

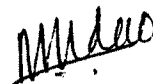
P R E F A C E

The present study pertains to the development of irrigation facilities in Chikodi taluka of Belgaum district during 20-Point Economic Programme period. Irrigation has its important place in agricultural production. In recent years with increasing population and economic development, the demand for agricultural produce is increasing, but unstable rainfall conditions are creating problems in this field. In such situations the irrigation development has become an essential precondition for agricultural development in the country. 20-Point Economic Programme was mainly declared to break the economic stagnation and speed up economic development. Considering the importance of agricultural development in the overall economic development and the importance of irrigation development in agricultural development, top priority was given to irrigation development in Revised 20-Point Economic Programme of 1982. The Karnataka State Government has declared different irrigation schemes, especially for the benefits of poor farmers, under this programme. These schemes were ideal but were not implemented successfully and were not benefitting to the poor farmers. These shortcomings provided an incentives to take up the subject for empirical investigation. Due to absence of development of other sectors, the economy of Chikodi taluka is dominated by agriculture, and hence the taluka was chosen, in present investigation as a case study in these respects.

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to the office bearers of Minor Irrigation Department at taluka and district level, agriculture department offices at taluka and district levels, tahasildar and B.D.O's offices, District Statistical Department at Belgaum, Tobacco Research Station at Nipani, Rain Guage Centre at Chikodi, Syndicate Bank at Nipani and its regional office at Belgaum for providing valuable information. This work would not have been possible without the expected cooperation from the sample farmers. I am grateful to them.

The study was conducted under the guidance of Dr.T.G. Naik, Reader, Department of Economics, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Without his valuable guidance, suggestions and patient reading, this work would have been impossible in the present form. I prefer to remain indebted to Dr. T.G. Naik. I also prefer to remain indebted to Dr. V.B. Ghuge, Professor and Head, Department of Economics, Dr. R.R. Doshi, Professor and Dr. J.F. Patil, Reader, Department of Economics, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

I extend my sincere thanks to Shri Kawade for his neat and accurate typing work.



(M.D. Yadav)