



PROGRESS REPORT 2021

Ministry of Fisheries

Maligawatta, Colombo 10

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Ministry of Fisheries

Vision

Sri Lanka to be the leader of conservation and sustainable utilization of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the South Asian Region.

Mission

Managing the utilization of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for the benefit of the present and future generation .

Policy Objectives

- Sustainable management of resources using science based information.
- Compliance with regional and international obligations.
- Increased marine fisheries production.
- Increased aquaculture and inland fisheries production.
- Minimized post-harvest losses and increased value addition.
- Increased per capita consumption of fish.
- Increased export earnings.
- Improved opportunities for leisure, employment and enterprises development.
- Improved socio-economic conditions of the fisher community.

Key Functions

- Development of marine, brackish water and inland fisheries industry
- Formulation and implementation of policies and programmes
- Development and sustainable utilization of national aquatic resources
- Implementation of programmes to the effect that production quality is enhanced to the international standards
- Provision of fish products at an affordable price satisfying the requirements of the consumers
- Facilitation for the exportation of fish products

Institutions under the Ministry of Fisheries

 <p>Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources (DFAR)</p>	<p>Desired objectives - Management, Development and Conservation of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Sri Lanka</p> <p>Responsibilities - Implementation of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No2, 1996 and updating the fisheries management activities and legal provisions (In compliance to the regional and international conventions and regulations)</p>
 <p>Northsea Ltd</p>	<p>Desired objectives - Supplying adequate high grade fishing nets and other fishing gears</p> <p>Responsibilities - Fishnet Manufacturing Company, re-registered under this new Companies Act No. 07 of 2007</p>

Institutions under the State Ministry of Ornamental Fish, Inland Fish & Prawn Farming, Fishery Harbour Development, Multiday Fishing Activities And Fish Exports

 <p>National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency (NARA)</p>	<p>Desired objectives – To conduct researches on Aquatic resources and development, conservation and management of the same</p> <p>Responsibilities - In terms of the National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency Act No 54 of 1981 is responsible for aquatic resources and aquaculture, fisheries technology, fish and post-harvest technology and environmental, oceanographic and hydrographic studies</p>
 <p>National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA)</p>	<p>Desired objectives - Development and Management of culture – based inland fisheries and aquaculture</p> <p>Responsibilities - In terms of the National Aquaculture Development Authority Act No 53 of 1998, is responsible for supply of fish seed in aquaculture and extension services for inland fisheries and aquaculture, shrimp culture monitoring and aquaculture training faculties</p>
 <p>Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation (CFHC)</p>	<p>Desired objectives -Planning, construction and operation of Fishery harbors and Anchorages</p> <p>Responsibilities - In terms of the State Industrial Corporations Act No 49 of 1957, is responsible for the operation of 20 fishery harbors and 58 anchorages.</p>
 <p>Ceylon Fisheries Corporation (CFC)</p>	<p>Desired objectives – Intervention in fish marketing providing the best advantage to both the supplier and the consumer</p> <p>Responsibilities - In terms of the State Industrial Corporations Act No 49 of 1957, is responsible for purchasing and sale of fish and ice, operation of cold room facilities and sale of fishery by-products.</p>
 <p>Cey-Nor Foundation</p>	<p>Desired objectives - Supply of fisheries inputs and gears</p> <p>Responsibilities - Cy-Nor, having been registers under the Companies Act No 7 of 2007, is responsible for manufacture and sale of fiberglass boats and supply of fishing nets and gears</p>

01 Increased Contribution of the Fisheries Sector to the Development of the National Economy



The Contribution of the Fisheries Sector in year 2021

Achieving success in tasks as fish production, fishery socio development, construction & modernization of fishery harbours even under the effects of covid-19 pandemic, is the result of the leadership of provided by Hon. Minister & Hon. State Minister to strengthen further the foundation laid in 2020 with determination and continuous efforts carried out throughout the year 2021, in order to achieve the set of goals relevant to fisheries sector which is stated in the “Vistas of Prosperity & Splendour” policy framework of His Excellency the President .

Especially, as a result of the above process, the total fish production during January- September in 2021 was marked as 321,575 Mt. for which marine and inland sectors have made a contribution of 244,915 Mt and 76,660 Mt of fish production respectively.

Fish consumption is paramount as a source of protein required in developing the nutrition level and good health of the public. Accordingly, the per capita fish consumption for the period from January to September 2020 is 38.4 grams per day. It has been able to maintain that level at 36.7 grams per day for the period from January to September 2021. This amount is expected to be increased further due to the strategies launched by the ministry.

Fish Export Growth in January-September 2021 shows an increase of 14.2% over the same period in 2020. The same status is expected to grow further at the end of this year and it should be noted that the contribution of fish export would be an immense contribution towards the foreign reserve shortage.

Few development projects namely fishery harbour anchorage project and lagoon cleaning project have been launched with the participation of other institutions which are coming under the purview of the Ministry. Apart from the above , sub development projects have been launched through the continuous financial contribution of the Ministry ,i.e. construction of few fishery harbours and modernization of existing harbours. The modernization works of several fishery harbours have already been completed and the works related to other fishery harbours are nearing completion.

These developments will show the success of the processes carried out by the Ministry in order to achieve the pledges ; **“Modernize all existing fishery harbours and construction of new fishery harbours enabling to dock large scale Multiday fishing vessels in order to increase fisheries industry in high**

seas.” and **“Build-up of all fishery harbours, anchorages and landing sites with modern communication facilities, refrigeration, fuel supply and sanitation facilities.”**

The institutions which are coming under the purview of the Ministry as well as the state Ministry have launched various processes including stocking fish fingerling in inland reservoirs to develop inland fisheries industry, introducing new technology to fisheries industry, developing infrastructure for the empowerment of fishing community, construction & renovation of housing for fishermen, livelihood development programmes, coastal rehabilitation & resource management, construction & development of fish breeding centers and steps to be taken to carry out researches in order to decrease post-harvest losses.

The determined leadership of the Minister of Fisheries and proper management and supervision of the Ministry paved the way to achieve the aspirations of the people set on behalf of the fisheries sector by the “Vistas of Prosperity & Splendour” the policy framework of His Excellency the President through the preparation of the Ministry’s action plan and proper utilization of human resources in the year 2021 ,eventhough the covid-19 pandemic stayed as an obstacle to achieve the fruitful results expected from the Ministry’s Action plan in the previous year.



Commencement of New Year Duties

Contribution to the Overall Fish Production

1.1 Increase of the Annual Fish Production

The total fish production of the country is 321,575 Mt from January to September of 2021. 40.3% of fish production from coastal fisheries and 35.9% from deep sea fisheries and 23.8% from inland fisheries & aquaculture in 2021

1.1 Increase of the Annual Fish Production



The contribution of the coastal and deep sea sectors towards the total fish production could be increased gradually. Harvest of 115,315 Mt from Deep Sea fish production and 129,600 Mt from Coastal fish production could be obtained and the total marine fish production was 244,915Mt.

Table 1.2.1 : Marine Fish production - (Mt.).

Duration	Deep Sea	Costal	Total
2021 Jan-Sep	15,315	129,600	244,915

1.3 Inland & Aquaculture Fish Production

During January to September 2021, the total inland fish & aquaculture production was 76,660 Mt and its contribution was 23.8% to the total fish production. The production through this sector could be increased specially despite under bad weather conditions.



Duration	Inland	Aquaculture	Shrimp	Total
2021 Jan-SeP	60,640	4,600	11,420	76,660

The total fish fingerling production was 57.98 Million by 30th July 2021 and 23.71 Million out of the above was produced at the NAQDA breeding centres and the balance was produced by community based fish seedling production units, private ponds, reservoirs using cage nets and cages.

The total shrimp and post larva production was 51.41 Million by 30th July 2021 and 37.5 Million out of the above was produced at the NAQDA breeding centres and the private sector has contributed to produce the balance.

The total brackish water shrimp and post larva production was 429.4 Million and 423.8 Million out of the above was produced by the private sector contribution.

National Aquaculture Development Authority has launched a large number of nontraditional fish farming projects in various districts with the objective of obtaining maximum contribution towards increasing the nutritional level of the general public, generation of jobs, improving exports and strengthening the rural economy while the possibility of increasing local fish production in the year 2021

Statistics for the Total Fish Production (2021 Jan – Sep)									
Fish Production (Mt.)									
Fishing Sub-Sector		2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 (Jan - Sep)	2021 (Jan - Sep)	Change in 2021 compared to 2020 (%)	Percentage share (%)
1	Off shore/Deep Sea	189,720	190,350	172,910	144,370	107,770	115,315	7.00	35.9
2	Coastal	259,720	249,020	242,580	182,560	143,350	129,600	(9.59)	40.3
	Total Marine	449,440	439,370	415,490	326,930	251,120	244,915	(2.47)	76.2
3	Inland Capture	68,500	71,020	73,230	84,310	58,810	60,640	3.11	18.9
4	Inland Culture	8,740	8,490	10,710	10,140	8,180	4,600	(43.77)	1.4
5	Shrimp Farms	4,630	8,180	6,400	7,360	4,720	11,420	141.95	3.6
	Total Inland	81,870	87,690	90,340	101,810	71,710	76,660	6.90	23.8
	Sri Lanka	531,310	527,060	505,830	428,740	322,830	321,575	(0.39)	100.0

Source: Statistics Unit of MFADRD

Monthly Fish Production Statistics (2021 Jan – Sep)

Fish Production by Sectors (Metric tons)								
	Marine Fish Production				Inland Fish Production			
	Off Shore	Coastal and Lagoon	Total Marine	Capture	Aq. Culture	Shrimp Farms	Total Inland	Total Catch
2021	115,315	129,600	244,915	60,640	4,600	11,420	76,660	76,660
JanΔ	13,335	14,080	27,415	6,530	350	880	7,760	7,760
FebΔ	10,730	17,710	28,440	6,545	305	690	7,540	7,540
MarΔ	14,580	16,900	31,480	6,560	310	430	7,300	7,300
AprΔ	15,910	12,710	28,620	6,680	330	705	7,715	7,715
MayΔ	11,410	12,950	24,360	6,670	380	1,040	8,090	8,090
JunΔ	11,010	13,100	24,110	6,705	600	1,670	8,975	8,975
Jul*Δ	12,190	13,640	25,830	6,760	590	1,720	9,070	9,070
Aug*Δ	13,770	13,280	27,050	7,010	845	2,540	10,395	10,395
Sep*Δ	12,380	15,230	27,610	7,180	890	1,745	9,815	9,815

Source: Statistics Unit of MFARD

Increasing Per Capita Fish Consumption

Increasing fish consumption paves the way for the public to minimize nutritional deficiencies, eradicate malnourishment and improve good health.

The per capita fish consumption in 2020 was 38.4 grams per day and the per capita fish consumption during the period January to September 2021 was 36.7grams per day. The current covid situation has mainly affected for this reduction. The local, marine and inland fish

production and imported fish products contributed to increase the per capita fish consumption.



Import of Fish and Fishery Products

Sprats, Dry fish, Maldiv fish, Canned fish and feed fish are the main commodities of imported fish and fishery products which are paramount in fulfilling the gap between the domestic fish consumption requirement and local fish production. Dried fish and sprats are the major contributors the total imports. Part of the quantity of imported fish is value added and re-exported and the rest is used for local consumption. From January to September 2021, a quantity of 42,467 Mt has been imported as fish and fishery products amounting to a value of Rs. 18,808.5 Mn.

Fish Exports



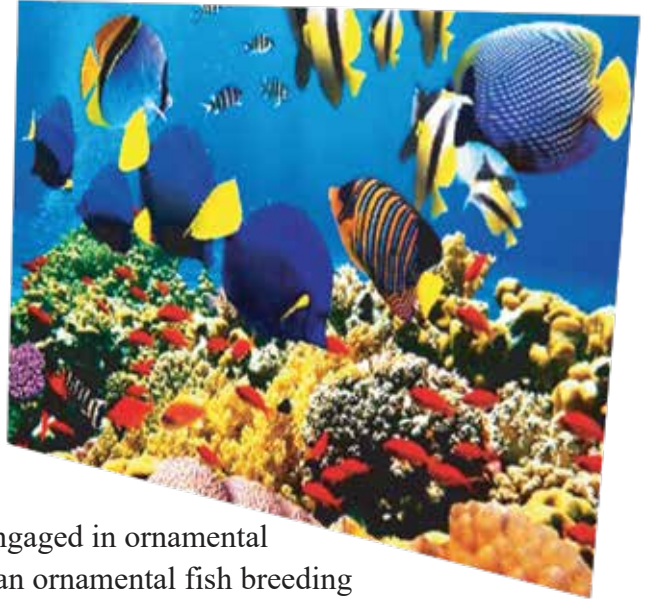
The fisheries sector provides a priority contribution to the growth of national economy through the exports of fish and fishery products, ornamental fish and sea weed . Necessary measures have been taken to improve fish exports sector by providing proper guidance and assistance to the stakeholders in order to export high-quality and healthy fish products adhering to the regulations of the imported countries.

Export Quantity and Export Value

Item	Export Quantity (Mt.)		Export Value (Rs Mn.)	
	2020	2021 (Jan-Sep)	2020	2021 (Jan-Sep)
Live fish	na	na	2,409	2,754.1
Prawns	1,781	3,277.4	3,235	5,819.8
Lobster	99	141.8	352	615.5
crabs	1,361	1,233.6	3,068	4,226.8
Sea Cucumber	326	184.8	1,581	1123.0
Other Mollusca	1,477	1,402.2	1,409	1,448.9
Shark	55	58.9	341	456.1
Shark Maws	2	2.6	34	53.0
Oysters & shells	221	213.4	141	129.5
Processed fish	13,858	11,514.9	25,498	25,563.2
Other	2,119	937.5	1,805	916.1
Grand Total	21,298	18,967.0	39,874	43,106.1

Ornamental Fish Exports

Introduction of new ornamental fish species , breeding activities , prevention of spreading diseases, conducting trainings & awareness programmes on provision of quality foods, production of new fish species with the assistance of NARA, technical development, diagnosing fish diseases, extending assistance to obtain loans by the farmers are the strategies adopted by National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA) in order to encourage ornamental fish exports.

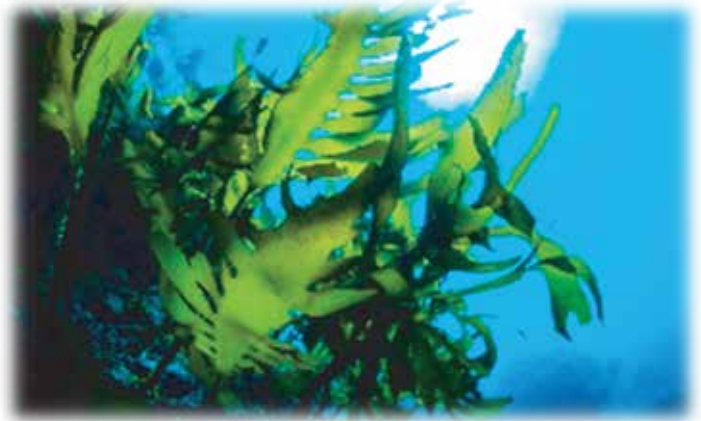


A number of small and medium scale farmers are engaged in ornamental fish industry in the Polonnaruwa district. Therefore, an ornamental fish breeding centre has been constructed in Sewanapitiya, in the Polonnaruwa district and measures have been taken together with provisions required to erect a sea water ornamental fish breeding centre at Bangadeniy a in the Puttalam district.

Rs. 2,754.1 Mn could be earned through Ornamental fish exports during the period of January to September 2021.

Ornamental Plants

Aqua Agri (Pvt) Ltd has entered in to an agreement to purchase and export of ornamental plants produced by the tissue culture centre of Rambadagalla ornamental fish breeding centre and 26,910 sea weed has been produced by August 2021.



Export of Ornamental Plants and Other Fish Species

	Export Quantity (Mt)	Export Value (Rs.Mn)
Ornamental Plants	54	5.4
Brackish water shrimp	1,069.8	1,874.6
Fresh water shrimp	57.38	156.94

Fisheries Social Development

1. Fisheries Community Empowerment Program

This program will be implemented with the aim of raising the living standards of the fishing community, improving the living standards and welfare of the fishing community.. A sum of Rs. 40 Mn. has been allocated for this program for the year 2021. It has been planned to implement five programs related to the empowerment of the fishing community by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the National Aquaculture Development Authority utilizing this provisions.

1.1. Providing modern boats and nets to the members of the fishing organizations who are newly engaged in the industry

This project is being implemented with the aim of promoting the fisheries activities of the fishermen in the newly utilized reservoirs for farm based fisheries by providing them a better access and encouragement. It has been planned to implement This project, which is being implemented in year 2021 with the allocation of Rs 8 Mn, targeting fisheries beneficiaries who are engaged in new farm based fisheries industry in all districts of Sri Lanka.

Based on the information obtained from discussions having with fishermen in Moneragala, Hambantota, Matara, Puttalam, Ratnapura, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Kilinochchi and Badulla districts, It has been planned to introduce new vessels or new equipment to suit the needs of the fishermen by the National Aquaculture Development Authority . Accordingly, 04 models of vessels have been manufactured in association with Ceynor, out of which the purchase of 03 models is currently underway.

1.2. Providing containers for small scale fishing vessels (OFRP) on community participation basis

It has been allocated Rs 8 Mn to the project which has been Launched in the year 2021 with the objective of providing facilities to minimize post harvest losses., Purchasing work has been commenced to procure the 200 packing boxes of OFRP fishing vessels or a maximum number of fish packaging boxes available, including the 25% contribution under the current purchase price, Considering the number of OFRP vessels in those 15 districts covering all the fishing districts and the fair distribution and the number of packing boxes distributing in the year 2020 .

1.3. Implementing technical and training programs on fisheries for the youth with the support of Ocean University

This project is targeted at the unemployed youth community associated with fishing families who has finished school or dropping out of school. Rs 12 Mn Provision has been made for the 2021. The objective of implementing this project is to create a new entrepreneur in the fisheries sector by providing formal technology and training to the low income children in the fisheries sector who have completed their secondary education up to GCE (O / L) education. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the National Aquaculture Development Authority have been allocated Rs. 8 and 4 Mn respectively for the implementation of this project. At present the National Aquaculture Development Authority is scheduled to implement 04 courses for 75 young candidates who have been elected from Jaffna and Matara districts

1.4. Empowerment of 250 Women's Fisheries Societies

This project is being implemented with the objective of improving the living standards of the fishing women by improving their social and economic status. Rs 5 Mn has been allocated for the year 2021. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has proposed to provide a set of equipment for 70 women who are engaged in dried fish production in Jaffna, Mannar, Puttalam and Chilaw. Rs. 4 Mn. has to be spent on this work and the approximate estimate for a one set is Rs 55,000.

The National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA) has selected 60 beneficiaries in the Iranamadu area in the Kilinochchi District and the Sorawila and Maduruoya areas in the Polonnaruwa District targeting women who are engaged in freshwater dried fish production. It has been planned to implement a project to increase the quality of smoked / dried products at a cost of Rs.1 Mn. At present, the process of identifying the beneficiaries and the requirements to upgrade the dried fish production units have been completed and the relevant training courses are expected to be implemented in the future.

1.5 Reorganization of 300 inactive Fisheries Co-operative Societies-

Fisheries Co-operative Societies make a significant contribution to the fishing community in order to ensure the smooth functioning of their industry. However, community awareness programs are being conducted to reorganize selected Fisheries Co-operative Societies which are inactive due to various reasons. Books and documents required for Fisheries Co-operative Societies are being provided in collaboration with the Department of Co-operatives. This project will reorganize the societies to a suitable level enabling them to provide financial credit facilities to the fishermen in order to sustain their fisheries industry. For this project, Rs. 7 Mn has been allocated. Hence, a proposal has been made at the district level to select the Fisheries Co-operative Societies that need to be actively developed and to meet the current needs of those Co-operative Societies.

2. Support Program for New Technology

The fishing industry needs to be developed sustainably and it is essential to impart new technological knowledge to the fishermen in order to make a significant contribution to the development of the country, For the year 2021, Rs. 60Mn has been allocated. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the National Aquaculture Development Authority and the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency will implement six development projects under this program with their contribution.

2.1. Develop a software to locate fish grounds.

This project is an improvement on the existing software for collecting data on fish harvest and distribution of fish stocks to improve the existing fisheries forecasting system in Sri Lankan waters. For the implementation of this project in the year 2021, sums of Rs. 10 Mn financial provision has been allocated. The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency has commenced procurement for the purchase of Temperature Depth Sensors and software that can be utilized to increase the accuracy of forecasts. Development of the software work will be carried out by the information technology section of the Department of fisheries.

2.2. Installation of FAD for 10 coastal fishing grounds

The utilization of Fish Aggregating Devices will increase the number of hatcheries and increase the fish population and the small scale fishermen in the area will be able to earn a higher income. This project is being implemented by the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency and the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources as a pilot project at selected locations along the Matara-Weligama and Trincomalee coastal areas. Rs 10 Mn. has been allocated for this project in the year 2021. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has so far selected the project operational areas and measures have been taken by the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency to design the relevant structural model.

2.3. Introduction and promotion of an environmentally friendly low fuel / alternative fuel / powered upgrade vessel

The objective of this project is to develop a new boats for lagoons and reservoirs for fishing and tourism using alternative energy sources. It has been focused on reducing pollution by utilizing renewable energy. For this project, financial provision of Rs 10 mn has been allocated for year 2021.

The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency has selected Victoria, Randenigala, Upper Kotmale, Ridiyagama, Muruthawelakan reservoirs and Battikolova, Rekawa and Puttalam lagoons for this program which is expected to be implemented in reservoirs and lagoons. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources is in the process of preparing a Cabinet Memorandum in order to design a multi-day trawler to minimize post-harvest losses.

2.4. Deployment of broken vehicles to increase the fish population in the coastal areas.

The project, which aims to create fish breeding grounds on artificial substrates off the coast,. financial provision of Rs 10 Mn has been allocated in the year 2021 . This is a pilot project jointly conducted by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency.

The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has sunk 38 buses in the Jaffna Sea as the third phase of the project to create artificial marine ecosystems using abandoned vessels and buses. The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency has already commenced the process of purchasing action camera research Equipment for Testing Environmental Processes in order to Improve Coastal Fish Production by Restoring Destroyed Marine Habitats.



Implementation of Jaffna and Trincomalee Projects

2.5. Stocking of fish to increase depleted fish population - Research on identification of fish species and sizes.

This project aims at Improving the living standards of the fishing community by increasing the population of the depleted fish species and increasing the income generations. Rs10 mn has been allocated for this project.

Measures have been taken byThe National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency to raise awareness in the community for the fish and coral species augmentation project in the Polhena reef and associated ecosystem along the southern coast of Matara. . Necessary steps have been taken to obtain the recommendations of the Technical Evaluation Committee for the project related to the research on increasing the depleted fish population by stocking juvenile fish in selected Rekawa, Panama, Comori, Periya and Salt lagoons.

The National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency (NARA) has upgraded all the information through software and updated it online (online) to obtain the experimental data required to identify the fish stocked in each reservoir and whether these fish species that contributed significantly to the fish production are subjected to deplete in those reservoirs. One phase of this project consists of providing TAB to Aquaculture Extension Officers. The required specifications and bidding processes are being carried out.

2.6. Utilization of research and modern equipment for harvesting non-harvested fish.

It is essential for the fisheries industry to identify the fish species whose population density has depleted due to long term fish harvesting associated with the freshwater fisheries industry and to restore the population density of those species. For this project, Rs. 10 Mn of financial provision has been allocated. This projects aim at providing TAB for Aquaculture extension officers enabling them to obtain the required data on the harvesting quantities of fish and their varieties and the harvesting and fish abundance seasons and to network and update all the information online through software. The required specifications and bidding are being carried out.

A research program on harvesting high-value big eye tuna, which is currently being harvested by multi-day fishing vessels, in collaboration with the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency and the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources based on multi-day fishing vessels at Suduwella Fisheries Harbors, Dikowita has been carried out. Research work on increasing the length of long lines currently in use is being carried out, and the work of selecting a suitable vessel for research purposes has been completed.

3. Lagoon Conservation and Development Project

A large portion of future fish production will depend on aquaculture and farm based fisheries since fisheries resources shows a rapid depletion. Accordingly, the lagoon ecosystem plays a vital role in the fishing industry. The Ministry of Fisheries launched the Lagoon Development and Conservation Project in 2018 with the objective of enhancing fish and aquaculture production with the main strategy of enhancing aquaculture production through the conservation and development of lagoons and inland aquatic environment.

Objectives of the projects are Lagoon cleaning, upgrading aquaculture, infrastructure development, demarcation of lagoon boundaries and livelihood development. The project also aims to create new employment opportunities and expand the tourism industry.

The provisions allocated under the Lagoon Conservation and Development Project for this year is amounting to Rs. 400 Mn. Accordingly, the following projects will be implemented under this project. The project is being implemented with the collaboration of the Ministry of Fisheries, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, National Aquaculture Development Authority and National Aquatic

Resources Research and Development Agency. Accordingly, the following programs will be implemented under this Expenditure vote of the project.



Following the coming into power of the new Government, the Minister of Fisheries had instructed the NAQDA, NARA and Fisheries Departments to develop 09 major lagoons in Sri Lanka and commenced the preparation of necessary projects



Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries and Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake, Minister of State for Forestry discussed the problems that have arisen during the implementation of the Negombo Lagoon



Field visit to inspect the current status of the Negombo Lagoon Development Project

3.1 Increasing the fish population in the lagoon

The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has allocated Rs. 2.2 million for the stocking of 4 million prawns fries in the Thondaman Aru Lagoon in the Jaffna District and 1.5 million prawn fries in the Batticaloa Lagoon at a cost of Rs. 0.825 million.

Sums of Rs. 15.1 Mn. has been allocated to the National Aquaculture Development Authority for the projects in order to increase the fish population in the lagoon and in this regard, fish stocking and fish population enhancement projects are being carried out in the Jaffna Lagoon area.



Minister Douglas Devananda instructs to start Moda fish (Koduwa) cultivation in the Northern Province.

3.2 Moda fish farming

14,000 Moda fry have been stocked in Moda fish cages in the Puttalam Lagoon. The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency is being conducting a Modha farming study in the Jaffna Lagoon.



3.3 Determining lagoon boundaries

An allocation of Rs. 11 million has been made to demarcate the lagoons. The Department of Civil Defense has erected 4660 border posts in Arugambay, Lankapatuna, Chilaw, Mundalama, Rekawa and Kokilai lagoons.

3.4 Cleaning and deepening lagoons

It has been prepared a Preliminary Environmental Assessment Report on Fisheries Development Activities in the Nandikadal Lagoon in the Mullaitivu District by The National Aquatic Resources Research Agency and submitted it to the Department of Wildlife Conservation. The first technical committee meeting was held. Accordingly, It has been informed to repeat the same environmental study.

- The National Aquatic Resources Research Agency is being preparing a report on fisheries related development activities in the Nayar Lagoon.
- It has been instructed to prepare estimates for the removal of debris under the Kapuhendiwala Bridge in Rekawa Lagoon
- The Irrigation Department. bathymetric survey is being carried out by The National Aquatic Resources Research Agency in the Arugambay Lagoon.

3.5 Infrastructure Development

Rs. 26 million has been directed to the District Secretary, Jaffna for the implementation of 17 lagoon infrastructure development project

3.6 Livelihood development

Rs. 3 Mn. And Rs. 101.4 Mn. have been allocated to the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the National Aquaculture Development Authority for the implementation of livelihood development projects of the lagoon fishing community. Accordingly, the National Aquaculture Development Authority (NADA) will implement these projects based on the Jaffna Lagoon, and crab farming, cage fish farming, prawn farming, sea leech farming and seaweed farming projects will be carried out.

Foreign Funded Projects

01. Development of Beruwala, Galle, Puranawella and Kudawella Fishery Harbors under the Green Port Concept

This project to develop Beruwala, Galle, Puranawella and Kudawella fishery harbors under the Green Ports Concept in accordance with international standards is to be implemented with the financial assistance of the French Government loan from the French Development Agency. Signing of MoU and the Technical Feasibility Study has been completed and the Environmental and Social Feasibility Study is being done. The main objective of this project is to improve the livelihoods of the fisher community, to create market access for high quality fish products and to enhance the welfare of the fishermen.

The total estimated cost of the project is Euro 137.5Mn. The project period is 5 years (2021-2026). Construction of the project is scheduled to begin in 2023.

02. Obtaining Advisory Services and Analytics (Technical Assistance) for Prioritizing Integrated Fisheries and Coastal Zone Management in Sri Lanka

The objective of this project is to conduct the following studies for resolving issues on over-exploitation of fish in marine & aquaculture sectors and fisheries management issues.

- i. Investment in aquaculture
- ii. Financial and biological analysis of multi-day fisheries
- iii. Providing of technical assistance for NARA and DFAR on small marine pelagic fish stock assessment
- iv. Providing of technical assistance for NARA and DFAR on lobster stock assessment
- v. Creating of Bio-economic Models for Marine Fisheries Management in Sri Lanka

This project has been approved by the Department of National Planning and the Department of External Resources. The total estimated cost is Rs. 130Mn. This project is being implemented under a World Bank grant. The interim report for the above studies has been drafted.

Steps Taken to Address the Issues Arisen Due to Maritime Casualty Involving MV Xpress Pearl

A Singapore-flagged MV Xpress Pearl cargo vessel, which was carrying 1,486 containers with 25 MT of Nitric Acid and several other chemicals and cosmetics and 278 MT of bunker oil and 50 MT of marine gas oil from the port of Hazira, India caught fire, initially on the 20th of May 2021, while it was anchored 9.5 km off Sri Lanka's coast. The plastic pellets, oil and chemical spill caused significant economic harm to the west coast fishery in the country. The government immediately took steps to impose a fishing ban in affected areas from Kalutara to Negambo to ensure the safety of the fishers; protect fishing gears, and boats and safety of consumers of fish.

Contamination of the shoreline with oils, chemicals, and burned particles especially plastic pellets have been observed in the coastal area from Kaluthara to Negombo. The plastic pellets, oil and chemical spill have a high negative impact on coastal fisheries and the marine eco-systems. The experts claim serious impacts to the entire ecosystem such as coral reefs, sea grass, fish habitats, etc. Therefore, the impacts of MV X-Press Pearl vessel are wide-reaching and will likely to have short-term, medium term and long-term implications on the ecological, social, and economic and health sectors of Sri Lanka. The Ministry of Fisheries, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and other Institutions come under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries have taken various steps to minimize negative impacts of the damage and to protect both fishermen and consumers of seafood. Fishing activities were prohibited in Negombo, Kaluthara and Colombo fishing districts for minimizing the immediate negative impacts for fisheries sector. The temporary fishing ban was imposed on 21-05-2021 and it was continued based on the scientific recommendations of the NARA.

Ministry of Fisheries involved to take various steps to minimize the damage and to claim compensation for the damages occurred. Following two committees were appointed in this regard.

- i. Cabinet appointed committee chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry to decide on payment of compensation
- ii. A committee with the involvement of relevant officials, experts, community members and representatives of Catholic Church to look into all connected issues

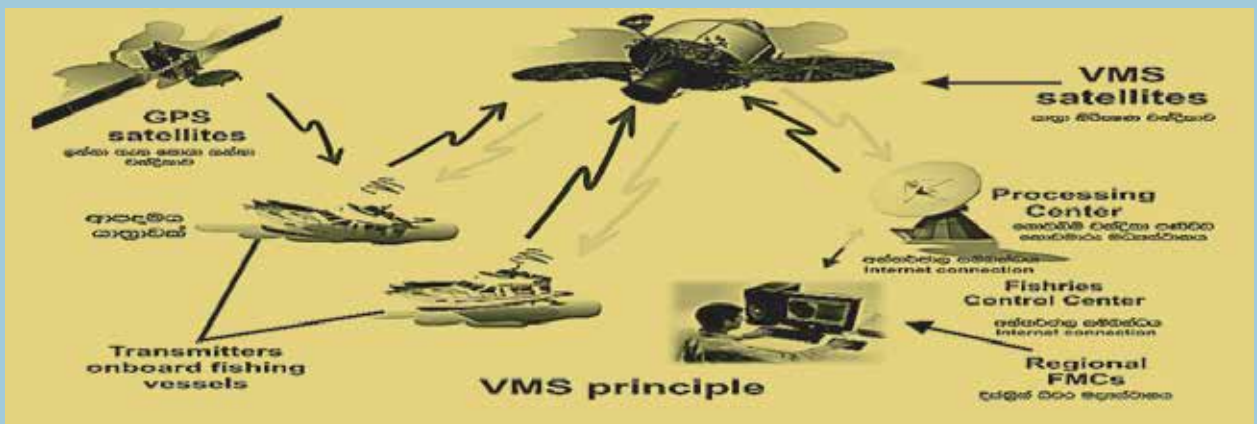
Following actions were taken by the Ministry.

1. Fishing ban imposed in the area identified by the NARA from Negombo to Panadura has been continued. NARA has recommended continuing the fishing ban mainly due to the identification of over 200 numbers of large debris in the seabed, which could harm the lives of fishermen, their boats and fishing gear.
2. The government has officially informed the ITOPF, which serves as the intermediary between the government and the Vessel Owner Company that fishing ban has to be continued until the large debris are recovered and removed from the waters.
3. It has been clearly informed to Vessel owner's representatives including P & I Club, ITOPF, International Legal firm and the local legal firm that fishermen and other parties involved in the fisheries industry need to be compensated for the loss of livelihood as long as the fishing ban is continued.
4. As per the method adopted in consultation with Hon. Attorney General and the ITOPF, identification of affected people and the estimation of daily income loss of different categories of occupations involved in the fisheries industry were done through village level committees comprised of Grama Niladhari, Fisheries Inspector, Economic Development Officer and Samurdhi Officer and Divisional Committees comprised of Divisional Secretary, Assistant Director of Fisheries of the District and a representative from Catholic clergy. Finally, District Secretary certifies and recommends the information for payment of compensation.
5. Following measures were taken to provide relief to affected persons.
 - i. Special allowance of Rs. 5000/= per family were granted to affected families through Divisional Secretaries.
 - ii. About Rs. 420 million received from the insurers of the ship was distributed among affected persons.
 - iii. Damaged fishing gears were replaced with new items by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.
 - iv. Claims were handed over to insurers through Hon. Attorney General for all identified damages. The Ministry will take necessary actions to distribute the compensation among affected persons once funds are received from the insurers.
 - v. Assistance was given to all other government agencies involved in the incident



Providing new fishing nets for all fishermen whose fishing nets were damaged after the Xpress Pearl fire.

02 Department Of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources



The background of the page is a photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and long, shimmering reflections on the water's surface. In the distance, a person is standing on a pier or a small boat, looking out towards the sea. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

Vision

To provide an optimum contribution to the national economy through strengthening the socio-economic status of the fisher communities while maintaining the fisheries and aquatic resources in a sustainable manner.

Mission

Management of fisheries and aquatic resources by adopting new technologies in compliance with the national and international laws and treaties for the productive contribution to the Sri Lankan economy through sustainable development of fishing industry.

Tasks

- Manage fishery resources available in the sea, Lagoon and brackish water reservoirs through conservation with the participation of fisher community in order to maintain the fisheries industry in Sri Lanka in a sustainable manner
- Sustainable development of the Fisheries industry as per the current trends using new technology, Maintenance of Rural Fisheries Associations and Fisheries Co-operative societies established under the National Fisheries Association, Infrastructure development relevant to fishery villages, implementation of various programmes in order to social welfare of the fishing community
- Implementation of programmes to introduce new technology towards the development of Fisheries industry & community development programmes
- Registration of Fisheries vessels, fishing gears, fisheries inputs, fisheries vessel engines, Refrigerators, vessel selectors, safety equipment producers and Regulating & Registration of equipment & bait exporters
- Preparation of programmes to uplift the living condition of fisher families who were affected due to natural disasters and sudden accidents and implementation of fisheries pension & insurance schemes
- Deliver recommendations relevant to constructions carried out in coastal areas
- Implementation, supervision, regulation and feedbacks relevant to programmes implemented under foreign Aids
- Implementation of alternative income generation programmes and Implementation of joint projects in collaboration with Government & Non-Government Organization
- Implementation of programmes with regard prevent of post-harvest losses
- Ensure the authenticity of fish caught by fishing vessels operated in high seas which are registered in Sri Lanka as they are caught without engaging in illegal, unreported and informal fisheries activities under legal and accurate reports and regulation
- Live coordination of preliminary stakeholders including all fishery harbours relevant to operations in High seas/quality control unit in the Airport, Regional offices, Vessel monitoring Centre, Sri Lanka Navy and Coastguard, fisheries exporters and International fishery activities unit through 24x7 network with service shifts
- Tasks relevant to provision of regional and local fish data in time and accurately which are bound to be submitted
- Supervision & Regulation of the fisheries activities about 1500 fishery vessels which are registered with this Department, are inconformity with internal maritime laws and treaties through vessel monitoring system operated using satellite technology
- Provision of radio message and communication facilities between the land and fishery vessels which are engaged in fisheries activities in and out of the parameters of Sri Lanka Exclusive Economic Zone
- Rescue of Fishermen & fishery vessels due to disasters occur as engine failures, accidents and sudden illnesses in sea and tasks related to prevention of loss of lives, provision of insurance facilities in the event of accidents
- Issuance of health certificates for fish products exported to international market and tasks related to regulation of those institutes
- Building of a proper connection between fisheries community, fishery officers and other stakeholders in order to meet the objectives of sustainable development of fisheries industry through the implementation of the fisheries activities and managing fisher resources

1 Sustainable Management of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources

The preliminary task of the Department of fisheries & Aquatic Resources is to manage and formulation of fisheries & aquatic resources and for that purpose issuance of management permits for fishing vessels and fisheries operations, taking measures to deter the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing have been carried out and management licenses for fishing vessels and fisheries operations have been issued as follows relevant to the year 2021.

Chart 01: Progress of the relevant tasks for the year 2021 as at 30.09.2021

Task	Annual Target	Progress as at 30.09.2021	Progress%
Issuance of fisheries operation permits (high seas)	1,200	735	61.25
Issuance of Skipper permits	1,000	500	50.00
Issuance of fisheries operation permits (Beach seine)	1,108	720	67.90
Issuance of ornamental fish export permits	65	25	38.46
Issuance of ornamental fish import permits	60	20	33.30
Issuance of Lobsters export permits	120	55	45.83
Issuance of Lobsters retaining permits	20	4	20.00
Issuance of Conch shells export permits	30	23	76.66
Issuance of Conch shells transport & retaining permits	75	40	53.33
Issuance of Sea cucumber export permits	120	46	38.30
Issuance of Sea cucumber transport & retaining permits	180	79	43.88
export permits to cultured marine organism on artificial substrates	04	01	25.00
transport permits for sea shells for ornament	30	5	16.60

2 Taking initiatives in order to maintain relevant qualities in Fish Export

Considerable amount of foreign exchange could be earned through fish exports and it is important to maintain a quality of the fish products for import. The quality control unit of the department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources issues permits with regard to maintenance of the quality of fish products for imports and checking the institutions engaged in imports is also carried out by the said unit. The progress of the above is as follows.

Chart 02: Progress of the Quality Control activities of Fish 2021 as at 30.09.2021

Task	Annual Target Q2	Progress	Progress%
Providing approvals for Fish processing institutes & Laboratories	18	18	100.00
Issuing health certificates for European countries	6,000	8,242	137.36
Issuing fish catching certificates	3,000	3,143	104.76
Issuing health certificates for Non-European countries	5,000	3,204	64.08
Checking Laboratories	2	0	0
Checking Fish processing institutes	45	15	33.33
Checking Fish packing institutes	4	4	100.00
Checking Lobster collection venues	4	0	0
Checking fishery harbours & fish unload venues	4	0	0
Checking local and foreign fishing vessels	25	0	0
Official sample checking for fishery processing institutes (Water, Ice, fishery products)	150	0	0
Checking water & Ice in Fishery harbours	9	0	0
Checking of Antibiotics/Malakit green/pesticides substances in Fishery Harbours	20	0	0
Random checking on organic dividers of processed fish for export	20	0	0
Checking of Prawn Farms	10	0	0
Instant checking on imported fish at the Airport	25	0	0

N.B-Field duties had to be limited due to the health restrictions imposed by our institution as well as other institutions under the pandemic situation prevailed in the country .Please note that the targets with regard to field duties reportedly dropped as the majority of institutional investigations were carried out through online technology.

3 Fixing of artificial reefs using defective vehicles in the sea in order to increase fish population

The gazette notification issued with regard to the allocation of subjects among the Ministries in the new government ,has identified that the increase of fish population with the introduction of scientific methods as their first priority task. Accordingly, this project under the guidance and instructions of the Minister of Fisheries as well as the State Minister is being implemented in order to increase the marine life diversity through conservation of marine environment and to preserve Marine life diversity for the sake of future Generations and culture Marine organism on artificial substrates as their objectives.

Further, it can be seen that a large number of fishing vessels, Railway compartments and Chassis of Buses are decayed in vein which have been removed from the usage and it has become a big issue for those institutions as well. Considerable amount of space have to be utilized in order to retain these vehicles and diseases as dengue could easily be spread under these circumstances. Hence, it has been identified that it is more suitable to deposit those structures as artificial substrates without harming the environment.

The project to create an artificial marine environment using abandoned vessels and buses have been concluded in the Galle District. 06 boats and 24 buses have been sunk under this programme and 01 bus and one abandoned vessel have been sunk in Nilwella ,Mathara under the second stage .38 buses in Jaffna sea and 12 vessels in Trincomalee sea have been sunk under the third stage. Habitats as well as breeding and feeding ground could be provided in this manner. It is expected increase the density and diversity of organisms due to the proper implementation Food Network and food chains .



Inauguration and observation of the project in Galle by Hon. State Minister of Fisheries



Implementation of the project in Galle



Implementation of the project in Nilwella

4 Pilot project to provide required equipment for a quality output on behalf of 25 selected women engaged in Dry fish production industry

It is proposed to provide a financial provision of Rs. 4 Million under Empowering fisher community vote of the Ministry of Fisheries, 2021 which is spent on purchasing needed equipment on behalf of 72 selected women engaged in Dry fish production industry in order to strengthening the members of Fisher Women Associations in selected districts as a pilot project.

Equipment Set (Rough assessment for a Equipment Set is Rs. 55,000/-)

Objectives

- Ensure the quality and healthiness of Dry fish productions
- Uplift the socio-economic condition of fishermen
- Provision of more quality products for the local consumers
- Launching a model pilot project to obtain a quality output and enabling the other producers engaged in the industry to follow it

5 Facilities to decrease post-harvest losses

Currently, 70% contribution to the local market and 7% contribution to the export market is extended by the total Fish Production of Sri Lanka. However, it has been estimated that around 20% to 30% fish production is wasted by way of post-harvest losses due to the unemployment of accurate methods to handle the fish harvest. Hence, attention has to be paid in order to educate fisherman to employ accurate handling methods and to provide required facilities in this regard in order to provide quality fish products to the market decreasing post-harvest losses.

Rs. 8 million has been allocated in this regard and this will be utilized to purchase 200 fish containers or maximum number of fish containers on behalf of OFRP vessels, including the 25% contribution as per the rates exist at the time. This should be carried out in a justifiable Manner covering 15 fisheries districts considering the OFRP vessels possessed by each districts and the distribution of fish containers which was carried out in the year 2020.

Objectives

- Ensure the quality and healthiness of fish products
- Decrease the post post-harvest losses reaped by the small vessels
- Uplift the socio-economic condition of fisherman
- Provision of more qualitative products towards the local consumer

6 Re-organizing of corporative societies

Eventhough it was planned re-establish inactive Cooperative societies and to carry out training programs on cooperative activities ,the said plan could not be implemented due to the prevailing covid-19 pandemic situation in the country. Hence, proposals have been called under District levels having been selected the Co-operative societies which are to be developed in order fill their requirements. And also books ,registers which are required fisheries Cooperative societies will be provided in collaboration with the Cooperative Department.

7 Increase of lagoon fish production

4 Million shrimps (Pinnaeus modon-Kara andu Issa) in Thondamanaru lagoon ,Jaffna district and 1.5 Million shrimps in Batticoloa lagoon have been deposited spending Rs.2.2 Million and Rs. 0.825 Million respectively.



Release of 4 Million Shrimp

8 Farming of Asian sea bass (Modha fish)

14,000 Asian sea bass fish fingerlings have been deposited in fish cages located in Puttalam lagoon.

9 Delimitation of Lagoon boundaries

Rs. 11 Million has been allocated to delimitation of Lagoon boundaries and 4660 boundary posts have been planted by the Civil Security Department.



Boundary posts



Transferring boundary posts



Planting of boundary posts



Observation of Planting of boundary posts

10 Cleaning and deepening of lagoons

National Aquatic Resources and Research Agency (NARA) has submitted a basic environmental assessment report to the Wildlife Conservation department on the development activities relevant to the Fisheries industry suburbs Nandikadal Lagoon in Mullativu district. First technical meeting in this regard has been conducted.

A report on development activities relevant to Nayaru lagoon is being prepared by NARA. Department of Irrigation has been informed to repair estimates in order to remove scraps under Kapuhendiwela Bridge in Rekawa lagoon.

11 Networking the task of the Department of Fisheries

It is expected to network various tasks carried out by the department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources with a view to facilitate clients efficiently and in transparent manner. Accordingly main process expected to be Networked are as follows.

- All registrations and operation permits which are currently being issued manually using paper will be issued through the work Network
- 20 duties performed manually using paper will be covered
- Fish production and scientific data which are manually obtained will be obtained through the work Network. Access for such data will be allowed to NARA and the statistical unit
- All letter correspondence will be Networked
- Officer monitoring system will be established



Network Programme

Departmental network software is developed with a view to transform 15 processes carried out by the department into digital form. Registration of boats, collection of Scientific data and many more activities are included therein. The departmental Network software has two sections namely the Android application and the Java application

More than 45,000 fishermen have been registered using this departmental network software and all other processes under this network software since 2020 has been commenced.

More than 50,000 departures have been permitted throughout the year 2021 under this Network and new numbers for 95 vessels, 102 new registrations, 60 renewals for vessel Manufacturing Institutes and about 900 fish catching permits in high seas have been carried out by the network. More than 30,000 Fisheries identity cards have been issued up to now and all activities with regard to multiday fishing vessel operations are carried out by the network. All data relevant to the operation of the system have already been migrated.

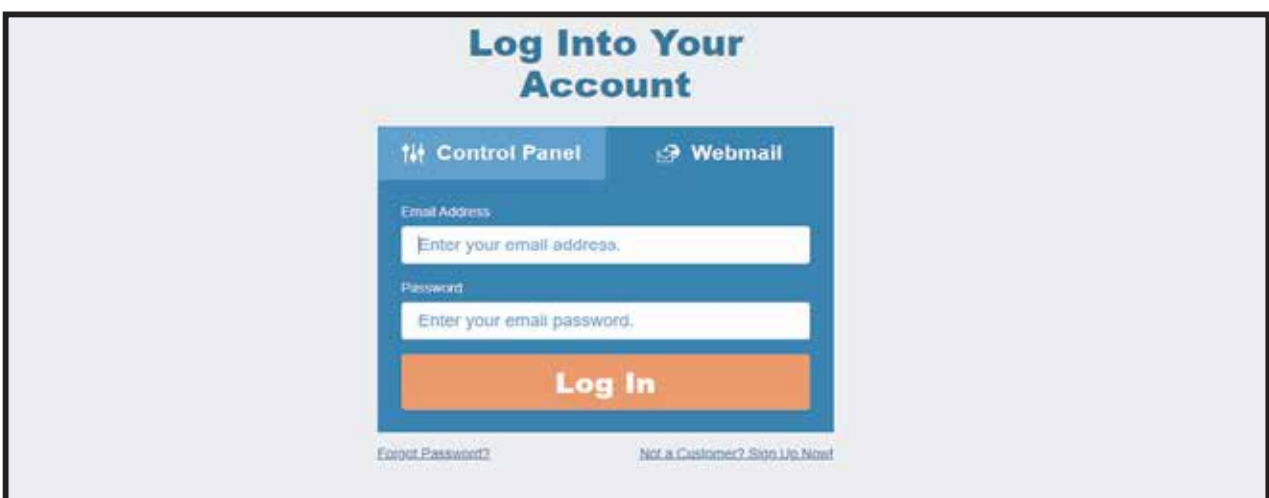
11.1 Maintenance and inner Management of the official website of the Department

www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk



Information Technology unit of the department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources is responsible for the maintenance and the inner management of the official website of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. The website is being updated daily and it contains the details of the departmental activities .List of all registered exporters, importers ,yards and suppliers are maintained in the website and it is constantly updated .Officers are able to access to the system through the access provided by the website .This website was awarded a gold medal at the bestweb. lk competition.

11.2 Preparation of official email accounts of officers



The email accounts of all the staff officers of the Department of fisheries and Aquatic resources have already been completed and activities of the head office and District offices are coordinated through those.

Specially updating the software, making aware staff officers and informing special and Urgent information related to the Head office will be carried out via e-mail accounts of officers . E-mail accounts of all staff officers have been prepared.

11.3. Implementation & Training on Document Management System



The information technology unit of the department of Fisheries maintains a cloud Doxpro Document Management System having been purchased it earlier. The section heads have been provided a training in this regard and the document management system commenced in the early 2020. It is expected to minimize the use of paper by 90% through the utilization of the DMS for about 2 years due to the pandemic situation prevailed in the country in the years of 2020 and 2021. The officers while engaging work from home issued more than 500 letters using this Doxpro system

11.4 Planning Development and implementation of an e-mail system

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12. Special Programmes

12.1 Provision of compensation to the family members of the diseased fishermen due to the natural disasters while engaged in fishing

Engaged in fishing in high seas has been declared as a hazardous employment by the International Labour Association (ILO) and it has been nominated as a too dangerous employment as per the hazardous work list in Sri Lanka. It is reported that around 10-25 fishermen disappear or lost their lives annually in Sri Lanka due to the various accidents occurred in the sea while engaging fishing. And also due to the damages caused to the vessels (about 20 per annum) they land in the maritime regions or coasts of the other countries .(98 fishermen along with 19 vessels landed in other countries to save themselves in the year 2020 and incidents of such nature are reported annually).

Dependents of five fishermen who lost their lives in 2020 due to the natural disasters occur in the sea from Negambo , Colombo, Kaluthara and Trincomalee were granted a compensation of Rs. 50 million, 5 million for each fisherman .



Granting Compensations

12.2 Fixing of 4200 Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) in Multiday Fishing Vessels

4200 Vessel Monitoring systems were handed over to the government of Sri Lanka as a full-time donation by the government of Australia .The department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has made compulsory to fix these equipment in Multiday fishing Vessels and travel turns will not be issued on behalf of vessels which do not possess this system in the future. In addition the VMS which are not working properly, fixed earlier ,will be expected to be replaced in the future and small vessels will also be equipped with the VMS .As soon as these equipment are fixed it will enable to prevent other form of illegal sea transportation and distribution including to ensure the safety of the vessels and the staff, national & International Maritime boundaries and to curb drug Transportation

Fixing of 4200 Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) in multiday fishing Vessels commenced from Dikovita fisheries Harbour on 08.09.202 which have been recommended by the European Union and other Fisheries agencies for years. This equipment will enable to identify the maritime ways definitely to trace when International maritime boundaries are violated, to seek assistance at the time of a disaster to trace the exact location of the vessel and easy to identify whether the vessels are engaged in trafficking including drug traffickers which maybe a threat to the national security .The Operation Centre located in the department of Fisheries will be engaged in 24 hour operation ,Sri Lanka Navy and the Ministry of Defense will be facilitated to engage in observation. The annual service charge for this equipment is far below to the previous equipment. This grant is full time aid extended under the Australian government with the collaboration of IOM International agency to the government of Sri Lanka which is amounting 5 million dollars. This occasion was taken place as a symbol in Dikovita, fisheries harbour with the participation of the Fisheries Minister Hon.Douglas Devanada.





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නිපුණි ඒකකයක

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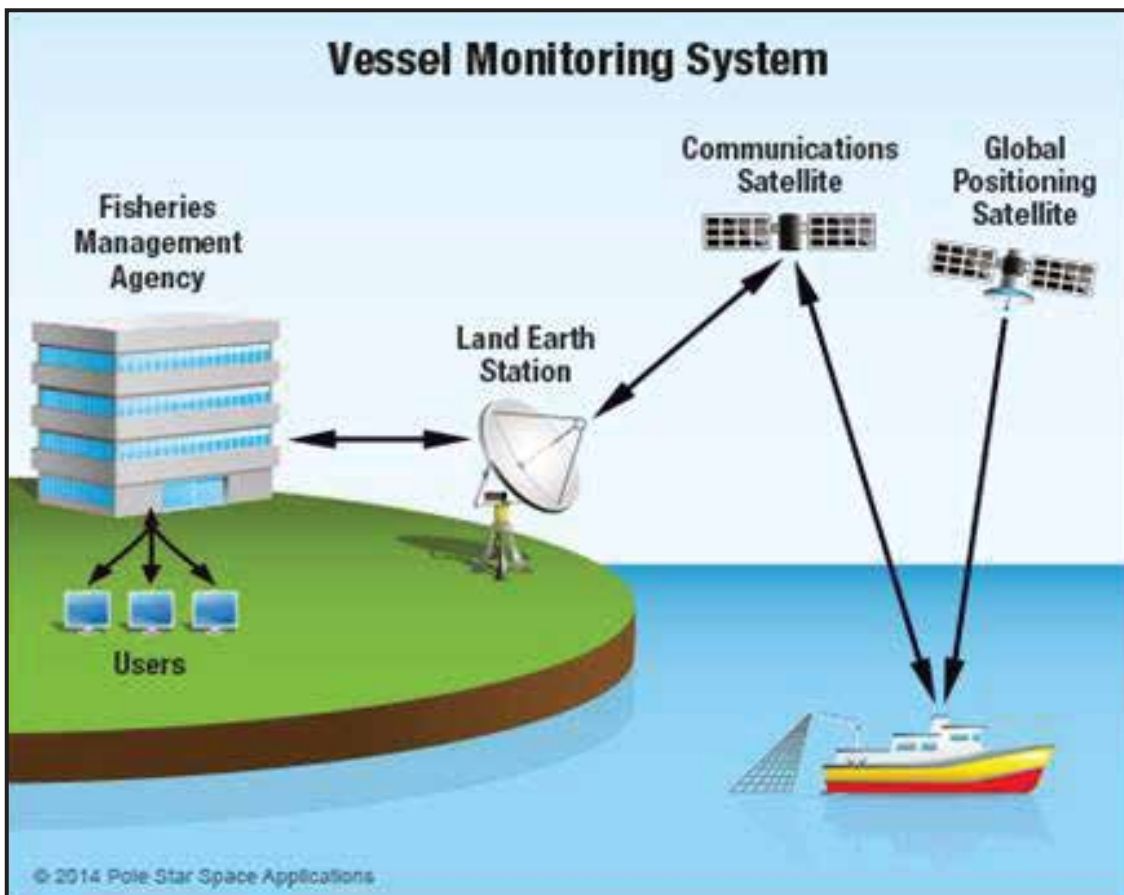
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කරනු නොලැබේ. මෙයට අමතරව දැනට මෙම උපකරණ සවිකර ක්‍රියාත්මක නොවන යාත්‍රා සහ කුඩා යාත්‍රාවලටද ඉදිරියේදී නව උපකරණ සවි කිරීමට අපේක්ෂිතය.

ධීවර යාත්‍රා සහ එහි කාර්ය මණ්ඩලවල ආරක්ෂාව වෙනුවෙන් කටයුතු කිරීම, ජාත්‍යන්තර සහ දේශීය මුහුදු සීමා උල්ලංඝනය වැළැක්වීම, මත්ද්‍රව්‍ය ප්‍රවාහනය මැඩපැවැත්වීම ඇතුළු අනෙකුත් නීති විරෝධී මුහුදු ප්‍රවාහන සහ බෙදා හැරීමේ කටයුතු වැළැක්වීමට මෙම උපකරණ ඉවහල්වනු ඇත.



Official handover of VMS at the Presidential Secretariat



Vessel Monitoring System



Fixing of VMS at Dikovta Fisheries Harbour

12.3 Progress of the steps taken to monitor the affect caused to the fisheries due to the fire broke out at Xpress pearl good transport ship on 21 May 2021

- As soon as the report came on 21 May 2021 ,the department of Fisheries took prompt action to stop engaging in fishing in the fisheries districts of Gampaha, Negambo and Columbo which could have been directly affected due to this disaster and steps were taken to educate the community in this regard
- In addition to above the vessels which were on the way to unload their fish stocks at Dikovita fisheries harbour were referred to the land through optional ways this operation was carried out jointly by Radio Communication Center and fisheries operational unit. And also steps were taken to identify the most sensitive aquatic environmental systems and coordinated the government Institutes to preserve those environmental systems. For this end, a safety net was fixed through the mouth of the estuary which connect the sea and Negambo lagoon.

Chart 03 : Details With regard to affected fishermen

	No.of Fisheries Inspector Divisions Directly Affected	Active No. of Fishermen	Affected fisheries vessels
Negambo	13	9,500	IMUL40 IDAY60 OFRP2015 NTRB1484 MTRB 02
Colombo	10	2,300	IMUL11 IDAY14 OFRP446 NTRB294 MTRB 01
Kaluthara	02	500	OFRP47 NTRB33

[Multiday Fishing Vessels-IMUL, One day fishing vessels—IDAY, Fishing Vessels with outboard engines-OFRP,Traditional Fishing Vessels-NTRB, Mechanical Fishing Vessels-MTRB]

- On the sidelines of this incident ,a range of employees engaged in Fisheries sector including large-scale fish producers, ice suppliers , seawater ornamental fish collectors,fish exporters, fish species collectors , good suppliers ,fishing net fixers and engine repairers were affected

- Eventhough there was no sudden effect towards the sea areas in southern, Northwestern and Northern areas they were constantly observed to find weather any affect could have been caused
- The approval was granted to commence the activities in Negombo Lagoon with effect fro 12.06.2021 which had been suspended earlier
- Steps were taken by the government to Grant Rs.5000 allowance in the month of June for each Fisher families affected as a temporary concession through District secretaries and Divisional secretaries
- Granting of compensation to the beneficiaries of fisherman was carried out depositing them in their bank accounts under committee recommendations

Chart 04 : Distribution of Compensation

District	Active Benifiseries of Fishermen	Granted Compensation Rs. Millions
Negambo	8,677	157.005
Colombo	2,859	54.7125
Kaluthara	693	13.825
Total	12,229	225.5425

- Immediate steps are being taken to granting of compensation for related services and a programme to provide fishing gears for fishermen was carried out whose fishing gears were damaged due to this incident
- Our officers had to overcome varios issues and some of them were infected under the pandemic situation prevailed in the country. It was unfortunate on the part of the Fisheries department that The Colombo district Assitant Director passed away whilst he was engaging in grantig compensation for fishermen who were affected due to New Xpress pearl ship disaster under this desease.



නැව් ගිණි ගැනීමට හේතුවූ ආදායම් අහිමි වූ ධීවරයන්ට වන්දි දීම පිළිබඳව සාකච්ඡාවක්



හිප්පති - ඒකනායක

ගිනිගත් එක්ස්ප්‍රස් පර්ල් (XPress Pearl) නෞකාවෙන් ධීවර කටයුතු කිරීමට නොහැකි තහනම් කලාපයක් ලෙස පවතින මුහුදු කලාපයේ ධීවරයන් වෙනුවෙන් වන්දි මුදල් ලබා දීමේ ප්‍රගතිය පිළිබඳ එම කමිටුවේ සාමාජිකයන් වන ධීවර අමාත්‍යාංශයේ සහ ධීවර

දෙපාර්තමේන්තුවේ නිලධාරීන් කතෝලික සභාවේ ජියතුමන්ලා සහ එම ධීවර සංවිධාන නියෝජිතයන් සමඟ පසුගියදා රාජ්‍ය ඇමැති කංචන විජේසේකරගේ ප්‍රදානත්වයෙන් මාර්ගගත බ්‍රුමය හරහා සාකච්ඡාවක් පැවැත්විණි.

පසුගිය දින වන විට එම කලාපයේ ධීවර කටයුතු සිදුකරන

අදායම් අහිමි වූ ධීවර යාත්‍රා හිමියන් සහ කාන්තාවන් 12,111ක් වෙනුවෙන් වන්දි මුදල් ඔවුන්ගේ බැංකු ගිණුම් වෙත බැර කර ඇත.

ඉදිරි අදියර ලෙස වක්‍රව අදායම් අහිමි වූ ධීවර කර්මාන්තයේ පාර්ශ්වකරුවන් වෙත වන්දි ලබා දීමේ කටයුතු ක්‍රියාත්මක වේ.

Discussion held for granting of compensation



Distribution of Fishing gears for affected fishermen

03 Northsea Limited



The background of the page is a faded, artistic photograph of a fisherman on a boat. The fisherman is standing on the boat, holding up a large fishing net. The boat is on the water, and the background shows a hazy, sunset or sunrise sky over a body of water with distant hills or mountains.

Vision

Be of excellent contributory to the Fisheries sector by supplying adequate high grade fishing nets and other fishing gears to meet the requirements of the local fishermen so as to achieve enhanced harvesting of sea food

Mission

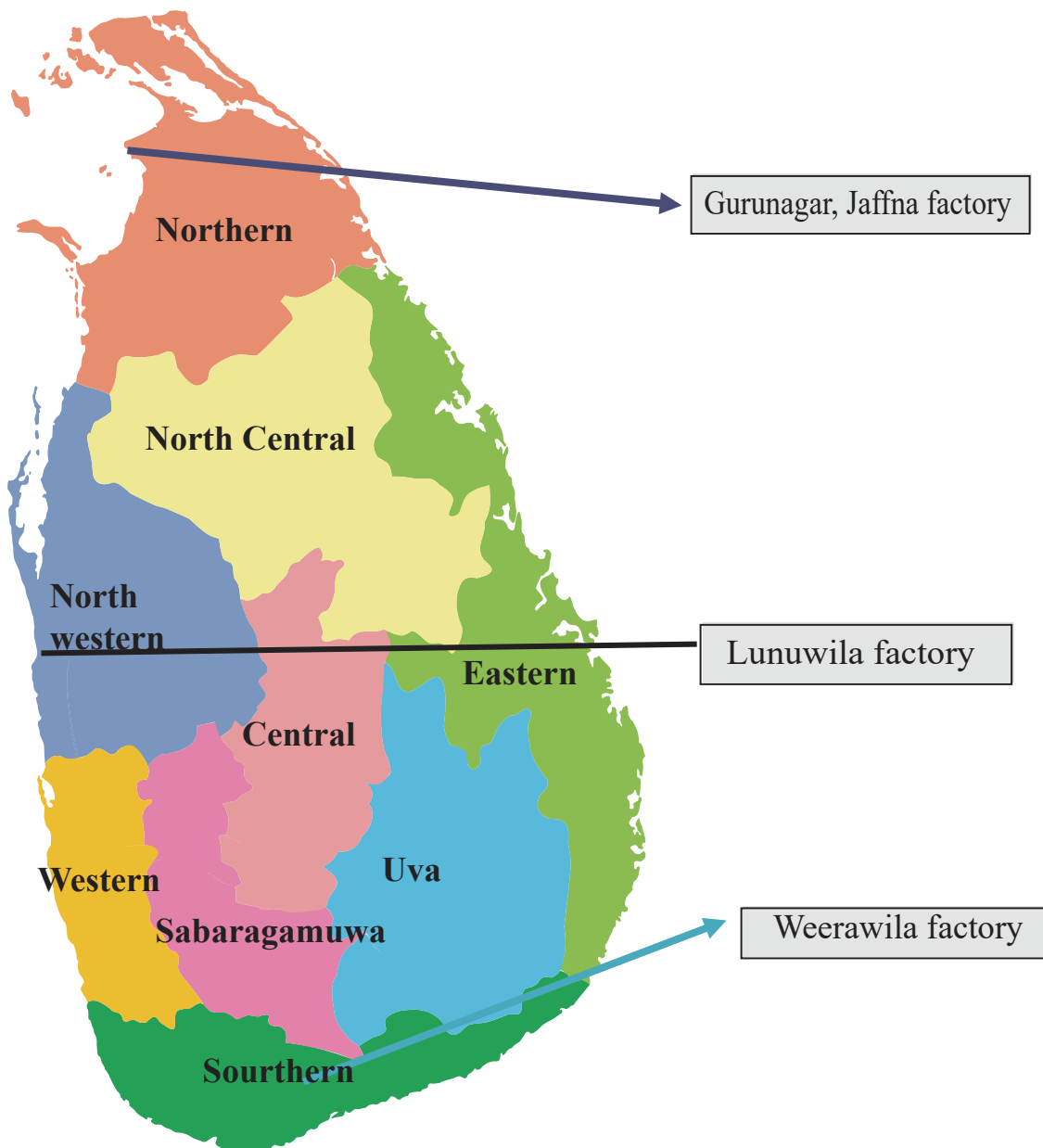
Manufacturing and supplying standard quality of fishnets and other fishing gears to meet seasonal demand in order to encourage fishing activities and seafood production of the country.

Objectives

- Production of Fishnets and servicing of fishermen
- Meeting the Seasonal Demand of the Fishing Community by producing appropriate high grade fishing nets and other fishing gears.
- Enhance efficiency of operations by increasing productive hours
- Manufacturing and supplying of fishnets and fishing gears as well as mending twine for the fishermen in the country.

Policy

The company will give all opportunities to village level fishermen co-operative societies doing business activities as welfare bearing in mind that this is a government organization, giving priority to fishermen welfare which in turn contribute to the country's economy.



Organization

Northsea Ltd is a 100% Treasury owned Fishnet Manufacturing Company, established in June 2001 under Companies Act No. 17 of 1982 and re-registered under new Companies Act No. 07 of 2007.

Northsea Ltd which is currently coming under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries had only one fishnet factory at Gurunagar - Jaffna and subsequently the fishnet factories at Lunuwila and Weerawila were transferred to Northsea Ltd from Ceynor Foundation Ltd vide Cabinet Decision, dated 02nd November 2010 and the Northsea Ltd took over the two factories and commenced operations from November, 2011. The total employment of the company during this period was 259 nos.

The company has been involved in serving the fisheries sector which contributes to the economy of the country in terms of employment, income generation and sea food production. The fishing is engaged in the marine and fresh waters of Sri Lanka and it constitutes an important role in the livelihood activities of the people who live in coastal and dry zone reservoirs of the country. There are more than 150,000 nos. fishermen and their families depending on the fishing activities.

The demand for fishnets is about 4,743 Mt per annum, whereas 47% of fishnets are supplied by the local manufacturers (5 nos. of factories with the capacity of 200 – 300 Mt per annum), and the Northsea Ltd is operating with the capacity of 720 Mt per annum and is able to cater 5% of the demand of the fishnets.

Demand for Fishnets

The demand for fishnets in the country has been estimated based on the number of boats operated during the year 2015 (Source: Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development). The demand is as follows:

No.	Types of Boats	No. of Boats	Qty-Pcs.	WT - Kg	Total-Wt	Demand for Fishnets (Kgs)
1	Multi-day Boats	4,218	20	7.5	150	632,700
		4,218	20	5	100	421,800
2	IBM - One Day Boats	719	20	7.5	150	107,850
		719	20	3	60	43,140
3	OBM - FRP Boats	24,028	20	3	60	1,441,680
		24,028	20	2	40	961,120
4	OBM - Traditional Boats	1,872	20	3	60	112,320
		Non-Mechanized Traditional Boats	21,189	20	2	40
5	Inland Boats	8,778	10	2	20	175,560
	Total demand for fishnets					4,743,730

The local demand has grown mainly due to the increase in the operation of Multi-day boats and OBM – FRPB (Out-board Motor Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic Boats). The demand for fishnets is approximately 4,743Mt per annum as per the number of boats registered. Whereas the local manufactures supply approximately 47% of the total demand, imported fishnets contribute to 40% of the total demand and balance 13% of the demand remains a supply gap not closed.

Suppliers of the Country

No	Name of Supplier	Place of Location
1	Northsea Ltd	Jaffna, Lunuwila, Weerawila
2	Malba International (Pvt.) Ltd	Ja-ela
3	Jafferjee Brothers International (Pvt.) Ltd	Colombo
4	Sadasarana (Pvt.) Ltd (I.P Fishnet)	Chillaw
5	NEFARD Foundation Ltd	Jaffna
6	Rajah Fishnet (Pvt) Ltd	Oomanthai
7	Lake FBS Pvt Ltd	Hambantota

Main Importers in the Country

No	Name of Importers
01	Lafeer & Sons
02	F.B.S. Lanka (Pvt) Ltd
03	J.P. Fernando & Sons

The Total Fishnet Production Capacity of the Factories

No	Description	Gurunagar	Lunuwila	Weerawila	Total
01.	Total production capacity – p. a (Mt.)	300	240	180	720



Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries, inspects the North Sea Fisheries Factory at Lunuwila



Discussion between the Minister of Fisheries, Hon. Douglas Devananda and the officials to increase the production efficiency of North Sea

Fixed Capital

Land and Building

The company owns the land in which the Lunuwila factory operates and the Weerawila and Jaffna factories operate on lands owned by other Government institutions of which details are as follows;

No.	Place	Place Area of Land (Perches)	Space of Building (q.ft.)	Remarks
01.	Gurunagar- (Jaffna)	350	16,220	Government institution
02.	Lunuwila- (Puttalam)	568	25,539	Own land
03.	Weerawila-(Hambantota)	137	15,000	Government institution-Paddy Marketing Board

Production and Operating Facilities

The factories are equipped with Netting, Twisting and Processing Machinery of which details are as follows;

No.	Description	Type of net Produced	Gurunagar	Lunuwila	Weerawila
<i>a</i>	<i>Netting Machinery</i>				
01.	Amita 6mm pitch	2-6 ply	01	-	-
02.	Amita 7mm pitch	2-9 ply	02	05	04
03.	Amita 9mm pitch	9-15 ply	01	01	01
04.	Amitech 7mm pitch	4-6 ply	-	-	02
05.	Amita 11mm pitch	12-24 ply	01	-	01
06.	Amita 14mm pitch	24-36 ply	01	03	-
	Total		06	09	08
	Total Annual production capacity		300Mt.	240Mt.	180Mt.

No.	Description	Type of net Produced	Gurunagar	Lunuwila	Weerawila
<i>b.</i>	<i>Twisting Machineries</i>				
01.	Lezzani	2-9 ply		02	
02.	Collins	15-27 ply		01	
03.	Amitech	12-36 ply		01	
04.	Jmw	15-60 ply	01	0	
	Jmw	2-9 ply	01	0	
	Total		02	04	
	Annual production capacity		200 Mt	120 Mt	
<i>c.</i>	<i>Processing Machinery</i>		Available	Available	Not Available

Production and Sales of Fishnets for the Year 2021

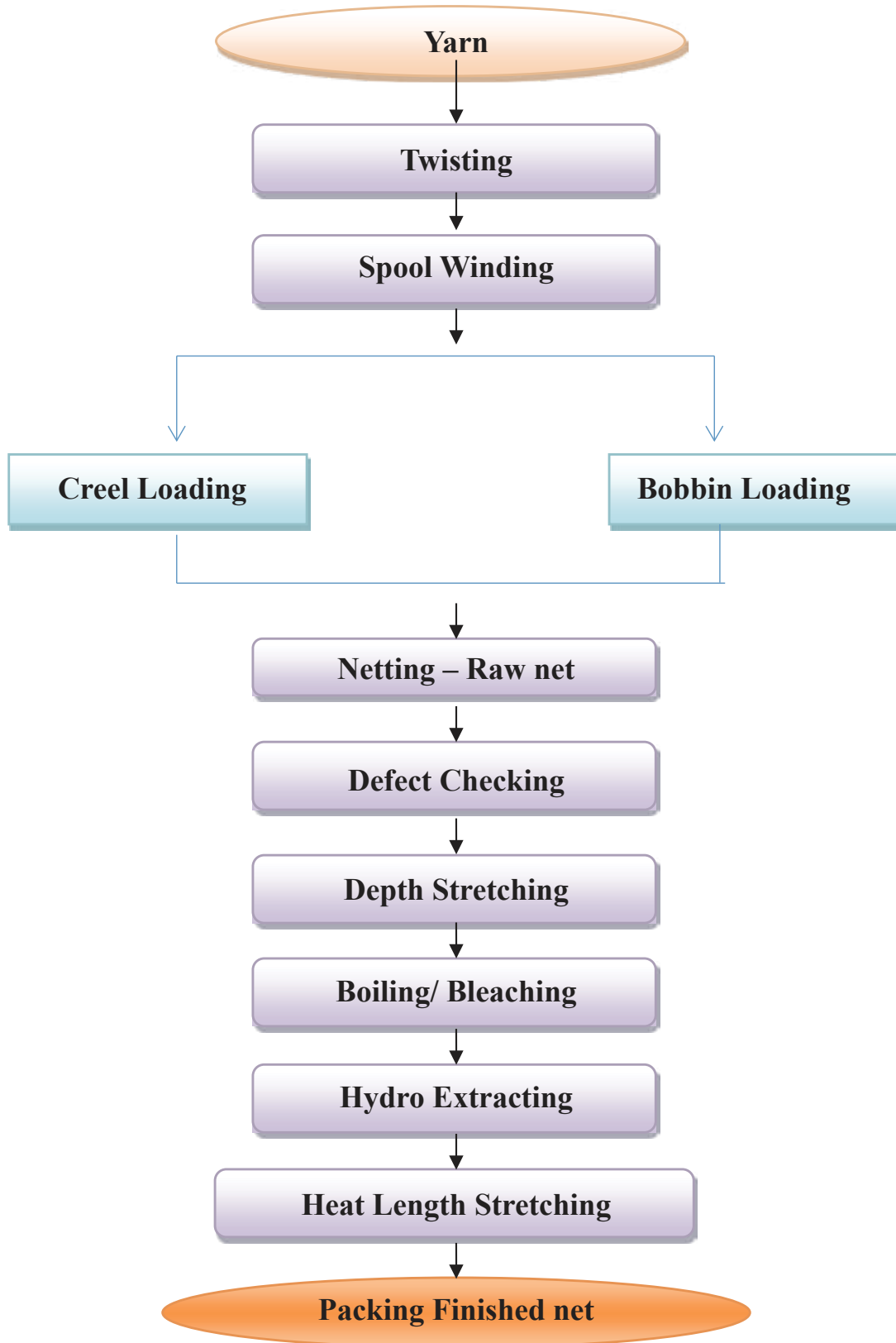
(2021 Jan - Sep)

Factory	Production (Mt.)		Sales (Rs.Mn.)	
	Targeted Production	Achieved Production	Targeted Sales	Achieved Sales
Gurunagar	135.00	55.26	180	61.94
Lunuwila	108.00	46.02	135	76.52
Weerawila	72.00	27.50	72	52.87
Total	315.00	128.78	387.00	191.33



Production Process

The factories and the technical staff have more than 30 years of experience in fishnet production. The typical production process is mentioned below.



Lunuwila Factory



Weerawila Factory



Jaffna Factory



PROJECT FOR 2016 – LUNUWILA

Net Machine Model MSB 9-50



Depth Stretch Machine, Dye Plant with hoist, Heat Length Stretching Machine, Centrifugal Separator



PROJECT FOR 2016 – JAFFNA
Net Machine Model MSB 7 – 60, Primary ring twisting machine



Cable ring twisting machine, Precision cross winder



PROJECT FOR 2017 – WEERAWILA



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Target Market share of the Company is 13.47% which would avail the fishing community of quality fish nets at reasonable prices, thereby enabling them to indulge in fishing activities and enhance their earnings capacity and sustainability.

The production and availability of fishnets could also increase the harvesting of fish and the production of associated fish products to satisfy the consumer requirements and enhance the welfare of the fishing community.

The manufacture of fishnets would enrich the lives of fishermen and enable them to earn the income necessary for their welfare by meeting the consumer needs, which in turn would contribute to the Country's economy in terms of National income, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross National Product (GNP).



04 The Projects Under Purview of the Ministry of Fisheries



Construction of Wellamankara Fisheries Harbour



1. Details of the projects
2. This project consists of following items
3. Construction of breakwater (567 m)
4. Construction of Groyne (125 m)
5. Construction of a passage (350 m)
6. Shore facilities
7. Construction of Fish Auction Hall, Net Processing Center, Restaurants, Sanitary Facilities Auction Hall, market complex, Staff Hostel, Office Accommodation and Water Tanks for Fisheries Inspector and Coast Guard.:
8. Commencement of the project: 2018.06.25
9. Expected to be finished : 2022.02.28
10. Project value : Rs Mn. 2,498
11. Financial progress :

Year	Financial progress Rs Mn	Expenditure Rs Mn
2018	500	342.95
2019	800	638.9
2020	719.8	709.13
2021 (as at 2021.08.31)	350	292.09

12. Physical progress

Physical progress of Vellamankara Fisheries Harbor Construction Project as at 31.08.2021 is 98.5%.



Construction of Gandara Fisheries Harbour



1. Project Details :

This project consists of the following items.

- Construction of breakwater (257 m)
- Platform construction (175.63, 221.12 and 127 m)
- Shore facilities

Construction of Fish Auction Hall, Net Processing Center, Restaurants, Sanitary Facilities, Shop Building, Staff Hostel, Fisheries Inspector and Coast Guard Offices, Accommodation, Pumping Stations, Garbage Collection, Weighing Station, Oil Supply and Water Tanks

2. Date of commencement: 2020.12.07

3. Expected to be finished: 2023.12.06

4. Project value: Rs mn. 9,360

5. Financial progress :

Year	Financial progress Rs Mn.	Financial progress Rs Mn.	Financial progress Rs Mn.
2020	408	202.48	
2021 (as at 2021.08.31)	1590	1,005.74**	An amount of Rs. 532 Mn. has been paid as an advance **

6. Physical progress:

The expected physical progress of the Gandara Fisheries Harbor Construction Project as at 31.08.2021 was 11% and its physical progress was 9%.



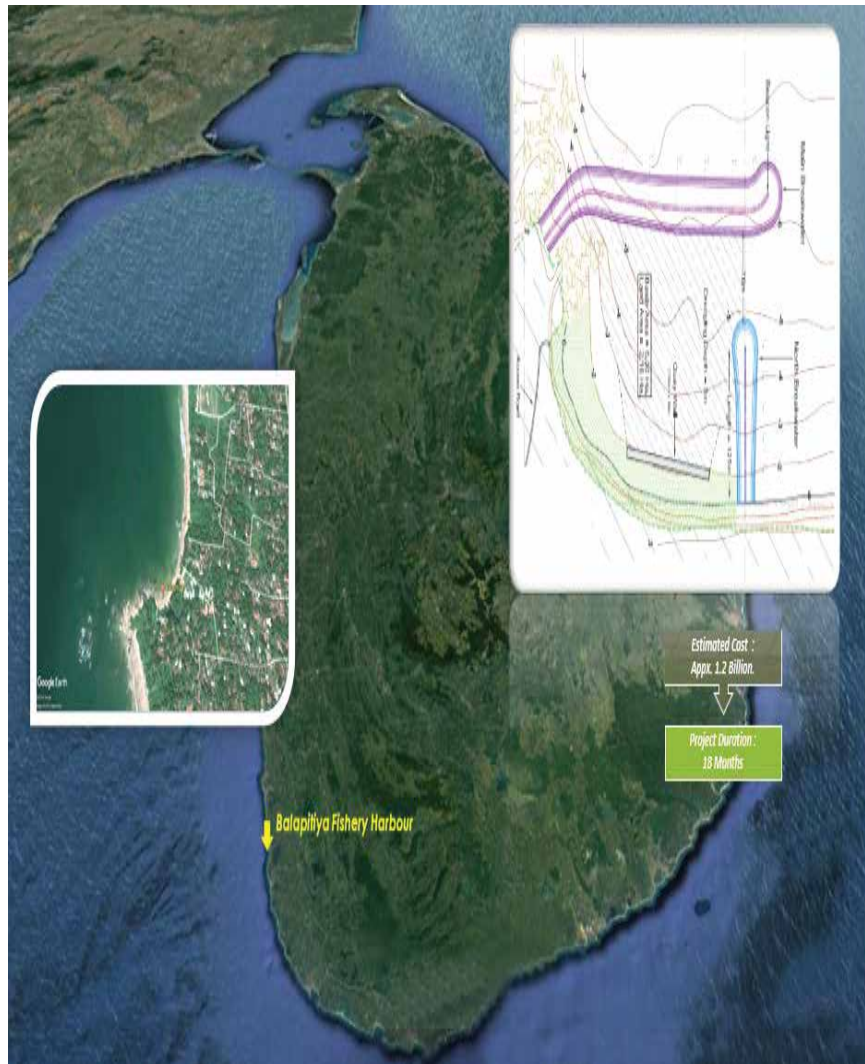
Construction of the Kalametiya Fisheries Harbour

Construction of Kalametiya Fisheries Harbor commenced on 14.07.2014 and the physical progress of this project was 100%. The initial value of this project was Rs. 1,280.79



Procurement work has been commenced on the work required for the operation of this fishing harbor which is not in the original contract.

Construction of the Balapitiya Fisheries Harbour



1. Project details :

This project consists of following items.

Construction of breakwater (418 m) Construction of breakwater (North) (125 m)
platform construction (125 m)
Shore facilities

Construction of Fish Auction Hall, Net Processing Center, Restaurants, Sanitary Facilities
Auction Hall, Shop Building, Staff Hostel, Office Accommodation and Water Tanks for Fisheries
Inspectors and Coast Guard

2. Project value : Rs Mn. 1,200

3. Progress : Procurement has been completed. The construction permit will be obtained after the approval for the EIA report.

Development of Negambo Lagoon

Project details:

The project will be implemented in three phases. 7 active packages under Phase I. The total cost for the 7 packages of Phase I of the project is Rs. 1,000Mn,

1. Package I - Lagoon development in Lellama area, excavation of the basin under Package I at the Lellama site had been commenced on 14.05.2016 and the project was completed on 14.02.2017.
2. Package II - Development of the lagoon in the area near the court complex

Excavation of the lagoon near the court complex under Package II commenced on 01.08.2017 and the project had been completed on 14.02.2017.



3. Package III – Development of the lagoon near Queen Road under Package III commenced on 20.07.2018 and at present the physical progress of the lagoon is 90%.

a) Reasons for the delay

Cases have been filed under Section 20 (1) since During the implementation of Phase 3 of the project, Removal of lagoon silt and keeping it within the project boundary area until it dries up, causing damage to the mangrove environment.

The lagoons will be reopened after the Negombo Police provide proper security after removing the silt and depositing slit with in the project boundary until it dries up to make soil.

4. Package IV - Lagoon development in Lellama area

Excavation of the sink under Package IV at the Lellama work site commenced on 26.03.2019 and at present the physical progress of the lagoon is 100%.



5. Package V - Construction of jetty in Lellama area

The 155 m wide 265 m long jetty will be constructed under Package V. Procurement is currently underway to select a contractor.

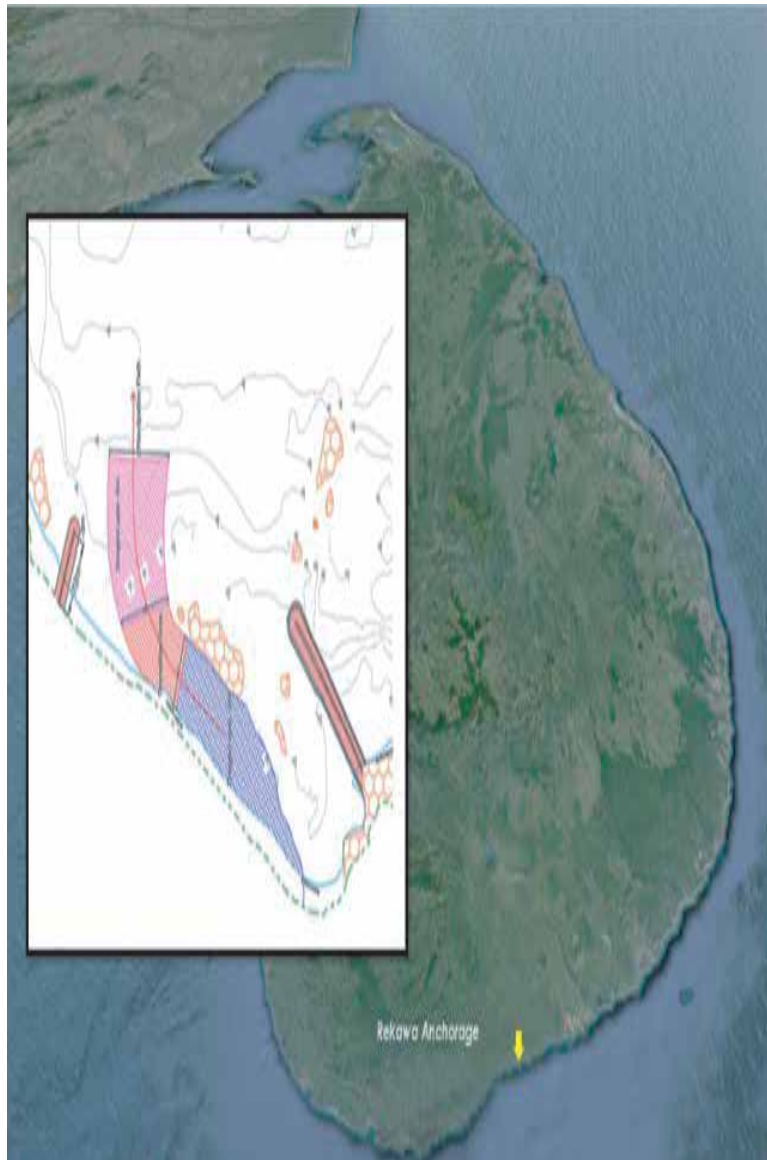


6. Package VI - Construction of jetty in the area near the court complex

The 15 m wide 145 m long jetty will be constructed under Package VI. Plans have now been finalized and the bidding document is being prepared for the bid.



Construction of Rakawa Anchorage



1. Project Description:
Construction of 300m long breakwater and construction of erosion dam (Groyne)
2. Commencement of the project: 2020.10.20
3. Project Completion (Expected): 2022.01.31
4. Project Value: Rs. 380
5. Financial progress of the project:

Year	Financial Provisions	Expenditure Rs Mn
2020	81.5	65.42
2021 (as at 2021.08.31)	200	97.16

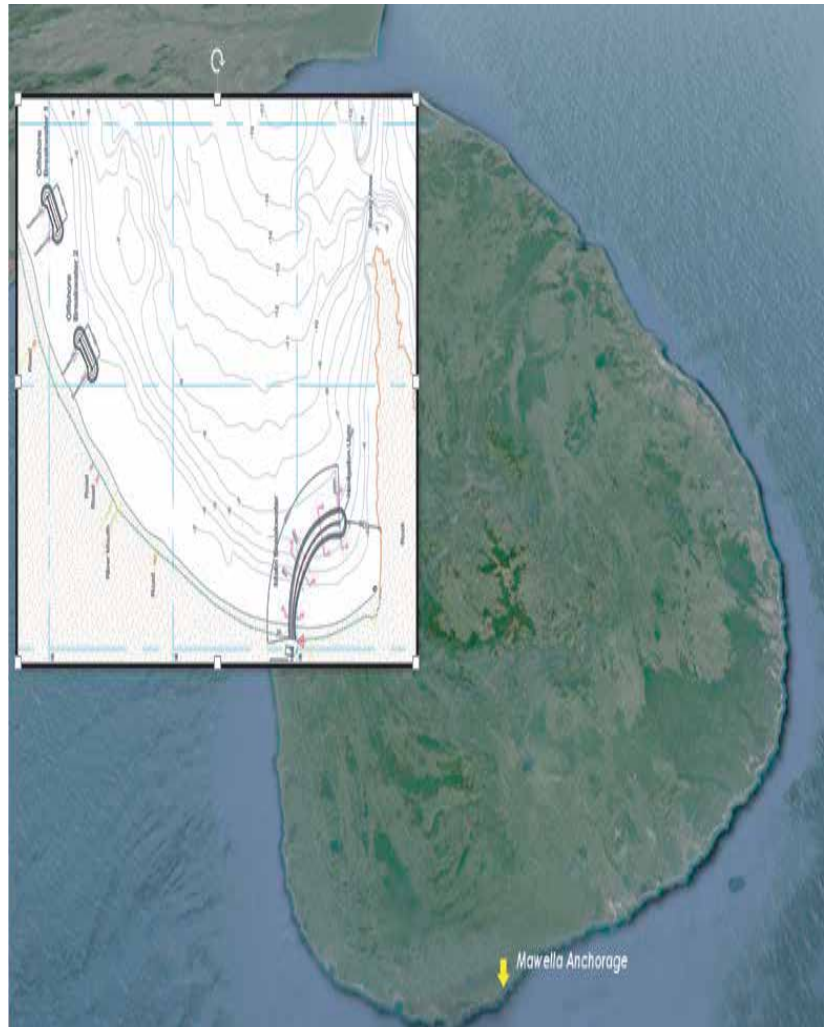
6. Physical progress :

Physical progress of the construction of Rekawa Anchorage project as at 31.08.2021 is 56%.



Construction of Mawella Anchorage

1. Project Description:
 2. Construction of 260 m long breakwater and construction of 2 coastal breakwater
 3. Commencement date: 2020.10.20
 4. Project Completion (Expected): 2022.03.22
 5. Project Value: Rs. 379.8
- Financial progress of the project:



Year	Financial Provision Rs Mn.	Expenditure Rs Mn
2020	80.5	30.1
2021	200	48

6. Physical progress :

The expected physical progress of the Mawella anchorage construction project was 55% and physical progress was 19%.



Proposed Projects to be Implemented in the Future

FISHERY HARBOURS IN SRI LANKA

Legend -

Fishery Harbours

-  Existing
-  Under Construction
-  Proposed



Project		District	Estimated expenditure Rs Bn	Present status
1.	Construction of Gurunagar fisheries harbour	Jaffna	6.1	Coastal detailed plans have been completed.
2.	Construction of Pesalai fisheries harbour	Mannar	6.0	Detailed plans have been completed.
3.	Construction of Puduwakaddu fisheries harbour	Trincomalee	3.1	The project proposal has been forwarded to the Department of National Planning for approval
4.	Construction of Palachchenai fisheries harbour	Batticaloa	4.1	The project proposal has been forwarded to the Department of National Planning for approval
5.	Development of Galle, Beruwala, Puranawella and Kudawella fishing harbors with the assistance of the French Government aid	Galle Kalutara Matara Hambantota	23.5	Detailed plans are being prepared
6.	Northern Province Sustainable Fisheries Development Project	Jaffna Mannar Mullativu Kilinochchi	32.0	Detailed plans have been completed.



Towards an eco-friendly and sustainable development of the maritime industries through the Green Port Concept ...