



SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF FISHERMEN OF KALAMNURI RESERVOIR, HINGOLI DISTRICT MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT :

The Kalamnuri reservoir is small sized reservoir of about 134 ha area, constructed near Puyana village Tq. Kalamnuri Dist. Hingoli in 1963. The Kalamnuri reservoir lies in between 19°-18' N latitude and 77°-17'E longitude. The present work was mainly undertaken to investigate Socio-economic Status of Fisher communities, Caste and tribe and their population, Involvement of fisherwomen in fishing, Housing, Educational status, Modern facilities, Wages and Income. The present work was mainly undertaken to investigate Socio-economic status of Kalamnuri reservoir for a period of 2 years during June 2010 to May 2012 and it is first effort in this direction from this reservoir.

KEYWORDS : Reservoir fishery, Socio-economic status, Kalamnuri reservoir.

INTRODUCTION

India's inland resources are important source of food and provides employment to sizeable sections of the society in rural area. The kalamnuri reservoir is small sized reservoir of about 134 ha area, constructed near Puyana village Tq. Kalamnuri Dist. Hingoli in 1963. The Kalamnuri reservoir lies in between 19°-18' N latitude and 77°-17'E longitude. The present work was mainly undertaken to investigate various aspects of Kalamnuri reservoir like Fisher communities, Caste and tribe and their population, Involvement of fisherwomen in fishing, Housing, Educational status, Modern facilities, Wages and Income. The present work was mainly undertaken to investigate Socio-economic Status of Kalamnuri reservoir for a period of 2 years during Jun 2010 to May 2012. On Kalamnuri Reservoir, Dongargoanpool Fish Co-operative society, Dongargoanpool Tq. Kalamnuri Dist. Hingoli was working on this reservoir having 55 members belongs to Caste Andh, Bhoi, and Muslim. The Bhoi caste members were 38, Muslim caste members were 14 and Andh Caste members were 03. It was firstly reported that during study period only 10-14 active fishermen of the fish co-operative society belonging to village Dongargaonpool and town Kalamnuri were involved in fish catch.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

For the study of Socio-economic Status of Fisher communities of Kalamnuri reservoir, the data was collected by the survey to visit the, fisher communities on the reservoir. The data on Fisher communities, Caste and tribe and their population, Involvement of fisherwomen in fishing, Housing, Educational status, Modern facilities, Wages and Income. was collected by questionnaires and photography from active fisherman during Jun 2010 to May 2012 and the data was analyzed.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Dongergaonpool fish co-operative society was working on Kalamnuri reservoir since 1974. During the period (1974-2010), the Fish Co-operative Society members were increased up to 55. The Fish Co-

operative Society belongs to Caste Andh 3 members, Caste Bhoi 38 members, and Caste Muslim 14 members. The fish catch obtained from Kalamnuri reservoir was marketed by the fishermen of Dongergaonpool fish co-operative society into the Kalamnuri fish market and the huge catch of dried weed fishes and small sized fishes to the Wholesaler on the reservoir itself.

It was observed in Kalamnuri reservoir fish market system that, 04 to 05 groups of fishermen having 2-3 member fishermen of the fish co-operative society in each group had made tie-up or agreement with 04 different fish retailers for fish sale. i.e. whatever the fish catch harvested in a day by a particular group of fishermen was marketed to the fixed fish retailer on the site of reservoir on credit basis. These retailers collect the harvested fish catch between 10.30 am to 11.30.am. During the study period, it was observed that out of 04 fish retailers 03 were the members of the working fish co-operative society of Kalamnuri reservoir and was involved only in fish marketing process and not in fish harvesting.

a. Fishermen caste and tribe and their population:

The members of the Dongergaonpool fish co-operative society working on Kalamnuri reservoir belongs to village Dongergaonpool and Kalamnuri. 25 Bhoi caste fishermen belongs to village Dongergaonpool and 03 Andh caste fishermen, 13 Bhoi caste fishermen and 14 Muslim caste fishermen belongs to town Kalamnuri. During study period only 10-14 active fishermen of the fish co-operative society belonging to village Dongergaonpool and town Kalamnuri were involved in fish catch.

Table 1 Distribution of active fishermen according to age group of Kalamnuri

Sr. No	Age group	Fishermen number	Percentage
1	21-30	02	14.28%
2	31-40	08	57.14%
3	41-50	02	14.28%
4	51-60	02	14.28%

Table 2 Caste wise details of active fishermen of kalamnuri reservoir

Sr.No	Caste	Total	Percentage
1	Andh	01	07.20 %
2	Bhoi	06	42.80 %
3	Muslim	07	50.00 %

b. Involvement of fisherwomen in fishing:

As on Kalamnuri reservoir all fishermen involved in fishing and there was no remarkable involvement of fisherwomen found in fishing and fish marketing in kalamnuri reservoir fishery.

c. Housing:

The active fishermen involved in fishing belong to village Dongergaonpool and Kalamnuri. The house of fishermen present in Dongergaonpool and Kalamnuri are small sized and made up of stone bricks and clay where as few fishermen houses were hut like structure. The fishermen belongs to village Dongergaonpool daily comes to reservoir by bus where as fishermen of Kalamnuri comes on bicycle or by walking to kalamnuri reservoir. There was no any permanent house or hut is constructed by the fishermen around the reservoir. However, in the peak fishing period (December to March) a temporary shade was constructed to take rest at afternoon.

d. Educational status and educational facilities:

During the study period it was observed that most of members of the society were moved away from fishing process and involved in other works like labor work, brick construction, farm working as an of

the main reason to provide educational facilities to their children. The educational facilities for education are present at village Dongergaonpool as well as at town Kalamnuri.

It was found that out of 14 Active fishermen 13 fishermen were literate, able to read and write where as only one fishermen was illiterate. In the literate 13 fishermen 10 fishermen have taken the education up to 6th class, 2 fishermen were educated up to 10th class and only one fishermen was educated up to 12th class.

The educational status of fishermen of caste Bhoi, Andh and Muslim is very worst. All the fishermen were illiterate. The male Childs of fisher community were going to school but the fisher community of Kalamnuri reservoir has no any positive attitude towards the female child education.

e. Fishing license:

The main objectives of the fishermen's fish co-operative society was collect the tender cost amount and fish seed purchase amount and transport amount. The Dongergaonpool fish co-operative society charges Rs 1000/year as license fees for fishing in Kalamnuri reservoir to the society member or non member fishermen. This policy was launched due to financial problem of the co-operative society since from many years.

Only those members who were able to pay Rs 1000/year as fishing license fees towards the secretary of the society were allowed for fishing in the Kalamnuri reservoir..

f. Fishing wages and Income:

It was observed that the fulltime fishing activates were started after Dipwali festival i.e. from November up to may ending and 1 to ½ months in monsoon season. The active fishermen were allowed to sale their fish catch to the local fish merchant or middlemen. The fishermen of Kalamnuri reservoir sale their fish catch to 4 to 5 middle men or fish merchants on the site of reservoir at morning 10:30 am to 11:30 pm. There is a fix contract for fish purchase between a particular fishermen and a particular middlemen i.e. one middlemen purchase the catch of one or two particular fishermen and not of others Due to such type of contract there is assurance of fish sale on reservoir site to fishermen and there was very less fluctuation in fish price of purchase. The price fluctuation in observed according to the season i.e. in winter season fish sale and fish purchase price was high as compare to summer season and monsoon season.

The fish co-operative society collects fishing commission as Rs 5/kg from fishermen.

Table .3 Fish Sale price at the site of Kalamnuri reservoir.

Sr. No.	Fish catch	Fish Sale rate in Monsoon season	Fish Sale rate in Winter season	Fish Sale rate in Summer season
1	Fishes larger than 1kg	Rs 35-40/kg	Rs 45-45 /kg	Rs 35-40/kg
2	Fishes smaller than 1kg	Rs 30-35/kg	Rs 35-40/kg	Rs 30-35/kg

Source; Data collected in Interviews with fishermen of Kalamnuri reservoir

Table 4 Wages to active fishermen of Kalamnuri reservoir

Sr. No	Fish catch	Wages/income in Monsoon season	Wages/income in winter season	Wages/income in Summer season
1	Fishes larger than 1kg	Rs 30-35/kg	Rs 35-40 /kg	Rs 30-35/kg
2	Fishes smaller than 1kg	Rs 25-30/kg	Rs 30-35/kg	Rs 25-30/kg

Source; Data collected in Interviews with fishermen of Kalamnuri reservoir

g. income to Fishermen:

As every active fisherman are engaged in fishing for duration July to August and November to May of every year. The catch obtained in the month of July, August is abundant, and the fishes are of large size

ranges from 1 kg to 5 Kg Generally every fisherman gets a catch of 250 to 300 kg in monsoon season (July and August) where as 650 to 900 kg in winter season (November to May).

Table 5 Average Income of each fisherman of Kalamnuri reservoir.

Sr. No	Year	No of Fisher population	Total fish catch in Kg by fishermen	Average fish Sale amount in Rs	Weed fish sale in Rs	Average wages/income to per fishermen in Rs
1	2010-2011	10	11862	385515	12000	39751
2	2011-2012	14	12400	403000	13000	29714

Source; Data collected in Interviews with Secretary of the fish Co-operative society of Kalamnuri

h. Modern facilities

It was observed that only a single temporary open shade was present near the embankment of Kalamnuri reservoir to take rest during harvesting season. 1 to 2 fishermen having bicycle, used to transport the fish from reservoir to Kalamnuri fish market. 2 to 3 fisher were having mobile phone sets.

DISCUSSION: As productivity is concerned, Kalamnuri reservoir has good productivity , therefore there is wide scope for the development of the fishery sector in this reservoir and also be the best option for application of Pen-culture, Cage Culture methods. Kalamnuri reservoir was characteristically loaded with variety of weeds, located in all corners of the a numerous quantity of the filamentous algae on the bottom and the coastal rocks and stone reservoir. Naturally the Kalamnuri reservoir support the weed fish occurrence and establishment, hence, in the existing situation of flood water loss from the reservoir, along with the weed fishes, the new trend of catfish development, Murrel culture could be established through cage culture and pen culture practice as compared to current practice of IMC stocking which will definitely helpful in socio-economic upliftment of fisher community.

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Photo No. 1
Sun drying of Harvested Fish Catch contain weed fish in major at Kalamnuri Reservoir (Photo no. 1- 3)



Photo No. 2



Photo No. 3



Fishermen taking rest at afternoon in temporary shade during peak fishing at Kalamnuri Reservoir



Air filled rubber tubes Used as Crafts in Fish Harvesting in Kalamnuri Reservoir.

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