

C H A P T E R - I I

OBJECTIVS AND METHODOLOGY

CHAPTER - I I

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2.0 INTRODUCTION :

Based on the recent available data and the analysis presented earlier, it is clear that sugarcane is an important crop in Maharashtra. The state leads in overall production of the crop and is only second to Uttar - pradesh in the area allotted for this crop. In the yield per hectare of sugarcane, Maharashtra ranks 5th in the country in the year 1992-93 yield was 76.4 tonnes per hectare.

Maharashtra is the leading state in the nation which has pioneered in the co-operative movement since 1959. The first co - operative sugar factory in Asia had been installed in Pravaranagar in 1959. The sector continues to contribute significantly to sugarcane production over the years. Maharashtra occupied 1st position in Sugar Production in India in the year 1993 - 94 by producing 27.46 lakh tonnes of sugar.

It is $\left\{ \frac{27.46}{98.33} \times 100 \right\} = 27.93 \%$ of production in India.

The number of licensed co - operative sugar factories is also highest among all the states in India.

It is therefore evident that co - operative sector especially in sugarproduction has expanded in the state since its inception in 1959. The number of workers has also increased significantly. As on 1990, nearly 2.8 lakhs people were associated with sugarcane. It is therefore expected that the social and economic conditions of the workers also improves along with the progress of the sugar industry as a whole. But it is frequently said that the cane harvesting workers are not much benefited in the process of development of co - operative sugar factory. Therefore, to throw light on the social and economic aspects of the canecutters into co - operative sugar factory the present study is taken up. Specifically we concentrate on the cane harvesting labour in " Yash^Awant Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Khanapur", Dist Sangli.

The study is therefore titled " A Study of cane harvesting labour in Yash^Awant Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Khanapur, Dist Sangli ".

2.1 OBJECTIVES :

In the above mentioned co - operative sugar factory, the study of cane cutters is taken up with the following objectives :

1. To study the income earned and the sources of income of the cane harvesting labour.

2. To study the problems of the cane harvesting labours and their families.
3. To study the migratory aspect of the cane harvesting labours.

2.2 METHODOLOGY :

In this sugar factory there are various types of worker's categories as shown below :

1. Permanent	-	200
2. Seasonal	-	600
3. Daily wages	-	120
4. Others (Transportation)	-	400
5. Cane harvesting labours	-	1440

	TOTAL	2760

Out of 1440 these harvesting workers, a 14% sample is drawn for collection of primary data. These workers were selected by following the methodology of stratified random sampling. There are 110 stratas (groups made by contractor) out of these 20 stratas were selected randomly and from each strata a random sample of 10 harvesting labour is drawn. Thus the total sample size is 200.

An interview schedule was prepared which was tested and then revised. This revised interview schedule was used to interview 200 cane harvesting labour.

The secondary data was collected from the periodicals, Books and Journals etc. The names of which have been mentioned in Bibliography.

The primary and secondary data so collected are analysed in chapter No. IV.

For secondary data and references the researcher was dependent on two libraries namely -

1. Library of Chh. Shahu Central Institute, Kolhapur.

and

2. Barister Balasaheb Khardekar Library of Shivaji University, Kolhapur.