

A Minor Research Project on

# A Study on Socio-Economic Conditions of Fishermen of Coastal Karnataka with Reference to Dakshina Kannada and Udupi Districts



Submitted to

University Grants Commission South Western Regional Office  
Bangalore, Karnataka - 560009

by

**Mr. Abdul Razak, M.Com.**  
Dept. of Commerce & Business Management  
Govinda Dasa College, Surathkal



**Annexure - III**

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**

**BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG**

**NEW DELHI – 110 002**

**STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN RESPECT OF MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT**

1. Name of Principal Investigator: Abdul Razak
2. Dept. of PI : Department of Commerce  
Name of College : Govinda Dasa First Grade College, Surathkal, Mangalore
3. UGC approval Letter No. and Date: MRP-1470/14-15/KAMAO17/UGC-SWRO, 04-02-2015
4. Title of the Research Project: A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF FISHERMEN OF COASTAL KARNATAKA WITH REFERENCE TO DAKSHINA KANNADA AND UDUPI DISTRICTS
5. Effective date of starting the project: 01-03-2015
6. a. Period of Expenditure: From 1/03/2015 to 30/07/2016  
b. Details of Expenditure \_\_\_\_\_

S.No	Item	Amount Approved (Rs.)	Amount Received (Rs.)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs.)
i	Books & Journals	15,000	15,000	14,989
ii	Equipment	45,000	45,000	45,000
iii	Contingency	20,000	10,000	10445
iv	Field Work/Travel (Give details in the proforma)	70,000	35,000	69840
v	Any Other (Special Needs)	10,000	5000	4985
	Total	1,60,000	1,10,000	1,45,259

7. If as a result of check or audit objection some irregularly is noticed at later date, action will be taken to refund, adjust or regularize the objected amounts.

8. It is certified that the grant of Rs. **1,45,259 (Rupees one lakh forty five thousand two hundred and fifty nine only)** out of which already received Rs. **1,10,000** from the University Grants Commission under the scheme of support for Minor Research Project entitled **“Impact of learning facilities and socioeconomic status on academic performance – A case study of Government First grade College Students in D. K. district of Karnataka”** vide UGC letter No. F. **MRP(S)–0140/12-13/KAMA017/UGC-SWRO**, dated **04/02/2015** has been fully utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned and in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down by the University Grants Commission.

**SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR**

**PRINCIPAL**

(Seal)

## Annexure - IV

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**  
**BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG**  
**NEW DELHI – 110 002**

**STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON FIELD WORK**

**Name of the Principal Investigator:** Abdul Razak

Sl. No.	Day & Date	Place	Distance travelled(Km)	Cost incurred (Rs.)
1	01/10/2015, Thursday	Talapady	Distance in Kms	1050
2	02/10/2015, Friday	Someswar	70	630
3	03/10/2015, Saturday	Ullala	42	720
4	05/10/2015, Monday	Mulihithlu	48	600
5	6/10/2014, Tuesday	Bolar	40	630
6	07/10/2015, Wednesday	Hoige Bazar	42	570
7	8/10/2015, Thursday	Kasaba Bengre	38	300
8	09/10/2015, Friday	Kudroli Bengre	20	240
9	10/10/2015, Saturday	Boloor	16	450
10	12/10/2015, Monday	Panambur	30	270
11	13/10/2015, Tuesday	Baikampady	18	180
12	14/10/2015, Wednesday	Hosabettu	12	90
13	15/10/2015, Thursday	Mukka	6	180
14	16/10/2015, Friday	Sasihitlu	12	270
15	17/10/2015, Saturday	Chitrapu	18	420
16	19/10/2015, Monday	Hejamadi	28	510
17	20/10/2015, Tuesday	Padubidri	34	600
18	21/10/2015, Wednesday	Bada Uchila	40	780

19	22/10/2014, Thursday	<b>Tenka Yermal</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>660</b>
20	23/10/2015, Friday	<b>Kaup</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>960</b>
21	24/10/2015, Saturday	<b>Uliyaragoli</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>990</b>
22	26/10/2015, Monday	<b>Kote</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1200</b>
23	27/10/2015, Tuesday	<b>Mattu</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1080</b>
24	28/10/2015, Wednesday	<b>Ambalpadi</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>1440</b>
25	29/10/2015, Thursday	<b>Kuthpady</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1410</b>
26	30/10/2015, Friday	<b>Kadekar</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>1320</b>
27	02/11/2015, Monday	<b>Udyawara</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1350</b>
28	03/11/2015, Tuesday	<b>Malpe</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>1560</b>
29	04/11/2015, Wednesday	<b>Thenkanidiyoor</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>1560</b>
30	5/11/2015, Thursday	<b>Padu Thonse</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>1650</b>
31	6/11/2015, Friday	<b>Kodi Kanyana</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>2130</b>
32	7/11/2015, Saturday	<b>Saligrama</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>2070</b>
33	9/11/2015, Monday	<b>Irodi</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>1830</b>
34	10/11/2015, Tuesday	<b>Varambally</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1800</b>
35	11/11/2015, Wednesday	<b>Haradi</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>1830</b>
36	12/11/2015, Thursday	<b>Kotathattu</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>2130</b>
37	13/11/2015, Friday	<b>Kota</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>2160</b>
38	14/11/2015, Saturday	<b>Thekkatte</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>2340</b>
39	15/11/2015, Sunday	<b>Kumbashi</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>2310</b>
40	16/11/2015, Monday	<b>Bijadi</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>2250</b>
41	17/11/2015, Tuesday	<b>Gopadi</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>2340</b>
42	18/11/2015, Wednesday	<b>Koteswara</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>2400</b>
43	19/11/2015, Thursday	<b>Kundapur Kodi</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>2520</b>
44	23/11/2015, Monday	<b>Trasi</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>2880</b>
45	24/11/2015, Tuesday	<b>Tallur</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>2640</b>

46	25/11/2015, Wednesday	<b>Hemmadi</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>2700</b>
47	27/11/2015, Friday	<b>Gangolli</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>2940</b>
48	28/11/2015, Saturday	<b>Gujjadi</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>3360</b>
49	30/11/2015, Monday	<b>Maravanthe</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>3540</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>69,840</b>

(Travelled in a rented car ( KA21, M 8919), Fuel charges charged at Rs15.00 per kilometer.)

Certified that the above expenditure is in accordance with the UGC norms for Minor Research Projects.

**SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR**

**PRINCIPAL  
(Seal)**

Annexure -VI

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION  
BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG  
NEW DELHI – 110 002**

**Annual/Final Report of the work done on the Minor Research Project.  
(Report to be submitted within 6 weeks after completion of each year)**

1. **Project report No. 1st/Final** : Final
2. **UGC Reference No. F:** MRP-1470/14-15/KAMAO17/UGC-SWRO dated 04-02- 2015
3. **Period of report** : From 1/03/2015 to 30/07/2015
4. **Title of research project** “A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF FISHERMEN OF COASTAL KARNATAKA WITH REFERENCE TO DAKSHINA KANNADA AND UDUPI DISTRICTS”
5. (a) **Name of the Principal Investigator** : Abdul Razak  
(b) **Dept.** : Department of Commerce  
(c) **College where work has progressed:** Govinda Dasa First Grade College, Surathkal  
6. **Effective date of starting of the project:** 1/03/2015

**7. Grant approved and expenditure incurred during the period of the report:**

- a. **Total amount approved Rs. :** 1,60,000/-
- b. **Total expenditure Rs. :** Rs. 1,45,259 /-
- c. **Report of the work done: (Please attach a separate sheet)**

**i. Brief objective of the project:**

It was with a view to making an in-depth study of the socio-economic conditions of fishermen of coastal Karnataka with reference to Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts that this study was undertaken. The specific objectives of this study are:

- 1) To identify the problems faced by marine fishermen families.
- 2) To evaluate the marketing, finance and agency activities related to fishing industry in the study area.
- 3) To study the socio-economic aspects of fishermen community.
- 4) To provide required suggestions on the basis of findings of the study.

**ii. Work done so far and results achieved and publications, if any, resulting from the work (Give details of the papers and names of the journals in which it has been published or accepted for publication.)**

I sincerely thank you for sanctioning financial assistance to my minor research project entitled "Socio-economic conditions of fishermen of coastal Karnataka with reference to Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts ". I would like to bring to your kind notice the following developments in the minor research project.

- a) The survey work has been completed. Data was collected from 380 respondents of 49 fishing villages of of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi Districts. Data have been fed to the computer. Statistical analysis is done on the collected data.
- b) In spite of my best efforts, I was not able to publish the paper. However, I will continue my effort to publish the paper.

**iii. Has the progress been according to original plan of work and towards achieving the objective? If not, state reasons**

The progress has been according to origin plan of work towards achieving the objective.

**iv. Please enclose a summary of the findings of the study. One bound copy of the final report of work done may also be sent to the concerned Regional Office of the UGC.**

**MAJOR FINDINGS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- The study reveals that the level of education among fisher folk is not satisfactory. It is imperative that the government should focus on uplifting the educational status of the fishing communities in order to improve their socio-economic condition.
- The fishing community by and large lives under poverty. In fact 240 of 380 respondents in the study own a BPL card. The government must take actions to free them from the clutches of extreme poverty. It is important to make sure that the government measures reach the ultimate beneficiaries.
- Fishing Communities are generally unaware of the ways in which co-operative societies can lift their socio-economic status. Fishing co-operatives must be strengthened and encouraged as they would help the fishermen community by providing them with much needed financial and other assistance.
- Majority of the respondents conceded that they do not have any other source of income except fishing. This is one of the reasons for the poor living conditions of fishermen. Any step taken up the government to supplement their meagre income, would be helpful.
- Fish Catchers are unduly affected by the perils of the sea. They face high risk to life, health and safety. Government should introduce a low premium insurance facility to them, thereby insuring their life and health.
- Fishermen Community is troubled by the high cost of storage. Government should open up Ice Plants to provide it at a lower cost to fisher folk.



- Government and NGOs should take steps to create awareness among fisher folk regarding the advancement in technologies and its application to their businesses..
- The commercial banks and co-operatives shall encourage entrepreneurship among deserving businessmen from fishing community. Since the fishing business involves huge investments, it would be plausible for the people with 'ideas' to come forward and start the business, if and only if they can get loans at favourable terms.
- Fish Traders at different places in the district, lack well organized markets. It is not uncommon to find many fish traders selling fishes in the streets. Many existing markets require sophistication and modernisation. Government should build well organised market for fish traders.
- Many fishermen use unscientific ways of fishing that result in huge amount of wastage to the industry as a whole. Many traditional fishermen do use small nets by virtue of which they catch growing baby fishes. Since they don't have commercial value, they throw it back to the sea, which results in net loss to the fishing industry. Hence fishermen must be made aware of scientific ways of fish catch and these wastages must be kept at minimum.
- The fishermen community suffers from variable income. Government and other NGOs must provide them with proper cold storage facilities. This prevents the fish traders from engaging in distress selling and thus resulting in stability of their incomes.
- Fishermen co-operatives are a good way to solve many problems faced by fishermen community and also to prevent their exploitation. However, fisher folk generally are unaware of the strength of co-operatives. They do not approach co-operatives seeking remedies for their problems. Hence awareness must be created among fisher folk to let them understand the importance of fishery co-operatives in uplifting their socio-economic conditions.
- Provisions of labour laws must be applied to fish catchers. They suffer when they fail to catch enough fishes on a fishing trip because; their income is tied to the level of fish caught by them. Actions must be taken to provide them with a minimum wage so that they feel secured about their income.
- Fish Catchers form unorganised sector. They must be brought into the folds of organised sector. This way they can be empowered.
- Weather forecasting department should accurately predict and disseminate information to the fisher folk, regarding natural disasters connected with sea. This community is always worst hit by such occurrences and it is only the timely information that can minimize the damage caused to them.
- A few Fisheries College has to be established across the districts. This will enhance the academic interest in Fisheries Industry of the districts. Further, scholarships must be provided to

the meritorious students who shall be encouraged to take up research in the various aspects related to the fishing industry.

- Saving habit in fishermen community is generally low. This is partly because of their low income and partly because of their attitude towards savings. Steps must be undertaken to cultivate the saving habits among fishermen. Their income is low and it would be doubly difficult to face adversaries of life, in the absence of proper savings.
- The housing conditions, source of drinking water facilities and poor sanitary conditions of marine fishermen must be studied in detail by the Governmental Agencies and necessary steps should be taken to solve these problems. A simple and timely procedure must be implemented for subsidized loan facility. Government must increase the upper limit of both loan and subsidy.
- Commercial banks and Co-operatives have not made a big difference in the lives of sample fishermen. Easy accessible loans with low interest rates should be given to poor marine fishermen.
- Lack of co-ordination among different government departments in implementing various fisheries programme has been an obstacle in the effective development of fishing community. Fishing department must assume an active role in co-ordinating and implementing different programmes related to fisheries.
- Literacy is one of the very vital social barometers of development. Literacy Level and development go hand in hand. Government must implement effective literacy programs at grass root level for a large number of adult illiterates in the community. Steps must also be taken to make sure that the drop-out rate in schools and colleges are held low.
- A detailed study on various aspects of socio-economic conditions of fishermen at local body level must be undertaken at the Local body level. This study should serve as a basis for the government for implementing effective and necessary measures for the upliftment of the community.

## **CONCLUSION**

Conclusion: The objectives of the study have been fulfilled. Marine Fishermen face a number of problems. The study has been able to identify seven key problems faced by fisher folk. Firstly, they suffer because of the uncertain climate which often put their earnings, health and even life at risk. Secondly, they face shortage of fishes which shrinks their earnings. Thirdly, cost of fishing has increased steeply, thus raising the burden on fisher folk, higher also translates into higher prices, thus affecting demand negatively. Fourthly, increased cost of ice make cold storage difficult, thus forcing fish traders to engage in distress selling. Fifthly, fisher folk do not get adequate financial support from credit institutions such as Commercial banks and they end up getting assistance from Friends/Relatives or Money Lenders. Sixthly, Fishermen community suffers from lack of

government support. Systematic programs will have to be implemented in a time-bound manner for the upliftment of fisher folk. Lastly, both fish catchers and fish traders are troubled by low and variable income. Incomes of both the groups are very low and the problems associated with low income are aggravated by the inconsistency in the income levels. The role of marketing, agency and finance activities related to fishing industry in the study area has been evaluated. Fish Marketing is open to women and in fact women are very active in marketing fishes to ultimate consumers, as far as area of study is concerned. However, these women do earn only very low level of income and they are unable save much. Fish Traders are also troubled by the varying demand patterns for the fishes and widely fluctuating prices. They lack proper market facilities throughout the twin districts. Further, fishing community is generally deprived of much needed financial support. The study revealed that they prefer to borrow small amounts of money as cash loans from friends/relatives and at worse, even from money lenders who charge high rates of interest. Unfortunately, many of them do not borrow money from banks or co-operatives and one of the main reasons is their social and economic backwardness. Intermediaries play an important linking role between fish catchers and fish traders and they also occupy a pivotal position in the fixation of prices. Socio-economic conditions of fishermen community have been studied. Fishermen community is one of the most socially and economically backward communities in the twin districts. Majority of the fisher folk population lives below poverty line. Their income level is low and they lack both the ability and willingness to save money for the future. They do not have access to banks to avail loans. There is a general feeling among them that the government should do more for their development. Level of education is ordinary among fisher folk with high illiteracy rate. Many of the houses lacked certain household amenities, reliable source of drinking water and sanitation facilities. Overall, Socio-Economic Conditions of fisher folk has not been poor and their standard of living is pretty ordinary. Their social status is inferior to that of general population and lots of work is required to be done for the upliftment of the fishermen community.

v. Any other information \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

PRINCIPAL

(Seal)

Annexure – VII

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION  
BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG  
NEW DELHI – 110 002**

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION AT THE TIME OF SENDING THE  
FINAL REPORT OF THE WORK DONE ON THE PROJECT**

1. Title of the Project : “A study on socio-economic conditions of fishermen of coastal Karnataka with reference to Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts”

2. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Abdul Razak

Lecturer

3. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE INSTITUTION: Govinda Dasa First Grade College,  
Surathkal, Mangalore

4. UGC APPROVAL LETTER NO. AND DATE: MRP-1470/14-15/KAMAO17/UGC-SWRO dated 04-02-2015

5. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION: 01/03/2015

6. TENURE OF THE PROJECT: 17 months

7. TOTAL GRANT ALLOCATED: 1,60,000/-

8. TOTAL GRANT RECEIVED: 110000/-

9. FINAL EXPENDITURE: 145259/-

10. TITLE OF THE PROJECT: A study on socio-economic conditions of fishermen of coastal Karnataka with reference to Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts

11. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT:

The specific objectives of this study are:

- 1) To identify the problems faced by marine fishermen families.
- 2) To evaluate the marketing, finance and agency activities related to fishing industry in the study area.
- 3) To study the socio-economic aspects of fishermen community.
- 4) To provide required suggestions on the basis of findings of the study.

## 12. WHETHER OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED: Yes

In this study, a measure of socioeconomic status of fishermen was developed which helped to assess the socioeconomic conditions of the fishermen of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts. The key problems faced by the fishermen of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi Districts were identified. The role of marketing, agency and finance activities related to fishing industry in the study area has been evaluated. Socio-economic conditions of fishermen community have been studied. Based on the findings, several suggestions are made.

13. ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE PROJECT: It was found in the study that majority of the fisher folk population lives under poverty and their socio-economic status must be uplifted. Further, key problems faced by the fishermen community have been identified. Wherever possible, likely remedies for such problems have been suggested.

## 14. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS (IN 500 WORDS)

The socio-economic condition of fishermen community in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi district has been studied. Fishermen community was found to be one of the most socially and economically backward communities in the twin districts. Majority of the fisher folk population lives below poverty line. Their income level is low and they lack both the ability and willingness to save money for the future. They do not have access to banks to avail loans. There is a general feeling among them that the government should do more for their development. Level of education is ordinary among fisher folk with high illiteracy rate. Many of the houses lacked certain household amenities, reliable source of drinking water and sanitation facilities. Overall, Socio-Economic Conditions of fisher folk has not been poor and their standard of living is pretty ordinary. Their social status is inferior to that of general population and lots of work is required to be done for the upliftment of the fishermen community. Further, the fishing community is facing a number of problems like, uncertain climate in the sea, shortage of fishes caused chiefly by environment pollution, increased cost of fishing, lack of financial support from credit institutions, lack of sufficient government support and the low and varying pattern of incomes. The government must take measures to improve the socio-economic conditions of fishermen community and their problems should be solved on a priority basis. Increased focus on education, strengthening co-operatives and enhancing their access to commercial banks would certainly help in the improvement of their socio-economic condition. The efforts must also be made to solve the problems faced by the fishermen community, on a priority basis. Provision of low-premium insurance facility and cold storage, construction of proper fish markets and timely supply of accurate weather information by the meteorological department would help in alleviating the problems faced by the fishermen community.

The project was carried out in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka State. The findings from the study may not hold good for other districts of Karnataka.

15. CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY

The general wellbeing of the society can be said to improve only when the situation of the most backward communities are improved. Majority of the Fisher folk population of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts are living under poverty and hence their socio-economic condition leaves a lot to be desired. The study throws light on the deplorable socio-economic condition of fisher folk population. The study also suggests possible remedies for certain key issues faced by fisher folk population.

16. WHETHER ANY PH.D. ENROLLED/PRODUCED OUT OF THE PROJECT: No

17. NO. OF PUBLICATIONS OUT OF THE PROJECT: Not yet.

(PLEASE ATTACH)

(PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)

(PRINCIPAL)

(Seal)