

was 8.22 lakh tonnes. The emphasis was mainly on mechanisation of fishing boats, exploratory fishing, processing, research and training. By the end of 1967 over 6500 mechanised boats were in operation, mainly exploiting the area upto 10 fathoms. Incentives have been given in the form of issue of mechanised boats on hire-purchase, subsidy on boats and engines, subsidies on diesel oil, etc.

Survey work has been initiated at several major ports and the Centre has assumed responsibility for construction of fishing harbours in major ports under a Central scheme. Landing and berthing facilities for fishing vessels are being provided at several minor ports under a centrally sponsored scheme supported by a 100 per cent Central grant.

As a result of intensive efforts made to develop the boat building industry an annual capacity of about 200 wooden boats has been created in the country.

Arrangements for training the required number of fisheries operatives for deep sea vessels have been made in the Central Institute of Fisheries Operatives, Ernakulam.

For introduction of modern methods in the fishing industry collaboration projects have been taken up with assistance from Norway in mechanisation, processing, deep sea exploration and training. With assistance from Japan an Institute has been established for training in processing technology.

In order to help the fishermen to produce more fish, assistance is given for procurement of fisheries requisites. Financial assistance has also been given to fisheries cooperatives to cater to the needs of fishermen in production, processing and marketing. Substantial credit is now available for the fishing industry through the Agricultural Re-finance Corporation and the Industrial Development Bank of India.

(b) Value of Export of fish and fisheries products during the five years 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966 & 1967:

Year	Value in Rs lakh
1963	561.53
1964	653.30
1965	646.33
1966	1312.45
1967	1796.38

(c) There has been a steady rise in exports except for a temporary setback in 1965, when there was a sudden fall in dried fish production

SURATGARH FARM

415. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI M. M. DHARIA:

SHRI G. P. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the confirmed loss incurred by the Suratgarh Farm since its inception in 1956; and

(b) whether Government propose to set up an Expert Committee immediately to go into the working conditions of the farm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE): (a) and (b) It is not correct that the Suratgarh Farm has been incurring losses ever since its inception. The Farm made a profit of Rs. 1.70 lakh in 1958-59 and Rs. 2.84 lakh in 1960-61. It made a record profit of Rs. 18.71 lakh in 1966-67. The Farm has not reached its full potential because of inadequate and irregular irrigation supplies. The Ghaggar floods have also been doing considerable damage. Efforts are being made to increase irrigation supplies to the Farm. Efforts are also being made to control the floods. There does not appear to be any need just now to set up an Expert Committee to go into the working of the Farm.