

CHAPTER- IV.FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS.

The phenomenon of frequent droughts is a natural calamity in some parts of India. It poses certain basic problems like Cropfailures, inadequate water supply-lack of fodder even starvation of both man and animals. These problems urgently call for some permanent measures to fight against the drought conditions of the rural area.

Cultivable land, the farming community and the animals, these are the main victims of drought conditions in rural area. Any Goerment measure for fighting against the drought conditions must include the economic policies for development of land man and animal in rural areas.

In the context of planned economic development of India, it can be said the process of economic development has the two fold objectives.

- A) Increasing productivity.
- B) Creating Social justice.

The second objective of social justice implies the implementation of special development programme for the weaker section of the society. The rural community which is caught in drought condition is the most neglected section of the Society both by Government and nature. Quite recently Government of India is implementing many special programmes for improving economic conditions of

the small and marginal farmers, landless agricultural labourers and rural artisans etc. The Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) is in the same direction which fulfills both the objectives of productivity and social justice.

OBJECTIVES :

The present research work has the following objectives :-

- 1) To describe the socio-economic characteristics of drought prone area in Satara District.
- 2) To study and assess the working of DPAP.in Satara District of Maharashtra State.
- 3) To make an evaluation study of the special DPAP. Programme i.e. "supply of agricultural credit for purchasing milch animals by Primary Credit Cooperative societies in the selected villages.
- 4) To make some policy suggestions for implementing DPAP.in general and agricultural credit programme in particulars.

METHODOLOGY :

- A) Five Talukas of Satara District viz. Men, Khatav, Phaltan, Koregaon and Khandala were selected for the present study.
- B) A sample of 76 beneficiaries was selected to

evaluate the scheme of agricultural credit supply for purchasing milch cattles in 4 societies of Man taluka.

C) The survey method was used to study the utilisation and impact of dairy finance scheme of the four selected villages. The household schedule consisted of the information such as family background, land holdings, occupational pattern, cropping pattern, economics of milk production, overdues etc.

While calculating the economics of milk production we have considered the paid out cost only, and the current prices of milk. The reference period was 1981-82.

With these objectives we have tried to study the profiles of drought prone conditions in Satara District (Chapter - II).

We have also tried to study the expenditure pattern of the rural development programmes under DPAP. scheme in Satara District. The main findings was that, although the Govt. is spending lot of money on the development of irrigation and agriculture, these efforts were still inadequate and the benefits are not reaching the weaker section of society.

In the Chapter III, we have undertaken a case of 76 farmers members of four societies in Man taluka with a view to analysing the impact of dairy finance on the

economy of the farmers in the drought prone areas. The selected primary societies in Man taluka were as follows:-

- 1) Dahiwadi
- 2) Mardi
- 3) Mohi.
- 4) Gondawale.(Kurdha)

In the first part of this Chapter an effort was made to analyse the dairy finance implemented in Man taluka. There are eight primary agricultural credit societies in Man taluka which are implementing the dairy finance scheme under DPAP.Programme. We could get information of eight societies only, in respect of the dairy finance, for 3 years, i.e. 1978-79, 79-80 and 80-81. It was found that Mohi society had given the loan to the maximum number of 84 farmers. Then Gondawale(Kurdha) society and Dahiwadi society had given loan to 64 and 56 farmer members respectively.

The amount of subsidy contributes a little part of the dairy finance, the average amount of subsidy per member was Rs.500 to 600.

The total sample of 76 borrowing members had taken the total amount of loan of Rs.2,05,988-00 for purchasing 63 local variety of She-buffaloes and 13 cross breed cows, these farmers are in the size group of small farmers. The average size of holding of the small farmers was 6-89

acres. The small farmers depend heavily upon agricultural labour work this itself prove that the dairy finance is one of the most important agro-based activity to make them economically viable.

It is remarkable to note that at a time of interview which was the 4th year of loan period, out of 76 milch animals 31 animals were found sold out and 11 she-buffaloes were dead, of course it is matter of great concern. Surprisingly the following reasons for the sale and death of the animal, will explain the limitations of the scheme.

Reasons for sale of milch animals :

- 1) Sub-standard of scheme animal.
- 2) Old scheme animals.
- 3) In adequate milk yield.
- 4) Dry period longer than desired.
- 5) Shortage of fodder.
- 6) Financial difficulty.
- 7) Excess of maintenance charges than the yield.

Reasons for death of animals.

- 1) Old age.
- 2) During delivery the calf having come in the way.
- 3) Fever, diptheria and other diseases.
- 4) Lack of fodder.

Economics of milk production of the scheme animals throw some light on cost and expenditure aspects. The

following findings can be mentioned here.

- 1) One important findings is this that the average yield of the she-buffaloes owned by small farmers was less than that of big farmers. But the milch animals owned by the medium farmers is highest one. So there is no direct relationship between the size of farm holding and the average yield.
- 2) Yield performance of cross breed cow is definately higher than that of local variety of the she-buffaloes. The average yield of cross breed cow for the small farmers is more than 3041.25 litres per milch animal, due to long lactation period and high production capacity.
- 3) The average yield for the big land holders was highest at 3472.50 litres. There was only one cross breed cow in size group of middle farmers, and its yield performance was 2520.00 littres.
- 4) We have assumed here the market price at local she-buffaloes milk at Rs.3.60 per litre and Rs.2.80 per litre for cross breed cows. The average net profit for local she-buffaloes goes on from Rs.402.54 to Rs.1100.15 and Rs.651.34 per milch animals under the land holdings of small medium and large farmers. However net profit for cross breed cow was Rs.4673-00 for the big farmers and 4105-50 for small farm holders.

Thus it can be clear that the Milch animal scheme under DPAP.is profitable as the one of the agro based

business activity of farmers, but this profitability has the following constraints.

- a) Size of the farm holding is not directly related to the yield of milch animals, whether it is local variety of the she-buffaloes or cross breed cow.
- b) It was observed that there is risk and uncertainty to get benefits of scheme. The lot of risk is involved in the actual process of purchase the milch animals. Some time it happens that the poor farmers do not get good quality of milch animal, because of inconvenient and difficult procedure of purchasing process. There is a lack of coordination among the Bank authority, the primary credit society and the farmers. Uncertainty is due to the fact that no body can give the guarantee about the yield efficiency of milch animals, particularly of cross breed milch animals.
- c) The profit period for the scheme is very short just for six to eight months, it results into low recovery performance and high overdue position of the loan. At a time of interview period of November-1983, we observed that the farmers took more than three years to clear up their loans.

This small micro level study itself speaks about its limited success. It is evidently clear that any rural development programme, such as DPAP. If it is independently implemented, can not become successful. The DPAP has

had the main defect of the lack of integrated approach. Thanks to the Govt. that this has been merged into the new IRDP.Programme, as an anti-poverty programme. In this new context, the experience of DPAP.programme can teach us the following lessons.

- 1) Identification of the needy persons is an important condition for extending the loan facilities under any IRDP.Scheme.
- 2) The size of holding should not be the essential and the only criteria to extend the loan facilities under DPAP.programme.
- 3) There should be functional integration and administrative coordination among the three different agencies i.e. the beneficiaries the Govt.agencies, and the cooperative organisations. Bureaucratic pattern can not be the only agency for implementing programmes in rural areas. There must be initiative of some voluntary efforts to mobilise, man material and other resources for the upliftment of the rural masses.