

Kodaldhowa Fishery Cooperative Society

Kodaldhowa Fishery Cooperative Society, formerly known as the Kodaldhowa Maspala (Fishery) Somobai Somity located at Kodalhawa, West Garo Hills was first formed as a village initiative to clean up an abandoned pond that had become an unhygienic place that encouraged mosquito breeding.



The old abandoned *beel* (water tank) was fourteen bighas and eight lessas in measurement. Grass and weeds covered the *beel*. This made habitat of its adjacent areas almost impossible, with unhygienic conditions. In 1955, the villagers of Kodaldhowa decided to clear the tank and put the *beel* to good use. It was decided that a fishery venture be started at the *beel*, and benefits out of this joint effort be shared. A unanimous agreement that they

organise themselves into a fishery society in the fold of cooperative sector was made. They then appealed to the Garo Hills District Council, in 1956, to lease the land to the co-operative so that this purpose would be served, and the natural wealth and property of the land be saved. Members were keen and everyone was ready to contribute physical labour and mental effort towards the achievement of their goal. The Kodaldhowa Maspala Somobhai Somity was registered in 1957.



Profits from the pond have been slow as fish is a highly perishable commodity and the co-operative was not equipped with proper marketing and storage facilities; each year, members have to sell the fish at the will of middlemen. This past year, however, they garnered significant profit from participating in a bidding auction to whole-sellers. More recently, the co-operative has diversified its business into areca nut. Four men are employed with salary. Every year since 1990, the co-operative contributes Rs.5000 to the sole school in the village as support.

Name : Kodaldhowa Mashpala Fishery Cooperative Society Ltd.
Kodaldhowa, West Garo Hills

Year of Formation: 1956

Membership :

Male	Female	Total
41	11	52

Chairman : Shri. K. R. Hajong

Secretary : Shri. S. R. Hajong

Total Share Capital: ₹ 7,70,440

Business Turnover: ₹ 3,18,370

Working Result: ₹ 2,97,651