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FISHCOPPED



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at a glance

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GENESIS

National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED) is the apex level National Cooperative Organization for the development of fishery cooperatives movement in India. It is under the administrative control of Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India. Registered in 1980, the federation started its operation in the year 1982. FISHCOPFED has 78 member institutions all over the country besides Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). It is one of the best service delivery system in the country in fisheries sector focusing on economic empowerment of poor fishers. It has the following regional/branch offices in the country-

1. Raipur (Chattisgarh)
2. Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
3. Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
4. Guwahati (Assam)

It is hoped that till the end of the year 2011, it will open up four more offices - one office in each state- Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh to shorten the processing time in insurance claims settlement, communication & implement actions for welfare and marketing projects.

OBJECTIVES

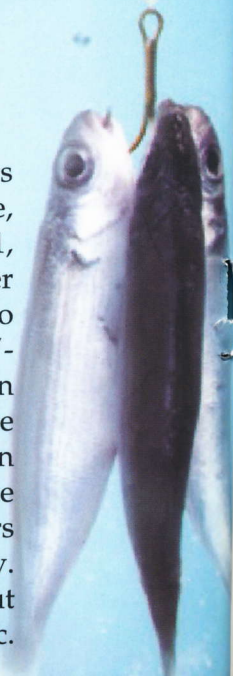
The objectives of FISHCOPFED are far reaching and comprehensive. Its motto is to facilitate, coordinate and promote fishing industry in the country through cooperatives and for this purpose to undertake, organize and develop production, processing, storage and marketing of fish and fishery products and to manufacture and distribute machinery, implements and other inputs required by the fishing industry.

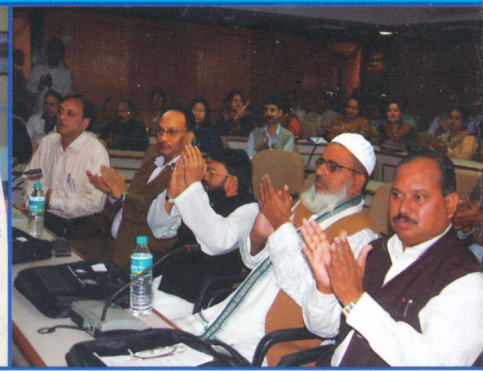
The Federation shall network all the functional fisheries cooperatives in the country and shall dedicate to the development of member societies with an aim to uplift the poor fisher members.

ACTIVITIES

Welfare of fishers through insurance

FISHCOPFED offers a Group Accident Insurance Scheme for the fishers focusing to have a system that compensate members in times of misfortune, thereby guaranteeing their personal and financial security. In the year 2010-11, FISHCOPFED has covered more than 3.2 million fishers of the country under the Centrally Sponsored Group Accident Insurance Scheme amounting to Rs. 1,00,000/- against death and permanent (total) disability and Rs. 50,000/- against permanent (partial) disability as a result of only accident against an annual premium of Rs. 28/- per insured, out of which 50% is paid by the state government and 50% is paid by the central government. For north-eastern states the premium is shared on 25:75 basis between the state and the centre whereas 100% of the premium is paid by the centre for the UTs. It is a 24 hours insurance scheme covering 19 states and 4 union territories of the country. FISHCOPFED is also planning some more insurance schemes like Hut Insurance, Health Insurance, Fish-Pond Insurance, Pond-Fish Insurance etc. for the welfare of the poor fishers.





No. of fishers covered under Centrally Sponsored Group Accident Insurance Scheme initiated and implemented by FISHCOPFED

PROMOTIONAL

1. Organization of congress/conferences/workshops on insurance, fish marketing, value addition and processing, cooperatives management etc.;
2. Research studies on fisheries cooperative marketing system and status of fishery cooperatives in India;
3. Dissemination of information pertaining to export of fish, fishery products through cooperatives;
4. Service to member institutes in formulation of fishery projects, interstate marketing etc.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

With a view to enhance fish production and generate employment among the fishers and get them better return for their produce/catch, FISHCOPFED has provided training to a large number of fishers on various aspects of fisheries and cooperatives with the funding support of Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India and National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad. For the years to come, FISHCOPFED is dedicated to provide the training to more fishers on fisheries and cooperatives. FISHCOPFED has been conducting National and Regional Level Trainers' Training Programme on "Capacity Building to enhance the Competitiveness of Indian Fisheries" in various parts of the country to boost Indian fisheries sector and promote export of fish and fishery products from the country. FISHCOPFED has also started to diversify aquaculture in the country. In a pilot project it has provided training on aquaculture to 50 IFFCO member farmers who has ponds or barren lands suitable for aqua-farming. Soon the programme will be replicated in various parts of the country.





WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Fisherwomen are not engaged in fish catch but a vital role is played by them in post harvest fishing activities. In order to empower the fisherwomen of the country, FISHCOPFED with the financial support of NFDB, has implemented a project on Fish Drying in the coastal states to train the fisherwomen. In the past, several training programmes focusing on the women empowerment through net weaving, child care, family planning, health and nutrition had also been successfully organized by FISHCOPFED and hopefully they will also be replicated soon.

MARKETING

In order to undertake fish trade that is procuring of fish right from landing centres, FISHCOPFED arranges its transport through refrigerated trucks to fish deficient areas to provide remunerative price to producer fishers. A few unit offices have been established by it in different states to begin with at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh that has now been shifted to Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar in Odisha, Raipur in Chattisgarh and Guwahati in Assam while the process to increase the no. of units in other states is also under consideration. Introduction of mobile vans and opening up of large scale retail outlets for fish marketing in the state capitals are underway. FISHCOPFED is running a retail fish outlet at Yusuf Sarai Community Centre in Delhi and provide better quality of fish to Delhites and the people of NCR. Two retail shops have been operational at Bhubaneswar (Odisha) to sell Chilka fish FISHCOPFED also supplies fish to ITDC group of hotels in Delhi. Besides, it also markets "Trout Fish" of Himachal Pradesh at Delhi.

PUBLICATIONS

The federation has been bringing out two journals – one bilingual quarterly journal namely "FISHCOOPS" and one Odiya quarterly journal "Minaloka" which are circulated free of cost to its members.

NATIONWIDE SURVEY ON DATABASE OF FISHERIES COOPERATIVES

Recently FISHCOPFED has completed a survey on the total number of functional fishery cooperatives along with the details of their status, members and facilities available with these cooperatives. Till date no survey on this topic has been conducted in India. Based on this data, in the near future FISHCOPFED will have focus more on "fisheries cooperatives and their potential" that will facilitate the implementation of various projects in various states of the country in a focussed manner besides making all the data available through FISHnet, an e-governance initiative on fisheries for all the stakeholders, researchers, scholars, universities and institutions of the sector.





INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FISHCOPFED is the member of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) Korea. Shri B.K. Mishra, Managing Director, FISHCOPFED is the Vice-chairman, ICFO. It is a rare honour to the India's Fisheries Cooperative Movement. ICFO is the apex body of fisheries cooperative organizations at the International level having 13 member countries including national level fisheries cooperatives from Africa, Canada, Asia-pacific and Europe. FISHCOPFED is also a member of NEDAC.

PROGRESS OF FISHCOPFED

The federation was turnaround in the year 2007-08 and the profit is on the rise thereafter. All the liabilities of the federation have been settled in a record time by the management.

FUTURE APPROACH

An MoU has been signed between FISHCOPFED and FISHFED, Assam to setup hatchery and fish feed plant in the state of Assam. The quality fish seed and feed produced here will be provided to fishery cooperative societies at reasonable prices. The federation has also set the target to export dry fish, fish feed and ornamental fish from its own production centres. A proposal has also been submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India to provide five mobile vans for fish marketing and trucks to bring marine and inland fishes to Delhi for supply in Ghazipur Fish Market and ITDC hotels. Some other business activities of the federation will also be expanded as the process to take up water bodies on lease in several states is under process to maintain a growth rate of over 20% every year.

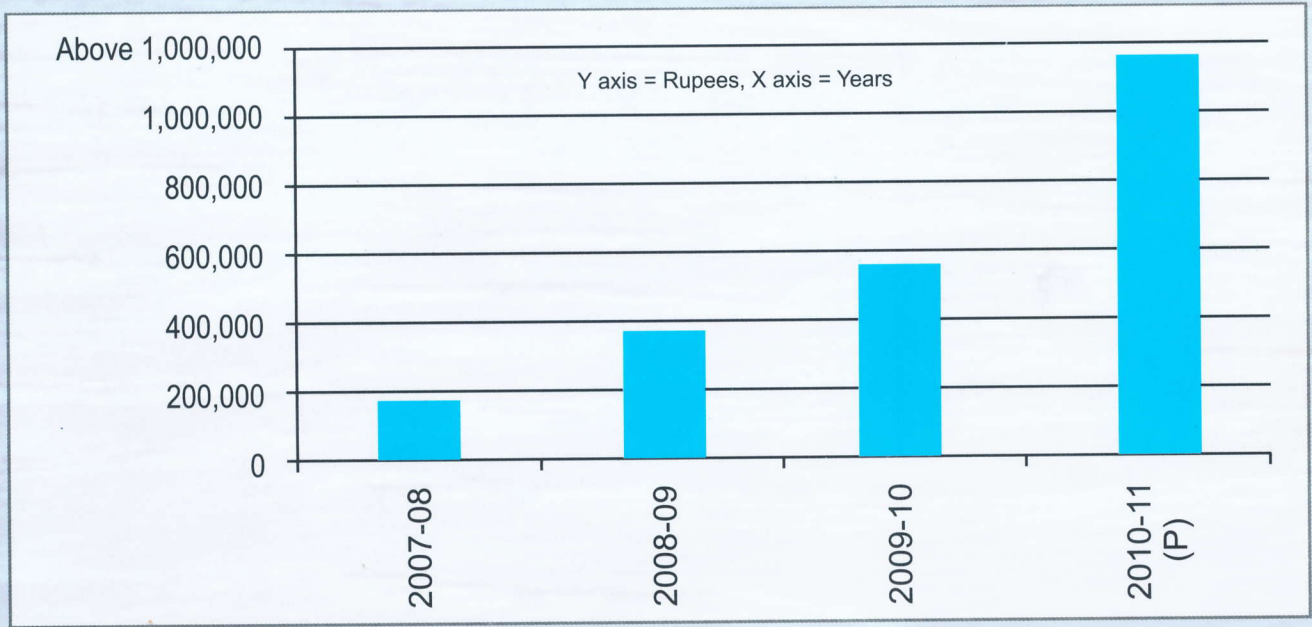


Fig. Bar diagramme showing yearwise profit of the federation





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FISHCOPFED

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