CONSTRAINTS ANALYSIS OF INLAND FISHERS IN THENI ARRONDISSEMENT, TAMIL NADU

Marimuthu R[1*], Rajakumar M[1] and Kalidoss Radhakrishnan[2]

[1]Fisheries Collage and Research Institute, Thoothukudi, India – 628 008
[2] Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, India – 400 061

ABSTRACT

The present study, an attempt has been made to evaluate the constraint including socio-economic, employment and marketing faced by fishers of inland capture fisheries in Theni, Tamil Nadu. The samples were collected by adopting two stages random sampling method through predesigned interview schedule and these were analyzed by Henry Garrett technique. The results showed school dropout was the primary constraints (Garrett score of 51.96%) under social economic, low wage in employment (Garrett score of 52%) underemployment and lack of market cooperative (Garrett score of 51.96%) under marketing constraints. Income of fishers and employment rate could be raised by fisheries promotional activities like seed stocking, adopting culture practices. Marketing constraints can be overcome by cooperative society and organized fish marketing methods. These measures may assist to uphold the economic and social status of inland fishers of this province.

Key words - Market, employment, inland fisheries, constraints

Introduction:

Inland fisheries play an imperative role in providing nutritional food to fast growing world population despite the stagnation of marine fish landing. It's mainly sourced from the lake, rivers, reservoirs, streams, etc. The major landing has been noticed in the lake when to compare to other waterbodies. Reservoir culture-based capture fisheries have to act a source of income for traditional fishers[8]. Household's usury transaction. Most of the studies were concluded because the inland fishers were having socioeconomic condition[9]. Age is the most influencing factor of

the economic condition of the households. The potential of the water productivity is gradually decreased due to increasing pollution[7]. The historical studies concluded that, the constraint varies with demographic area, the fishing potential of the water bodies, existing facilities. Despite, it varied from the fishing activities to marketing of fish[4]. No studies were focused the inland capture fisheries, therefore, to find out the constraint index in inland capture fisheries, the present study was carried out in Theni district, Tamil Nadu.

1. Materials and methods

The present study was conducted to estimate constraints of inland fishermen in Theni province, Tamil Nadu for September 2014 to May 2015. This study was accompanied in fishing villages of Theni district such as Andipatti, Bodi, Cumbum, Kullapuram, Periyakulam, Theni, and Vaigai. A total of 140 respondents were used in this study to collect the requisite data of socio-economic, employment and marketing by adopting two-stage random sampling. The Henry Garrett (Garrett, 1952) ranking analytical technique was used[2].

Percentage position = 100 (R_{ij} – 0.5) / N_j

Where

R_{ij} = rank given for i[th] item individual

N_j = Number of items ranked by j[th] individual

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Socio economic constraints

Table 1. Socio economic constraints (N=140)

Sl.no	Constraints	Garrett score	Rank
1.	Joint family	50.07	II
2.	Dowry	49.9	III
3.	Difficulties in arranging marriage	49.8	IV
4.	School drop out	51.96	I
5.	Health	48.06	VII
6.	Debt	48.18	VI
7.	Lack of co-ordination and helping the family members	49.03	V

The socioeconomic constraints of the respondents are presented in table 1. It showed that, school dropout was the major constraints with Garrett score of 51.96% followed by joint family 50.07%, dowry 49.9%, pinch in arranging marriage 49.8%, lack of co-ordination and helping the family members 49.03%, debt 48.18%, and health 48.06 %. Socio-economic conditions of fishers were influenced by fish catch, which able to clear the pinches in inland fishing activities at West Bengal[4].

2.2.   Employment related constraints

Table 2 shows employment constraints which faced by fishers. Out of six constraints, the low wage has bagged first place with Garrett score of 52%. The partial employment (Garrett score 50.17%), no insurance (Garrett score 50%), underemployment (Garrett score 50%), long work hours (Garrett score 49%), and no safety / high risk (Garrett score 49%) were subsequent concerns. The socio-economic status of the local fishermen of Mokash beel of Kaliakoir Upazila in Gazipur district was evaluated; the extortion by the local extortionist was identified as a major problem, then inadequate credit facility, presence of aquatic vegetation, lack of skill fishermen, lack of appropriate gears and disturbances by dacoits, thieves [11]

Table 2. Employment constraints of the fishermen respondents (N=140)

Sl.no	Constraints	Garrett score	Rank
1.	Partial employment	50.17	II
2.	Underemployment	50	IV
3.	Low wage	52	I
4.	Long work hours	49	V
5.	No safety / high risk	49	VI
6.	No insurance coverage	50	III

2.3.   Marketing constraints

The significant marketing constraints of fishermen respondents are furnished in table 3. The lack of market cooperatives was the prime constraints with Garrett mean score of 51.96%. This may be attributed due to lack of facilities for marketing as they obtain reasonable and adequate price. The market fluctuation was ranked the second place [6]. A cooperative society is the most efficient way to promote the livelihood and improve the social status in particular handling, processing and marketing[13]. The lack of transportation facility reported as second important constraints with

Garrett score 51.51% followed by lack of government intervention in the price determination (Garrett score 51.43%). Fisheries and Livelihoods in Tungabhadra basin, India was studied and found that local traders have sold fishes through the single outlet and not organized. It leads to higher price fluctuation[5]. The fluctuation of fish prices has very high due to its nature of uncertain production, perishable and variation in short run supply in Bhopal fish marketing[1]. Therefore, lack of regulated markets accounted fourth place in under market constraints with Garrett score 51.36%. In Nigeria, fish farmers livelihood and poverty status were examined, about 13% of the respondent had fish spoilage problems includes transportation, marketing, and preservation[6]. But in present study lack of transportation ranked second with a mean score of 51.51%, inadequate of ice ranked sixth (49.96%) and lack of cold storage facility ranked seventh (49.61%). No proper storage facilities in the inland fish landing centres5 and inland fisheries have suffered the vagaries of poor policy, poor management, depletion of resources, poor economic and market infrastructure, which constitute a serious impediment to the development of the sector making it less productive[12].

Table 3. Marketing constraints of the fishermen respondents (N=140)

Slo.no	Constraints	Mean score	Rank
1.	Lack of government intervention in the price determination	51.43	III
2.	Lack of market cooperatives	51.96	I
3.	Inadequacy of ice	49.96	VI
4.	Lack of cold storage facility	49.61	VII
5.	Lack of transportation facility	51.51	II
6.	Lack of regulated markets	51.36	IV
7.	Inability to carry to a long distance	50.16	V

3. Conclusion

This paper presents the constraints which faced by inland fishers in Theni province, Tamil Nadu. The sampled respondent was had the two major constraints low wage and partial employment, due to the irregular availability of fish catch from the wild. It can be overcome through enhancement activities including seed stocking, promote the culture practices which would yield higher income and employment. Lack of marketing cooperative society, price fluctuations was observed beneath marketing constraints. Indeed of, fishers expecting a good marketing

cooperative society to sell the fishes with reasonable prices. All these measures uphold the life the inland fishers.

4. Acknowledgement

5. References

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