



हर कदम, हर डगर
किसानों का हमसफर
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Agrisearch with a human touch

Gender role in inland fisheries of India: A cross country study



**Ganesh Chandra
A. P. Sharma**



**ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute,
Barrackpore, Kolkata-700120, India**





Inland Fisheries in India

- **Inland fisheries in India comprise water resources like Rivers, reservoirs, floodplain wetlands, lakes, derelict water bodies and tanks.**
- **Rivers (29000 km), estuaries (2,00,000 ha), floodplain wetlands (3,50,000 ha) and Reservoirs (3.15 million ha).**
- **Multiple ownership of the existing water bodies.**
- **The access rights of inland fishers to the resources depend on the state fisheries law. Some states have given exclusive right to the individual or cooperatives of fishermen community while other states still give the right to the highest bidders.**
- **Most of the inland fishers sell their catch at the water body itself or at village market. Only catch in large quantity taken to the auction center.**
- **India is second largest fish producer of Inland fisheries after China.**



Methodology

Qualitative methods Using Participatory technique

- FGD
- Matrix analysis
- Drudgery Analysis
- Livelihood analysis
- Participant Observation



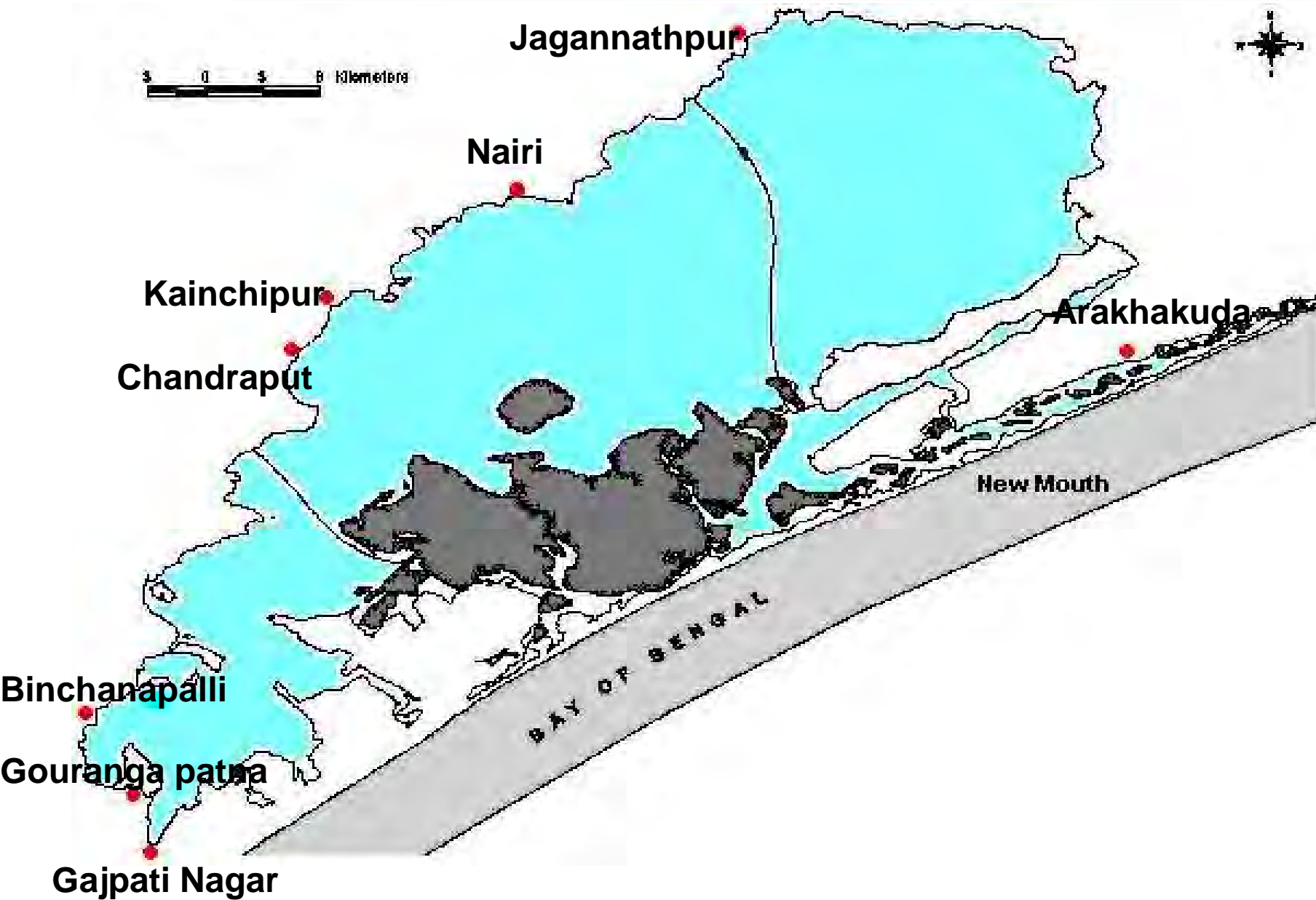
Study area



- Lower Narmada estuary in **Gujarat**
- Chilika Lagoon in **Odisha (Orissa)**
- Hooghly River in **West Bengal**
- Manika Wetland in **Bihar**
- Floodplain Wetland in **Assam**
- Indira Sagar Reservoir in **Madhya Pradesh**

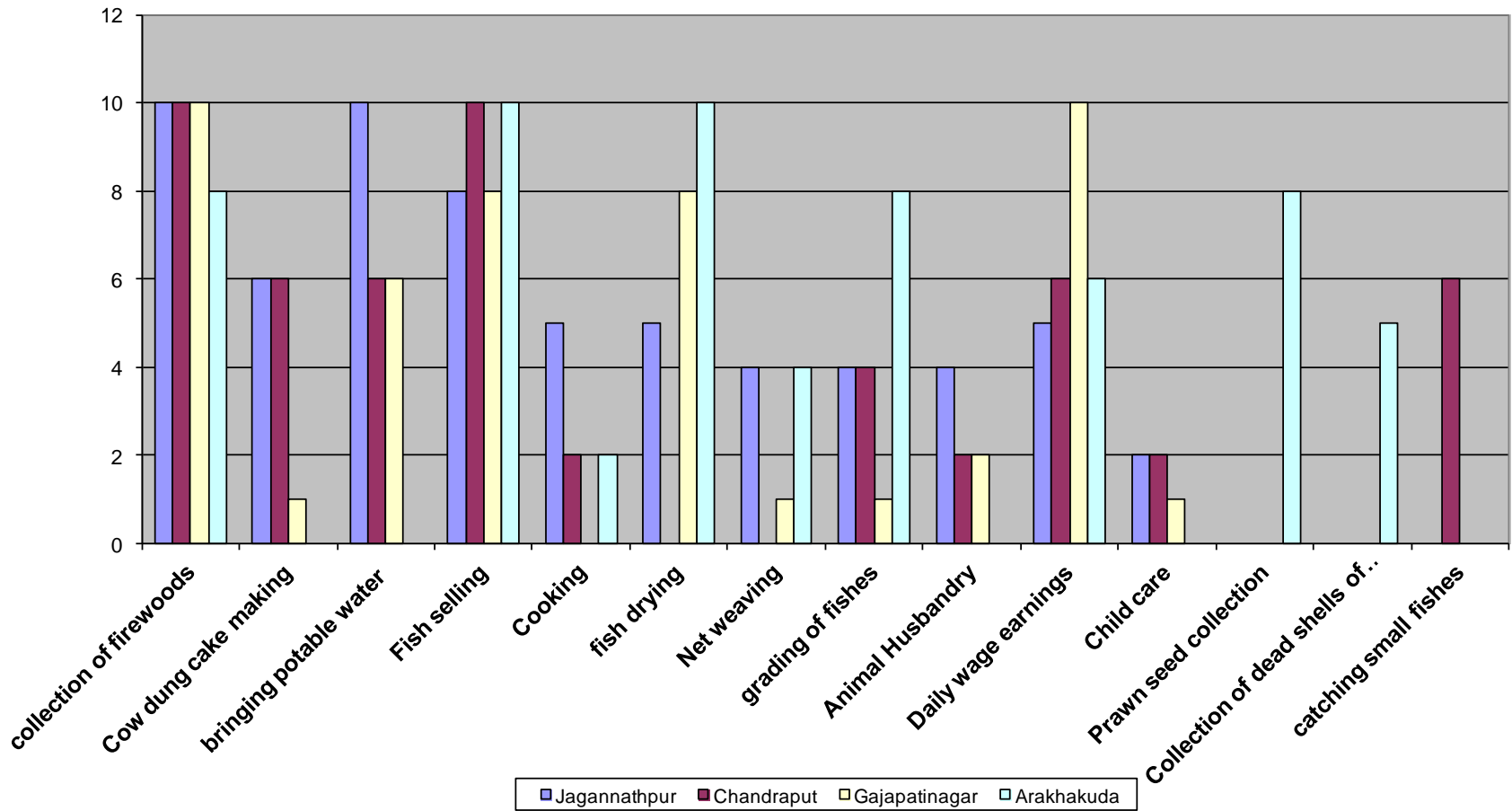


Gender Role in Chilika Lagoon Fisheries



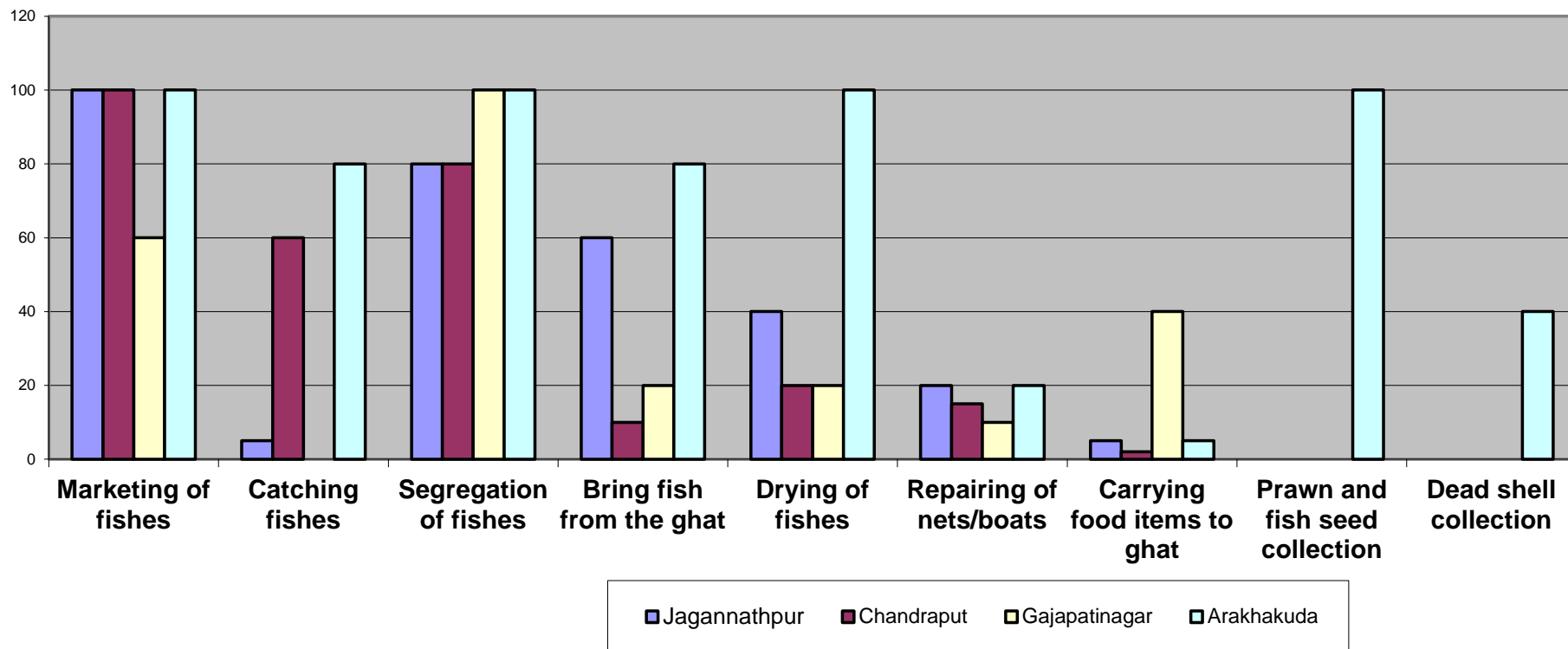


Women Drudgery Analysis





Matrix of Fishery Activities





Hooghly River stretch West Bengal





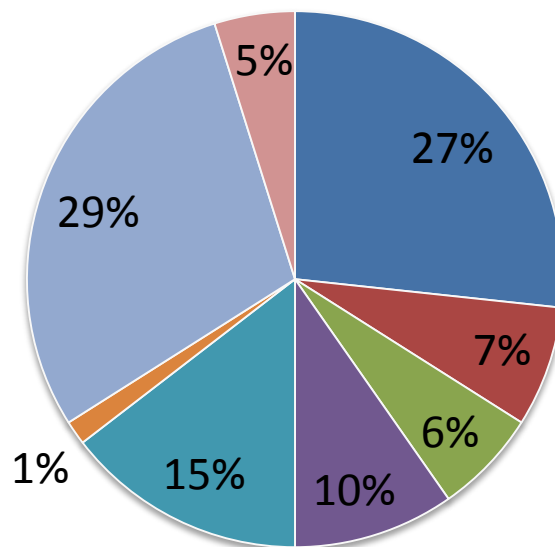
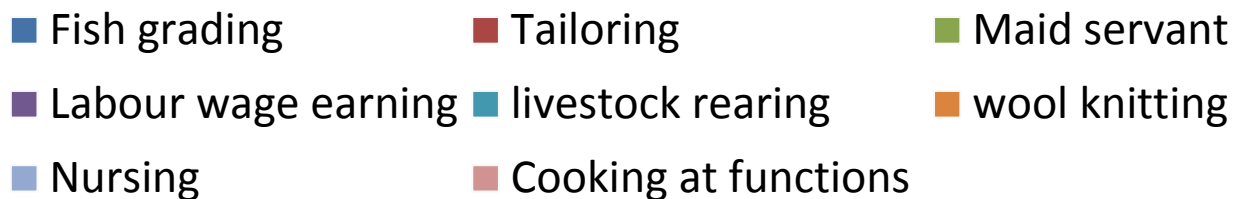
Extent of gender participation in Fisheries activities

- Participation of fisher women in fishery activities in comparison to fishermen is absolutely Nil.
- With declining fish catch, Livelihood other than fisheries has been taken up. Fisherwomen also involved in other income generating activities like stitching cloths, wage earning, livestock, nursing and cooking in functions.
- Catching of fish from the river and selling them is the responsibility of fishermen in this area.
- Livelihood diversification is seen with declining fish catch and increase in numbers of fishers in last decade.
- Cash Handling : both men and women



Fisherwomen Livelihood diversification

Livelihood diversification for additional Income





Gender Participation in Wetlands of Assam





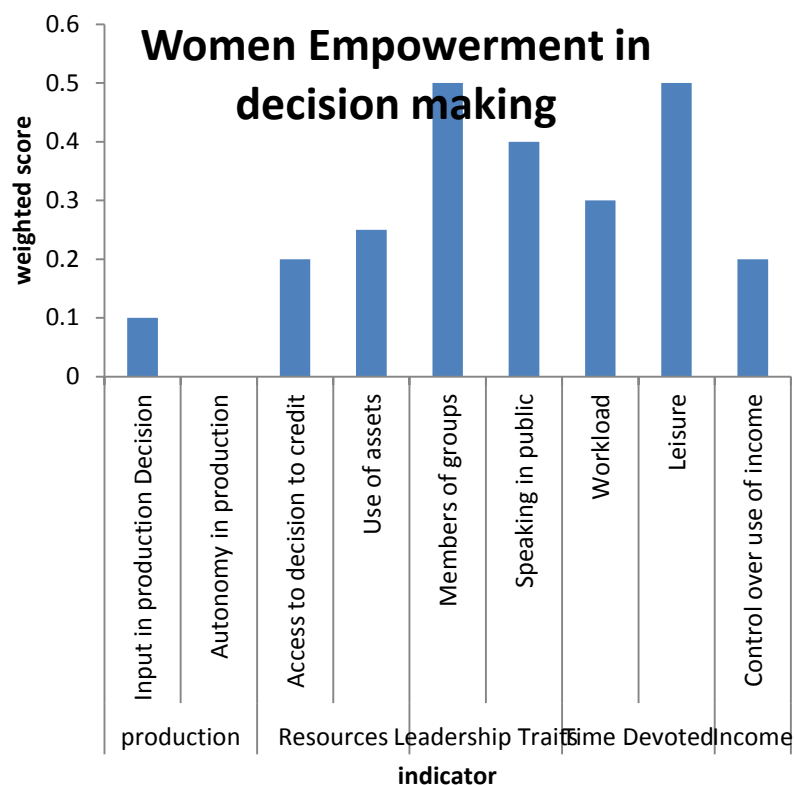
Extent of Gender Participation In Assam Wetlands

- Fishing and sale of fish at auction centre: Men
- Fishing at dewatering: women
- Fishing using Traps: women
- Selling of fish in local market: women
- Decision making in Cooperative society: men
- Decision making in Community Managed Wetlands: men & women (30% women)
- Cash handling: men
- Literacy rate of fishers community: 75%

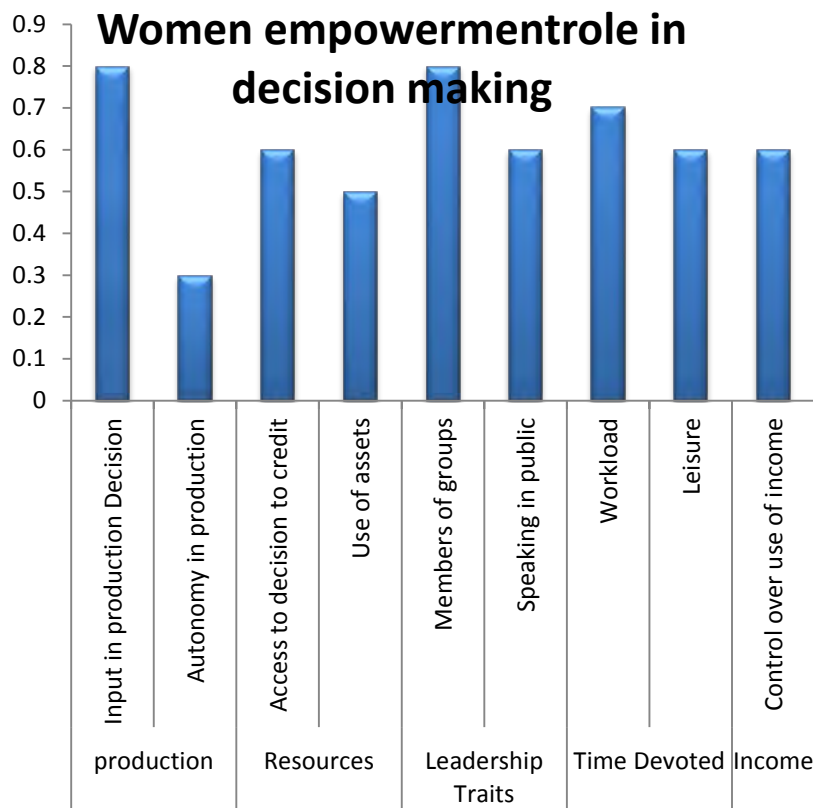


Women empowerment in Decision Making

Hooghly Estuary (score 2.45)



Wetland of Assam (score- 5.5)





Gender Participation in Wetlands in Bihar





Gender Participation in inland Fisheries in Bihar

- Fishing : Men
- Decision making in fisheries: Men
- Fish marketing: women
- Cash handling: men
- Literacy Rate: female literacy rate is the lowest in India. 39%



Case Study Manika Maun

- Fishing right of Manika Wetland with 161 member women SHG group.
- Fishing: men
- Decision making: men
- Selling: men
- Cash handling: men
- Monsoon failure: lease payment to govt by debt against gold and silver ornaments of women





Gender in Reservoirs of Madhya Pradesh

- **Fishing in the reservoir is sole right of members of cooperative societies.**
- **Fisher cooperative society shall be formed with 100% membership of fishermen community**
- **The fishermen in the periphery of 1 km of the impounded area were the members of 66 cooperative society operating in reservoir**
- **33% of membership of Cooperative society to women fishers**
- **Fishing is done by both male and female members**



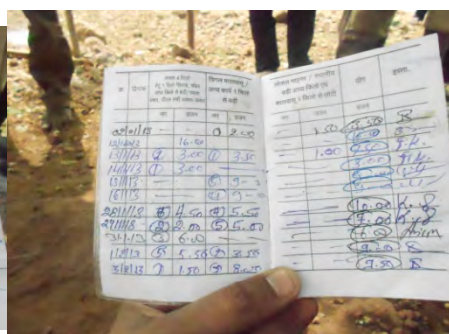
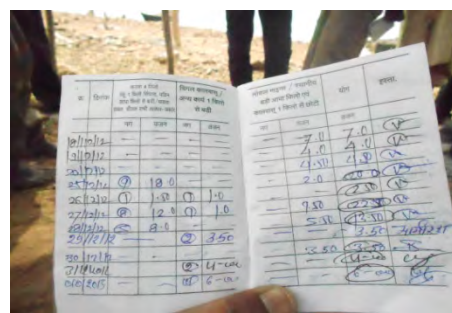
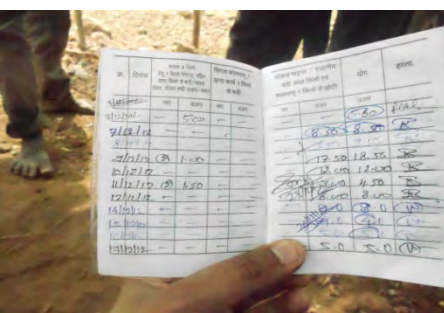
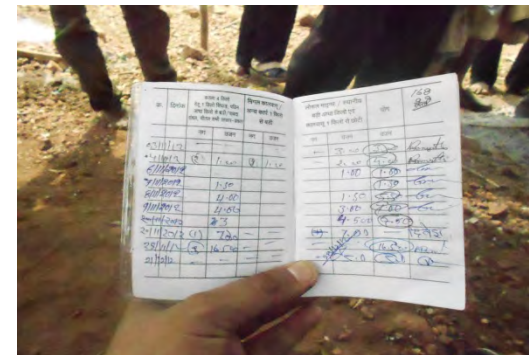
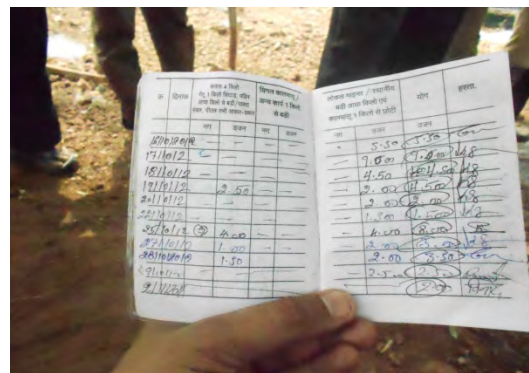
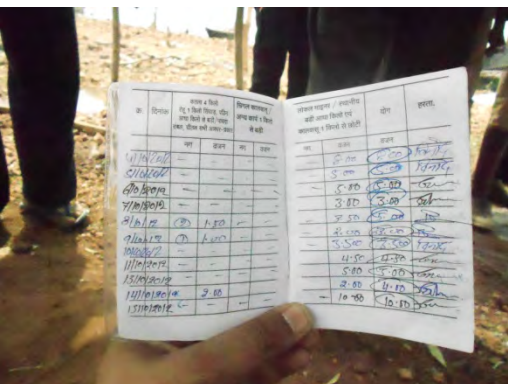
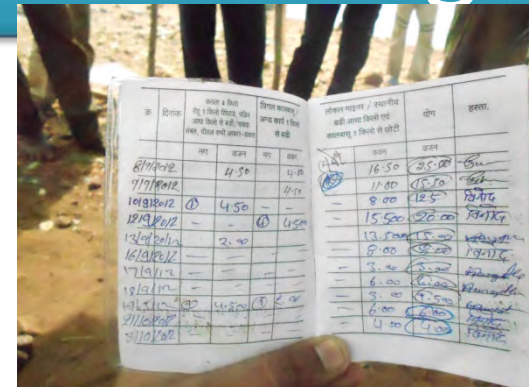
Gender Participation in Reservoir Fisheries

- Fishing: both Men and women
- Fish selling to lessee: both men and women
- Cash : men & women
- Decision making: both men and women





Woman fishers of Indira sagar





Gender Participation in Hilsa fisheries Narmada Estuary





Hilsa Fisheries In Narmada Estuary

- Hilsa fishing (Palwa fisheries) : important economic activity for the fishers
- Main fishing season: monsoon months during new moon and full moon period
- The preparation starts in the month of March and April with net making and repairing of crafts.
- Fiber crafts were mainly used for this purpose and a group of five fishers were involved on boat
- Fishing by men but marketing by women
- Decision making: both men & women
- Cash : only by women

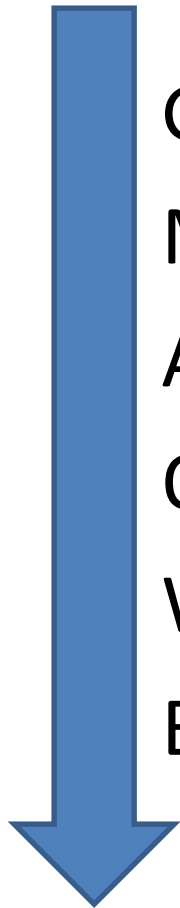






Women Empowerment in Inland Fisheries of India

High



Gujarat

Madhya Pradesh

Assam

Odisha (Orissa)

West Bengal

Bihar

Low



Thanks Every one



To All Fishers for support