

Awareness status of Fishermen in Maheshwar tehsil, Dist. Khargone, India

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Abstract

Found that distribution of total fisherfolks 290 and the number of fisherfolk household highest in Maheshwar and Mandleshwar respectively and minimum in Jalkoti still the fishermen are using traditional methods of fishing i.e. Riverine fishing, but the things now changed from flowing lotic water. This study was done to assess fundamental status of fishermen during the year from Jan- 2012 to Dec. 2012 and the result found that data of fishermen population involved in fishing and the total population of the villagers in the Maheshwar tehsil of Khargone district, ranges from Jalkoti to Katargaon and it was to stagnant lantic water source. Fishermen generally come under low socio-economic stratum of society and their profession regarding as cheapest mean of all trades of profession. Because they are lacking of real fisheries training. Thus they require basic course through scientific techniques and their utilization and conservation of water resources. Thus to create a general awareness in fisheries potential in regards of resource conservation and utilization farming system, processing and product development.

Keywords: Annual income, Fishermen's education, Livelihood status..

Introduction

Madhya Pradesh is the heart state of India also known as central state of India is established in year 1956 surrounded by five states and having oldest mountain Vindhyaachal and Satpura. Especially Vindhyaachal is extending from Amarkantak in the

east and Gujarat in West and Satpura in ranging parallel to Vindhyaachal.

The only big river of M.P. i.e. Narmada which flows through west and is arising from Amarkantak and finally reaching up to sea shore at Gujarat.

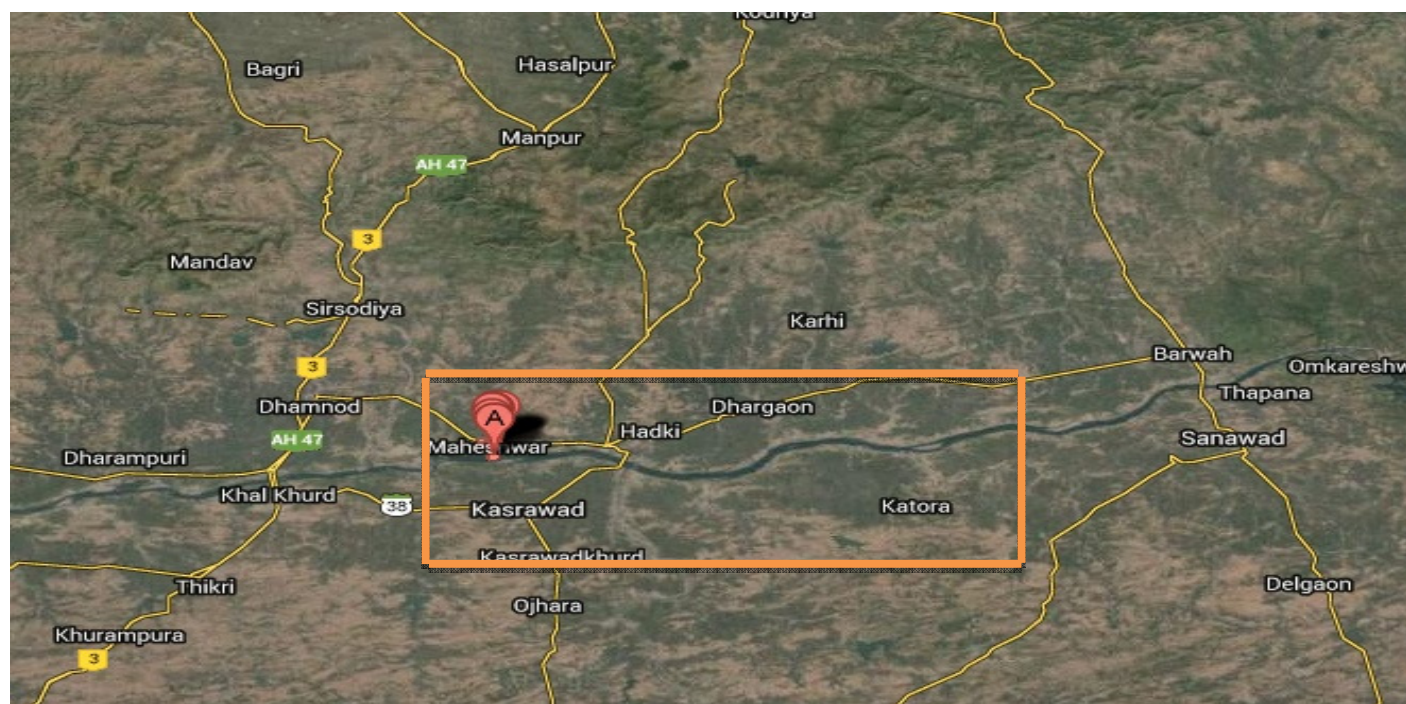


Figure-1
Satellite map of Maheshwar Tehsil District Khargone

The Narmada river is major and vital source of earning of people residing along its banks. Besides this river is a very good source and shelter of large number of aquatic animals. Fishermen house-hold means a unit of residence in which the major and only source of income, is fishing and related activities and living under the same group. While fisher folk means everybody living in the fishermen households irrespective of their occupation.

In year 1984 and 2003 Claims on his paper Hilisha fishery discussed importance of this fish in relation with major rational for fishery socio-economical analysis is realization the development economic policies in fisheries and understanding of various problem face by fishermen and the condition in which fishermen work, the nature of resource base and the likely effect of development projects and program¹⁻².

In year 2001 has described of using castnet and gillnet for catching fish in Narmada river and its socio- economic effect on local fishermen community. Though at selected place experimental netting was performed by using gill net and cast nets³.

Fishermen are the base line of fishery industry and their economic problem, method of production, purchase of domestic and production requisites, provision of credit and sale of their product must be under consideration, due to poverty. Illiteracy of fishermen they used to exploited by middle man through whom their catch is sold. Thus fisherman are bound to sale their catch to middleman who are rich.

Fishermen gets poor returns of their catch and thus they are invariably under debt. Thus the present study was carried out to

assess livelihood status and constraint faced by fishermen of Maheshwar tehsil.

Material and Methods

In present study 11 station were selected at the bank of river Narmada, Jalkoti, Maheshwar, Mandleshwar, Jalud, Pathrad, Sulgaon, Pitamli, Tejgaon, Behgaon, Kavdia, Sitoka, Mogawan, Bhampura, Gangatkhedhi, Utavli, Dagdi, Bardiasuta in stretch of 16 km. The study period was one year from July 2012 to June 2013.

The study was based on the data collected mainly from primary sources through personal interview using comprehensive and pre-tested schedules. Fishermen occupational features are classified in to fishing, fishing related otheractivities. Analysis was also carried out to determine the differences in fishing income and market returns etc.

Results and Discussion

In present discussion we have covered 16 km total length of Narmada river and taken out data of fishermen population and total population of villagers are in study. We found that population distribution of total fisherfolk was 310 and highest number of fisherfolk household was noted in village Mandleshwar and Maheshwar 82 respectively and lowest in 21 in Jalkoti. Total number of villagers population was 82867. Total numbers of fishermen survey is displayed in given table-1.

We also study the basic education through school and found that primary school and Aganwadi education was familier for 37% population at the age of 5 years are enrolled in primary school, primary schools are easily approachable to villagers and their numbers are 11.

Table-1
Population Showing Fishermen's Income Education, Production and Annual

S.No.	Village	Education level			Fishermen population			Fish catch / day in k.g.	Market cost of fish approx [45Rs.]	Annual Income of fishermen	Annual Income of per fishermen
		Illiterate	Primary	Middle	Male	Female	Total				
1	Jalkoti	10	16	5	15	16	31	12	540	194400	12960
2	Maheshwar	30	42	41	62	51	113	48	2160	777600	12542
3	Mandleshwar	31	47	22	51	49	100	47	2115	761400	14929
4	Jalud	13	14	6	17	16	33	8	360	129600	7624
5	Pathrad	11	9	2	11	11	22	10	450	162000	14727
6	Sulgaon	13	9	5	13	14	27	10	450	162000	12462
7	Pitamli	9	8	2	9	10	19	9	405	145800	16200
8	Behagaon	6	5	00	6	5	11	6	270	97200	16200
9	Kawadi	10	8	2	11	9	20	8	360	129600	11782
10	Bardiya	13	7	6	13	13	26	7	315	113400	8723
11	Sitoka	9	7	1	9	8	17	9	405	145800	16200

Present study we also taken out the income distribution among fishermen household by taking out their household income. Surprisingly we found that majority of fishermen had annual income of Rs.13123 or below, while in the six plan [1978-79] total annual income below 15 thousands per annum was taken under poverty line. Thus we found that majority of fishermen are below poverty line.

In comparison to the above the C.I.F.R.I. unit Hoshangabad during their survey (1958-66) covered 800 km of the river in M.P. nearly 285 villages were covered in their survey only 2600 fishermen were reported to be actively engaged in fishing throughout the year. According C.I.F.R.I. in 1958-66 active fishermen population is 3.2 fishermen/ km. whereas according to the fisheries department, it is 6.1 km in 1967- 71 period⁴.

According to the IIMA (1983) the fisherman in general, belong to the weaker section of the society. They are socially, economically and educationally backward. In view of the fishing intensity and population per kilometer, where in they hardly get 2 to 3 kg. fish per day per head, their income is fairly low and they live much below the poverty line. The community as a whole is still under the clutches of money- lenders and fishing contractors. The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad during their survey (1983 Vol.1) has observed that the average income of fishermen from fish business was found to be Rs. 1008/- and over all income is Rs.1302/- per year. Both of them were found to be lowest in the country⁵.

In year 1987 reported net profit to the sum of Rs. 64,461 by fish farmers of village Nussasan (Puri district in Orissa)⁶.

In year 1987 reported that maximum fishermen of Mandya district (Karnataka) fall in the annual income group of Rs. 2,000 to 5,000⁷.

In year 1991 studied that tribes aquaculture technology for fishermen employment generation⁸.

In year 1990 stated that the fish production increased with increase of number of fishermen engaged in fishing. They conclude that the fish production from the natural water bodies could be increase by proper utilization of manpower and material for fishing⁹.

In year 2003 discuss about poverty status of fishermen and observed that maximum fisher folk belong to below poverty line with large debts. Living in huts without having own property¹⁰.

In year 2012 the socio-economic study showed that the average income and literacy rate of fishermen was less than the average national income and literacy of India¹¹.

In year 2012 study was conducted to determine the pattern of income distribution especially in relation with fishermen household income. In the year 2005-2006 it was found that

majority of fishermen more than 95% having annual income less than 12444 and as comparing with poverty line annual income which is 15000 per annum during six plan at 1978-79, thus study sure that majority of fishermen are living below poverty line¹².

Conclusion

Thus we noted through above discussion that fishermen belonging to low socio-economy group of society and fishing is invariably regarded as one of the cheapest means of trade. Because of their ignorance regarding formal fishery education. They need vocational training courses with scientific techniques for better exploitation and conservation of aquatic reservoirs. Thus they need to improve themselves for self generating renewable resource of their livelihood.

Thus present demand is improvement in fresh water fishing crafts because fishing is still lagging behind due to conservation of the old fashioned ideas and in remote areas inland waters are still not exploited due to lack of civilization and education.

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