

SOCIO- ECONOMIC EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER DIVISION

CMFRI

Assessment of literacy, income and health status of fishers in India

- CMFRI, Kochi has initiated a Network research project entitled “ An Assessment of literacy, income and health status of fishers in India” funded by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, India for a period of one year starting from November 2009. CMFRI is the lead center with Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture, Chennai, Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute , Barrackpore, Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Kochi, Central Institute of Fresh water Aquaculture , Bhubaneswar, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research , New Delhi and Fisheries Division, ICAR, New Delhi as the partnering institutions.
- The literacy ratio analysis of the selected marine fishers in the coastal states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puduchery indicated that the literacy rate was highest in Kerala followed by Puduchery and Tamil Nadu at 87.2, 80.1 and 77.3 per cent respectively. The analysis on the access to educational institutions indicated that the primary schools were invariably accessed at less than a kilometer and high schools and colleges within a range of 1-3 km and 3-8 km respectively. The professional colleges were located a distance of 7-15 km in the selected states.
- The health status of the respondent household across the selected fisher families in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puduchery revealed that there wasn't any case of discontinuation of the vaccination regime for children/ infants .In addition there wasn't any mortality of mother or child during child birth which all indicated the high level of awareness of health
- The income analysis across the selected states indicated that the respondents involvement in non-fisheries activities were found to be significant (25 per cent of the total selected fishers) on account of low level of income ,seasonality of fishing operations. The level of indebtedness of the fishers across the states indicated that the indebtedness was reported high in Puducherry (77.14 %) followed by Tamil Nadu.