

C H A P T E R -V
CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

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Having discussed the various issues connected with the jaggery industry in Karvir Taluka, we propose to summarise the main conclusions of this study in the final chapter. The summary and conclusions are based on the data collected in this study.

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 1) Kolhapur District has important role in jaggery production which account for 22.48% to the total production of jaggery in Maharashtra State.
- 2) There are five principal rivers in the districts. The Panchganga is one of them. The Karvir Taluka is situated in the Panchganga river basin. Hence, most of farmer's source of irrigation is lift irrigation from the Panchganga river.
- 3) The natural resources in the district such as rainfall, soil, irrigation facilities etc. are favourable for the sugarcane production. The position of Karvir Taluka is much better than any other talukas in the district. Out of the total area under cultivation, about 21.61% of the area was under irrigation in Karveer Taluka.
- 4) The transport facilities especially all season roads, play important role in sugar and jaggery industry. The


to transport facilities, farmers can carry their sugarcane for jaggery making, as well as they bring their product in the market immediately. Especially farmers in Karveer Taluka are much benefitted by the all season roads.

- 5) Alongwith the other agricultural commodities such as rice, groundnuts, chillies, sugar, tobacco, footweares, the jaggery from Kolhapur is exported regularly to Gujrat, Karnataka, Konkan and Bombay city. The visitors, when they visit this area, they carry jaggery with them. The jaggery of Karveer Taluka is famous due to its colour, taste and texture.
- 6) If we observe the Table 3.2, we find that out of total sample farmers 88.67% of the farmers were from the small marginal and medium farmers' category, while remaining 11.32% were from big farmers category. This shows that the majority of sugarcane cultivators were having small, marginal and medium size landholders. At the same time, it can also be said that they were more dependent upon "Suru Type " of sugarcane cultivation rather than "Khodava".
- 7) The study reveals that there is no consistency among the farmers belonging to different category in respect of use of cane seed. The reasons behind the use of different variety of seeds here also different. The type of seed was governed by the purpose such as jaggery production and sugar factory.

- 8) The main source of the irrigation for sugar in Karveer Taluka is lift irrigation on rivers. About 88% of the sample farmers were using lift irrigation, while the source of irrigation of 122% of them was well water. The well irrigation becomes costly then that of lift irrigation.
- 9) The well irrigation schemes were implemented by the small and marginal farmers, those whose land is away from the river and who were not financially two sound to implement lift irrigation schemes.
- 10) Table 3.5 shows that among the sample farmers 47.17% farmers were sending their sugarcane to sugar factories, while 52.83% of the farmers were using their cane for jaggery making.
- 11) Most of the marginal and small farmers were using their cane for jaggery production, while majority of the medium farmers were sending their cane to sugar factories.
- 12) Most of the medium and big farmers were the members of the sugar factory, which was not found in case of marginal and small farmers.
- 13) The annual income earned by the sample farmers was between Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 55,000. It was found that none of the sugarcane farmers was below poverty line though they were marginal farmers.

- 14) Though the sugarcane is cash crop and profitable; yet the capital investment in its various stages of cultivation is also high as compared with other crops. The stages of sugarcane cultivation are classified into three main parts i.e. pre-cultivation, plantation, and interculture of sugarcane. The break-up of the pre-cultivation cost shows that about 53.61% of the cost is incurred on ploughing of land which is major cost. Similarly, the cost of seeds was the major item (75.14%) of plantation. This shows that recently the farmers are in habit of using the improved seeds available on seed farms. The manures, fertilizers, and pesticides was the major item (44.33%) of expenditure in the third stage of cultivation. The second major item of expenditure in this stage was weeding up charges i.e. 24.67%.
- 15) Table 3.11 shows that among the three main costs, the maximum cost incurred was on interculture and plantation i.e. 50.93%, 30.73% respectively. The total cost per acre was Rs. 14,726 per acre for 'Suru' cultivation; while the cost on 'Khodava' cultivation was Rs. 5501.
- 16) The analysis of five jaggery making units shows that the total cost per quintle of jaggery ranges between Rs. 359 to 669; while the income earned from it ranges
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between Rs. 650 to 800. This shows that the net income per quintle of jaggery ranges between Rs. 165 to 290. This shows that considering the present prices the jaggery making units are in profit.

- 17) Due to frequent fluctuations in the prices of jaggery the income is not fixed. Hence, the trend of jaggery production is decreasing year after year.
 - 18) The main problem faced by the industry is of labour. Most of the jaggery making unit holders among the sample complained that the labourers are immigrated from the neighbouring villages as well as other district of the Maharashtra State. Hence, the farmer tend to proceed their sugarcane to factories.
 - 19) By considering the cost structure of jaggery making; we come to the conclusion that the cost incurred on labour in jaggery making process is at the greater extent.
 - 20) If we consider the material costs of the jaggery processing the cost incurred on hydrose powder is highest. All of the jaggery making unit holders are using the such type of chemicals on greater extent in order to bring the fine colour to their product which is hygenically harmful.
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On the basis of the study made so far it is clear that jaggery making units were earning the profit. However, we can suggest some of the recommendations which can help to improve the sugarcane cultivation and jaggery making process.

- 1) Due to the old and outdated seeds, the per acre sugarcane yield is less. Hence the quality seeds should be supplied on concessional rate by the Government.
- 2) Day-by-day the prices of fertilizers are increasing. The major item of expenditure in sugarcane cultivation is fertilizers. Therefore, the subsidy on such agricultural input should be continued.
- 3) The gradation of jaggery is not scientific. Even the Sugarcane and Jaggery Research Centre, Kolhapur has not fixed the criteria of grading. The colour is the only critesion of gradation. The Agricultural Universities or Government Department should fix the certain criteria for this purpose.
- 4) The present extraction process is not economical. The crushers are old dated in which the percentage of crushing of sugarcane is not satisfactory. Similarly, the time required for jaggery is about three hours. Hence, research in extraction and fuel consumption is required.
- 5) No harmful chemicals such as Hydrose should be allowed to use in the jaggery. There is need to find out

permitted chemicals approved by the Drugs Authority.

6) As far as possible, the auction sale should take place in the presence of the farmer.

7) The local chemist (Gulvya) should be trained by the Agricultural Universities or by Government Department in order to produce the quality of jaggery.

8) To avoid the fluctuations in the prices of jaggery the Government should fix the prices under the support price policy.