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Fisheries Of Telangana at A Glance

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Abstract

Fisheries play an important role in the socio-economic development of Telangana by contributing to food security, rural employment, nutritional improvement, and income generation. Although Telangana is a landlocked state, it possesses considerable inland fisheries potential through rivers, reservoirs, tanks, ponds, canals, and other water bodies. The state is endowed with major river systems such as the Godavari and Krishna, along with numerous reservoirs and minor irrigation tanks that support capture fisheries and aquaculture. Freshwater fish species including Indian major carps such as catla, rohu, and mrigal, as well as several other commercially important species, contribute significantly to fish production. Fisheries activities provide livelihood opportunities to fishing communities, particularly through capture fishing, fish seed production, aquaculture, processing, transportation, and marketing. Government initiatives focusing on fish seed stocking, development of fish markets, strengthening of fisheries infrastructure, distribution of fishing equipment, and promotion of aquaculture have contributed to the expansion of the sector. Despite its potential, Telangana's fisheries sector faces challenges such as water availability, habitat degradation, disease management, post-harvest losses, inadequate cold-chain facilities, and market-related constraints. Sustainable resource management, scientific aquaculture practices, value addition, improved infrastructure, and effective institutional support are essential for further development. Overall, fisheries constitute a significant component of Telangana's rural economy and have considerable potential to enhance livelihoods, employment, and nutritional security.

Keywords: Telangana, Fisheries, Inland Fisheries, Aquaculture, Fish Production, Reservoir Fisheries, Freshwater Fish, Fisher Communities, Sustainable Fisheries, Rural Livelihoods.

