



**Research Paper**

## **Fisheries in Karnataka State - A Geographical study**

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### **Abstract**

*Fishing is the age old occupation which date back to pre-historic period. Fishing is a very well-known production in the coastal states of India with more than 16 million Indians earning a livelihood from fishing. The practice of fishing dates back to very many decades ago before modern methods and practices were birthed and fishing became a major recognized addition to the Indian economy. From many centuries, the country of India has had a cultural put into practice of fishing in little ponds. Without the mechanized and modern systems which are prominent today, fishing has stayed a tradition in India with more number of people engaging in this for personal use. With the passing of time and the coming of the nineteenth century, commendable improvements had been made in productivity with breeding carps in tanks and with controlled systems.*

*Received 17 October, 2021; Revised: 30 October, 2021; Accepted 01 November, 2021 © The author(s) 2021. Published with open access at [www.questjournals.org](http://www.questjournals.org)*

### **I. Introduction**

Fisheries is the most important economic activity in the world and also in developing countries like India. Indian council of agricultural Research (ICAR) in India. There is about 10 to 14 percent fish diversity as compared to the world and there are about 2500 species of fisheries. There is more fisheries in India, such as 29000 km of rivers, 3.15 million ha. of reservoirs, 2.35 million ha. of ponds and tanks and 0.2 million ha. of floodplain wetlands. Andrapradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, Kerala and Maharashtra are the other leading states where fisheries being taken place predominantly.

In Karnataka state, fisheries has attained as an important sector contributing to fish production besides source of income. Ofcourse fish being one of the sources of quality protein, use of fish as food helps in eradication of malnutrition of state population and also providing an employment opportunity in the state's. Karnataka state has 320 Km long coast line along with 27000 sq.km. coast line and about 5.65 lakhs hectares of various inland water resources and has vast scope for fisheries development. Nearly about 9.62 lakhs fishermen in the state of which 3.28 lakh fishermen in marine and 6.33 lakh.

kh fishermen are in inland who are involved in various fisheries activities. Karnataka stand 6<sup>th</sup> position in the marine production in India and 8<sup>th</sup> place in inland fish production in India.

### **Study area**

Karnataka is one of the important state of the Deccan Peninsular region of India. The agriculture and industrial sector has considerably developed in the state. Karnataka is situated on the western edge It is located approximately between 11.5° North and 18.5° North latitudes and 74° East and 78.5° East longitudes. It covers an area 190000 Sq . km. it making it's the 8<sup>th</sup> largest state in the country in terms of area (5.83%). The total population of the state is 68.4 million (6.8 cores). Among states population 61.33% residing in rural and 38.67% population reside in Urban.

### **Objectives**

The main aim of this research paper To study the favorable areas for the fisheries in the state and attempt to Fisheries production in the study area.

## II. Methodology

The data required for the present research paper has collected from secondary data has collected from government records, economic survey of karnataka and department of Fisheries-karnataka etc.,

### Fishery production in India

**Table -1,** The total fish production in the country is shown in the following table

Sl.No	Year	Fishery production			Annual Growth
		Marine	Inland	total	
1	2011-2012	33.72	52.94	86.66	5.28
2	2012-2013	33.21	57.19	90.40	4.32
3	2013-2014	34.43	61.36	95.79.	5.96
4	2014-2015	35.69	66.91	102.60	7.11
5	2015-2016	36.00	71.62	107.62	4.89
6	2015-2017	36.23	78.06	114.31	6.12
7	2017-2018	36.86	89.02	125.90	11.13
8	2018-2019	38.53	97.2	135.73	6.84
9	2019-2020	37.27	104.37	141.64	4.35

Source: Department of Fisheries, States Government / UTs Administration

The above table states that the total fish production in India is increasing year by year. It indicates that there is a large scope for both marine as well as inland fishery. Particularly, the share of inland fishery in total fish production in higher in recent years.

### Fishery production in Karnataka

After considering the total fish production in India, it is necessary to take into account the position of Karnataka State in this regard.

In Karnataka State, fisheries has attained as an important sector contributing to fish production besides source of foreign exchange earner. Fish being one of the sources of quality protein, use of fish as food helps in eradication of malnutrition among rural population. Fisheries Sector contributes to production of quality animal protein required for human being besides provides more employment opportunities. The vast marine, brackish water and inland freshwater resources are the source of fish production in the State.

Karnataka State has vast potential for fish production. It has 5.65 lakh ha. of freshwater sources consisting of 2.93 lakh ha. of ponds and tanks and 2.72 lakh ha. of reservoirs. In addition, the State has 8,000 ha. of brackish water resources and 320 Km coastline with a continental shelf area of 27,000 Sq. Km.

1,44,235 MT of marine products worth Rs.1793.41crore was exported from the State during 2017-18

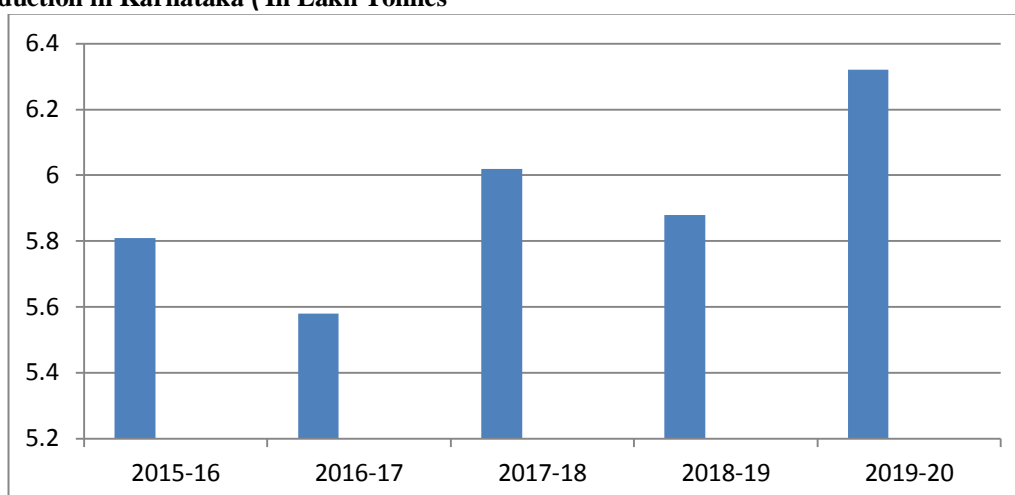
The following table illustrated the total fish production in the state

**Table-2** Fish production in Karnataka ( In Lakh Tonnes )

Sl.No	Year	Marine	Inland	total
	2015-16	1.69	4.12	5.81
	2016-17	1.59	3.99	5.58
	2017-18	1.88	4.14	6.02
	2018-19	1.98	3.9	5.88
	2019-20	2.29	4.03	6.32

Source: Department of Fisheries, States Government / UTs Administration

**Fish production in Karnataka ( In Lakh Tonnes**



**Inland Fisheries**

For the period of 2019-20, 5753.64 lakh fish seed (fry) have been produced. 2976 department tanks were developed by stocking 2277.00 lakh fingerlings. Similarly, 2088 Gram Panchayat tanks have been developed by stocking 535.00 lakh fingerlings. It is estimated that 1.97 lakh MT of inland fish has been produced. Huge capacity exists for development of inland fisheries with the accessible enormous inland fisheries resources in Karnataka as shown .

**Table-3, In land fisheries resources in Karnataka**

Sl.No.	Types	Area/ Length
1	Department Tanks	1.77 lakh ha
2	Grama Panchayat Tanks	1.21 lakh ha
3	Reservoir	2.72 lakh ha
4	Rivers	5813 km
5	Canals	3187 Km
6	Brackish water areas	0.08 lakh ha
7	Production potential	4.02 lakh MT

Sources: Economic survey of Karnataka 2017-18

**III. CONCLUSION**

In order to tackle the problems regarding the fishery in Karnataka State, there is need to enhance fish production utilizing the available and useful fisheries resources. Although execute and adopt the essential management measures required for sustainable fish production in the marine sector and also to bring awareness among the fishermen community about fisheries. It is necessary to increase the fish seeds to enhances the overall development of fishery in the state. Also in order to comprehensive development of fishery in Karnataka state, the unrestricted and unlimited fishery should be regulated.