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SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

6.1 SHRI MAHAKALI CO-OPERATIVE SUGAR FACTORY

Sugar industry in India is an agro based occupying a predominate position in the economy of the country. After independence there has been a remarkable expansion of sugar industry in the co-operative sector. The factors responsible for this growth are government policies, irrigation facilities new varieties of sugarcane, concessional facilities and co-operative principles etc. In Maharashtra also these factors promoted the growth of sugar industry on co-operative principles. Similar factors caused emergency of sugar factories in various districts in state of Maharashtra.

The co-operative sugar factories in Maharashtra have played a crucial role in economic development. They have changed the total scene of rural economy. These factories have provided employment opportunities in rural areas. They have generated income mobilised saving and increased the level of investment in rural areas.

A study of Shri. Mahankali Co-operative Sugar Factory Ltd. Rajarambapunagar, Kavathe Mahankal, Dist. Sangli has been selected

for the present study as it has affected various aspects of rural life in Sangli District.

Shri. Mahankali Co-operative Sugar Factory was established at Kavathe Mahankal in Sangli District. In the initial stage it has faced many hardships, particularly in respect of sugarcane supply and water. However the management of the factory made efforts to obtain sugarcane from outside the area of its jurisdiction and succeeded. The factory still depends heavily upon the sugarcane from outside of the area of its jurisdiction.

Shri. Mahankali Co-operative sugar factory has started operations in 1985. Because of efficient management of the factory of Shri. Mahankali Co-operative Sugar Factory crushing capacity raised to MTD. This capacity was fully utilised by the factory during the entire period of this study.

Management of the factory has taken the following steps

- A) Sugarcane seed improvement scheme
 - 1) Tested soil in the area of jurisdiction
 - 2) Seed development plots taken
 - 3) Help from padgaon sugarcane development institute was made available to the producer members.

B) Irrigation Facilities

1) Drip Irrigation system introduced.

2) Repairs of old well undertaken

C) Infrastructure facilities -

Shri. Mahankali co-operative sugar factory has done the following the activities for building up infrastructure facilities such as 1) Road construction 2) Social Forestry 3) Social obligations 4) modernization of machinery.

6.2 MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Following are the major findings of the study :-

- 1.) Although the situation of factory is in drought prone Kavathe Mahankal Taluka, the general progress was satisfactory. The total no. of open members of this factory in 1999-2000 were 6779 who shares the greater participation in taking decisions which is important in case of co-operative factories. The members are availing the facilities such as supply of seeds fertilisers, new techniques of cultivation. As a result economic condition of farmer has improved.

- 2) The sugarcane crushing is continuously increased year by year. It is increased from 118059 MT. in 1985-86 to 441540 MT. in 1999-2000. (233.49% increase). The sugar production is continuously increased from 1,18, 540 bags in 1985-86 to 531165 bags in 1999-2000. .
- 3) The sugar recovery is increased continuously from 10.10% to 12.04 in 1999-2000. The factory received reward and good technical capacity utilisation award in high recovery zone for year 1994-95.
- 4) Production of sugar has made significant progress due to the adequate supply of sugarcane, better recovery and better management of cultting of sugarcane and quick transport of sugarcane etc. In year 1999-2000 the total sugar production was 531165 bags and recovery of sugarcane was 12.04%. This reflects the efficiency of the factory.
- 5) The sugarcane price given by the factory to the sugarcane growers is continiously increased. From Rs. 300 Pre.MT in 1985-86 to Rs. 910 per MT in 1999-2000. The factory has given better rates as compared to the nearly factories in same district.

- 6) The drip irrigation method for sugarcane has been increasing over large area due to the importance of saving of water and increase in yield. This is also because of the subsidy granted by the factory to the members.
- 7) The area under sugarcane cultivation is increased from 3.69% in 1985-86 to 60.11% in 1999-2000 within the jurisdiction of factory. As such the continuous flow of sugarcane is increased by the factory. "The Mahankali Vahtuk Yojna" is established for the proper co-ordination due to the which the cutting and transporting of sugarcane is done with minimum time.
- 8) Due to the proper co-ordination between agricultural department and production department the factory has consistently good record of recovery (10.10 to 12.04%)
- 9) Shri Mahankali co-operative sugar factory has paid adequate attention in creating the infrastructural facilities such as road construction, social forestry, financial assistance, school building, ETP plant, modernisation of machinery etc.
- 10) From the comparative statement of five sugar factories in the same locality is seen that -

The Mahankali factory, Kavathe Mahankal has less area under sugarcane within jurisdiction, less yield of sugarcane per hectare as compared to other two factories but the sugarcane crushed in 1999-2000 was highest of Mahankali factory.

- 11) From comparison of five factories, it is seen that Mahankali factory, Kavathe Mahankal stood second in sugarcane crushed per year and sugarcane price paid. It stood third in yield of sugarcane per hectare and sugar recovery.
- 12) Although the dependability for sugarcane from out of jurisdiction is higher for the Mahankali factory, it has good record in percentage recovery, sugarcane price paid and season days and sugar production.
- 13) In 1999-2000, the total no. of share holders of the factory 6779 nos and the total share amount recovered was Rs.281.17 lakhs. The factory has made repayment of Govt. share capital regularly. Out of Govt. share amount of 286.50 lakhs in 1986 the amount of 191.00 lakhs was repaid and only 95.50 lakhs to be paid. This shows good share capital position of the factory.

- 14) The deposits of the factory are continuously increased and reached to 808.05 lakhs in 1999-2000. Also the amount of reserve funds is regularly increased and reached to 1634.84 lakhs in 1999-2000. This shows the profit of validity of this factory.
- 15) Due to the expansion of the factory in size to meet the financial requirements of the factory the amount of borrowing is also increased. The amount of borrowing is increased from 669.93 lakhs in 1985-86 to 3081.76 lakhs in 1999-2000.
- 16) The working capital consists of share capital, reserve funds, deposits and borrowings. The working capital of this factory has been increased from Rs.1254.21 lakhs in 1985-86 to Rs.5805.82 lakhs in 1999-2000. Which shows the good financial position of the factory.
- 17) Investment in fixed assets, financial investment and current assets are increased year by year. In 1999-2000 the figures of fixed assets, financial investment and current assets were Rs.2091.27 lakhs, 41.52 lakhs and Rs.6045.98 lakhs respectively.

18) The gross profit of this factory is increased for each subsequent year. In 1985-86 there was no gross profit accrued but after that the gross profit is continuously increased and reached to Rs.596.24 lakhs in 1999-2000. As the gross profit is increased, the factory has expanded its work to a large extent.

19) The Mahankali sugar factory has started various schemes for development of sugarcane in the area of jurisdiction. There are supply of seeds, supply of fertilizers, land development, subsidy on drip irrigation and lift irrigation schemes for supply of water etc.

Due to joint effect of all these schemes the area under sugarcane and sugarcane yield have increased. Due to which the dependability of factory for sugarcane on other state has decreased. In general, due to all these schemes the economic condition of members also has increased.

20) With the help of Mahankali Vahtuk yojana, the supply of fresh sugarcane within time to the factory is provided and also the financial problems of Vahtuk contractors and labours are solved. By this vahtuk yojana, the proper co-ordination and healthy

relations between sugarcane harvesters and factory management are maintained.

- 21) The factory has established credit co-operative society which provide financial assistance to the workers and mobilize saving from its incomes. The Mahankali Bazar is also established to provide consumer goods at reasonable price.
- 22) The factory has opened primary schools in factory campus to provide educational facility to the children of the factory workers.
- 23) Various civil works are done by the factory in campus and within jurisdiction of the factory such as roads, buildings, schools, section buildings, bore-wells etc. due to these infrastructure facilities the socio-economic condition of the farmers in the jurisdiction area has increased.

6.3 CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

6.3.1 Conclusions.

1. Shri Mahankali Co-operative sugar factory has no adequate sugarcane supply in the area of jurisdiction, so shri Mahankali co-operative sugar factory has to depend heavily on the

sugarcane from outside its area of jurisdiction hence increasing transport expenses and the cost of production. However capacity utilisation of the factory was good through the fifteen years of the study.

2. The sugar recovery achieved by Shri Mahankali co-operative sugar factory during the period of 15th years of this study was remarkable. That means the sugar procurement and production of sugar were properly co-ordinated. The factory management has not worked for more number of days in any of the sugar seasons studied.
3. Sugarcane yield per hectare and the sugarcane price were two important areas in which the management of the factory could not show good results.

Thus overall position of shri Mahankali co-operative sugar factory showed that it has significant role in the process of economic development of rural area. In future an attempt should be made to increase the membership specially belong to backward class as well as small and marginal farmers. The management has responsibility to make proper use of funds of factory. Moreover an attempt should be

made to minimise the cost of sugar by adopting advanced technology and to produce quality sugar. Moreover the planning should be made to increase the export of sugar for this purpose the survey should be conducted at international level.

The general impression seems that the working of Shri Mahankali Co-operative sugar factory has left an everlasting impact on the social, economical and cultural life of the population in general and economics stated of producer members in particular in the area of its operation. The sugar co-operative under study has not as yet, distorted crop pattern in the sense of negligence of food crops.

6.3.2 SUGGESTIONS.

The factory must take initiative to increase the area under sugarcane cultivation in its jurisdiction by adopting innovative techniques in respect of water management by giving incentives to the farmers.

1. Sugarcane research center may be set-up in the area of jurisdiction of the factory.
2. The cane development Department should try to persuade members to adopt water saving devices like sprinklers and drip

irrigation schemes.

3. By making use of public media farmers should be educated with regard to the facilities available for testing soil, using fertilisers economizing on water etc.
4. The factory should utilise molasses and press mud in better manner.
5. The factory may maintain library and the measuring relations to sugar industry and sugarcane,

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