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## A STUDY ON THE LIVELYHOOD OF WOMEN IN KANYAKUMARI COSTAL REGION

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### ABSTRACT

Fish is considered as perhaps the most fundamental food things that provide protein to build our body throughout the world. In Tamil Nadu, fish and fisheries sectors plays an immensely important role in terms of nutrition, income, and employment generation and foreign exchange earnings. Most of the land in Tamil Nadu covered by ocean and river and therefore many people in this area are involved in capturing fish and fish farming. Fisher women, play an important role in costal economic activities. Their contribution is often overlooking in analysis of fisheries. Fisher women are actively involved input and output market as well as in supporting market for fishing activities. In the fisheries along the north coast of java, Indonesia, at input market women provide logistic support for fishing activities, while at output market fisher women are often the main players is fish selling and distribution. Fisherwomen's wives are also involved actively in generating additional family incomes from activities inside and outside fisheries. When fishermen face uncertainty such as seasonal variation, women often become the backbone of the family and are important for its survival. Fisher women are therefore an integral and functional part of coastal fishing industry.

## INTRODUCTION

The marine sector forms one of largest sector activity in the country. The fisheries sector occupies a prominent place be economic development of the nation and state at the macro level and the individuals engaged in the activity at the micro level.

The coastal zone can physically and geographically be described as a corridor where the land and adjacent ocean meet. It's the area of interaction between land and sea where production, consumption, recreation and exchange processes of climate change take place.

Fish trading is a traditional occupation that has been a means of livelihood of thousands of women in India at the majority of vendors being women. Unlike men, whose labor is largely confined to the sea, river, or lake, fisher women vendors have to travel with their products on their head to the market place. Along with being engaged in household work from dawn to dusk, fisherwomen play an important role in retailing, sorting, grading, curing and drying, prawn peeling and collection of seaweed apart from hand braiding and repair of net.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**S. LAZARUS AND J.J JOEL (1979)** The important fishing craft and gear in the district, seasonal and regional variations of the fisheries, important species exploited and disposal, utilization and marketing of the catches are briefly explained described.

**FREEDACHANDRASEKARAN (1979)** in his study attempted to examine the role of fisher-women in the district of Chengalpattu. The study identified that the role of women in fishing activities is confined to repairing fish nets, marketing of fish, processing drying and salt curing offish.

**KARUNAANBARASAN(1985)**This report is based on a year's study of three fishing villages of Chengalpattu district, Tamil Nadu, conducted between February 1983 and January 1984. It profiles the villages and analyses the various factors that influence the role and status of the fisher-women there also includes three case studies. These describe the lifestyle, the work, and the family and social status of three women.

**EDLTRAUDDREWES (1986)** How can the living conditions of the women from the fishing communities be improved. This paper documents the BOBP's experience in a pilot project in Tamil NaduIndia.

**DIANA TEMPELMAN (1987)** attempted to examine the socio economic status of the fisher-women in the coastal villages of Vishakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh. The study could identify that the women get themselves engaged in marketing of fish for 7-10 hours a day. They generally, carry this for sales in their overheads. For them, to cover a longer distance, buses are the major mode of transportation. For selling within the towns limits, bicycles and auto rickshaws are important means of transport.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

### Primary objectives:

A study on the Lively Hood of Women in Kanyakumari Costal Region

### Secondary objectives:

To identify and provide suggestions for the lively hood of costal women. To Analyze the Lively Hood of women in kanyakumari costalregion.To analyze the role of fisherwomen in processing and marketing of fish and fishery products as a source of income generation and livelihood option in kanyakumari. To estimate the social, political and economic empowerment of fisherwomen involved in processing and marketing of fish an fishery products in Kanyakumari.

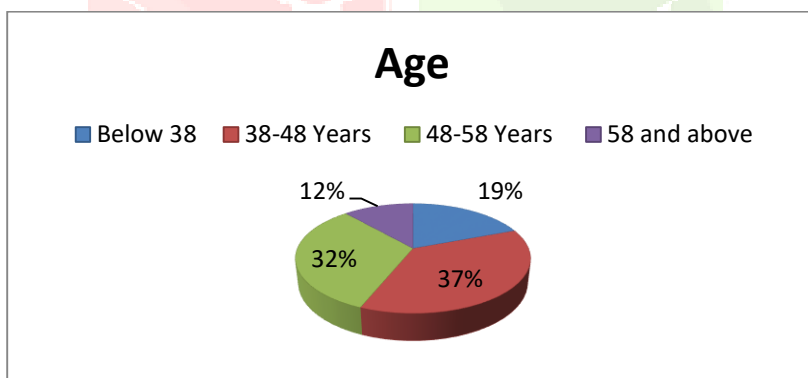
## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research study is adopted with convenience method and data collection was done through questionnaire method. The study used both the primary and secondary data. The sample size of the research study consists of 130. Closed-end questions are also asked to the respondents.

## DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

### I.Age of the Respondents

Year	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Below 38	25	19%
38-48 Years	48	37%
48-58 Years	42	32%
58 and above	15	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>100</b>



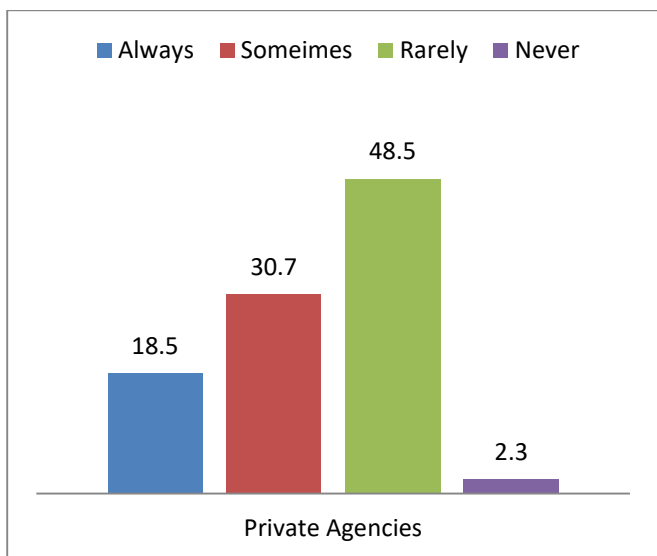
*Chart 1: Age wise classification of the respondents*

### INTERPRETATION:

From the above table it is interpreted that 19% of the respondents are less than 38 years old, 37% of them are 38-48 Years old, 32% of them are in the age group of 48-58 years old and 12% are in the age group of 58 and above.

**Table 2: Showing the source of funding for doing business of fisherwomen.**

Particulars	Always	%	Sometimes	%	Rarely	%	Never	%	Total	%
Private agencies	24	18.5	40	30.7	63	48.5	3	2.3	130	100



*Chart 2: showing the source of funding for doing business of fisherwomen.*

**INTERPRETATION:**

From the above table It is interpreted that 18.5 % of respondents are always funding from private agencies,30.7% of respondents are sometimes,48.5 % of respondents are rarely and 2.3 % of respondents are never got from the private agencies

**CHI SQUARE:**

Table showing the Age Of The Respondents Vs Significant Source Of Funding For Doing Business ( Private Agencies)

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	21.735 <sup>a</sup>	9	.010
Likelihood Ratio	24.207	9	.004
N of Valid Cases	130		

a. 7 cells (43.8%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .35.

## INFERENCE:

The results of the "**Pearson Chi-Square**" say that  $\chi(9) = 21.735, p = 0.35$ . This tells us that there is a statistically significant association between age of the respondents and the source of funding for doing business.

## SUGGESTION

- Construction of proper market places with basic facilities for fish marketing.
- To encourage fisherwomen to become members in the fisherwomen society.
- Easy loan facilities should be provided to the fisheries family.
- The local municipality can create transportation facilities to these women at a reasonable price.
- Providing battery vehicles for doing business
- Government can take initiative to set up at least a primary health centre for fisher women's and their families.

## CONCLUSION

Fisherwomen are fishermen's wives and women from the fisherman community who are also involved in fisheries activities. This woman plays an important role in coastal economic activities. Their contribution is often overlooked in analysis of fisheries. Fisherwomen are actively involved in input and output markets as well as in supporting markets for fishing activities. The present study focuses on the role of women in earning a livelihood and supporting their families. It has also focused on the support given by the government to support and empower women and improve their sources of livelihood, it has been concluded that the majority of the fisher women are involved in business activities and are interested to develop their source of income. Hence it could be concluded that if supported by the government, fisher women in Kanyakumari district will become self-sustained and empowered also improve the living standard of their family.

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