

CHAPTER-III

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This chapter deals with the setting and a brief history of the village under study and deals about the Union Sahakari Doodh Vayasaik Sanstha Ltd., Mangaon, Tal. Hatkanangale, Dist. Kolhapur. Its structure and functioning and its present condition.

3.1 SETTING AND A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE :

The village Mangaon is situated at a distance of 21.5 kms. from the district place Kolhapur. It is on the eastern side of Kolhapur. It is in the taluka Hatkanangale and is away from the taluka place by 11 kms. It is on the western side of the taluka place. Ichalkaranji, a known place of weaving mills and powlooms is 9 kms. away from the village at the north of the vilage and at south river Panchaganga is there. Culturally the village is a part of Western Maharashtra in general and agro-climatically it lies in the eastern dry zone having a rainfall about 500 to 650 mm per year.

Village Mangaon is sorrounded by the villages Rukadi on the west, Sajani on the east and is connected with them with semi-pakka roads. The nearest railway station connecting Mangaon to Kolhapur, a district place is Rukadi (South Central Railway) and the said station is about 2.5 kms. from the village. The village under study is connected to Kolhapur and Ichalkaranji by State Transport buses. It is connected to Kolhapur by Kolhapur Municipal Transport Services (KMT) and daily seven KMT buses run from Kolhapur to Mangaon and back from early morning till the late night. Thus, it is seen that the village is connected to majaor urban centres of the district by railway and ST and KMT bus services. There are private vehicles including auto rikshaw and four wheelers are available on hire for villagers in case of emergency and for other purposes.

The village was a part of the Kagal Jagir which was a part of the then Kolhapur State before Independence. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar launched his social and political career on March 20, 1920 with the encouragement from Rajashree Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaja of Kolhapur. from this village.

Climatically the village observes humid climate and the south-west monsoon provides most of the rainfall which ranges between 500 to 650 mms. per year.

The village is situated on a hillrock. The river Panchaganga is 2.5 kilometers at south and due to a general slope towards west a stream flows in the direction of west resulting into a small tank providing water for purposes other than drinking and agriculture for about eight months.

The general soil type is deep black and alluvial soil. Some of the fields on the eastern side of the village have brown laterite soils.

3.2 HOUSEHOLD AND POPULATION : (HUMAN POTENTIALS IN THE VILLAGE)

The total number of occupied residential households are 1089, with a population of 6,523 (3,381 males and 3,142 females). The average size of a households in the village is 5.98, which indicates that the households are of a medium size. The number of working population is 2,309 which is 35.39% of the total population. The working population of meals was 1918 which comes to the 29.40% of the total population and only 189 female workers with a percentage of 5.99% to the total population. The non-workers population is 4,214 with a percentage of 64.60% of the total population amongst them there are 1,463 males with



Chairman and office bearers of
Union Sahakari Doodh Vayasahik Sanstha Ltd.
Mangaon.



a percentage of 22.42% to the total population and 2,751 females with a percentage of 42.17% to the total population of the village.

In the last four decades it has been noticed that there has been a continuous decrease in the working population of women. The census figures of the working population indicate those categories included by the census, however, the maintenance of live-stock and milch animals has not been included in these categories. The women population working in dairy occupation has not been considered as working population by the census authorities. This leads to suppose that the number of non-working, dependent women population is more.

3.3 CO-OPERATIVES :

(UNION SAHAKARI DOODH VYAVASAIK SANSTHA)

The village under study has a village co-operative society named MangaonVividh Vikas Sahakari Sanstha Ltd., Mangaon established in 1943, with a view to provide credit to farmers under the 'Co-operative Credit Act of 1904.'

The villagers knew milk production as a supporting activity to agriculture. The milk produced was collected by private vendors and payment was made on monthly basis. The milk production was a sub-economy but even as an auxiliary economy it was not developed by the farmers till recently. In recent years the information and guidance provided by Shree Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana leaders and the Governmental agencies could motivate villagers to develop milk production and form a milk co-operative.

With the establishment of Gokul Sahakari Doodh Utpadak Sanstha (Gokul) and Amrit Dairy (Warana Sahakari Doodh Utpadak Sanstha Ltd., Amrutnagar, Dist. Kolhapur) at the district level we notice a boost in the milk production in the village. These two district level dairies collect milk twice a day and take the responsibility of milk marketing at Bombay and other cities. These two dairies have adopted Anand Pattern for milk production and marketing.

The first milk co-operative was established in 1974, named as Gokul Dairy with 38 producer members including 28 scheduled caste members. These producer members were provided high milk yielding varieties of buffaloes with the help of the nationalized banks. However, this milk co-operative stopped its working in 1978. The members of the village milk co-operative having improved varieties of milch animals had to go to the nearby Rukadi village for marketing of milk produced by them.

The village level leaders established a dairy co-operative named Shree Sharada Co-operative Milk Producers Society in February, 1979. In the same year a young leader from Chambhar caste established a dairy co-operative for scheduled castes and poor land-less farmers on 14th June, 1979. It is named as the Union Co-operative Milk Producers Society Ltd., Mangaon, the details of which have been given in table No. 1.

TABLE No. 1

UNION CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS SOCIETY LTD.,
MANGAON, TALUKA HATKANANGALE, DIST. KOLHAPUR

1. Registration No.	:	K.P.R.D. (A) 792/79 Dated 14th June, 1979
2. a) Number of shareholders as on 31-3-1992	:	105
b) Share capital	:	Rs. 1050
c) Reserve Fund (1991-92)	:	Rs. 30,460.00
d) Floating share capital (1991-92)	:	Rs. 2,56,700.00
e) Turn over (1991-92)	:	Rs. 38,28,230.00
f) Profit (1991-92) (marketing of milk to Amrut Dairy)	:	Rs. 82,368.00
g) Other Income (Marketing of milk at the village level)	:	Rs. 41,715.00
Total Income (f + g)	:	Rs. 1,24,083.00
h) Establnishment and other expenditure	:	Rs. 1,10,355.00
i) Net profit	:	Rs. 13,728.00
j) Provisions :		
i) Rebet per liter 20 ps. to producers	:	Rs. 33,609.00
ii) Extension services	:	Rs. 5,000.00
iii) Bonus to employees	:	Rs. 3,700.00
iv) Other	:	Rs. 2,000.00
k) Audit Class	:	'A'

Source : Information collected from Union Dairy Office at
Mangaon (Tal. Hatkanangale, Dist. Kolhapur)



. Respondents In Dairy.



The above mentioned information clearly shows that the milk co-operative (Union Dairy) is in profit and is managed for the betterment of its producer members by the leaders.

Union Dairy is run by the Director Board consisting of nine members all from the milk producers class. A Jain leader is controlling this dairy and is having four other Jain Directors, one Muslim, one Lingayat, one Gurav and one Mahar (Scheduled Caste) director. There is one Secretary, one clerk and one Milk Collector looking at the daily collection of milk, its transportation and other work concerned with milk production and marketing. All these three servants of the dairy are from the Jain community.

THE FUNCTIONING OF THE UNION DAIRY :

The milk co-operative under study, namely the Union Dairy is run on the Anand Pattern. At the village level milk producers are organized into a co-operative society. The village societies are in turn organized into a district co-operative milk producer's union. The union's activities are directed mainly towards consumers in urban centres. The producer member of the village is obliged to supply the milk to the union, which in turn is obliged to buy his milk at a fair and fixed price. The transportation, processing and marketing of the milk is done by the union. The milk producers are provided cattle feed and medicines for milch animals at a reasonable price by the union, through the village level co-operative. The breeding is done by the veterinary personnel and new varieties of milch animals are provided to milk producers by the union through village level milk co-operative. The milk producer is also helped in getting bank loan and financial assistance from other agencies by the co-operative of which he is a member.

Union dairy is run on Anand Pattern and has provided highest possible rate for milk depending upon the fat contents. In the year 1991-92, it has been able to give Rs. 15.35 per liter with a fat content 11.5, which is the highest in the State.

TABLE No. 2

DETAILS ABOUT MILK PROCESSED AND MARKETED BY
UNION DAIRY IN 1991-92 AND 1992-93

Sr.	Details	Quantity of milk in liters	
		1991-92	1992-93
1.	Milk Purchased	87,890	1,68,044
2.	Milk marketed dto Amrut Dairy (Warana)	76,682	1,56,654
3.	Milk marketed locally	11,369	12,545
4.	Increase in the quantity of milk	592	1,652

Source : 14th Annual Report of Union Sahakari Doodh
Vyavasaik Sanstha, Maryadit, Mangaon,
Tal. Hatkanangale

The requirement of milk at village level is fulfilled by the dairy. In the period when the milk produceris not able to provide milk to dairy during the period when the milch animals are not able for milking , dairy caters their need for milk. The local people get milk at ^areasonable price.

Union dairy has been providing cattle feed regularly to its shareholder members as well as those who sell their milk to the dairy regularly but are not the member shareholders of the society.

3.4 DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS ABOUT RESPONDENTS :

In the social structure of the village caste is an important factor. The group under study is comprised of 104 families, who are producer share holders of the Union Dairy.

The total population of the group is 691 with 315 males and 376 females and has been divided into ten different castes, dominated by the Jain caste. (Jains treat themselves as a religious group, but in the social life they act like a caste).

TABLE No. 3

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CASTEWISE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

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Sr. No.	Name of the caste	Number	Percentage to the total
1.	Brahman	02	1.92
2.	Jain	66	63.46
3.	Lingayat	17	16.34
4.	Maraha	05	4.80
5.	Parit	04	3.84
6.	Gurav	02	1.92
7.	Nhavi (Barber)	02	1.92
8.	Musalman	01	0.96
9.	Kumbhar	02	1.92
10.	Sutar (Carpenter)	03	2.88

		Total :	104

Source : Information collected by the Researcher.

The information given in the above table indicates that though the Union Dairy was established for the purpose of the upliftment of landless and backward class people, in practice it has been dominated by the Jains who are also a dominant group in the village. They do exercise numerical superiority and are economically and politically powerful. The next large group of shareholders is that of the Lingayats who are also economically well-off and exercise political power due to their connections with Panchaganga Sugar Co-operative leaders and taluka and district level leaders. The number of members from Jain and Lingayats combinarily is 83 (79.80%). Members from the other castes are few, all other castes comprise 21 (20.20%). The group of other castes is economically and socially inferior to Jains and Lingayats in the village.

i) Age wise Distribution of the Respondents :

The group of women engaged in the milk production is mostly from the productive age. Table No. 4 indicates the agewise distribution of women engaged in the milk producing activity.

TABLE No. 4

AGEWISE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN

AGEWISE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN

Sr. No.	Age group	Number	Percentage to the total
1.	Upto 20	04	3.85
2.	21 to 40	63	60.58
3.	41 to 60	36	34.61
4.	61 and above	01	0.96
Total :		104	100.00

Source : Personal Interviews by the Researcher.

The live stock maintenance requires hard work. The cattle shed cleaning, cutting of the fodder and watering milch animals, gazing the local milch breed and milking them regularly requires energy and women have been doing these activities along with house keeping activities and subsidiary agricultural works. The number of women in the age group 20 to 60 is maximum (103) and hence is quite capable of handling the work.

iii) Marital Status :

The marital status of 104 women milk producers under study is given below :

TABLE No.5

MARITAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Sr. No.	Married	Unmarried	Widow	Total
1.	95 (91.34%)	01 (0.96%)	08 (7.69%)	104

Source : Information collected by the Researcher.

The respondents under study maintain the live stock and family activities. The one unmarried daughter of a widow manages the family budget and other activities. The number of married women is 95 (91.34%) they have a status of the head woman and are socially and religiously participating in neighbourhood and village activities. They are from the productive age group and are capable of maintaining the work. The number of widows 8 (7.69%) they as the mothers and mother-in-laws enjoy the highest status in the family affairs.

iv) Educational Status :

Education is an indicator of social status in the society. The Table No. 6 given below gives an idea about the educational attainment of the respondents under study.

TABLE No. 6
EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS
UNDER STUDY

Sr. No.	Educational	Number	% to the total
1.	Illiterate	35	33.66
2.	Primary	63	60.58
3.	Secondary	05	04.80
4.	Higher	01	00.96
Total :		104	100.00

Source : Personal Interviews by the Researcher.

It is revealed from the above table that the number of illiterate women is 35 (33.65%) and those having primary level education is 63 (60.58%) only 5 women (4.80%) have secondary education while only 1 (0.96%) woman is educated upto higher secondary level.

The live-stock maintenance and adoption of modern techniques for better yield from the milch animals requires some knowledge about the scientific methods. It is seen that those having primary and higher education can receive instructions given to them regarding milch animals feeding and other care than those coming from the illiterate group. They are also able to have better accounting than those who do not have education.

v) Family Type :

TABLE No.7
DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BY
THEIR FAMILY TYPE

Sr. No.	Family Type	Number	Percentage to the total	Number of persons in the family	Number of families
1.	Nuclear Family	59	56.73	Upto 5	59
2.	Joint/Extended Family	45	43.27	(6 to 10) more than (10	41 4
Total :		104	100.00		104

Source : Personal Interviews taken by the Researcher.

The nature of and type of family influences the social and economic life of the individual. In the nuclear type of family (59 - 56.73%) the burden of work and responsibilities are more on the shoulders of the head women in those families. The women members in the joint/extended family (45 - 43.27%) get some help from othermembers like sister-in-law (wife of husband's brother), younger brother-in-law, father and mother in-laws in their live-stock maintenance work. In those families where number of members is less women milk producers are contineously under the pressure of the work and have to maintain the work schedule at their own. Those coming from the joint/extended families seem to be free from such tensions.

3.5 LAND HOLDING :

The economic position of a family in rural setting is determined by the land it holds. In the area under study majority of the farmers are small land holders having marginal land to maintain their families. The land possessed requires regular water supply and only the irrigated land fetches more economic benefits as a farmer can grow commercial crops.

The group under study shows that there are 4 land less families and 100 families do possess land ranging from below one acre to 10 acres and more. Table No. 8 gives the details about land possessed by the milk producing women's families.

TABLE No.8

LAND HOLDING OF THE RESPONDENTS PER FAMILY

Sr. No.	Land Holding (In acres)	Number	Percentage to the total
1.	Land less	04	3.89
2.	Upto 2.5 acres	49	47.11
3.	2.6 to 5.00 acres	31	29.80
4.	5.1 to 7.5 acres	12	11.53
5.	7.6 and above	08	7.69
Source :		104	100.00

Source : Information collected from the village office (Mangaon, Tal. Hatkanangale, Dist. Kolhapur.

The number of families holding land upto 5 acres (one hector) is 80 (76.91%) indicates that these are the small farmers and milk production helps supports their family income. The live stock is helpful to them. Those having land upto 7.5 acres (3 hectores) are 12 (11.53%) and those having land more than 7.6 acres is 8 (7.69%), these families are joint families and hence have more number of dependents than nuclear families. They also require supporting economic activity in the form of milk production. The 4 (3.89%) landless families have to depend heavily on the milch animal for economic support.

The milk consumed in the home by these families is from their own milch animals and the quantity of consumption of milk reduces when they do not have the milking animals.

i) Income from Agriculture :

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood to the respondents. The nature of agriculture is of a subsistence type in many cases and it has been shifted to mixed type of agriculture in few cases.

The establishment of Shree Panchanganga and Shree Datta Sahakari Sakhar Karkhanas in the area has motivated the respondents families to cultivate sugarcane. However, they grow hybrid Jowar, Rice, Wheat, Groundnut and Chili for family consumption and for fodder purposes. Soyabeen has been introduced as one of the commercial crop in recent years.

Agricultural techniques are of a mixed type. They use animals as well as improved techniques like electric motor pumps and hybrid seeds and pesticides for improving their yield.

The income gained from agriculture by the respondents is given below in table No. 9 .

TABLE No. 9
YEARLY INCOME FROM AGRICULTURE -
RESPONDENTS FAMILIES

Sr. No.	Income Group (Rs.)	Number	Percentage to the total
1.	Upto 10,000	49	47.11
2.	10,001 to 25,000	31	29.80
3.	25,001 to 50,000	12	11.53
4.	50,000 and above	08	7.69
Total		104	

Source : Information collected by the Researcher.

The table indicates that majority of the respondents have income upto Rs. 25,000/- per year and 20 families have more than Rs. 25,000/-. This indicates the financially better position of the respondents.

ii) Income from other sources
(Other than milk production)

The respondents have given information regarding the economic activities of other members of the family. They are engaged as workers in the factory at Ichalkaranji, teachers in the primary and secondary schools, have petty grossary shops and few are engaged in Government and private organizations. The number of families who are supplanted by income other than agriculture is 60 (57.69%) and remaining 44 (42.30%) families depend on agriculture and milk production only.

TABLE No. 1YEARLY INCOME FROM OTHER OCCUPATIONS (OTHER THAN
AGRICULTURE AND MILK PRODUCTION)

Sr. No.	Income Group (Rs.)	Number	Percentage to the total
1.	Upto 1,000	14	13.46
2.	1,001 to 3,000	21	20.19
3.	3,001 to 5,000	09	8.65
4.	5,001 to 7,000	05	4.80
5.	7,001 to 9,000	06	5.76
6.	9,001 and above	05	4.80
7.	No income	44	42.30

Source : Information collected by the Researcher.

The information given in the above table reveals that the supporting income helps in the maintenance of higher standard of life.

CONCLUSION :

The above discussion leads us to conclude that, the group under study seems to be economically better except those four landless families. These families do not have to depend upon the income from milk production and the women in the family engaged in live stock maintenance and milk production are having control over the income from milk production. They can utilize the income from milk production for their families according to their own ideas of expenditure.