

Assessing the Socioeconomic Conditions of the Coastal Population in the Bakkhali-Frezarganj Region, West Bengal

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Abstract: *The coastal regions of Bakkhali-Frezarganj in West Bengal are home to a predominantly fishing-based community. This study investigates the socioeconomic conditions of the coastal population, focusing on livelihood patterns, economic challenges, and opportunities. Through primary and secondary data, this research assesses factors such as income levels, employment, access to resources, education, and the impact of coastal environmental changes on their economic conditions. The study highlights the relationship between traditional livelihoods, modernization, and the economic status of these communities. Results indicate a mixed economic profile with reliance on fishing, agriculture, and tourism, but challenges remain, particularly due to environmental degradation and limited access to education and healthcare. This study underscores the need for sustainable development practices and policy interventions to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the Bakkhali-Frezarganj coastal population.*

Keywords: Bakkhali-Frezarganj, Socioeconomic conditions, Livelihood, Coastal communities, Economic development, Fisheries, Environmental challenges

