

Time utilization and spending pattern of fisher women in household task and subsidiary occupation

■ HEMANT JADHAV AND GIRISH DESHMUKH

Received: 27.05.2014; Revised: 07.10.2014; Accepted: 20.10.2014

■ **ABSTRACT :** The extent of participation of women in fish related activities varies from country depending on the local conditions, level of literacy, social customs and economic conditions of states generally involves fish drying, processing, loading and unloading, retail marketing and net making. Marketing is one of the important aspects in fisheries, which is basically looked after by fisherwomen. Time is a unique and valuable resource. Women spend a lot of time not only in managing their homes but also managing their farms and animals, but most of the time their contribution remains unrecognized. Therefore, an attempt was made to know the time spent pattern of fisher women in fishing operation. The data in this regard were collected through interview using 24 hours recall method. Ten different household activities were identified related to household work in which fisher women were engaged daily, weekly and seasonal work.

See end of the paper for authors' affiliations

GIRISH DESHMUKH
Junagadh Agricultural University,
JUNAGADH (GUJARAT) INDIA
Email: 251girish@gmail.com

■ **KEY WORDS:** Fisherwomen, Time utilization, Household task

■ **HOW TO CITE THIS PAPER :** Deshmukh, Girish and Jadhav, Hemant (2014). Time utilization and spending pattern of fisher women in household task and subsidiary occupation. *Asian J. Home Sci.*, 9 (2) : 473-476.

Women are considered to be pioneers in all sorts of development, as they play key role in shaping the character of young generation whom we call as the future of the nation. Women contribute nearly equally along with men, in the economic development of our country. The contribution of a woman in agriculture is estimated to be about 50 to 60 per cent.

In India, about 10 lakh fisherwomen inhabit 2500 fishing villages spread over a coast line of about 8128 km. This statistics does not include another major sector in the fishing industry, the inland fisheries and aquaculture. Women play an important role in fisheries all along the coastal areas and all the shore based activities are more or less women oriented. They do involve themselves in multi-faceted activities often unperceptible to the world outside.

India rank 6th in the world with the present fish production of 5.10 million tonnes. India is said to be a rich country inhabited by poor people. This is also true with its vast sea resources. The fisheries sector provides some sort

of alternative to the recent stagnating agricultural sector. The fisheries sector occupies a prominent place in the country's economy in terms of employment generation, foreign exchange earnings and provision of rich nutritive food at low unit cost to the masses.

India is endowed with a coastline of 8,129 km with 3,638 fishing villages. About five lakh women are involved in the post-harvest sector of marine fisheries. Gujarat is one of the major maritime states of India, possessing the longest coastal line and widest continental shelf area. Its coastal line is about 1,600 km long and there are about 220 fishing villages in 12 maritime districts. There are about 47,650 active fishermen in the districts of Kutch, Porbandar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Ahmedabad, Kheda, Bharuch, Surat, Navsari and Valsad in the state.

Time is a unique and valuable resource. Fisher women spend a lot of time not only in fishing but also managing their homes, farms and animals, but most of the time their contribution remains unrecognized. Therefore, an attempt was

Name of the district	Name of talukas	Name of the villages	No. of selected respondents
Junagadh	Veraval	Kajli	10
		Aadri	10
		Govindpara	10
		Bhalka	10
		Supasi	10
		Dari	10
	Mangrol	Loej	10
		Sheel	10
		Virpur	10
		Husenabad	10
		Aatroli	10
		Mangrol	10
		Total	120

made to know the time spent pattern of fisher women in different household and other subsidiary occupation.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

Fishing and farming are main occupations in the area under study. In these areas, fishing plays a significant role for socio-economic upliftment of the weaker sections of the society. Women are considered to be pioneers in all sorts of development. Women contribute nearly along with men in the economic development of our country. The present study was therefore undertaken to find out time utilization and spending pattern of fisher women in household task and subsidiary occupation. A multistage random sampling technique was adopted for study. Junagadh district in Gujarat was chosen for this study.

All the fisherwomen from 12 villages of two selected taluka constituted the population. From each village 10 fisherwomen selected randomly and included in the sample as respondent. Thus, total sample size is of 120 respondents.

To know the various characteristics of fisher women was measured with using well structure schedule. This study was conducted by using an *ex post facto* research design. (Kerlinger, 1969)

Time is a unique and valuable resource. Fisher women spend a lot of time not only in fishing but also managing their homes, farms and animals, but most of the time their contribution remains unrecognized. Therefore, an attempt was made to know the time spent pattern of fisher women in different household and other subsidiary occupation.

Measurement of time spent pattern of fisher women in different households and other subsidiary occupation was done by using 24 hours recall method. Data were collected and average time spent were classified on the basis of overall average time spent by fisher women in different households

and other subsidiary occupation.

■ RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A perusal of Table 1 reveals that maximum daily average time spent by the respondents in house hold task was observed in cooking and serving (3.52 hrs) followed by cleaning and arranging house (1.39 hrs), bringing water (0.72 hrs) and churning milk / ghee making (0.52 hrs). These activities were daily performed by fisher women.

Maximum weekly average time spent by the fisher women in house hold task was observed in washing clothes (3.25 hrs). This work done by fisher women once or twice in week.

Maximum seasonally average time spent by the fisher women in grain storage was 8.98 hours followed by preparation of non-perishable foods like papad, dal, pickles, species and condiments (6.81 hrs), plastering floors (4.35 hrs), bringing fuel (3.47 hrs) and sewing, knitting (2.97 hrs).

In case of time spent by fisher women in children care, maximum average time was spent to help children in teaching (0.67 hrs) followed by feeding (0.46 hrs), bathing (0.24 hrs) and make them ready for school (0.23 hrs). While maximum weekly average time spent by fisher women in child care was observed in preparation of special food for children (0.70 hrs).

While average time spent by fisher women in personal care; maximum average time was observed in rest and other (1.53 hrs) and taking meals (0.23 hrs).

A perusal of Table 2 and Fig. 1 reveals that maximum seasonal average time was spent by the respondents in subsidiary activities was observed in harvesting (6.85 hrs) followed by weeding (5.48 hours), sowing (3.45 hrs), aquaculture (3.30 hrs), mat weaving (0.67 hrs), songket weaving (0.41 hrs), batik making (0.25 hrs) and brass and silver manufacturing (0.23 hrs). Maximum time spent by fisher women in other subsidiary occupation was observed more in case of seasonal agricultural working followed by aquaculture and local handcraft.

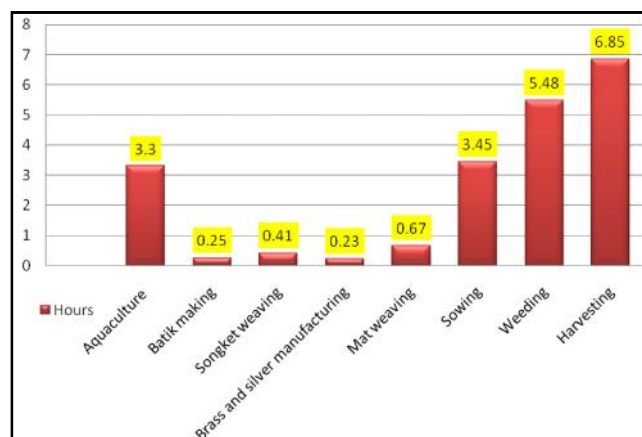


Fig. 1 : Time spending pattern of fisher women in other subsidiary occupation

Table 1 : Time utilization pattern of fisher women in different house hold task		(n=120)		
Sr. No.	Items	Hours		
		Daily	Weekly	Seasonally
Household work				
1.	Cleaning and arranging house (brooming)	1.39	–	–
2.	Washing clothes	–	3.25	–
3.	Bringing water	0.72	–	–
4.	Cooking and serving	3.52	–	–
5.	Churning milk/ghee making	0.52	–	–
6.	Bringing fuel	–	–	3.47
7.	Sewing, knitting	–	–	2.97
8.	Preparation of non-perishable foods (papad, dal, pickels, species and condiments)	–	–	6.81
9.	Plastering floors	–	–	4.35
10.	Grain storage (drying, cleaning)	–	–	8.98
Child care				
1.	Bathing	0.24	–	–
2.	Feeding	0.46	–	–
3.	Make them ready for school	0.23	–	–
4.	To help children in teaching	0.67	–	–
5.	Prepare special food for children	–	0.70	–
Personal care				
1.	Taking meals	0.23	–	–
2.	Rest and other	1.53	–	–

Table 2 : Time spending pattern of fisher women in other subsidiary occupations		
(n=120)		
Sr. No.	Subsidiary activities	Hours seasonally
I	Aquaculture	3.30
II	Local handcraft	
1.	Batik making	0.25
2.	Songket weaving	0.41
3.	Brass and silver manufacturing	0.23
4.	Mat weaving	0.67
III.	Seasonal agricultural working	
1.	Sowing	3.45
2.	Weeding	5.48
3.	Harvesting	6.85

The action of individual is governed by personal, social, economic, communicational, psychological and cultural factors involved in situation. Some fisher women manage new technology more quickly than others because of the difference in personal characteristics.

Hence, considering the important of these characteristics and review of past research studies, an attempt has been made in this investigation to ascertain the relationship if any, between personal, socio-economic communicational and psychological characteristics of the fisher women and their participation is presented in Table 3.

Among the independent variables studies *viz.*,

Table 3 : Relationship between the characteristics of fisher women and extent of participation		
(n=120)		
Sr. No.	Independent variables	Correlation co-efficient ('r' value)
1.	Age	-0.2482 **
2.	Education	0.2783**
3.	Type of family	0.0481 (NS)
4.	Size of family	0.0688 (NS)
5.	Marital status	0.0981(NS)
6.	Social participation	0.3498 **
7.	Family occupation	0.0889(NS)
8.	Annual income	0.2401 **
9.	Market accessibility	0.2002*
10.	Mass media exposure	0.2068*
11.	Extension participation	0.2123*
12.	Experience in fishing	0.3322**
13.	Decision making	0.0423(NS)

NS=Non-significant

* and ** indicate that significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively

education, experience in fishing, social participation, annual income, market accessibility, extension participation, mass media exposure had positive and highly significant correlation with participation of post-harvest operation. Whereas, age, size of family, type of family, family occupation and marital status of the dairy farm women had non-significant correlation with participation of post-harvest operation. While, age of

the fisher women exhibit negative and significant correlation with participation of post-harvest operation.

Conclusion :

Maximum daily average time utilization by the respondents in household task was observed in cooking and serving (3.52 hours) followed by cleaning and arranging house (1.39 hours), bringing water (0.72 hours) and churning milk / ghee making (0.52 hours). These activities were daily performed by fisher women. Maximum time spent by fisher women in other subsidiary occupation was observed more in case of seasonal agricultural working followed by aquaculture and local handcraft. Among the independent variables studies *viz.*, education, experience in fishing, social participation, annual income, market accessibility, extension participation, mass media exposure had positive and highly significant correlation with participation of post-harvest operation. Whereas age, size of family, type of family, family occupation and marital status of the dairy farm women had non-significant correlation with participation of post-harvest operation. While, age of

the fisher women exhibit negative and significant correlation with participation of post-harvest operation.

Authors' affiliations:

HEMANT JADHAV, Agritech School, Mahatma Phule Krushi Vidyapeeth, Malegao Camp, NASHIK (M.S.) INDIA

■ REFERENCES

- Farzana, C. (2002).** Impact of seasonality on the time utilization pattern of rural women in agricultural and other activities. *J. Maharashtra Agric. Univ.*, **29**(1) : 62-64.
- Jadhav, Sonali (2009)** Time utilization pattern of the fisher women. M.Sc. (Ag.) Thesis, Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapith, Dapoli, Ratnagiri, M.S. (INDIA).
- Kavitha, L. and Reddi, M.S. (2006).** Time utilization pattern of farm women in farm home activities. *J. Res. ANGRAU*, **34**(4):73-78.
- Kerlinger, F.N. (1969).** Foundation of behavioural research. Surjit Pub., New Delhi. pp. 198-224.
- Khader, V. (2005).** Socio-economic status of fisherwomen. Employment of fisherwomen.

9th
Year
★★★★★ of Excellence ★★★★★