

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW
FISHERIES TRAINING VESSEL FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES



BY

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Introduction

The marine fishery sector plays a very important role in the Indian economy. Not only does it generate employment and foreign exchange, but also plays an important role in the augmentation of protein source.

Fishing has traditionally been one of the chief occupations and the source of livelihood of the people living in the coastal areas in Goa. Prior to liberation (in 1961), the fishing activity in Goa was primarily a traditional one and was based on the availability of different varieties of fish in different seasons at different areas in the sea and rivers (Padki *et al*, 1967).

However, after mechanisation the scenario has completely changed. The evolution of fishing gears from manual tools to mechanical hardware has led to a huge positive impact on the catch both in terms of quality and variety. Most of the species are available throughout the year in varied proportions as fishing is carried out at far away fishing grounds. Among the marine Fisheries resources, the pelagic Fisheries dominate the catch. Indian mackerals and oil sardines, the two pelagic species, contribute the major share of the total marine fish catch in Goa (Monteiro, 2006).

Although, the marine fishery sector has made considerable growth over the years, it has also generated a number of socio-political issues. The catch levels which showed an increasing trend are presently either stagnating or declining. Fishing in the seas is becoming increasingly unpredictable and risky. The fishermen toil hard putting their lives in danger so as to make available the highly rich protein source to the public as food. It is also becoming increasingly expensive to harvest these resources as the cost of production is increasing by the day with the rising prices of fuel and unpredictable labour.

It is therefore felt necessary to train the fishermen to be equipped with the knowledge of operating a GPS, fish finder, life saving equipments and various fishing techniques and other related aspects.



Fig.1.(a) Construction of keel of training vessel "Ocean Queen" at workshop

This project is prepared under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Objectives:-

1. To impart training to the fishermen youth in various techniques of fishing.
2. To train the fisher youth in seamanship and navigation.
3. To train the fishermen to operate the different life saving equipments on board.
4. To train the fishermen and crew to operate the fish finders, GPS, VHF, safety beacon etc.
5. Training the fishermen as well as the youth undergoing the 6 months Fisheries training
6. To train the fishermen to be equipped with the knowledge of a GPS, fish finder, life saving equipments and various fishing techniques and other related aspects.
7. Fisher youth will be trained in seamanship

8. ACHIVEMENTS:

The Department conducts onboard training on fishing vessel “Ocean Queen” as part of six months training course to all the students every year. Wherein, hand on experience of using on navigation and safety equipments; fishing techniques; and preliminary first aid techniques on board is thought.

A concise list of training conducted from 2012 onwards is given is the table below:

SER. NO	YEAR	NO. OF STUDENTS
1.	2012	21
2.	2013	15
3.	2014	22
4.	2015	18
5.	2016	14
6.	2017	17
7.	2018	8



Fig.2.(a) Students on board; (b) hand on experience on navigation; (c) VHF wireless communication device.

9. OUTCOME OF THE PROJECT

- Gain hand on training on navigation and seamanship
- Modernize technology on board viz. using fish finder to locate fish shoal, use of Power block(winch) which can reduce the number of labours onboard etc
- Employment generation, student who gain training and can apply for technical post on board