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## A STUDY ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROFILE AND AWARENESS OF FARMERS ABOUT SCHEMES FOR DOUBLING FARM INCOME

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Latur and Osmanabad district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra state in Latur district out of ten tehsils two tehsils where selected randomly namely Latur and Chakur and in Osmanabad district out of eight tehsils two tehsils where selected randomly namely Osmanabad and Kalamb. For the purpose of study two villages from each selected tehsil (Total 2 X 4 = 8) were selected randomly. Thus, total eight villages were selected for study. From each selected village, fifteen farmers were respondents selected randomly. In this way, a total of 120 respondents (Total 8 X 15 = 120) were considered for the present study. These selections were done by using simple random sampling method for the purpose of the study. The result of relationship between profile and awareness of farmers observed that variables like education, annual income, crop insurance, social participation, mass media exposure, risk orientation, economic motivation found to be a positive and highly significant relationship with an awareness of farmers about schemes for doubling farm income. On the other hand, Occupation, land holding and irrigation facilities found to be a positive and significant relationship with an Awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income at 0.01 percent probability. The age and farming experience of the respondents was highly negatively significant with the Awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income.

**Keywords :** Doubling Farm Income, Awareness, Relationship, farmers scheme.

### Introduction

Indian agriculture is essentially monsoon and market dependent and suffers frequent distresses posing threat to the welfare of farmers as well as interest in farming. Agriculture plays a vital role in India's economy over 58.00 per cent of the rural households depend on agriculture as their principal means of livelihood of India. Agriculture along with fisheries and forestry, contributes to more than 16.00 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of country however the growth in the agriculture sector in 2015-16 continued to the lower than the average of the last decade. Declining farm productivity and income have serious implications on rural prosperity and overall economy hence increasing the real income, i.e. nominal (Actual) income adjusted to inflation has become a priority for the state and policy planners.

Announcing the target of doubling farmer's income by 2022, the Honorable Finance Minister (FM) in his Union Budget Speech 2016-17, had highlighted the need to think beyond food security of the country and to focus on income security of the farmer. This announcement was quite timely and probably the rising of agrarian distress and the two years of consecutive drought situation country has faced (Anonymous, 2016), the intent seems right, given the current state of India's agriculture and the plight of its farmers. Growth in farm income after 2011-12 has plummeted to around 01.00 percent, and this is an important reason for the sudden rise in agrarian distress in recent years (Chand *et al.* 2015). FM had also laid emphasis on the optimal utilization of the country's water resources, creation of new infrastructure for irrigation, conservation of soil fertility with balanced use of fertilizer, and provision of value addition and connectivity from farm to market

### Strategies for Improving Farmers Income Development Initiatives:

Some recent development initiatives of the central government aiming to raise output and reduce cost include:

#### Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)

It is national mission to improve farm productivity and ensure better utilization of the resources in the country.

The overreaching vision of PMSKY is to ensure access to some means of protective irrigation to all agricultural farms in the country to produce Per Drop More Crop thus bringing much desired rural prosperity.

Major objectives-

1. Convergence of investment in irrigation at the field level
2. Expand cultivable area under irrigation (Har Khet Ko Pani)
3. Improve on-farm water used efficiency to reduce wastage of water
4. Enhance the adoption of being precise in irrigation and other water saving technologies (More Crop per Drop)

#### Soil Health Card (SHC)

Soil Health Card Scheme is a scheme launched by the Government of India in 19 February 2015. Under the scheme, the government plan to issue soil cards to farmers which will carry crop-wise recommendations of nutrient and fertilizers require for the individual farms to help farmers to improve productivity through judicious use of inputs. All soil samples to be tested in various soil testing labs across the country. Thereafter the experts will analyse the strength and weakness of the soil and suggest measures to deal with it.

#### Prampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is an elaborated component of Soil Health Management (SHM) of major project National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)

#### Objectives

1. Promotion of commercial organic production through certified organic farming.
2. The produce will be pesticide residue free and will contribute to improve the health of consumer.
3. It will raise Farmer's income and create potential market for traders.
4. It will motivate the farmers for natural resource mobilization for input production.

#### Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (Prime minister's Crop Insurance Scheme) was launched by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi on 13 February 2016. It is also called as risk management tool.

#### Objectives

1. Providing financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/ damage arising out of unforeseen events.
2. Stabilizing the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming.
3. Encouraging farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices.
4. Ensuring flow of credit to the agriculture sector which will contribute to food security, crop diversification and enhancing growth and competitiveness of agriculture sector besides protecting farmers from production risks.

#### Materials and Methods

The present investigation was carried out in two randomly selected districts out of the total eight districts of Marathwada region namely Latur and Osmanabad district. In Latur district out of ten tehsils, two tehsils were selected randomly namely Latur and Chakur and in Osmanabad district out of eight tehsils two tehsils were selected randomly namely Osmanabad and Kalamb. For the purpose of study two villages from each selected tehsils, (Total 2 X 4 = 8) were selected randomly for the selection of respondents. Thus total 8 villages were selected for study. From each selected village, 15 farmers were selected randomly. In this way, a total of 120 farmers (Total 8 X 15 = 120) were considered as respondent for the present study. These selections were done by using simple random sampling method for the purpose of the study.

#### Result and Discussions

#### Relationship between awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income and their profile

**Table 1:** Coefficient of correlation between the profile of farmers with their awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income.

Sr. No.	Independent Variables	The correlation coefficient (r)
1.	Age	-0.387
2.	Education	0.785**
3.	Occupation	0.243*
4.	Landholding	0.209*
5.	Farming experience	-0.506
6.	Annual income	0.427**

7.	Crop insurance	0.732**
8.	Irrigation facilities	0.202*
9.	Social participation	0.318**
10.	Mass media exposure	0.688**
11.	Extension contact	0.284**
12.	Risk Orientation	0.402**
13.	Economic motivation	0.521**

\*Significant at 0.05 level of probability

\*\* Significant at 0.01 level of probability

<sup>NS</sup> Non-significant

Table 1 shows that variables like education, Annual income, crop insurance, social participation, mass media exposure, risk orientation, economic motivation found to be a positive and highly significant relationship with the awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. Occupation, landholding and irrigation facilities found to be a positive and significant relationship with an awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income at 0.01 percent probability. The age and farming experience of the respondents was highly negatively significant with the awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm income.

#### Awareness and Age

Table 1 shows that there was a negatively highly significant correlation between age and awareness about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. The possible reason might that the age of respondents increased there was a decrease in the awareness level of farmers. This means young and middle-aged beneficiaries had high awareness about schemes for Doubling Farm Income.

#### Awareness and Education

Table 1 shows that there was a positive and highly significant relationship between education and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. This indicates that awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income was influenced by their education. This indicates that higher education makes the farmers change and accept the new ideas more quickly and they were more aware of the government schemes for Doubling Farm Income. They have a favorable attitude towards science and technology.

The findings related to the findings of Bande (2017).

#### Awareness and Occupation

Table 1 revealed that there was a positive and significant relationship between occupation and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. This indicates the awareness of farmers

about schemes for Doubling Farm Income related to the occupation of the respondents. This indicates that the respondents have the main occupation is farming and farm-related activities that they have more awareness about the government schemes for farmers.

The findings related to the findings of Soni and Trivedi (2013) and Sandhra *et al.* (2019).

#### Awareness and landholding

Table 1 revealed that there was a positive and significant relationship between landholding and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. This shows that awareness should relate to the landholding of farmers. This indicates the benefits of government schemes and policies are being mostly given to big farmers having land holding medium and high.

The findings related to the findings of Thirumoorthy and Geetha (2017), Bande (2017).

#### Awareness and Farming experience

Table 1 revealed that there was a negatively highly significant relationship between farming experience and awareness of farmers about schemes for doubling farm income. The reason might that, it doesn't have any relationship with the scheme, even the person with less farming experience can have better awareness about the schemes for Doubling Farm Income.

#### Awareness and Annual income

Table 1 revealed that there was a positive and highly significant relationship of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. From this study, it could be indicated that respondents from higher-income groups had relatively more awareness about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. It may be said that the higher annual income of the beneficiaries will help them to gain knowledge from different sources. The awareness, therefore, may have a positive and highly significant relationship with the annual income.

The findings are similar to the findings of Bande 2017.

#### Awareness and Crop Insurance

Table 1 revealed that there was a positive and highly significant relationship between crop insurance and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. The result shows that, if the farmer is more aware of crop insurance it helps to increase their production and productivity of farmers and helps to farmers to protect against either the loss of their crops due to natural disasters such as hail, drought, and floods, or the loss of revenue due to declines in the

prices of agricultural commodities. The awareness, therefore, may have a positive and highly significant relationship with crop insurance.

The findings are in line with the Rathore (2017).

#### **Awareness and irrigation facilities**

Table 1 shows that there was a positive and significant relationship between irrigation facilities and awareness of farmers about schemes of Doubling Farm Income. The probable reason may be, Agriculture is monsoon dependent and in the absence of monsoon, the schemes like “Har Khet Ko Pani”, “Per Drop More Crop” (PMKSY) helps to give sources of irrigation to the farmers, therefore, awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income have a positive and significant relationship with irrigation facilities.

The findings are similar to the findings of Santhi and Sangeetha (2018).

#### **Awareness and Social Participation**

Table 1 shows that there was a positive and highly significant relationship between social participation and awareness of farmers about schemes of Doubling Farm Income. Farmers with good social participation have contact with other people and thereby they get an opportunity to share ideas and experiences with people and help to give more awareness about the Government schemes of Doubling Farm Income. Therefore, awareness may have a positive and highly significant relationship with social participation.

The findings were similar to the findings of Latha (2015).

#### **Awareness and Mass Media Exposure**

Table 1 shows that there was a positive and highly significant relationship between mass media exposure and awareness of farmers about schemes of Doubling Farm Income. The awareness of farmers about the new farming techniques and technologies and also the awareness of government schemes of Doubling farm Income through the uses of different mass media gives timely information to farmers about new researches therefore, awareness may have a positive and highly significant relationship with mass media exposure.

The findings are similar to the findings of Bande (2017).

#### **Awareness and Extension Contact**

Table 1 shows that there was a positive and highly significant relationship between Extension contact and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling farm Income. It is obvious that respondents with a higher level of contact with extension agency help to farmers

to aware of the new techniques and technologies and also aware of the schemes for Doubling Farm Income therefore awareness may have a positive and highly significant relationship with extension contact.

The findings are similar to the findings of Bande (2017).

#### **Awareness and Risk orientation**

Table 1 shows that there was a positive and highly significant relationship between risk orientation and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. The reason could be that the growers with more risk orientation prone take risks and face the challenges to get maximum returns due to which there may be such type of relationship.

The findings are similar to the findings of Dhande (2017).

#### **Awareness and Economic Motivation**

Table 1 shows that there was a positive highly significant relationship between economic motivation and awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income. It clearly indicates that an increase in economic motivation increases the level of awareness of farmers about schemes for Doubling Farm Income.

The findings are similar to the findings of Mukati *et al.* (2018).

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