CHAPTER III

BACKGROUND OF THE SELECTED VILLAGE

The present chapter deals with the background of the selected village namely Bahirewadi then and now. The then refers to the general picture of the village in all fields of life in the year 1952, when the Community Development Programme was launched in the Kolhapur district. This is taken as a base for the level of modernization the village has attained during the last 30 years through out this study.

This base is reconstructed on the basis of the "Bench Mark Survey Report" and "District Census Hand Book of Kolhapur,1961" which is again compared with the situation of this village as it existed in the year 1980, on the basis of the data collected from this village in the early part of the year 1980 and also on the basis of the year 1971 census.

1) Location of the Selected Village:

Bahirewadi is located in Panhala taluka of the Kolhapur district. It is situated to the north of the Kolhapur city.

2) Area of the Selected Village:

The size of area occupied by this selected village namely Bahirewadi is 935 sq.acres according to 1971 census.

From the above figures it appears that Bahirewadi occupies the smallest area and is largely cultivable.

3) Distance from the Kolhapur City and Taluka Head Quarters:

The Kolhapur city happens to be the seat of district and taluka head quarters of Karvir. It is the largest city in the district, and it is the main educational, cultural, social, economic and political centre in the Western Maharashtra.

The selected village namely Bahirewadi is 19 K.M. away from the Kolhapur city and its taluka head quarter Panhala is 11 K.M. People from this village go to their taluka head quarters with respect to revenue, administrature and legal matters and in respect of other matters such as trade, commerce and business they go to Kolhapur.

4) Population of the Selected Village:

According to 1961 census, the population of Bahirewadi was 1,047 and according to 1971 census, it was 1,632.

It has added 585 persons during the span of one decade. The population of this selected village appears to be increasing steadily and continuously.

5) Households in the Selected Village Then and Now:

According to 1961 census, the total number of households

in Bahirewadi was 201 and according to 1971 census, the total number of households was 261.

From these figures, it appears that, the total number of households has been increasing.

6) Literacy and Educational Facilities Then and Now:

6.1) Literacy:

According to 1961 census, the level of literacy among the males in Bahirewadi was 45.84 per cent and among the females it was 6.43 per cent respectively and according to 1971 census, the level of literacy among the males was 59.18 per cent and among the females it was 26.23 per cent respectively.

From the above mentioned literacy percentages is observed that, the level of literacy, appears to be low both among the males as well as females in the selected village then as well as now.

6.2) Educational Facilities:

Educational facilities, when the Bench Mark Survey was conducted, were extremely poor. In this selected village, primary education leading upto 7th standard was imparted. Now, considerable amount of change has taken place, with respect to education.

In this village, now, there are 8 teachers primary school with 264 students, both boys and girls, belonging to 7 divisions upto 7th standard. Further, there is a high-school and a college in a Warananagar which is about a kilometer away, being conducted by Warna Co-operative Sugar Factory at Warananagar. What is more, there is a residential degree level college affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur being run by the above mentioned sugar factory.

7) Land Use Pattern:

When the Bench Mark Survey was conducted in 1954, the major part of the land, from this selected village was unirrigated.

In the 1961 census, 720 acres land was under cultivation. Out of this, 702 acres land was unirrigated and the remaining 18 acres land was irrigated.

But, the census of 1971, indicates that there is an increase in the irrigated land. The irrigated land has increased from 18 to 33 acres.

8) Cropping Pattern:

When the Bench Mark Survey was conducted in 1954, it was noted that, the main crops in Bahirewadi, were Paddy and Ragi. Further Pady was the primary crop then, and sugarcane the secondary one. But today, the situation with

respect to crops has undergone a complete change. Today, Sugarcane has assumed the primary place, as the most important cash crop.

9) Agro-Industries:

When the Bench Mark Survey was conducted in 1954, the agro-industries, on a relatively larger scale were almost absent in this selected village. But today, a picture, with respect to agro-industries, has undergone a radical change.

Warna Co-operative Sugar Factory has been started just on the out skirts of Warnanagar, which is playing a significant role in the agricultural and industrial development of the village.

10) Co-Operatives:

Co-operative societies were in the very rudimentory stage, when the Bench Mark Survey was conducted in the Kolhapur district. In this selected village, there is a co-operative society namely, 'Bahirewadi Vividh Vikas Sahkari Society, Bahirewadi', founded in 1921. The share capital of this society is of Rs.1,35,000/-. The number of share holders is 360 and the society is having the deposits of Rs.60,000.

It is the multi purpose society having various wings like Dairy, supply of fertilizers and gur making.

11) Electricity:

In this village, electricity was not there at the time of the Bench Mark Survey Report in 1954, but now electricity is there in the village.

12) Medical Facilities:

When the Bench Mark Survey was conducted in 1954, medical facilities were not adequate in this selected village. Today, there is one private dispensory, being run by a trained medical practitioner.

13) Transportation:

When the Bench Mark Survey was conducted in 1954, this selected village was not on the tar road but on the Kuchha road. This village is about a 1 K.M. away from the tar road on which regular state transport buses ply.

14) Communication:

In 1954, there was no Post Office, no telephone connections and no radio sets in the village. Even today, there is no Post office, but a few radio sets are there in the village.

Conclusion:

The selected village is having small cultivable area. The people in this village are directly connected with the Kolhapur city. The rate of increase in population and households is not very high. There is a considerable

increase in the number of literate females, but comparatively the increase in the number of literate males is small.

The large part of the land owned by this village is unirrigated. Today the landholders in this village are taking the sugarcane as a cash crop.

The Warna Co-operative Sugar Factory has brought about a tremendous development in the agro industries in this village. A co-operative society has been playing a vital role in the agricultural development of the village.

Before the Bench Mark Survey, the public welfare facilities were not available, however, due to overall changes in the village, because of the tremendous effect put forth of the Warna Co-operative Sugar Factory, ingeneral all the facilities are made available in the village, such as transportation, communication, electricity and medical.

Sources:

1) Government of India, Planning Commission, Programme Evaluation organization, Bench Mark Survey Report, July 1956.

2) District Census Handbook for Kolhapur, 1961 to 1971

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CHAPTER IV

EDUCATION AND MODERNIZATION

"Education is the key that unlocks the door to modernization"[1]. This statement has been widely accepted by the students of education and modernization. It refers to the part it plays in economic growth and social development.

In the light of the hypotheses outlined earlier this chapter examines the association between education and modernization variables.

1) Measurement of Household Educational Status:

On the basis of the index of household educational status, the educational achievement of each household is measured in terms of (i) 'static', (ii) 'low transitional', (iii) 'high transitional' and (iv) 'Modern' household.

'Static household' on education, in the context of this study, is the totally uneducated household with zero percent education.

'Low transitional household' is taken to mean a less educated household, i.e., educated from 1 to 33 per cent.

'High transitional household' is referred to as a more educated household, i.e., educated from 34 to 66 per cent.

'Modern household' is defined as a highly educated household, i.e., educated from 67 to 100 per cent.

2) Educational Modernization in the Selected Village:

It is seen from the Table No.1 and figure No.1 that out of the 50 households from the selected village Bahirewadi, nearly 2 per cent were static, i.e. totally uneducated, almost 36 per cent were low transitional, i.e. less educated, a little over 58 per cent were high transitional, i.e. more educated and 4 per cent were found to be modern, i.e. highly educated.

After having examined the educational modernization in the selected village, an attempt has been made to find out the time-order[2] relationship between the educational modernization on the one hand, and caste-groups, land holdings, income-groups, cropping pattern, irrigation and agricultural development on the other.

2.2) Educational Modernization and Caste:

Caste composition of the sample households consisted of the following castes, Maratha, Gurav, Sutar, Sonar, Mahar, Chambhar, Parit and Nhavi. All these castes were grouped into two comparable units, upper and lower. Maratha caste represented the upper caste, while all the other castes represented the lower castes in the context of this study.

Moreover, Maratha households appear to be over-represented in the sample. But it may be partly because sampling was done on the basis of the size of the land holdings and partly because Marathas were a major land owing caste, as this study aimed at understanding the level of modernization among the cultivating households in the selected village.

It is evident from the Table No.2, that out of the 50 sample households from the selected village namely Bahirewadi, 80 per cent belonged to the upper caste group, while the remaining 20 per cent belonged to the lower caste groups.

In the 80 per cent upper caste-groups households from the selected village, almost 2 per cent were static, i.e., totally uneducated, nearly 28 per cent were low transitional i.e., less educated, a little less than 46 per cent were high transitional, i.e., more educated and 4 per cent were found to be modern, i.e., highly educated.

In the 20 per cent lower caste-group households from the selected village, almost zero per cent were static, nearly 8 per cent were low transitional, a little less than 12 per cent were high transitional and none was found to be modern on education. The upper caste-groups appears to be relatively more educated than the lower

caste-group in the selected village. Thus, education appears to be relatively more associated with the upper caste-groups in the selected village.

2.2) Educational Modernization and Landholdings:

Landholdings of all the 50 sample households from the selected village were regrouped into two categories, giving due weightage to the wet land at the time of the data processing. The two categories were: (1) smaller land holdings, and (2) larger land holdings.

'Smaller land holdings', in the context of the study, meant households with and upto 4 acres of dry land; and/or 1 acre of wet land.

'Larger land holdings' were referred to mean households with 4.1 and above acres of dry land; and/or 1.1 and above acres of wet land.

It is clear from the Table No.3, that out of the 50 households from the selected village, a little over 58 per cent households belonged to smaller landholdings group, and the remaining 42 per cent belonged to the larger land holdings group.

In the 58 per cent smaller landholdings group of households from the selected village, nearly 2 per cent were static, i.e., totally - uneducated; 20 per cent were

low transitional, i.e.,less educated; a little less than 34 per cent were high transitional, i.e., more educated; and 2 per cent were high transitional, i.e., highly educated.

In the 42 per cent larger landholding group of households from the selected village namely Bahirewadi, a little over zero per cent households were static, almost 16 per cent were low transitional and nearly 24 per cent were high transitional and 2 per cent were found to be modern.

Thus, more educated households appear to be relatively more associated with larger land holdings in the selected village.

2.3) Educational Modernization and Income-groups:

Income of the sample households were grouped in to three categories, i.e.,lower, middle and higher. 'Lower income-group' was composed of the income upto Rs.3,000 per year, 'middle income group' of Rs.3,001 to Rs.15,000 per year, and 'higher income group' of Rs.15,001 and above per year in the context of this study.

It is observed from the Table No.4 that out of the 50 sample households from the selected village, a little over 20 per cent belonged to the lower income group, 60 per cent belonged to the middle income group and the remaining 20 per cent belonged to higher income group.

In the 20 per cent lower income group households from the selected village, almost 2 per cent were static; a little over 10 per cent were low transitional, nearly 8 per cent were high transitional and none was found to be modern.

In the 60 per cent middle income-group households from the selected village, nearly none was static; a little over 22 per cent were low transitional; nearly 38 per cent were high transitional and none was found to be modern.

In the 20 per cent higher income group households from the selected village namely Bahirewadi, none was static; a little over 4 per cent were low transitional; nearly 12 per cent were high transitional and remaining 4 per cent were found to be modern.

Percentage of totally uneducated households appears to be concentrated in the lower and middle income groups than in the higher income group. Further, middle and higher income group households appear to be relatively more educated than, the lower income group in the selected village.

Thus, more educated households appear to be relatively more associated with middle and higher income groups in the selected village.

2.4) Educational Modernization and Cropping Pattern:

In the cropping pattern two crop types were conceived, cash crops and non-cash crops. 'Cash crops' were defined as crops taken for commercial purposes such as sugarcane and paddy and 'non-cash crops' as the crops taken primarily for consumption purposes such as Jawar and Ragi.

It is evident from the Table No.5 that out of the 50 sample households from the selected village, 40 per cent belonged to cash crop producing households, and remaining 60 per cent to non-cash crop producing households.

In the 40 per cent cash crop producing group of households from the selected village, none was static, 12 per cent were low transitional, 26 per cent were high transitional and remaining 2 per cent were modern.

In the 60 per cent non-cash crop producing group of households from the selected village, a little less than 2 per cent were static, 24 per cent were low transitional, 32 per cent were high transitional and remaining 2 per cent were found to be modern.

Percentage of educated households either less educated or more educated appears to be much larger in the cash crop producing group of households than in the non-cash crop producing group of households in the selected village.

Thus, it is observed that the more educated households appear to be relatively more associated with cash crop producing group of households than non-cash crop producing group in the selected village.

2.5) Educational Modernization and Irrigation:

Irrigational facilities of the sample households from the selected village were grouped into two main categories, i.e., perennial and seasonal or rainfall dependent. 'Perennial irrigation' was referred to mean irrigation available throughout the year irrespective of rains; and 'seasonal irrigation' was defined as well irrigation.

It is seen from the Table No.6 that out of the 50 sample households from the selected village, 28 per cent belonged to perennial category of irrigation and the remaining 72 per cent to seasonal irrigation.

In the 28 per cent perennially irrigated group of households from the selected village, none was static, 8 per cent were low transitional, 18 per cent were high transitional and remaining 2 per cent were found to be modern.

In the 72 per cent seasonally irrigated group of households from the selected village, 2 per cent were static, 28 per cent were low transitional, 40 per cent were high transitional, and remaining 2 per cent were

found to be modern.

Thus, more educated households appear to be relatively more associated with irrigation, either seasonal or perennial, in the selected village.

2.6) Educational Modernization and Agricultural Development:

It is observed from Table No.7 that out of the 50 sample households from the selected village, almost 2 per cent were static on agriculture, i.e., totally undeveloped, 6 per cent were low transitional, i.e., less developed, 58 per cent were high transitional, i.e., more developed, and the remaining 4 per cent were modern on agriculture.

The only static household in agriculture, i.e., totally undeveloped from the selected village, was found to be low transitional on education.

In the 36 per cent less developed households in agricultural development from the selected village, none was static, 6 per cent were low transitional, 18 per cent were high transitional, and remaining 12 per cent were found to be modern.

In the 58 per cent were high transitional or more developed households in agricultural development from the selected village, none was static, 6 per cent were low transitional, 14 per cent were high transitional and

remaining 38 per cent were found to be modern.

And only 4 per cent households were modern or highly developed households in agriculture from the selected village.

Thus, more educated households appear to be relatively more associated with agricultural development in the selected village.

Conclusion:

Educational modernization appears to be relatively more associated with upper caste-groups, larger landholdings, higher income-groups, cash crop producing group of households, irrigation either seasonal or perennial, and high agricultural development.

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1) Don Adams, Education and Modernization in Asia, p.VIII,, Fredrick Harbison and Charles A. Myers, Education, Manpower and Economic growth, Ch.1, Vina Mazumdar, Education and Social change, p.1.

2. Hubert M.Blalock, Casual Inference in Non-Experimental Research, pp.13-14, quoted by prodipto Roy and J.M.Kapoor, The Retention of Literacy, p.4.

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