

CHAPTER - VI

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C O N C L U S I O N

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The Walwa tahsil located in western part of Sangli district. It is bounded by Khanapur and Karad tahsil in the north, Tasgaon tahsil lies to east, Hatakanangle tahsil of Kolhapur district in south and Shirala tahsil in the west. It is a part of Deccan plateau, through elvation, ruggedness and undulating in nature. Relatively favourable topography for agriculture exists in the western part of tahsil whereas extensive area of level land situated in the northeastern and southern part of the region provides large scope for intensifying the agriculture. The valleys of Krishna and Warana have the fertile deep soils and well developed irrigation facilities which are most important for cultivation. The region experiences monsoon climate. Western part of tahsil gets maximum rainfall (over 700 mm) which decreases towards east (639 mm). Nearly 70 percent of annual rainfall is concentrated in the five month i.e. June to October. The density of population decreases from east to west as the nature of topography and soil quality changes. In general the availability of agricultural land in relation to population is very low. Within the Sangli district the region rank first having power supply in all the villages. Being hilly and undulating the northern and western parts of the region have less accessibility.

The proportion of cultivated land is relatively low in the western part of the region than that of eastern part. In the

overall landuse pattern, cultivated area compares about 77.13 percent of total geographical area of the tahsil, whereas non agricultural land comprising area not available for cultivation. The region is well known for the lift irrigation compare about 53.32% of total irrigated area. The high percentage of area under lift irrigation are confined in mainly eastern part of tahsil. The development of irrigation helps to increase the cropped land and enabled the farmers to make additional investment in modern innovations; and techniques of farming.

The predominance of foodgrains in the cropping pattern is notable in the region. Jowar is the leading crop and its share relatively higher in the central and south-eastern part of the region. Sugarcane is the major commercial crop of the region and has a concentration along Krishna and Warana river banks. Other important cash crop of the region is groundnut which is largely confined to western part of the region. Relatively high percentage of area (above 10%) under rice is observed along the Krishna and Warana banks due to the assured irrigation facilities. The availability of tractors per 100 hect. of cultivated area is high in the northeastern part of tahsil. It is mainly because of sugarcane cultivation; spread of irrigation, fertile soil and development of sugar factories. On the contrary the traditional implements i.e. iron ploughs are highly dominant in eastern and southwestern part of the region. In brief northeastern and central part of the region is relatively more developed than the western part of the tahsil.

The adoption of tractor firstly took place in Rethare Haranaksha block in the year 1961 at Yedemachindra village. At the beginning the rate of adoption was very slow. But with the passage of time it was broken down and the rate of adoption of tractor increased in the north eastern and central part of the tahsil. The trends of diffusion of adoption of tractor is highest in Rethare Haranaksha, followed by Walwa, Bavachi, Kasegaon, Kuralap, Peth, Kameri and Yelur administrative blocks of the region. The rate of diffusion increased rapidly after the year 1970 due to the development of irrigation facilities, and growth of sugar factories which have played dominant role in diffusion the tractor in this tahsil. The administrative blocks namely Kuralap, Peth, Kameri and Yelur, the rate of adoption of tractor is relatively slow due to the rugged topography and less development of irrigation facilities.

The socio-economic status of peasants played vital role in the process of agricultural innovation and its diffusion. In the resource set farm size, irrigated area and area under sugarcane have proved the positive trend in adoption in the agricultural innovations like tractor. In the biographical set among the middle age farmers adopts the innovations earlier than the younger and older group of peasants. The high adoption score is observed among the peasants who had middle education score and medium size of family. The other determinants of biographical

status like formal social participation, agricultural knowledge, income have proved positive co-relationship with adoption score of tractor. Whereas the communication set which includes cosmopolitanism, information seeking through agricultural training, through participation, observation and through mass media gave high response to the adoption of agricultural innovation. While absence of commercial crop, low income, dry farming, small size of farm, inadequate financial facilities and low cosmopolitanism are some of the causes of non adoption of the innovation such as a tractor.

The Realistic and simulated model based on Monte-Carlo technique is used to study the distribution patterns of tractors over space for a 27 years of time. It is evident that in both the models the diffusion of tractor is much more in the central part of the region. There is no tractor diffusion in northern and southern margins of the region. In realistic model there are certain growth points located in northwestern and southwestern part of the region, where the diffusion of tractor is more. These growth points are located near the sugar factories, which have deviated the realistic model from Simulated model. As the region under study is underdeveloping stage this process of diffusion will continue in future also.

In the case of present investigation due to time limit, a single aspect such as tractor and micro unit like Walwa tahsil was selected for the investigation, but there seems to be vast

scope for such studies. Different agricultural aspects like use of fertilizers, improved irrigation facilities, improved seeds, new agricultural implements, new varieties of horticultural crops and their adoption are some of the aspects which needs investigation. It would help to find out the barriers in the adoption process and to suggest the solution for their adoption and overall betterment of the farmers.