APPENDIX III

Fishing communities of India: An overview

In India, fishing communities have their distinct social, cultural governance structures and traditional practices in accordance to the place where they inhabit. They belong to different caste groups and at least 2-3 caste groups are engaged in fishing in each maritime state. These communities are also organized into various sectors such as the mechanised sector-boat owner associations, trade unions, cooperative (both State-run and private), associations based on gear type, self help groups, federations etc.

Some of the important fishing castes of India according to State-wise are given below:

1. Tamil Nadu- Pattinavars, Mukkuvars, and Paravas
2. Andhra Pradesh- Vadabalijas, Jalaris, Pattapu, and Palles
3. Orissa- Jalaris/Nolias, Vadabalijas, Kaibartas/Keuto/, Khandayats, and Rajbhansis
4. West Bengal- Kaibartas
5. Gujarat- Kharvas, Kolis and Macchiyaras
6. Maharashtra- Kolis
7. Karnataka- Mogaveeras
8. Kerala- Mukkuvar, Anjootty, Dheevera, and Pooislan

http://indianfisheries.icsf.net/en/page/613-Fishing%20Communities.html