



**Full Length Research Article**

**DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING INDUSTRY: A CASE STUDY OF SANKARPUR, PURBA MEDINIPUR,  
WEST BENGAL**

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**ABSTRACT**

Traditionally, fishing is one of the most important economic activities in our country, as well as the whole world. Fish accounts for nearly one-fifth of all animal protein in the human diet. Around one billion people rely on fish as their primary protein source. The place Sankarpur situated along the continental coast and fish as a source of protein. Physical condition of this region favourable for fishing collection. Sankarpur is a commercial fishing region in West Bengal as well as India. Development of fishing industry in this region very quickly. Government and different private agencies help fisherman for development of this region. Economically this region is very high for national economy.

**INTRODUCTION**

Over 90 percent of the world's living biomass is contained in the oceans, which cover 70 percent of the earth's surface. Traditionally temperate region is considered the most important fishing region on the earth. Average production in 19<sup>th</sup> century in this region exceeded three-fourth of the global catch. Sankarpur, this place situated in tropical fishing grounds. Sankarpur is a major tropical fish producing area in India. But contrary to the generation notion this region have no commercial fishing activities. This region registering significant growth in fish production.

**Area under study**

The state West Bengal which one of the fishing economic activity depended zone. More than 60% of its area of the most important zone of commercial fishing. Large part of the Sankarpur and its adjoining areas in the districts Purba Medinipur are most important economic activities prone zone of the state. Sankarpur is a virgin beach town located on 87°29'21.05" east to 87°37'30" east longitude and 21°36'28.40" north to 21°41'59.52" north latitude. Sankarpur town located 14 km east from the famous beach town Digha.

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**Objective of the study**

- Provision of alternative occupations to the fishing communities.
- Limiting the number of trawlers operating in unit area.
- Co-operative is community management in particular area.
- Restrictions on toxic discharge of sewage and agricultural run-off.
- Investment in fisheries by government and private agencies.

**Geomorphological Structure**

Sankarpur is a sea site mini city in the state of West Bengal, India. Its lies in east purba Medinipur District and northern end of the Bay of Bengal. The height of the vast area of Sankarpur is 6 meter. Geologically crust is made by only sand, and it has a low gradient with a shallow continental shelf.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Multiple databases, including both primary and secondary are required for this research work. The primary data has been obtained on field survey, which is concentrated on frequency and duration of fishing catch experience of people in last 50 years, investment in fishers by government and private agencies. The secondary data along with their sources are the

toposheet from survey of India, available satellite images in soft copy format from jpeg. Climatic data (temperature, rainfall) from district statistical Handbook of Purba Medinipur. Other data from district collector office and flow other research work. Beside these numerous books, journals and reports are followed for basic understanding. Various methods are adopted for proper analysis and interpretation of the study area.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Climate of the study area

The study area has a sub-tropical climatic region. There are mainly three seasons in the study area. Seasons are mainly summer, monsoon and winter. Summer starts in April and continues to till June. Next comes monsoon in July and lasts till the end of September. Sankarpur generally experiences an average rainfall with high humidity in the monsoon season. Winter sets in October and lasts till February. July to March is considered as the best time of the study area.

### Temperature

Temperature in summer time maximum 37°C and minimum 28°C. And temperature range from winter season maximum 24.3°C and minimum 11°C. January is the coldest month of the study area.

### Rainfall

The rainy season stretches from July to end of September. During this period, the south west monsoon pickup moisture from the area. Bay of Bengal and blow over the study area. Most of the annual average rainfall of 175 cm to 200 cm. occurs during this period. During the arrival of the monsoon, low pressure in the Bay of Bengal region, the study area often leads to the occurrence of storms.

### Development of Fishing Industry

Despite all those obstacles, tropical fishing in recent years has gone through a sea-change and experienced dramatic in-crease of production.

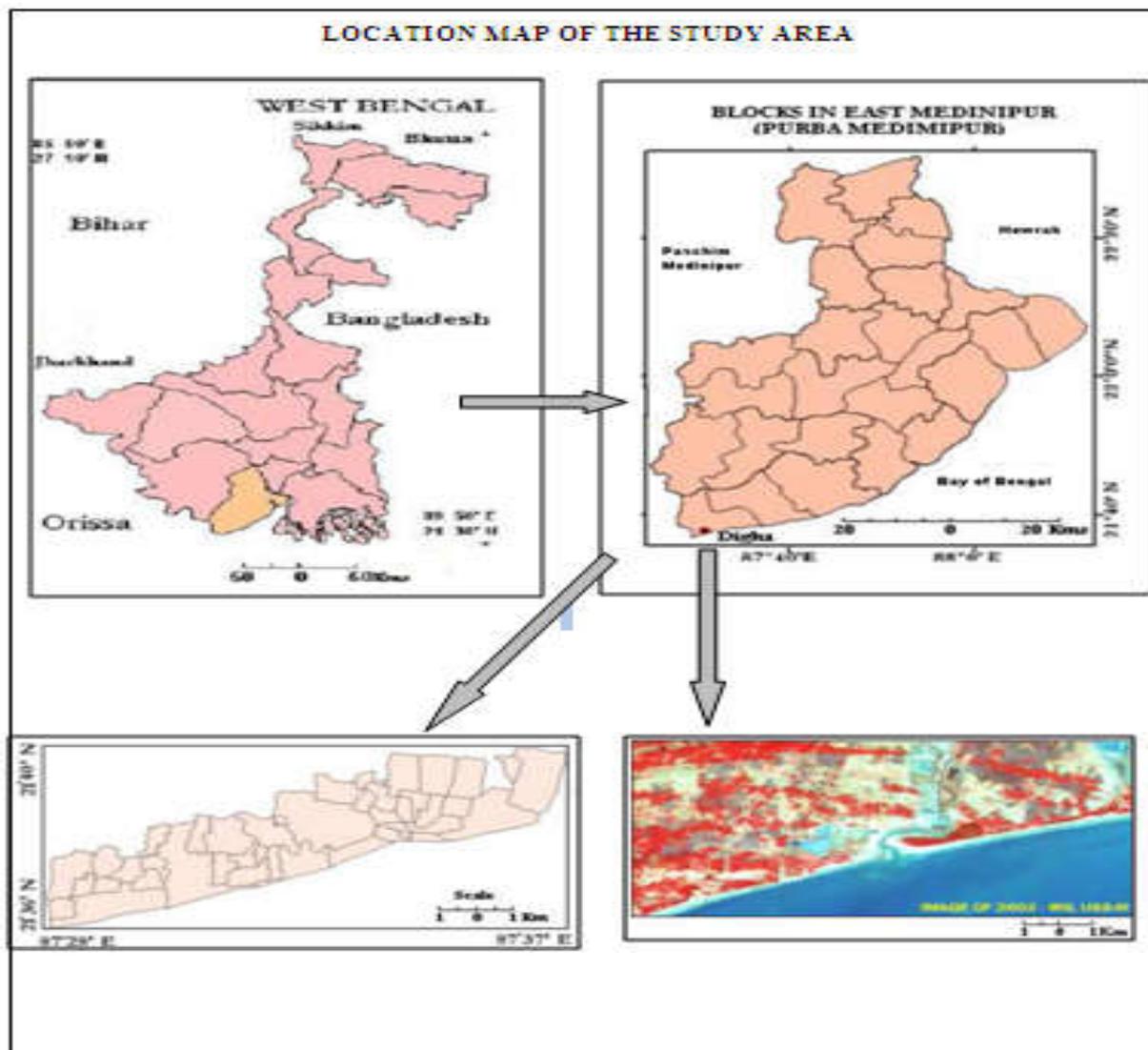


Fig. 1. location map of the study area



Fig. 2. Fish collecting boat



Fig. 3. Collecting process of fish



Fig. 4. Collecting fish



Fig. 5. Use for commercial purpose

### Abundance of fish species

This region was almost unexploited till recently so, abundance of good quality fish provokes fishermen to exploit these untapped resources.

### High internal and external demand

High demand is considered to be the most lucrative incentive now a day to these regions fishermen.

### Shifting of global fishing agencies

Large Fishing Corporation is now switching over to tropical areas. Several restrictions imposed on unrestricted fishing in this region, abundance of fish species and cheap rate of labour in this area.

### Lack of Alternative Occupation

Due to growing unemployment and lack of alternative occupation, people ventured in fishing activities.

### Strategy for future development

- Traditional commercial fishing increasing day by day for dry fish market.
- Growth of costal population increased the number of fishermen for fish harvest.
- The industry is crossing from over capitalization which is proved to be uneconomic fish for dry fishing industry.
- Social pressure on retrenchment of the excess workers.

### Conclusion

Fishing is an important economic activity. This region has expected dramatic change of fishing activities in resent few years. Present time the management of fisheries and fish collected region are give some facilities for their development. Like-Downsizing of the industry both in terms of capital, reduction of subsidies provide by each region, per capita and imposition of individual transferable quotas and creation of world monitoring agencies for consensus on uninterrupted of fish. That very very important matter of fishing industries development, extension of international management controls exclusive economic zone within 322Km.

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