

CHAPTER - VI

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF FISHING LABOURERS IN SAMPLE VILLAGES



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1. INTRODUCTION

The fisheries in Indian can not be studied only by looking at the boat owner and his income-expenditure. But it can be seen from different angles, e.g. what is economic and social condition of fish labourers; one who is actually works on boat, as well as the fish sellers who are mostly female. The boat owners are especially from the higher income group; but labourers are either from the owners' house or they are from the same village, having no boat of their own. The NCDC gives finance to the group of seven (07) persons, generally associated with the cooperative organization of their village. Thus, each small or big boat has a crew or group of labourers working on the boat. The Department of Marine Fisheries, the Central Excise and Department of Coastal Vigilance observe the rules of fishing. Every boat owner should possess a name list, photographs and other particulars of the labourers who are allowed to work on boat. These workers are of the same village or of different villages or they are migrated from Karnataka or Kerala. They are paid daily wages fixed as per pre-fixed rates or seasonal contract. But they are paid per week or per month. Some labourers do not get money wages, but they get certain share in the fish catch. The socio-economic conditions of such labourers are analyzed in the following paragraphs.

2. METHODOLOGY

For the present study a separate schedule was prepared and interviews of 90 fishing workers were conducted by visiting the actual

work place at the villages. The working of boat and operations that were assigned to each laboures were asked in person, and the responses were noted down in the schedules. The composition of the sample laboures as per district, taluka and village wise is shown in table No. 1

2.1 District Wise Classification Of The Respondents

Table 1 : District-wise Classification of The Respondents

District	Respondents	Percentage
Raigad	32	32.32
Sindhudurga	30	30.30
Ratnagiri	37	37.37
Total	99	100

2.2 Taluka-wise Classification Of The Respondents :

Table 2 :Taluka-wise Classification of The Respondents

Sr. No.	Taluka	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Shrivardan	10	10.10
2.	Murud	20	20.20
3.	Mahasla	2	2.02
4.	Malvan	19	19.19
5.	Devgad	5	5.05
6.	Vengurla	6	6.06
7.	Vengurla	2	2.02
8.	Talasari	3	3.03
9.	Dapoli	14	14.14
10.	Mandangad	8	8.08
11.	Ghuagar	10	10.10
Total		99	100

3. RELIGION WISE CLASSIFICATION OF LABOURERS

Though there is no any excess importance to any religion in India; yet it is clear that the society is divided into various religions. The fishing laboures are not exception to this. The table No.3 shows the classification

of respondent labourers in the study made in three districts and 26 villages.

Table 3 :Religion-wise Classification of The Respondents

Sr. No.	Religion	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	Total	%
1.	Hindu	32 (32.99)	100	28 (28.87)	93.33	37 (38.14)	97	97.97
2.	Christian	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)		1.01
3.	Muslim	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)	1 (100.0)	1.01
Total		32 (32.32)	100	30 (30.30)	100	37 (37.37)	99 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The data shows that out of total samples 97.97 % respondents were from Hindu Religion; where as Christian and Muslim religion constituted only one pre cent (1 %) each; while Jain or other religion were not found. As this job is cruel or killing the animals for selfish motive; the Jain, Lingyet families dislike this job. Though in Ratnagiri district many boat owners belong to Muslim religion; yet the laboures employed by them were either from Karnataka or from other districts. The study made by Dr. Awalekar J.L. had made it clear that the Muslim Religion people are dominant in fishing sector as boat owners in Ratnagiri district. But Muslim workers are rarely engaged this hard job.

4. CASTE WISE CLASSIFICATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table No. 4 gives the idea about the major caste involved in fishing as a labour. Out of the total laboures Koli caste laboures was major which constituted 53.60%; followed by Gabit (28.86 %) while Aagri (7.21 %), Kharvi (4.12 %) and others (4.12 %) were minor. The N.T. and Open Category people were included in other castes. Muslim caste was only one percent.

Table 4 : Caste-wise Classification of The Respondents

Sr. No.	Caste	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
1.	Aagri	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	7 (100.0)	18.91	7 (100.0)	7.21
2.	Dadali	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	1.03
3.	Gabit	0 (0.00)	0	23 (82.14)	76.66	5 (17.85)	13.51	28 (100.0)	28.86
4.	Kharvi	0 (0.00)	0	1 (25.0)	3.33	3 (75.0)	8.10	4 (100.0)	4.12
5.	Koli	30 (57.69)	100	0 (0.00)	0	22 (42.30)	59.45	52 (100.0)	53.60
6.	Muslim	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	1.030
7.	Other	0 (0.00)	0	4 (100.0)	13.33	0 (0.00)	0	4 (100.0)	4.12
Total		30 (30.92)	100	30 (30.92)	100	37 (38.14)	100	97 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

This shows that still the traditional castes are engaged in fishing. The other caste people dislike this job; also they are afraid of sea water and other hazards on the sea. The Government should take positive steps to train these traditional castes in proper fishing practices.

5. CLASSIFICATION ON THE BASIS OF EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF HUSBAND AND WIFE

It is observed that the fisher folk is socially, economically and educationally backward. The data reveals and supports this view. The table No. 5, gives the educational level of fish labourers as well as his wife's educational level.

Table 5
Classification on the basis of Educational Level of Husband and Wife

Sr. No.	Education	Husbands	Percentage	Wife	Percentage	Total	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	6 (18.18)	6.31	27 (81.81)	37.5	33 (100.0)	19.76
2.	Primary	58 (59.18)	61.052	40 (40.81)	55.55	98 (100.0)	58.68
3.	Secondary	30 (85.71)	31.57	5 (14.28)	6.94	35 (100.0)	20.95
4.	Graduate	1 (100.0)	1.05	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	0.59
5.	Fish Training	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0
Total		95 (56.88)	100	72 (43.11)	100	167 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The data shows that out of total 6.31 % of the laboures were illiterate, 61 % having were primary education and 31.57 % with secondary education and only 01 person was Graduate i.e. B.A.

It was also enquired about the educational level of laboures' wife. It was seen that out of 99 laboures 27 laboures were unmarried; hence 72 wives' educational level was not beyond secondary level. Also illiterate percentage was 37.5 %. This shows that educational level of women is lower than that of gent's education.

6. CLASSIFICATION ON THE BASIS OF HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF SON AND DAUGHTER

The educational level of the children reveals the financial and social status of parents. In the pervious table we have seen the level of education of boat laboures and their wife. Now we can have the idea of highest educational level of the children in the laboures house. The children presently studying as well as education completed was considered in the field work. The table No.6 shows that the highest educational level of children is up to 12th standard.

Table 6
Classification on The Basis of Highest Educational Level of Son and Daughter

Sr. No.	Education	Son	Percentage	Daughter	Percentage	Total	Percentage
0.	Not Given	3 (5.88)	13.04	48 (94.11)	48.48	51 (100.0)	41.80
1.	Little Child	0 (0.00)	0	11 (100.0)	11.11	11 (100.0)	9.01
3.	1 To 5	1 (8.33)	4.34	11 (91.66)	11.11	12 (100.0)	9.83
4.	6 To 10	17 (38.63)	73.91	27 (61.36)	27.27	44 (100.0)	36.06
5.	11 To 12	2 (50.0)	8.69	2 (50.0)	2.02	4 (100.0)	3.27
6.	Graduate	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0
7.	P.G.	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0
Total		23 (18.85)	100	99 (81.15)	100	122 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

No children were beyond the level of 12th standard. It means the financial position of laboures has not permitted to take higher education. In the coastal area, all villages are having small population; hence there is no higher secondary and Degree College. Hence, no opportunity of higher education to the students of coastal region. Also the colleges which are available, these are far away from their village.

7. CLASSIFICATION ON THE BASIS OF SUBSIDIARY OCCUPATION

The laboures were working on the boat even their family members may have some other occupation. Therefore, it was observed about the other jobs/ occupations in their family. It was found (Table No. 7) that only 41 person's (29.21) relatives were having some other jobs such as farming, fish sale, net repairs, etc. This shows that laboring class is living only on their manual work. Because no fishing family at the coastal area was not having much farming land (below one acre) grocery shop or any capital intensive business, and hence the persons who were without capital and credit in the village, they had accepted laborers' job.

Table 7 : Classification on The Basis of Sub. Occupation

Sr. No.	Occupation	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total
1.	Agriculture	1 (20.0)	7.14	2 (40.0)	15.38	2 (40.0)	14.28	5 (100.0)
2.	Dairy	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)
3.	Poultry	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)
4.	Net Weaving	0 (0.00)	0	1 (33.33)	7.69	2 (66.66)	14.28	3 (100.0)
5.	Shop	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0	0	0 (0.00)
6.	Fish Selling	13 (44.82)	92.85	6 (20.68)	46.15	10 (34.48)	71.42	29 (100.0)
7.	Other/Personal	0 (0.00)	0	4 (100.0)	30.76	0 (0.00)	0	4 (100.0)
Total		14 (34.14)	100	13 (31.70)	100	14 (34.14)	100	41 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

This situation was seen in each of field work location. If the fishing job is lost or any physical disability occurs with the labourers, then it is difficult to carry on the life of laboures and the depending person on them.

8. DISTRICT-WISE SIZE OF FAMILY

The general perception of the people about fishing community is that they are economically backward, educationally poor, occupying low social status and politically isolated. There is also a remark that the number of children in these communities is more. For this purpose a study was undertaken, and the following population composition (Table 8) was seen.

Table 8: District-Wise Size of Family

Persons	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
Male	68 (36.36)	39.76	50 (26.73)	40.65	69 (36.89)	34.67	187 (100.0)	37.93
Female	60 (37.97)	35.08	39 (24.68)	31.70	59 (37.34)	29.64	158 (100.0)	32.04
Children	43 (29.05)	25.14	34 (22.97)	27.64	71 (47.97)	35.67	148 (100.0)	30.02
Total	171 (34.68)	100	123 (24.94)	100	199 (40.36)	100	493 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

Conclusions

1. Average size of Family was 4.5 persons
2. Percentage of Male population was 37.93
3. Percentage Female Population was 32.0
4. Percentage of Children Population is 30.07
5. Average No. of Male is 1.88
6. Average No. of Children 3.02

The composition of population seems satisfactory yet the average size of children was more than 03; which is burden to the laboures. The moderate size, now a days should be 02 in each family.

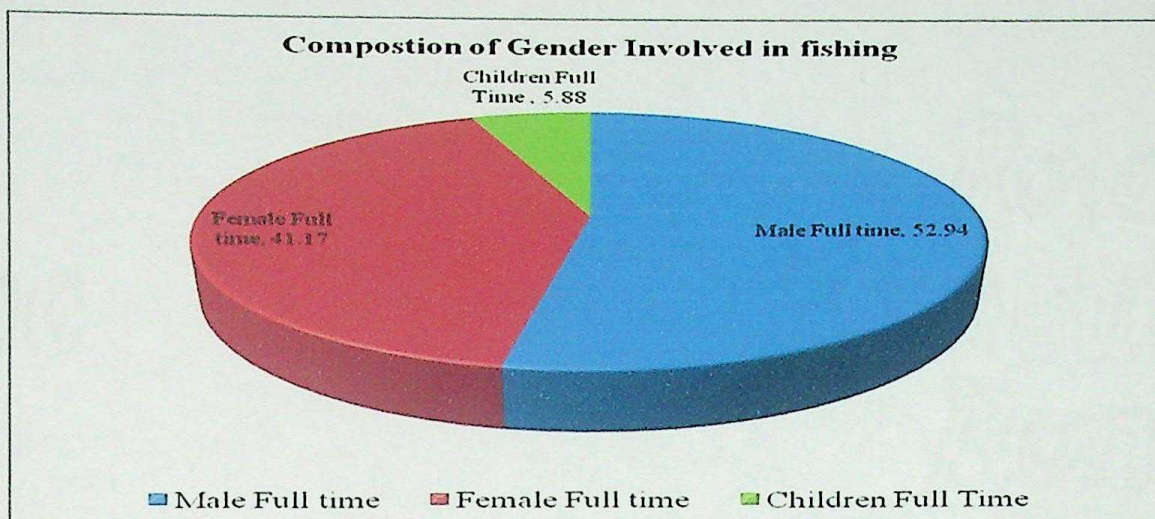
9. DISTRICT WISE ENGAGED PERSONS IN FISHING :

The table No. 9, gives in brief the following finding about the tenure of laboures and his other members engaged in fishing. We can suppose that all the respondents (99) were engaged as full time labourers. At the same time; in his family other members might have also engaged in fishing activities. The table reveals the nature of engagement in job as male, female, children below 18 years and full time as part time job. The summary of the table can read as under;

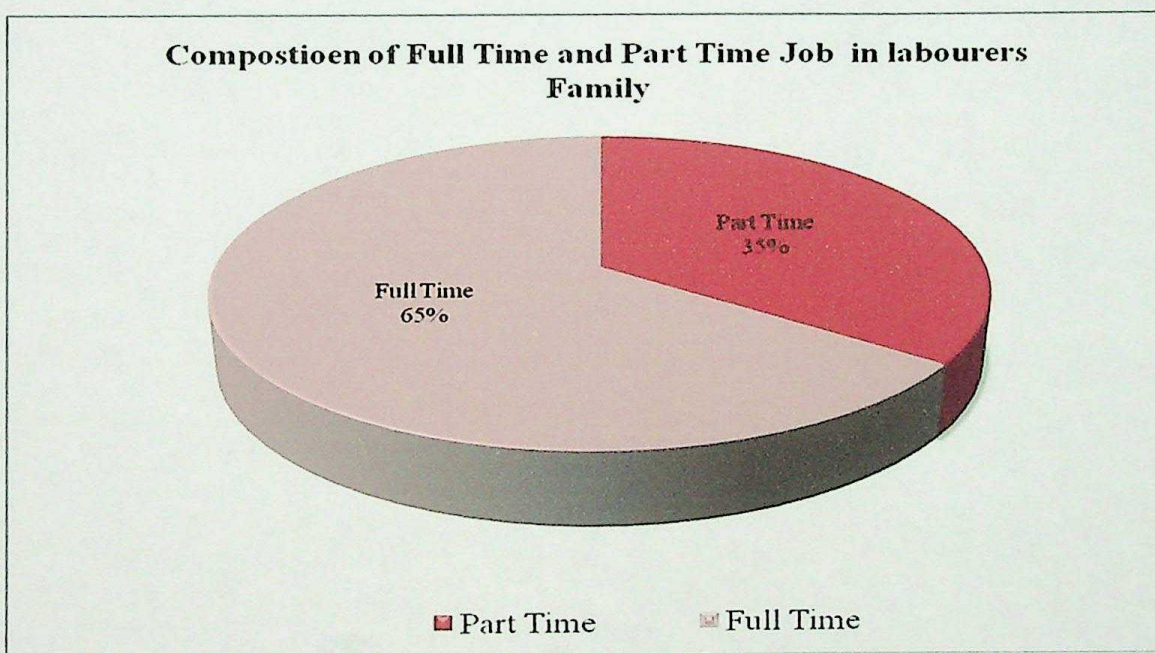
Table 9 : District-wise Persons Engaged In Fishing

Persons	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
Male	50 (34.72)	53.19	39 (27.08)	39.79	55 (38.19)	68.75	144 (100.0)	52.94
Part time	0 (0.00)	0	4 (50.0)	8.16	4 (50.0)	14.28	8 (100.0)	8.33
Full time	50 (36.76)	66.66	35 (25.73)	71.42	51 (37.5)	98.07	136 (100.0)	77.27
Female	41 (36.60)	43.61	47 (41.96)	47.95	24 (21.42)	30	112 (100.0)	41.17
Part time	19 (23.45)	100	39 (48.14)	79.59	23 (28.39)	82.14	81 (100.0)	84.37
Full time	22 (70.96)	29.33	8 (25.80)	16.32	1 (3.22)	1.92	31 (100.0)	17.61
Children	3 (18.75)	3.19	12 (75.0)	12.24	1 (6.25)	1.25	16 (100.0)	5.88
Part time	0 (0.00)	0	6 (85.71)	12.24	1 (14.28)	3.57	7 (100.0)	7.29
Full time	3 (33.33)	4	6 (66.66)	12.24	0	0	9 (100.0)	5.11
Total	94 (34.55)	100	98 (36.02)	100	80 (29.41)	100	272 (100.0)	100
Part time	19 (19.79)	100	49 (51.04)	100	28 (29.16)	100	96 (100.0)	100
Full time	75 (42.61)	100	49 (27.84)	100	52 (29.54)	100	176 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total



Average per laboures Family with full time + Part Time employment was = 2.74 which includes Male + Female + Children



10. DISTRICT WISE NO. OF RESPONDENTS UNDER BPL

The primary data collected through fieldwork shows that (table no. 10) in each district the boat labourers were under BPL. Generally 38.38 % of the total respondents were BPL; while others were above the BPL. The intra district comparison shows that in Sindhudurga district; there were maximum (53.33 %) respondents living in BPL. The reasons behind this seem that there is no good jetty or port to go for catch except Malwan

and Devgad. Also the number of fisheries cooperatives is very less as compared with other districts.

Table 10 : District Wise No. of Respondents Under BPL.

District	Yes	No	Respondent Total
Raigad	8 (25.0)	24 (75.0)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	16 (53.33)	14 (46.66)	30 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	14 (37.83)	23 (62.16)	37 (100.0)
Total	38 (38.38)	61 (61.61)	99 (100.0)

This shows that still large fishing community is in BPL in coastal area in comparison with the other districts like Kolhapur, Sangli, etc. The Social Welfare Department should note this situation.

10.1 District Wise Response On BPL Facilities Received

If we see the data in table No. 11, this shows that 22.22 % respondents could not gave their responses, while only 15.15 % said that they were getting only food grains under BPL card.

Table 11 : District-wise Response on BPL Facilities Received

District	Not Response	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	7 (21.87)	7 (21.87)	18 (56.25)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	6 (20.0)	7 (23.33)	17 (56.66)	30 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	9 (24.32)	1 (2.70)	27 (72.97)	37 (100.0)
Total	22 (22.22)	15 (15.15)	62 (62.62)	99 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

In all there were 38 respondents under BPL (Table No. 11) but out of those only 15 respondents (39.47 %) asserted positive response about the help under BPL. This shows that insufficient help is rendered by the BPL machinery.

10.2 District Wise Facilities Received

While replying to the question about the nature of help received by the labourers who were BPL, said that they got the following facilities, which are shown in table No. 12

Table 12 : District Wise Facilities Received

Sr. No.	Facilities	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
1.	Trawler	2 (100.0)	66.66	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	2 (100.0)	25
2.	Indira Avas Yojana	1 (100.0)	33.33	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	12.5
3.	Food	0 (0.00)	0	2 (66.66)	50	1 (33.33)	100	3 (100.0)	37.5
4.	Cloths	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	25	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	12.5
5.	Latrine	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0
6.	3 and 5	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	25	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	12.5
Total		3 (37.5)	100	4 (50.0)	100	1 (12.5)	100	8 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

In the last column we found that out of 99 respondents' 38 respondents were BPL. But only 08 respondents (21 %) had received some facilities such as Trawler, House, Food, Cloths and a Latrine. Due to shortage of funds and lack of dedicated leaders and social workers the BPL list has remained only on the Government Registers.

10.3 District Wise Response On Regular Rationing Through PDS

Still 13.13 % Respondents Not Getting regular Rationing Food

Table 13
District Wise Response on Regular Rationing Through PDS

District	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	25 (78.12)	7 (21.87)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	29 (96.66)	1 (3.33)	30 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	32 (86.48)	5 (13.51)	37 (100.0)
Total	86 (86.86)	13 (13.13)	99 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

A question was asked whether the respondents were getting regular Ration Food or not: As stated earlier, the coastal districts are always

deficit in food grains, oil seeds, therefore, low income class people eagerly wait for ration. But it was found that still 13.13 % of the labourers were not getting regular and sufficient supply of food grains. Many fisheries cooperatives are also running the ration shops, and the supply is irregular, insufficient and below the grade. With these disqualifications the Supply Department is working in Konkan Region of Maharashtra.

11. SOURCE WISE LOAN TAKEN BY THE RESPONDENTS

There are various sources of loan facilities available by fishermen community. The sources of loan can be divided into two parts i.e. institutional and non-institutional. In the view point of fishermen, institutional sources of loan are beneficial. Because the interest rate on such loan is low and it is easy to get and repay. The other source of loan is non-institutional in which the rate of interest is very high and it is inconvenient to repay. Therefore, an attempt was made to observe the sources of loan facilities to laboures which is shown in the table No. 14.

The study reveals that out of 09 sources of loans first 04 sources are non-institutional sources; while remaining 05 sources are institutional. The following findings can be drawn on the loans facilities.

Table 14 : Source Wise Loan Taken By The Respondents

	Sources	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
1.	Friends/Relatives	95000 (33.92)	27.72	50000 (17.85)	12.85	135000 (48.21)	23.43	280000 (100.0)	21.41
2.	Money Lenders/ Merchants	85500 (57.19)	24.95	27000 (18.06)	6.94	37000 (24.74)	6.42	149500 (100.0)	11.43
3.	Private Vendors	46000 (13.98)	13.42	103000 (31.30)	26.47	180000 (54.71)	31.25	329000 (100.0)	25.16
4.	Landlords	0 (0.00)	0	85000 (100.0)	21.85	0 (0.00)	0	85000 (100.0)	6.50
5.	Commercial Bank	40000 (32.0)	11.67	4000 (3.2)	1.02	81000 (64.8)	14.06	125000 (100.0)	9.55
6.	Co-Op. Society	27000 (18.36)	7.88	30000 (20.40)	7.71	90000 (61.22)	15.62	147000 (100.0)	11.24
7.	Fish Society	20500 (12.53)	5.98	90000 (55.04)	23.13	53000 (32.41)	9.20	163500 (100.0)	12.50
8.	Insurance	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0
9.	Other: SHG	28600 (100.0)	8.34	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	28600 (100.0)	2.18
Total		342600 (26.20)	100	389000 (29.74)	100	576000 (44.05)	100	1307600 (100.0)	100

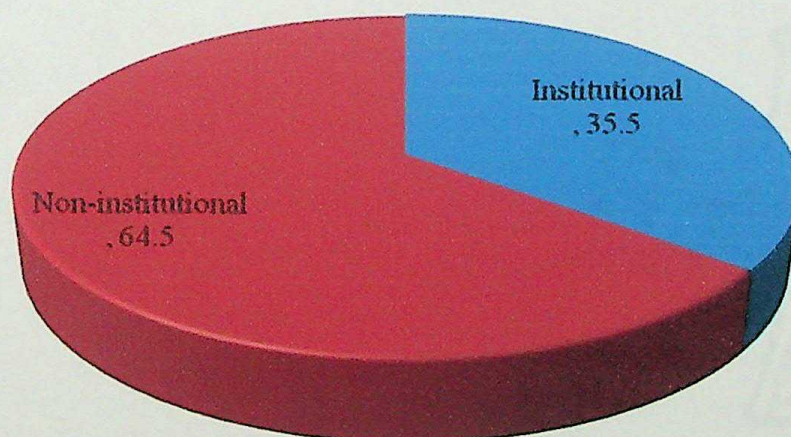
Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

Conclusions

1. Out of the total loan private vendors (25.16 %) are at the highest rank, followed by friends and relatives (21.41 %) and cooperative fish society and credit cooperatives societies are in the third and fourth rank.
2. The SHG are newly entered organization and they are helping by sharing 2.18 % loan facilities.
3. The commercial banks though they are nationalized banks; yet they are lagging in financing the poor laboures.
4. The overall picture seems that private-unorganized sector is dominant in providing maximum finance (64.5 %) which organized and cooperative sector is providing 35.5 % of the total loan.
5. The intra district figures show that Ratnagiri District respondents have taken 44.05 % of total loan amount followed by Sindhudurga and Raigad District.

In short, we can conclude that unorganized sector loan is easy, and timely, hence the laboures had taken loan from these agencies. The Boat owner also gives loan to laboures, which falls under unorganized sector.

Bifurcation of Loan Facilities Aailed by Boat Workers



■ Institutional ■ Non-institutional

12. CLASSIFICATION ON THE BASIS OF OWN HOUSE

Most of the labourers were form local area or from the same village. But few were migrated labourers, who were not having their home. The table No. 15, gives the following conclusions.

Table 15 : Classification on The Basis of Own House

District	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage	Total	Percentage
Raigad	31 (96.87)	33.33	1 (3.125)	16.66	32 (100.0)	32.32
Sindhudurga	26 (86.66)	27.95	4 (13.33)	66.66	30 (100.0)	30.30
Ratnagiri	36 (97.29)	38.70	1 (2.70)	16.66	37 (100.0)	37.37
Total	93 (93.93)	100	6 (6.06)	100	99 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

Out of total (99) laboures; 06 labourers (6 %) were having no homes, either they were migrated or they were living away from their village. Some laboures in Malwan and Ratnagiri taluka were living together by hiring a room, and cooking their own food. This shows that the laboures have to live hard life than that of boat owners, and female fish sellers.

12.1 Classification on The Basis of Nature of House :

The housing condition of laboures was not satisfactory. About 60.20 % were living in Kaccha house, while 40 % were living in Pacca house.

Table 16 : Classification on The Basis of Nature of House

District	Kaccha	Percentage	Pacca	Percentage	Total
Raigad	18 (56.25)	30.50	14 (43.75)	35.89	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	16 (55.17)	27.11	13 (44.82)	33.33	29 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	25 (67.56)	42.37	12 (32.43)	30.76	37 (100.0)
Total	59 (60.20)	100	39 (39.79)	100	98 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

This situation can be solved by giving pacca houses to laboures under the Indira Awas Scheme.

12.2 Electricity, Water and Latrine Facilities at the Labourers House

The coastal districts are economically poor and poverty is seen at each and every place. From this point of view the facilities such as electricity, water and latrine, etc. were searched. The table No. 17, 18 and 19, 20 summarizes the clear picture of boat laboures living conditions.

Table No 17
Classification on The Basis of Electricity Connection

District	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	31 (96.87)	1 (3.12)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	30 (100.0)	0 (0.00)	30 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	27 (72.97)	10 (27.02)	37 (100.0)
Total	88 (88.88)	11 (11.11)	99 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

Table 18
Classification on The Basis of Personal Water Connection

District	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	4 (12.5)	28 (87.5)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	19 (65.51)	10 (34.48)	29 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	2 (5.55)	34 (94.44)	36 (100.0)
Total	25 (25.77)	72 (74.22)	97 (100.0)

Note : 1. 02 have not responded
2. Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

Table 19
Classification on The Basis of Personal Water Connection Status

District	Seasonal	Sufficient	Insufficient	Total
Raigad	0 (0.00)	11 (42.30)	15 (57.69)	26 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	7 (24.13)	11 (37.93)	11 (37.93)	29 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	8 (25.80)	4 (12.90)	19 (61.29)	31 (100.0)
Total	15 (17.44)	26 (30.23)	45 (52.32)	86 (100.0)

Note : 1. 02 have not responded
2. Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The following conclusions can be drawn from these tables.

1. The electricity supply was available with majority of houses.
2. Water connection was only with 25.77 % of labourers, while others were facing the problem.
3. Only 30.23 % labourers were getting sufficient water.
4. Only 19 % labourers were with latrine facility at their home.

Table 20
Classification on The Basis of Latrine Facility

District	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	5 (15.62)	27 (84.37)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	13 (44.82)	16 (55.17)	29 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	1 (2.70)	36 (97.29)	37 (100.0)
Total	19 (19.38)	79 (80.61)	98 (100.0)

Note : 1. 02 have not responded
2. Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The above features show that the electricity, the water, housing, sanitation condition of coastal laboring fishing community is very poor. The schemes of rural housing, electrification, water and sanitation have not reached to poor houses, though the Government machinery argues that lot of schemes have been implemented and reached to the rural poor. These are the facts proved by the research.

12.3 Classification On The Basis Of Bathroom Facility

One can not expect the pacca house and pacca bathroom to each and every house; but it is expected that at least one should have a simple but closed bathroom. The Konkan area is lacking in these facilities. The table no. 21 shows that still 13.26 % of the labourers were living without bathroom both ladies and gents.

Table 21
Classification on The Basis of Bathroom Facility at Laboures House

District	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	30 (93.75)	2 (6.25)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	26 (89.65)	3 (10.34)	29 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	29 (78.37)	8 (21.62)	37 (100.0)
Total	85 (86.73)	13 (13.26)	98 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

It was found in Harne-Paj-Pandhari village, which is at the sea-shore, having no latrines. People use sea-shore in the morning. One side is kept for gents and another for ladies. No body goes for latrine with water. Also, in the same village, there was one common bathroom (Kaccha) which was used one by one person of 4-5 houses, which seems strange. Such is the poor socio-economic condition of boat labourers.

12.4 Availability Of Entertainment Facility At Home

An entertainment facility has become the necessity of life. The Radio, Tape, T.V., VCR, etc are the instrument of entertainment. Radio and tape recorder are now become the common; but T.V. and VCR is supposed the luxurious items. But only 22 % of the labourers (Table No. 22) were having T.V. and no one laboures was with VCR. This shows the miserable condition of fish labourers. All the districts were having more or less the equal status in this respect.

Table 22
Availability of Entertainment Facility at Home

Facility	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
Radio	2 (40.0)	6.25	2 (40.0)	6.66	1 (20.0)	2.70	5 (100.0)	5.05
Tape	4 (30.76)	12.5	6 (46.15)	20	3 (23.07)	8.10	13 (100.0)	13.13
T.V.	5 (22.72)	15.625	11 (50.0)	36.66	6 (27.270)	16.21	22 (100.0)	22.22
V.C.R.	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0
Other	2 (100.0)	6.25	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	2 (100.0)	2.02
Total	32 (32.32)	40.625	30 (30.30)	63.33	37 (37.37)	27.02	99 (100.0)	42.42

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

It is expected that each house should possess the TV; as it is the powerful instrument of Knowledge.

12.5 Availability Of Vehicle Facility At Home

Table 23
Availability of Vehicle Facility At Home

	Vehicles	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total
1.	Bicycle	1 (6.66)	100	13 (86.66)	76.47	1 (6.66)	100	15 (100.0)
2.	Two Wheeler	0 (0.00)	0	2 (100.0)	11.76	0 (0.00)	0	2 (100.0)
3.	Four/Commer. Vehicle	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	5.88	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)
4.	Other	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	5.88	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)
Total		1 (5.26)	100	17 (89.47)	100	1 (5.26)	100	19 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The table 23 shows that only 15 % of the respondents were with bicycles, and two wheelers only with 2 %; and vehicle of four wheels with 2 % respondents. These durables also show the low economic condition and the poverty of the laboring class.

13. REASONS OF DISLIKING OF CURRENT OCCUPATION

Replying to the question, do you like the present job, about 21.42 % of labourers said that they don't like the job; yet they have no other option rather than the fishing. The table No. 24 shows that people have accepted this job only it is their traditional job and there is no other job for them.

Table 24 : Reasons of Disliking of Current Occupation

	Reasons	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
1.	Body Trouble	1	4.54	0	0	0	0	1	1.51
2.	Traditional	5	22.72	5	27.77	6	22.22	16	24.24
3.	Low Income	1	4.54	1	5.55	2	7.40	4	6.06
4.	Extra Efforts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	5,6 and 7	1	4.54	0	0	0	0	1	1.51
6.	Continue Work	1	4.54	1	5.55	1	3.70	3	4.54
7.	No Alternative	5	22.72	4	22.22	11	40.74	20	30.30
8.	5 and 10	1	4.54	0	0	0	0	1	1.51
9.	5 and 6	1	4.54	0	0	1	3.703	2	3.03
10.	10 and 13	1	4.54	0	0	0	0	1	1.51
11.	4 and 10	4	18.18	0	0	0	0	4	6.06
12.	6,16 and 17	1	4.54	0	0	0	0	1	1.51
13.	10,16 and 17	0	0	1	5.55	1	3.70	2	3.03
14.	Need Of Service	0	0	1	5.55	0	0	1	1.51
15.	Low Catch	0	0	5	27.77	2	7.40	7	10.60
16.	End Of Business	0	0	0	0	1	3.70	1	1.51
17.	No Work	0	0	0	0	1	3.70	1	1.51
18.	5 and 6	0	0	0	0	1	3.70		0
Total		22	100	18	100	27	100	66	100

The last column shows the various reasons of disliking of job. *Few labourers told that now it is the end of job and in future there would be no traditional fishing.*

13.1 Bad Impact of Fishing on Health

In every occupations there are occupational diseases, from this point of view it was found that out of total 33 % labourers answered that there are several disease due to salt water, damp weather, irregular bath

and ill care of hygiene. The workers have to live for 2-3 days in the sea without bath, without sufficient drinking water, absence of latrine, etc.

Table 25 : Bad Impact of Fishing on Health

	Reasons	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
1.	Eye Problem	2	15.38	0	0	1	8.33	3	9.09
2.	Injury On Leg	1	7.69	1	12.5	0	0	2	6.06
3.	Pain To Chest	1	7.69	1	12.5	0	0	2	6.06
4.	1 and 3	1	7.69	0	0	0	0	1	3.03
5.	5 and 6	1	7.69	0	0	0	0	1	3.03
6.	Chest Diesis	4	30.76	1	12.5	4	33.33	9	27.27
7.	Hand & Leg Pains	2	15.38	0	0	1	8.33	3	9.09
8.	Elbow Pains	1	7.69	0	0	0	0	1	3.03
9	Pressure On Chest	0	0	1	12.5	0	0	1	3.03
10.	Head Pain	0	0	1	12.5	1	8.33	2	6.06
11.	Skin Problem	0	0	1	12.5	1	8.33	2	6.06
12.	Pains In Chest	0	0	1	12.5	0	0	1	3.03
13.	Acidity	0	0	1	12.5	0	0	1	3.03
14.	Loosed Hand & Leg	0	0	0	0	1	8.33	1	3.03
15.	Body Pain	0	0	0	0	2	16.66	2	6.06
16.	19 and 20	0	0	0	0	1	8.33	1	3.03
Total		13	100	8	100	12	100	33	100

The table No. 25 shows number of diseases, but out of them eye problem, leg injury, chest diseases, hand and leg pains, skin disease was the common. *Few workers replied that: "we might have committed sin in previous life and hence God had punished us by giving birth in fisherman's house".*

13.2 Types of Uncontrollable Hazards

Table 26 : Types of Uncontrollable Hazards

	Types	Raigad	Sindhudurga	Ratnagiri	Total	%
1.	Boat Accident	2	0	2	4	50
2.	Water Inflow Due To Hole	1	0	0	1	12.5
3.	Loss Of Net	1	0	0	1	12.5
4.	Hand Fracture	0	1	1	2	25.0
Total		4	1	3	8	100

The labourers' day-to-day work is very hard. Every time, they have to face the natural climate. Boat accidents, high tides, body injury, loss of

net, etc are the uncontrollable hazards in this job. Table No. 26 gives the district-wise hazards faced by sample labourers. Very recently (2009) due to fayol cyclone, more than 15 boat labourers were lost.

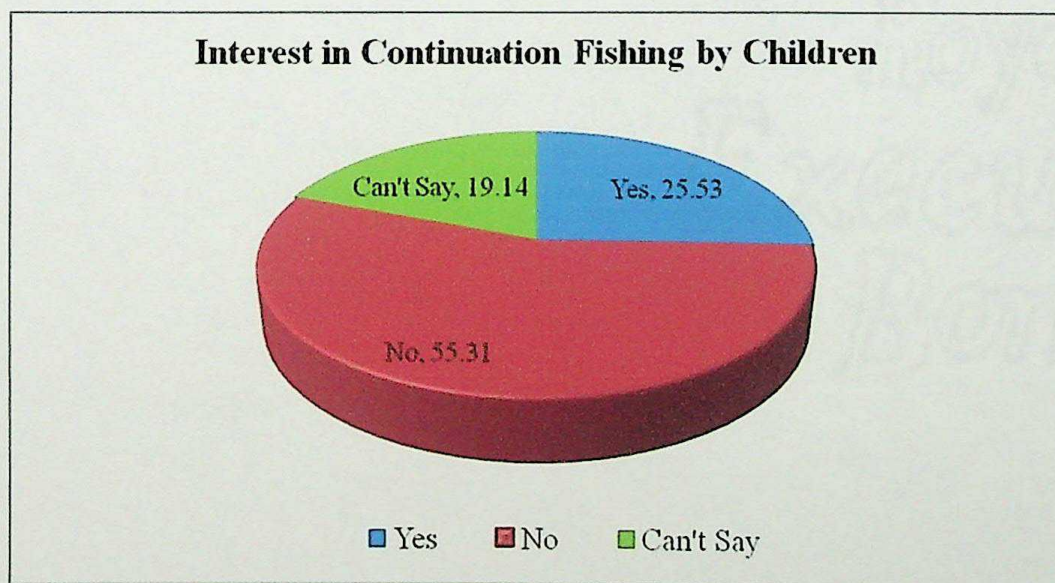
14. INTEREST IN CONTINUED FISHING BY CHILDREN

If there are hazards and dangers in boating, then whether the present labourers will allow their sons to join as boat workers or not was the question before the respondents. Large majority (55.31 %) of respondents (Table 27) said that they will not allow their sons, however, 25.53 % said yes, we will allow. But 19.14 % of respondents were not sure and hence they could not give their decision.

Table 27 : Interest In Continuing Fishing By Children

District	Yes	%	No	%	Can't Say	%	Total
Raigad	12 (37.5)	50	13 (40.62)	25	7 (21.87)	38.88	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	6 (23.07)	25	19 (73.07)	36.53	1 (3.84)	5.55	26 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	6 (16.66)	25	20 (55.55)	38.46	10 (27.77)	55.55	36 (100.0)
Total	24 (25.53)	100	52 (55.31)	100	18 (19.14)	100	94 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total



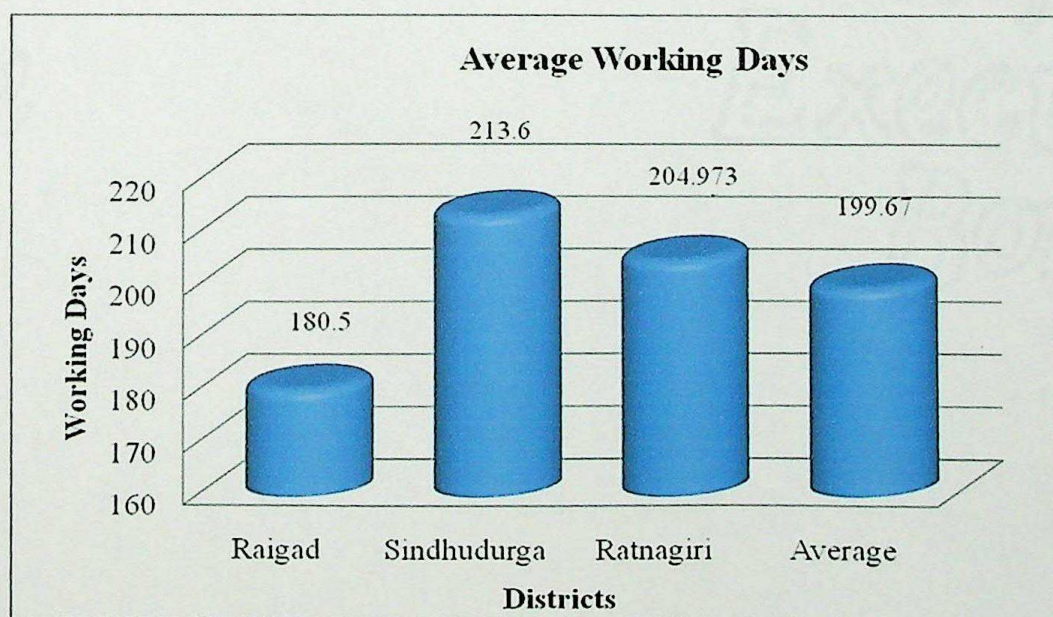
As such 74.45 % (55.13 + 19.14) of boat labourers disliked this job due to several reasons.

15. AVERAGE WORKING DAYS

Table No. 28, gives the average number of days of work during the year. It was found that Ratnagiri district labourers have got maximum days i.e. 204; followed by Sindhudurga, while Raigad district labourers have got minimum i.e. 180 days work. The reason behind this is that in Ratnagiri district there are big boats and purse-seining nets boats and these big boats can go in deep sea for 10 to 15 days at a time; where as in other districts the boats are small and hence there is less employment.

Table 28 : Average Working Days

District	Total Days	Percentage	Average
Raigad	5776	29.21	180.5
Sindhudurga	6408	32.41	213.6
Ratnagiri	7584	38.36	204.97
Total	19768	100	199.67



But on an average each labourers have got 199 days work and 166 days unemployed. This situation has led to the poverty and low standard of life of fishing labourers.

16. LABORERS' SATISFACTION WITH BOAT OWNERS

The labourers' satisfaction gives the positive impact on the production organization. It is clear from the Table No. 29 that 94.94 % of the laboures were satisfied about their boat owners; few (5 %) were dissatisfied due to low wages and irregular work.

Table 29 : Labourers Satisfaction With Boat Owners

District	Yes	No	Total
Raigad	30 (93.75)	2 (6.25)	32 (100.0)
Sindhudurga	29 (96.66)	1 (3.33)	30 (100.0)
Ratnagiri	35 (94.59)	2 (5.40)	37 (100.0)
Total	94 (94.94)	5 (5.05)	99 (100.0)

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The boat owners make a contract and appoint the labourers and hence there was no conflict among the owners and labourers.

17. ANNUAL INCOME OF LABOURES

An analysis of responses collected from the labourers in sample districts, depicts the average per respondents annual total income. Such income (wages) is paid per week, per trip or the per season; and therefore per month exact amount was not told by the them. However, by making rough estimate; the annual average income was drawn.

Table 30 : Annual Income As A Labour

District	Income	Percentage	Average
Raigad	613000	28.47	19156.25
Sindhudurga	733600	34.07	24453.33
Ratnagiri	806390	37.45	21794.32
Total	2152990	100	21747.37

The table No. 30 reveals that the average income of Sindhudurga was highest i.e. Rs. 24,453/- followed by Ratnagiri and Raigad. The

district average comes up to Rs. 21,747/- which is above the income needed for poverty line. Hence, all the boat labourers were above the BPL. The annual income of Sindhudurga district is more because the laboures had got (See table No. 28) more days of work.

17.1 Monthly Laboures Income

Table No. 29 and 30 gives the Boat Labourers monthly average income and monthly average expenditure. 'it was found that all the sample distinct labourers average income was surplus than their monthly expenditure. However, the amount was ranging between Rs. 248 to 1079.

Table 31 : Monthly Labour Income (Rs.)

District	Income	Percentage	Av. Income
Raigad	112478	35.91	3514.93
Respondent Nos.	32		
Sindhudurga	112764	36.00	3758.8
Respondent Nos.	30		
Ratnagiri	87969	28.08	2377.54
Respondent Nos.	37		
Total	313211	100	3163.74
Respondent Nos.	99		

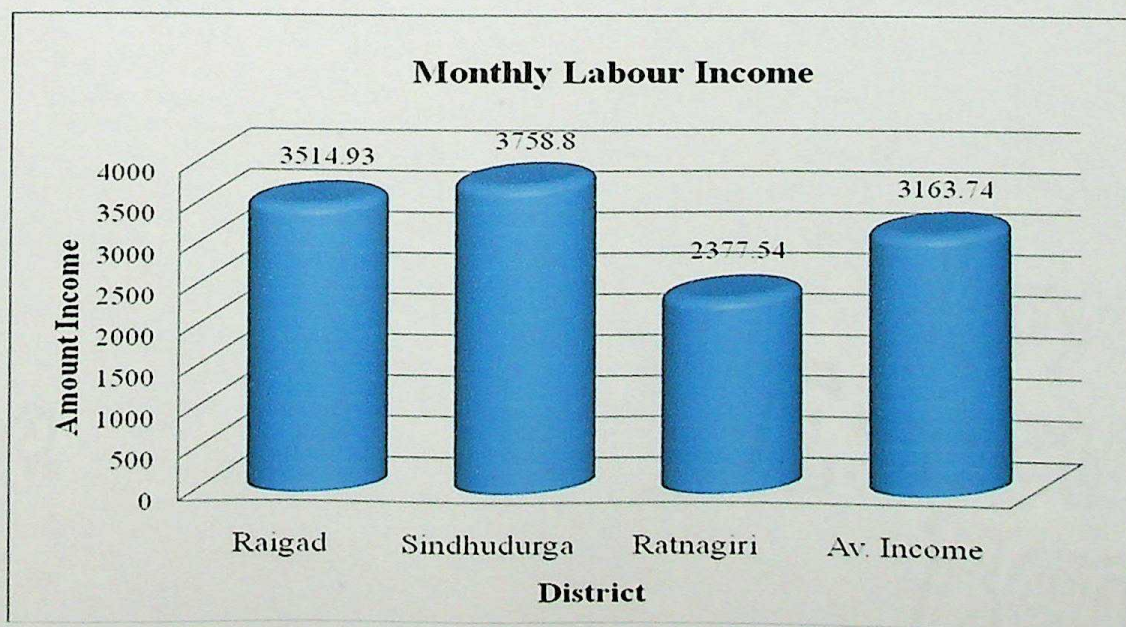


Table 32
Monthly Income and Expenditure of The Respondents (Rs.)

District	Expenditure	%	Av. Exp.	Av Income	Net Savings
Raigad	77951	31.71	2435.96	3574	1079
Respondent Os.	32				
Sindhudurga	105326	42.85	3510.86	3758	248
Respondent Nos.	30				
Ratnagiri	62517	25.43	1689.64	2377	688
Respondent Nos.	37				
Total	245794	100	2482.76	3163	681
Respondent Nos.	99				

This means labourers were getting sure monthly income, and whatever was surplus that was spent during the lean or off season. Here, we have realized that the fishing job is seasonal and its tenure is not sure. It was also found that the boat workers were not in habit or drinking alcohol, of course except few.

18. INTEREST IN ALTERNATIVE OCCUPATION/ FUTURE JOBS PERFORMED BY FISH LABOURERS

In the field work it was made clear (table No. 31) by several workers that they will loose this job in near future due low catch and low wages, and they will be jobless. In this circumstance what alternative job they will accept.

Table 33
Interest In Alternative Occupation/ Jobs To Be Performed By Fish Labourers

	Occupation	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
1	Dairy	2 (100.0)	6.25	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	2 (100.0)	2.02
2	Poultry	3 (23.07)	9.375	4 (30.76)	13.33	6 (46.15)	16.21	13 (100.0)	13.13
3	Farming	2 (25.0)	6.25	2 (25.0)	6.66	4 (50.0)	10.81	8 (100.0)	8.08
4	2,3	1 (11.11)	3.125	5 (55.55)	16.66	3 (33.33)	8.108	9 (100.0)	9.09
5	1,2	1 (100.0)	3.125	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	1.01
6	Service	3 (75.0)	9.375	1 (25.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)	0	4 (100.0)	4.04
7	2,6	3 (75.0)	9.375	1 (25.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)	0	4 (100.0)	4.04
8	Laboures	1 (100.0)	3.125	0 (0.00)	0	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	1.01
9	1,2,3	0 (0.00)	0	3 (37.5)	10	5 (62.5)	13.51	8 (100.0)	8.08
10	Any Occupation	0 (0.00)	0	1 (33.33)	3.33	2 (66.66)	5.40	3 (100.0)	3.03
11	1,3	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	3.33	0 (0.00)	0	1 (100.0)	1.01
12	Boat Owner	0 (0.00)	0	2 (66.66)	6.66	1 (33.33)	2.70	3 (100.0)	3.03
Total		32 (32.32)		30 (30.30)		37 (37.37)		99 (100.0)	

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

The alternative jobs preferred are mentioned as per priority :

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Poultry - 13 % | (2) Poultry and Farming - 9 % |
| (3) Farming - 8 % | (4) Dairy, Poultry & Farming- 9 % |
| (5) Service - 7 % | |

1. This seems that Government should distribute the surplus land to fishermen for agriculture purpose.
2. Secondly, the training of Dairy and Poultry should be provided so that they can run this alternative jobs/ occupation in lieu of fisheries.

19. MEMBERSHIP OF COOPERATIVE SOCIETY

1. Boat Labourers and Cooperative Fisheries Societies

The table No. 32 shows the membership of fish labourers with the cooperatives fisheries societies in their respective villages. Though the

labourers were working on others boat yet they were getting some benefits of cooperatives. It was found that nearly 20 % of the labourers were not the members while others (80 %) were the members since more than 20 years, and they had got the various benefits from their societies, these were, 1.Food grain- Rationing , 2.Blue Box, 3.Kerosene, etc.

Table 34
Classification on The Basis of Membership of Cooperative Society

	Member	Raigad	%	Sindhudurga	%	Ratnagiri	%	Total	%
0	No Members	5 (25.0)	15.625	5 (25.0)	16.66	10 (50.0)	27.02	20 (100.0)	20.20
1	Since 10 Yrs	10 (28.57)	31.25	9 (25.71)	30	16 (45.71)	43.24	35 (100.0)	35.35
2	11 To 15 Yrs	10 (71.42)	31.25	1 (7.14)	3.33	3 (21.42)	8.10	14 (100.0)	14.14
3	16 To 20 Yrs	4 (26.66)	12.5	9 (60.0)	30	2 (13.33)	5.40	15 (100.0)	15.15
4	More Than 20 Yrs	3 (20.0)	9.375	6 (40.0)	20	6 (40.0)	16.21	15 (100.0)	15.15
	Total	32 (32.32)	100	30 (30.30)	100	37 (37.37)	100	99 (100.0)	100

Note : Figure in parenthesis denotes percentage to total

2. Cooperatives Should Finance to the Small Fishermen

There was a demand by poor fishermen that the cooperative gives finance for purchase of boat for a group of seven persons, but not for a single person. Few fish labourers demanded that if society finances. Though the NCDC an amount up to Rs. 1 lakh; then they can purchase a small boat of Yamaha Engine which will support the single family of course, it was cross checked and was found that the cooperatives are facing the problem of over-dues of loans, and the demand of loan was not under consideration to small fishermen.

20. CONCLUSION

The study reveals that the socio-economic condition of boat labourers is not satisfactory like that of organized workers. The fish

labourers are unorganized and they are getting seasonal occupation, and also they can not adopt other jobs in Konkan area. They neither can work on farm nor they can rear poultry, and hence the same traditional fisheries. This seems that there is needed to restrict the further entry of fishing boats.