

HARVESTING COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OF RANI BEEL, EAST SIANG DISTRICT, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

N. C. Nandi*

Department of Social Environmental and Biological Association, Kolkata, India

Article History: Received: 6th April, 2021; Accepted: 21st April, 2021; Published: 28th April, 2021

During the course of faunistic survey, a visit to the Rani Beel, located about 15 km south of Pasighat, East Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh was made on February 12, 1992, which revealed interesting ways of harvesting and management practices, and hence this communication. Rani Beel was a permanent freshwater beel, earlier connected with a river course, measuring 2-3 km in length, 60 ft in breadth, 6-10 ft in depth was reported to be used for drinking water source to the villagers. It was under private ownership, located in remote rural set up with plenty of paddy fields around.

This beel was a capture fishery water resource, which was given on yearly lease only for winter season of 1991-1992 for Rs. 3, 500/- (Rupees Three thousand five hundred only) to a fisherman (Malik) from Bihar, who used to employ eight workers (Bagis) on the condition of 66% of total sale proceeds. In the winter season of 1991-1992, it was stated that the lease owner employed eight fishermen worker @ Rs. 25/- per day in addition to food and other minor expenses on smoking. The lease holder had to erect a shed for their stay during the period besides procuring or arranging some fishing nets and other traps required for the purpose.

On enquiry, it was revealed that during fishing operation from puja (October) to Holi (March) in 1991-1992 of about 150 days the cost benefit analysis was as follow

I. Initial Requirement of Fund (Rs. 30,000/-) food, utensils, etc.)

Benefit analysis:

II. Development cost (Rs. 25,000/-)

(Cost of sheds, nets, traps, torches, utensils, water

(Total sale proceeds Rs. 3,00,000/- on 10 quintals fishes @ Rs. 30/ per kg)

V. Net Return (For Malik) (Rs. 2, 24,000/-)

(Total sale Rs. 3,00,000/- minus operational cost Rs. 72,500/- and Lease Rs. 3,500/-)

Note: Middlemen on site used to purchase Rs. 2/- less than the market price.

Net return of Rs. 2,24,000/- in fact excludes Managerial charges for Malik and another from his family side, travel cost from Bihar to Pasighat, initial funding, development cost, etc.

In overall, it appears to be profitable enterprise in the year concerned.

Harvesting of fishes mostly includes catfishes, such as Boali (Wallago attu), besides, Aar (Catfish), Singhi (Heteropneustes), Magur (Clarias).

However, Koi (Anabas), Lata, Pahari chang, Shol, Shal of the family Channidae, Cuchia (Amphipnus cuchia), Bogo, Puti, Esomus, Pabda (Ompak), Labeo rohita, Labeo gonius, Notopterus notopterus were also reported. Thus, it seems that this Rani Beel was then a highly productive water resource of East Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh.