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CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES
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INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Devastating fire affected the fishing industry of Kasaragod Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka State*

On 12.11.1995 around 11.30 P.M. a fire occurred in the boat building yard at Kasaragod, 100 km south of Karwar in Uttara Kannada District, resulting in unprecedented devastation of property and materials. The fire damaged totally 3 boat building and repairing yards (the only ones available in the area) located on the left bank of the river Sharavati at its lower reaches in close proximity to the fish landing centre of Kasaragod. Extent of area affected by the fire is approximately 150 m. Kasaragod - Honnavar base is one of the major mechanised fishing centres of the region. The fire greatly affected the fishing industry of the area. Seventeen boats were totally burnt to ashes. Of these 15 boats were newly constructed and ready to be launched for fishing. Two boats were brought to the



Fig. 1. One boat damaged in fire.



Fig. 2. One boat yard gutted in fire.

shore for repair work. Besides boats, a lot of materials utilised for building and repairing fishing crafts were also totally burnt out.

TABLE 1. Overall length, horse power and value of boats burnt in 3 yards

O.A.L. & H.P.	No. of boats burnt		
	yard-1	yard-2	yard-3
55' 110	-	1	-
50' 110	-	5	-
49' 102	2	-	-
48' 102	2	2	1
42' 95	-	3	-
32' 50	-	1	-
Loss(in Lakh Rs)	32	99	6

* Reported by N. Chennappa Gowda, Karwar Research Centre of CMFRI, Karwar - 581 301.