

RESEARCH NOTE

Role of Employment Level in Entrepreneurial Behaviour of Inland Fishermen

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INTRODUCTION

The economic policy of Government of India has been laying special emphasis on the development of agriculture, cottage and small scale industries and other related activities to bring about economic upliftment of the rural people especially the weaker sections of the society. This is specifically because 249 out of 306 million people are living below poverty line in rural areas. Seventy per cent working force still depend on agricultural and allied business for their livelihood. Looking to the present situation of the labour surplus economy, fishery as an enterprise fits into our situation as a tool to bring up rural development.

At present the export earning from fishery stands to be 880 crore rupees. Besides, it provides employment to over 50 lakh people which expected to be doubled when fisheries are developed fully by the end of the decade. Keeping this in view of the above facts, the present study was designed to know the employment level of inland fishermen and their association between entrepreneurial behaviour and employment level of inland fishermen.

METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was carried out in Surat and Valsad district of Gujarat State. Out of 134 benefited inland fishermen, 103 were finally considered for this study who were actively engaged throughout the year in fishery enterprise.

An interview schedule was prepared by keeping in view the objectives of the study. To measure the employment level and entrepreneurial behaviour of inland fishermen, the scales developed by Raj Krishna (1973) and Nandapurkar (1982) were adopted with some considerations.

The collected data were analysed by using mean, percentage, standard deviation and Pearson's co-efficient of correlation technique.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

I. Employment level

Information as to the total number of their working hours (mental and physical) in the reference week was calculated from the inland through an open ended question. Then by using the classification developed by Raj Krishna

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(1973) the responses of each inland fishermen were scored as per the procedure and later on grouped as follows :

The data presented in Table 1 reveal that majority of the inland

week. The responses of inland fishermen were grouped according to the procedure and presented in Table 2.

It is apparent from the data presented in Table 2 that majority of the

Table 1 : Distribution of the inland fishermen according to their employment level.

Categories	Number	Per cent
Low employment level (Below 4 score)	18	17.47
Medium employment level (Above 4 to 7 score)	71	68.93
High employment level (Above 7 score)	14	13.60
Total	103	100.00

fishermen (68.93 per cent) had employment level, followed by 17.47 and 13.60 per cent of them had low and high employment level, respectively.

Looking to the response received from the inland fishermen regarding employment level, investigator has been motivated to know the real working hours of those inland fishermen during reference

inland fishermen (74.76 per cent) considered low working level throughout the reference week followed by 16.50 and 8.74 per cent of the inland fishermen had considered medium and high working level throughout the reference week.

It can be inferred that majority of the inland fishermen were in low working level category. This might be due to long

Table 2 : Distribution of the inland fishermen according to their level of working.

Categories	Number	Per cent
Low working level (Up to 28 hours)	77	74.76
Medium working level (Above 28 to 42 hours)	17	16.50
High working level (Above 42 hours)	9	8.74
Total	103	100.00

span of catching fish from the pond. Further the majority of the inland fishermen had large size of family member might be helping in this enterprise.

2. Association between entrepreneurial behaviour and employment level

Entrepreneurs consider as an economic man who strives to maximise his profit by adopting an innovation. He is a man with a will to act, to assume risk and to bring about a change through organising human efforts. The responses in this regard presented in Table 3.

It is obvious from the Table 3 that the entrepreneurial behaviour of inland fishermen had non-significant relationship with their employment level.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that more than two-third of the inland fishermen had medium level of employment along with low level of working in fishery enterprise. Further, employment level was found non-significant association with entrepreneurial behaviour of inland fishermen.

IMPLICATION

The results showed that majority of inland fishermen were medium level with low working hours. This might be due to long span of catching fish from the pond. Hence, it is necessary on the FFDAS and Fishery Department to provide various types of fish crops in such a manner who's growth creates catching cycle through out the year.

Table 3 : Correlation between entrepreneurial behaviour and employment level of inland fishermen

Character of inland fishermen	Correlation coefficient
1. Employment level	0.030 NS

It I come across any difficulties in my reading, I do not bite my nails over them; after one or two attacks I give them up.

- MONTAIGNE