

# National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED)

**40** years of  
service to  
the nation



**FISHCOPFED**  
(Est. 1980)





**We have heard of White & Green Revolution but now we need a Blue Revolution & harness the potential in fisheries sector.**



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi on the potential of Fisheries Sector



**Shri Giriraj Singh**

Hon'ble Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India



**Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi**

Hon'ble Minister of State for Fisheries Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India



**Shri Rajeev Ranjan, IAS**

Secretary (Fisheries), Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India



**Sh. T. Prasad Rao Dora**  
Chairman, FISHCOPFED



**Sh. Bimal Kumar Mishra**  
Managing Director, FISHCOPFED

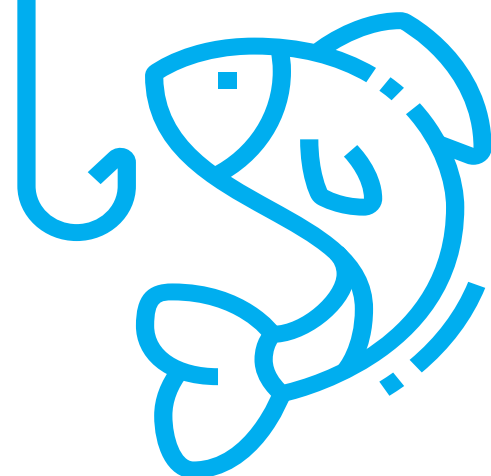


**National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives Ltd.**

(Administrative Control of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India)

7-Sarita Vihar Institutional Area, New Delhi-110076 (India)

**F**ishing is perhaps as old as the human civilization itself. The known history of fishing dates back to more than 40,000 years. It was an essential source of food in prehistory and became a commercial activity in antiquity. Deep-sea fishing emerged in the 15<sup>th</sup> century but really took off with the arrival of steam boats in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the more powerful trawlers could then pull larger nets. The Egyptians invented various implements, reed boats served for fishing, woven nets, and weir baskets made from willow branches, harpoons and hook lines became common. Gradually begun the use of metal hooks with barbs. The changeover to modern fishing methods was slow; the only improvement by 18<sup>th</sup> century was invention of reel.



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# Fisheries Cooperatives

**The connectedness amongst fishermen and fishery community in India are maintained by conventional fishermen groups, fishermen cooperative societies, federations, etc. These organizations by their very nature and reason for existence are aimed at increasing the maximum output from the fishery resources and thereby, increasing the livelihood, income and wellbeing of their members.**

# Emergence of Fisheries Cooperatives



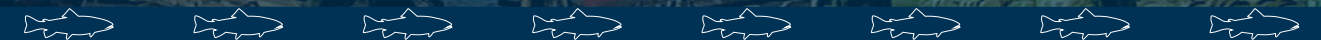
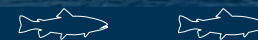
The fishery co-operative movement in India began in 1913 when the first “Fishermen’s Co-operative Society namely “Karla Machhimar (Fishermen) Cooperative Society Ltd.” was organized in Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra. The society is still in operation and working efficiently.

The fishermen in general belong to the socio-economic poor section of Indian population. The cooperatives have always been the tool in the hands of the poor and the weak to gain strength. Being financially weak and socially backward, the only course for them to get a foothold in the economy and society is to unite. Cooperatives provide a perfect platform for improving the lot of this section of the society.

The fisheries cooperative system in India was devised with a view to provide assistance to the actual producers –the fishers. Fisheries co-operative societies are governed by a separate set of rules to channelize government assistance on the principles of self-help and democratic management. A large number of fisheries cooperatives have been formed both in marine and inland sectors of the country and contributing to the socio-economic development of the poor fishers.

## Cooperatives coverage of fishers in India

National Level Cooperative Federation .....	1
State Level Cooperative Federations .....	21
Regional Level Cooperative Federations .....	7
District Level Cooperative Federations .....	132
Primary Level Cooperative Societies .....	21,741
Cooperative Fishermen members .....	33,53,115
General (Institutional) Membership .....	111
Nominal Membership .....	19,365



Name of the State / UT	Number of Societies				No. of members
	State Level	Regional Level	District Level	Primary Level	
Andhra Pradesh	1		13	2,347	2,60,579
Arunachal Pradesh				11	230
Assam	1		2	520	90,000
Bihar	1			510	4,10,007
Chhattisgarh	1		5	765	26,154
Goa				20	1,503
Gujarat	1		3	263	26,045
Haryana				116	1,276
Himachal Pradesh				45	5,837
Jammu Kashmir				1	18
Jharkhand	1		1	384	22,853
Karnataka	1		2	566	2,04,689
Kerala	1			651	4,60,486
Madhya Pradesh	1		1	2,290	85,731
Maharashtra	1	2	36	3,315	3,32,636
Manipur	1		3	485	14,258
Meghalaya				18	611

Name of the State / UT	Number of Societies				No. of members
	State Level	Regional Level	District Level	Primary Level	
Mizoram	1			47	1,656
Nagaland				267	9,234
Odisha	1	5		657	1,38,143
Punjab			1	1	18
Rajasthan	1		1	34	4,130
Sikkim				8	230
Tamil Nadu	1		11	1,355	6,79,117
Telangana	1		10	4,348	3,02,002
Tripura	1			142	22,967
Uttar Pradesh	1		22	1,011	54,521
Uttarakhand				13	634
West Bengal	1		20	1,433	1,31,578
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1			41	1,361
Daman and Diu				7	3,176
Lakshadweep				6	2,910
Puducherry	1		1	64	58,525
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>21,741</b>	<b>33,53,115</b>



# FISHCOPFED - At a Glance

**FISHCOPFED is the apex organization and global spokesperson for Fisheries Cooperatives in India. The organisation aims to serve, develop and uplift the socio-economic condition of fishers in the country.**

**1980**

FISHCOPFED registered as All India Federation of Fishermen Cooperatives

**7,483**

No. of Fishers trained in 2019-20

**4.7 mn**

Highest fishers covered under Group Accident Insurance Scheme in the year 2015-16

**1**

Apex fisheries cooperative headquartered in New Delhi with 9 unit / regional offices across India

**4.2 mn**

Highest fishers covered under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) in 2017-18

## The beginning...

The organization of Karla Machhimar Cooperative Society Ltd, the first of its kind in India proved to be a milestone in the history of fishery cooperative movement in the country as its success prompted other Fishermen to get united and organize themselves into cooperatives. As a result Fishermen cooperative Societies at primary level began to come up in all parts of the country. The efforts of these societies were scattered and as such they were unable to voice their concerns on a joint platform. Soon Fishery societies began to be federated into District level Cooperatives followed by organization of State level Federations. The link which could be the spokesperson at the Centre was still missing. This need led to the establishment of the All India Federation of Fishermen Cooperatives in the year 1980. The federation was subsequently renamed as 'The National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives Ltd.' popularly known as 'FISHCOPFED'.

GENESIS



*FISHCOPFED's aim is to serve, develop and uplift the socio-economic condition of fishers in the country. It facilitates, coordinates and promotes fishing industry in India through cooperative effort. It has a mandate to undertake, organize and develop production, processing, storage and marketing of fish and its products as also to manufacture and distribute machinery, implements and other inputs required for the fishing industry.*

### REGISTRATION

FISHCOPFED is governed under the Multi-state Cooperative Societies Act, 2002. It was originally registered under the Maharashtra State Cooperative Societies Act as All India Federation of Fishermen Cooperatives.

The organisation's operations started in 1982 under the tutelage of its founder President Late Shri J. C. Barwey, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Maharashtra. The administrative control of FISHCOPFED which was earlier with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, and is now vested with the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

FISHCOPFED is the sole representative of fishers in India and the only spokesperson for this vital community in the country and across the world.

### The roles we can fulfil...

- Promotion of inter-state, intra-state and international trade of fish and fish products either through own activities or through its member institutions
- Purchase, sale and supply of fish & fish products and take care of marketing and processing requisites including creation of warehousing and transportation facilities
- Act as an insurance agent and take up all activities incidental to insurance business
- Provide consultancy services
- Manufacture of fishing vessels, marine engines either of its own or in joint venture (including import and distribution of spares for maintenance of fishing vehicles)
- Organize training programmes , undertake market research , evaluation etc. to help Fisher Cooperatives in preparation of development plans
- Promote cooperative principles and its philosophy
- Undertake activity which helps in promoting the welfare of Fishers and help in improving their socio-economic status, etc.



# FISHCOPFED across India



The Board Room at  
FISHCOPFED HO



The Board Room at FISHCOPFED HO was inaugurated by Sh. G. C. Pati, IAS, Secretary (AHD&F), Gol in the year 2013



The Head Office at Sarita Vihar,  
New Delhi

FISHCOPFED functions through its Head office in Delhi and its 9 Regional / Unit / Project offices located in different parts of the country. In addition there is one training centre at Bhubaneswar.

The federation is also operating 2 retail outlets in New Delhi and one in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.



C/o Maharashtra  
Rajya Machhimar  
Sahakari Sangh  
Ltd., Mumbai,  
Maharashtra

Liasioning Office,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Matsya Sadan,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Cuttack  
Road, Bhubaneswar,  
Odisha

National Fish Seed  
Farm, Banswara,  
Rajasthan

C/o Office of  
Dy. Directorate  
(Fisheries), Meena  
Bhawan, Vidyapati  
Marg, Patna, Bihar



Dept. of  
Fisheries, Govt.  
of Chhattisgarh,  
Telibanda, Raipur,  
Chhattisgarh



C/o Assam Fisheries  
Service Centre,  
Nagputa Pukhuri,  
Panbazar, Guwahati,  
Assam



Fish Seed Farm,  
Rajendra Nagar,  
Hyderabad,  
Telangana



C/o Director of  
Fisheries Office,  
Manipur

Our Regional Footprint

## Retail Outlets



Retail Outlet at Yusuf  
Sarai, New Delhi



Retail Outlet at New  
Motibagh, New Delhi

## Training Centre



A well-equipped residential training center established at Kausalyagang, Bhubaneswar, Odisha in 2011

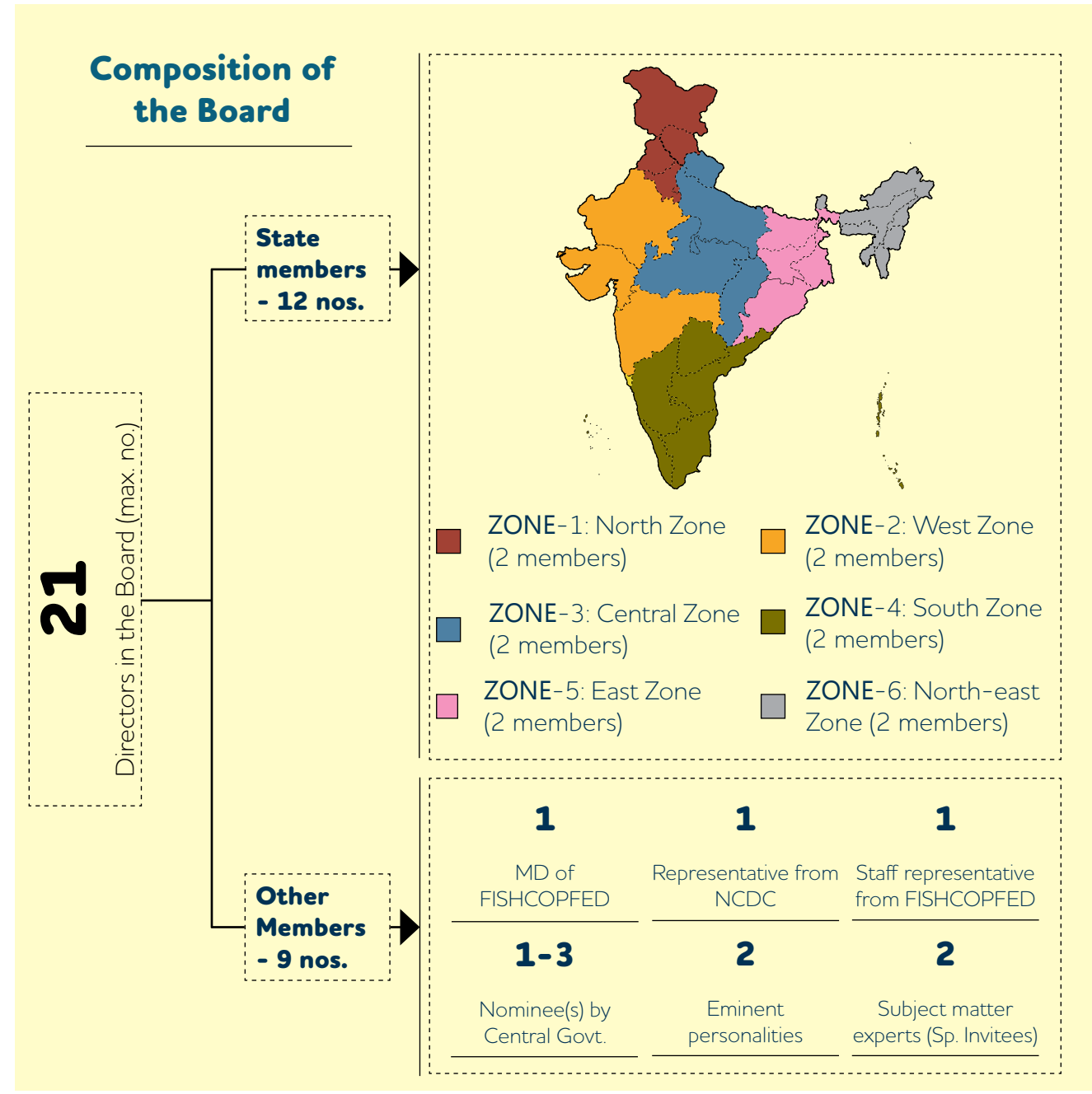


# Organisational Structure

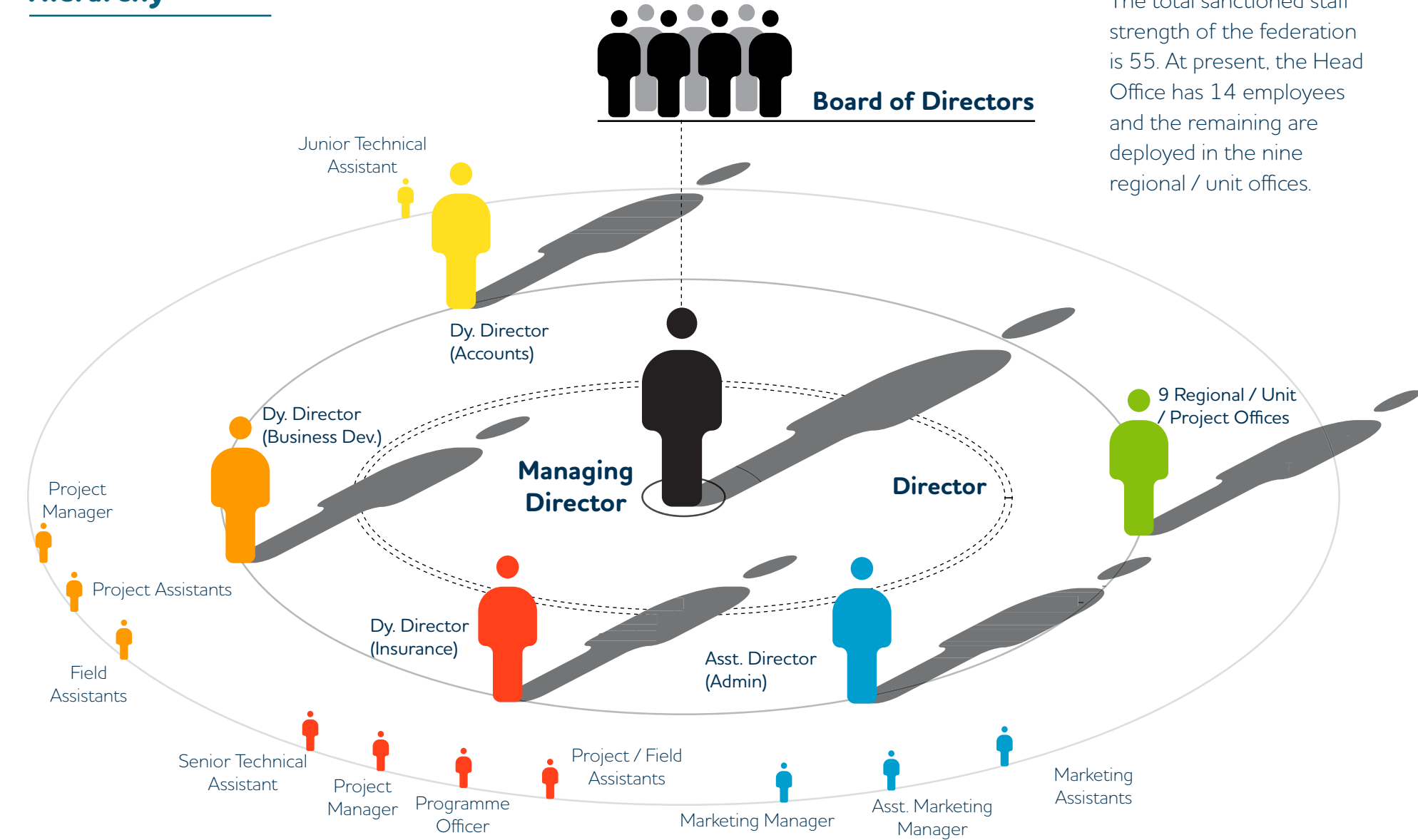
The management of FISHCOPFED is vested in its Board of Directors. There can be no more than 21 Directors in the Board excluding functional directors and coopted directors.

The Board of Directors elect one President and a Vice President. The Board of Directors also appoint a Managing Director who is responsible for conducting the day to day business and exercise administrative control over FISHCOPFED.

The present Board comprises of thirteen persons, including one Director from NCDC, two Government nominees, one co-opted member and Managing Director of FISHCOPFED. The remaining members are all elected.



# Organisational Hierarchy



The total sanctioned staff strength of the federation is 55. At present, the Head Office has 14 employees and the remaining are deployed in the nine regional / unit offices.

# Membership & Funding

Memberships are open to

<p><b>State level Fishermen / Fisherwomen Cooperative Federations</b></p>	<p><b>Regional level Fishermen / Fisherwomen Cooperative Societies</b></p>	<p><b>District level Fishermen / Fisherwomen Cooperative Societies</b></p>
<p><b>National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)</b></p>	<p><b>The Government of India</b></p>	<p><b>Nominal Members</b>  includes persons/ societies, not covered above, but desirous of doing business with FISHCOPFED</p>

## Source of Funds

The federation may invest or deposit its funds with all types of cooperative banks, in securities and other banks as specified under its bye laws.

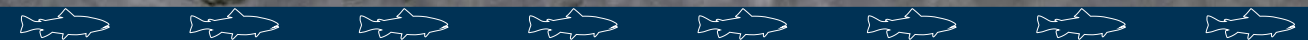
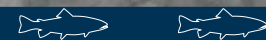
- Membership Fee
- Share Capital
- Grants in aid, donations and contribution from affiliated federations
- Deposits from members & Borrowings
- Subscription
- Profits




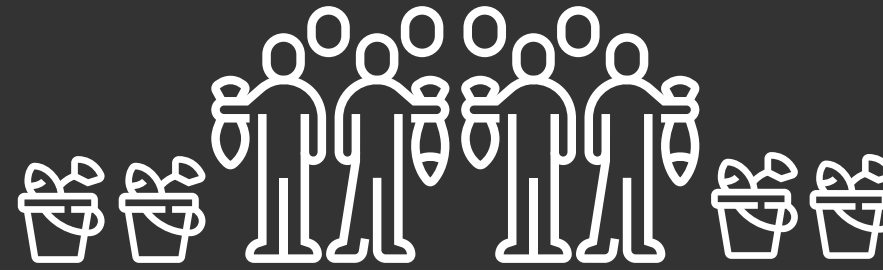
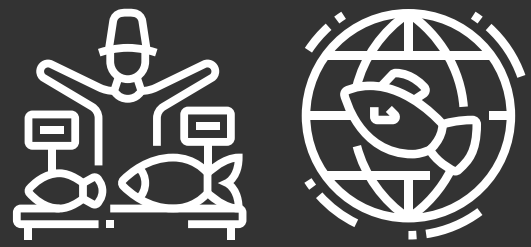
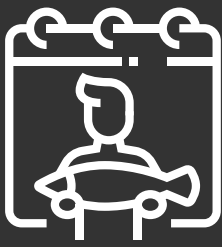


Photo Credit: Adobe Stock

# Major Activities

**FISHCOPFED is primarily working in the areas of fisher welfare, training / education and marketing of fish and fishery products. Besides these, the federation undertakes studies, and promotes fishery cooperatives in India and across the globe.**



# Major Activities

	Fishing related	Fishers & Fisher Cooperatives	Marketing of Fish & Fish Products	Studies & other activities
				
Fishing inputs	<p>Transfer of intermediate technology to fishers through cooperatives</p> <p>Supply of inputs and fishery requisites</p>	<p><b>Welfare Activities</b></p>  <p>Providing insurance cover to fishers</p>	<p><b>Domestic Marketing</b></p> <p>Arranging inter-state marketing of fish and establishing post-harvest infrastructure.</p>	<p><b>Fisheries Data</b></p> <p>Collecting, compiling and dissemination of data on fishery cooperatives</p>
		<p><b>Training Activities</b></p>  <p>Providing education and training to fisher members</p> <p>Providing project consultancy to fishery cooperatives</p> <p>Setting up fishery demonstration cum-production units</p>	<p><b>Exports</b></p> <p>Promotion of fishery exports</p>	<p><b>Studies &amp; Publications</b></p> <p>Conducting in-depth studies on different aspects of fisheries</p> <p>Publishing of in-house bilingual quarterly magazines</p>

# Marketing Activities of FISHCOPFED

No production activity is of any worth unless it is supported by effective marketing of produce. FISHCOPFED takes due care and provide necessary avenues for filling the gap between Fishermen's produce and the doorsteps of consumers. The various efforts taken by FISHCOPFED for promotion of marketing are presented here.



Bio-floc by FISHCOPFED at Guwahati

## Promotion of Aquaculture

FISHCOPFED has been promoting aquaculture or aqua-farming by setting up demonstration-cum-production units under controlled environment. These farms serve as

demonstration and production centres, aimed to improve fishers' income.

At present, FISHCOPFED has created such units / farms in the states of Assam and Odisha.

## Cold Chain

There is a big gestation period between the time fish is caught and when it reaches the end-consumers, with most of the retail markets being far from the fishing areas. The price a catch fetches depends upon its freshness. More the time taken in transporting the catch after fishing to the kitchen lesser is the price it attracts. Keeping fish fresh from fishing areas to the consumers is a big challenge. To overcome the problem and to ensure remunerative prices to the fishers as also to deliver high quality fresh fish to the consumers, FISHCOPFED with the assistance

from the then Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries started its own cold chain. It operates two trucks at BBSR Regional Office and one mobile van at its Hyderabad unit office.



Photo Credit: Adobe Stock

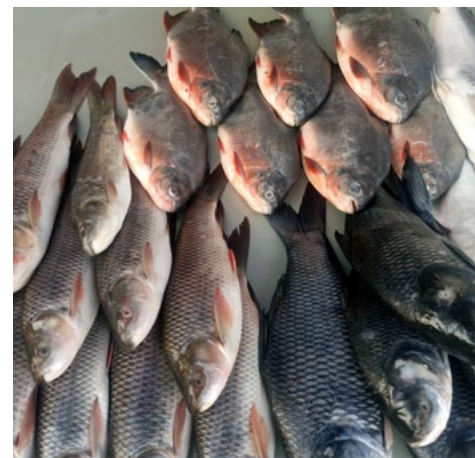


Photo Credit: Adobe Stock

## Inter-State Fish Marketing

One of the major reasons of promoting cooperative movement has been to eliminate middlemen from the market. FISHCOPFED has been successful in this mission to some extent. It is procuring fish directly from fishermen from Odisha and transporting the same to Delhi; Trout fish is also procured from Himachal Pradesh for Delhi market. It has also taken initiative to market dried fish from Odisha to Assam. It is now contemplating to open its own, model Sales Outlet in the wholesale fish market at Ghazipur in Delhi.



FISHCOPFED's fish retail outlet at New Motibag, New Delhi

## Retail Fish Marketing

FISHCOPFED envisages opening a chain of retail outlets of its own throughout the country. The work has already commenced. It had only one retail outlet at Yusuf Sarai market in New Delhi running successfully for the last four decades and now has come up with two more, one in New Motibag area in New Delhi and the other in Raipur, Chhatisgarh. These outlets are enabling the consumers to get quality fish at reasonable prices.

FISHCOPFED has also remained the primary supplier of fish and chicken to ITDC hotels in Delhi for 9 years.



Ornamental fish breeding & aquarium fabrication

## Fish & Fish Products Export

Export of fish and other seafood provide a big opportunity to fishers in India to enhance their incomes. Export of fish & crustaceans from India averaged 2,115.66 million USD from 1996-2018, reaching an all-time high of 6,850.91 million USD in 2017. Total export value was Rs. 45,106.89 crores in 2017-18.

FISHCOPFED seeks to enter the export market and has acquired an Import-Export code number from the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India. The federation is preparing a manual documenting the necessary guidelines for export of fish & fish related products to different countries and outlining the quality & other standards to be followed by its members.



Shri Tarun Sridhar, IAS, Secretary (AHD&F), GOI awarding FISHCOPFED for excellent performance in Swachhata Abhiyan in the year 2018. Dr. J. Balaji, IAS, Joint Secretary (Fy) is also present.



Shri Sagar Mehera, Joint Secretary (Fy) at the inauguration of TMC Meeting at Delhi

FISHCOPFED's novel 'Fish on the Wheels', with cold storage & cooking facility. The unique initiative offers a fresh and hygienic eatery to fish lovers.



Participation of FISHCOPFED at a Fish Mela organised by NFDB at Delhi Haat, New Delhi.



# Welfare Activities of FISHCOPFED

FISHCOPFED is primarily a promotional and developmental organization having members' welfare as its core concern. Majority of the fishers belong to the most backward socio-economic strata of Indian society. They are not only poor but are also plagued by ignorance due to rampant illiteracy. Being uneducated they are deprived of the benefits of many welfare schemes of the government. The most important being insurance cover to safeguard their families in the eventuality of death or serious injuries leaving them unfit for fishing and other productive work. Some of the major steps taken for the welfare of members are presented here.

## Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMBSY)

**F**ISHCOPFED took up the task of converging the Centrally Sponsored Group Accident Insurance Scheme for active fishermen into the PMBSY in the year 2017-18. PMBSY is being implemented in collaboration with the concerned States and Union Territories, through the respective fishery departments, throughout the country. The premium per fisher is just ₹12.00 per year.

Under this scheme 50% premium is subsidized by the Union Government and remaining 50% by the concerned State Governments. In case of North Eastern States, 80% premium is

subsidized by Union Government whereas for UTs the subsidy from Central Government is 100%. The federation used to get an additional ₹1/- per extending insurance coverage to beneficiary fishers from the Centre and States as service charges.

The service charge benefit was taken away in 2012-13 but the federation did not shy away from its responsibility towards fishers and continued to operate the scheme.

However, it has come at a significant financial burden to the federation, which is operating on meager resources.

### Coverage & Benefits

Implementation in 23 states and 5 UTs.

42.14 lakh fishers covered in 2017-18.

24-hours accident cover: ₹2.00

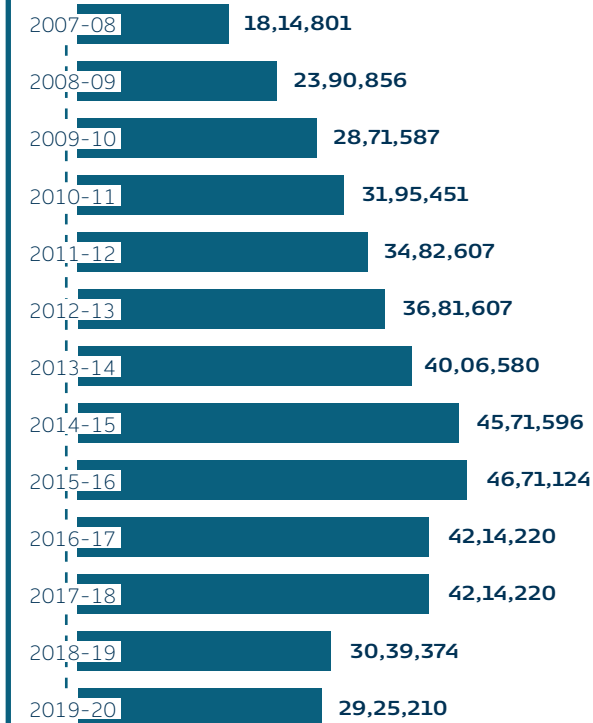
lakh in case of death/permanent disability;

₹1.00 lakh for permanent partial disability.

Eligibility: Any fisher between the age of

18 to 70 years.

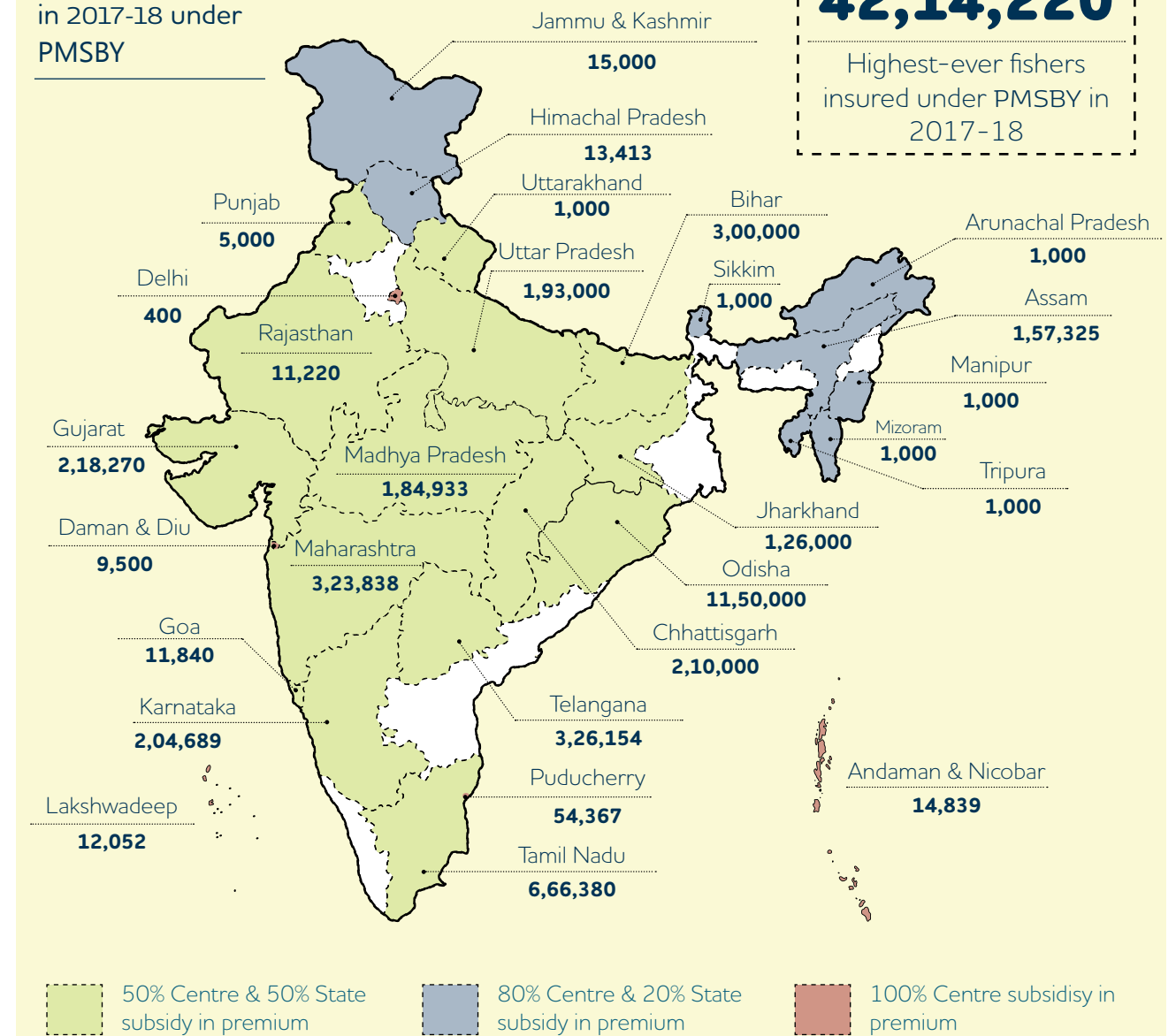
## Fishers insured over the years



There was a steady rise in the number of fishers insured till 2015-16; but changing government policies have resulted in a decline in the numbers.

The federation is taking measures to control the situation and is all geared up to extend the insurance cover to more and more number of fishers. It aims to cover at least 50.00 lakh fishers every year by 2022.

## Fishers insured in 2017-18 under PMSBY



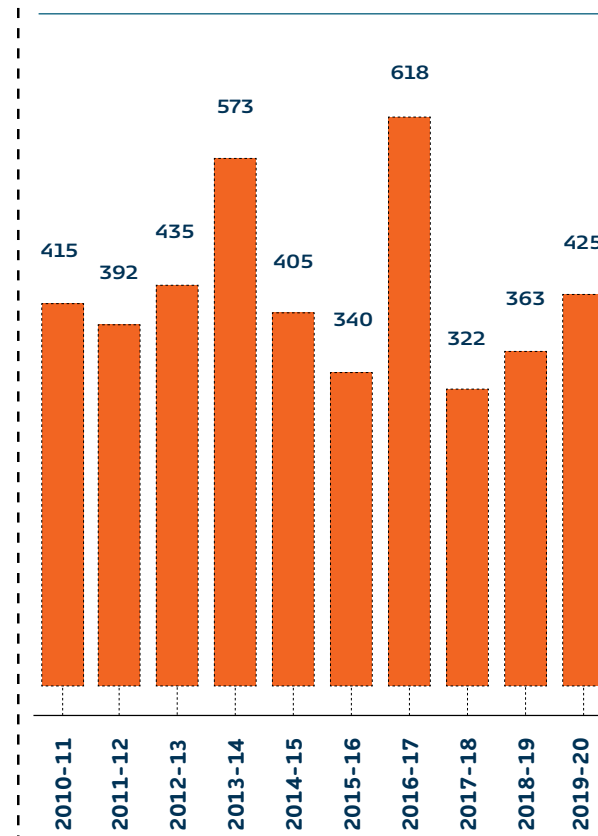


## Settlement of Claims



Sh. Giriraj Singh present Hon'ble Minister, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India presenting a settlement cheque to a claimant in the state of Bihar, way back in the year 2012

### Claims settled over last decade



Dr. Arun Kumar Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Govt. of Odisha distributing insurance claim cheque to a nominee

FISHCOPFED does not consider its job to be finished after fishers have been brought under the umbrella of insurance, as it generally happens, but considers it as a moral responsibility to help the families of the victims till their claims have been duly settled.

FISHCOPFED takes upon itself to safeguard their interest in the event of any eventuality to enable the family members of the victims to get their dues as applicable without any hassles.

It was the organisation's sheer determination and resolve to help fishers and their families which ensured timely settlement of more than 1,000 claims, during the last tsunami, which wreaked havoc in Tamil Nadu.

# Training & Education

Training and education is very vital in the process of growth and development. FISHCOPFED gives top priority to training and education of the Fishers. Training curriculum includes various aspects of fishing and also the cooperative way of doing business.

The training and other educational activities undertaken by FISHCOPFED have been very successful and highly appreciated by the participants and participating organizations for their contents and value addition. These programmes have been able to make a positive impact in the working of Fishers Cooperatives. There is an increasing demand from all quarters for increasing the frequency of such educational and training courses as also including the latest technological and other developments taking place in India and abroad in the curriculum.

Financial support is extended by various agencies including Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, National Fisheries Development Board, IFFCO, NCUI, MANAGE and NABARD etc for conducting training programmes. Now it is supported by the Deptt. of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

## Flagship Training Programmes

### Intensive Aquaculture in Ponds and Tanks

During the last five years, **7,500** fishers have been trained under this programme.

### Transfer of Technology for Fishers

During the last five years the federation has trained more than **10,000** fishers from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, MP, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand and UP.

### Reservoir Fisheries Development & Management

About **2,500** fishers have been covered under this programme in the last 5 years.



Participants of a training programme organised by FISHCOPFED at its training centre in Bhubaneswar, Odisha

## Other Training Programmes

### Training cum Awareness Programme on the Code of Conduct for responsible fisheries

Cooperatives are not merely economic enterprises organized to generate more income for its members, but have a broader responsibility of conscious use of

natural resources and ensuring ethics and transparency in activities. With this objective in mind, a five day training-cum-awareness programme is being conducted.

More than 1,000 fishers from Chilika Circle, Odisha have been exposed to this programme so far.

### Multi- State Training Project

Under the programme, 15 training programmes were organised with support from related state departments and NABARD, across different parts of the country including Assam, Bihar, Karnataka,

Meghalaya, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh. The training modules were specially designed in consultation with the State Fisheries Departments and NABARD in accordance with the profile of the participants.

### Training Programme on Hygienic Fish Handling

Hygiene is of utmost importance in the handling of all kinds of food items. Fish is no exception, rather it is essential since the spoilage of fish produce is rapid. Keeping this aspect in consideration, a one day educational

programmes is being organized to make the fishers aware of the importance of hygiene to keep the nutrients fresh and healthy. The awareness programme has been organised in Delhi and Odisha.

Bio-floc Training at Assam



Participants in a Aquapreneurship Program at a demonstration project sponsored by MANAGE and NFDB



### Capacity Building to enhance the Competitiveness of Indian Fisheries

These training programmes are meant for training the trainers. During the last five years FISHCOPFED organized these courses for National and Regional trainers to enable them to educate and guide the fishers in the art of being competitive to survive in the market.

### Training Programme on Women Empowerment

Women though do not take part directly in catching fish commercially yet play a very important role in pre- and post-harvest of fish. Keeping in view the crucial role of women in fishing industry FISHCOPFED organized a three-day training in Odisha in association with National Fisheries Development Coastal areas.

### Training for IFFCO Member Farmers

FISHCOPFED organized 10 training programmes specially designed for IFFCO Member Farmers on aquaculture development with the objective to generate rural employment and to provide additional source of income for farmers.

# Aqua-One Centres

An ICT Enabled Aquaculture Support Service

A look inside an AOC Lab



**A**qua-One Centres (AOCs) are being set up across the country to provide Information & Communication Technology (ICT)-enabled Aquaculture Support Service to the Fish Farmers, disseminate newer technologies and innovations to facilitate fisheries sector's growth.

FISHCOPFED has set up 16 AOCs across three states, supported by National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). The federation is additionally organising aquapreneurship training programmes funded by MANAGE.

## Expected Benefits

- Enrollment of the beneficiary hatcheries, seed growers and fish farmers
- Pond management and monitoring that include water quality analysis, growth and health monitoring through AOC established water quality & fish health laborator
- ICT enabled advisory services related to inputs, fisheries management practices and technologies, pond and fish health management, training and other related activities.
- To facilitate identification and mitigation of issues faced by hatcheries, seed growers and fish farmers at ground level. This would then translate into adoption of improved fish varieties, technologies, processes &, approaches.
- Documentation and data management.



Aquapreneurship training programme organised by FISHCOPFED

Fish feed, one of the key inputs on which AOCs provide advisory services & solutions to fish farmers



Picture Credit: Adobe Stock

# Studies & Publications

**M**ost of the organizations, especially in cooperative sector pay little attention to research and studies.

FISHCOPFED thinks differently and realizes the importance of research and studies which prove instrumental in creating new models of development. It conducts research and studies regularly and publishes reports from time to time.

Some of the studies conducted and published include – Impact of Centrally Sponsored Group Accident Insurance Scheme, Study on Leasing Systems of Inland Waters, etc.

The manual on Exports of Fish and Fishery Products has also been published by the federation.

## Our publications and research studies

Impact of Centrally Sponsored Group Accident Insurance Scheme on active fishermen

Manual: Export of Fish and Fishery Products

Gender Integration in Fishery Cooperatives in India

Group Accident - Insurance Scheme - A Review

Study on Leasing Systems of Inland Waters

Feasibility Study for Marketing of Fish in Delhi

Evaluation study for National Cooperative Development Corporation

## Database of Fishery Cooperatives

Authentic data base is a pre-requisite for planning for the development and for taking other welfare measure such as allocation of funds for different schemes, designing training modules, creation of infrastructure etc. Most of the planning however meticulously carried out fail at ground level when it comes to implementation. The fundamental reason is inaccuracies in data.

Indian fishery and aquaculture is an important sector of food production providing nutritional security, besides livelihood support and gainful employment to more than 16

million people in the country. It also has a fair share in agriculture exports

The cooperative sector alone accounts for 21,741 primary fishery cooperative societies with a membership of more than 33.53 lakhs fishers. Thus accurate data is required to take policy decisions to manage such a large number and formulate policies for the promotion and development.

Creating a perfect data base is a very arduous task. However when Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government

of India expressed its keenness to create a data bank of fishery cooperatives containing details of their status, membership and facilities available, FISHCOPFED readily took up the challenge and successfully completed nationwide survey of primary fishery cooperatives. A computerized data report was prepared giving all the requisite details of functional cooperative fishery societies at the primary level.

## Other Promotional Activities

In addition to educational and training courses, FISHCOPFED also undertakes various other promotional measures such as:

- Organization of Congress/ Conferences / Workshops on insurance, fish marketing, cooperative management etc.
- Research studies on fisheries cooperative marketing systems and status of fishery cooperatives in India.
- Dissemination of information pertaining to export of fish, fishery products
- Consultancy services and other help to member institutes for fishery projects, interstate marketing etc.

### Mobile advisory service

FISHCOPFED in collaboration with IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Ltd. (IKSL) is providing mobile advisory services to around 4.00 lakh fishers in Odisha State. The fishers are getting expert advice and information relating to technology, weather conditions, market rates etc. Such service is planned for the benefit of other states also.



Cooperative Congress organised by FISHCOPFED in the year 2008



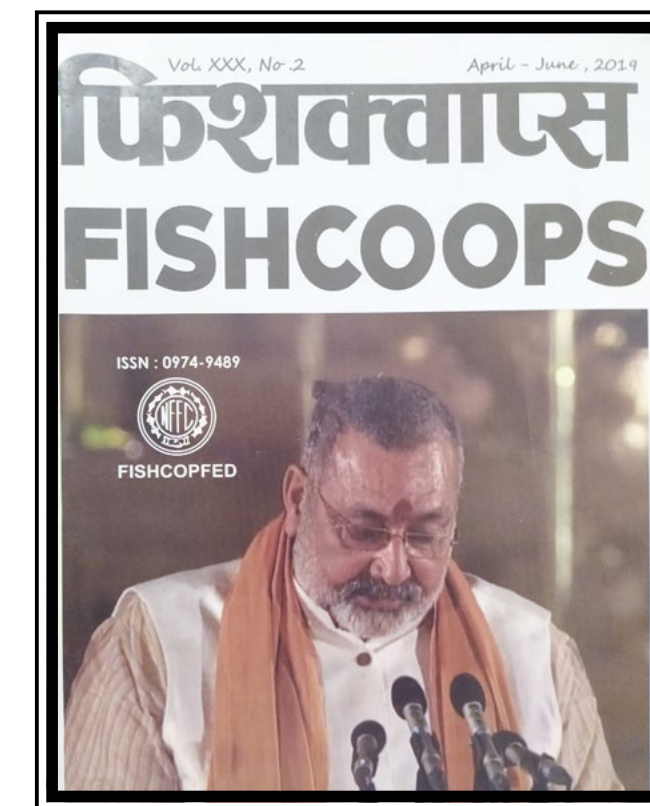
Sh. Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare with the Board members of FISHCOPFED at a seminar organised by the federation on empowerment of fisheries cooperatives

## Publications

FISHCOPFED publishes bilingual quarterly journal namely "FISHCOOPS" carrying up to date information on fishery technology as well as trends. The journal is a source of knowledge about technology and the scheme of the Central as well as State Governments

oriented to the development, promotion and welfare of fishers, besides several allied subjects, news on fisheries cooperatives, fish for health, fish delicacies etc. The journal has a Hindi section too for the benefit of Hindi speaking segment of our population.

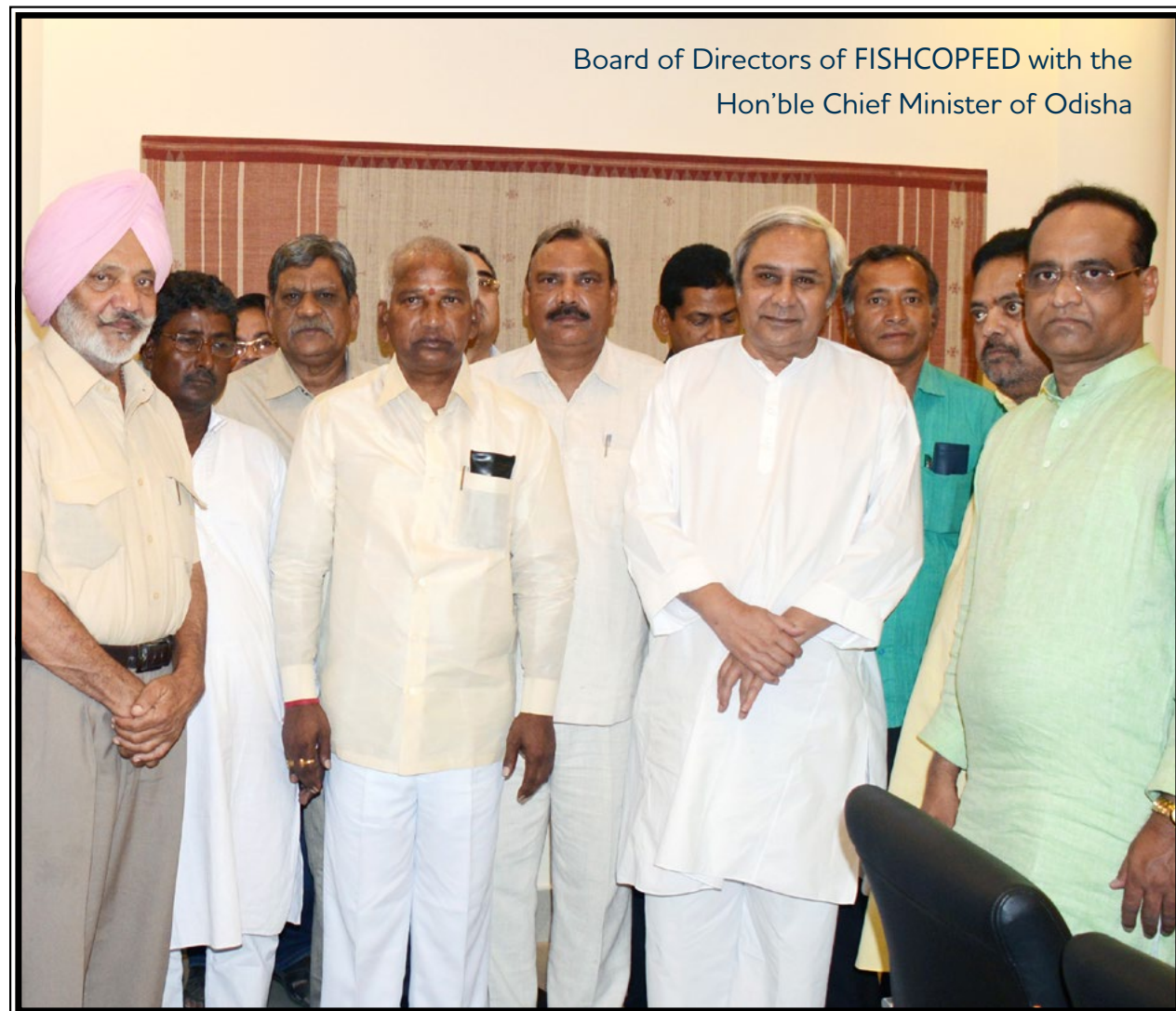
Besides that, FISHCOPFED publishes one quarterly journal namely "MINALOKA" in Odia language. Both the journals are circulated to members of fisheries cooperatives free of cost.



# Liaisoning, Alliances & Partnerships

## Liaison with Government and related agencies

**M**ajority of promotional and other activities are financed by the Government both at Union and State level. In addition various other agencies provide different type of support both financial and logistics. **FISHCOPFED** and its field offices maintain close liaison with all these offices to ensure flow of funds, logistic support, and awareness about the latest policy initiatives for the welfare of fishers. The continuous interaction with various agencies help **FISHCOPED** to influence policy making decisions taken by the government and various agencies, related to the fishers. **FISHCOPFED** has very good relations and coordination with the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and other institutions like IFFCO, NABARD, NCUI, NCDC, ICAR, Fisheries Colleges/institutions in the Country.



Board of Directors of FISHCOPFED with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha

## Strategic Alliances

All businesses are interdependent. Alliances among different enterprises are essential for development and growth of any business. **FISHCOPFED** has forged an alliance with M/s IFFCO-Kisan Sanchar Nigam Ltd. for promoting Information and Communications Technology (ICT) applications in fisheries sector throughout the country. Four lakh fishers have already been covered in the State of Odisha. They have been provided with SIM Cards enabling them to receive latest information on fisheries. It has also entered into an alliance with M/s Komoline Aerospace Ltd., Gujarat for supply of Distance Alert Transmitters (DATs) to marine fishers.



Smt. Rani Kumudini, IAS, Chief Executive, NFDB discussing FISHCOPFED matters with the MD & Board of Director, FISHCOPFED in the year 2019

## International Relations

**FISHCOPFED** is an active member of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO)- is an apex body of fisheries cooperative organizations at an international level and has 22 members from different regions namely Africa, Canada, Europe and the Asia-Pacific). **FISHCOPFED** is also a member of the Network for Development of Agriculture Cooperatives in Asia and Pacific (NEDAC)

It is a matter of pride that Shri B. K. Mishra, the present Managing Director of **FISHCOPFED** remained Vice Chairman of ICFO for a period of eight years. Now Shri T. Prasad Rao Dora, President, **FISHCOPFED** is the Vice Chairman of ICFO, Korea. Shri Mishra has also been elected member of the Executive Committee of NEDAC. Representation at international forums definitely play a significant role in adopting

latest technological innovations in the Fishery sector of India thereby increasing the productivity of Indian Fishermen and also contributing much in opening foreign markets for our fishers.

# Thrust Projects

National Fish Seed Farm, Bhimpur, Rajasthan

National Institute of Fishery Cooperative Management, Bhubaneswar

Aqua One Centres

Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan

All India marketing of fishery inputs such as CIFAX, a sanitizer used to prevent EUS developed by ICAR.

Empowering of Fishery Cooperatives through capacity building programs

Marketing ornamental fish in Delhi and NCR

Organization of FPOs in fishery sector

Database of fishery cooperatives and PMSBY target group

Any other projects as assigned by the Govt. of India

The National Fish Seed Farm  
at Bhimpur, Rajasthan



A Tilapia Indoor Nursery  
Unit at the farm



## Activities: The Road Ahead

Substantial increase in nominal members

Increased emphasis on comprehensive skill & technology transfer training programmes

Strengthening of financial position of the federation

Mobile fish retailing in state capitals

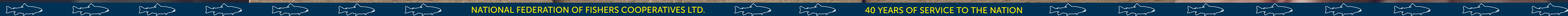
Setting up carp hatcheries, ice plants, demonstration-cum production units, aqua one centres throughout the country.

Launching of online diploma programme on Fisheries Cooperative Management

Development of better delivery systems

# The Pillars

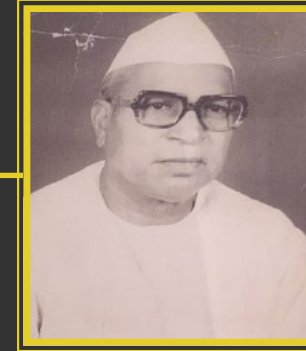
**The fortunes of FISHCOPED have been shaped by many stalwarts who served the organization from time to time in different capacities. The major burden of making policy decisions and their execution has been on the Board of Directors, through the Presidents and the Managing Directors.**



# The Presidents

FISHCOPFED has been nurtured by eminent Cooperators since its inception. The personalities who had the honour of leading the federation are whose and who's of cooperative movement as is evident from the following list.

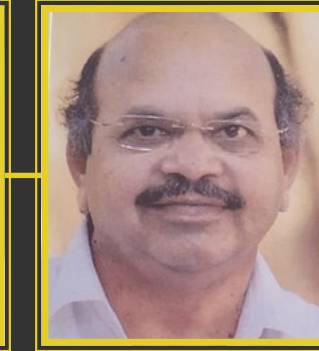
S. No.	Name	Tenure	
		From	To
1	Sh. J. C. Barway	26.04.1980	16.01.1984
2	Sh. Y. P. Nishad	19.01.1984	25.02.1989
3	Sh. J. T. Patil	25.02.1989	21.12.1991
4	Sh. Y. P. Nishad	21.12.1991	09.12.1997
5	Dr. Prakash Malgave	09.12.1997	23.12.2000
6	Sh. Bindeshwar Sahni	23.12.2000	03.02.2005
7	Sh. M. K. R. Nair ( Administrator)	04.02.2005	03.08.2005
8	Sh. A. J. Banga ( Administrator)	03.08.2005	18.01.2006
9	Sh. Kaparathi Krishna	18.01.2006	21.11.2008
10	Sh. Naeem Ahmed Ansari	22.11.2008	17.01 2011
11	Sh. Prakash Marotrao Lonare	17.01.2011	07.01.2016
12	Sh. T. Prasad Rao Dora	07.01.2016	Present



Sh. J. C. Barway



Sh. Y. P. Nishad



Sh. J. T. Patil



Sh. Kaparathi Krishna



Sh. Bindeshwar Sahni



Dr. Prakash Malgave



Sh. N. A. Ansari



Sh. P. M. Lonare

## The present President



**Sh. T. Prasad Rao Dora**

Sh. T. Prasad Rao Dora, the present President, was elected in the last elections in 2016 and took the office on 7/1/2016. He is a renowned Cooperator in the country and has brought with him a very long experience in the fishery cooperative sector.

His rich experience and pragmatic approach

have been able to imbibe a renewed vigour in the organization. His leadership qualities and dynamism is helping **FISHCOPFED** in ushering a new era.

Sh. Dora is also the President of Odisha Fisheries Cooperative Corporation Ltd and Vice Chairman of International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (**ICFO**) besides being a member of **ICA, NCUI** and many other cooperatives and social organizations. He is a governing body member of **NCUI**, the apex body of cooperative movement in India.

Under his dynamic leadership, **FISHCOPFED** is destined for a very bright future.

# The Managing Directors

The men who have shaped the federation.

S. No.	Name	Tenure	
		From	To
1	Sh. S. S. Kinny (Hon.)	01.05.1980	31.01.1981
2	Sh. S. Chandra	01.02.1981	31.07.1996
3	Sh. M. M. Tewary	01.08.1996	29.04.2003
4	Sh. Rajendra Prasad (I/c)	30.04.2003	03.06.2003
5	Sh. M. M. Tewary	04.06.2003	29.08.2006
6	Sh. B. K. Mishra	30.08.2006	Present

Previous MDs who led the organisation over a considerable period



Sh. S. Chandra



Sh. M. M. Tewary

## B. K. Mishra – The game changer...

Shri B. K. Mishra, the present Managing Director, took charge of the office on 30/8/2006 and is by now the second- longest serving Chief Executive of the federation.

The induction of Mr. B. K. Mishra as Managing Director of FISHCOPFED proved to be a game changer for the fortunes of the federation. A pragmatic and hardworking visionary, he has taken the organization to unparalleled heights.

It is only because of his untiring efforts that FISHCOPFED, which had little presence across states till the year 2006 and was in a position of financial collapse, has now become a name to be reckoned with in both cooperative and fisheries sector.

Mr. Mishra is a professional with a degree in Agriculture Engineering followed by higher qualifications in Business Administration, International Trade, Rural Development, Entrepreneurship Management and Agriculture Policy. In addition, he has the distinction of acquiring professional education in Cooperative Management in erstwhile USSR and UK under the Colombo Plan besides topping a course on agri-business management by APO, Japan.



### ...Strengthening the Federation

Sh. B. K. Mishra has rightfully deserved all the accolades for the impact he has made in the progress of FISHCOPFED. The federation has witnessed unprecedented growth in all spheres after he took over as its Managing Director.

During his tenure, the federation's share capital has risen from ₹41.13 lakhs to ₹1.27 crores. The nominal members have risen

from a mere 141 to 19,177 (bringing in almost ₹1.00 crore in revenue). He has been instrumental in increasing the federation's reserves from ₹53.82 lakhs to ₹1.15 crores and insurance coverage of fishers has scaled-up, touching a high of over 46 lakhs in 2015-16, amongst many of his accomplishments.

He is also credited for regularizing the services of most of the adhoc employees and

encouraging organizing of around 10,000 fishers cooperatives during his tenure.

Mr. B. K. Mishra is a man on a mission. He has great plans for the federation's future. The zeal and passion with which he works is bound to take FISHCOPFED to further heights.

### A comparison of the financial position of FISHCOPFED:

#### Journey from 2006 to 2019

Particulars	Financial Position	
	as on 31.03.2006	as on 31.03.2019
Authorized Share Capital (₹)	20,00,00,000	30,00,00,000
Paid up Share Capital (₹)	41,13,100	1,26,78,825
Reserve Funds (₹)	44,91,944	1,14,69,279
Cash and Bank Balance (₹)	72,68,481	4,14,40,865
Profit(+) / Loss(-) (₹)	(-)891,924.64	(+)58,921.84

The federation had the distinction of earning a net profit of more than Rs. One Crore consecutively for two years during the 2011-13 period.

### ...Building FISHCOPFED's Reputation, across the world

Sh. B. K. Mishra is a member of many international bodies like International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO) and The Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and Pacific (NEDAC). He was the Vice Chairman of

ICFO, Korea, for a long time and is a member of the Research Board of the American Biographical Institute, USA and also a member NEDAC's Executive Committee.

Mr. Mishra is a widely travelled person, who has contributed more than 100 articles/

editorials in various magazines and has made numerous presentations highlighting the various aspects of fishery sector in India and abroad. He is an unmatched authority on fisheries in cooperative sector in the country.



# Awards & Recognitions

FISHCOPFED has created a niche in the cooperative sector due to the exemplary work it is doing for the welfare of Fishers in the country. Its efforts have been recognized both at national as well as International levels.

## National Recognition

- FISHCOPFED was awarded the Best National level Cooperative in the country by the Outlook Group in the year 2017.
- FISHCOPFED was given the Swacchta Award by the Secretary (AHD), Govt. of India in the year 2018-19.



FISHCOPFED being awarded Best National level Fishery Cooperative in 2017 by the then Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Sh. Radha Mohan Singh in the presence of Sh. Sanjay Agarwal, IAS, Secretary Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare & Sh. Sundeep Kumar Nayak, IAS, MD, NCDC.

## International Recognition

- Mr. T. Prasad Rao Dora, President of FISHCOPFED is the Vice Chairman of International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO), a rare honour for the Fisheries Cooperative Movement in India.
- Mr. B. K. Mishra, Managing Director of FISHCOPFED had a rare honour of remaining Vice Chairman of ICFO continuously for 7 long years.
- Mr. B. K. Mishra, Managing Director of FISHCOPFED is in the Executive Body of The Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and Pacific (NEDAC).
- Mr. B. K. Mishra was awarded by ICFO for outstanding contribution to global fisheries.



Mr. B. K. Mishra being awarded by ICFO Chairman Mr. LEE Jong Koo in the year 2014

# Way Forward

**FISHCOPFED is planning to expand its activities for the development of fisheries cooperatives and the fisher community across the country. Moving forward, the federation seeks assistance and support of the Government of India, the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) as well as other institutions.**



## The Road ahead- Future Plans

It has been a constant endeavor of FISHCOPFED to serve the fishers of India and to help them to improve their socio-economic status by increasing their income levels, provide them with social security and dignity. The aim is to create additional infrastructure, provide insurance cover to minimize sufferings due to paucity of funds in case of death or grave injuries curtailing their productive life, and seek fishers favourable policies from the government.

- To cover all active fishers in the country under a comprehensive group insurance policy.
- To take up with state governments to start a Pond Fish & Fish Pond insurance scheme.
- To cover at least 10 million fishers by the end of the year 2025.
- To create our presence at the Wholesale Fish Market in Gazipur, Delhi.
- To replicate a modern retail fish marketing model at selected metropolitan cities.
- To adopt 'Mother Dairy' model for propagating franchise based fish and fish products marketing
- To cover all the Members of Fishery Cooperatives under various training programmes
- ICT-enabled real-time update of fishery cooperative database in the country
- To bring out publications in more regional languages
- Setting up of Ice-Plants-cum Cold Storages, hatcheries and fish feed plants at different locations.
- Establish demonstration-cum-production units by acquiring water bodies in different states.
- To promote marketing of dry fish, trout fish and ornamental fish in the country.
- To organize atleast 500 FPOs in fisheries sector by the year 2025.
- Enhance capacity of the National Fish Seed Farm at Banswara, Rajasthan.
- Upgradation of training centre at Bhubaneswar as a National Institute of Fishery Cooperative Management.
- Launching of one-year online diploma course on Fisheries Cooperative Management



**FISHCOPFED aspires to become the best grassroot-level fisheries service delivery organisation in India.**



# Support required from the Government



Shri Ramdas Sandhe, Vice-Chairman, FISHCOPFED with Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, after holding a discussion on various fisheries related issues.

FISHCOPFED is an apex body of all the Fisher Cooperatives in the country and their only spokesperson at national and international level. The federation functions as a promotional and developmental

agency and does not have many income generating activities of its own. Besides own activities, FISHCOPFED is majorly involved in implementing various government schemes for fishers welfare.

The support of the government, both financially and through suitable policy decisions is vital for enabling the federation to fulfill its mandate of fishers welfare.

## Key areas for government support

- Providing funds as per the proposed annual promotional activities
- Financial support to maintain and augment its manpower to enable FISHCOPFED to deliver effective welfare support to fishers and increase its footprint of welfare activities across the country. The federation needs an annual grant of ₹3 crore to take care of its manpower needs.
- To create a corpus fund of at least ₹25 crore for the federation..
- The Government of India should consider making a separate provision for the federation in its budget as is being done for its subordinate institutions.
- FISHCOPED focus is entirely on fisheries sector and over the years it has gained much experience to comprehend the precise training needs of fishers. Thus, FISHCOPFED may be appointed as the nodal agency for conducting training programmes for all the fishers in the country.
- Being the sole spokesperson for fishermen cooperatives, FISHCOPFED may be given due representation in the Governing and Executive Committee of National Fishery Development Board (NFDB)
- To issue directions to State/UT governments to allot suitable space to FISHCOPFED to open its wholesale / retail outlets across India.

# Conclusion

A view of fisheries production cum demonstration centre at Kalkala, Odisha

It may be safely concluded that the objective of establishing an apex body for fishers stands vindicated. The federation, to a great extent, has been successful in its mission to safeguard and promote the interest of fishers. It has taken measures to increase the productivity of fishers by educating them and developing their skills through various kinds of training programmes, seminars, workshops it organizes almost on regular basis in different parts of the country.

Credentials both at the National as well as International levels in spite of odds motivate us. It has emerged as the sole representative and spokesperson of fishers cooperatives in India as well as abroad. The efforts of the federation have not gone unnoticed. It has been decorated with awards at National as well as International level.

FISHCOPFED has very ambitious plans for the future. Ground work has already begun and the results are likely to be forthcoming soon. The federation is getting “A” grade audit classification since inception.

It has many expectations from the Government of India in terms of both financial and policy support. A more proactive help from the Government and its various agencies shall prove to be a boon for the federation enabling it to play a much more effective role in developing the fishery sector and improving the socio economic condition of poor fishers, particularly in the vast fishery cooperative sector.



**National Federation of Fishers  
Cooperatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED)**

**<http://www.fishcopfed.in/>**

Photo Credit: Adobe Stock

To promote and guide the Fishery Cooperative Movement in India

