

A STUDY ON THE ROLE OF KRISHI BHAVAN IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN
KERALA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO IDUKKI DISTRICT.

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A study on the importance of Krishibhavan understands the difficulties faced by farmers, different agricultural problems, the availability of the various benefits and possibilities in agricultural field. The role of Krishibhavan in Idukki district is for developing the agriculture programs and activities. The Panchayath level agricultural development activities related to the office is known as Krishibhavan. In different Panchayath agricultural officers are in charge of Krishibhavan and are assisted by two agriculture assistants.

Krishibhavan is to available at the land developed schemes, providing loans for purchase of spares, Biogas development project, vegetable production programme, supply of high yield variety of seeds, harvesting ground water tube wells. Here main cultivation is pepper, cardamom, ginger, paddy, turmeric, vegetable etc

Agriculture is the oldest business in the world and even today it is one of the important structures. The importance of agriculture in economic development in any country is born out by the fact that, it is a primary structure of the economy and it provides wages-goods, which are necessary for mankind. It also provides raw materials for industries. This indicates the importance of the structure in economy. The degree of importance varies from country to country.

In developed countries farm activity is a business and farmer behaves like a business man. Entire farm activity is organized commercially with adoption to take services and guidance from various institutions. They can get it they need enough and timely finance many research institutions are at their disposal. But in less developed countries it is otherwise. In most of the developing countries patterns and structure of agriculture are not uniform. Some economic and social diversity can be seen however at the same time. Traditional agriculture is one of the common characteristics of all developing countries. The term traditional agriculture describes one type of farming where agriculture scheme is dominant employee.

Indian agriculture had reached the stage of development and maturity much before the new advanced countries of the world embarked on the path of progress. At that time there was a proper balance between agriculture and industry and both flourished hand in hand. The cultivators had neither the resource nor the incentive to invest in agriculture. A majority of farmers were just able to eke out a level of subsistence from agricultural activities. It was only after the advent of planning that some farmers started adopting agriculture on a commercial basis. The agriculture sector provides livelihood to about 64 percent of the labour force contributes nearly 26 percent of gross domestic products and accounts for about 18 percent share of the total value of the country's exports. It supplies bulk of usage goods required by the non-agricultural sector and raw materials for large sector of industry.

The department of agricultural Research and Education set up in 1973 in the ministry of agriculture is responsible for co-ordinating research and educational activities in agricultural

activities, animal husbandry and fisheries. Besides it helps to bring about inter-departmental and inter-institutional collaboration with national and international agencies engaged in the same and allied fields. The department provides government support, service and linkage to the Indian council of agricultural research.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study about the activities performed by various Krishibhavan in Rural development in various Panchayath in Idukki District.
2. To identify the problems faced by cultivators here.
3. To study about the role of Krishibhavan in agriculture and economic development.
4. To give practical suggestions to improve the performance of Krishibhavan.

NEED OF THE STUDY

Krishibhavan plays an important role in the rural and economic development of every Panchayath. It is necessary to look into the problems and situation faced by the farmers. The developing facilities are limited in this area. Therefore improve to study the fact of agricultural programmes and activities of Krishibhavan are very essential.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this research the researcher has used both primary data and secondary data.

DATA COLLECTION

Primary data

The necessary primary data for the study were collected with the help of an interview schedule. Interviews were conducted with selected farmers in different area of Idukki district and with employees of Krishibhavan and Panchayath office based in Idukki district.

Secondary data

Secondary data required for the study were collected from the books and records Krishibhavan and Grama Panchayath and also from books, newspapers, magazines etc.

SAMPLING

Convenient sampling: The researchers have used convenient sampling technique for the present study. The sample size for the present study was 1000.

Data analysis

The collected data were analysed and elementary classifications of schedules were done accordingly. The analysed data were property tabulated and presented in the form of simple crossed table. Ratios & percentage were used for analysis.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

The study is presented to 5 chapters

1. The first chapter includes a brief introduction, scope of the study, objectives, need, methodology, primary and secondary data, limitation and presentations.
2. The second chapter includes Indian agriculture Role, Nature, Share in national income, Largest employment providing sector, Importance of agricultural products, Diversities in agricultural sector and the problem of generalisation cropping pattern, land distribution, Agricultural marketing, Rural development and India.
3. The third chapter includes the role of krishibhavan in Idukki District, details of mechanization, details of the scheme Farmers group under krishibhavan, crops cultivated area.
4. The fourth chapter includes Analysis and interpretation of data.
5. Chapter five include findings and suggestions.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

To study the role of krishibhavan in rural development in Kerala with special reference to Idukki District has got some major limitations.

1. Some of the respondents were not willing to come out with the facts relating to their cultivated area, income etc.
2. The illiteracy of respondents makes it very difficult to collect the reliable data.
3. To study about the role of Krishibhavan in agriculture and economic development.
4. To give practical suggestions to improve the performance of Krishibhavan.

CHAPTER 2

An overview of Krishi Bhavan in Idukki District.

Idukki district have 52 krishibhavan. Idukki district include 5 blocks. Thodupuzha, Elamdasham, Nedumkandam, Perimadu, Adimali. The formation of Rajakkad krishibhavan is in 1981. This time is known as agriculture extension unit .At that time it includes two Panchayath Baisonvally and Rajakkad. In 1987 it has been developed as a krishibhavan. This time it includes only one Panchayath. In each Grama Panchayath krishibhavan have 8 members- one agricultural officer and two agriculture demonstration officers are working in the krishibhavan.

DETAILS OF THE SCHEME

1. Schemes for providing loans for purchase of agriculture equipments
2. Land developed schemes
3. Biogas development project

4. Vegetable production programme
5. Supply of high yielding variety of seeds
6. Harvesting ground water tube wells

FARMERS GROUP UNDER KRISHIBHAVAN

1. Nellupadak samithy
2. Kera samrakshna samithy
3. Kurumulak samrakhna samithy

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL THEORY

Most of the people living in different Panchayath of Idukki district are farmers. It is seen that the growths in agricultural products were very much low in recent years. Many irrigation projects were finally reduced to drinking water project, it is likely to be helpful if they use the streams falling through the Panchayath. Thus the people can produce more agricultural products (crops).

Here two cultures are mixed that are of Tamil people and of Malayalees. Most of the Tamil people worked in the plantation sector. But most of the population are farmers. It is stated that the depression in the agricultural field, badly affects various Panchayath economic conditions. But it is seen that there is a unity among the population. Sometimes it is because of the concept of the older people.

The scheduled populations are categorized into Pallon, Chaklian, Pulayan, Parayan, and Velan etc. Some funds are allocated to them from the Government for their rural and economic development.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

The scheduled tribes were very much exploited by others. The economic field as well as the cultural field is the main reason for the present situation. But now a days they are interested in the educational field. The poor economic condition restricted them from this. There are a lot of children who work for removing the starvation of their families. The other reason is that the long distance from their house to the school.

EMPLOYMENT

The majority of scheduled tribes in this district are farmers among them almost all the people are the workers of agricultural fields, but most of them do not have their own land for cultivation.

UNEMPLOYMENT

It is a challenge for the educational growth in this district. There is a lot of assistance from the part of government to start business. But this requires some securities like; land, building etc.

Activities of Krishi Bhavan in Idukki District

In Idukki District most of the people belong to agriculture families. The recent liberation of economy and globalisation of international market has made agriculture more competitive.

Krishibhavan is very helpful to the farmers. Krishibhavan gives special seeds, fertilizers and pesticides in farmers. Krishibhavan is helpful to natural calamity and give calamity fund to farmers.

Krishibhavan plays a vital role in the grass root level agricultural development in every Panchayath. All agricultural development programs of both government and non-government are being implemented through krishibhavan. This Panchayath remarkable agricultural development was achieved through the programs of krishibhavan.

CHAPTER 3

Indian Agriculture And Rural Development

INDIAN AGRICULTURE, ROLE, NATURE

The most important class conflict in the poor countries of the world today is not between labour and capital. Nor is it between foreign and national interests. It is between the rural classes and the urban classes.

SHARE IN NATIONAL INCOME

At the time of First World War agriculture contributes two-thirds of national income. This was on account of the practical non-existence of industrial development and infrastructure. The share of agriculture in national income is often taken as an indicator of economic development. Normally developed economics are less dependent on agriculture as compared to under developed countries.

Largest Employment Providing Sector

In 1951, 69.5% of the working population was engaged in agriculture. In 1991 this percentage had fallen marginally to 64.9%. However with rapid increase in population the absolute number of people engaged in agriculture has become exceedingly large. Most of the under developed country exhibit this heavy dependence of working population on agriculture. Importance of Agricultural Products

Per-capita income in India is very low. Consequently a large part of this income is spent on fulfilling the basic consumptions requirements of the people. It has been estimated that in India approximately 60 percent of household consumption is of agricultural products.

Nature of India's Agriculture

At the time of independence India's agriculture was in a state of backwardness. Productivity per hector and per worker was extremely low. The techniques employed were age-old and traditional. Because of low productivity agriculture merely provided subsistence to the farmers and had not become commercialized. They reveal that Indian agriculture was backward and qualitatively traditional in nature on the eve of the five year plan.

Diversities In Agricultural Sector And The Problem Of Generalization

India is a large country having substantial agricultural diversities. Different regions exhibit entirely different characteristics so that no one plan can be conceived for all agricultural regions of the country. The nature of soil, the magnitude of rain fall, availability of water etc. different considerably between different regions.

Cropping Pattern

By crop pattern we mean the proportion of area under different crops at a point of time, changes in this distribution over a period of time and factors determining this change in distribution cropping pattern in India is determined mainly by natural factors like rainfall, climate and soil conditions. However technological factors have also played an important part. For example consequent upon the adoption of the new seed-fertilizer technology in the mid-sixties area under wheat increased significantly. In recent years the government introduced various programmes for increasing the production of oil seeds. As a results area under oil seeds increased rapidly is smaller in terms of employment but large in the terms of production for market. The contribution of the sector in national income is smaller.

Land Distribution

Land is a relatively important factor of production in agriculture sector. Relative security of capital and primitive technique of production increases the importance of land. In traditional agriculture basic source of income of a farmer is directly related with farm size. Ownership of land is a great desire of every person in rural area. Economic condition and social status of a farmer depends up on to ownership of land size. In less developed countries, land and economic power distribution coincide with each other. In feudalist society high concentration of land ownership is influence practical power also. Degree of importance of land ownership differs in developing and developed countries.

Agriculture Marketing

Agriculture producers creates raw materials and the demands of these products is relatively stable in the short run, while the supply of agriculture products fluctuates from time to time variation in supply of agriculture product is own account of variation in yield is due to seasonal conditions on account of supplies being more abundant in certain month, deliberate variations attempted by farmers and variations arising out of conditions of marketing. These fluctuating suppliers constitute the most important factor responsible for wide fluctuation in agricultural prices.

The seasonal nature of agricultural production results in uneven distribution of supplies in any year whiles the consumption of most of agricultural production is evenly spread over the year. In such a condition the price of agricultural products would naturally be decrease during the post-harvest period and would tend to raise during the period the lean supply when farmers have sold out most of their products.

Moreover fluctuations in price of agricultural products are on account of defects of agricultural marketing. Income of farmers depends upon the organisational and operational efficiency of market structure. It is observed that in developing countries there are many defects in

organisation and functioning of market. The first thing that strikes is lack of collective organisation among the farmers. Most of the farmers sell their production at an unfavourable time and they get the unfavourable terms.

Total demand and supply of agricultural products are also affected by change in volume of export and import agricultural commodities. This adds uncertainty of price and farmers have to face it. Limited facilities of transport and communication system, agricultural market tends to very narrow in developing countries. It is very difficult for farmer of remote area to sell their products distinct market.

Rural Development And INDIA

India is a rural country and it will continue to be a rural country despite of the hue and cry of capital urbanization and increase in urban population. Rural development is an important dimension of development without it the objective of the government in relation to development cannot be achieved. It is an all-round development of traditional rural society into modern by bringing about socio-economic reforms and planned change.

As Mahatma Gandhi said "India lives in village". The development of the village is precondition for balanced economic development. The basic requirement for economic growth like saving, investment and expanding market for industrial products ultimately depend upon rural development in general and agricultural development in particular.

Objectives And Scope Of Rural Development

The objectives of rural development are:-

1. To provide certain social goods and services in terms of social and economic infra-structure.
2. To increase the income of the individual rural poor.
3. To achieve these objectives rural development should be designed such as that.
4. Full employment of labour and physical resources.
5. Setting up of agro industries complexes.
6. Laying down minimum standard of productively efficiency for those owing or using precious resources.
7. Minimum standards of performance by public agencies by making them accountable to the local people.
8. Improving the quality of life through integration between development and environment.

Development means quantitative as well as qualitative change. Since it means change which has meaning only when seen against something at a particular time. It carries a meaning which is not only relative but also subjective. Only a given type of quantitative –cum-qualitative change is considered to be development in positive sense. It is the either mat development or negative development. In same sequence of thinking rural development would essentially mean

desired positive change in the rural areas both in a qualitative as well as quantitative sense. Thus rural development is an aerial concept. It is a complete term which integrates a variety of elements of human life and activities. We may broadly classify the numbers elements in to the following broad dimensions.

1. Social
2. Economical
3. Technological
4. Natural

Rural development means desired changes in all these components. But such change should take place in a mutually supporting relationship. So as to generate organic and optimum development. Organic development is one which maintains health relationship among the various elements or components of a system. If the development in the component and this disturbs the organic relationship among the various component of a system then such a development designated as mal-development.

It does not necessarily mean that all components of the system must always maintain a static or constant relationship among them in the process of development. In fact such a situation may rarely occur. Development in factor gets triggered of mainly because one component enter certain circumstances has changed faster than the others. For example a social reforms has its impact on the economic and technological components.

The nation can therefore be strong and prosperous only when all villages are freed from backwardness and poverty. The government of India is committed to the cause of bringing about rapid and sustainable development in rural areas.

The ministry of rural development is engaged in implementing a number of schemes, which aim at enabling rural people to improve their living standards. Eradication of poverty and the ushering in of speedy socio economic progress is the goal with which the development programs are being implemental through a multi programmed strategy, reaching out of the most disadvantaged section of society. High priority is being accorded to provide clean drinking water, rural housing and road connectivity.

