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Socio-economics of fishermen community around the Junglighat fish landing centre, South Andaman – a case study

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ABSTRACT:

The socio-economic status of fishermen community around Junglighat marine fish landing centre was studied. 141 families were interviewed during the present study. Medium families were dominated (48.89%) followed by large (26.67%) while very large families were only 6.66 %. Most of the members of fishermen families (44.44 %) were under the age group of 15 - 34. 89.7% children were attending government schools while, 10.3% were in private schools. The literacy rate was found to be higher (30.68%) and most attended middle school level and 0.5% were graduates. Major religions include Hinduism (54.9 %), Christianism (37.3 %) and Islam (7.8 %). The maximum number of settlers were from Andhra Pradesh (48.3%) followed by Tamil Nadu (38.3%), while the settlers from Kerala (8.4%) and Jharkhand (5%) were the least. Most of the families were found to be residing in semi pucca (asbestos) houses (73.1%) and fewer families (7.7%) were living in kutcha (thatched) houses. Most of the fishermen from Junglighat landing centre (87.1%) were Above Poverty Line (APL) and only (12.9%) lives in Below Poverty Line (BPL) status. 36.17% of the members earn between Rs. 3001 - 4000/- per month and 12.77% between Rs. 4001 -5000/- per month. Hygienic status of the fishermen population was found to be better and most of the houses were with latrine facilities (97.3%) and only 2.7% were found to be without latrine facilities.

Keywords:

Socio — economics, Andaman & Nicobar, Fish landing centre, Fishing community.