Inland Fisheries sector in India

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Overview of fisheries sector in India

- Total water resources in India
  - Length of coastline – 8118 KMs
  - Rivers and Canals – 195210 KMs
  - Reservoirs, ponds, Tanks, brackish water etc - 73.59 Lakh Ha
- Total dependants on the fisheries sector – 30,22,203 HHs
- Total GDP from the sector – Rs.35,650-00 Cr
- % GDP from the sector – 0.75%
- Value of fish & fish products export in the year 2007-08 is Rs. 7620-00 Cr
- Fish production in India (‘000 Tonnes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Marine</th>
<th>% Marine</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>% Inland</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1950-51</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>71.01</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>28.99</td>
<td>752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-81</td>
<td>1555</td>
<td>63.68</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>36.32</td>
<td>2442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>2920</td>
<td>40.97</td>
<td>4207</td>
<td>59.03</td>
<td>7127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Total budget allocation and expenditure for fisheries sector (Rs. In Crores)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Ninth plan (Outlay) Cr</th>
<th>Expenditure (Cr)</th>
<th>Tenth plan (Outlay)</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Eleventh Plan (Outlay)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Sector schemes</td>
<td>240.00</td>
<td>124.97</td>
<td>417.36</td>
<td>223.25</td>
<td>1946.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central sponsored schemes</td>
<td>560.00</td>
<td>273.18</td>
<td>388.50</td>
<td>397.17 (upto 2005)</td>
<td>830.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Schemes</td>
<td>1269.78</td>
<td>1016.26</td>
<td>1140.58</td>
<td>542.83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Central sector schemes & Central sponsored schemes in the year 2007-08, **12.84 cr (7.92%)** were spent out of **162.16 Cr**, in the year 2008-09, **13.60 Cr (7.61%)** were spent out of **178.60 Cr** on inland fisheries.

Inland Fisheries sector contributes **60%** of the fish production of the country, provide employment to around **23 lakh HHs** in the country, how to make it more productive and sustainable to provide food security and generate employment to landless, small and marginal farmers, support is required in terms of:

- Policies
- Budgets/Investments
- Schemes
- Infrastructure development
Challenges/Issues/Concerns

• Inland Fisheries sector contributes 60% of the fish production of the country, and involves around 23 lakh HHs in the country, how to improve the productivity and sustain it ???
• Access to technical support and regular capacity building to the fisher folk
• Generate accurate data on the number of fisher folk depending on the fisheries sector/water bodies and also production related data.
• Access to quality inputs in time to the communities like fingerlings, feed, etc
• Access to basic infrastructure – such as Nets, Ice plants, cold storage facilities, market place, Vehicles for transport, landing centres, etc.
• Involvement of women in the decision making process
• Climate change and community preparedness to adopt the adverse situations /impacts through heavy rains/drought situations.
Opportunities

- Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Kerala, Orissa, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Tamilnadu states (16) mostly depending on inland fisheries sector.

- Majority of the states have tanks, ponds, Rivers and Canals etc, providing livelihood to lakhs of the poorer people through fisheries sector, generating employment and providing food security.

- The sector can provide additional incomes and also employment to around 30 million people in the country.

- Through MGNREGS the ponds, tanks and other water bodies can be developed for several activities like irrigation, to improve ground water level and fisheries.

- Convergence for National Livelihood Mission in 200 districts of India.
Best practices

- Fish seed rearing, institution building, Rights over the resources, policy support (MP fisheries policy) and linkages, capacity building, productivity enhancement - Experiences of **VIKALP, Bundelkhand** region of Madhya Pradesh

- Convergence with MGNREGS on tank development for fisheries, policy advocacy for capacity building, productivity enhancement - Experiences of **Parmarth Samaj Sevi Sanstha, Bundelkhand** region in Uttar Pradesh & MP

- Convergence with several departments like Fisheries department, NFDB, NABARD, SERP, NGOs, CBOs, Tribal welfare department, MGNREGS - Rural development department for inland fisheries development, Institution building, Establishing Fisheries Resource Centres (FRCs), access to quality inputs, local marketing, developing infrastructure, community-based management practices and linkages, capacity building, productivity enhancement - Experiences of **WASSAN in APDAI project** (A project funded by World Bank) in Andhra Pradesh

- Quality fish Seed production, fish seed rearing, technical support, capacity building, productivity enhancement - Experiences of **GNNS-KVK** in Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh
Recommendations

• Government of India have to come out with a “National Inland Fisheries Policy” to provide support and strengthen inland fisheries sector and also suggest the states to state specific policies for Inland fisheries.
• Convergence with MGNREGS project for fisheries focused on tank development (creating dead storage, bund strengthening, repairs etc)
• Establish “Fisheries Resource Centres” (FRCs) in Rainfed areas to provide technical support in the Inland fisheries sector
• Budget allocation for strengthening of existing institutions of fisher folk from the state and central budgets
• Facilitate National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) to work with NGOs and other civil society organizations to strengthen Inland fisheries sector
• Make necessary changes in the existing policies to make women as members in the existing cooperatives & new bodies
• Make necessary budget allocation to access quality inputs to the communities like fingerlings, feed, etc
• Make necessary budget allocation to improve basic infrastructure – such as landing centers', Ice plants, market place, Vehicles for transport etc.
• Design, develop and support innovative approaches/programs to support landless, small and marginal farmers related to fisheries