

VIII. FISHERIES.

Pondicherry and Karaikal Regions.

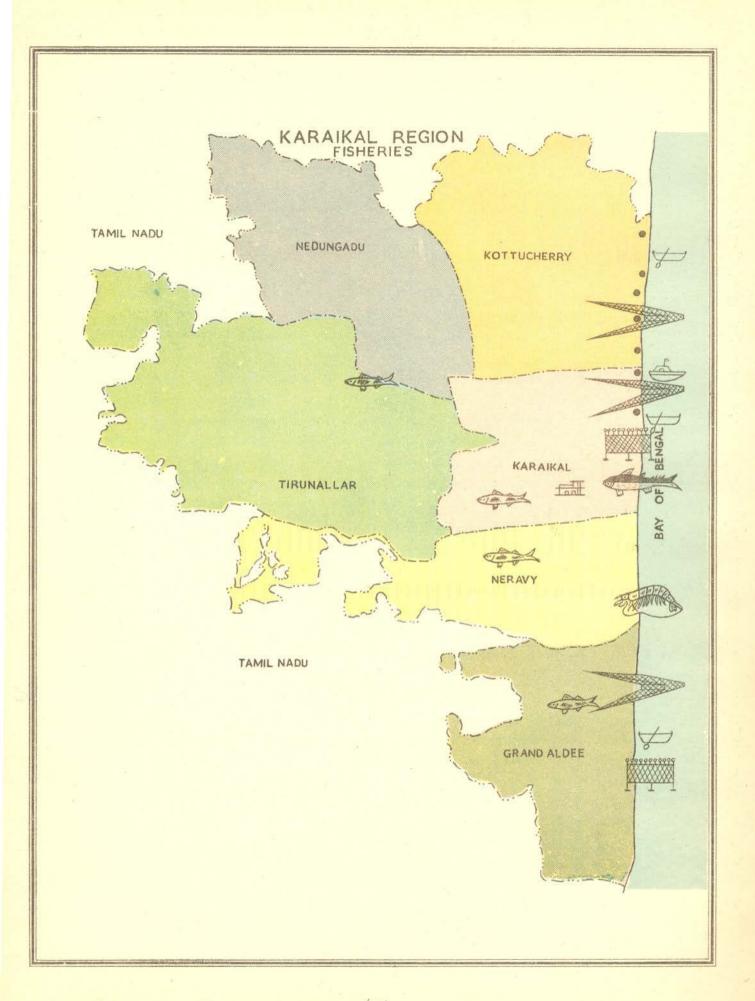
There are 15 fishing villages in Pondicherry region. The length of the coastline is 26 kilometres. In Karaikal there are 9 fishing villages spread over a coastal length of 18 kilometres.

The following table furnishes information on marine and inland fish catches from the year 1965 to 1971 in respect of Pondicherry and Karaikal regions.

							(In	quintals)
Sl. No.	Particulars *	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1.	Estimates of Marine fish production	70,110	1,27,620	80,170	81,510	1,06,370	1,06,240	1,04,530
2.	Estimates of Inland fish production	1,322	842	1,895	1,570	1,519	2,897	3,028

^{*} Separate Region-wise data are not available.

It will be evident from the above table that fish catches have risen quite considerably during the above years. It will be worthwhile to note that marine fish production has been remarkable.



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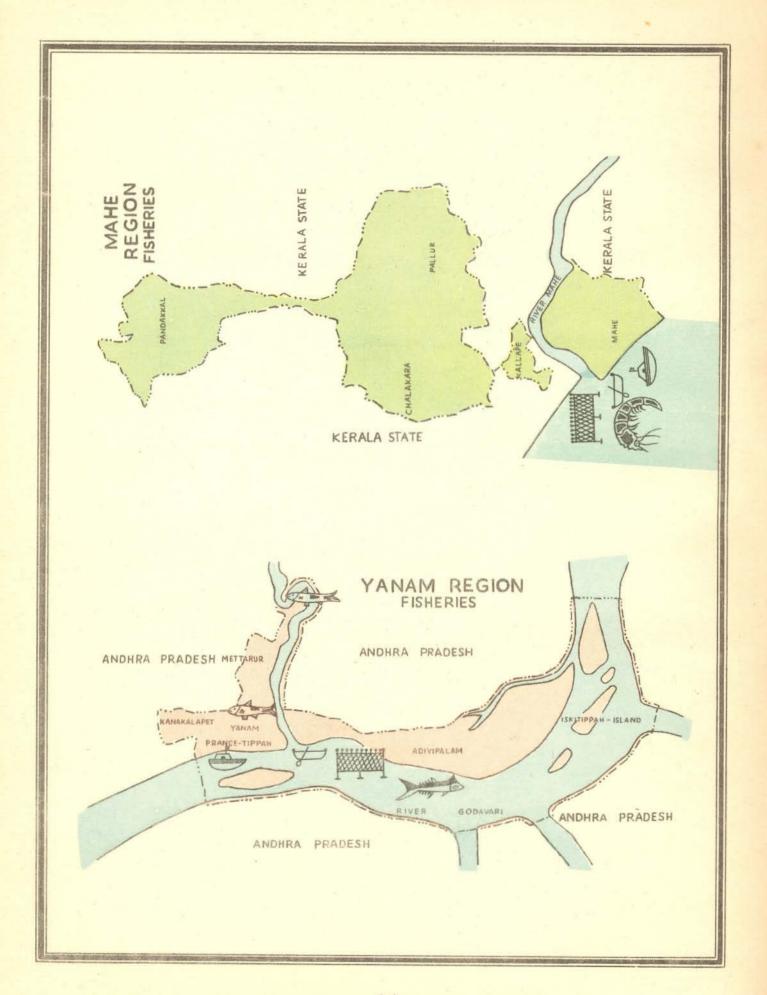
All the four regions of the territory are maritime and possess rich fishery resources. In addition, there is considerable scope for inland fishing also. Due to the various development schemes fish production, which stood at about 4,500 tonnes per annum has risen to 15,156 metric tonnes at present. A sum of Rs. 79.21 lakhs has been spent under various fishery schemes till 1970-71 from the inception of the programme.

Schemes such as (1) Mechanisation of fishing boats, (2) Supply of fishery requisites to fishermen, (3) Training of fishermen in improved methods, (4) Quick transport of fish from landing centres to markets, (5) Cold storage plant for storing fish, etc., have changed the entire outlook of fishery development in this Union Territory.

To improve inland fisheries pisciculture was taken up on scientific line. More than 850 hectares were brought under inland fisheries. The annual production of fish seeds of fast growing fishes is now more than 3.00 lakh mainly because of setting up of two fish farms, one at Pondicherry and another at Yanam.

Almost all types of sea fish (about 41 varieties) and six varieties of inland fish are caught in this territory. More than 850 hectares of inland waters were under fish production.

An Ice Plant-cum-Cold Storage with a capacity of two tonnes daily and to store 5 tonnes of fish has been established in Pondicherry. Five fish vans are operating through the Fishermen Co-operative Society in Pondicherry and Karaikal regions for quick transport of fishes from the landing centre. Under the scheme mechanisation of fishing boats 48 mechanised boats were distributed to deserving fishermen at subsidised rates till the end of 1969-70. The target during the Fourth Plan has been fixed at 127 boats.



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Mahe Region.

The special feature about Mahe is that it is in the Centre of a continuous prawn ground stretching from Quilon to Mangalore. A fish curing yard is functioning at Mahe where the surplus fish are being cured under hygenic condition with the help of the salt supplied by the Fisheries Department at subsidised rate.

Mahe is another important region regarding fish production. The following table furnishes data on fish production. In Mahe the coastal length is only 300 metres.

							(In	(In quintals)	
SI. No.	Particulars	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	
1.	Estimates of Marine fish production	74,474	41,504	64,998	45,000	46,150	32,133	30,179	

Yanam Region.

Yanam region is the smallest of the four regions. Sea fishing is primarily resorted to by the fishermen in Guriampeta village. The period December to August is the season for regular sea fishing. Normally the catch consists of sharks, clupeids, perches, polynemids, horse-macknals and silver belly. However, curing and marketing of fish are done in the adjoining places in Andhra Pradesh. The following table furnishes data on fish production in respect of Yanam Region.

							(In quintals)	
Sl. No.	Particulars	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1.	Estimates of Marine fish production	2,125	1,122	2,522	4,130	4,603	6,596	10,737
2.	Estimates of Inland fish production	745	792	979	488	585	889	908