



A STUDY ON AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES FOR SAHARIA TRIBES IN SHEOPUR DISTRICT OF MADHYA PRADESH

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Abstract

The aim of the study was to analyze the agricultural scheme for saharia tribes run by Government of India and state government in Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh. This study was a survey based, primarily on the enumeration method. The different tools which are used in this study are interview, direct observation and informed conservation. In the study, primary as well as secondary data used to achieve the object of the study. Data was collected through the survey in Sheopur district with the help of a well structured schedule developed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra. All tribal villages of district divided in to clusters of village. All 225 gram panchayat divided in to 13 clusters and five villages were selected from each cluster for study. Considering various aspect of the study, 325 tribal farmers were selected to fill up the well structured schedule, study revealed that 58% of the tribal farmers had been benefitted through agriculture and allied scheme out of total 325 respondent. 51.32% farmers had got the benefit from single agency out of the total 189 benefitted farmers. 71.07% farmers were illiterate out of 325 tribal farmers.

Key words: Agricultural scheme, Tribal Farmers, cluster, Survey, respondent.

Introduction

Madhya Pradesh has the largest tribal population in the country. The rich diversity in the tribal communities, spread over in various part of the state, is clearly seen not only in matter of lifestyle and cultural traditions, but also in social and economic structure, religious beliefs, language and customs etc. Tribal population constitutes 20-27% of the total population of the state and there are 46 tribal groups in out country. Saharia is an indigenous tribe in the Madhya Pradesh province of India. The saharia are mainly found in the Morena, Sheopur, Bhind, Gwalior, Datia, Vidisha and Guna district of Madhya Pradesh. The state government has initiated several programme under the auspices of tribal welfare department for the upliftment of the down trodden with special emphasis on economic upliftment of tribal population. The state government has introduced different schemes specially to improve the living standard of tribes by enhancing their annual income with improvement livelihood opportunities.

The Saharia tribes are expert woodsmen and forest produce gatherers. They are particularly skilled in making catechu from Kair trees. The main business is gathering & selling of forest wood, Gum, Tendu Leaf, Honey, Mahua and Medicinal herbs.

Some saharias are settled cultivars. Wheat, Sorghum, Pearl millets and maize are the main cereal crops. Mustard is the main oilseed crop while chick pea and pigeon pea are the main pulse crops.

Agriculture is largely depending on rainfall with merely 2% of the total land area being irrigated. The main source of ensure irrigation are wells, and rivulets which are seasonal.

The total population of Sheopur district 559495. Out of which tribal population are 120482. Tribal population constitutes approximately 21.5% of total population of the district.

To view of fact some objectives of the project were decided as –

1. To study the agricultural schemes for Saharia tribes

in Sheopur district.

2. To study the impact analysis of agricultural schemes for Saharia tribes in Sheopur district.
3. To study the constraints in adoption of agriculture schemes for Saharia tribes.

Methodology: All tribal village of district divided in to clusters of villages. All gram panchayat divided in to 13 clusters. Five villages were selected from each cluster for the study. Villages having more the 50% population of tribes have been taken. This study was a survey based, primarily on the enumeration method. The different tools which are used in the study are schedule, interview, direct observation and informal conversation. In this study, primary as well as secondary data used to achieve the object of the study. Data were collected through the survey in Sheopur district with the help of a well structured schedule developed by KVK. 325 farmers were under taken for personal interview through developed schedule and rigorous discussion on agricultural schemes for Saharia tribes and there education status.

Results and discussion

A total 325 farmers were selected to know the benefits of different agricultural schemes out of these only 189 farmers benefited through different agricultural schemes. Maximum number of tribal farmers (101) benefitted through input distributed by different department like Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development (FW & AD), Department of Horticulture, KVK and Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Programme (MPRLP) in the form of front line demonstration, Minikit, ISOPAM, seed village programme, backyard Kitchen, Spices and Sag Bhaji expansion schemes etc. During study it was observed that 54 tribal farmers were benefited through implements like seed drill, cultivator, disc harrow, diesel engine pump, sprayer, spiral grader, mini tractor with small rotavator and wheel hoe etc. provided by FW & AD and department of Horticulture. 44 tribal farmers were also benefited through gotary, Poultry and bullock pair provided by department and veterinary and MPRLP. 07 tribal farmers were benefited through borewell sanctioned by FW & AD and they irrigated their crop in both season in Rabi and Kharif but tribal farmer those did not have bore well cultivated only one crop in kharif season in rainfed condition.

It was recorded that 31 farmers benefitted through training and sangosthi organized by FW&AD, Department of Horticulture, Krishi Vigyan Kendra and MPRLP. 189 farmers benefited through different agricultural schemes, out of which 6 farmers were

benefited through exposure visits in district, out of district and out of state. 30 farmers were benefited through SHGs.

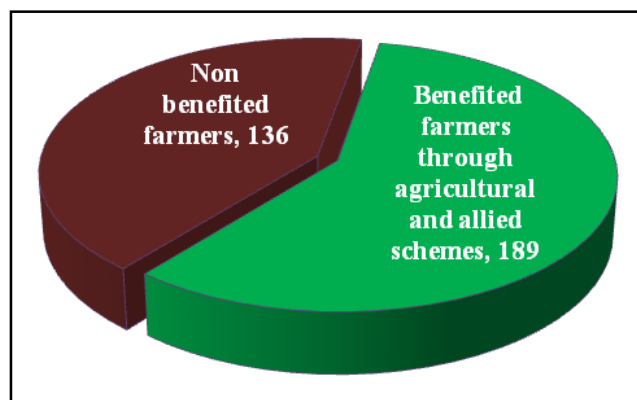
It was also observed that two tribal farmers were benefited through Nandan Falodyan Yojana under the active guidance of department of Horticulture and financial support provided by Jila Panchayat.

Table 1: Farmers benefitted through various agricultural scheme in the district.

(n=325)

S.No.	Name of department	No of farmers
1	Agriculture	20
2	Horticulture	08
3	MPRLP	97
4	Veterinary	04
5	KVK	04
6	Agriculture + Horticulture	04
7	Agriculture + MPRLP	29
8	Agriculture + Veterinary	01
9	Agriculture + KVK	07
10	Horticulture + MPRLP	06
11	Horticulture + Veterinary	02
12	Agriculture + Horticulture + MPRLP	06
13	Agriculture + Horticulture + KVK	01
	Total	189

Fig. 1:



The tribal farmers benefited through various agricultural and allied schemes in the district presented in table -1 and figure 1.

It was observed that (table-1) among beneficiaries, some of the respondents were benefited through two departments, 15.34% through FW&AD and MPRLP, 3.70% through FW & AD and KVK, 3.17% through department of horticulture and MPRLP, 1.05% through department of horticulture and department of veterinary and 0.52% tribal farmers were benefitted through

FW&AD and department of veterinary.

From table-2 it is clear that education status of tribal community was very poor, and out of 325 tribal farmers, 231 (71.07%) were illiterate, only one farmer graduate, one farmer 12th pass. Four farmer's metric and remaining 85 farmer's non metric. Illiteracy was the main obstacle in adopting of agriculture and allied schemes among tribal community.

Table 2: Education profile of tribal farmer community.

(n=325)

Profile	Category	No.	Percent (%)
Education status	Illiterate	231	71.07
	Non-metric	88	27.07
	Metric	04	01.23
	Higher secondary	01	0.30
	Collegiate	01	0.30

Summary and conclusion

1. Nearly 58 percent of the tribal farmer had been benefited through agriculture and allied scheme out of total 325 respondents.
2. 51.32% farmers had got the benefit from MPRLP out of the total 189 benefited farmers from different scheme of agriculture and allied sectors.
3. Most of the tribal farmer having their source of income from both farming & seasonal labour.
4. Integrated farming system was more useful for uplifting social and economic status of tribal community of district and most of the tribal farmers having unirrigated farming situation and they cultivate one crop in kharif season in rainfed situation, based on study it was concluded that tribal farmers having irrigation facility by any means like borewell, well, canal. They also easily cultivate the crop in rabi season.
5. Sheopur district is forest rich area and its cover about 2.93 lakh hectare areas in the district. The all most

tribal community residing near the forest and they collect wild products like aonla, safed musli, satawar etc. from forest. These products were purchased by middle men in low price, so government should develop a market or purchase their products through government agencies or SHGs for uplifting socio-economic status of tribal community.

6. Based on study, it was concluded that government should make efforts and focus on forming self help groups and farmers interest group of tribal farmers and provide borewell, diesel engine, agricultural implements etc. on group approach basis for real utilization and finally for upliftment of tribal community.
7. Many tribal farmers has given or handed over their land on lease basis to farmers of other communities.
8. Benefit of the different scheme should be given on the basis of need of tribal farmers in the area.
9. Education of status of farmer were very poor, there is need to educate them for their upliftment.

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