

# **Chapter-VI**

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## **FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**6.1 Introduction**

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### **CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

#### **6.1 Introduction**

Dhom irrigation project is one of the major irrigation projects in Satara district. It is located in Wai taluka of Satara district. This project is built on Krishna River in 1976 and started implementing, since then farmers in Wai taluka have been benefited from this project. There are 101 villages covered under this irrigation project. At present, command areas of the project is 32,925 hectares. Consequently, agricultural scenario of the region has undergone a phenomenal changes and rural life of the command area has been gradually changing for better living.

#### **6.2 Major Findings of the Study**

Following are the major finding of the study

1. Dhom Irrigation Project is one of the major irrigation Project, out of 10 irrigation projects in satara district.
2. It was observed that under the DIP irrigated land was 32,925 hectares command areas.
3. Before the construction of the dam most of the areas was under dry cultivation and very little land was under irrigation (15.77%). But today (32.78%) area is under irrigation. The agriculture is mostly benefited in the command area.
4. The study showed that out of total sample farmers majority of farmers were belongs to small farmers it was 41.5% farmer. Marginal farmer 38%and medium and large farmer were 10.5% and 10.5% respectively

5. The present study showed that classification of households by caste. Maratha was dominant community in command area there were 161 farmers out of 200, followed by Mali 32, Kumbhar 3, Chambhar 2, and Nahavi 2.
6. Agriculture is the main occupation of 77.5 farmers among the total sample farmers 5.5% farmer were doing services in various fields, 12.5% farmer were agricultural labourers and moreover 4.5% farmers were businessmen.
7. Before D.I.P. Bajara and Jowar were main crops and after D.I.P. sugarcane and turmeric were main crops in study region. In general, the area under sugarcane has increased considerably because of the nearby cooperative sugar factories. The volume of agricultural finance at most of the places has also increased significantly. Thus cropping pattern has improved significantly in the region.
8. Moreover crop wise analysis showed that in irrigated area cropping pattern has been replaced by cash crops. Farmers are growing cash crops like sugarcane, turmeric, wheat, soyabean etc. It was observed that due to irrigation, there has been improvement in yield of crops.
9. In the study, area it was observed that after dam was being constructed, there has been improvement in economic status of farmers, their tendency toward nuclear family was observed. It indicates that, in the modern era, people are preferred to live separately in rural area.
10. The farmers in D.I.P. command area were using consumer durable, entertainment means and mean of transport in their daily life, Telephone, Mobile phones, Chairs, Radio, Tape-recorders, T.V. Mixer, bicycles, Two- Wheelers etc.

11. The survey showed that the economic condition of farmers has been improved due to Dhom irrigation project. Out of the total beneficiaries, economic condition of 51% farmers has improved directly significantly. However, some other farmers also benefited from this irrigation project. In fact, irrigation project has created significant change in socio economic life of rural community in this area.
12. The 24.5% of farmers had accepted that there was an improvement in standard of living, due to increase in production and income.
13. The present study observed educational statuses of respondents out of total sample farmers majority farmers (40.5%) were taken secondary education followed by 17.5% farmers had primary education, 11.5% farmer were taken higher secondary education, 14% farmer were graduate and only 0.5% farmers were post-graduate. But 7% farmers were illiterate out of sample farmers.
14. The study showed that farmer participated in various institutions. Out of total sample farmers 70% were participated in PACS, 57% in dairy co-operative, 58.5% in sugar factory, 46% in cotton mill and only 2.5% in lift irrigation. 10 farmers were not participated or were not members of any institution.
15. The study showed that out of total sample farmers 61.5% farmers were having Bullock cart, 66.5% farmers had steel plough, 66% with seed drill, 32.5% with tractors, 28% with tractor plus trollies, 2.5% with power tiller, 55% electric pumpset, and 7.5% having oil engines. . It is means mechanical inputs has increased in irrigation tracts. The wooden ploughs are replaced by iron ploughs, bullock carts are replaced by the tractors and oil engines by electric pumps.

16. Moreover, irrigation has brought about technological changes in agriculture. There has been use of HVYS, chemical fertilizers and other modern inputs due to availability of irrigation facility
17. Moreover, the farmers could raise the loan for the purposes where more investment is required, such as land development, irrigation facility, purchase of tractor, trailer, purchase of land etc.
18. Most of the farmers have received canal water adequately to sugarcane, wheat, Rabi Hy. Jowar, and rice for the period of last two years
19. As regards improvement done by the farmers after availability of canal water, it was also observed that some improvements have taken place in the case of land, residence and cattle yard after the availability of canal water. However, significant changes have taken place in the case of possessing shares, deposits, insurance, farm Machinery/ implements and livestock.

### **6.3 Suggestions**

Following are some suggestion of the study

1. Government should give them assurance about proper price for agricultural production to make farming profitable.
2. In stead of giving compensation in the form of money, land should be allotted to affected farmers by the government.
3. Irrigation facilities should be used in view to increase the level of adoption of new agricultural technology. Moreover, farmers should be trained to use scientific methods of irrigation such as drip and sprinkling irrigation to utilize scare water resources in the dam.
4. The misuse of water, especially in lift irrigation region is caused due to the improper rates charged for irrigation water. Therefore, instead of charging the rates based on crops grown, it would be

much economic to calculate the water charges on hourly basis or on meter basis

5. For attaining the full efficiency of irrigation and for ensuring an adequate return on investment on other costly inputs, scientific management of soil and water resources is essential. In this regard the soil testing facilities that are concentrated only in and around sugar factory areas should be extended in the remaining parts of the region.
6. Farmers have, in general, opined that the canal water needs to be made available to them in adequate quantities, on time and with reliability. It is therefore recommended that the necessary improvement in irrigation scheduling be done to establish the fact that the system can deliver water as desired by the farmers.
7. In canal irrigated areas cracks in the canals may be properly repaired to stop the seepage and percolation of water. It is suggested to keep the canals and the border of canals clean of the grass and the plants. The irrigation department may send out inspection teams periodically to stop misuse of the canal water and supervise maintenance of canals.
8. It is suggested that the government should adopt the appropriate policy in order to make timely availability of credit on easy interest rates to the farmers.
9. It is also suggested that farmers should collect the agricultural information from newspapers, magazines radios, T.V., gramshevaks etc. It helps in cultivation of various crops which in turn leads to growth and diversification of agriculture.