

CHAPTER - 4

STATE AND FISHING INDUSTRY

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CHAPTER - IV
STATE AND FISHING INDUSTRY

4.1 NEED FOR STATE PARTICIPATION

There are records of fishing being done since ancient times. But it was mainly as a sport. It was in the form of hunting i.e. fishing with sharp weapons like spear etc. This activity was mainly restricted to natural resources namely rivers and lakes.

With the civilisation there was tremendous increase in man's needs. Fish having high proteinous value got an important place in man's food. To catch the fish more effectively and in large quantities different types of fish catching devices were evolved. Fishing with line and hooks; traps, gelling nets, drifting nets were practiced in streams and rivers.

With the increase in population, efforts were directed to increase food production from agriculture in order to get higher yields from agriculture irrigation was necessary. This need particularly brought up number of irrigation tanks which were constructed across different rivers and nallahs. These irrigation tanks provided a good scope for development of fishery. By this way the agricultural land which was lost for the purpose being gone under submergence, could there be

brought again under culture of fish to meet the ever increasing food demand. After a detailed study of number of varieties of fishes and their herbotats fast growing varieties namely 'Carps' were selected for culture because of there compatability and faster growth.

Now seeds of the Indian major carps i.e. Catla, Rohu and Mrigal are stocked in almost all culturable waters like village ponds; Grampanchayat and Zilla Parishad tanks; irrigation tanks and big reserviors also.

The activity of fishing has been so far restricted with people of certain castes and communities e.g. Bhoi, Bagadi, Koli etc. These communities are basically poor and illiterate. They are carrying out this activity since generations to meet their livelihood.

It was, therefore, much essential to educate the persons engaged in fishing about the importance of fish culture practices; about behaviour of fish; its habitants which help in increasing fish catch to them and ultimately to increase their income.

Advanced culture practices needed stocking of tanks with seed of major carp. Further it was also a need to select a proper twine for their nets. Synthetic twine e.g. nylon with the qualities proved to be a better alternative to cotton twine. It being lighter and long

lasting; with high breaking strength was preferred for making of fishing nets.

It was, therefore, very much essential to help the fisherman financially in getting seeds for stocking; purchase of nylon twine; besides giving them required training to acquaint them with advanced methodology of fish culture; fish breeding; fish catching; net making etc.

The State Government, therefore, took up the programme of granting subsidy on purchase of fish seed; nylon twine and organising training programme and granting of loan for purchase of nylon twine or repairs to nets or fishing boats. Besides giving assistance in the form of share capital and managerial subsidy to the fishermen co-operative societies.

4.2 STATE PARTICIPATION AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

In order to encourage fisheries development State Government participated at various levels. Firstly, the fishermen who used to take up fishing individually were convinced of benefits they get if they work together. Therefore, they were grouped to form a co-operative society.

Instead of relying mainly on capture fishery they conduct in rivers and streams they were

provided resources like tanks and lakes on long term lease basis. Preferential priority is given to co-operative societies in leasing out lakes and tanks. They are given to them by negotiation and not by auction.

Secondly, the seed of fast growing varieties of carps is supplied to fisheries co-operative societies at 33.1/3% subsidised rate to help them for stocking the resources with adequate number of seed.

Thirdly, these fisheries co-operative societies are given 50% subsidy on purchase cost of nylon twine which is a requirement for the fabrication of fishing nets.

A private fish culturist or fish farmer is not given any of these helps. But the co-operative are encouraged since they benefit larger number of people.

4.3 DIFFERENT SCHEMES OF GRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING

1. Fish Farming in Impounded Waters

Under this scheme seed of fast growing varieties of Indian major carp, i.e. Catla, Rohu, Mrigal is brought from Calcutta and supplied to fish culturist fish farmers and fisheries co-operative societies.

Under this scheme subsidy @ 33.1/3% is given to fisheries co-operative societies, Gram Panchayat Zilla Parishad and local bodies such as Municipal Councils on purchase of fish seed.

Table No.4.1

Table showing the supply of Fry-seeds from 1982-83 to 1986-87

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of Tins	Number of Fry	Rate per Tin	Total Cost Rs.	Total Subsidy
<u>1982-83</u>						
1.	Grampanchayat	98	2,45,000	120	11,760	3,920
2.	Municipal Corpn.	30	75,000	120	3,600	1,200
3.	Co-Op. Societies	152	3,80,000	120	18,240	6,080
4.	Fisheries Deptt.	169	4,22,500	120	20,280	-
5.	Other Govt. Deptts.	15	37,500	120	1,800	-
6.	Private	46	1,15,000	120	5,520	-
Total		510	12,75,000		61,200	11,200
<u>1983-84</u>						
1.	Grampanchayat	106	2,65,000	120	12,720	4,240
2.	Municipal Corpn.	-	-	120	-	-
3.	Co-op. Societies	241	6,02,500	120	28,920	9,640
4.	Fisheries Deptt.	203	5,07,500	120	24,360	-
5.	Other Govt. Deptt.	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Private	45	1,12,500	120	5,400	-
Total		595	14,87,500	-	71,400	
<u>1984-85</u>						
1.	Grampanchayat	173	4,32,500	122	21,106	7,036
2.	Co-Op. Societies	225	5,62,500	122	27,450	9,151
3.	Fish Deptt.	210	5,25,000	122	25,620	-
4.	Private	27	67,500	122	3,294	-
Total		635	15,87,500		77,470	16,187
<u>1985-86</u>						
1.	Grampanchayat	158	3,95,000	133	21,014	7,005
2.	Municipal Corpn.	20	50,000	133	2,660	887
3.	Co-op. Societies	108	2,70,000	133	14,364	4,788
4.	Fish Deptt.	188	4,70,000	133	25,004	-
5.	Private	26	65,000	133	3,458	-
Total		500	12,50,000		66,500	12,680

Table No.4.1 Contd...

1986-87

1. Grampanchayat	177	4,42,500	141	24,957	8,319
2. Municipal Corpn.	40	1,00,000	141	5,640	1,880
3. Co-Op. Societies	175	4,37,500	141	24,675	8,225
4. Fish Deptt.	256	6,40,000	141	36,096	-
5. Private	78	1,95,000	141	10,998	-
Total	726	18,15,000		102,366	18,424

TOTAL

(1982-83 to 1986-87)

1. Grampanchayat	712	17,80,000	-	91,557	30,516
2. Municipal Corpn.	90	2,25,000	-	11,900	3,967
3. Fisheries Co-op.	863	21,57,500	-	113,649	37,884
4. Fisheries Deptt.	1026	25,65,000	-	131,360	-
5. Other Govt. Deptt.	15	37,500	-	1,800	-
6. Private	212	5,55,000	-	28,670	-
Grand Total	2928	73,20,000	-	378,936	72,367

Table No.4.1 indicates that the supply of Fry-seed is around 73,20,000 and its total cost comes to Rs.3,87,936 during the year 1982-83 to 1986-87. Rate of per tin has considerably increased from Rs.120/- per tin in the year 1982-83 to Rs.122 in 1984-85 and Rs.133, Rs.141 in the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 respectively. The Table No.4.1 also shows that there is no subsidy given to the private parties i.e. private fish culturists are supplied seed at full cost. It is clear from the Table No.4.1 that the total subsidy sanctioned to Grampanchayat,

Municipal Corporation and Fisheries Co-operative societies is Rs.72,367 during 1982-83 to 1986-87. The supply rate of tin to all the parties is the same.

This assistance is just to encourage adequate stocking in almost all available water resources.

2. Assistance for Supply of Fishery Requisites

Under this scheme nylon twine is supplied to the members of fisheries co-operative society @ 50% subsidised cost. This nylon supply is effected through the state apex co-operative body the Maharashtra Rajya Machhimar Sahakari Sangh Ltd., Bombay. There is restriction on supply. Each member is given assistance for only 5 Kgs. nylon twine.

Table No.4.2

Table showing supply of Nylon Twine to Co-op. Societies in Kolhapur District

Sr. No.	Year	Nylone Twine in Kgs.	Subsidy in Rs.
1.	1982-83	769.771	34,963.35
2.	1983-84	708.272	32,945.50
3.	1984-85	697.294	31,781.80
4.	1985-86	550.417	26,240.00
5.	1986-87	563.930	27,562.85
Total		3,289.684	1,53,493.50

Table No.4.2 shows that in 1982-83 the supply of Nylon Twine is 768.771 Kgs. however, it gradually decreased from 708.272 in 1983-84 to 350.417 Kgs. in 1985-86 but there is slight increase in the year 1986-87 i.e. 363.930 Kgs. The total subsidy given to the Fisheries Co-operative Societies is Rs.1,53,493.50 for the last five years under study.

3. Grant of Loan to Fishermen

Under the scheme the loan upto Rs.2,000/- per member is granted on account of purchase of nylon for nets or repairs to old nets or fishing boat. These loans are granted to them against mortgage of property. These loans are granted with interest rate of Rs.7.50 per annum.

Table No.4.3

Table showing the Loan Granted by the Government to Fishermen

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount	Maximum loan amount	Rate of Interest
1.	1982-83	9	5,000	2,000	7½%
2.	1983-84	5	4,000	2,000	7½%
3.	1984-85	1	1,000	2,000	7½%
4.	1985-86	5	5,000	2,000	7½%
5.	1986-87	5	4,500	2,000	7½%
Total		25	19,500		

Table No.4.3 indicates that the amount of Loan sanctioned by the Government to the fishermen in the year 1982-83 was Rs.5,000/-, it has come down to Rs.1000/- in the year 1984-85. But there is good increase in 1985-86 i.e. Rs.5,000/- and Rs.4,500/- in 1986-87. Number of beneficiaries has come down to 9 to 1. However, in 1985-86 and 1986-87 the same is increased by 5.

4. Training to Fishery-youths

Under the scheme latest knowledge of fish culture is given to fisherman youth who are studied upto IVth Std. This training is of short duration. Each trainee is paid Rs.200/- as a stipend during the training period and is also paid to and fro bus/train fare to reach the training centre.

Table No.4.4

Table showing Training to Fishermen

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Trainees	Stipend paid in Rs.
1.	1985-86	14	2,800
2.	1986-87	14	2,800

Table No.4.4 is self explanatory regarding training to fishermen. The scheme was started from

the year 1983-86 by the Kolhapur District Fisheries Development Officer.

5. Accidental Insurance Coverage

This is a novel scheme. Fishing being a hazardous activity, there are chances of accidents. Under the scheme insurance coverage is given to fisherman in age group of 18 years to 60 years. Each member is required to pay Rs.1.50 only. The State Government contributes Rs.3/- per member and balance of Rs.4.50 per member is contributed from Central Government. This making together Rs.9/- which paid to the insurance company for giving insurance coverage to the member. Every member is covered for Rs.15,000/- under this scheme in case of accidents involving his death, the successor is paid the insurance amount of Rs.15,000/-. In the event of permanent loss of

Table No.4.5

Table showing accidental Insurance Scheme for Fishermen

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Fishermen	Subsidy Rate per Fishermen (in Rs.)	Subsidy for Insurance Premium (in Rs.)
1.	1982-83	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	1983-84	62	9	558
3.	1984-85	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	1985-86	70	7.5	525
5.	1986-87	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		132	-	1083

arms/legs making him completely handicapped he gets Rs.15,000/-. In partial disablement he gets Rs.7,500/- from the insurance cover.

Table No.4.5 shows that there is an upward trend regarding number of fishermen who have contributed to accidental insurance scheme showing 62 in 1983-84 to 70 in 1985-86. The subsidy sanctioned by the Government to the above fishermen for insurance premium is Rs.1033/-.

6. Assistance towards Managerial Subsidy and Share Capital to The Fisheries Co-op. Societies

The government has also sanctioned assistance towards managerial subsidy and share capital to the Fisheries Co-operative Societies these financial position is not so good. Table No.4.6 shows the details of the assistance sanctioned by the Government.

Table No.4.6 shows that the assistance sanctioned by the government to the number of societies is 8. The total managerial subsidy sanctioned is Rs.1,900/- and the government contributed towards share capital to the extent of Rs.3,000/- during the period under study i.e. from the years 1982-83 to 1986-87.

Table No.4.6

Table showing the Assistance given by the Government towards Managerial Subsidy and Share Capital to the Fisheries Co-operative Societies.

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Societies	Managerial Subsidy in Rs.	Share Capital in Rs.
1.	1982-83	3	700	1,000
2.	1983-84	1	500	1,000
3.	1984-85	2	200	Nil
4.	1985-86	1	500	Nil
5.	1986-87	1	Nil	1,000
Total		8	1,900	3,000

Apart from this technical know-how required at all stages, is given to fish farmers and fisheries societies; from Fisheries Office at the District level.

4.4 FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT : DUTIES OF THE DISTRICT FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Government of Maharashtra has its own Fisheries Department. But nevertheless, the State Government receives some amount as grant-in-aid from the Central Government upon which most of the welfare and developmental schemes are adopted and implemented.

The details regarding the Sixth and Seventh Plans in connection with the various schemes in fisheries, marine, fresh-waters are given in Table No.4.7.

Table No.4.7 gives the out-lays during the Sixth and Seventh Plan period. It also reveals the fisheries development during 1985-86 and 1986-87.

THE DUTIES OF THE DISTRICT FISHERIES OFFICER

The duties of the District Fisheries Development Officer are as under :

1. To lease out fishing rights of portions of the rivers, tanks and ponds in the district.
2. Survey of new sheets of water to assess the suitability for pisciculture.
3. Stocking of tanks and ponds with suitable varieties of fish every year.
4. Collection of local fry and its nature in nursery tanks.
5. Supervision of the tanks.
6. Formation and supervision of the fisheries co-operative societies and to devise ways and means to improve the socio-economic condition of fishermen.
7. To investigate applications from fishermen for loan from government.
8. To watch and effect loan recoveries and credit the money to treasury.
9. To encourage fishermen to take advantage of the different schemes of the department.

10. To collect statistics of fish and other data pertaining to fisheries and fishermen of the district.
11. To serve as member and to attend the meeting of the District Development Boards and their respective sub-committees.
12. To supervise deep tank fishing operations.
13. To supervise the work of development of fisheries in Kolhapur District.