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INTERVIEW WITH M. KRISHNAN (Son of a former Pearl-Diver residing at Therespuram, Tuticorin) on 27-3-'96.

1. Did the elders who went for pearl-fishing send their children to school or kept with them to assist in pearl-fishing?
2. Have you ever accompanied your father for pearl-fishing?
3. How were the divers dressed while they went for pearl-diving?
4. How did the divers practice holding breath for a long period under the sea?
5. How will you locate the spot in the sea where you can find oysters?
6. Was he successful in getting oysters with ripe pearls at each diving?
7. Have your father shared any unforgettable incident while he went for pearl-diving?
8. What is the main reason according to you for the decline of pearl-diving?
9. Do you feel that using motor boats is the reason for the decline?
10. Is there any possibility to revive pearl-fishing?
11. How far your social status has been affected by the total disappearance of pearl-diving?
12. What is the present occupation of your people?
13. Are you contented with your present occupation ?.

14. Do you receive any monetary help or assistance from the government to pursue an alternative job or occupation ?.

15. Tell me something about your social customs ?.