



Bringing the Gender Considerations at the Centre of Fisheries Education Agenda

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INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

- ICAR is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India and has its headquarters at New Delhi
- The Council is the apex body for **co-ordinating, guiding and managing** research and education in agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, animal science and home science in the entire country
- With 101 ICAR institutes and 71 agricultural universities spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural systems in the world

ICAR'S DIVISIONS AND UNITS

- Crop Science
- Horticultural Science
- Natural Resource Management
- Agricultural Engineering
- Animal Science
- **Fisheries Science**
- Agricultural Education
- Agricultural Extension
- Knowledge Management
- IP&TM and PME

FISHERIES SCIENCE DIVISION

Resource specific fisheries research institutes

1. ICAR-Central **Marine** Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)
2. ICAR-Central **Inland** Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI)
3. ICAR-Central Institute of **Freshwater** Aquaculture (CIFA)
4. ICAR-Central Institute of **Brackishwater** Aquaculture (CIBA)
5. ICAR-National Bureau of Fish **Genetic** Resources (NBFGR)
6. ICAR-Directorate of **Coldwater** Fisheries Research (DCFR)
7. ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries **Technology** (CIFT)
8. **ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai Deemed University**

ICAR-CIFE, MUMBAI

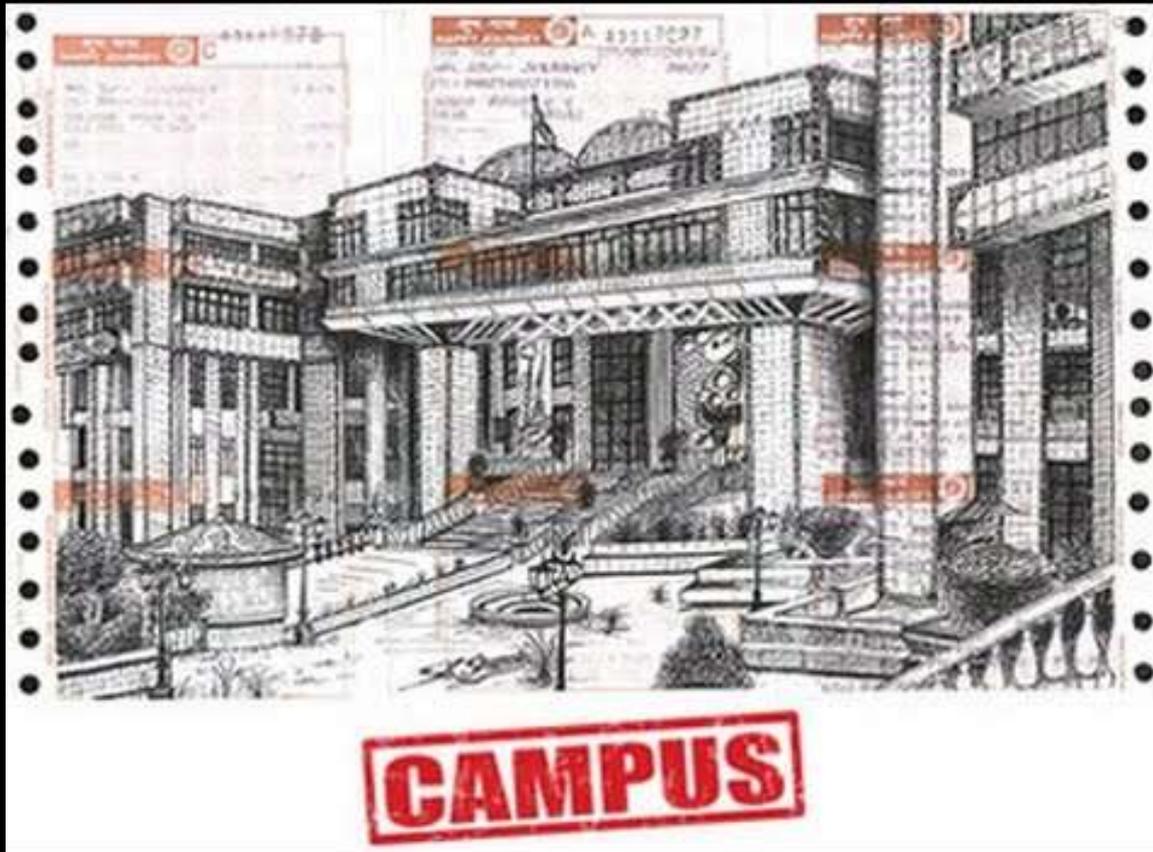


ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES EDUCATION: UNIVERSITY AND INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING FOR FISHERIES SCIENCE



ICAR-CIFE, MUMBAI

Masters and Ph.D in
11 disciplines of Fisheries Sciences



MASTERS AND PH.D PROGRAMMES

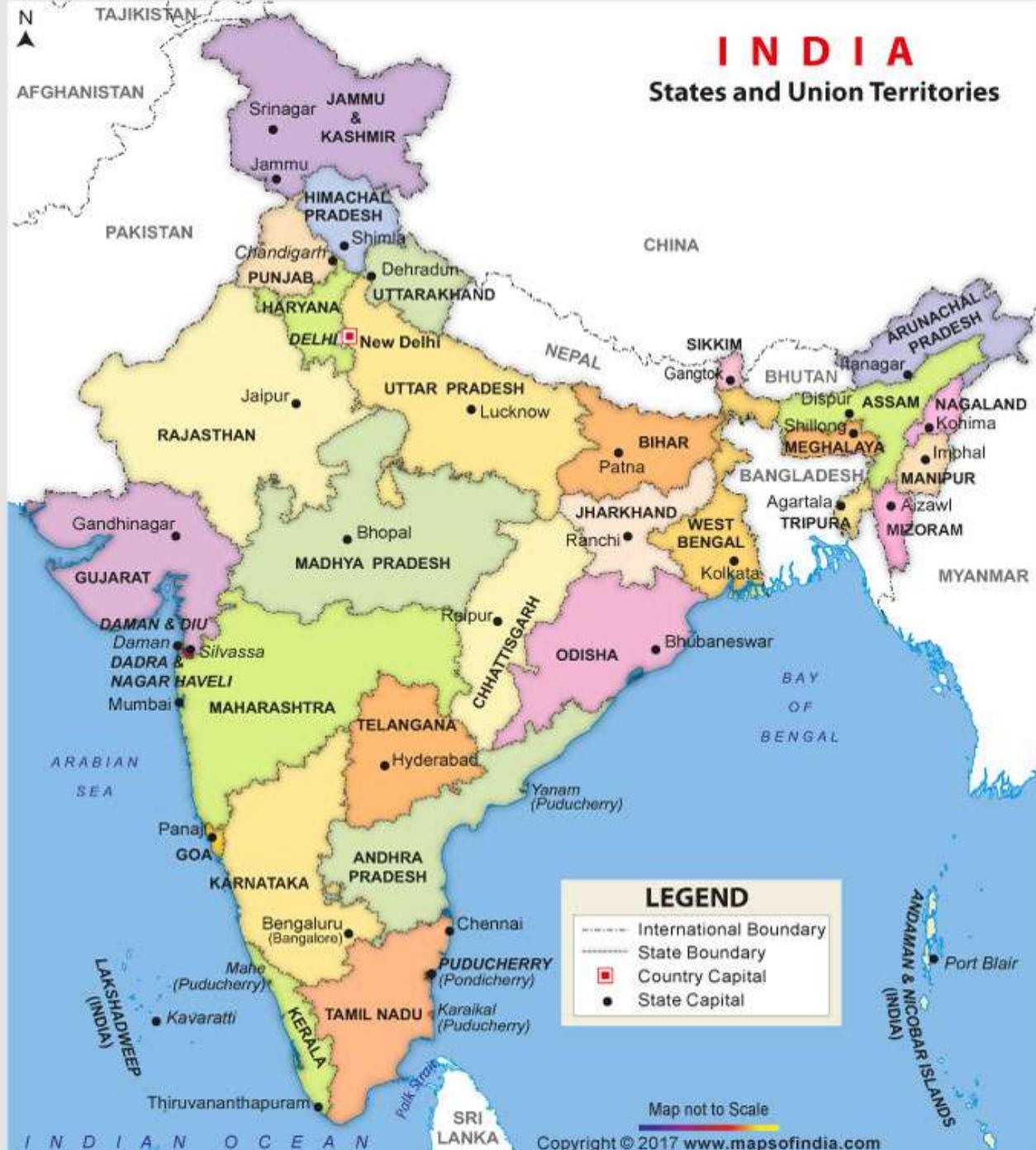
1. Fisheries Extension
2. Fisheries Economics
3. Fisheries Resources Management
4. Post Harvest Technology
5. Fish Genetics
6. Fish Biotechnology
7. Fish Nutrition
8. Fish Biochemistry
9. Aquaculture
10. Fish Health Management
11. Aquatic Environment Management

INDIAN FISHERIES

- Marine Capture
- Marine Culture
- Inland Capture
- Inland Culture
- Brackish water aqua culture

INDIA

States and Union Territories



INDIA

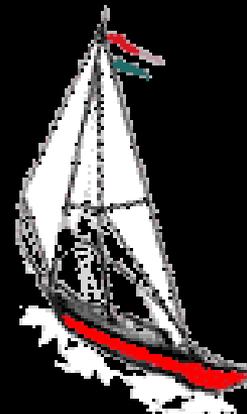
- **29 states** and 7 union territories
- **22 major languages**, 13 scripts, 720 dialects
- Thousands of distinct and unique cultures
- Languages, religions, dance, music, architecture, food and customs differ from place to place within the country
- Fisheries issues of each state are different

FISHING IN INDIA



- Major occupation in all states, employing over 14 million people
- Fish production has increased more than tenfold since 1947 and doubled between 1990 and 2010
- 8,129 kilometres of marine coastline, 3,827 fishing villages and 1,914 traditional fish landing centres
- Fresh water resources are rivers, canals, reservoirs, ponds, lakes, flood plain wetlands
- Marine and freshwater resources had a combined sustainable catch fishing potential of over 4 million metric tonnes of fish
- Offer a tenfold growth potential in aquaculture







GENDER STUDIES/WOMEN'S STUDIES

- Gender studies/Women's Studies emerged as a discipline of study in 1985-90 in India
- Taking an example of ICAR-CIFE, this paper presents
- Research undertaken with reference to gender and fisheries at ICAR-CIFE
- Resistances faced in mainstreaming gender in education
- New initiatives in education with reference to gender

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Epistemological approach is based on review of work undertaken at ICAR-CIFE
- Mapping bibliography by counting dissertations, research papers/articles in journals, magazines and conferences in last 20 years i.e., from 1980 to 2016
- For resistances faced in mainstreaming gender literature was taken from Institutional Transformation Gender Mainstreaming Tool Kit of European Institute for Gender Equality
- New initiatives in fisheries education with reference to gender

Exploring the journey of gender studies in ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai

ICAR-CIFE has undertaken studies have
been done in many states

TRIPURA



- Decision making low due to poor education than their men counterparts, lack of awareness about farm information, low access to resources
- Considerable gap between knowledge and adoption level of improved technological practices both among women and men
- Major constraints faced gender discrimination, lack of resource and information

MEGHALAYA

- Matrilineal society
- Gender differences exist between the number of hours spent on SNA and Non SNA activities
- Time spent on SNA and Non SNA activities by women higher than men
- Major constraints: Lack of timely availability of input and credit
- Women play significant role in fisheries as well as other sectors
- Contribution of women towards family income is high



ASSAM



- Composite fish culture, fishing, fish trading, net making and mending
- Majority have poor socio-economic status
- Involved in retail trade in the markets and door to door sales
- In dry fish market, male were dominant in fish drying and dry fish wholesaling activities and female were retailers
- Female retailers faced problems during transportation due to poor communication facilities and vehicle problems

MANIPUR

- Homestead ponds mostly managed by women and family members
- Enterprising women have adopted fish farming in large scale gaining initial experiences in their homestead pond
- Fish are marketed and processed mostly by women
- Major post-harvest activities carried out by women were sun drying and smoking of fish
- Dip net and scoop net fishing is carried out entirely by women while plung baskets are operated by both men and women
- Economic condition of women is low



ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- Paddy cum fish farming have created financial empowerment to Apatani women
- Marketing of fish from paddy field mainly done by women



TAMIL NADU AND KERALA

- Women mainly engaged in fish vending, marketing, post harvest and many more activities
- Performance of fisherwomen in cooperatives and SHGs was good
- Fisherwomen have improved their confidence, self-esteem, decision making pattern and social empowerment after joining SHGs



KARNATAKA



- Fisherwomen are involved mainly as fresh fish retailer, fresh fish labourer, dry fish retailer and dry fish labourers
- Retailers had better standard of living compared to labourers
- Vulnerability of fisher's livelihood to climate change
- Fishermen and women differed in perception about potential effect of climate change
- Due to climate change there is an increased hardship for fisherwomen as compared to fishermen.

CHHATTISGARH AND MADHYA PRADESH



- Women participate actively in fish culture and marketing
- Performance of SHGs was found to be good
- Performance of women SHGs were marginally better than male SHGs even when literacy was relatively less
- Financial constraints were major constraints for both male and female SHGs

JAMMU & KASHMIR, HIMACHAL PRADESH, PUNJAB, UTTAR PRADESH, UTTARAKHAND

- Women's involvement in marketing and aquaculture
- Many women are involved in fisheries



THE JOURNEY

- 104 studies were published in the period of 1986-2016
- In 1986, first study was reported, this increased to 5 in 1990's followed by 59 studies during 2000-2010 and 39 studies during 2010-2016
- Year 2001 had maximum number of publications related to women as an 'International Conference on Women in Fisheries' was organised at ICAR-CIFE
- However, women rather than men were more represented as first authors in the women/gender related publications among both students and scientists
- Kretschmer et.al., (2012) in an analysis of 14 journals of gender studies have also reported that female scientists were relatively overrepresented as first authors in articles

FINDINGS

- All studies revealed that participation of women in fisheries is significant
- Women face number of constraints
- However, there is lack of representation of women in leadership positions, data weaknesses, capacity development
- Studies have been done at ICAR-CIFE, even without any specific strategy in place

UGC : WOMEN/GENDER STUDIES

- Official recognition of Women's Studies as an academic discipline in the university system has a history of more than four decades
- University Grants Commission (UGC) is a statutory body in accordance to the UGC Act 1956 under Ministry of Human Resource Development and is charged with coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of higher education
- UGC has promoted, strengthened and given direction to the **Women's Studies** programme since the VII plan period during 1985-90
- Women's Studies Centres have been established in the University system in the VIII, IX and X and XI plan periods. These efforts have contributed significantly to the expansion of Women's Studies teaching, research and field action
- The guidelines for the XI Plan took a broader view by supporting University Women Studies Centres and facilitating them to become teaching and research Departments. In the XII plan (2012-17) also, this has been further emphasized



- Where is Gender Studies in the fisheries curriculums ?

Need is to have fundamental transformation
of the underlying paradigms that inform
education



INITIATIVES AT ICAR-CIFE



- In order to mainstream gender in fisheries education, a course on **Gender, Livelihood and Development** was initiated in 2010 at ICAR-CIFE
- This has led to youth trained in gender and fisheries, and number of Masters and Ph.D dissertations which were done exclusively on issues focusing on gender as well as other dissertations which include gender as a component in their research



RESISTANCE

Resistance is part of any change process

Resistance can be used to promote change

Resistance can be on 3 levels

caused by **individual** (non-)acceptance and

caused at an **organisational** level

can also come from outside an institution at the level of a **wider discourse** on gender issues

Individual level



Organizational level



Discourse level



RESISTANCES FACED

- At the outset when the course was introduced, it faced resistance in terms of naming of the course
- In order to suit the academic environment; terms 'Livelihood and Development' were included
- Efforts to make the course compulsory were not successful and it was included as an optional course, the reason was mainly academic workload
- At present, even though the course is offered across disciplines students of the discipline Fisheries Extension take this course
- Students of other disciplines usually do not opt for this course

TYPES OF RESISTANCES

- **Passive resistance:** Unconscious slowing down of a processes
 - **Active resistance:** Conscious slowing down of a process
 - **Hidden resistance:** Objections that are uttered in a factual and reasonable way but which, in reality, are forms of hidden resistance like verbally showing openness to gender mainstreaming but not acting accordingly
-
- Experience showed that forms of **passive and hidden resistance** are more difficult to deal with because they cannot be directly addressed and discussed
 - However, on the other hand there were objections that were substantiated and helpful in critically reflecting a process of institutional transformation
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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Gender Studies as a course must be an integral part of fisheries education across disciplines in Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate courses with separate budgetary allocations
- Curriculums should be reoriented with gender components
- Resistances can be there but with awareness, education and a strategy these can be minimised

HOW TO DO ?

- Defined curriculums and functions: Individual course/
Elective/Optional/Integration within other courses
- Resource allocation
- Enabling environments
- Departments
- Trained faculty and experts
- Involve other stakeholders
- Employment opportunities
- Employers attitudes

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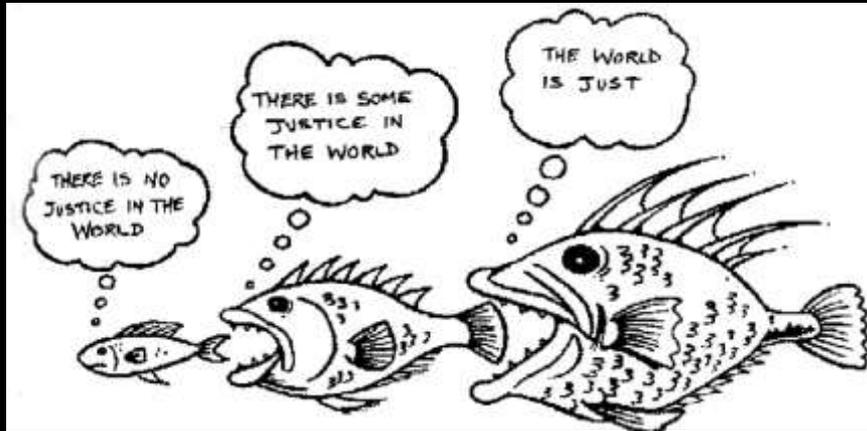
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multumesc 감사합니다 aitäh شُكْرًا ačiū
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 děkuji dankie salamat
 pakka pér dank u takk
 ありがとう merci
 gratias agimus tibi danke gracias
 teşekkür ederim **thank you** go raibh maith agat tak paldies
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 ขอบคุณ d'akujem σας ευχαριστώ សូមអរគុណអ្នក



"Fly and help others fly."

Brad Montague