



## Socio Economic Conditions of Fishermen of Masoli Reservoir, in Gangakhed (Tq), Parbhani Dist., Maharashtra State, India

### KEYWORDS

co-operative society, fisherman community, socio-economic condition, Masoli Reservoir.

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**ABSTRACT** A profilistic study on the socio-economic status of the fishermen community of a masoli reservoir was conducted during 2003. A total sample of respondent was 35 families and head of the family was considered as respondent for collection of the data in addition to the head of the fisherman co-operative society. Pre-tested interview from fisherman community. The total 35 families of the village were surveyed during the study. The results reveal that total number of population of the fisher communities was 95; 45.26% (literate) and 54.73% (illiterate). Among the literate population, 53.48% have up to primary, 46.51% up to middle school. The people were in different services such as fishing (52.63%), farm work (26.31%), liability of work (1.05%), goat keeping (5.26%), poultry (5.26%), brick work (5.26%) labour work (1.05%) and as per availability of work (1.05%). again 100% people were lived in the kachhca house and (0 % or nil ) of pukka house , while per month income was found to be lowest (Rs. 500-1000) in the age of 20-30 and highest ( Rs. 1500-4000) in the age of 50-60 group. On further examination, it was found that smoking, betel-nut chewing and consumption of liquor were the common habits of adult fisherman community. The study indicated that the general socio-economic status of the adoption of improved fishing and fish farming methods and by improving education.

### INTRODUCTION:-

World fisheries production has increased in the last decades and has roughly crossed 1, 68, and 42,900 metric tons during 2005-06. India ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> among the fish producing countries of the world. Fisheries production has an important place in Indian economy. Contribution of fishery sector to gross domestic product (GDP) of India is about 1.38 percentage (Swain, 2007). India is also exhibited an increase in fish production in both marine and fresh water. The fish export from India is also rising.

The fishermen community responsible for exploiting the fishery resources is still a neglected community and 85% of the total population is below poverty line (BPL) (Sahu, 2000). The total inland fishermen population of India was estimated around 9 lakh people in 2007. There is dearth of systematic data on the socio-economic status of these fishermen population. It has been felt that there urgent need to carryout systematic study on fishermen population and formulation of schemes to help them to improve the overall status. Unlike marine fishermen, the inland fishermen population are scattered throughout the country and their dependence on fisheries varies. Hence local surveys made to be conducted to understand the extent of dependence on fisheries sand their by devising a policy approach to suit the local need.

The fishermen were classified into fulltime, part-time and occasional, depending on the number of fishing days they undertake in a year (Anon, 1982).

The study indicated that the general socio-economic status of the fishermen community could be improved by the adoption of improved fishing and fish farming methods and by imparting education. Hence, an attempt was made to conduct a study on the socio-economic status of the fishermen community of the village at the micro-level.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS:-

Pre tested interviewed schedule was used for the collection of local conditions. The data were collected directly from the fishermen families through personal discussions

and interviews regarding the various aspects of the socio-economic conditions like age composition, employment and occupational structure, habits, fishery intensity, income distribution and assets. Simple percentages were calculated and tabular analysis was made for arriving at the results.

The present study was undertaken in Gangakhed (TQ), the Masoli Reservoir is situated about 10 km's south of Gangakhed. The catchment area of reservoir is 277.81 sq. kms. In the year 2003. Covering a total fishermen population of 95, coming under 35 families. The Masoli reservoir is medium sized reservoir constructed on the Masoli River, near village Ised Taluka Gangakhed, Dist. Parbhani. The reservoir is constructed in 1982. Lies in between 18°54'10" N latitude, 76°45'0" E longitude.

### RESULT:-

Result of socio-economic status of fisher communities of Masoli reservoir in the present study were summarized in the table no-1. Total number of population of the fisher communities was 95, among these 47.36% were male and 52.63% were female. The results of the survey indicated that the literacy rate among the fishermen was poor. It has been found that about 45.26% of the fisher is literate and 54.73% of the total fishermen are illiterate.

Among the literate population, 53.48% have up to primary, 46.51% up to middle school. The people were in different services such as fishing (52.63%), farm work (26.31%), liability of work (1.05%), goat keeping (5.26%), poultry (5.26%), brick work (5.26%) labour work (1.05%) and as per availability of work (1.05%). again 100% people were lived in the kachhca house and (0 % or nil ) of pukka house , while per month income was found to be lowest (Rs. 500-1000) in the age of 20-30 and highest ( Rs. 1500-4000) in the age of 50-60 group. On further examination, it was found that smoking, betel-nut chewing and consumption of liquor were the common habits of adult fisherman community. The study indicated that the general socio-economic status of the adoption of improved fishing and fish farming methods and by improving education.

**Table 1: socio-economic status of fishermen community of Masoli reservoir.**

Sr no.	Parameters	Number	Percentage	
1	Population of fishermen community	95	47.36% male	
			52.63% female	
2	Type of house			
		Kachcha	35 (families)	100%
		Pukka	nil	0%
3	Educational status			
		Illiterate	52	54.73
		Literate	43	45.26
		Primary school	23	53.48%
		Middle school	20	46.51%
		High school	Nil	Nil
4	Main occupation			
		Fishing	50	52.63
		Farm work	25	26.31
		Goat keeping	05	5.26
		Poultry	05	5.26
		Brick work	05	5.26
		Construction labour	03	3.15
		Labour work	01	1.05
		All above (as per availability)	01	1.05
		5	Monthly income of the family with age distribution	Minimum (Rs.)
0 -10 years	0			
10-20 years	0			
20-30 years	500			1000
30-40 years	1500			3000
40-50 years	1500			4000
50-60 years	1500			4000
60-70 years	1500			4000

**Discussion:-**

The economic status of the people was fairly poor as they were not fully engaged in particular work especially in the business of fish, because of declining fish production due to many reasons. Most of the people were not aware of modern aquaculture techniques. They used traditional fishing methods. Therefore, urgent needs of scientific farming technique.

Although there is no coverage by any welfare programmes for traditional fishermen though there are some important programmes for the welfare of fishermen: (i) Group Accident Insurance Scheme for active fishermen, and (ii) Development of Model Fishermen Villages in some parts of

India. In this programmes fishermen could be insured for Rs-50000 in case of death or permanent disability and for Rs-25000 in case of partial disability. Under the programme of Development of Model Fishermen Villages in not included the surveyed village.

Fisheries are a sunrise sector of our economy. Its role in increasing food supply, generation job opportunities, raising nutritional level and earning foreign exchange has been important. Fisheries and aquaculture emerged as the important commercial activity from its traditional role as subsistence supplementary.

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