ACFTOI), has alleged that by not exploiting the deep-sea fishing resources, India was losing Rs 15,000 crore in foreign exchange.

Talking to newsmen Mr V. Tulsi Ram, former member of Parliament, who is also the president of the ACFTOI said that 4,800 trawlers were required to exploit the entire fish potential but only 27 vessels were in operation with the result that the country was suffering heavy losses.

Mr Tulsi Ram further said that if all the required vessels were engaged in fishing, then it would generate employment for 96,000 people.

B.S. 29/10/92



# First-ever Indo-Taiwanese deep sea fishing venture okayed

Jyoti Pande

NEW DELHI 23 DECEMBER

THE GOVERNMENT has cleared the first deep sea fishing joint venture between an Indian and a Taiwanese company with the Artina Fishing Co-Ting Tai International Co Ltd tie-up forming Ting Tai India Ltd.

Though India does not have diplomatic relations with Taiwan, sources said that the trawlers purchased from the former would carry under the Indian flag.

One of the two deep sea fishing collaborations worth Rs 34.72 crore cleared early this week, this venture has been okayed subject to the company not utilising its vessels for bull trawling, which is banned in the Indian EEZ as per government policy.

The other joint venture involves Oceanic Fishing (International) Ltd, a Russian company, which will invest 49 per cent equity in the form of deep sea fishing vessels. The joint venture company — Marine Resources International (MRI), New Delhi — will buy trawlers on a deferred payment basis from Russia and operate the vessels in the Indian EEZ.

According to the project report of the company, the net foreign exchange earning would be Rs 60.18 crore in five years. The outflow of forex towards the loan for the purchase of the vessel, foreign crew, dividends, expert services, marketing commission, travelling, etc, would be Rs 92.7 crore. On this basis, the value addition has been calculated at 39.36 per cent.

According to the joint venture contract, the Russian company will provide the vessel, trained crew and other technical assistance as required. MRI will also market the product to Russia and Third World countries at internationally prevailing prices at the time of export.

The Russian company will invest through the supply of two second-hand vessels, fishing gear and tackles worth Rs 23.55 crore. The rest of the money will be put up by the Indian side in the form of a cold storage of 1,000 tonnes capacity, transport facilities and pre-operational expenses.

The investment of the Russian company will be limited to 49 per cent and the rest will be treated as a loan and paid back in instalments over 5 years.

The Taiwanese joint venture

company, Ting Tai India Ltd. Visakhapatnam, on the other hand, has a total cost of Rs 7 crore, which will be shared by both companies on a 51-49 per cent basis. The export value of the catch will be Rs 52.33 crore according to the project report; the net forex earnings Rs 25.67 crore. The value addition has been calculated at 49 per cent.

The stern trawlers proposed to be acquired by the company are capable of being used as bull-trawlers as they are twin vessels of the same kind, say sources.

ECONOMIC TIMES 6/9/92

# Govt yet to clear proposals for chartered trawlers

United News of India

NEW DELHI 4 SEPTEMBER

THE GOVERNMENT is holding 175 applications seeking clearance for operating chartered fishing trawlers for the last three years, the Association of Chartered Fishing Trawler Operators of India (ACFTOI) has said.

ACFTOI president V Tulsiram told reporters here because of indecision on the proposals for chartering trawlers, poachers from Thailand, Indonesia, Korea, Taiwan, Japan and Bangladesh were taking away the catch from exclusive economic zone of India.

Mr Tulsiram alleged that the government was not clearing the proposals because of "baseless" objections from the Coast Guards of India. He said "the coast guards are in connivance with the poachers."

He said that a UN committee of experts had identified the need for 1,530 trawlers for exploiting the deep sea fishing harvest. India to-

day had 79 trawlers in operation, he said. Fish worth Rs 15,000 crore was being wasted because of shortage of trawlers, said Mr Tulsiram.

Mr Tulsiram said entrepreneurs had submitted their proposals following a public notice in August 1989. Each of the applicant was required to set aside Rs 5 lakh in the form of equity capital to be eligible for the bid.

Consequently Rs 8.75 crore of the entrepreneurs' money was blocked, he said.

Mr Shamsheer Singh, member of the association said India had a fishing potential of 4.5 million tonne against the actual catch of 1.5 million tonne. The area of deep-sea fishing was completely untapped. Out of the total exports of Rs 1,424 crore, the share of deep-sea fishing was less than 1 per cent, Mr Singh said.

"India is the only country where fish die of old age", he said while referring to the unexploited fishery reserves.

Mr Tulsiram said going in for

the chartered trawlers was a better business proposition for the entrepreneur as also the country. The investment on the vessel was entirely borne by the foreign companies. They would operate in the Indian zones and give 20 per cent of the revenue from the catch.

Mr Tulsiram said that the Planning Commission had cleared a proposal for setting up a National Fishing Board.

ACFTOI met minister of state for food processing Giridhar Gommango on August 27 and pleaded their case for fast clearance of the proposals.

The ACFTOI members told the minister that chartering of fishing trawlers was not a new proposition. The trawlers had been operating since 1981 and the coast guards had not found any evidence of security threat or environmental damage to the Indian seas.

They said 27 chartered trawlers in operation would shortly be phased out leaving the Indian sea virtually open for the poachers.



# Fishery joint venture rejected on green grounds

Jyoti Pande

NEW DELHI 8 JANUARY

THE FOREIGN Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) is understood to have rejected the deep sea fishing joint venture application of Peeeyes Marine Ventures (India) Ltd and Singapore-based Addico Trading Co Pvt Ltd on ecological grounds.

The board has said that the rejection is due to fragile ecological conditions near the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the area where the joint venture company wants to set up operations, say informed sources.

The FIPB is yet to officially com-

municate the refusal to those concerned. The company, may, however, be allowed to make a representation explaining its stand or modify its presentation with the elimination of the factors that have brought about the rejection, say sources.

The project involves trapping and exporting live fish and lobsters, including rare species such as the parrot fish. Two vessels were to be taken on lease from the Indian company, and traps were to be set up in the rocky and coral areas near the Andaman Islands. Sources say that it was felt that without any real government monitoring, over-ex-

ploitation was likely to result, and consequently, upset the delicate ecological balance.

Although the venture's project cost was merely Rs 1.14 crore, the net foreign exchange earnings worked out to Rs 12.6 crore in five years. Forex earnings from the export of live fish and lobsters was projected at Rs 14.8 crore. Foreign holding by the Singapore company is 20 per cent.

The Union food processing industries ministry is understood to have become more conscious of the environmental angle ever since it banned bull trawling, a standard practice by most Taiwanese vessels

poaching in Indian waters. This involves a net held between two trawlers being dragged along the ocean floor.

Not only fish, but also other flora and fauna of the ocean are thus trapped.

The rejection of the joint venture between the Singapore and Indian company is the first instance of environmental factors becoming so important in the current scenario.

Recently, the government had cleared the first-ever Indo-Taiwanese fishing joint venture on the condition that the company did not go in for bull trawling.

## Government efforts to revive deep-sea fishing stalled

ECONOMIC TIMES  
20th MARCH 93

Our New Delhi Bureau

NEW DELHI 19 MARCH

THE GOVERNMENT plan to revive the deep-sea fishing industry has been stalled, with the World Bank still undecided on whether to release funds for commercial test fishing in India.

The demonstration fishing project is crucial to the revival of the deep-sea fishing industry, according to both the government and industry. The project was initiated in line with recommendations made by the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

The Bank was to take a decision on the release of funds as well as the pattern of funding this week, according to sources. However, the delay in the decision by the Bank is mainly owing to the lapses on the part of the government.

Although the department of economic affairs has requested the Bank to release the full amount of \$6 million to the project implemen-

tation authority, the government has not clearly indicated whether it would include deep-sea fishing in its joint programme of work with the Bank. A formal communication to this effect is required, as the funds for test fishing are being requested in the nature of a grant.

Furthermore, the ministry along with SCICI and the deep sea fishing industry has been trying to identify three deep-sea fishing vessels, to begin with, from the existing fleet for modifications and re-fitting. This is the first step for the demonstration project. However, this too has been delayed. Sources say that the Bank is willing to fund the commercial fishing venture, if the government displays its seriousness about rehabilitating the industry. The deep-sea fishing industry has been reeling under heavy debts as it is a capital-intensive industry. Recently, SCICI Ltd, which

has been servicing the financial needs of the industry, has begun seizing and auctioning fishing vessels for which the debt repayments have not been made.

The sickness in the deep-sea fishing industry, identified as a thrust sector, has been recognised and several rehabilitation packages were worked out but were unsuccessful, say sources. The project management and consultancy for demonstration commercial fishing will be provided by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Significantly, this could be a precursor to a substantially larger infusion of funds by the Bank aimed to revive the deep-sea fishing sector in India. If the commercial test fishing venture is successful, industry sources maintain that financial support would be forthcoming from both national and international financial institutions.

### National Fisheries Policy

SOON

By a Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Oct 13

The Government has decided to formulate a National Fisheries Policy which will be a part of the overall plan to give a thrust to the integrated development of fisheries in the Eighth Plan.

An expert group has been constituted to examine all aspects of production, marketing, processing and exports in the fisheries sector. The group will also take up the issues relating to the welfare of fishermen in the country.

TIMES OF INDIA

14th OCT. 93

The special secretary in charge of fisheries in the department of Agriculture and Co-operation will be chairman of the expert group.

The expert group will co-ordinate the efforts of all concerned for the development of fisheries. A special focus will be given for the development of brackish water aquaculture. It will also review the measures for combating fish disease.

# MNC backing for Innovative Marine

BY MUDAR PATHERYA

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

**Name:** Innovative Marine Foods Limited.  
**Project:** Seafood processing for exports.  
**Project cost:** Rs 25.40 crores.  
**Plants:** At Alleppey (9,272 tonne annual capacity) and at Talaja (12,564 tonne annual capacity).  
**Issue opening:** January 18, 1993.  
**Offer to resident Indians:** Altogether 25.76 lakh shares at Rs 10 each.  
**Projections:** Sales of Rs 47.51 crores and Rs 78.02 crores and cash flow of Rs 6.05 crores and Rs 6.83 crores in 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.  
**Post-issue equity:** Rs 12.50 crores

Aquaculture is in. Over the last year-and-half the number of companies to have gone public for the purpose of shrimp culture or tuna fishing or seafood in general has turned from a nervous one or two into a number. There is Alsa Marine, Fishing Falcons, Integrated Rubhan, Mac Industries, the Waterbase Limited and Baylithers Limited. On January 18 1993, yet another venture goes public—Innovative Marine Foods Limited.

Normally, one would have glossed over the issue but for a interesting feature. Mitsubishi Corporation is picking up a 11 per cent stake in the company. Foreign companies and the promoters are picking up a combined 51 per cent of the company's equity. The promoter Amalgam Foods posted a cash flow of Rs 1.46 crores for 1991-92 on an equity of Rs 44 lakhs. Innovative Marine is itself projecting a cash flow of Rs 6.05 crores on an equity of Rs 12.50 crores for 1993-94. Immediately you sit up and

### Take notice.

One of the reasons why marine exports are being taken seriously in the country is the tremendous forex earning potential of the industry. Reasons: The total coastal area available for aquaculture in the country is estimated at 12 lakh hectares, whereas only 27,500 hectares have currently been exploited. Besides, sea-food exports which were Rs 1376 crores in 1991-92 could be expected to touch Rs 13,500 crores by the end of the decade.

The venture involving Mitsubishi Corporation, which cur-

rently buys Rs 200 crores of sea-food from the country per annum, appears to be a step in the direction. "We are going to buy shrimp, freeze it under the individually quick frozen (IQF) technology, pre-cook in certain cases, and pack in the buyer's brandname to be able to sell abroad," says Mr Amar Shridharani, joint managing director of Innovative Marine.

But why would Mitsubishi be interested in joining hands with an Indian promoter in buying back from this country? "The reprocessing costs are high in the Far East with labour

costs having gone up in the last few years," says Mr Shridharani. "As a result, those countries are looking to source from India which can supply shrimps at a lower cost."

There is another advantage for sourcing companies abroad to buy from here. When the shrimps are frozen under the IQF technology the shrimp loses its water content and weight to the extent of 90 per cent (it becomes lighter as a result) but not its mineral content. So when the processed shrimp is exported, the freight element drops substantially.

But considering that the sea-food will be purchased directly from the fishermen, what is the guarantee that the quality of the catch will be comparable with the international standard? Mr Shridharani agrees that there would be little control of the quality of shrimps being pulled in. "But that would be a risk for each of the processing companies in the countries," he says. "Besides, it would not be possible to go in for captive farming on a big scale because that would not be commercially viable under one company. A captive

farm entails high overheads. Nowhere in the world, except possibly Ecuador, has it been possible to combine the two activities within a single company. Captive farming would require a separate company.

There is a downside to the project/industry. One, profit after tax for 1993-94 may appear unreasonably high at Rs 5.24 crores because of the capitalisation of interest (a mere Rs 31 lakhs); in the following year as per the ICICT-appraised projections, PAT drops to Rs 4.59 crores as interest burden jumps to Rs 3.27 crores. Two, No marine foods company has been able to stun the stock market as yet; Alsa Marine is quoted at Rs 80 on the stock market but it posted an annualised ceps of only Rs 4 plus during the first half of 1992-93.

Now for the optimistic side of the project. One, the management has been exporting sea-food since 1977. Two, it was perhaps the first ever Indian company to have had a tie-up with C. Itoh—the largest trading house in the world—in 1984. All in all, appears to be highly attractive issue.

## Deep-sea fishing policy to change

Our Agriculture Editor  
NEW DELHI

The government has decided to modify the deep sea fishing policy in view of the losses being suffered by most companies engaged in this venture. The objective is to improve the profitability of deep sea fishing to attract more investment in this sector.

A technical committee, headed by former food processing industry ministry secretary P. Murari has already been set up to look into the problems of the deep sea fishing industry and suggest corrective measures.

Its members belong to departments of food and agriculture, economic affairs, industry and

food processing.

Three deep sea fishing experts and two representatives of fishing industry have also been included in this team.

The committee has been asked to review the existing deep sea fishing policy and suggest the necessary amendments. The report is expected in three months.

Besides assessing the factors responsible for sickness of the deep sea fishing industry, the panel would review the implementation of the rehabilitation package announced in April 1991 and recommend additional measures that are required to nurse this sector back to health.

The work of financing this sector is entrusted to the Shipping

Credit and Investment Company of India limited (SCICI) in April 1987.

It sanctioned about Rs 73.06 crore as loan for acquisition of 36 vessels.

This measure, however, did not solve the problems of this sector and most companies engaged in deep sea fishing continued to incur losses due to various operational and managerial constraints.

The government later decided that the erstwhile SDFC-assisted fishing companies should be provided rehabilitation reliefs after taking into account the representations received from the Association of deep sea fishing industry. Consequently, a rehabilitation package was announced by the SCICI in April 1991.

BUSINESS STANDARD 17th June 93

## Single agency for fisheries opposed

Surinder Sud  
NEW DELHI

The agriculture ministry's efforts to bring under one umbrella all activities connected with the development of fisheries have fallen flat, with other ministries and departments refusing to give up parts of the lucrative sector they control.

The high-powered committee of secretaries headed by cabinet secretary S Rajagopal has turned down Krishi Bhavan's proposal for a separate fisheries department or even an "interface mechanism" under it to coordinate activities of the various agencies.

At present, activities related to fisheries are handled by several ministries and departments, ranging from the department of agriculture & cooperation under the agriculture ministry to the ministries of commerce, food processing industries, and the departments of ocean development and bio-technology.

With 13 of the 34 activities related to fisheries being handled by more than one agency, confusion reigns in the sector.

Krishi Bhavan has been trying for some years to effect better coordination among all the agencies to boost the production, processing, marketing and export of marine products.

But the other ministries and departments have seldom taken kindly to these moves because of the big money involved. Marine fisheries is no longer a matter of a few fishermen eking out a living; it is attracting big business houses and multinationals.

Even the proposal for an "interface mechanism" got a hostile reception and was finally rejected by the committee of secretaries in the first week of June.

The committee favoured the continuation of the present arrangement, but also agreed that better coordination is a must.

"It is not considered necessary to amend the allocation of business rules to vest exclusive res-

ponsibility for all associated/related activities in a single ministry or department," it said.

So the commerce ministry will continue to look after the export aspect, the ministry of food processing industries the post-harvest processing, and so on.

It, however, suggested that the department of agriculture & co-operation convene regular meetings with all other ministries and departments to work out a unified approach.

Fisheries experts say the stand of the committee of secretaries is not in the best interests of the fisheries sector.

India has an estimated 14 lakh ha of brackishwater land suitable for prawn culture. Over half of this is on the east coast where about 10,000 ha of prawn farms have come up. But no state government of region has prepared a blueprint for development of integrated environment-friendly prawn farms.

The agriculture ministry's proposal for brackishwater aquacul-

ture development authorities has not also been rejected, mainly because of opposition from the commerce ministry.

There are several instances of misuse of funds due to overlapping of function. The agriculture ministry's scheme for development of brackishwater prawn culture through district-based brackishwater fish farmers' development agencies (BFDAAs) can be a case in point.

With assistance of up to Rs 30,000 a hectare routed through state governments to farmers, under this scheme, about 7,000 farms have come up in the coastal states.

But, in 1990, the commerce ministry started implementing a similar scheme through the Marine Products Export Development Authority in which the funds are given directly to the farmers. Instances have come to light where the same farmer has managed to get the assistance twice as two agencies are operating without any coordination.



The setting up of an expert group to formulate a national fisheries policy is an acknowledgement of the fact that the traditional policy responses to this sector are becoming less effective. The emphasis on mechanised boats as the main instrument of increasing production has contributed to the over-exploitation of marine resources. In some parts of the coast the decline in marine resources caused by the growth in the number of these boats has been accentuated by the ability of the larger mechanised boats to ignore traditional fishing seasons. This does not give sufficient time for the regeneration of marine resources. The impact of these adverse trends tend to be most severe on traditional fishermen. Apart from the immediate decline in the catch of individual boats, a decline in marine resources also raises doubts about the sustainability of some components of the official strategy to improve their socio-economic conditions, such as the motorisation of traditional craft. Traditional fishermen also do not benefit from some of the more positive developments in fisheries. The substantial growth in exports that is expected from the involvement of the corporate sector in inland fisheries is likely to improve the conditions of new land owning fish farmers rather than the traditional fishermen. And the government's efforts to offset the negative trends in traditional fishing through schemes like the reimbursement of central excise duty on high speed diesel used by small fishing vessels are weak attempts to counter an irreversible trend.

There may well be very much more to be gained by encouraging the trends that are emerging from within fisheries without attempting to swim against the tide. The involvement of the corporate sector in fisheries has the potential to overcome some of the major constraints that have emerged in this sector. The scale of their operations should enable them to generate the investment required for deep sea fishing. Since their investments will be for the long term, they may be more sensitive to the risks of over exploitation of marine resources. Corporate entities are also likely to be more aware of the risk of an export basket where shrimps account for nearly three-fourths of the value of exports, and they would have access to the technology as well as the marketing skills required to diversify exports. And since there are currently subsidies being paid in an effort to achieve some of these objectives, a corporate investment led strategy for fisheries would also be less of a burden on the government's resources. Such a strategy does not, of course, mean that the traditional fishing community can be ignored. Efforts will have to be made to find a place for these communities in a modern fisheries sector. They could find employment in a rapidly expanding deep sea fishing network or processing units that will necessarily form a part of any successful export oriented fisheries industry. The mechanism through which the traditional fishing community can be integrated into a modern fisheries sector is a matter that needs to be worked out in detail. But it should be clear that there is much to be gained if the new policy were to concentrate on developing such mechanisms rather continue with the current practice of subsidising backward technologies.

## Govt planning new fishery schemes to boost export

ECONOMIC TIMES

29/10/93

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI 28 OCTOBER

THE GOVERNMENT proposes to introduce artificial reefs and mariculture along the coastline to undertake culture of selected marine organisms, according to the Union agriculture minister, Dr Balam Jakhar.

The government is also planning a programme for exploitation of marine fishery resources in a phased manner, Dr Jakhar told a meeting of the Central Board of Fisheries here on Thursday.

His address was read out in his absence by the minister of state for agriculture, Mr S Krishna Kumar. Dr Jakhar called for an integrated approach to augment fish production and also to improve the socio-economic conditions of fishermen.

He stressed the need for strict enforcement of the Marine Fishing Resolution Act by all maritime states and Union territories to enable fishermen to have exclusive fishing rights within 10 km.

He also cautioned the states to be careful in the development of inland fisheries to avoid over-exploitation.

Dr Jakhar said in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, precautionary measures should be taken to regulate shrimp farming in ecologically-sensitive areas. He also suggested that measures should be undertaken for monitoring adverse impacts of such projects.

Outlining the vast export potential of the fisheries sector, the minister said proper marketing support should be provided to ensure remunerative prices to fish producers.

He called upon commercial banks and NABARD for providing favourable terms and conditions for loans to fish farmers.

He said the government had introduced a Central-sector scheme during 1992-93 to create infrastructure facilities for inland fish marketing in the country. A central grant of Rs 355 lakh was made available to 15 states to establish 18 fish marketing units.

The minister expressed concern over the slow implementation of schemes for the welfare of fishermen. He said that it was essential to provide a socio-security net and also develop model villages for fishermen. This would go a long way to improve their economic conditions.



# Marine fisheries board on anvil

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, Aug. 2: It is proposed to set up a national marine fisheries development board as a registered society during the Eighth Plan period for the overall development of marine fishery in the country.

The board will assist and carry out a developmental role in the marine fishery sector and take up commercial deep sea fishing projects involving fishing, processing and marketing. Such projects are supposed to act as models for fishery entrepreneurs.

The board will coordinate and strengthen the efforts of public, cooperative and private organisations (small, medium and large) engaged in the exploitation of marine fishery source. It will assist in financing of fishery projects and channelise government assistance.

It will also help in building a domestic fish marketing system, including promotion and coordinate with export promotion agencies. It will also help in the creation of infrastructural facilities in marine fishery sector and operations.

Economic News Service

# Smooth operatives

SUNDAY OBSERVER 27/11/93

They are fine-sounding phrases but mean nothing.

EDWARD GOLDSMITH

The Development industry has mastered the techniques of saying much and meaning nothing. Consider the following extract from a 1984 speech by the then assistant director-General for fisheries:

*This programme is based on an integrated approach to the development of small-scale fisheries and the improvement*

ence. The adverse effects upon fisherfolk of modernisation are the destruction of their communities, the export of the fish which once fed them, and the overfishing and eventual exhaustion of their local fish stocks.

The techniques used by the development industry's sophisticated propaganda machine have been analysed by A F Robertson. He highlights the language used for selling its



Modernisation of fisherfolk: what they mean and what they say

## what's the buzz

of the socio-economic conditions of communities of artisanal fishermen and their families. It will promote the skills, capacities and potentials of fishing communities, through the active involvement and participation of the fishing villagers in the planning and implementation of management and development activities.

To the uninitiated it sounds wonderful. In reality none of it stands up to a critical analysis. It is merely a way of making people believe that the modernisation of fishing is designed to help local fishing communities when, in fact, FAO wants to modernise fishing to create a market for trawlers, radar and sonar equipment, nylon nets and modern warehouses, and, most importantly for the expertise which FAO must provide to justify its own exist-

ences and stresses that much of its value rests in its imprecision of meaning. He points out that the buzz words which it uses can be combined into almost infinite permutations and still mean something.

Robertson illustrates this (see box) by listing 56 words which occur the most frequently in a planner's lexicon. These are arranged in four

different columns of 14 words.

One word can be selected at random from each column to compose a four word, typical development phrase. For example, A3, B6, C9 and D12 make "systematically balanced co-operative action." A12, B9, C6 and D3 construct another fine sounding phrase, comprehensively mobilised

rural participation. None of these phrases mean anything yet they are typical of the seductive language which fills the countless speeches, plans, project proposals and glossy pamphlets of the development industry.

This page has been coordinated by Sanctuary features.

	A	B	C	D	
1	Centrally	Motivated	Grass-roots	Involvement	1
2	Rationally	Positive	Sectoral	Incentive	2
3	Systematically	Structured	Institutional	Participation	3
4	Formally	Controlled	Urban	Attack	4
5	Totally	Integrated	Organisational	Process	5
6	Strategically	Balanced	Rural	Package	6
7	Dynamically	Functional	Growth-oriented	Dialogue	7
8	Democratically	Programmed	Development	Initiative	8
9	Situationally	Mobilised	Cooperative	Scheme	9
10	Moderately	Limited	On-going	Approach	10
11	Intensively	Phased	Technical	Project	11
12	Comprehensively	Delegated	Leadership	Action	12
13	Radically	Maximised	Agrarian	Collaboration	13
14	Optimally	Consistent	Planning	Objective	14

E. TIMES 14/10/93

## National fisheries policy on the anvil, expert panel set up

**Our New Delhi Bureau**

NEW DELHI 13 OCTOBER

A NATIONAL fisheries policy will be formulated as part of the overall plan to give a thrust to the ongoing integrated development of fisheries in the Eighth Plan (1992-97).

The government has constituted an expert group to examine all aspects of production, marketing, processing and exports in the fisheries sector, which will also take up issues pertaining to the welfare of the fishermen.

An official release issued here on Wednesday said the expert group would coordinate the efforts of all concerned both in the public and private sectors.

It would incorporate strategies to ensure adequate inputs of science and technology keeping in view the necessary environmental safeguards for ecologically sustainable production.

A special focus would be on the development of brackish water aquaculture and the expert group would also review the existing measures for combating fish disease.

The government has also reconstituted the Central Board of Fisheries which is the apex body for the integrated growth of fisheries.

The board meeting under the chairmanship of the agriculture minister would discuss several policy issues for giving impetus to the development of this crucial sector.

India remains the seventh largest producer of fish in the world, and the second in inland fish production. Fish production leaped from 28.01 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 to 43.65 lakh tonnes in 1992-93. Marine products export fetched Rs 1,768 crore in 1992-93, the release said.

The government has allocated Rs 400 crore for the fisheries sec-

tor in the Eighth Plan as against an outlay of Rs 99 crore in the last Plan.

The special secretary in charge of fisheries in the department of agriculture and cooperation will be the chairman of the expert group. Other members will be the joint secretary (fisheries), and one representative each from ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research), department of commerce, the ministry of food processing industries, ministry of environment and forests, bio technology, department of revenue, insurance and representatives from the states of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

The expert group will include one member each from the Fisheries Cooperative Federation (Fishcofed) and the Association of Indian Fishery Industries (AIFI), besides the fisheries development commissioner.

## MARINE PRODUCT

## Strict Steps Needed To Check Foreign Piracy

**T**HE *Statesman* in its January 12 Delhi edition has reported that the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has presented a strategy paper on development perspectives for the Eighth Plan (1990-95). In the strategy paper, *The Statesman* reported, the MPEDA complained of procedural delay in implementing development schemes in the fisheries sector. According to the paper the Commerce Minister, Shri Arun Nehru has already responded to complaints favouring a single-window clearance for all export sectors, including marine products.

One can have no objection by itself to introducing a single-window clearance system for all export. The blame for the adverse balance of trade can again be apportioned to the existence of a multi-channel export processing system. What is required prior to any policy shift, is the identification of actual necessity, and the interests in every cross point of the existing system, the possible obsessions behind each of the new proposals or complaints. Otherwise the spontaneous policy declaration, on the contrary, may lead the Janata Dal Government to entrapment of vested interests. The vested interests in our country operate through a despicable section of the bureaucracy. In the case put forward by the MPEDA, there can be no two opinions on one aspect of their memorandum, viz., the shabby state of the sea food exploration system. But the supplications are mostly confusing and misleading.

India, amongst very few countries, has a large sea coast with two million sq.km. of an exclusive economic zone. But surprisingly, this huge resource potentiality for marine products, which is precious in terms of Indian exports, has been left to deception all these

years in the recent past. In the name of chartering foreign vessels, the entire Indian Exclusive Economic Zone had almost been left to bands of foreign pirates. Taking the Maritime Zone of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act 1981, as their sanctuary, a huge number of foreign vessels, with the complicity of absentee Indian license-holders, have been freely exploring the Indian marine coasts for years together. The MPEDA representation to the Government of India has aired its grievances against withholding a proposal of the previous Government to further expand the vessel chartering system.

According to MPEDA representation India's total foreign export of marine products was 4.5 million tonnes, which is only 0.31 per cent of world exports.

Even countries like Thailand or Taiwan are ahead of Indian exports. What is interesting to note in the representation is that out of a total of 4.5 million tonnes export, 1.9 million tonnes has come from in-shore catching alone. The All India Deep Sea Fishing Technocrats' Association in a memorandum to Shri Sharad Yadav, Minister of Food Processing and Textile, has answered the most pertinent question, where the huge deep sea explorations by the foreign chartered vessels are accounted for. The memorandum submitted by the association on January 11, 1990 speaks of virtual non-accountability of deep sea fishing conducted by the chartered trawlers.

The memorandum points out that according to the provision of chartering foreign vessels, all the trawlers after fish-catching, should report to the nearest port for disposal to meet processing and export regulations. The All-India

Deep Sea Fishing Technocrats' Association complained that the real practice is not to report, but expropriate the entire catch for onward shipments to foreign lands. Catchment handed over for Indian processing are meagre and negligible.

The Maritime Zone of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act 1981 provides for the chartering of foreign trawlers subject to the willingness to transfer sophisticated harvesting and post-harvesting technology to Indian technicians. The Act envisages the introduction, as a most temporary arrangement, till country's deep sea fishing fleet is augmented within a short period. But the previous Congress(I) Government allowed the vested interests' inroad into this sphere and sought to make the chartering arrangement permanent.

According to the Act Indian fishermen are to be advanced licenses where they come into joint ventures with foreign trawler owners, on the provision of maintaining 20 per cent of the crew from the Indian side. In practice, licenses are accorded to people unconnected with deep sea fishing. Many of them are Congress(I) henchmen. These license holders swindle huge amounts of money from foreign trawler-owners, allowing them free hunting of Indian maritime resources in the deep sea. Licenses are multiplied and a number of trawlers are put out to catch against a single license.

The Technocrats' Association has claimed that hundreds of trawlers from Thailand, South Korea and Taiwan are involved in this deep sea piracy. Catching and shipment of precious species of fish, shrimp and lobsters to foreign countries, goes on unabated throughout the year. Even the prohibition on rainy season catchment which is

must for the growth of the marine resources, is disregarded. According to the Association, the east coast potentiality has been almost exhausted. Now the west coast is under loot, the Association pointed out.

While the Technocrats' Association has been demanding the discontinuance of the system of chartering foreign trawlers for a long time, the Government of India under Congress(I) yoke, had decided to expand the system. It was processing 30 applications for introducing Pair Trawlers in the deep seas, but could not finalise them due to the change in Government. The MPEDA is now pressing the new Government for an early clearance of these Applications. The Technocrats' association is of the view that if the Pair Trawler chartering is allowed, then Indian marine resources will dry up within a narrow span of time. This type of trawler under every single operation catches everything within a length of one mile and the catchment can spread upto the soil level of the deep sea.

Therefore in the given context any decision in favour of renewing the vessel charter system and its extension, should be preceded by thorough examination of its past working. The question of self-reliance in maritime exploration, and the proper utilisation of Indian know-how and manpower should also get proper weightage. In the past years the charter trawler authorities blatantly violated the provision of 20 per cent recruitment from indigenous sources, and thus not only kept the option of pilferage in their hands, but also frustrated all efforts of developing indigenous technical know-how for deep sea catching. The training system initiated by the Government owned trawlers has trained a substantial number of technicians, but they

remain mostly without any employment due to the non-availability of a sufficient number of deep-sea trawlers in the Government's hands. Nearly 50 lakh traditional fishermen are starving, while their jobs, along with the deep sea fishing, are pirated by the foreigners.

The Government must find ways to prevent the anti-national activities in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, protect the jobs of the technicians and fishermen. Only Government involvement in exploration can save the situation. For long-term planning, the Government must have its own trawler fleet. — Jibon Roy



# Development News

A WEEKLY INDIAN EXPRESS FORUM FOR SOCIAL ISSUES

## DEVELOPMENT SHORTS

### Fishermen hope for big catch

For several years, traditional fishermen have been fighting the deep sea trawlers and the gillnets (3 to 5 kms long and extending to a depth of 50 to 100 m) that have been sweeping the sea clean, leaving them with virtually nothing.

Now the decision of the Technology Mission to introduce 2600 deep sea fishing vessels and the rush by industrial houses, some of them in league with foreign companies, has disturbed the National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) as well as the Small Mechanised Boat Operators to dash off a letter of protest to the Prime Minister.

Chairperson of the NFF Thomas Kocherry says the policy to promote joint ventures, most of which are 100 per cent export oriented, is anti-national and anti-fish-erfolk.

What is more the country's past experience in deep sea fishing has been disastrous, leading to a Rs 100 crore loss. The existing 148 vessels, many of them owned by fisheries departments of coastal states, go where the water is over 50 metres deep and cut through the gillnets.

In their pursuit for shrimp, they discard other species, thus destroying and depleting large quantities of fish. The NFF wants a Deep Sea Fishing Regulation Act which would ensure that deep sea resources are harvested on a sustainable basis. ■



# Deep sea fishing Fishermen seek policy changes

The Hindu  
BUSINESS LINE

Wednesday, February 2, 1994



Shyam G. Menon  
KORILL, Feb. 1

**T**HE recent issue of 49 individual licences for deep sea fishing and joint ventures to American, Taiwanese, Japanese and Mexican firms by the Centre, has drawn strong opposition from the fishing industry.

The Chairperson of the National Fishworkers Forum (NFF), Mr. Thomas Kocherry, has said that the all-India fisheries bandh scheduled for February 4 is likely to be total in Gujarat, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

Both traditional fishermen and the mechanised sector will participate in this one-day protest against the Centre's deep sea fishing policy. He told Business Line here, 14 national fishworkers unions have supported the agitation.

He alleged that the 1992 Technology Mission, on the basis of which these ventures are justified, was not realistic. The NFF says all these new vessels are likely to end up fishing in the coastal waters, further depleting fish resources and the displacing the 75 lakh people involved in the fishing industry.

Taking the specific instance of Visakhapatnam, Mr. Kocherry says the Fisheries Survey of India has estimated the maximum permissible catch along its coast at 40 lakh tonnes per annum. Of this, roughly half is in the coastal waters up to a depth of 50 mts and the rest extends outward to a depth of 200 mts.

It is an accepted fact that the coastal waters are over-exploited by as much as 3 lakh tonnes. According to Mr. Kocherry, this is mainly the work of the 148 deep sea vessels operating from Visakhapatnam. Several of these belong to other states such as Gujarat and Kerala and only about 20 are actually making profits.

Dr. P. S. B. R. James, Director of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), says the observation may be valid because shrimp catch in the eastern waters has reached a plateau. "We had said in 1986 itself that the number of vessels in Visakhapatnam should not exceed 100." Trawlers pouncing on coastal waters, he says, move in and out depending on what is the ruling delicacy in the market. Shrimp for instance is not a deep sea product, so the trawlers move toward the coast.

However Dr. James maintains that there is good scope for deep sea fishing. Of the total potential of 3.9 million tonnes of marine produce per annum from India's EEZ, only about 2.2 million tonnes are currently exploited.

It is against this background that the 1992 Technology Mission's findings have to be viewed. It had said that there was place for 2,670 more vessels of 14 mts to 40 mts length and ranging from 2000-5000 bhp capacity. Says Dr. James, "trawling off the South-

West coast is for deep sea lobsters which are scarce. Of this, the highest projected concentration was in the South-West with 1085 vessels, followed by the North-West and South-East with 680 each and the North-East with 305.

Once again citing Visakhapatnam's example, Mr. Kocherry says an FAO survey in 1991 pointed out that only 2 lakh tonnes of the total projected deep sea potential was commercially viable. Says Mr. Kocherry, "this can be tapped by the existing 148 vessels provided they diversify their catch."

Off the Bengal coast, clashes between traditional fishermen and deep sea vessels are common because it is easier and more remunerative for the vessels to stick to the coast. There is also no regulation to ensure that deep sea vessels stick to the deep sea.

A problem is the market-motivated fishing practice of trawlers. A good example is Ke-

The NFF is also opposed to joint ventures for deep sea fishing. He wants no schemes at the expense of the traditional fishermen.

He cites the case of expert fishermen like those at Thuthur in Tamil Nadu's Kanyakumari district, who go up to 200 mt-deep zones, travel widely along the coast and are supposedly the best catchers of shark and tuna with hook and line. The Government, he feels, should be encouraging these people instead of agreeing to joint ventures.

Dr. James's advice is more in tune with that of the Government. He says there is need for heavy investment in medium sized vessels but not large trawlers. He is also sceptical about the potential of traditional fishermen to stay at sea for a long time as required by deep sea fishing. However he said the Government had not taken the CMFRI's opinion before awarding the licences and joint ven-

slow in regeneration. So there is a slump either pounce in coastal areas or move off to other places where the catch is in season.

Mr. Kocherry says the present arguments are a betrayal of the NFF's stance upheld even by the Supreme Court. On an appeal by the State of Kerala, the court had observed that mechanised fishing using purse seine nets off Kerala had reduced the catch of traditional al crabs from 11.3 tonnes per annum in 1976-77 to 5 tonnes in 1980-82. It also noted that the 20.8 per cent increase in people involved in fish industry and the decline in fish production had pushed 98.5 per cent of them below the poverty line.

All this has brought up the question of a national deep sea fishing policy. Mr. Kocherry says the Food Processing Ministry has been promising a deep sea fishing regulation act for quite some time, but not implemented it.

# Marine exports: Scaling new heights

Financial Express, Bombay, Saturday, February 5, 1994 Page 7

INDIA's marine products exports have scaled new heights during 1992-93, touching 2,08,602 tonnes valued at \$615.06 million, accounting for 3.34 per cent of the nation's total exports. Though the trend has shown substantial progress, this could have been much higher if the exporters attached importance to the quality criteria.

As part of its efforts to boost exports, the government has permitted joint ventures in the private sector in fisheries industry with foreign financial and technical participation. Such a move has been initiated to tap the country's largely unexploited marine resources in its 2.09 million square kilometres of exclusive economic zone (EEZ). As of December last, 33 joint ventures have been cleared under this scheme by the Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MFPI), with more to follow soon. Partners in these 100 per cent export-oriented units (EOUs), which would engage in deepsea fishing include firms from DPR Korea, Denmark, Japan, South Korea, France, Estonia, Thailand, Russia and China. Of these, three firms would participate in marketing as well.

TABLE 1: EXPORT OF INDIA AND SHARE OF MARINE PRODUCTS  
1982-83 TO 1992-93  
(Rs. Crore - US \$ Million)

	Exports		Marine Export		Share %
	Rs.	US \$	Rs	US \$	
1982-83	8,834	—	361	—	4.05
1987-88	15,674	—	531	—	3.39
1990-91	32,553	18,153	893	499	2.76
1991-92	44,042	17,865	1,376	558	3.12
1992-93	55,351	18,425	1,767	615	3.34

The exploitation of marine fishery resources of the Indian EEZ was, more or less, confined to the inshore area by the subsistence, small scale mechanised and industrial sectors. In the traditional subsistence and small scale sectors, there were about 1,70,000 small motorised crafts, including catamarans, dug-out canoes and plank-built boats of different sizes. In the mechanised and industrial sectors there were 25,000 small mechanised boats, 181 deep sea trawlers, five tuna long liners and about 55 chartered vessels. The operational area of 90 per cent of the mechanised and the traditional sectors were confined to coastal waters and not exceeding depth of 505 metres. The constituted barely 10 per cent of the 2.02 million square kilometres of the EEZ. Out of an annual production of approximately 212 mt, mechanised vessels contribute on an average 1.60 mt, while motorised country crafts, and non-mechanised crafts account for 0.21 and 0.39 mt respectively. The largely Visakhapatnam-based operations of the industrial fishing on the north-east coast are restricted to shrimps.

Moreover, the financial participation in these ventures vary from 10 to 50 per cent. A total of over 250 vessels - trawlers, tuna long liners and tuna purse seiner - would be brought either on straight purchase or on deferred payment, the rest would be acquired on long-term lease.

Latest studies estimate the potential for fisheries industry in the EEZ at 3.9 million tonnes (mt). The estimates take into account the 2.21 mt of inshore fishery resources from the east and west coasts upon a depth of 505 metres, offshore and deep sea resources between 50 to 500 metres depth contributing 1.40 mt and oceanic resources yielding 0.3 mt tuna and related fish. The unexploited and under-exploited resource beyond a depth of 50 metres is estimated at 1.69 mt. At present the existing fishing fleet's catch has been valued at around \$202.1 million per annum. If the potential marine resources of around 6,97,000 tonnes valued at \$874.4 million from the deep sea and oceanic region is added, a conservative estimate of the potential value of exploited marine resources would be \$1,000 million by the year 2000 AD.

Under the government's new industrial policy entrepreneurs, including large industrial houses and multinational companies, are permitted to take up deep sea fishing by setting up joint ventures with foreign financial and technical participation. Joint venture arrangements with improved types of vessels, designs and techniques of fishing suitable to local conditions have been envisaged. Single window clearance for joint ventures is being accorded by a high-level committee of Secretar-

ies on deep sea fishing under the Chairmanship of the Finance Secretary.

The government permits persons eligible to apply under the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981, acquire vessels on lease for a period not exceeding 15 years. The vessels can also be acquired under the 100 per cent EOU scheme availing all benefits there in. From the time of operation of the vessels the project should obtain a positive net foreign exchange inflow each year of operation. The cost of fuel procurement in India would be included, while computing the foreign exchange outflow. Acquisition of second hand vessels would also be permitted subject to satisfactory certification by approved surveyors regarding their seaworthiness and future serviceable life.

The resources, which would contribute more than 100,000 tonnes of average annual catch of tuna, carangids, tibbon fish, pelchies, mackerel, oil sardines, prawns, sharks, sciaenids and c fish, says Mr. K. Balakrishna Pillai, Chairman of the Marine Products Export Development Agency (MPEDA). The other commercially important resources are cephalopods, deep sea lobster, deep sea prawn, anchovy and sea fish.

The total world market for fish and fishery products is expected to rise to between 100 and 110 million tonnes by the year 2000 AD. Mr. Pillai told PTI Economic Service. Growing demand, he said, would mostly result from the increase in population and the preference for

white fish meat to the red meat from other animal sources. (See Table 2)

**TABLE 2**  
**INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES**  
**TRADE AND**  
**INDIA'S SHARE**  
(In US \$ million)

Year	World Export	India's Export	Share %
1983	17111	353	2.06
1984	17186	333	1.94
1985	18620	299	1.61
1986	24255	362	1.49
1987	30537	378	1.24
1988	35325	421	1.22
1989	35896	392	1.09
1990	39540	467	1.18
1991	43546	570	1.31
1992	48000	516	1.20

Frozen shrimp dominated India's exports forming 35.66 per cent by volume and 66.78 per cent by value, Mr. Pillai says. Japan lifted the major quantity of 34,600 tonnes followed by Western Europe taking 20,749 tonnes, while the United States imported 14,045 tonnes forming the third major market for Indian shrimp. Out of 74,393 tonnes of shrimp valued at Rs. 11,802.6 million, 8,587 tonnes worth Rs. 1,277.75 million was in the IQF form which fetched Rs. 148.80 per kg. Japan offered the highest unit value of Rs. 208.59 per kg, followed by Western Europe with Rs. 123.91 per kg and US Rs. 103.36 per kg. Of the total world market for fisheries products valued at about \$ 36,000 million, shrimps, tuna and cephalopods account for 17.29, 10.43 and 5.02 per cent respectively.

Although Indian marine products are exported to over 70

countries, Japan, Western Europe and the United States account for a share of 62 per cent by volume and 85 per cent by value. The market share for Japan which stood at 57 per cent by volume during 1981-82 fell to 19.77 per cent in 1992-93 and value also dropped from 71 per cent to 45.37 per cent. However, exports to Western Europe increased from 13 per cent by volume to 32.39 per cent during the same period while the value increased from 10 per cent to 28.94 per cent. The market share of the US also showed a declining trend as it dropped from 15 per cent to 9.65 per cent in volume. However, in terms of value it showed only a marginal decline from 12 per cent to 10.78 per cent.

As the government promotes joint ventures in the fishing industry aimed at harvesting a high yield, it is also necessary to develop the infrastructure simultaneously in order to handle the large catch of marine products. Lack of canning and processing facilities in the country, according to experts, would force the companies to move their catch to countries that offer large fish processing and canning plants. Lack of infrastructure facilities had also been a major disadvantage, which has been impeding the flow of foreign investments in the fishing industry sector in the country.

The existing processing, canning and storage facilities are too little to handle large quantity of fish landing. Such facilities are available at present at the 18 major fish landing centres of Porbandar, Veravali, Bombay, Ratnagiri, Panaji, Karwar, Manga-

lore, Kozhikode, Kochi, Tuticorin, Kollam, Mandapam, Cuddalore, Madras, Kakkada, Visakhapatnam, Puri and Calcutta (See Table 3).

**TABLE 3. FACILITIES AND CAPACITY OF FISHERIES AS ON 30.11.1993**

Facility	Nos.	Capacity per day/tonnes
Freezing Plant	308	4013.75
IQF Facilities	73	369.65
Canning Plants	23	81.50
Fishmeal Plants	18	333.50
Frozen Storages	380	621.70
Pre-processing Centres	880	2268.55
Registered Exporters	1027	

According to sources, a National Fishing Harbour Authority would be set up for the development of exclusive fishing harbours in the country. Two such harbours under development are at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Vizhinjam in Kerala.

The quality of the finished product would depend to a great extent on the levels of hygiene and sanitation in the processing establishment, says Mr. Pillai. In order to match the challenges in the overseas markets, he suggested that Indian seafood industry adopt the latest post-harvest and marketing techniques. Impervious attitude towards the criteria of hygiene and sanitation by some exporters had, in fact, created doubts on the credibility of certification given by certain authorised exporters forcing a few developed countries in Europe to

conduct a tour of these plants in the country, for an on-the-spot study of the environment of such units.

The Centre would be drafting a national fisheries policy as part of its strategy to give a thrust to the integrated development of fisheries in the Eighth Plan. An expert group has also been constituted to examine all aspects of production, marketing, processing exports in this sector.

Besides, according to Dr. Shaktivel, an expert on aquaculture, and a Director at the MPEDA, there are more than 100 estuaries and three large coastal lagoons in India with about one million hectares of coastal marshy land, suitable for shrimp farming. Out of this 70,700 hectares are utilised, producing about 47,000 tonnes of marine shrimps. Fresh water prawn production is estimated to be around 3,000 tonnes, he says.

Heavy investments are on by many large industrial houses and middle level companies to set up integrated farming units with farm, hatchery, food mill and processing plants on the east coast of the country, says Dr. Shaktivel, adding that at the initiatives of the MPEDA most of these companies are promoting satellite shrimp farming system so as to assist a large number of small farmers around them with sea, feed and technology. There are at present 17 aquaculture projects under implementation with 100 per cent export-oriented units on the eastern coast, and in six of them the MPEDA has equity participation ranging from Rs. 16 lakhs to Rs. 50 lakh.

(PTI Economic Service)



# New deal for the fishing fleet

BRIJENDER SINGH PANWAR

**N**IGHTMARE scenarios painted by one of the futurologists for 2000 AD may not come true, but warning bells have rung for the world's coastal areas, where the world's largest cities like New York, Tokyo, Singapore and Bombay are situated.

After considerable deliberations since 1964 the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea reached a consensus on the declaration of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in which the management responsibility of the coastal countries has increased considerably.

Now, these countries have the right to explore, exploit and conserve the resources available up to 200 miles from the shore which includes an area of about two million sq km.

The Exclusive Economic Zone has a special significance for the less developed countries (LDCs).

In the overall picture, the LDCs are short of animal protein, and malnutrition is common. Fishermen and large section of the coastal population are poor.

The population density is very high and per capita income is low. Now, the question arises as to how these trends can be improved by judicious management of the EEZ.

The Indian Ocean is a scientifically less known ocean compared to the Atlantic and the Pacific. However, after the International Indian Ocean Expedition and different Food and Agricultural Organisation schemes, a clear picture of the physical, chemical and biological parameters is available.

The data is enough to provide base line information for future planning. The estimates of fish production potential from the Indian Ocean vary from 11.0 to 20.0 m tons as against the present production of 5.0 tons.

Though the estimates show wide variations there is a general agreement that the present production can be increased many fold.

All countries in the region can at least plan to double their production during the next five years and by the end of the century a production of 6.0 m tonnes can be aimed at. Special strategy should be, however, planned for island states.

According to Dr S A H Abidi, scientist-in-charge of the National Institute of Oceanography, Regional Centre, Bombay: "The present day fishing pattern can be divided into two parts — company owned and artisanal fishery.

The company-owned boats employ about 0.45 million fishermen to catch approximately 24 million tonnes of fish per annum for human consumption whereas the artisanal fishery catches about 20 million tonnes and employs 8.0 million fishermen.

However, there is lot of difference between company-owned boats and artisanal fishery in terms of employment. The number of fishermen employed in company-owned fishery are 10 to 100 for an investment of \$1.0 million whereas in the artisanal fishery about 1,000 to 10,000 people get jobs for the same investment.

In the Indian Ocean, even today, though there is less investment in artisanal fishery, the catch is more than 60 per cent of the total fish and employ about 70 per cent of the fishermen population.

Thus, there is a dire need to help

small-scale fishermen in India by upgrading the equipment and market facilities," Dr Abidi said.

Indigenous crafts, fishing and navigation are an age-old tradition. The existing boats are amenable to mechanisation, and this has been done successfully in Maharashtra and other states.

The advantages are that fishermen are familiar with them and they are generally made of good wood which is locally available.

These local boat-building yards should be supported by the banks and government working capital.

Besides, shore facilities, like fishing harbours and jetties are inadequate along the Indian Ocean coast.

There is an urgent need to provide for all-weather fishing harbours and fish landing jetties, and a judicious combination of both is required.

There may be a major harbour for every 300 to 400 km of the coastline depending upon the resource base of the region, and the coastline in between the major harbours should have jetties and shore facilities.

These should be supported by an infrastructure for boat repair facilities, cold storage and freezing and for processing plants and transport, he added. The production of marine living resources can be increased to three times the present level by the end of the year AD 2000 if the multi directional approach of developing

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There is need for a comprehensive review of the state of the art of the coastal countries for a judicious management of the exclusive economic zones

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this sector is followed.

A large number of fishermen are not highly skilled and belong to the economically weaker sections.

The fisheries development schemes should be directed towards benefiting larger number of fishermen rather than the investor or industrialists.

Cooperative ventures among fishermen should be encouraged. The development of multipurpose Fishermen's Cooperative Societies for boats, supplies, transport and consumer goods has yielded good results.

The cooperative approach should be applied both to the professional needs and for day-to-day requirements to get rid of the middlemen.

The case can be well illustrated by the success story of the Fishermen's Cooperative Society at Varsova, Bombay.

The society has benefited 2,000 fishermen and has been running at a profit for the last 30 years.

Development schemes should be geared around the individuals, the development of local areas and local resources.

This will bring about integrated rural development and result in improving their living standards and income and will stop the migration from rural areas to cities.

The government and semi-government organisations should provide for a revolving fund to ensure continuous regional development. Another issue which needs immediate attention is that the coastal environment is fast deteriorating and needs legal and technological efforts backed by political action to stop further pollution caused by an increase in population, industries, shipping and oil exploration.

Measures are also necessary to protect breeding grounds and movement of migratory fishes.

New activities in any area like reclamation of land and the setting up of industries should be undertaken after full assessment of the environmental impact. □

BPO 27/7/91



**SECTION IV**

# WORLD CATCH

Country	1991 Catch (tonnes)	Place	1990 catch (tonnes)	Place
China	13,134,967	1	12,095,363	1
Japan	9,306,827	2	10,350,338	3
Former USSR	9,216,927	3	10,389,030	2
Peru	6,944,172	4	6,875,072	4
Chile	6,002,867	5	5,195,418	6
USA	5,473,321	6	5,858,506	5
India	4,036,931	7	3,794,038	7
Indonesia	3,186,000	8	3,043,183	8
Thailand	3,055,170	9	2,786,383	10
South Korea	2,515,305	10	2,833,398	9
Philippines	2,311,797	11	2,208,823	11
Norway	2,095,912	12	1,711,336	13
Denmark	1,793,171	13	1,517,211	15
North Korea	1,700,100	14	1,750,100	12
Canada	1,529,779	15	1,624,335	14
Mexico	1,429,137	16	1,400,885	16
Spain	1,350,000	17	1,450,000	17
Taiwan	1,307,034	18	1,444,453	19
Iceland	1,051,441	19	1,508,866	16
Bangladesh	892,700	20	847,830	22
Vietnam	877,000	21	850,000	22
United Kingdom	830,587	22	768,882	24
France	812,773	23	898,477	20
Brazil	800,000	24	802,860	23
Myanmar (Burma)	769,236	25	743,818	25
Argentina	640,636	26	555,571	29
Malaysia	620,000	27	603,981	26
New Zealand	609,031	28	559,996	28
Morocco	592,881	29	565,521	31
Italy	548,242	30	519,922	31
Pakistan	515,497	31	479,036	32
South Africa	498,881	32	536,400	30
Poland	457,399	33	473,011	33
Netherlands	443,097	34	459,022	34
Tanzania	400,300	35	414,040	38
Ecuador	386,600	36	391,118	36
Ghana	364,959	37	391,595	35
Turkey	364,640	38	384,810	37
Venezuela	352,835	39	332,218	39
Portugal	325,349	40	321,891	40
Senegal	319,693	41	297,876	43
Germany	300,184	42	390,813	37
Egypt	298,012	43	312,950	42
Iran	277,444	44	270,983	40
Nigeria	266,562	45	316,328	41
Uganda	254,900	46	245,223	49
Faeroe Islands	246,010	47	267,198	45
Sweden	245,016	48	260,124	46
Ireland	240,703	49	218,512	51
Hong Kong	230,910	50	234,493	50
<b>World total</b>	<b>98,925,900</b>		<b>87,433,500</b>	



Conflict and depleted stocks are forcing small scale fishermen to move to unfamiliar grounds, where it takes time to develop understanding of the new fishery

## A FISHY BUSINESS

**HAVING** decimated their own fishing grounds, northern fleets are increasingly moving to southern waters, where their largely unpoliced activities are helping to deplete stocks. Developing countries, themselves under pressure to pay off debts, are catching and exporting more — with serious consequences for the resource itself and for the millions of poor people who depend on fish for protein.

Already, stocks in four of the world's 17 major fisheries are seriously depleted, while catches in nine others are declining, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The tragedy is that we do not know the status of most stocks, says David Die, stock assessment expert at the FAO. "But of those we know of, most are fully fished or over-fished." FAO fisheries experts say that apart from war-torn Somalia and Mozambique, the stocks of virtually all coastal countries have been over-fished.

The stocks are also under attack from pollution, which damages coastal estuaries where fish breed. About 90 per cent of the fish harvested

from the sea are caught in the shallow waters over the continental shelves, where the water is also the filthiest. Big oil spills at sea make the news but four-fifths of marine pollution is discharged from the land in a steady, undramatic stream of sewage, industrial chemicals and heavy metals, pesticides, fertilisers, oil, mine tailings and plastic. Even organic waste from fish-processing plants is damaging fisheries in some areas.

Fish provide 29 per cent of the animal protein eaten in Asia. The corresponding figure for Africa is 18.6 per cent and 7.6 per cent for Latin America. But many fishing communities depend much more heavily on local

Fishing is a moneyspinning industry for the coastal nations. But indiscriminate worldwide exploitation of this natural resource has resulted in diminished supply of this important source of protein reveals Kelly Haggart.

ies, and throughout much of the developing world, pressure from foreign fleets and the export-driven policies of indebted national governments have meant that even as the catch increases, many are eating less fish than a decade ago.

Attracted by prices ranging from US \$100 a tonne for fish-meal species to US \$20,000 a tonne for bluefin tuna, developing countries are exporting more. Their share of world fish exports shot up from 32 per cent in 1970 to 47 per cent in 1989, with the bulk of it going to northern countries.

There can be little doubt that this export boom has brought in much-sought-after hard currency: developing countries' net earnings from fish exports more than doubled between 1983 and 1989, reaching US \$10 billion and exceeding revenues from coffee, tea or rubber, the FAO says.

And the flow of fish from south to north is likely to continue as debtor nations exploit their natural resources to raise foreign exchange. Senegal, for example, effectively earmarks almost its entire earnings from fish exports for interest payments on its long-term debt.

While the global marine catch has remained fairly steady for the past few years, the FAO says, this plateau has been maintained by catching less valuable species and younger fish, a practice that threatens the sustainability of the resource. For years, fisheries scientists have seen this crisis coming and advised governments to

governments have set the quotas higher than recommended, while fishing trawlers have caught more than those overly generous quotas allowed.

So far, governments show no signs of acknowledging any blame for the disaster. "Pathetically, they blame the poor seals, who are known by scientists not to eat many commercial fish," says the British magazine *New Scientist*. "It is not seals that threaten the collapse of world fisheries. It is human greed."

Around the world, the fishing sector is often one of the most disadvantaged; northern governments have typically responded by heavily subsidising the industry — usually a popular move since fishers tend to live in areas where there is little other work. These subsidies have swollen national fisheries to

an unsustainable size, spurring the construction of bigger, more annihilating fleets, equipped with even more sophisticated fish-finding technology. Trawlers today can catch, process and freeze up to 200 tonnes of fish in four hours. Simply by touching one button, the trawler is able to find the fish shoals, drop the nets, catch the fish and process it all in one go in an operation called the "complete integrated catch".

According to the FAO, more than one million registered trawlers, purse-seiners and gill netters are now operating worldwide, and probably twice as many unregistered ones. "There is no economic reason for keeping such large

of the FAO. "The overriding reason is social. Closing down some fisheries would lead to massive unemployment."

In the European Community (EC), for example, one consequence of hefty subsidies that promoted the growth of a basically sick industry has been that many boats have started looking beyond Europe for fish. Until the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea began to take effect in the late 1970s, international fishing fleets roamed at will outside countries' 22-kilometre territorial limits, plundering stocks, often damaging local fishing grounds, then moving on. Under the Convention, coastal nations gained jurisdiction over 370-kilometre (200-nautical-mile) Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). The idea was that fish stocks would be better managed by countries that had a vested interest in keeping them healthy.

Almost no one now argues that the EEZs have protected stocks or produced the unalloyed bonanza for Third World coastal countries that was once predicted. And a recent FAO report concludes that small scale, or artisanal, fisheries "have not received any great benefit" from the extension of fisheries jurisdiction.

Most developing countries — South Korea and Taiwan being notable exceptions — fish mainly inside their own EEZs; those unable to harvest their entire catch generally grant other states access to the surplus. Some 15 African states, for example, have signed agreements with the EC since strict quotas were introduced in European waters a decade ago. Such accords are supposed to benefit developing countries through licence fees and the economic spin-offs from local processing of some of the fish.

But increasingly, governments and, above all, small-scale fishers are dissatisfied.

## THE HIDDEN COST OF 'EFFICIENCY'

The small scale fishing industry employs at least 10 million people. And it is this community, whose livelihood depends on the fish in the sea, which is interested in protecting them and ensuring their long time survival says Simon Burne.

The demand for fish is rising fast, and in a bid to boost supply, trawlers have been introduced — often as part of aid packages — as the most "efficient" way of exploiting fish resources in developing countries. Most of these schemes have meant rapid profits for the trawler owners, followed by exhaustion of fishing grounds and the subsequent impoverishment of the communities whose livelihoods depend on those fish stocks.

Realising their mistakes, aid agencies are now seeking to support small scale fishing communities, which are more likely to protect the stocks that are their insurance for long-time survival. Aid projects have usually revolved around technical innovations to increase catches, such as motorising boats, in the hope of revitalising the artisanal sector in a sustainable way. But this does not necessarily follow.

Twenty years ago trawlers were introduced to exploit the rich prawn resources off Kerala in southwest India. The big boats devastated the spawning grounds of other fish species, with a resulting collapse of the artisanal sector which employs 130,000 fishers and probably a similar number, mostly women, in associated industries.

In order to compete, small-scale fishers started investing in improved technology: outboard motors to get them farther out to sea, smaller mesh nets and sturdier plywood boats. This helped boost catches, but put even greater pressure on a resource that was already being over-exploited. Fish catches started to decline, and since the expensive new technologies have only been accessible to the better off, there has been a marked concentration of wealth, with the poorest becoming completely excluded.

Now the communities

themselves are beginning to question the wisdom of what they are doing. The South India Federation of Fishermen's Societies has recognised the need to move from "capture fisheries", where stocks are seen as a resource to be exploited to the maximum, to "nurture fisheries", where the resource is seen as renewable and which each community has the duty to maintain.

They are now focusing their efforts on technologies that "nurture", such as artificial reefs, mangrove planting and developing alternative employment for the growing numbers who can no longer earn a living from fishing. At the same time, they are becoming increasingly successful at lobbying for control of the trawler sector so that spawning grounds are protected at the most sensitive times of the year. And sunken trawlers, incidentally, make excellent artificial reefs!

emic surveillance costs are steep. Without resources to police their EEZs, or an international mechanism to monitor the accords, developing countries often fall victim to poaching and over-fishing. It took big Portuguese boats only a few months to decimate Mauritanian lobster stocks. Several African countries are trying to negotiate fairer treaties that will also protect the resource. Namibia — whose rich fishing grounds were plundered by foreign fleets before independence two years ago — has been taking the lead.

But some Third World countries have also repeated the mistakes of the north, building up their own "modernised" fleets with help from development agencies and banks. Almost everywhere, meanwhile, the artisanal sector is neglected. Yet this fishery employs at least 10 million people — 20 times as many as the industrial sector.

Today, fisheries experts generally agree that in developing countries, the small-scale sector produces more economic and social benefits than the industrial one: it uses less capital and fuel, generally more selective gear, is based in rural areas and usually produces more food for the domestic market than for export.

Although long marginalised from decision-making, this sector is becoming better organised, particularly since 1984, when small-scale fishers from around the world met in Rome and decided to concentrate on building national and regional organisations. Scientists and other professionals have also lent a hand by forming the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF), with offices in Madras, Brussels and Valparaiso, Chile. "When small fishers have their own international organisation, we'll close up shop," says Pierre Gillet, a Belgian engineer who works with ICSF in Brussels.

In many countries, conflicts are growing between artisanal and industrial fishers. In Indonesia, such conflicts led to deaths and ship-burnings, and all trawlers are now banned from the western two-thirds of the country. ICSF says that in many countries, conflicts and depleted stocks are forcing artisanal fishers to move to unfamiliar fishing grounds, where it takes time to develop an understanding of the new fishery. But sometimes there is nowhere to go. Increasingly, small-scale fishers whose own areas have been over-fished are signing on with Taiwan deep-sea trawlers.

"We've become really alarmed about the huge Taiwan fleet," says Gillet. "Most of the boats are in pitiful condition; they're other countries' discards. In the past three years, an average of one Taiwan ship a month has gone down, with consequent loss of life.

"Taiwan has no diplomatic relations with anyone, so they poach everywhere," he says. "There are all kinds of Third World men working in inhuman conditions on these old, unseaworthy vessels. They're mostly artisanal fishers whose coastal areas have been over-exploited and they're desperate for a livelihood."

Meanwhile, those areas where they once made a living from the sea are under continuing attack. Attempts to rebuild depleted stocks with quotas and regulations are useless if the marine environment has been irreversibly damaged.

Industrialisation leaves its mark in coastal and inland waters, and in the marine species that live there. Beluga whales in the St Lawrence river near the world's biggest aluminium smelter are so contaminated that, under Canadian law, their corpses must be disposed of as toxic waste.

Pollution travels to the poles on the back of storms, and marine mammals far from

the probable industrial sources of their distress are also suffering. Penguins are dying on islands off New Zealand; whales off Patagonia in Argentina are developing pox-like skin diseases.

Despite evidence that the ocean does not possess an infinite capacity to accommodate filth, Britain, for one, still wants to be allowed to dispose of nuclear waste by dumping it at sea.

Nearly one-third of the world's population lives within 60 kilometres of the sea. Deforestation and coastal development — for urban growth or tourist resorts — pour sediments onto coral reefs, suffocating productive fish breeding grounds. As estimated 11 per cent of the total marine catch is from reefs, and they are under threat around the world.

Sanctuary  
Features Panoscope

There can be little doubt that this export boom has brought in much-sought-after hard currency: developing countries' net earnings from fish exports more than doubled between 1983 and 1989, reaching US \$10 billion, the FAO says. And the flow of fish from south to north is likely to continue as debtor nations exploit their natural resources to raise foreign exchange.

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**T**HE world's fishing industry badly needs a refresher course in elementary economics, to save it from itself.

Every student of Economics 101 is familiar with the rule, firmly rooted as it is in both logic and human nature, that when there is free and open access to a natural resource, communal or individual, simply do not exist—and neither does the basis for rational use of whatever goods or services (factors) are employed by people to exploit that resource.

The reasons are obvious:

- Without satisfactorily exclusive rights, a user can't afford to take an interest in future returns from a resource because anything left in the field "for tomorrow" will just be taken by someone else today.
- If a resource is free for the taking, it automatically has no price, and will thus attract excessive capital and labour eager to use it.
- Without clearly established, exclusive rights, users will fight over resources.

Applied to the global fishing industry, the logical playing out of this rule has proven more than inescapable. It is disastrous. Fishery resources are treated as open access goods, not only on the high fishery yields are by nature limited. This guarantees negative consequences, which is recent years have become exceptionally severe.

To stop the damage, and make it possible for the resource to recover, open access must be seen for what it is—bluntly, an affliction—and a market mech-

# Open access causing severe depletion

The world's fishery managers should review their economics textbooks to be able to formulate realistic fishing policies, since open access is proving to be a catastrophe, says Francis T Christy

assum that treats fishery resources as an economic commodity must be established.

**Depletion, waste and conflict**

When an open access fishery begins, those who enter first often take large individual fish and post high catch tonnages per vessel. This attracts more fishermen, who gradually catch all of the older fish, forcing down the size of individual fish taken and the total catch per unit of effort. For a while, overall tonnage may continue increasing, but only up to a point—usually just beyond that of maximum sustainable yield (MSY).

With continued fishing total tonnage will drop, but if consumer demand remains high, prices may rise, attracting still more fishermen. At some point, though, prices will rise too high, consumers will turn to a substitute species, and fishery investment will stabilise.

Though less obvious than the depletion sequence, economic waste is encouraged by open access. In most resource industries, those with exclusive rights—granted, for example, via licences, permits or quotas—try to maximise the difference between costs and labour to the point where marginal costs and revenues are equal. The difference between total costs and revenues is a resource "rent," or return, reflected in the value of the rights to exclusive use.

Under open access, however,

had with fewer fishermen and lower total costs. The sheer scale of economic waste in this situation is extraordinary. According to FAO figures, the total annual operating cost of the world's fishing fleet was US\$2 billion in 1980. Capital costs were estimated at \$2 billion, bringing total costs to \$124 billion. However, gross revenues from world fish production were only \$70 billion in 1980, leaving an annual deficit of \$54 billion. This haemorrhage was largely supported by subsidies to the fleets of the former USSR, Japan and Europe.

**The solution: Exclusive rights**

At least theoretically, the solution to these problems is simple; establish exclusive-use rights. The owners would then have an interest in future returns and preventing stock depletion—capital and labour so as to maximize net revenues and avoid waste. Exclusive rights would provide the basis for a market, which would more efficiently allocate resources.

The authority to set up exclusive-use systems already exists within the EEZs of individual states. As for the high seas, or areas where stocks are shared by several states, quota or other arrangements could be used to create usage rights. These might take various forms—limits on fleet size or amount of gear, shares of allowable catch, or rights to specific stocks or geo-

graphical areas. Exclusive could also be achieved indirectly through such disincentives as taxes or shrimp.

- Internal group conditions—social, cultural or economic conditions internal to a fisherman's group may induce its members to seek exclusive rights to a resource or an area. Many of the traditional TURFs already mentioned, for instance, owe their existence to strong group social ties. In Japan, culture

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resources, as commodities. A market mechanism is created which can be used to solve conflicts, such as that between tuna fishermen and animal rights activists who want to save the dolphins, sometimes taken in fishermen's nets. Since there is no market for dolphins, the conflict has remained in the political arena, where activists resort to embargoes and boycotts.

A recommendation adopted by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, however, would limit annual dolphin mortality to levels that would maintain healthy stocks. This limit can be divided into transferable dolphin quotas for fishermen. Those who believe no dolphins should be taken could be given the opportunity to buy individual quotas from fishermen, thereby reducing dolphin mortality still further. In summary, the creation of exclusive-use rights is essential to half the damage being done to fisheries by the present open access regime. Governments can pave the way for the necessary change by:

- encouraging the use of fixed gear, such as FADs, and coral reefs;
- strengthening fishing communities and fishermen's groups;
- decentralising management responsibility to local level;
- providing compensation mechanisms to ease distribution decisions;
- raising awareness of the need for such decisions prior to the point of major conflict;
- creating monetary measures for extracting economic returns and assigning economic values to resources.

Because the creation of these rights benefits some and excludes others, it requires political manoeuvres about the distribution of wealth—something outside the mandate of fishery administrators. Such policy decisions will only be made when the cost of not choosing is more than that of doing so—such as when conflicts between users become excessive or resources are so depleted there is no interest in fishing.

In Asia, battles between shrimp trawlers and small fishermen led to several bans against trawling in inshore waters—although enforcement difficult. These have led to more conflict. To encourage acceptance of a 1980 ban, Indonesia paid compensation to trawler-owners to help them switch to other gear. Though not followed up by a corresponding provision of exclusive-use rights to small fishermen, the decision demonstrated that wealth distribution choices could elp defuse conflicts.

Access to resources can also be controlled indirectly, through taxes, user fees and other monetary measures. The government acts as the owner of a resource, leading out its use. Only those willing to pay gain access. There are clear advantages for governments in treating

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# STOCKS SHARES

## Clear out foreign fleets

NEW ZEALAND fishermen are up in arms against foreign tuna fishing operators - particularly the Japanese - catching under licence and working inside the country's 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone.

"We want the foreigners out. We want the tuna fished by New Zealand-owned, crewed and operated vessels," said delegates at the recent Fishing Industry Association conference in Rotorua, on the North Island.

There are allegations that:

- the foreign tuna fleet operates as a tightly knit unit, intimidating smaller, local vessels so as to prevent them from working marks;

- the foreign tuna fleet has been intentionally setting lines so close to local vessels that propeller fouling becomes a very real possibility;

- the foreign tuna fleet has been falsifying catch records. The numbers of fish caught per hook and reported by the foreigners are lower than those taken by New Zealanders.

- some vessels in the foreign tuna fleet have false holds and have been transferring undeclared catches to mother ships while at sea.

In New Zealand there has long been the view that fisheries regulation are not sufficiently well policed and there is a reluctance to reprimand the guilty countries for fear of upsetting other trade.

According to John Wood, deputy secretary of the Ministry of External Relations and Trade, New Zealand did not own its 200-mile EEZ and any unused fishing capacity had to be offered to other countries.

He also had to balance the desire to rid its waters of

Japanese vessels with the risk of damaging the most lucrative market for fish.

"Japan is the fishing industry's biggest market and it pays a premium price. Very often the men doing the negotiating over fishing rights are the same ones doing the negotiating over trade access," says John Wood.

While such species as the

**- fishermen  
say 'keep  
NZ stocks  
for us'**

southern bluefin, bigeye and yellowfin tuna have in the past been mainly the preserve of sophisticated foreign deepwater vessels. New Zealand's distant water fleet has reached a level where it can now compete on an equal footing.

Running hand-in-hand with the growth of the New Zealand fleet is the increase in the knowledge of where and how to catch those fish, an improving understanding of the resource and an appreciation of the top export dollar that can be earned.

Under an international management program, New Zealand gets the smallest slice of the bluefin quota - 420 tonnes, compared to Australia's 5265 tonnes and Japan's 6065 tonnes. The estimated primary value of the bluefin catch from the EEZ is worth more than NZ\$15m. All is exported. The country gains another NZ\$3m from the licensing of foreign

vessels in home waters.

Successive New Zealand governments have justified the sale of fishing licences by using maritime law countries unable to utilise a fishery to its maximum yield are required to open them up to other nations, with provision for fees.

David Anderson, managing director of Sanford Ltd., says: "The foreign fleet should go. The southern bluefin tuna is under stress and that fish would be better off left in the water given the pittance New Zealand gets for it in licence fees."

All sections of the industry in New Zealand say conflict between locals and foreigners is set to increase. Fisheries Minister Doug Kidd moved to defuse "vessel conflict" off the East Cape of the North Island late last year.

The minister, aware that the feuding had the potential to jeopardise the development of the domestic industry, ruled that "foreign activity in the area 36 to 38 South will, therefore, be reduced by approximately 70 percent from that of 1991."

Only ten Japanese vessels, compared to 31 of last season, were able to operate in that area at any one time. Minister Kidd also ruled that they were required to maintain a minimum separation of five miles to prevent the 'block fishing' practice used by the Japanese.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) has deployed the use of several observers on foreign tuna vessels to monitor activities, catch rates and the by-catch.

The use of observers is part of an international program to help conserve the seriously depleted southern blue fin tuna.

**SECTION V**

## 6.9 Revalidated Resources of Indian EEZ beyond 50 m depth and the additional vessel requirement

6.9.1 The revalidated potential yield of marine fishery resources of 3.9 million tonnes of the Indian EEZ consists of three major components viz. the inshore fishery resources of upto 50 m depth all along east and west coast contributing 2.21 million tonnes, offshore and deep sea resources from 50-500 m depth contributing 1.395 million tonnes and oceanic resources consisting tuna and allied fishes and shark of 0.295 million tonnes. Since the scope for increasing production in the inshore waters is only marginal, no provision is made here for introducing additional vessels.

6.9.2 The unexploited and underexploited resource beyond 50 m depth estimated to the tune of 6.69 million tonnes is the main target for the future developmental strategy. Considering the availability of the present infrastructural facilities, economics of operation, availability of human resources, financial commitment and the possible influx of vessels to cater to the demand of certain specific resource of importance, a 50% level of exploitation only is suggested for computing the additional vessel requirement for the revalidated resource potential beyond 50 m depth zone of Indian EEZ. Even for the exploitation at 50% level of additional resources beyond 50 m depth a total of 2630 vessels of different sizes and types are necessary, the details of which are given in Table 16. The investment needed for the above fishing vessels and gear and for creating infrastructure in the fishing harbours, hinterland area amounts to a large scale investment. Vessels may have to be acquired on lease and even acquisition of second hand vessels at lower levels of investment may also have to be considered. The main resources and the recommended method of fishing beyond 50 m depth is given in Table-17.

SOURCE: "REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON REVALIDATION OF THE POTENTIAL OF MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES OF EEZ OF INDIA", FEBRUARY 1991



TABLE - 16

NUMBER AND TYPE OF VESSELS REQUIRED TO BE INTRODUCED  
REGION-WISE IN PHASES FOR EXPLOITATION OF ADDITIONAL  
RESOURCES BEYOND 50 m IN THE INDIAN EEZ

Type of vessel	OAL. (m)	BHP	Expected catch (T)	Number of vessels				Total
				South West	North West	South East	North East	
Trawlers (Demersal-cum Pelagic)	25-30	500-800	400	400	600	130	200	1330
Gill netter-cum long liner	12-20	80-120	120	500	50	500	50	1100
Long liner-cum Gill netter (for shark)	25-30	450	600	20	30	10	15	75
Long liner cum Gill netter	36-40	750-1000	700	60	.....	.. ..	40	100
Purse-seiner for oceanic Skip jack	36-40	2000	2000	25	.....	.....	.....	25
<b>Total</b>				1005	680	640	305	2630

\* This may be exploited by pole and line fishing as well.

N.B: Sizes of vessels are only guidelines

Source: Prepared by Working Group

TABLE - 17

RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED METHODS OF  
FISHING BEYOND 50 m DEPTH

Coastal tuna	Gill netting
Tuna	Long lining, Gill netting
Skipjack	Pole & line, Purse seining
Bill fish	Long lining, Gill netting
Shark	Long lining, Gill netting, Bottom trawling
Squid & cuttle fish	Bottom trawling, squid jigging
Sciaenids	Bottom trawling
Perch	Bottom trawling, Gill netting, Traps, handlining
Cat fish	Purse seining, Pelagic trawling
Ribbon fish	Pelagic trawling, Bottom trawling
Sardine & anchovies	Pelagic trawling
Mackeral	Gill netting
Carangids	Gill netting, Pelagic trawling
Horse mackerel } <u>Decapterus spp.</u> }	Pelagic trawling, Bottom trawling
<u>Nemipterus spp.</u>	Bottom trawling
Bull's eye	Bottom trawling
'Ghol'	Bottom trawling, Gill netting
Black ruff	Bottom trawling
Indian drift fish	Bottom trawling
Lizard fish	Bottom trawling
Deep sea prawn & Deep sea lobster	Bottom trawling

# MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES IN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO DEEPSEA FISHING

D. SUDARSAN

Fishery Survey of India, Bombay

## Abstract

Estimation of fishery resources potential, identifying the component stocks and assessment of the respective stock sizes are essential elements for determining appropriate exploitation strategies for fisheries development.

Among the diverse techniques and different data bases used for assessment of fishery potential, the most direct are those based on resources surveys. From the results obtained in the surveys conducted by Fishery Survey of India during the past two decades the fishery potential of Indian EEZ is assessed as 3.92 million tonnes. Of this, the demersal stocks form about 1.93 million tonnes, the coastal pelagic stocks 1.74 million tonnes and oceanic resources 0.25 million tonnes. Coast-wise, west coast supports 60.1% of the resources, east coast 27.8%, Lakshadweep Sea 1.6%, Andaman & Nicobar Seas 4.1% and the oceanic waters 6.3% of the fishery potential. Depth-wise, 58.1% of the resources are supported by the coastal segment: within the 50m contour 34.9% in the outer shelf areas (50-200m depth) and the rest in the deep sea and oceanic regions. Resource-wise, the major demersal stocks in the offshore and deepsea areas are the threalfin breams (*Nemipterus* spp.), Cat fish and Bull's eye (*Priacanthus* spp.). Indian drift fish (*Ariomma indica*) and Black ruff (*Centrolophus niger*) are among the important finfish resources in the outer continental shelf and slope. The potential pelagic stocks in the offshore waters are the coastal tunas, carangids, ribbon fish and pelagic sharks. Among the oceanic resources, yellowfin tuna and skipjack are estimated to support an annual yield of over one lakh tonnes each.

The annual marine fish production in the country is in the order of about 1.84 million tonnes per annum. This indicates an additional harvestable yield of about 2 million tonnes, to be harvested largely from the offshore sector and oceanic realm which are only marginally exploited now. The species/group-wise assessment of the resources made for the different coastal segments and depth zones indicate the regions and resources offering scope for increased exploitation.

## INTRODUCTION

Assessment of fisheries resources, in quantitative as well as qualitative terms, is an essential input for their optimum exploitation. The marine fishery resources potential of the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone has been assessed to be in the order of 2.3 to 5.5

million tonnes by various authors (Jones and Banerjee, 1973; Gorge *et al.*, 1977; Nair and Gopinathan, 1981; Joseph 1985, 1987; James *et al.* 1989; Desai *et al.*, Mathew *et al.*, 1990). Some other earlier estimates pertain to either the continental shelf (Joseph, 1980; Alagaraja, 1989) or the outer shelf and slope (Sudarsan *et al.*, 1988) or the

oceanic waters (Sudarsan *et al.* 1989). The estimates of potential yield by these authors are given in Table 1. Of these, the assessment by Joseph (*op. cit.*) and Sudarsan *et al.* (*op. cit.*) are basically derived from the results of resources surveys whereas the other estimates are largely based on organic productivity of fish production trends

or by a combination of different approaches.

The estimate of overall fishery potential is useful in many ways for developing and managing the fishery. But precise information on the components of the stock with regard to their size and distribution are more relevant for defining the development strategies in clear terms and identifying the fishing techniques for their exploitation. Though in case of the exploited stocks this would be possible to a certain level from the production trends, direct methods viz. resources surveys are required as far as the unexploited and marginally exploited stocks are concerned.

Organised fisheries re-

Table 1. Estimates of Marine fishery resources potential in Indian EEZ

Source	EEZ/depth zone	Potential yield ('000 tonnes)
Jones and Banerjee, 1973	EEZ	2300
Silas, 1977	EEZ	4000
George <i>et al.</i> , 1977	EEZ	4464
Nair and Gopinathan, 1981	EEZ	5500
Joseph, 1987	EEZ	4179
James <i>et al.</i> , 1989	EEZ	4500
Desai <i>et al.</i> , 1989	EEZ	3660
Mathew <i>et al.</i> , 1990	EEZ	3740
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1990	EEZ	3921
Anon., 1989	EEZ	3900
Joseph, 1980	0-70 m (d)	1679
Joseph, 1985	0-200 m (d)	2025
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1988	50-300 m (d)	554
Alagaraja, 1989	0-200 m	3000
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1989	Oceanic*	48

d = demersal only

\* = Only deepswimming tunas, bill fishes and sharks

Table 2. Estimates of marine fishery potential in Indian EEZ based on FSI data base

Author	Resource	Potential yield estimate ('000 tonnes)							
		North west coast	South west coast	Wadge Bank	Gulf of Man-nar	Lower east coast	Upper east coast	Andaman sea	Total
Joseph, 1974	Demersal (0-40 fm)	231							
Joseph <i>et al.</i> , 1976a	Demersal (0-40 fm)		124						
Joseph <i>et al.</i> , 1976b	Demersal (0-40 fm)					75	131		
Joseph 1980	Demersal (0-75 fm)	699	377			231	372		1679
Joseph 1985	Demersal (0-200 fm)	928	438			243	416		2025
Joseph 1987	Demersal (0-500 fm)	1124	331*			228	239	21	1943
Joseph <i>et al.</i> , 1987	Demersal (10-100 fm)			19					
Sivaprakasam, 1986	Demersal (20-200 m)			27	17				
Sudarsan, 1978	Demersal (in shelf area)							45**	
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1987	Demersal (0-500 m)		240						
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1988	Demersal (50-500 m)	440		20	6	88			554
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1989	Oceanic tuna and allied species (EEZ)	9	25			3	6	5	48
Sudarsan <i>et al.</i> , 1990	All								

\*Including 27000 tonnes from Lakshadweep

\*\*Standing stock

Source: Sudarsan *et al.*, 1990



sources surveys by the FSI during the last two decades has generated sizeable data on the fish stocks in the Indian EEZ. Based on the survey results as available from time to time stock estimates have been made for different resources and for different regions of the EEZ (Table 2). Considering these estimates along with additional data inputs and by adopting a more refined methodology, Sudarsan *et al.* (1990) made a comprehensive appraisal of the resources potential in Indian EEZ as 3.92 million tonnes. This paper attempts to highlight some of the salient findings of the appraisal.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India had very recently appointed a Working Group for revalidating the fishery resources potential in the Indian EEZ. They have placed the potential of the level of 3.9 million tonnes (Ano., 1991).

#### THE INDIAN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE

The Indian Exclusive Economic Zone covers an area of about 2.018 million sq. km. as given below:

Region of EEZ	Area ('000 sq.km)	% of area
Continental shelf(0-200m)	414.5	20.54
Continental slope(200-500m)	26.0	1.29
Oceanic regions	1577.4	78.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>2017.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Region-wise, the EEZ off the west coast forms about 42.6%, off east coast 27.8% and around Andaman & Nicobar Islands about 29.6% of the Indian EEZ.

#### MARINE FISHERIES IN INDIA-PRESENT STATUS

The marine fish production in the country has grown from 1.4

million tonnes to 2.2 million tonnes during 80's with an annual average of 1.84 million tonnes during the last five years. The fish landing during 1980 to 1989 is given in Table 3. The average annual growth rate in production has been 4.6%.

The present fishing fleet of the country consists over two lakh fishing units, mainly consisting of 22,900 mechanised boats 15,300 motorised traditional craft and 1,68,100 non-motorised traditional craft. 63.6% of the fish production is landed by the mechanised boats whereas the traditional sector accounts for 32.7%. Catch by the deepsea trawlers is estimated to be about 1% and the foreign vessels operating under charter scheme produce about 2.7% (Table 4).

Of the annual landing of about 1.17 million tonnes by the mechanised sector, 59.5% is by bottom trawling, 14.3% each by purse seining and dol net fishing, 9.7% by gill netting and the rest by other methods.

Table 3. Marine fish production in India during 1980-89

Year	Fish production ('000 tonnes)	Growth rate(%)
1980	1555	
1981	1445	(-) 7.1
1982	1427	(-) 1.2
1983	1517	(+) 6.3
1984	1779	(+) 17.3
1985	1734	(-) 2.5
1986	1717	(-) 1.0
1987	1681	(-) 2.1
1988	1842	(+) 9.6
1989	2246	(+) 21.9

(Source: Ministry of Agriculture)

The area of operation of the traditional and over 90% of the mechanised sector is confined to the coastal waters upto about 50 m

depth, which forms hardly 10% of the EEZ. The offshore and oceanic resources are not exploited by the Indian boats except by a couple of tuna vessels. The foreign fishing vessels chartered under the provisions of Maritime Zones of India Act, 1981 exploits a fringe of the deepsea and oceanic stocks. The catch by these foreign vessels in 1989 has been estimated to be about 50000 tonnes.

#### FISHERY RESOURCES SURVEYS

Fishery Survey of India conducted extensive survey of marine resources during the last two decades. The details of surveys undertaken, vessels deployed, gear used, area operated and duration of surveys are described by Sudarsan *et al.* (1988, 1990). The data collected on board the 17.5 m vessels all along the Indian coast during the 70's has lead to assessment of resources potential within 70m depth. During the 80's the survey fleet was strengthened by addition of vessels capable of operating in the offshore and oceanic regions and by the end of the decade a reasonable coverage of the EEZ was accomplished. Besides, the surveys by Integrated Fisheries Project and the erstwhile Pelagic Fisheries Project along south-west coast in the 70's and by FORV Sagar Sampada in recent years have contributed to our knowledge of the fisheries resources in Indian waters.

#### FISHERY RESOURCES POTENTIAL

The fishery resources potential in Indian EEZ is estimated as 3.92 million tonnes on the basis of survey results and to be in the range of 3.12 to 4.8 million tonnes

**Table 4.**  
Fishing fleet operating in Indian EEZ and their contribution to marine fish production

fishing craft	Number ('000)	Fish production (tonnes)	Contribution to fish production
non-motorised traditional craft	168.1*	386**	21.0%
motorised traditional craft	15.3*	214**	11.7%
mechanised boats	22.9*	1166**	63.6%
deepsea trawlers	0.17	18	1.0%
chartered vessels***	0.06	50*	2.7%

Source \* Ministry of Agriculture \*\* CMFRI (1985-89) Catch from Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands not included \*\*\* Chartered vessels number as operated during January-June 1990 and catch for the year 1989.

**Table 5.** Potential yield of demersal resources in the continental shelf and slope along Indian coast based on trawl surveys ('000 tonnes)

Region	Depth zone (m)				Total
	0-50	50-100	100-200	200-300/500	
North west coast	535.7	274.3	104.3	0.4	914.7
South west coast	223.5	63.2	29.1	20.0	335.8
Lower east coast	188.3	13.4	23.4	3.1	228.2
Upper east coast	309.7	72.9	44.5	0.8	427.9
Andaman sea	22.5	-	-	-	22.5
total	1279.7	423.8	201.3	24.3*	1929.1
-500m depthzone**				4.0	4.0
total	1279.7	423.8	201.3	28.3	1933.1

\* includes resources upto 500m depth in lat. 8° - 10° N along west coast and upto 300m in other regions except lat. 8° - 10° N along west coast.  
Source: Sudarsan et al., 1990.

ed on organic productivity studies (Sudarsan et al., 1990). Of the million tonnes demersal stocks in about 1.93 million tonnes, total pelagic stocks 1.74 million tonnes and oceanic resources 0.25 million tonnes.

#### DEMERSAL FISHERY RESOURCES

The potential yield of demersal resources in the continental shelf and slope is assessed and 1.93 million tonnes. Of this, 1.28 million tonnes is expected from

within 50 m depth and 0.65 million tonnes from deeper waters (50-500m depth). The depth-wise and region-wise estimates are given in Table 5. Coast-wise, the potential along west coast including Lakshadweep is assessed as 1.25 million tonnes, east coast 0.66 million tonnes and Andaman Sea 0.02 million tonnes.

As the resources within the 50m depth are already under relatively high level exploitation, further details are given only with regard to the fish stocks in the

outer shelf and slope areas. The principal resources and the potential estimates for the different regions in the 50-500 m depth zone are presented in Table 6. The principal stocks identified are threadfin, breams, cat fishes, horse mackerel, elasmobranchs bull's eye (*Priacanthus* spp.), perches, pomfret, black ruff (*Centrolophus niger*), Indian drift fish (*Ariomma indica*), clupeids, barracuda and silver belleis among the finfishes. The crustaceans are represented by deepsea prawns, lobster and crabs whereas cephalopods are mainly constituted by squids and cuttlefish.

#### COASTAL PELAGIC RESOURCES

The pelagic resources contributed on an average 47.3% to the total marine fish landing in the country between 1981 and 1989-90. As in case of demersal resources the current exploitation of pelagic stocks is also mostly confined to the coastal belt. In recent years some of the gill net boats and those mechanised/traditional craft operating hooks and line gear often venture outside this coastal region. The pelagic resources potential in Indian waters has been assessed by various authors to be in the range of 0.6 to 2.46 million tonnes.

As per the recent appraisal (Sudarsan et al., 1990) the potential yield of pelagic resources over the continental shelf is estimated to be 1.74 million tonnes (Table 7). About 63% of the estimated stock is on the west coast, 25% on the east coast, 4% in the Lakshadweep Sea and 8% in the Andaman and Nicobar waters. By depth, about 57% of the stock is supported by the column over 0-50m depth zone.

these resources outside the 50m contour are: coastal tunas - 242 thousand tonnes, carangids - 198 thousand tonnes, ribbon fish - 193 thousand tonnes and pelagic sharks - 58 thousand tonnes.

## OCEANIC RESOURCES

Oceanic resources are the least exploited in Indian seas. Whereas the total production of principal tunas (excluding skipjack) and bill fishes in the Indian Ocean has reached the level of 2,96,000 tonnes (FAO, 1990) there is no organised large scale fishery in India directed on these resources except that a limited number of chartered foreign vessels exploit these stocks, the catch in 1990 being about 10,500 tonnes. On the contrary there has been a phenomenal development of tuna fishery in the Western Indian Ocean in recent years.

The estimates of potential yield of larger tunas in the Indian Ocean are in the range of 100-175 thousand tonnes (Gulland, 1971;

IPFC/IOFC, 1973; Suda, 1974; IOFC, 1977, Silas and Pilla, 1982).

Tuna longline survey in Indian EEZ have revealed that the major species contributing to this fishery are yellowfin tuna, pelagic sharks, bigeye tuna and skipjack in the order of abundance. Results of tuna longline survey in Indian EEZ conducted by PSI in the 80's are discussed by Sivaprakasam and Patil (1986), Sulochananet al., (1980), Sudarsan et al., (1988) and Sivaprakasam and Sudarsan

(1988). Sudarsan et al., (1989) has assessed the potential of sub-surface fishery in Indian EEZ amenable to longlining as 48.2 thousand tonnes, of which yellowfin tuna accounts for 56%. The surface fishery for tunas has been assessed to sustain a potential yield of 197.8 thousand tonnes formed of 50.6% skipjack followed by 41.4% yellowfin (Sudarsan et al., 1990). Together, the surface and sub-surface oceanic tuna resources potential total 246 thousand tonnes as given below:

Species/group	Potential Yield('000 tonnes)		
	Sub-surface fishery	Surface fishery	Total
Yellowfin tuna	27.0	81.9	108.9
Big eye tuna	0.3	-	0.3
Skipjack	0.1	100.1	100.2
Bill fishes	3.8	-	3.8
Pelagic sharks	15.8	15.8	31.6
Other fishes	1.2	-	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>197.8</b>	<b>246.0</b>

Source: Sudarsan et al., 1990

Table 8. Estimated potential yield of different pelagic stocks over the continental shelf (0-200m) along Indian coast (in '000 tonnes)

Region	North west coast			South west coast			Lower east coast			Upper east coast			Lash-adweep	Andaman & Nicobar	Total
	0-50	50-200	Total	0-50	50-200	Total	0-50	50-200	Total	0-50	50-200	Total			
Mackerel	12	-	12	36	-	36	17	-	17	7	-	7	-	-	77
Oil Sardine	11	-	11	160	-	160	6	-	6	4	-	4	-	-	181
Lesser sardines	10	-	10	24	-	24	49	-	49	8	-	8	-	10	101
Anchovies	33	-	33	21	-	21	18	-	18	7	-	7	-	1	80
Other clupeids	36	-	36	18	-	18	13	-	13	35	-	35	5	10	117
Bombay duck	115	-	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	17	-	-	132
Coastal tunas	3	11	14	11	67	78	6	10	16	1	4	5	50	100	263
Carangids	4	67	71	9	73	82	15	36	51	5	21	26	-	1	231
Seer fish	15	-	15	5	-	5	31	-	31	10	-	10	-	5	66
Ribbon fish	49	94	143	6	74	80	9	10	19	9	15	24	-	-	266
Pelagic sharks	1	15	16	2	29	31	1	4	5	1	5	6	-	5	63
Others	42	1	43	50	2	52	48	1	49	10	1	11	8	2	165
<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>1742</b>

Source: Sudarsan et al., 1990



Table 6. Potential yield of demersal resources in 50-300/500m depth along the different regions of Indian coast as estimated from trawl surveys

Region	North west coast	South west coast	Wadge Bank	Gulf of Mannar	Lower east coast	Upper east coast	Total
Threadfin breams( <i>Nemipterus Spp</i> )	71.7	25.0	10.1	0.3	0.4	3.1	110.6
Cat fishes	42.5	11.0	0.7	-	0.2	9.0	63.4
Sharks, skates and rays	10.5	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.9	13.0
Bully eye ( <i>Priacanthus spp.</i> )	25.5	18.2	0.5	0.2	3.4	7.0	54.8
Perches	9.9	1.2	1.3	0.5	0.3	1.4	14.6
Mackerels	9.0	2.5	-	-	0.9	49.8	62.2
Ribbon fishes	19.8	2.3	-	0.1	-	1.1	23.3
Squids & cuttle fishes	14.8	4.7	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	20.6
Horse mackerel	62.0	-	-	-	0.8	3.2	66.0
Scads ( <i>Decapterus spp.</i> )	2.9	8.6	1.0	0.2	1.4	9.3	23.4
Trevally ( <i>Caranx spp.</i> )	8.3	3.3	1.6	0.2	0.7	3.0	17.1
Ghol ( <i>Protonebea diacanthus</i> )	3.5	-	-	-	-	0.6	4.1
Others sciaenids	14.6	0.1	-	-	0.1	3.1	17.9
Lizard fish	11.6	7.2	1.7	-	0.2	0.2	20.9
Pomfrets	10.0	-	-	-	-	2.0	12.0
Black ruff ( <i>Centrolophus niger</i> )	-	7.7	-	-	0.8	0.8	9.3
Crabs	-	4.8	1.0	2.0	0.1	0.3	8.2
Indian drift fish ( <i>Ariomma indica</i> )	-	1.6	0.6	0.2	0.7	4.0	6.5
Clupeids	6.2	-	-	-	0.6	7.5	14.3
Barracuda	0.8	-	-	1.2	-	1.2	3.2
Silver bellies	-	-	-	0.2	0.6	2.7	3.5
Deep sea prawns	-	3.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	3.3
Deepsea lobster	-	4.5	0.1	0.7	-	-	5.3
Others	55.4	5.7	1.0	0.6	1.0	7.6	71.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>379.0</b>	<b>112.3</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>118.2</b>	<b>649.4</b>

\*Upto 500m depth in lat 8° - 10° N along south west coast only; Source: Sudarsan et al., 1990

Table 7. Potential yield of pelagic resources over the continental shelf (0-200m) along Indian coast ('000 tonnes)

Depth zone	0-50m	50-100m	100-200m	Total
North west coast	331	161	27	519
South west coast	342	183	62	587
Lower east coast	213	32	29	274
Upper east coast	114	25	21	160
Lakshadweep	-	-	-	63
Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	-	139
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>1742</b>

Source: Sudarsan et al., 1990.

The components of the pelagic resources on a region-wise and depth-wise are indicated in Table 8. Apart from the resources of mackerel, oil sardine, lesser sardines, anchovies, other clupeids, Bombay duck, scer fish etc. the major resources contributing to the pelagic fishery potential are coastal tunas, ribbon fishes, angids and pelagic sharks. Distribution of these resources in significant concentrations is observed beyond the present fishing zone. The potential yield estimates



## DISCUSSION

Of the 3.92 million tonnes fishery potential in the Indian EEZ, the demersal stocks constitute 49.3%, coastal pelagic stocks 44.4% and oceanic species 6.3%. Coast-wise, west coast accounts for 60.2% of the estimated potential, east coast 27.8%, Lakshadweep Sea 1.6%, Andaman & Nicobar waters 4.1% and the oceanic regions 6.3%. By depth, the coastal zone within 50m supports 58.1% of the fishery stocks and the outer shelf (50-200m) 34.9%. The estimated potential in the continental slope is 0.7% and in oceanic waters 6.3%.

The annual marine fish production of about 1.84 million tonnes per annum (1985-89) forms 46.9% of the estimated fishery potential of 3.92 million tonnes. While considering the global scenario it can be seen that the world marine fish landing, excluding mariculture production, is in the order of 80.2 million tonnes as in 1988 (FAO 1990) against world marine fishery resource potential of 100 million tonnes (Gullard, 1970) representing the exploitation rate of 80.2%. In the Indian ocean, on adopting the potential yield estimate of 10 million tonnes (Qasim, 1977) the current level of production of 5.6 million tonnes (FAO, 1990) works out to 56% of the potential. But the exploitation in the EEZ is at a relatively low level of 46.9%, despite our having a very wide continental shelf and vast EEZ.

The potential yield estimate suggests an annual additional harvestable yield of about 2 million tonnes from Indian seas. But in the inshore sector within 50m depth the current production is about 82% of the estimated potential leaving limited scope for further development. The additional yield is to be harvested largely from the offshore sector and the oceanic realm which are hardly exploited now but estimated to sustain a potential of 1.64 million tonnes.

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## Design and development of deepsea fishing in India

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The term 'deepsea fishing' is often used indiscretely, sometimes referring to fishing in areas beyond 50m depth and some other time to fishing by vessels above 20m OAL although the vessels may be fishing in inshore waters within the 50m depth. The shrimp trawlers above 20m OAL, fishing in the coastal waters upto 50m depth are a case in point. Similarly the terms 'coastal', 'offshore', 'deepsea' and 'high sea' are also vaguely used for want of precise definition for each of the terms. Deepsea fishing is referred to in this article to fishing with vessels above 24m OAL beyond 50m depth upto the EEZ border. Vessels fishing for deepsea resources have certainly to be of larger size and power, with sophisticated equipments for navigation and fishing, freezers and refrigerated holds for preservation and processing and packing machineries, wherever such activities are undertaken on board.

The research and development studies in the country pertaining to marine fishing resources with a large number of institutions have been conducting resources studies for nearly half a century. As a result, we have a wealth of information on the marine fishery resources of the EEZ. Comments like "lack of adequate information", "lack of reliable data", "lack of commercial data" and so on have now become a thing of the past. As a matter of fact, the agencies which make such comments simultaneously base their project proposals on the data of the R & D organisations to enter the deepsea fishing industry. Obviously the country has already passed the R & D phase of resources studies and is already in the design and development phase. Identifying appropriate type and size of deepsea fishing vessels, appropriate fishing gears, areas of operation and base port for commercial exploitation of the targeted resources. This will be followed by the management and conservation phase depending upon the level of exploitation. This paper briefly discusses the deepsea fishery resources available in our EEZ beyond 50m depth and the selection of appropriate vessels for their exploitation and marketing. The availability of infrastructure facilities and the prevailing economic environment are also discussed.

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Government.

### Deepsea Fishery Resources Data Base

A number of research and development institutions, especially FSI and CMFRI besides IFP, CIFNET and NIO have studied the marine fishery resources potential of the Indian EEZ. Extensive surveys conducted by FSI are

particularly valuable in the understanding of deepsea resources and their potential. As a result of these studies, it is estimated that Indian EEZ has an annual marine fishery potential of 39.2 lakh tonnes, of which the demersal fish stocks contribute 19.3 lakh tonnes, coastal pelagics contribute 17.45 lakh tonnes and the oceanic resources contribute 2.5 lakh tonnes. Of the demersal resources potential of 19.3 lakh tonnes, about 12.8 tonnes are found in the coastal waters upto 50m depth and rest in the deeper waters. Similarly, among the pelagic resources potential of 17.4 lakh tonnes, about 10 lakh tonnes are found in the coastal waters within 50m depth and the rest in deeper waters. Since FSI is mainly concerned with deepsea fishery resources and their commercial exploitation, a plan for their development was drawn up by the institute. For this purpose, the potential and composition of deepsea demersal and pelagic resources are presented regionwise in Table-1, and the oceanic resources are presented in Table-2. These give a picture of deepsea potential regionwise and the major components are given with their composition in percentage. The oceanic resources are given for the whole EEZ together with their components which are again separated into deep swimming and surface swimming species.

As regards the deepsea demersals, the north-west coast has the maximum potential of 3.79 lakh tonnes followed by south-west coast with 1.12 lakh tonnes. Threadfin breems form major resource in the n.w. coast, s.w. coast and Wadge Bank. Horse mackerel is the second major resource in the n.w. coast followed by cat fish. In the s.w. coast, deepsea species like bulls eye, scad, black ruff etc. are major components. Squids and cuttle fish and perches are an important item in north west coast, Wadge Bank and Gulf of Mannar. Deepsea lobsters and deepsea prawns are an important resource of the south-west coast and Gulf of Mannar. Mackerel forms the bulk of the resources in the upper east coast.

Among the deepsea pelagics, Ribbonfish and Carangids form the majority of pelagic components in the north-west coast and south west coast. Carangids are the major pelagic component in the lower east-coast and the upper east coast followed by Ribbon fish. Small tunas occur all along the Indian coast but they are most important components in the oceanic islands of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar islands. Potential of small pelagics is the highest in the south-west coast followed by north-west coast and Andaman & Nicobar islands.

The oceanic resources potential of Indian EEZ is placed at 2.46 lakh tonnes, of which major components are yellowfin and skipjack tuna followed by pelagic sharks. The

## FISHING CHIMES

surface swimming tunas including skipjack and young yellowfin are nearly four times as much as the deep swimming tunas including adult yellowfin.

It will therefore be seen that the deepsea areas of Indian EEZ have a bounty of practically unexploited resources. Although bulk of the demersal and pelagic resources are of medium and low value, they could be utilised for value-added products like Surimi and also fish meal and fish oil. At the same time, high value items like deepsea lobster and shrimps, squids and cuttle fish, perches and pomfrets are also available in the entire EEZ. Mackerel, which is a coastal pelagic, also forms a major component of the deepsea demersal in the upper east coast. With the increasing demand for fish in the Far East, Europe and USA and with most other EEZs having been fully exploited, the Indian EEZ offers very good scope for development of deepsea fishing. Therefore, the design and development of deepsea fishing through selection of appropriate types of vessels, area, base port etc. for their exploitation and possibilities of post-harvest utilisation and marketing are the need of the hour.

### Commercial Utilisation of Deepsea Fishery Resources

Having considered the resources base of the deepseas, we should examine how best to exploit these resources commercially. The country has already gone a long way for developing deepsea fishing. The operation of shrimp trawlers and chartered foreign fishing vessels has given rich experience to the Indian entrepreneurs. Based on our studies, the major avenues of exploitation of the deepsea demersal, pelagic and oceanic resources are presented in Table 3.

Four major classes of vessels have been identified here for the industrial exploitation of the deepsea demersals. Stern trawlers of 25-30m OAL could operate from Cochin for the exploitation of deepsea lobster, deepsea shrimp and perch resources of south west coast, Wadge Bank and Gulf of Mannar in the depth range 5-400m. An annual catch of 200t per vessel could be achieved which could be frozen and exported to Japan, the Gulf, EEC countries and USA. Similarly such vessels could exploit these resources of the A & N islands from Port Blair base.

Stern trawlers of 40-60m OAL could operate from Cochin and exploit threadfin bream, bulls eye, catfish, squids and cuttle fish etc. of the south west coast and Wadge Bank in the depth range 50-500m and could achieve an annual catch of 880 tonnes/vessel. The catches could be frozen or filleted. Fish meal and fish oil could also be extracted. The products could be marketed in the Far East and South East Asian countries and EEC countries. Similar vessels can exploit such resources of the north west coast operating from Mormugao or Bombay. Combination trawlers capable of bottom trawling as well as mid water/pelagic trawling, of 50-

70m OAL could operate from Bombay, Porbandar and exploit the threadfin bream, bulls eye, catfish, horse mackerel, ribbon fish, squids and cuttle fish resources of the north-west coast in the depth range 50-200m. An annual catch of 1320 tonnes per vessel could be achieved. The catches could be frozen and filleted and low value fish converted into fish meal and fish oil and exported to Far-East, South-East, South Asian and EEC countries which have ready market for these products. Factory trawlers of 70-110m could operate from Cochin/Mormugao and harvest threadfin breams, bulls eye, ribbon fish, horse mackerel, catfish etc. from the south west coast, Wadge Bank and Gulf of Mannar. Such vessels could operate from Porbandar/Bombay for exploitation of these resources of the north west coast in the depth range 100-500m. An annual catch of 2220 tonnes per vessel could be achieved. The fish will be mainly processed on board for Surimi. Table varieties can be frozen and filleted, and low value fishes could be converted into fish meal or fish oil ready for export. These products have ready market in the countries listed above.

The north-west coast in the depth range 50-200m has a rich potential of mid water resources of Ribbon fish, Horse mackerel and cat fish which could be exploited by combination trawlers of 50-70m OAL with Bombay/Porbandar as base port. An annual catch of 1320 tonnes per vessel could be easily achieved based on the experience of M.T.Murena and m.v.Matsya Nireekshani. The catch could be processed on board and exported as indicated earlier.

The oceanic resources including large tunas, Yellowfin and Skipjack are mainly concentrated in areas around the oceanic islands of Lakshadweep and Andaman or Nicobar. The south west coast and lower east coast are also potential areas for these resources. As these resources are found very close to the shores they can be exploited by considerably small vessels. However, vessels of larger size would be required for exploiting these resources of the distant waters of EEZ and beyond.

The deep swimming tunas including Yellow fin of the south west coast and Lakshadweep could be exploited by tuna long liners of 25-30m OAL operating from Cochin/Kavaratti. These resources of n.w.coast, lower east coast and Andaman seas would be exploited with similar vessels operating from Mormugao/Porbandar, Madras and Port Blair respectively. An annual catch of 440 tonnes per vessel could be achieved. The tunas are to be gilled and gutted and chilled or frozen for air lifting through containers or discharged on board larger vessels for export to Sashimi market. Larger tuna long liners of 45-55 m OAL could operate in the EEZ and southern Indian ocean up to equator for Yellowfin and Bigeye resources. Cochin and Madras could be the base ports. An annual catch of 880 tonnes per vessel could be achieved. The tunas are to be gilled and gutted and frozen for export to Japan for Sashimi market.

The surface swimming tuna resources are con-



## FISHING CHIMES

centrated around the oceanic islands of Lakshadweep and A&N islands. Skipjack are the major component besides small Yellowfin tunas. Cochin, Madras and Port Blair could serve as the base ports depending upon the shoaling behaviour of these tunas. "Payao" type of fish aggregating devices are suggested to be established in the islands for attracting tuna fishes for purse seining. An annual catch of about 3300 tonnes per vessel could be achieved. The catch could be frozen and exported to Far East and South East Asian countries mainly for canning, though considerable quantity could be exported to Sashimi market. Pole and line fishing for Skipjack already exists in the Lakshadweep. However, the vessels employed are small and availability of bait fish is a major constraint. Very large pole and line vessels which have already become obsolete in many parts of the world, are not recommended. However, operation of pole and line vessels of 25-35 m OAL for exploiting these surface swimming tunas for Lakshadweep and A & N islands with Kavaratti/Port Blair as the base port respectively is recommended. An annual catch of 660 tonnes per vessel could be expected. The catches could be frozen or chilled on ice for further export by air lifting or discharge on other larger vessels. Besides Japan and South East Asian countries, USA and ECC countries are also potential markets for tunas.

Questions like "Are there adequate deep sea resources? Is deepsea fishing viable?" and so on used to be asked in the past. The industry appears to be convinced about the availability of resources, but profitability can be assured only if the projects are export-oriented.

"How many vessels could be supported by different kinds of resources" is a question asked quite often by the entrepreneurs as well as the administrators. It is considered that the question of number of vessels that could be gainfully deployed is not very relevant as they are not going to be introduced at a time in one year or even longer periods. It will certainly take several years to build up a fleet of vessels based on technical and economic success. Further, estimates of the potentials are not fixed, absolute figures as we are dealing with living, mobile resources. Bio-economics of the fishery are the ultimate factor that could decide the size of the fleet. Introduction of vessels in small numbers in stages would be the best policy.

### Infrastructure for Deepsea Fishery Development

Operation of large deepsea fishing vessels requires certain basic infrastructure facilities. These are a) fishing harbours with adequate draught (about 10 mtrs) and jetties/wharf for loading, unloading and transportation of fish and fish products, and b) good roads, rail head and even air services for air lifting high value items like sashimi grade tuna, live crabs, lobsters etc.). There should be adequate number of ice plants with needed capacities for continuous supply of ice and storage (-55 C and -25 C separately) which are required to be located very close to the fishing harbour.

Continuous and efficient operation of large fishing vessels/factory vessels require servicing and equipments and suitable dry dock/slipway of appropriate size and capacity for power supply for shore connection on board and on land for welding and repair works and also for running ice factory, storages, processing plant etc., is a basic requirement. Regular supply of water, fuel, lubricants, ship stores, provisions, fishing gear accessories etc. is also essential. Processing plants for semi-processing, freezing, canning etc. are also required besides facilities for packaging of produce, containers for shipment, by ship as well as by air and transportation. However, they could be located away from the fishing harbour and not necessarily within the harbour. Telecommunication facilities including radio telephone, VHF, telephone, telex, telefax etc. are also essential for efficient management of the vessels as well as for marketing.

Although the country has made considerable progress in providing requisite infrastructure facilities for deepsea fishing, these are still inadequate for large deepsea fishing vessels. Among the four major fishing harbours available at present, visakhapatnam and Madras fishing harbours have most of these facilities and could receive vessels upto 50 m OAL with a draft upto 5 m. But these harbours are already overcrowded with mechanised and shrimp vessels. Vessels above 50 m OAL and 6 m draught cannot enter these fishing harbours and have to be berthed in major commercial harbours with their attendant constraints. These could be strengthened with additional wharves and jetties exclusively for deep sea fishing vessels. Ancillary facilities for repairs, dry dock, processing, freezing and storage also require to be augmented to cater to the needs of larger deepsea fishing vessels. The role of fishing harbours could hardly be over-emphasized. Visakhapatnam fishing harbour has been the focal point of development of shrimp industry of the Upper Bay of Bengal. Once a harbour with requisite facilities is established, it will have a catalytic impact on the development of the fishery of an area. Absence of deepsea fishing harbour in the north-west coast is a great extent responsible for under-utilisation of the resources of this region.

### Manpower for Deepsea Fishing

Certificated officers for manning the deepsea fishing vessels as per the M.S. Act are already available in the country. They include Skipper Gr. I, Skipper Gr. II and Mate of fishing vessel on the deck side for navigation and fishing and Engineer and Engine Driver of fishing vessels for manning the vessels on the engine side. Depending on the size of vessel, the area of operation and the engine horse power, suitable certificated officers are to be posted on the vessel. In addition, skilled and semi skilled ratings for fishing, engine room and Engine Driver of fishing vessels no such facilities are available in the trades like fishing, cooking, etc. but these could be created. Adequate manpower is already available in the country for manning the deep sea fishing vessels.

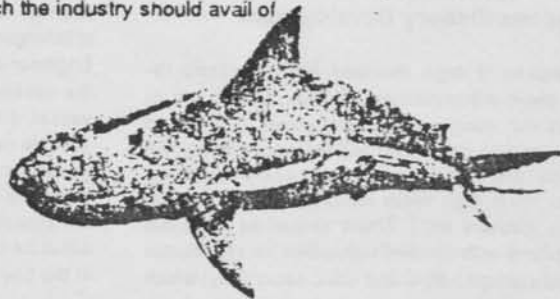


## Economic Climate for Deepsea Fishery Development

The Government has been taking sincere effort since the eighties to develop the deepsea fishing industry in the country. To start with a charter scheme for chartering foreign fishing vessels to fish in Indian EEZ was introduced with the objective of exposing the entrepreneurs to deepsea fishing and eventually enable them to acquire deepsea fishing vessels. The industry has no doubt benefitted by way of experience in operating deepsea fishing vessels but the objective of acquiring equal number of vessels has not been fulfilled in most of the cases. Construction of vessels indigenously has been found to be more extensive and time-consuming. The government has over the years liberalised deepsea fishing vessel acquisition and financing policies and it can be stated that the present economic environment and climate is highly favourable for acquisition of deepsea fishing vessels under the present liberalised policies. The industry can now secure foreign fishing vessels for test fishing for a period of six months. Vessels can also be acquired by leasing and through joint ventures. Even second hand vessels are permitted to be acquired. Transfer of catch at high sea and discharge of catch at foreign ports are also permitted to be acquired. Transfer of catch at high sea and discharge of catch at foreign ports are also permitted. Among the various options it appears that the joint venture with equity participation and marketing tie-up by the foreign collaborators, will be most effective as they will be deeply involved in the venture. Further foreign crew and technicians have wide experience in fishing, processing, packaging and export marketing. The industry should therefore make use of the prevailing favourable economic climate for the exploitation of deepsea fishery resources.

### Summing up

India is one of the few countries which have rich deepsea fishery resources which are as yet unexploited or underexploited. R&D studies have produced ample data on the resources with space, depth and time dimensions. Availability of deepsea demersal, pelagic and oceanic resources on a regionwise basis and a plan for exploitation of deepsea fishery resources are presented. Although the infrastructural facilities for the operation of deepsea fishing vessels need to be augmented, they could at present operate from commercial harbours. The economic environment in the country at present is most favourable for deepsea fishery development which the industry should avail of



## Deep Sea Fishing Industry's Problems : AIFI's Presentation to Planning Commission

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The deep sea fishing industry occupies a unique place of importance in the country's economy. It has a three-fold mission to fulfil: to earn more of foreign exchange for the country, to create more employment avenues and to provide high protein cheap food to the masses. Upon it lies the responsibility to exploit the vast resources of the Indian EEZ.

2. The recent report on deep sea fishing in India by FAO consultants has done one good job. It has focussed in a forthright manner the present dismal scenario of the deep sea fisheries development. Not only is the deep sea fishing fleet in a state of neglect due to enormous financial constraints, there is also no proper survey or consultancy for technological upgradation of the fleet to move away from its present major activity of shrimping to other economically viable targets. Except for introduction of a very few tuna vessels no diversification worth the name has taken place so far.
3. The FAO consultant has recommended the urgent need to train our crew in new practical fishing methods in the deeper waters of EEZ. He has also recommended Demonstrative Commercial fishing under foreign experts and technologists to ascertain viable fishery resources for fuller exploitation on a commercial scale. For the purpose, modifications of the existing trawlers are to be carried out.

4. The Association fully agrees with the findings and recommendations of FAO expert particularly with his suggestion as regards industrial fishing of yet untapped resources which could on export fetch a foreign exchange of Rs. 840 crores annually. The Association would request Government to move swiftly in the direction of implementing the recommendations.
5. As far as known resources are concerned old surveys have put the resource at 4.5 million tonnes. It is a fact that India with a coast line of 7517 Km and EEZ of 2.02 Sq. Km has a rich fishery potential. Presently, however, only 50% of the resource is being harvested. The current fishing operations are mostly confined upto the depth of 50 m. Fishery Survey of India have made intensive surveys and established that maximum catch rate is obtained from 100-200 Mtr. depth. Fishing efforts in the depth range 200-350m. have so far been meagre. It is in the deeper waters of the EEZ that intensive fishing research is the need of the hour. FAO consultant has also hinted in this direction. Though there has been a significant improvement in fish landings yet the quantum constitutes just 2% of the overall catch. To put it briefly, the fishery resources of India in the four main regions in North West, South West, South East and North East which mainly comprise as follows, have yet to be fully exploited.

### RESOURCES :

- i) Major pelagic resources, such as oil sardines, mackerel, seer fishes, tunas, anchovies and ribbon fishes.
- ii) Demersal fishery resources such as deep sea prawns, cephalopods, perches, sciaenids, cat-fishes, polynemids, flat fishes, pomfrets, eels, sharks, rays.
- iii) Mid-water resources such as Bombay duck, silver bellies, horse mackerels etc.
- iv) Crustaceans consisting of prawns, shrimps, lobsters and crabs

## FISHING CHIMES

- v) Molluscs such as chank, oysters, mussels, clams, squids and cuttle fishes; and
- vi) Sea Weed resources
- 6. It is rather disappointing that even with such impressive resources India contributes merely 0.3% of the total world catches. Maritime nations of smaller size have developed much larger capabilities of deep sea fishing than that we have been able to do so far. We have yet to fully exploit the EEZ as presently our operations are mainly in the shore, in the coastal waters covering only a small portion of continental shelf.
- 7. No doubt a rapid growth in export of marine products has been witnessed in the last two decades. From a meagre export of Rs. 68 crores in 1974-75, it has gradually risen to Rs. 1365 crores in 1991-92. The potential is however still very great only if right promotional policies for the deep sea fisheries development are adopted. This industry is at present facing many constraints by far the most acute of it is lack of finance to operate.
- 8. The present deep sea fishing fleet has 180 trawlers, out of which 68 vessels are sick and not operating. The balance 112 trawlers are operating but facing severe problems of economics. This is because of the limited duration of operations, about six months in a year. The catches are dwindling due to over-shrimping and the diversification efforts for lobster fishing has not really proved of any help. The cost of operations has been mounting due to rise in the cost of diesel oil and lubricants ( which alone constitute 60% of the total cost) and ever rising wages of sea going technical hands such as Captains, Engineers and other trained crew who besides wages demand high incentives. Besides there are heavy berthing charges at port, insurance premium etc. are also heavy. The cost of repairs and spare parts is also rising very sharply. All this renders operations most un-economical.
- 9. The above situation means that the sick vessels will continue to be sick unless fresh investment by infusion of funds is made and there is proper resource management. The Association is happy that Government is realising all these handicaps and is regularly interacting to overcome the same. The Association has welcomed the recent relief package for-

mulated by the Government for sick fishing units. The package is mainly for rescheduling of loans and interest on past borrowing of the companies. But the package is without any real and immediate relief. There is no waiver of interest, no fresh infusion of funds and no remedy to bring down the cost of operations and therefore of marine production. The industry must devise ways and means to operate the deep sea fleet most economically so that the cost of products can match with other competing countries in South East Asia such as China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan, Singapore etc.

- 10. For a long term and enduring development, a number of fresh investments are needed to modernise and update fisheries to the state-of-the-art technology. Presently, there are no specific and readily available facilities for cold storages, freezing complexes, processing plants or refrigerated yans for internal transport and marketing of fish in major cities to fetch better prices for the diversified species of fisheries. All this infrastructure must be created on a war footing and of excellent international quality matching the very best in the world. Once this is done, India can earn more than Rs. 3000 crores per annum in foreign exchange and occupy the pride of place in the fishing nations of the World.

### CONCLUSION :

- 11. The Association therefore seeks Govt. help in the following directions so as to enable the country to achieve a substantial growth in fisheries development and make the best use of its marine resources. In the short term the financial difficulties faced by deep sea trawler operators must be resolved and for a long term strategy the infrastructural needs should be set up. To sum up briefly, the following measures are considered the minimum reliefs which Government must grant immediately to enable the deep sea fleet operate properly and without any inhibition:-

- i) there should be fresh infusion of funds from SCICI to serve as margin money for trawler operators, who would thus be enabled to get adequate working capital support from financial institutions. Also sufficient



## FISHING QUERIES

- funds for modification of trawlers to carry-out diversification needs be made available immediately.
- ii) there must be a moratorium period of atleast 3 years from date of implementation of relief package so that companies are enabled to sustain economic fishing and achieve some cash flow under the rehabilitation scheme before they are called upon to discharge debt obligations. This moratorium for repayments is invariably granted to all industries.
  - iii) the cut-off date for repayment of loans and interest dues should be fixed pragmatically, i.e. after the actual access to funds by the companies under rehabilitation.
  - iv) old interest should be partially waived off or atleast funded as subordinate loan as in the case of 'sick' land based Industry and Shipping Units.
  - v) the rebate on diesel should be allowed to all trawler operators irrespective of the fact whether their catch is exported or not. After all the operational cost is the same for all. The present discrimination favouring exporters only is rather invidious and should end.
  - vi) A price support for lesser known species of fish or for such varieties for which the market is not yet tested may be provided to ensure a minimum economic return to the trawler operators. Therefore some practical and appropriate mechanism for market intervention needs to be devised.
  - vii) Port dues on fishing vessels for berthing, anchorage, water supply, detention due to idleness or for repairs etc. should be the most minimal and also at uniform rates at all ports.
  - viii) there should be slow down on capital investment and indiscriminate expansion of fishing fleet unless the existing trawlers are operating to capacity and are economically viable. FAO expert has supported this view very strongly and atleast till such time the results of Demonstrative Commercial fishing are achieved and operations are made economically viable. Otherwise huge capital investment would unnecessarily be locked up like other loss making Public Sector Units.
  - ix) F.S.I. and other Government fisheries institutes presently engaged in R & D only should re-orient their activities and undertake commercial fishing with modern technology to serve as a economically viable exercise to induce fishery industry to take calculated risks in the deeper waters of EEZ. Similarly MPEDA ought to focus on a sharper strategy for much more aggressive postures in building new export markets for diversified fishery products.
  - x) the Planning Commission are requested to allocate funds liberally for immediate strengthening of Infrastructural needs of the industry by expansion of existing port facilities and also for the building of cold storages, freezing complexes refrigerated rail/road vans and domestic super marketing centres. This would promote domestic consumption of high protein foods, besides generating very large competitive exports of quality marine products.



## Rehabilitation Package for Export-Intensive Deep Sea Fishing Industry. Proposal from AIFI

Mr. P.K. Verma, Vice-President, Association of Indian Fishery Industries submitted a memorandum to the government on the captioned subject. While being grateful for initiating the process to rationalise reliefs to the ailing deep sea fishing sector in response to the dire needs of the industry brought to focus in the Association's communication dt. 1.11.1991, it was emphasised that a bold and pragmatic strategy needs to be framed.

The Association strongly suggested the following lines of action.

i) A deep sea fishing enterprise may be considered viable if it would be in a position to undertake debt servicing within a period of 20 years from the date of original term loan or 12 years from the time of actual implementation of relief package of restructured debt by banks/other financial institutions.

The above criterion is followed in the case of 'sick' land based industries at the time of rehabilitation by concerned financial corporations and also BIFR.

ii) There should be a minimum moratorium period of 2 years before commencing repayment of outstanding dues. This respite is required to enable the 'sick' fishing industry with inadequate resources to financially recoup to a reasonable extent before discharging its rescheduled debts. It may be worth mentioning that SCICI itself has recommended a moratorium period of 3 years for the 'sick' shipping sector in 1988 and their recommendation was approved by the Government.

iii) Provision of margin money and diversification back-up loans from SCICI/Govt.

The above requirements are most essential and acute owing to the severe financial crunch facing the industry. Need based working capital may be provided on liberal basis at EPC rates of interest to enable companies to resuscitate their operations.

iv) Since shrimping is a seasonal operation and resources are dwindling, to keep the trawler operations throughout the year at optimum level, modifications to vessels/gears are absolutely necessary for diversified fishery operations in deep sea waters of EEZ. To refit the vessel with long liner technology a cost of Rs. 30-40 lakhs per vessel is to be incurred. This capital input is critical for achieving the best possible results.

v) The irregularity in the old cash credit account of the Banks and in the interest account of SCICI (erstwhile SDFC) may be funded as a subordinate loan, as is generally done for rehabilitation of land based 'sick'

industry and also for the shipping sector. The rate of interest on this outstanding loan may be charged much lower than the documented rate.

AIFI recommends this to be 0% - 4% depending upon the sustaining capacity of the enterprise. This subordinate loan may be liquidated after the repayment of restructured debt.

vi) Waival of compound and penal interest is very necessary to avoid over burdening the sick industry which suffered in the past due to the following reasons:

1) Over-concentration on shrimping and dwindling catches for 3 years fishing cycles in a row. As against this, international prices witnessed a slump.

2) Increased cost of operations, particularly due to abnormal hike in fuel and petroleum products.

3) Increased demands of crew and their prolonged strike which resulted in stoppage of operations for almost one full season.

4) Non-availability/inadequacy of working capital from financial institutions because provision for margin money was not made either at the time of project or loan sanction stage or subsequently.

vii) Fresh infusion of funds from the promoters may be restricted at 10% - 15% of the cost of the package. The deep sea fishery entrepreneurs of 'sick' companies are practically without resources and have been struggling for the past 6 years in a highly risk prone and seasonal activity. They can ill-afford to go beyond the above limit.

The above criterion of 10% - 15% infusion of funds by promoters is already being followed by BIFR in the case of technocrat/first generation entrepreneurs as per R.B.I. guidelines.

viii) The cut-off date for implementation of the relief package should be fixed from the date of actual access to funds for operations and also diversification. This would be most realistic approach for monitoring the package.

ix) In regard to reliefs and concessions made to 'sick' units, the clause of recompense takes care that, should a unit turnaround faster than projected, the reliefs and concessions under the Rehabilitation Scheme are recouped by the sacrificing financial institutions.

In view of the above, AIFI therefore urges for a liberal view in the matter so as to rehabilitate this economically vital industry having a significant impact on nation's earning of bountiful foreign exchange.

**Rehabilitation of Deep Sea Fishing Companies**

The committee of Joint Secretaries, at its various meetings, has so far approved the proposals of 42 fishing companies for rehabilitation. To be eligible for rehabilitation the companies were required to pay certain upfront amounts before June 30, 1992. There are, however, a few cases where the upfront payments were received/credited to account after June 30, 1992. At the meeting of the Jt. Secretaries held on September 16, 1992, it is learnt that it was suggested that SCICI should verify the dates of receipt of such amounts and propose a course of action to be taken in respect of the various accounts.

The present status of the various accounts (64 in number) which were considered for rehabilitation and the details of the 42 accounts which were cleared for rehabilitation subject to various conditions, are presented hereunder.

**Companies listed under GROUP I :** Out of the first 9 companies listed in Category A under Class I six companies made the entire upfront payment before June 30, 1992 of which one company viz. Gujarat Fisheries Development Corporation has already executed the documents. The remaining 3 companies viz. VBC Exports Limited, Four Season Fisheries Limited and Coastal Trawlers Limited made their upfront payments in full after June 30, 1992. In all these three cases even though the full upfront payments were not received technically before June 30, 1992, there was a clear intention on the part of the companies to make the upfront payments before June 30, 1992 though technically the amounts got credited to their accounts only after that date. On this consideration the three are understood to have been treated on a separate footing and considered eligible for rehabilitation.

In the case of the two companies listed in Category B, viz. Samro Food Processors Pvt. Ltd., and Holy Island Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., no upfront amounts were payable in terms of the rehabilitation guidelines granted. Of these, Samro Food Processors Limited has since executed the revised loan documents and Holy Island were to execute the documents in November 1992.

No upfront amounts were due from the five companies listed in Category C, viz., Seamen Fisheries Ltd., Tashina Sea Foods Ltd., Fishing Consortium Ltd., High Sea Foods Ltd., and Kerala Fisheries Development Corporation. Of these, Seamen Fisheries Limited is understood have accepted the terms of rehabilitation, and the company had been asked to execute the documents. Tashina Sea Foods Ltd., Fishing Consortium Limited and High Sea Foods Limited are understood to have accepted the terms of rehabilitation only partially. The Kerala Fisheries Development Corporation is believed to have not yet given the letter of acceptance. Subject to these companies complying with all the terms and

conditions of the rehabilitation scheme and execution of the documents, within a reasonable time the scheme would be made applicable to them.

In respect of the two companies mentioned in Category D, both of them made the entire upfront payments before June 30, 1992. While Yedugri Sea Foods Limited accepted the terms of rehabilitation only partially, no acceptance was given by Vani Marine Products (P) Ltd. Subject to these companies complying with all the terms and conditions of the rehabilitation and executing the documents, within a reasonable time the scheme is likely to be made applicable to them. If they do not comply with the conditions SCICI may recall the loans from these companies as well.

Since rehabilitation was understood to have been not accepted by Suraj Fisheries Ltd., there is the possibility of this company demanding refund of the upfront amount, on the ground that the payment of the upfront amount had been made by them specifically for the purpose of getting rehabilitation, which now stands denied.

Of the 15 companies listed in Class III, loans had been recalled and the vessels taken over by SCICI in the case of companies listed at 1 to 6. It is learnt that these vessels are proposed to be sold through public auction. Action under Chapter III of SDFC abolition Act is stated to have been initiated against the companies listed at 7 to 10, but the appointment of a Receiver on two of the companies viz. Michael Seafoods and Reliance Sea Foods could not be effectuated because a court injunction. The process of appointing a Receiver on the other 2 companies viz. Venkateswara Fisheries and Leela Seafoods is under consideration of SCICI.

In the case of Sancheti Foods Products, the loans have been recalled by the SCICI and it is learnt that a suit is expected to be filed by SCICI in Calcutta High Court. In the case of the remaining three companies viz. Mahalakshmi Marine, Pallava and Sagarika, action under Chapter III is likely to be initiated shortly by SCICI. These companies had also been offered an opportunity to apply for rehabilitation but it is learnt that there was no response.

The lone company listed under Class IV (M/s Golden Proteins) has been granted rehabilitation by the Appellate Authorities for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) and this case is therefore being treated separately.



# DEEP SEA FISHING IN INDIAN EEZ

**GUIDELINES FOR ENTREPRENEURS**

MARCH 1991

## GENERAL GUIDELINES ON JOINT VENTURES

1. Government's Policy towards permitting foreign equity participation will be selective. Such participation has to be justified, having regard to factors such as priority of the Industry, the nature of technology involved, whether it will enable or promote exports and alternative terms available for securing the same or similar technological transfer. The ceiling for foreign equity participation is 40% although exceptions can be considered on merits.
2. Royalty may be paid at the market rate of foreign exchange at the time of remittance and will be calculated on the basis of net ex-factory sales price (exclusive of excise duties) minus the cost of standard bought-out components and landed cost of imported components (including freight, insurance, duty etc.). Payment of royalty at the rate mentioned in the approval letter will be restricted as specified in the approval. Royalty would not be payable beyond the period of the agreement if orders had not been executed during the period of agreement. No minimum guaranteed royalty amount would be allowed.
3. If the foreign collaborator is to be paid lumpsum payments, these are normally to be paid in three standard instalments, the first after the agreement is taken on record, the second on delivery of technical/documentation and the third on the commencement of commercial production, or four years after the agreement is taken on record, whichever is earlier. All lumpsum payments are subject to deduction of Indian taxes.
4. Within the period of collaboration, the Indian Company should develop and set up their own design and research facilities so that continued dependence on foreign collaboration will not be necessary.
5. Exports shall be permitted to all countries except where the foreign collaborator has existing licensing arrangement for manufacture, in which case, the countries concerned shall be specified in the collaboration agreement.
6. Import of capital equipment and raw materials would be allowed as per the Import policy of the Government for the time being in force.
7. i) The import of raw materials and components would be allowed only where the necessary approval of the concerned authorities has been taken and subject to the approval of phased manufacturing programme being obtained, wherever required.  
ii) No tied purchase of components or raw materials from the collaborator would be allowed.
8. The Indian company should be free to sub-licence the technical knowhow/product design/engineering design under the agreement to another Indian party, on such terms as mutually agreed to by all the parties concerned and will be subject to the approval of Government.
9. Deputation of technicians either way will be subject to prior approval of Government of India in terms of number, period of engagement, remuneration etc.
10. Foreign brand names will not be allowed for use on the products for internal sales, although there is no objection to their use on products to be exported.
11. In case the item of manufacture is patented in India, the payment of royalty/lumpsum by the Indian Company to the Foreign Collaborator under the agreement shall also constitute full compensation for use of the patent rights till the expiry of the life of the patent and the Indian company shall be free to manufacture that item.
12. Any engineering consultancy required to execute the project should be obtained from an Indian firm. If foreign consultancy is considered unavoidable, an Indian consultancy firm should be the prime consultant.
13. The agreement shall be subject to Indian laws.
14. Foreign equity participation is normally allowed upto 40% of the paid up share capital. Relaxation may be considered depending on the level of technology involved, on board processing, export potential, etc.
15. Non Resident Indians (NRIs) may invest upto 40% in the share capital of companies on repatriable basis. In the case of priority sectors relaxation may be considered if more than 60% of the production is exported. For meeting the pre-operative expenses, NRIs may remit upto 10% of NRI's share in the proposed equity capital as advance share subscription.
16. Repatriation of dividends is permitted. Taxes on dividends, commission, royalty, remuneration to foreign technician etc., are payable as per rules in force.
17. Foreign equity should be contributed in the form of cash. In the case of deep sea fishing projects, the cost of vessel may be treated as equity of the foreign collaborator, subject to approval of government.
18. There should be suitable and adequate arrangement for training of Indian nationals.
19. The foreign collaborator should be an established company in the field of deep sea fishing owning and operating deep sea fishing vessels and should not be indirect agents, or disponent owners.



# BROAD GUIDELINES FOR JOINT VENTURES IN DEEP SEA FISHING

1. (i) Joint ventures involving financial and technical collaboration for exploitation of deep sea resources within and beyond the EEZ, by any of the following methods will be encouraged:
    - (a) Trawling for Deep Sea Lobster and Deep Sea Shrimp (other than Pair Trawling) beyond the territorial waters;
    - (b) Long Lining;
    - (c) Tuna Purse seining;
    - (d) Other methods such as squid jigging, hand lining etc.
 (ii) Provided however, that no joint venture proposal for shrimp in Northern Bay of Bengal Region shall be considered.
  - (iii) In special circumstances permission may be granted for considering combinations of two or more of the above.
  - (iv) Where vessels are required to be based at foreign ports for economic/technical reasons, the terms and conditions for such operations will be decided on a case to case basis.
  - (v) Joint venture companies may take on lease vessels with foreign registration and foreign ownership. Such leased vessels are permitted to fish in the Indian EEZ subject to the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 and Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules, 1982 as amended from time to time, the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the MPEDA Act 1972 and the Rules framed thereunder.
  - (vi) Integrated projects involving processing would be given preference.
2. Generally, the foreign collaborator may hold upto 40% of the paid up share capital of the joint venture company. Any relaxation of this norm would be considered on a case to case basis depending on technology, on board processing, etc.
  3. Foreign crew may be permitted on a case to case basis subject to such terms as may be agreed upon. A schedule of phasing out of foreign crew and inducting Indian crew should be submitted at the time of application.
  4. The cost of the vessel supplied by foreign collaborator may be treated as his paid up share capital in the company upto a ceiling as may be agreed under clause 2, subject to the price of vessel being certified as per procedure to be laid down by the Ministry of Surface Transport.
5. Test Fishing will be permitted on a case to case basis, if needed as pre-investment study, under the MZI Act and Rules framed thereunder.
  6. The area of operation of the vessels will be regulated by the Maritime Zones of India Act and Rules and instructions/orders issued by Government of India.
  7. The foreign collaborator should be willing to provide necessary technical and managerial expertise to the project.
  8. The joint venture company should not undertake any oceanic survey, exploration or research except in approved cases of Test Fishing. The joint venture company should undertake necessary Research and Development for improvement in the technology of fishing and to attain self sufficiency in all respects for future expansion.
  9. If the fishing vessels are to be used for transportation of the catch from India to a port abroad, special permission shall be obtained from Government. However, the company should make necessary arrangements at its own cost for unloading and loading of the catch at the Indian Port for verification. In case the proposal includes such transportation, this would be decided on a case to case basis at the time of approval.
  10. Any restriction/regulation introduced by Government of India, MPEDA or any Government of India organisation regarding area of operation, submission of returns, employment of crew or any other matter, would be applicable to the vessels and the operations undertaken by joint venture company.
    - (a) From the time of operation of the vessel, the project should attain a positive net foreign exchange inflow in each year of operation. The cost of fuel procured in India will be included while computing the Foreign Exchange Outflow.
    - (b) The project should, in addition, attain a minimum foreign exchange value addition as may be prescribed for the project, based on the formula  $\frac{A-B}{A} \times 100$ , where 'A' is the total sales realisation from exports in 5 years and 'B' is the sum total of:
      - (i) total foreign exchange outgo in 5 years including the cost of vessels and
      - (ii) the cost of raw materials, consumables, spares, fuel and components purchased from the domestic market.
  11. (a) From the time of operation of the vessel, the project should attain a positive net foreign exchange inflow in each year of operation. The cost of fuel procured in India will be included while computing the Foreign Exchange Outflow.
  - (b) The project should, in addition, attain a minimum foreign exchange value addition as may be prescribed for the project, based on the formula  $\frac{A-B}{A} \times 100$ , where 'A' is the total sales realisation from exports in 5 years and 'B' is the sum total of:
    - (i) total foreign exchange outgo in 5 years including the cost of vessels and
    - (ii) the cost of raw materials, consumables, spares, fuel and components purchased from the domestic market.
12. All expected foreign exchange outflows (yearwise) for 5 years, including expenses for test fishing, must be detailed in the application form.
  13. Second hand vessels may be acquired or leased, subject to satisfactory certification by approved Surveyors regarding seaworthiness and future serviceable life of the vessels.
  14. The entire catch shall be exported at the best prevailing international prices. However, production upto 20% of the I.o.B. value of exports may be disposed off in India.
  15. Letter of Permission for the Project will be issued after approval by the Empowered Committee of Secretaries, and this will be a composite clearance covering the following:
    - i) Import of Capital Goods;
    - ii) Foreign exchange payment (including advances for service charges, gear, bait, consumables, spares and stores)
    - iii) Foreign Collaboration;
    - iv) Fishing within Indian EEZ;
    - v) Engaging foreign crew;
    - vi) Lease of vessels;
    - vii) Test fishing;
    - viii) Transportation of catch to foreign ports.

# BROAD GUIDELINES FOR LEASING OF FOREIGN DEEP SEA FISHING VESSELS

With a view to facilitate exploitation of the deep sea resources in the Indian EEZ and to enhance foreign exchange earnings, the Government of India permits leasing of deep sea fishing vessels. The leasing and the operation of the foreign deep sea fishing vessels will be governed by the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 and the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules, 1982 as amended from time to time. In addition, guidelines and terms and conditions specified herein would also be applicable:

- All persons eligible to apply under the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 may apply for leasing of foreign deep sea fishing vessels.
- The leasing of foreign deep sea fishing vessels will be governed by the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act 1981 and the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules, 1982 and the Merchant Shipping Act 1958 (as amended from time to time) and also the guidelines, terms and conditions specified herein.
- The application should be made in the prescribed form and, amongst other things, should clearly indicate the following:
  - Period of leasing (not exceeding 15 years).
  - Cost of the vessels proposed to be leased and the depreciated value.
  - The annual lease rent, mode of payment etc.
  - Whether the owner or lessee would meet the expenses for periodic survey, insurance, repair and maintenance of the vessels including dry docking and other annual costs.
  - The foreign exchange value addition envisaged.
  - Whether foreign crew is proposed to be used and if so, the schedule for phasing out of foreign crew and induction of Indian crew.
- The leased vessels should preferably be new. Second hand vessels can be taken on lease subject to satisfactory certification by approved surveyors regarding seaworthiness and future serviceable life of the vessels.
- In the case of new vessels the lessee may acquire the leased vessel at the end of the lease period with the prior permission of Government.
- The Central Government will prescribe the foreign exchange value addition to be achieved by each project on a case to case basis.
- Failure to achieve the prescribed foreign exchange value addition earning will render the permission for leasing liable to termination without prejudice to any other action which the Government may take.
- Prior permission of Government would be required for the vessels to be used for transportation to foreign ports for purposes of export, subject to inspection/verification at an Indian Port.
- The foreign crew may be permitted on the leased vessels on a case to case basis subject to such terms as may be specified by the Central Government.
- During the currency of the lease, the owners of the leased vessels should not hypothecate the vessels without the consent of the lessee.
- An amount equal to one year lease rent shall be submitted in the form of a bank guarantee in favour of the Government of India. The bank guarantee should be valid till the end of the lease period. Without prejudice to any other action which the Government may take, this guarantee may be invoked if the vessel does not undertake fishing operations in accordance with the permission granted by the Government and other relevant Rules, terms and conditions etc.
- Form 'I' is to be submitted along with the application.
- At the time of issue of permit, the permit holder shall pay to Central Government an amount of Rs. 25,000 per vessel per year in the form of a Demand Draft payable at New Delhi and crossed "Ac Payee only", favouring Pay and Accounts Officer, Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- The lessee shall provide necessary facilities to Scientists/Observers posted on the vessel by the Government for collection and examination of data. They shall be provided with proper food and accommodation onboard the vessel by the master of the vessel.
- The lessee shall furnish to Government, necessary certificates regarding the safety of vessels and crew as required by the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (44 of 1958).
- Fishing is not permitted for species covered under the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 (53 of 1972).
- The lessee shall not undertake shrimping operations for Coastal shrimp.
- The lessee shall furnish to Government voyage wise statements of fish catch and exports from leased vessels with all details as per Form 'J' under the Provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act 1981 and the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules, 1982 and amended Rules 1990.
- The area of operation of leased vessels is governed by the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) (Amendment) Rules 1990. They shall fish only beyond 24 nautical miles from the shore on the West Coast and 12 nautical miles from the shore on the East Coast, and shall not fish within 24 nautical miles from the shore between Nizampatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Paradeep Port (Orissa) on the East Coast. They shall also not fish within the area covered by the coastal line and the line joining the following points in the north of Chilka (Orissa) and upto Bangladesh Boundary:
  - 19° 22' N — 85° 30' E
  - 20° N — 86° 56' E
  - 20° 42' N — 88° E
  - 21° 8' N — 89° 7' E
  - 21° 16' N — 89° 14' E

# BROAD GUIDELINES FOR TEST FISHING IN THE INDIAN EEZ

With a view to facilitate pre-investment study for assessing commercial viability of the specific fishing operations, Government of India has decided to permit Test Fishing in the Indian EEZ. Test Fishing operations will be governed by the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 and the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules, 1982 and the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 as amended from time to time. In addition, the guidelines and terms and conditions, specified herein will also be applicable to Test Fishing:

1. Test Fishing will be permitted in the Indian EEZ only in the following types of fishing operations:
    - a) Trawling for Deep Sea Lobster and Deep Sea Shrimp (other than Pair Trawling) beyond the territorial waters.
    - b) Long Lining
    - c) Tuna Purse Seining
    - d) Other methods such as squid jigging, hand lining, etc.
- Area restrictions applicable to foreign chartered vessels under the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 and Rules 1982 will also apply to Foreign Vessels engaged in Test Fishing.

2. Test Fishing will not be permitted for shrimp resources in the Northern Bay of Bengal region.
3. The foreign collaborator undertaking test fishing should be an established fishing company operating and owning a fleet of deep sea fishing vessels.

Test fishing will be governed by the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules, 1982 (as amended from time to time) and the broad guidelines specified herein.

Full details of the Indian and Foreign Companies associating with the test fishing should be furnished in the Application for Joint Venture along with their corporate profiles and they should have sufficient resources to implement the project.

6. The Indian company and foreign company undertaking test fishing should enter into an agreement with MPEDA, which should specifically indicate the objectives of test fishing, indicating the targeted resource, areas of operation, and also provide that:
  - (a) The two companies agree to furnish complete data pertaining to test fishing to MPEDA and FSI,
  - (b) The two companies agree to meet the expenditure of MPEDA for collection and compilation of data on the operation of the vessel during test fishing,
  - (c) They agree to set up a joint venture project/implement the project within the specified period, if operations are found commercially viable by MPEDA.

7. All data generated including details of operations during test fishing will be made available to MPEDA and FSI.

8. (a) MPEDA shall post an expert onboard the vessel during the entire period of test fishing;
- (b) All expenses of the expert will have to be met by the organisation conducting the test fishing, and an amount covering such expenses, including the salary and allowances of the expert shall be deposited in advance with MPEDA as soon as test fishing is approved;
- (c) The Master of the vessel shall permit the expert to record his observations and inspect the records of the vessels including the log books and the processing, storage, fishing and propulsion equipment and gear.

9. (i) The Indian and foreign company will deposit a bank guarantee of Rs. 250,000 per vessel from an approved bank, and valid for 18 months, in favour of MPEDA.
- (ii) The guarantee may be invoked by MPEDA if test fishing is terminated before the expiry of the permitted period, or if the operations are found to be commercially viable and the project for which test fishing was permitted is not implemented within a period of 12 months from the date of starting of Test Fishing operations.
- (iii) After commencement of fishing by the joint venture company, the bank guarantee would be released by MPEDA.
- (iv) The project will deemed to be implemented only on the commencement of the fishing operations by the joint venture company.
- (v) The decision of the Chairman, MPEDA, shall be final and binding on all parties.

10. i) On completion of each voyage, the expert shall submit to MPEDA and FSI a detailed voyage report
- ii) Comments if any, on the report will be called for from both the Indian and foreign companies undertaking the test fishing.
- iii) The final report of the operations will be prepared by MPEDA at the end of the period of test fishing, taking into account the voyage reports, comments from the companies and the FSI, A copy of the report will be submitted to FSI.
11. Recognised Associations of Fishing Companies will be permitted to undertake test fishing in the Indian EEZ on behalf of their members in collaboration with MPEDA and State Fisheries Corporations, if the Government is satisfied that such test fishing, if found to be commercially viable, will lead to the establishment of Joint Venture in India for fishing and/or processing
12. The Company/Association conducting the test fishing shall pay a test fishing fee of Rs. 200,000 to MPEDA for each vessel deployed for test fishing.
13. Test fishing shall be permitted for a period not longer than 6 months.



## BENEFITS TO 100% EXPORT ORIENTED UNITS (E O U)

A 100% E O U is an industrial unit offering for exports its entire production including permitted level of rejects. A minimum foreign exchange value addition of 20% for processing and 40% for deep sea fishing projects is necessary. Units intending to set up Industries under the scheme should apply to :

Entrepreneurial Assistance Unit,  
Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA),  
Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi-110 011.

The units approved by the Board of Approvals for 100% E O U are eligible for a wide range of concessions as outlined in the Import-Export Policy.

Some of the major benefits are:

1. Import of capital goods, components, raw materials, spares, consumables, office equipment and material handling equipment are exempt from Import Duty.
2. Indigenously procured capital goods, components and raw materials are exempt from Central Excise Duty.
3. Rejects, upto 5% (or such percentage as may be fixed by the Board) may be sold in the domestic tariff area on payment of Import Duty on imported inputs and Central Excise Duty on indigenous inputs and on the rejects.
4. A 100% E O U may sell 25% of its production in the domestic market subject to licences and payment of Import Duties
5. Goods supplied by the units in the domestic tariff area to a 100% E O U are exempt from payment of Central Sales Tax.
6. The finished products of the 100% E O U are exempt from Central Excise Duty.
7. 100% E O U's will get priority treatment in matters connected with raw materials, power, clearance for foreign exchange payments, import of capital goods etc.
8. Cash Compensatory Support at rates prescribed by government from time to time, is available to exports by 100% E O U's if 75% of production is exported.

