



SOCIO ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS FACED BY FISH VENDORS IN KANNIYAKUMARI DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Fishing is the oldest and very important livelihood option for the inhabitants of the coastal line of the country from time immemorial. It were traditionally and solely developed by the fisheries community over centuries. The socio –economic conditions of the coastal village are pathetic when compared to other traditional occupation. The main objectives of this paper study To exhibit the Demographic profile of the fish vendors in kanniyakumari district.Toanalyse the socio economic constraints faced by the fish vendors in kanniyakumari District.The economic constraint indicate the problems encountered by the respondents related to finance in fish vending. The social constraints faced by the respondents in the present study are drawn from the above said reviews. These are confined to Exploitation, discrimination, health and safety issues, Environmental degradation, lack of education training, Unfair competition, gender inequality, lack of legal recognition and protection, lack of infrastructure, lack of family. Based on the above setting a study has been made to analyse the socioeconomic conditions of fish vendors in kanniyakumari district. The State Fisheries Department and State Fish Development Corporations have scheme to help their farmer to help fish farmer to market to Increase their harvesting efficiently.

Key words: Fish Vendors, Fish Vending, Fisheries Department

I. INTRODUCTION

Fishing is the oldest and very important livelihood option for the inhabitants of the coastal line of the country from time immemorial. Itwere traditionally and solely developed by the fisheries community over centuries. This natural resources along with the marine environment provides livelihood and employment opportunities for the coastal people and others by way of indirect employment of the coastal population. Even though fishing sector occupies a vital position in Indian economy most of the fishermen are living in poverty. They are economically backward. They have no permanent and regular income. The socio –economic conditions of the coastal village are pathetic when compared to other traditional occupations.

The marine sector forms one of largest sectoral activity in the country. The fisheries sector occupies a prominent place the economic development of the nation and state the macro level and the individuals engaged in the activity at the micro level.(Edward h Allison ,2011). India is the second largest producer of marine products which is next only to china. At the macro level it contributes to a considerable increase in national income due to a higher of marine exports.

Fishery resources of India are either inland or marine. India has vast inland water resources spread throughout the country. The fish water resources comprise reverie system, reservoirs, pond sand



tanks, oxbow lakes and derelict waters where as brackish water resources comprise estuaries and lakes and back waters. Both inland and marine fisheries directly or indirectly depend on the river systems. With congenial climatic condition, and availability of multispecies marine produce with more than 200 commercially important species in them. India is blessed with the richest marine resources. With this renewable but with the limited resources. The sector is able to add a considerable share in National Income. A study has been made to analyse the socio economic conditions of fish vendors in kanniyakumaridistrict to carried out. 400 fish vendors families were selected from the coastal areas of kanniyakumari district. Appropriate statistical tools were used to analyze the data collected with the help of a well structured interview schedule.

II.OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1.To exhibit the Demographic profile of the fish vendors in kanniyakumari district.
- 2.Toanalyse the socio economic constraints faced by the fish vendors in kanniyakumari District.

III.STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The above discussion on the social economic backwardness of fish vendors like fish sales, unemployment, illiteracy and insufficient income indicate their condition. Fish vendors often experience fluctuations in demand based on seasonal variations in the availability of fish.Many fish vendors, particularly those in developing countries, may lack access to proper refrigeration or storage facilities, which can lead to spoilage and waste.Fish vendors often face stiff competition from other vendors selling the same or similar products. The present paper attempts to study these issues.

IV.REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1.**Rameshkumar.S et.al (2011)** in their article “ Income and Expenditure pattern of fisher folk in selected rural coastal villages of Tuticorin in Taminnadu. That have revealed that the socio economic conditions of fishermen are described with special emphasis on employment, income and expenditure pattern of fishermen families .they have concluded that living conditions of fishermen remains poor and unchanging in years. That they have suggested that government agencies and other voluntary organization with support and co-operation of fisher men is required for solving the issues and for the growth and development of the sector.

2.**Krishnaveni.B and Sham Shankar.C.A (2020)** in their paper “ The Socio Economic conditions of women fish vendors in kanniyakumari” They have studied that the role of fisher women in fishing activities to repairing fish nets, marketing of fish, processing drying and salt of fish. They are main objective of this examine to study the socio economic and demographic condition of the families of fishermen. They have found that fishing community playing a major role in the Fisher women faces the problems of marketing their products. They have suggested that Government and non Government Agencies are support to the fish vendors.

V.DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Socio Economic and Demographic Profile of fish vendors

Table:1.Socio Economic and Demographic Profile of fish vendors.

| Sl.no | Age (in years) | No.of respondents | Percentage |
|-------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | Below30 | 77 | 25 |

| | | | |
|---|----------------|-----|-----|
| 2 | 31-40 | 79 | 26 |
| 3 | 41-50 | 64 | 21 |
| 4 | 45-55 | 80 | 28 |
| | Total | 300 | 100 |
| 1 | Male | 166 | 55 |
| 2 | Female | 134 | 45 |
| | | 300 | 100 |
| 1 | Illiterate | 76 | 25 |
| 2 | Primary | 75 | 24 |
| 3 | Secondary | 81 | 27 |
| 4 | Graduate | 68 | 24 |
| | Total | 300 | 100 |
| | Type of family | | |
| 1 | Joint | 143 | 48 |
| 2 | Nuclear | 157 | 52 |
| | Total | 300 | 100 |
| | Marital status | | |
| 1 | Married | 140 | 47 |
| 2 | Unmarried | 160 | 53 |
| | Total | 300 | 100 |
| | Size of family | | |
| 1 | Less than3 | 86 | 29 |
| 2 | 3-5 | 67 | 22 |
| 3 | 5-7 | 69 | 23 |
| | Total | 300 | 100 |

Source: Primary Data

As given in table1, an examination of the socio economic and demographic status of the sample fish vendors would indicate that with respect to age, a majority (28 percent) of the fish vendors are in the age group of 45-55 years. The highest 27 percent of the fish vendors are secondary level completed. While 52 per cent are under the nuclear family system the remaining 48 percent are in the joint family. The majority of the Male respondents are involved in fish vending. The 53 percent respondents are unmarried. The family size of fish vendors are 29 percent of sample respondents less than 3.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS AMONG THE RESPONDENTS

The economic constraint indicate the problems encountered by the respondents related to finance in fish vending. The economic constraints among the fish vendors are listed with help of reviews. Social constraints are the problems faced by the respondents caused by various social elements are fish vendors. The social constraints faced by the respondents in the present study are drawn from the above said reviews. These are confined to Exploitation, discrimination, health and safety issues, Environmental degradation, lack of education training, Unfair competition, gender inequality, lack of legal recognition and protection, lack of infrastructure, lack of family support, Fluctuating price, lack of access to credit and financing, More competition, challenges to access their market, high operational costs. The respondents are asked to rate the above said fifteen constraints at five point scale namely very

high, high, Medium low, very low. The scores assigned on these ratings are 5,4,3,2, and 1 respectively. The results are presented in table1

Table 2 . Socio-Economic Constraints among the Respondents

| Sl.No | Constraints | Very high | High | Medium | Low | Very low | Mean score | Rank |
|-------|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------|
| 1 | Exploitation | 80 (400) | 70 (350) | 50 (150) | 65 (130) | 35 (35) | 3.55 | XII |
| 2 | Discrimination | 70 (350) | 75 (300) | 85 (255) | 35 (70) | 35 (35) | 3.31 | XIII |
| 3 | Healthy and safety issues | 150 (750) | 75 (300) | 60 (180) | 5 (10) | 10 (10) | 4.16 | VII |
| 4 | Environmental degradation | 50 (250) | 90 (360) | 60 (180) | 70 (140) | 30 (30) | 3.24 | XIV |
| 5 | Lack of education training | 135 (675) | 120 (480) | 20 (60) | 15 (30) | 10 (10) | 4.18 | VI |
| 6 | Unfair competition | 110 (550) | 90 (360) | 75 (225) | 10 (20) | 15 (15) | 3.91 | IX |
| 7 | Gender inequality | 180 (900) | 70 (280) | 30 (90) | 10 (20) | 10 (10) | 4.33 | IV |
| 8 | Lack of legal recognition and protection | 150 (750) | 90 (360) | 40 (120) | 15 (30) | 5 (5) | 4.21 | V |
| 9 | Lack of infrastructure | 110 (550) | 90 (360) | 50 (150) | 30 (60) | 20 (20) | 3.8 | X |
| 10 | Lack of family support | 155 (775) | 120 (480) | 15 (45) | 5 (10) | 5 (5) | 4.38 | II |
| 11 | Fluctuating price | 125 (625) | 85 (340) | 50 (150) | 20 (40) | 20 (20) | 3.91 | IX |
| 12 | Lack of access to credit and financing | 180 (900) | 80 (320) | 20 (60) | 10 (20) | 10 (10) | 4.36 | III |
| 13 | More competition | 165 (825) | 120 (480) | 5 (15) | 5 (10) | 5 (5) | 4.45 | I |
| 14 | Challenges to access their market | 120 (600) | 110 (440) | 50 (150) | 10 (20) | 10 (10) | 4.06 | VIII |
| 15 | High operational cost | 100 (500) | 90 (360) | 40 (120) | 40 (80) | 30 (30) | 3.63 | XI |

Source: primary data

*Significant at 5 Percent level

The above table 2 indicates about Socio-Economic constraints of fish vendors. The respondents are given the First rank to the More competition. The Second rank offered at a lack of family support. The Third rank is lack of access to credit and financing. The Fourth rank is offered at Gender inequality. The Fifth rank is offered that lack of legal recognition and protection. The sixth rank is lack of education training. The Seventh rank is given to Healthy and safety issues, The Eighth rank is challenges to access



their market. The Ninth rank is given to unfair competition and fluctuating price. The Tenth rank is lack of infrastructure. The Eleventh rank is given to high operational cost. The Twelfth rank is given to Exploitation. The thirteenth rank is discrimination. The Fourteenth rank is given to Environmental degradation.

FINDINGS:

- The socio economic and demographic status of the sample fish vendors would indicate that with respect to age, a majority 28 percent of the fish vendors are in the age group of 45-55 years.
- The highest 27 percent of the fish vendors are secondary level completed.
- 52 per cent are under the nuclear family system the remaining 48 percent are in the joint family.
- The majority of the Male respondents are involved in fish vending. The 53 percent respondents are unmarried. The family size of fish vendors are 29 percent of sample respondents less than 3.29 percent sample respondents of the family size 5 -7.
- The respondents are given the First rank to the More competition. The Second rank offered at a lack of family support. The Third rank is lack of access to credit and financing. The Fourth rank is offered at Gender inequality. The Fifth rank is offered that lack of legal recognition and protection. The sixth rank is lack of education training. The Seventh rank is given to Healthy and safety issues, The Eighth rank is challenges to access their market. The Ninth rank is given to unfair competition and fluctuating price. The Tenth rank is lack of infrastructure. The Eleventh rank is given to high operational cost. The Twelfth rank is given to Exploitation. The thirteenth rank is discrimination. The Fourteenth rank is given to Environmental degradation.

CONCLUSION

The study was conducted among the socio-economic condition of fish vendors and faced by the socio economic constraints among the fish vendors. The State Fisheries Department and State Fish Development Corporations have scheme to help their farmer to help fish farmer to market to Increase their harvesting efficiently. They lack in marketing strategies. Though SHGs play a significant role in the empowerment of fish vendors, the support and the liaison with SHGs in interior urban market, lack of imagination and coordination constraints their marketing efforts.

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