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SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

Introduction

The co-operative sugar factories in Maharashtra have played a crucial role in rural economic development. They have changed the total scence 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.

In Satara District "The Krishna Co-operative Sugar Factory Rethare Bk. (Shivanagar) has played significant role in its area of operation. The factory has generated income, increased employment opportunities and mobilised saving in the area of operation. Therefore this factory has been selected for the present study.

6.1 FINDING OF THE STUDY

Following are the major findings of the study.

6.1.1 Progress of Krishna Co-operative Sugar Factory Rethare Bk. (Shivanagar)

- (1) Because of open membership the total membership during the year 1998-99 became 40485 which is very important in point of view participation in sugar industries. Each and every activity is being decided collectively.
- (2) Because of the membership of factory, producer members are availing facilities such as irrigation, compost manures, improved seeds, wealth facilities, education facilities, guarantee of loans and agricultural guidance etc.
- (3) The income of producer members increased after the membership and due to the increased in income level, the size of land holding increased.
- (4) The cropping pattern in the region has changed. Now agricultural producers are bringing more and more land under cultivation, which is profitable as compare to other crops. The major portion of the income earned by all most producer member is from sugarcane cultivation. Moreover the income from salary is also important source of some producer members. It is observed that the increased in income has increased the general purchasing power of the producer members, consequently the consumption expenditure

on food and comfortable has increased among large and medium farmer members.

- (5) The financial progress of Krishna Co-operative Sugar Factory regarding authorised capital, paid up capital, other fund and deposits has improved. The authorised capital, paid up capital, share deposits, other fund and deposits was Rs.1000 lakh, Rs.897.16 lakh, Rs.18.06 lakh, Rs.3605.57 lakh Rs. 7406.87 lakh during 1998-99.
- (6) Production of sugar has made significant progress due to adequate supply of sugarcane, better recovery and better management of cutting of sugarcane and transport of sugarcane etc. During the year 1998-99 the total production of sugar was 145.56 lakh bags and recovery of sugarcane was 12.27% which reflects the efficiency of the sugar factory.
- (7) Four ways i.e. internal controlled; export and free export do the marketing of sugar. But maximum sale of sugar is done by internal controlled and internal free sale. During the year 1998-99 sale of sugar by the internal controlled and internal free sale was5.91 lakh quintal and 7.74 lakh quintal respectively. Price of sugar per quintal Rs.1006.66, Rs.1270.90 respectively.
- (8) Sugar is stored in its own godwons. There are 14 godowns owned by the factory. Each godown has storage capacity of 935 lakh quintals.

(9) 65 villages of Karad Taluka, 41 villages of Walwa taluka, and 23 villages of Khanapur taluka do the supply of sugar cane to sugar industry.

6.1.2 Irrigation Schemes

- As it is consequently accepted that irrigation stimulates growth prospect of agriculture and help to develop the cropping pattern based on the potentiality criteria. In this respect the factory deed significant progress, because factory has its own 5 irrigation schemes and 12 lift irrigation schemes. Consequently increased after the area under irrigation has increased, particularly sugarcane cultivation in this region. Producers have started to bring additional irrigated area under sugarcane.
- The areas under well irrigation have increased due to water percolation of lift irrigation schemes. Consequently producers have made investment in agriculture in the form of agricultural implements, enhanced inputs. Moreover the attitude of farmers is changed in favour of scientific farming.
- As a result of the expansion of irrigation facilities and injection of new agricultural technology, employment opportunities in agricultural sector are increased. Total irrigated area under old and new lift irrigation schemes was 3543 acres and 4054.04 acres respectively.

4) However these schemes have been facing the financial problem.

Financial loss was Rs.12.54 lakh for old lift irrigation schemes and

Rs. 167.88 lakh for new lift irrigation schemes during 1998-99.

6.1.3 Krishna Co-operative Sugar Factory Rethare Bk. (Shivanagar) sponsored agro-industries and other industries

- 1) Krishna co-operative sugar factory provides infrastructure facilities through Krishna Co-operative Krishi Udyog Sangh Ltd. Rethare Bk. Shivnagar which manufacturing tyre bullock carts and tractors trailers. It repairs tractors, agricultural implements and electronic motors.
- 2) Krishna sugar industry had started poultry and feed mill projects. Now due to financial and management problems their projects are closed down. However the factory provides the facilities those farmers who under took dairy and poultry farming. Thus these enterprises have created positive effect on the earning of producer members. Consequently the investment in live stock has increased because of dairy farming and poultry farming. The numbers of milk animals increased.
- 3) The sugar factory had started fishery projects. This project was quite beneficial to member producers. However progress made during the period under consideration was not satisfactory.

- 4) Cross Breed Cow centers started by factory collaboration with Bhartiya Agro Industrial foundation Urli Kanchan (Pune) are quite beneficial for the development of live stocks and dairy enterprises.
- Moreover the Krishna Sugar Factory has its own distillery plants which produces spirit, alcohol, country and foreign liquor from the raw material i.e. by molasses. It has created employment opportunities in rural area. In addition to this factory has acetonne project which produce acetonne from alcohol.
- The factory has independent Agricultural Development Department, which provides the improved seeds, fertilizers and guidance about sugar cane cultivation to the members. Producers of sugarcane have largely benefited from this department.
- 7) The factory has constructed roads in the rural area for transporting sugarcane to the factory.

6.1.4 Rural development Oriented Schemes

As a part of social commitment of the factory, factory has started various rural development oriented schemes in rural areas of its operation. Factory has started Krishna co-operative bank as a result rural saving increased. Producers keep saving in the bank as economic condition improved. These saving again have been used for investment, which in turn stimulate the growth of prospect of rural

area. Bank earned profit to the extent of Rs.11.33 lakh during 2000-2001.

- As a result of improvement in economic condition the producer member's expenditure on education, travelling and social ceremonies has increased. Krishna Co-operative Sugar Factory has opened up education institution i.e. Shetakari Shikshan Prasarak Mandal Rethare Bk. to provide educational facilities of all stages of education in the rural area such as pre-primary, primary, secondary, higher secondary and college education institution. The number of total students admitted was 3939 during 1997-98.
- 3) Moreover Krishna Co-operative sugar factory started health center to provide medical facilities to the employees, industrial labour, farmers and non-producer members. Besides health center Krishna Charitable Trust has started Krishna hospital. In Krishna Hospital there are 21 departments provide facilities for medical treatment.

6.2 Conclusion and suggestion

Thus overall position of Krishna Co-operative sugar factory showed that it has significant role in the process of economic development of rural area. In further 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 made proper use of fund of factory.

Moreover an attempt should be made to minimise the cost of sugar

by adopting advanced technology and to produce better 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.

In case of lift irrigation schemes planing increase membership. To increase the irrigated should be made at village and block level to increase the membership thereby increase the membership of farmers at maximum level. Moreover it is an urgent need to use of water optimally. Moreover special attention should be given to reduce the loss of lift irrigation schemes. At the same time co-operation by the both side. Moreover, agro-industries further should be developed in the rural area. Being a labour ininfcurive these industries can creates employment opportunities in rural area.