

ANALYSIS OF THE TRADITIONAL SALT SYSTEM IN EAST JAVA

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ABSTRACT

Analysis Salt making has traditionally been carried out from generation to generation mainly in East Java, the activities of coastal communities in the field of marine, fisheries, and salt farmers are one source of economic growth. This study aims: (1) To identify the economic activities of traditional salt farmers in East Java; (2) Knowing the demographic, economic and cultural characteristics of traditional salt farmer communities in East Java (3) Knowing the relationship between stakeholder groups (StakeHolders), namely salt farmers, traders or middlemen, government institutions, and community institutions in connection with salt farmers traditional in East Java. This study uses a qualitative form of research conducted on an object and conditions it as it is. Data collection is done by collecting various information or data about the economic activities of traditional salt farmers in East Java. From the results of the study, it was found that the economic activity of salt farmers in coastal areas in East Java slowed somewhat. Rain began to fall in recent times in the East Java region. As a result, salt production in the salt industry center cannot be maximized. Even though the price increase is not far adrift, this condition, if continued, is feared to have an impact on other factors. There is a need for technology that allows salt farmers to keep producing salt even though the season has anomalies even in the rainy season.

Keywords: Pergaraman, traditional, East Java

1. INTRODUCTION

Salt manufacture has traditionally been carried out from generation to generation mainly in the East Java region, the activity of coastal communities in the field of marine, fisheries, and salt farmers is one of the important sources of economic growth because: (a) the supply capacity is very large, while demand continues to increase; (b) generally output can be exported, while input comes from local resources; (c) can generate large upstream and downstream industries, so as to absorb quite a lot of labor; (d) generally takes place in the area; and (e) the fishing industry, biotechnology and maritime tourism are renewable resources, thus supporting the implementation of sustainable development (Boedhisantoso, S. 2009: 12).

Acoastal community in general is a community group that is relatively left behind socially, economically and culturally compared to other community groups. Such perception is based on the results of direct observation of the reality of the lives of coastal communities or through an understanding of the results of academic studies. Socioeconomic backwardness in coastal communities is a potential obstacle for them to encourage the dynamics of development in their region (Shjahrul Asward, 2009: 32). As a result there are often weaknesses in bargaining positions with other parties outside the coastal area, so they lack the ability to develop their own capacity and organization or social institutions as a means of actualization in building their territories. Coastal communities (fishermen) can be grouped into: (1) fishing fishermen (crew and owners); (2) farmers /

salt farmers / farmers; (3) seafood processing; and (4) seafood traders (Susilowati, et al, 2004: 28).

Generally the problems faced by coastal communities in Indonesia are not different from the problems encountered in other small-scale economic activities. They live in all limitations, as well as economic limitations appearing at low fisherman income levels. As a strategic commodity as an industrial raw material and food ingredients that are needed by almost all people. But the salt production produced by Indonesian salt farmers has not been able to meet the salt needs of the Indonesian people. Therefore, the Indonesian government decided to import salt. In its realization, the purpose of import as previously explained is to meet domestic needs, it causes new problems because it exceeds the amount needed.

Salt farmers in East Java in general are traditional salt farmers with a pattern that depends on the season and have not utilized marine natural resources to the fullest and still low knowledge of banking, processing of salt products still uses old methods for generations and is carried out by means of - very traditional way.

Problem Formulation

Based on the above background, the following problems can be formulated:

1. What is the economic activity of traditional salt farmers in East Java?
2. What are the demographic, economic and cultural characteristics of traditional salt farmer communities in East Java.
3. What is the relationship between stakeholder groups (StakeHolders), namely salt farmers, traders or middlemen, government agencies, and community institutions in connection with the presence of traditional salt farmers in East Java.

Research Objectives

The research objectives to be achieved are:

1. Identify the economic activities of traditional salt farmers in East Java;
2. Knowing the demographic, economic and cultural characteristics of traditional salt farmer communities in East Java.
3. Knowing the relationship between stakeholder groups (Stakeholders), namely salt farmers, traders or middlemen, government agencies, and community institutions in connection with the presence of traditional salt farmers in East Java.

Benefits of Research

The expected benefits of this study are:

1. Academic Benefits

a. Develop the repertoire of science in regional economics, especially the problem of the dynamics of the coastal area and beneficial for the development of further research activities by various interested parties.

b. In addition to knowledge and references related to the phenomenon of traditional salt farmers' economic activities that can encourage the growth and development of local economic activities independently.

2. Practical Benefits (Local Government)

As an input for the Marine and Fisheries Service (DKP) East Java Province for the development of coastal areas that can be implemented in efforts to manage and develop the resources of coastal areas, especially salt farmers in East Java.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In a literature study this was made to provide a theoretical basis for research containing theories that represent research activities and used as a basis for determining research variables. This literature study is an attempt to understand the problems in the study. According to Nazir (2003: 93) literature studies aim to explore theories that develop in the science of interest and obtain a broader orientation in research problems while looking for methods and research techniques, both in collecting data or in analyzing data that has ever been used by previous researchers, also obtained a wider orientation in the chosen problem and avoiding unwanted duplication.

Coastal Zone

Regional growth based on a very common regional approach is export-based growth theory (Nugroho et al, 2004: 57). Based on the description of the literature study, that the production and production value of salt farmers that took place in East Java as a means of managing marine products, especially salt, has now shown indications of growth as the main activity and supporting activities. Contextual understanding of regional growth in this literature study is to see the existence of coastal areas in East Java as part of the activities of salt farmers.

In accordance with the general agreement in the world that the coastal area is a meeting area between land and sea, towards the land covering both dry and submerged land which is still affected by sea traits such as tides,

sea breezes and salt water seepage towards the sea covering the sea which is still influenced by natural processes that occur on land such as sedimentation and freshwater flow, as well as those caused by human activities such as agriculture and pollution (Directorate General of Coastal and Small Islands, 2003: 69).

Regional Based Integration Basics

The first question that must be answered is related to the basis of cohesiveness, whether cohesiveness is based on (a) geographical area, (b) an activity / main activity and relevance; (c) a one-sector economic / commodity approach. Each answer choice has different consequences. Integration based on geographical area, in this case the buffer zone as a reference base of activity. If this base area is accepted as a reference, one approach can be used to develop various potential commodities and economic sectors in certain geographic areas. The concept of an Integrated Economic Development Zone (KAPET) which is becoming a mode can be a reference for the development model. This model focuses more on integration based on geographical areas. The essence is the selection and determination of an area in a particular area as a development center for the region concerned. Commodities and economic sectors carried out are left to the choice of the perpetrators, but directed towards mutual support.

Integration based on the economic sector is carried out by first choosing a particular economic sector as one of the activities that has advantages. The basis for selecting this economic sector can vary, but is generally adjusted to government development plans and programs. The geographical area can spread, but still must take into account the effectiveness, ease and efficiency of movements between adjacent regions for the economic sector concerned.

Base and Orientation of Coastal Area Development

Natural resource development programs in coastal areas, in general can be categorized as efforts that are controlled by what is product-driven and efforts that are controlled by market-driven things. Or in other words oriented to the economy first. In connection with this problem, every business organization and grouping of business organizations need to think about the following:

- 1) Will it operate in accordance with consumer behavior (market-oriented) or ability (product-oriented); and
- 2) Will be developed based on market needs (market-based) or based on the power of resources (resources-based).

The efforts of integrated natural resource development programs have two strategic objectives, namely how to create added value that can reduce poverty and (later) how to be able to compete in the market so that it can be sustainable.

Research Thinking Framework

The success of managing salt resources will depend on many factors. The abundant potential of salt resources that exist in a region or region, is not enough to illustrate that the activities of salt farmers in the area will be able to develop well. Isolated geographical location, difficult topography of the area for access

from outside the region to the location of the salt farmers' area, limited quality and quantity of human resources, cultural and socio-cultural conditions of the community, characteristics of fish resources, technology, investment capability and minimal capital from the government and the local community, the absence of a market or consumer as well as the existing political situation, is thought to be an inhibiting factor for the development of fisheries in the area. The right strategy for developing salt farmers is adjusted to the characteristics of potential and problems in East Java

3. RESEARCH METHODS

Research Methods

In this study using a qualitative form of research conducted on an object and condition it as it is. According to Sutopo (2002: 111) "Qualitative case study research leads to a detailed and in-depth description of the condition portrait of what actually happened in the field of study". In theory, qualitative research has an understanding as a systematic statement relating to a set of prepositions derived from data and retested empirically.

Research Subjects

Subjects in this study were people in the north coast of East Java, salt farmers, traders or middlemen and the general public.

Research Stages

The stages in the study include:

a. Exploring Secondary Resources

From secondary sources collected from government agencies, non-governmental and private institutions. Secondary sources include also library books and other information sources. Based on these secondary sources, relevant data and information can be obtained to find out the current condition (existing system) of the economic activity of the area at the research location.

b. Direct Observation or Observation

Direct observation is intended to know and understand directly the activities of salt farmers in each research location.

Informant Withdrawal Techniques

In determining informants, researchers used snowball techniques (snowball sampling). According to Yin's opinion as quoted by Sutopo (2002: 37):

Snowball sampling is the use of sampling without preparation but taking the first person to be found, and then by following the instructions to get the next sampling so as to get complete and in-depth data, like a snowball rolling, getting bigger.

Based on the above opinion, it can be concluded that in order to obtain in-depth data, the informant is considered sufficient then the informant is asked to show other subjects who are considered to know this problem more broadly, so that in-depth data can be obtained and truly support the achievement of research results.

Data Collection Techniques

Data collection is done by collecting various information or data about the use of coastal natural resources carried out by salt farmers in East Java. The data collection techniques are carried out in the following ways:

a. Observation technique:

This technique is carried out to obtain data on the potential of coastal resources and the socio-economic life of local salt farmers.

b. Interview technique:

To obtain primary data, using semi structured interview techniques, namely interviews that are more free and use open questions that are carried out purposively with resource persons or respondents who are considered to know the most problems faced by coastal communities in the management of conservation areas. the sea are traditional salt farmers, traders or middlemen, village heads, community leaders, religious leaders, traditional leaders, officials of the Fisheries and Maritime Service and related agencies.

c. Questionnaire:

To get primary data, a questionnaire is used as a tool to measure. Respondents are traditional salt farmers, middlemen, village heads, community leaders, religious leaders, traditional leaders, and officials of the Fisheries and Marine Service and related agencies.

Data Analysis

1. Identify the performance of the economic activities of salt farmers in East Java.

2. Analysis of the demographic, economic and cultural characteristics of traditional salt farmer communities in East Java.

3. Analysis of the relationship between stakeholder groups (Stakeholders), namely salt farmers, traders or middlemen, government agencies, and community institutions in connection with the presence of traditional salt farmers in East Java.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

General Description of the Research Area

East Java is a province in the eastern part of the island of Java, Indonesia. The capital city is located in Surabaya. Its area is 47,922 km², and the population is 42,030,633 people (www.jatimprov.go.id).

Economic Activity of Salt Farmers in East Java

The economic activity of salt farmers in coastal areas in East Java has slowed somewhat, rain has begun to fall in recent times in the East Java region. As a result, salt production in the salt industry center cannot be maximized. Even though the price increase is not far adrift, this condition, if continued, is feared to have an impact on other factors. The salt price, which was originally Rp 1,500 per kilogram, has now risen to Rp 2,000 per kilogram. If the rainfall gets higher, it is predicted that the salt stock will be depleted. As a result the price of salt will rise again in the market. Because yesterday's salt production was dropped directly to the market, it has not had time to stock up on inventory at the warehouse. To harvest salt it takes about 7 to 10 days. Erratic weather often makes farmers more anxious. When the salt is ready for harvest, but at night it rains which causes the salt that

has been crystallized to melt again, even though the rainwater discharge is still low, normally, the heat is about 2.5 months.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

Based on the results of traditional salt system analysis research in East Java, it can be concluded: the process of salt farmers in making salt uses a very simple method, but there are already some salt farmers who have used geo membrane technology. Geo membrane technology stages:

1. The land that is to be used must be changed its layout from traditional land to semi-intensive changes in layout. This is intended to increase production, which in semi-intensive land consists of several plots
 - a. Young water storage pond
 - b. 2 pieces of pool
 - c. Screw pool
 - d. Old water reservoir
 - e. Crystallization table

From these land changes, it will be able to increase production which is very real, reaching 40% to 60%, this is due to the ratio of land area where 35% of the land area is used for old water storage ponds, drainage ponds, screw ponds and old water storage ponds, while 65 % is used for crystal tables, in addition to increasing production the other advantage of this semi-intensive system is a faster production period in which within 14 days old water will be quickly obtained while in traditional land to get water up to 30 days old.

2. Coating the crystallization table with plastic sheeting

To improve the quality of people's salt which is currently a market demand, salt farmers must be willing to add to the existing facilities. Because currently the salt production of the people is considered to not meet the SNI requirements, namely the low NaCl value, brownish and brittle opaque color. Therefore, to overcome the existing problems, geo membrane technology is now being developed. In geo membrane technology the entire crystallization table is coated with plastic sheeting to ensure the cleanliness of salt production.

With the geo membrane technology, the salt cultivators of the people during the salt season can harvest their salt continuously, there is no need to worry about the quality of the salt produced because the salt crystals do not come into contact with the soil, so that white, clean and weighted salt crystals can be obtained. In addition to the crystallization table which is coated with plastic sheeting also on the old water intake channel from the old water storage pond to the crystallization table, it needs to be coated with plastic sheeting, this is intended to prevent the soil mud from the intake channel from being carried into the crystallization table, when dividing the entry of old water into the table - crystallization table.

3. Plastic sheeting used.

Plastic sheeting used for geo membranes can use number A 12 or HDPE plastic with a thickness of 500 microns, because this plastic has a high economic value, which in its use can last up to four seasons of

salt with good care. In this plastic treatment, if it is not the season of salt must be removed from the crystallization table and then washed and rolled back and kept in a water bath, do not store it in a dry place, because it is likely to be damaged by rats.

4. How to install geo membrane
 - a. Measure the size of the geo membrane plastic that will be used
 - b. Make galangan in the crystallization table according to the geo membrane plastic area
 - c. Roll or solidify the crystallization table so that the surface of the crystallization table is flat.
 - d. Expand the plastic geo membrane on the crystallization table to cover the entire galangan surface.
 - e. Strengthen the plastic edges of geo membranes by giving wooden pegs to the geo membrane plastic edges.

Suggestions

1. It is necessary to intensify mentoring from the marine and fisheries services through Community Salt Business Empowerment (PUGAR) continuously not only when distributing assistance to farmers only.
2. Efforts to improve the quality of people's salt NaCl levels to 98% in order to be able to meet the needs of salt for industries that have been supplied through imported salt. Whereas local salt NaCl levels only reach 85%, while imported salt reaches 98% NaCl.
3. The establishment of financial institutions or joint business groups based on the salt business group needs to be done to overcome the difficulties of salt farmers in terms of capital in salt production and post-production activities so that sales prices can be sold at high prices. Because all this time salt farmers have always been mocked by middlemen with *ijon* systems.
4. The need is Technology that allows salt farmers to keep producing salt even though the season has anomalies even in the rainy season.

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