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UNRAVELING THE GROWTH AND ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF HILSA, A SEVEN YEAR STUDY AT GODAKHALI: A MAJOR HOTSPOT

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The study in Godakhali, West Bengal, from 2018 to 2024 focused on the growth and economy of hilsa. Monthly catch data revealed a total harvest of 89.846 tonnes. Interaction with approximately 225 fishermen, revealed that the monthly average income during the study period ranged from $\[\] 1,304$ to $\[\] 9,630$. The catch percentage showed an upward trend, peaking in 2021 after a decline due to COVID-19. The findings of the study establishes that Godakhali is one of the major landing centre in the Hooghly-Bhagirathi River system.

Keywords: Catch percentage, COVID-19, Landing centre, Hooghly-Bhagirathi

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