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A STUDY ON EXPORT OF FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM INDIA

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Abstract:

India's exports of fisheries goods are now a major part of international trade and the national economy. With its extensive coastline and abundant marine life, India has a lot of promise in the fishing industry. An overview of the trends, obstacles, and opportunities in India's fisheries product export market is given in this abstract. India's export of fisheries products, such as seafood, marine products, and processed fish, has steadily increased in recent years. The nation's advantageous geographic location, along with developments in fishing technologies and aquaculture methods, has reinforced its standing as a significant participant in the worldwide seafood industry. The robust demand for fisheries products from established markets like the US, EU, Japan, and Southeast Asia propels India's exports of these goods. Furthermore, there are new opportunities for growth in growing markets in Latin America and Africa. Notwithstanding, the industry confronts obstacles like strict quality requirements, ecological worries, and variations in worldwide seafood costs.

Key export items include shrimp, fish fillets, frozen fish, and crustaceans.

Introduction:

Preface husbandry is the backbone of the Indian frugality, fisheries and monoculture sector play a vital part in the development of the Indian frugality as well moment in Indian husbandry fisheries are a sun sector. India is the second largest patron of fish in the world with a periodic product of 9.06 million metric tonnes next to China. India is blessed with a vast bank occupies 8,118 km, moment fishing sector is one of the major diligence that employs further than 14.5 million people and helps in adding the nutritive force of food, generating acceptable profit for the nation, having huge import eventuality, and play a big source of earning foreign exchange to our country. At present, India is the second largest patron of fish in the world with 13.7 MMT fish products with a value of Rs. 47,620 crore in 2018-19 and first in inland fish product with 65 of product in this 50 of product from culture fish. Agriculture acts as the backbone of the Indian frugality but in husbandry fish and fish products, exports are defined as one of the largest sectors which contributed 11.9 in 2017-18. Indian fish are exported to major advanced countries in the world. The fishery sector is a source for a large section of the population below the poverty line, especially fishers.

Product Profile

India is one of the largest exporters of fishery products in the world. The major export products in the Indian fishery industry include:

- **Frozen shrimp:** Frozen shrimp is the largest exported fishery product from India, accounting for over 53% of the total quantity and about 75% of the total export value. India is the world's largest exporter of frozen shrimp, with its exports accounting for over 20% of the global market.
- **Frozen fish:** Frozen fish is another major export product from India, accounting for over 20% of the total quantity and about 15% of the total export value. The major fish species exported from India include tuna, mackerel, pomfret, and croaker.
- **Cuttlefish:** Cuttlefish is a popular seafood item in many parts of the world, and India is a major exporter of this product. Cuttlefish accounts for over 10% of the total quantity and about 5% of the total export value of Indian fishery exports.
- **Squids:** Squids are another popular seafood item, and India is a major exporter of this product. Squids account for over 5% of the total quantity and about 3% of the total export value of Indian fishery exports.
- **Dried fish:** Dried fish is a popular seafood item in many Asian countries, and India is a major exporter of this product. Dried fish accounts for over 5% of the total quantity and about 2% of the total export value of Indian fishery exports.
- **Live and chilled fish:** India also exports a small quantity of live and chilled fish, such as lobsters, crabs, and oysters.

India exports its fishery products to a variety of countries around the world, with the major export markets being the United States, the European Union, Southeast Asia, and Japan.

The Indian government is taking several steps to boost the fishery industry and increase exports. These include:

- Providing subsidies for shrimp production and processing
- Developing new markets for Indian fishery products
- Investing in infrastructure and technology to improve the quality of fishery products

Literature Review:

• The agrarian sector is diversifying in the direction of high-value enterprises comprising beast and fisheries. Fisheries are the most important area of profitable exertion around the world(Béné et al., 2015). • fleetly changing social and profitable structures and adding globalization have led to a swell in global fish products. India, with a share of 6.3 percent, has become the second-largest monoculture fish-producing nation, just after China(GOI, 2016). • likewise, the fisheries sector with different coffers implicitly engages over 14.5 million people in India at the primary position and multitudinous further alongside the value chain(GOI, 2016). • The growing demand for fish products in recent times across the world is credited substantially to a shift in salutary habits in favor of fisheries due to its health-perfecting features. The rising consumption trends along with the establishment of Exclusive Economic Zones and related transnational agreements have boosted the transnational trade in fish and fish products(Ababouch, 2006; Anderson & Fong, 1997; Shinoj et al., 2009). • The foreign exchange earnings from fisheries also demonstrate an adding trend, and therefore this sector possesses great eventuality for developing countries due to cheap labor and water coffers(Ahmed & Lorica,

2002; Sajitha, 2016).

Objective:

The objectives of a study on Indian exports in the fishery industry should be clear and specific to guide the research. Here are some potential objectives for your study:

- **To Assess Export Trends:** Analyse historical data and trends in Indian fishery industry exports, including volume, value, and product categories, to understand the sector's growth trajectory.
- **To Identify Key Export Markets:** Determine the primary export destinations for Indian fishery products and assess the potential for market diversification to reduce dependency on specific countries or regions.
- **To Evaluate Quality and Safety Standards:** Investigate the adherence of Indian fishery industry exports to international quality and safety standards, identifying areas of improvement to enhance market access.

Source/s of Data

Secondary Data

Government Sources:

- **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA):** This is the nodal agency for promoting seafood exports from India. Their website offers a wealth of data, including:

- **Annual reports and statistical publications:** These provide comprehensive data on the quantity, value, and destination of Indian fishery product exports.
- **Market research reports:** MPEDA conducts regular market research on major export destinations and emerging markets, providing valuable insights into consumer preferences and market trends.
- **Trade statistics database:** This database allows users to query export data by product category, country, and period.
- **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare:** The Department of Fisheries under this ministry releases annual reports and statistical data on fish production, consumption, and exports.
- **Department of Commerce:** This department provides data on overall Indian exports, including fishery products, and trade agreements with other countries.

Data Collection Method:

- **Government reports:** The Indian government publishes a variety of reports on the fishery sector, including the annual reports of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries (DAHD). These reports provide data on fishery product export volume and value, the contribution of fishery exports to GDP, and employment generation in the sector.
- **Industry publications:** Industry associations and research institutions publish reports and articles on the Indian fishery export industry. These publications provide insights into market trends, export destinations, and the challenges faced by the industry.
- **International trade databases:** International organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Comtrade database collect and publish data on global

fishery trade. These databases can be used to compare India's fishery exports with those of other countries, identify major competitors, and analyze import regulations and standards.

- **Surveys:** Conducting surveys of stakeholders in the fishery export industry, such as exporters, processors, and government officials, can provide valuable data on production costs, profitability, export challenges and opportunities, and market preferences.
- **Interviews:** In-depth interviews with key informants, such as experts, policymakers, and industry leaders, can provide insights into the broader trends and challenges facing the sector, as well as policy perspectives and recommendations for the future.
- **Case studies:** Studying successful fishery exporters can provide valuable lessons learned about best practices for export operations, strategies for enhancing competitiveness, and approaches to overcoming common challenges.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Economic Contribution: The export of fishery products significantly contributes to the Indian economy. It is essential to analyze the share of fishery exports in the overall GDP and its growth trends over the years. Explore how the fishery sector compares to other industries in terms of its economic impact and growth potential.

Employment Generation: The fishing industry is a major source of employment in India, providing livelihoods to a significant portion of the population. Analyze the employment statistics related to the fishery sector, including the number of people engaged in fishing, processing, and export activities. Consider the socio-economic impact of fishery-related employment, especially in coastal regions where the industry is a crucial source of livelihood.

Foreign Exchange Earnings: Examine the contribution of fishery product exports to India's foreign exchange earnings. Understand the role of fishery exports in maintaining a positive balance of trade and supporting the country's economic stability. Analyze how changes in international demand for fishery products impact India's foreign exchange reserves.

Market Trends and Global Demand: Investigate the global market trends for fishery products and identify key importing countries. Understand the demand for specific types of fish and seafood products. Analyze how India's fishery industry is positioned in the international market and explore opportunities for growth and diversification.

Results and Findings:

The Indian fish request size reached 20.7 Million Tons in 2023. Looking forward, IMARC Group expects the request to reach 41.4 Million Tons by 2032, flaunting a growth rate(CAGR) of 7.8 during 2024- 2032. India's fish product at a record 175.45 lakh tonnes in 2023. India has seen a further than 22X increase in fish products from 0.75 MMT in 1950- 51 to 16.25 MMT in FY 2021- 22. The per capita consumption of fish is 6.31 kg per capita. The fish product in 2021- 22 is 16.24 Million Tonnes comprising marine fish products of 4.12 Million Tonnes and 12.12 Million Tonnes from Monoculture.

Limitations of the study:

- **Overfishing:** Excessive fishing depletes fish stocks, jeopardizing long-term sustainability and future exports.
- **Bycatch and Destructive Fishing Practices:** Practices like bottom trawling harm marine ecosystems and capture unwanted species, leading to waste and environmental damage.
- **Lack of Regulation and Enforcement:** Ineffective regulations and lax enforcement contribute to resource depletion and unsustainable practices.
- **Quality and Infrastructure Challenges:**
 - **Inadequate cold chain infrastructure:** Lack of proper cold storage, processing facilities, and transportation infrastructure hamper product quality and increase export costs.
 - **Hygiene and Sanitation Issues:** Poor hygiene practices and inadequate sanitation facilities at processing units can jeopardize food safety and lead to product rejections in international markets.
 - **Non-compliance with International Standards:** Difficulty in meeting stringent international quality standards due to outdated technologies and practices.
- **Economic and Competitiveness Concerns:**
 - **High Production Costs:** Factors like fuel costs, labor wages, and inefficient supply chains make Indian fish products less competitive in the global market.
 - **Limited Value Addition:** Overdependence on exports of raw or minimally processed fish reduces profit margins and limits growth potential.

Conclusion/Suggestions:

- **Generates Foreign Exchange:** Export earnings contribute to India's balance of payments and overall economic stability.
- **Boosts Employment:** From fishermen to processors and exporters, the sector creates valuable jobs across the value chain.
- **Supports Livelihoods:** Coastal communities and inland fishing populations rely heavily on fishery exports for income generation.
- **Drives Economic Growth:** The industry contributes to GDP growth and stimulates development in related sectors like infrastructure and logistics.
- **Promotes Food Security:** By providing high-quality protein, particularly in developing countries, exports contribute to global food security.
- **Suggestions for Enhancing Fishery Product Exports:**
 - **Invest in Modernization and Technology:** Upgrade fishing vessels, processing facilities, and cold chain infrastructure to improve efficiency and quality.
 - **Promote Sustainable Fishing Practices:** Implement responsible resource management policies and adopt responsible fishing techniques to ensure long-term sustainability.
 - **Focus on Value Addition:** Develop and export processed fish products with higher value and market demand, maximizing returns on resources.
 - **Strengthen Brand Building and Marketing:** Create a strong brand identity for Indian fishery products, highlighting their quality and sustainability to gain market share in key regions.
 - **Collaborate with Stakeholders:** Enhance cooperation between fishers, processors, exporters, and policymakers to overcome challenges and build a competitive export industry.

- Adapt to Changing Market Demand: Stay informed about evolving consumer preferences and adapt product offerings and marketing strategies accordingly.

Reference:

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