

AGRICULTURE SECTOR PROBLEMS AND SOLUTION FOR THOSE PROBLEMS: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SATNA DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

India is a country in which the primary occupation of the people is agriculture and about 50% of our population is dependent on agriculture directly or indirectly for their livelihood. In other way, we can say that the development of a country is possible only after development of agriculture. Satna is a developing city of M.P. and is included in Smart City Project of Government of India but the major problem is that majority of population is illiterate and although there are number of new technologies coming in the area of agriculture but due to illiteracy and ignorance the people of Satna District are unable to use those techniques and therefore are unable to increase productivity of agriculture and their standard of living.

KEYWORDS: *Agriculture, Technique, Irrigation, Equipments, Electricity, Banks.*

Introduction

Although agriculture is a major occupation of the people in Satna District but there are many problems which the farmers of this region suffers. Therefore the motive of my research paper is to bring about the possible causes of problems in the agriculture sector and the solution to overcome these problems. More than 40% of the population is not able to fulfill their basic requirements due to the low productivity and this low productivity is due to the use of traditional methods in the field of agriculture.

Besides this some of the other reasons for the low productivity of agriculture in Satna district are Poverty and Illiteracy. Central and State Government also made various measures but all of them proved useless because they could not reach up to the actual beneficiaries i.e. the farmers.

Problems of Agriculture Sector

Some of the main problems suffered by the farmers in Satna District are as follows:

- **Lack of Proper Irrigation System:** The portion of irrigated land is very less in number and only about 20% of the land is irrigated and the remaining agriculture is dependent on monsoon. Due to the increase or decrease in rainfall, there is heavy loss in the agriculture sector and there is increase or decrease in the price of agricultural product leading to instability of income.
- **Insecurity in the Valley Region:** Satna district is also suffering a major drawback because there is always high risk of Dacoit in the valley region due to which the farmers are feared of doing agriculture in the region.
- **Densely Forest Area:** The forest area in the Chitrakoot and Majhgawan region are very dense due to which there is always risk of wild animals attacking on farmers.
- **Methods and Conditions of Agriculture are Different:** There is difference of soil due to the difference in the geographical area and therefore different methods are adopted for the agriculture purpose. Due to this indifference unique plan could not be developed for the development of agriculture.

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- **Dry Rivers in the Region:** The Rivers in Satna district become dry soon after the rainy season due to which the farmers do not get proper water for irrigation facilities and this is also one of the main reasons for the low productivity of agriculture in Satna district.
- **Lack of Research Activities:** Sufficient research activities are not conducted in the district to find the best crop which can be grown in the area.
- **Soil Erosion and Other Natural Calamities:** Due to the wind and water and due to the sowing of the same crop again and again the fertility of the soil is getting reduced.
- **Less Productivity per Hectare:** The productivity per hectare in Satna district is also very low due to the small size of the land and due to the traditional methods of production.
- **Low Area of Cultivation:** The area of cultivation is getting reduced in the recent area. Since Satna is included in the smart city therefore new avenues of infrastructure is developing in the district which on the one hand is developing the district and on the other hand decreasing the area of cultivation in the district.
- **Availability of Electricity:** Electricity in the rural area is not available for 18-20 hours due to which the farmers are not able to irrigate the land . Also their is problem of low voltage due to which their is always risk of loss og agricultural equipments.
- **Poor Economic condition:** The economic condition of the farmers of Satna district is very poor due to which they have to take loans from the local moneylenders and are liable to pay heavy interest. For the fulfillment of their basic needs also they have to take loans.
- **Poor Health Conditions:** The sanitation condition in Satna district is not proper and due to unawareness the farmers are not in good health conditions which affect their efficiency and they are unable to increase the productivity of agriculture.
- **Lack of Good Seeds:** The seeds which are used by the farmers are not of good quality due to which the productivity is low and the quality of production is not of good quality. The basic reason for not using seeds of good quality is due to the weak economic condition of the farmers on one hand and on the other hand due to ignorance the farmers are not able to use good quality seeds.
- **Low Quality Livestock:** The farmers in Satna district are dependent on a large scale upon livestock who are very weak and untrained. Due to which the productivity of agriculture in Satna district is very low.
- **Dependency on Labour:** Another drawback of the agriculture in Satna district is that the agriculture in Satna is dependent upon labour on a large scale and due to the use of more labour and less capital the cost of production in agriculture sector is increasing.
- **Lack of knowledge of Tools and Equipment:** Due to illiteracy and poor working condition the farmers in Satna district are not able to use proper tools and equipment due to which the productivity in agriculture is low.
- **Social Status of Farmers is Low:** Farmers do not consider agriculture as a reputed profession because the social status of the farmers is very low. Due to this the standard of living of the people is also very low.
- **Knowledge of Agriculture Marketing is Low:** The farmers in Satna district do not have proper knowledge of agriculture marketing and due to this reason they sell their produce to Arhatiyas who earn huge profits by selling them to consumers on a high price.
- **Inadequate Storage Facilities:** The storage facilities in Satna district are not proper. Huge quantity of food grains is kept in the open without shelter and in the condition of sudden rainfall entire food is destroyed. Also the farmers do not get proper price of their product and they are compelled to sell their product at low price in the season and wholesalers earn huge profit by selling them in the off season.
- **Dependence upon Traditional Crops:** The farmers in Satna district are dependent upon a large scale upon traditional food crops and do not have much knowledge of the cash crops. Thus due to repetitive farming the productivity of the land is reduced and thus the standard of living of the farmers is also very low.

Suggestions to improve agriculture productivity in Satna district:

- **Irrigation System should be Improved:** Irrigation system should be developed for which the process is already started. Bansagar project is a lifeline for the farmers of Satna district.
- **Dependency on Traditional Crops should be Reduced:** The farmers in the district are also encouraged to grow some cash crops besides food crops. Mushroom, Soyabean and other cash crops are being grown in plenty in this region.
- **Storage Facilities should be Developed:** This is the major problem and efforts should be done by the government on PPP model to increase storage facilities so that farmers could keep their product safe in the season and can get better price of their products.
- **Better Quality Seeds should be Provided:** Good quality seeds should be provided to the farmers so that they can increase the productivity of agriculture.
- **Agriculture Land area should be Increased:** Efforts should be done to increase the land area. Although land ceiling is done but the size of farms is decreasing day by day. Development should be done but not at the cost of agriculture.
- **Agriculture Marketing should be Promoted:** Agriculture products should be promoted and farmers should get a good price of their products. Already the MSP is in existence but the time taken to sell the farm products to the government is very lengthy.
- **Social Status of the Farmers should be Increased:** Efforts should be done to make agriculture as a profitable work so that more and more persons could be attracted towards that field.
- **Improved knowledge of Tools and Equipment:** Farmers should be provided good knowledge of tools and equipments so that they can use it in their farms and increase productivity.
- **Dependency on Labour should be Decreased:** In place of labour intensive techniques efforts should be done to adopt capital intensive techniques because availability of labor at the time of harvesting and sowing is very less which increases the cost of production and delay in time.
- **Soil Erosion should be Protected:** Provisions should be done to prevent cutting of soil. Retaining walls should developed to prevent soil erosion. Because if the soil is destroyed productivity will be reduced.

Conclusion

The conclusion at which we arrive from the above topic cannot be called satisfactory. The use of new technology is not done by many farmers and the agriculture economy is still backward as it was in the past.

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