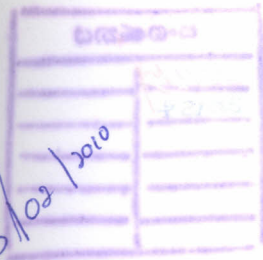


195709



05/02/2010



Rs. 3000/-

# **Economic Status of the Theppam Fishery In Negambo**

By

**Lakshika Shriyanthi Alwis Weerasinghe**



**This thesis submitted to the Institute of postgraduate Studies,  
University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda,  
Sri Lanka in the partial fulfillment of the  
requirement for Master in Science  
Degree in Fisheries and  
Aquatic Resource Management**

**May 2009**

**Faculty of Graduate studies, university of Sri Jayewardenepura,  
Gangodawila, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka**

**Library - USJP**



**195709**

**195709**

## ABSTRACT

Economic analysis of Theppam fishery was made from April 2008 to December 2008. "Theppama" is a traditional fishing craft and usually fishing is carried out with small meshed gillnets. Fishing operation was limited to the region within 0.8km - 1.5km from the shore and depth is about 7m -10 m. More than 45% of the fishermen fished at 9m depth and more than 50% catch were recorded from the 9m depth. Usually, Theppam fishermen depart from the shore about 3.30am to 4.00am and return to shore about 7.30am to 8.00am actual effective time of fishing is range 1 hour to 2hours. In early stages, Theppam were made out of timber, but now Theppams are made out with Fiber Reinforced Plastics. After 1950s some Theppams were powered with out board engines. But in the study area only non motorized plastic Theppams were found and they were operated using an oar. Sizes of the Theppam's are range from 11.5ft to 12.5ft in length. Crew size of the Theppam is usually one. Gillnets were the main gear use in Theppam fishery. Length of the one net piece was 1500 meshes and width of the one net piece was 330 meshes. Usually 4-6 net pieces were used. 12mm, 19mm, 23mm, 28mm, 45mm and 50mm stretched mesh nets were operated during the study period. July to September was

the peak period to Theppam fishery. *Sardinella* sp were the main fish sp contributes to the catch. They contribute about 50% of the total catches. Daily catch ranged from 0 – 15kg. The lowest estimated annual catch of a Theppam was 1357kg and the highest was 2001kg. Estimated annual total catch from the study area was 29443 kg. Daily income of a Theppam ranged from 0 to 2350 rupees. Estimated annual income was 206744 to 302833 rupees. Daily cost of operation Theppam ranged from 0 to 1000 rupees while estimated annual operational cost was 288 to 5750 rupees. Investing to a “Theppama” and Gillnets are the capital costs of a Theppam fishery. Price of a “Theppama” ranged 24,000 – 40,000 rupees and price of a twine multifilament gillnet is 7000 rupees. Theppams earn a profit which is 10 times its cost. It is a highly economic craft.

## CONTENTS

	<b>Page No</b>
List of Tables	I
List of Figures	II
List of Plates	III
Acknowledgement	IV
Abstract	V
Chapter 01	Introduction
	01
	Literature survey – Theppam
	04
	Objectives
	09
Chapter 02	Materials and Methods
	10
Chapter 03	Results
	14
Chapter 04	Discussion
	37
Chapter 05	Conclusion
	43
Reference	44
Appendix	47