

Marine fish landings in Andhra Pradesh during 2015-an overview

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Andhra Pradesh with a coastline of 974 km and spread over nine districts supports a rich marine fishery constituted by several groups of fishes, crustaceans and molluscs. About 1.5 lakh fishermen are directly or indirectly involved in the marine fisheries sector.

Production trends: The annual total marine fish landings of the state during 2015 was estimated as 2.95 lakh tonnes (t) which was 13.7% less than in 2014. It constituted 8.7% of the all India marine fish landings.

Table 1. Sector wise marine resources landed and the effort expended during 2015.

Sector	Catch ('000 t)	Effort (x000)
Mechanised	87	39
Motorised	149	703
Traditional	59	388
Total	295	1131

Pelagic, demersal and crustacean resources contributed 71%, 18% and 9% respectively. As compared to 2014, there was 7%, 27% and 23% decrease in the landings of these resources

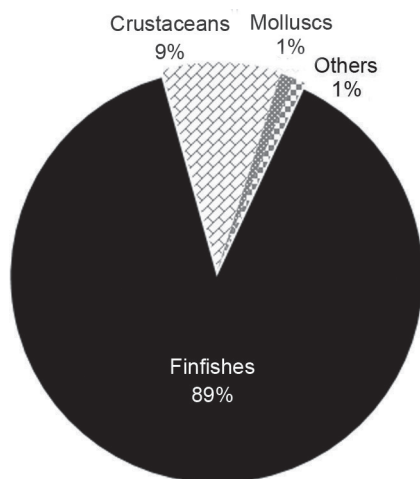


Fig. 1. Groupwise contribution to the landings

respectively. The landings by finfishes, crustaceans and molluscs are depicted in Figure 1. The landings by major resources and its percentage contribution to total landings is given in Table 2.

Table 2. Marine fish landings in 2015

Major Resources	Landings (t)	% contribution
Elasmobranchs	2,991	1.0
Oil sardine	23,622	8.0
Lesser sardines	75,288	25.5
<i>Stolephorus</i>	6,332	2.1
Other clupeids	5,743	1.9
Perches	10,294	3.5
Goatfishes	5,541	1.9
Croakers	9,106	3.1
Ribbonfishes	8,808	3.0
Carangids	16,582	5.6
Silverbellies	6,608	2.2
Black Pomfret	3,515	1.2
Indian Mackerel	28,236	9.6
Seerfishes	5,288	1.8
Penaeid prawns	19,355	6.6
Crabs	5,543	1.9

The marine fish landings during 2015 has been on the decline except for two major resources viz. oil sardine and lesser sardines which increased to the tune of 98% and 80% respectively as compared to 2014 landings. The landings of silverbellies were almost the same. The decrease in landings as compared to 2014 occurred in the following resources viz. elasmobranchs (45%), *Stolephorus* (8%), other clupeids (15%), perches (28%), goatfishes and croakers (29% each), ribbonfishes (57%), carangids (12%), black pomfret (21%), Indian mackerel (49%), seerfishes (32%), penaeid prawns (30%) and crabs (21%).

Seasonal variations in the catch volumes during the period and the contribution of major resources in each quarter is given (Fig. 2 & Table 3).

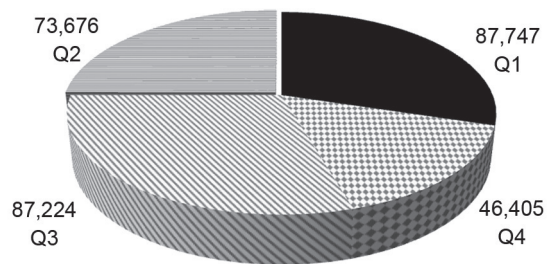


Fig. 2. Seasonal variations in marine fish landings (t) during 2015

Table 3. Quarterwise landings (t) of major resources

Name of resource	Qr 1	Qr 2	Qr 3	Qr 4
Oil sardine	3803	3779	9043	6997
Lesser sardines	16719	23267	17855	17447
Carangids	5892	1700	4335	4655
Indian Mackerel	12444	3382	8038	4372
Penaeid prawns	5388	1777	7166	5024

77% of the total landings were from East Godavari, Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts. 74 % of the traditional sector landings were from Srikakulam district alone. 56% of the mechanised sector landings were from Visakhapatnam district followed by 23% in East Godavari district. 39% the motorised sector landings were from East Godavari district followed by Srikakulam district (18%).

The maximum contribution of trawl landings was from Visakhapatnam district (16%) followed by East Godavari district (7%). Mechanised trawl nets were operated in East Godavari, Guntur, Krishna, Prakasam and Visakhapatnam districts whereas motorised trawl nets were operated in Guntur, Nellore and Prakasam districts. 60% of the multiday trawl nets were operated from Visakhapatnam district, 40% of motorised gill nets were operated from Srikakulam district, 38% of Hook & Lines were operated from Visakhapatnam district and 54% of the motorised ring seines were operated from East Godavari district.

Table 4. Gearwise percentage contribution of major resources of Andhra Pradesh during 2015.

Resource / Gear	Mechanised sector		Motorised sector					Traditional sector	
	TN	GN	GN	HL	RS	SS	TN	others	
Elasmobranchs	48	-	27	19	1	-	4	-	1
Perches	67	-	12	9	2	-	-	-	9
Goatfishes	70	-	11	-	3	-	-	-	16
Croakers	51	-	22	2	9	1	2	-	13
Ribbon fishes	66	-	19	-	5	2	1	-	8
Carangids	28	1	24	13	12	-	-	-	23
Silverbellies	56	-	15	-	11	-	-	-	17
Pomfrets	50	-	17	-	26	-	1	1	3
Mackerel	16	-	21	-	46	-	-	-	17
Seerfishes	28	-	34	18	10	-	-	-	10
Oil sardine	-	-	2	-	85	1	-	10	2
Other sardines	1	-	26	-	26	-	-	-	47
<i>Stolephorus</i>	55	-	4	-	33	-	-	-	7
Other clupeids	22	-	32	-	9	1	1	-	34
Penaeid prawns	79	-	8	-	4	-	8	-	1
Crabs	54	-	28	-	1	-	4	-	13

TN: Trawl Net, GN: Gill Net, HL: Hook & Lines, RS: Ring seines, SS: Shore seines