



Economics of Fisheries and Development of Bihar A Case Study of NMCH and Bazaar Samiti, Patna

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Abstract : *India has a vast and diverse potential for fishing resources comprising 2 million sq. kms of Exclusive Economic zone for deep sea fishing, 7,250 kms of coastline, 29,000 kms of rivers, 1.7 million hectares of reservoirs, nearly 1 million hectares of tanks and ponds for inland and marine fish production.*

India is the second largest producer of fish in the world. Fisheries sector occupies a very important place in the socio economic development of the country. It has been recognized as a powerful income and employment generator as it stimulates growth of a number of subsidiary industries and is a

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source of cheap and nutritious food besides being a foreign exchange earner .At present, the fisheries sector is a source of livelihood of over 14.4 million people engaged fully, partially or in subsidiary activities pertaining to the sector. Marine Fishing Policy 2004 laid the foundation for a sustainable level of marine fish production keeping in view ecological and bio diversity considerations.

Fishery is an important source of livelihood and fish, is an important source of protein. There are 14.4 million fishermen in the country. India ranks second in world fish production contributing about 5.4% of global fish production. It is also a major producer of fish through aquaculture .Total fish production during 2013-14 is estimated at 9.45mt with 6.10mt coming from the inland sector and 3.35mt from the marine sector. The fisheries sector contributes about 1% to the overall GDP and represents 4.6% of agricultural GDP.

Bihar occupied third position in inland fish production after Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal respectively in 2013-2014. It contributes about 1.6% of Bihar GSDP. It has plenty of natural resources of water. The paper finds that there is still 9.41 hectare wetland which is unexploited or unexplored yet. Where we practise fish culture with intensive and semi intensive and super intensive technique for more production of fish .If these wetland comes in use then may be in coming years Bihar can rank first in inland fish production.

Keywords: *ecological, nutritious, aquaculture, intensive, subsidiary.*