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An empirical study on challenges and issues faced by the farmers in erode district

D.Arul Murugavel, M.Kavin, B.Mynthan- I MBA
aruldevaraj1996@gmail.com, kavinm3666@gmail.com,
Nandha Engineering College, Erode-638052.

ABSTRACT
Being part of the agrarian economy of India, the State of Tamil nadu has a large population dependent on the agriculture sector for their livelihood. In the agriculture sector, large population of agricultural workers (landless and small-marginal farmers) – target group of study- besides working as labourers in the agricultural fields of (big) farmers, does farming as the farmer for improving their household income. This large population being dependent on agriculture is trapped in poverty. These farming communities (landless and small farmers) had not adequately benefitted from the Green revolution and both the agriculture sector and its dependents were facing several problems and challenges caused by the Green revolution. The policy makers can take necessary measures for the well-being of the agricultural workers.

1.INTRODUCTION

In Tamil Nadu, 56% of population is depending on Agriculture and allied activities for their livelihood. The standard of living of the rural people depends on the agricultural development. The standard of living of the people depending on agriculture needs up liftman on pare with people depending on industrial sector whose life standard is being improved because of dynamic industrial growth in Tamil Nadu. The Government is taking efforts to attain sustainable agricultural development by bringing agriculture as a commercial venture by switching over from the increase the productivity to manifold, value addition, processing and utilization of marketing opportunities. Decline in area under cultivation & water resources, depletion of soil health and scarcity of agricultural laborers hinder speedy growth in agriculture development. The Government is implementing various programs to tide over the situation and to achieve greater development in agriculture.

As a vital input, the supply of seeds with quality standards to the farmers is ensured through Seed Certification to increase the productivity of the crops. The Government is taking efforts to achieve significant increase in agricultural productivity through adoption of System Rice Intensification (SRI) and Precision Farming Technology suitable for Cotton, Sugarcane, Coconut, Maize, Vegetables, Flowers and Fruit Crops by farmers. Out of total water requirement, 70% to 80% is required for irrigation. Hence focus is also given to conserve the ground water by water harvesting methods through effective use of water resources. More attention is given for formation of rain water harvest methods such as formation of farm ponds, check dams and diversion of rain water into abandoned wells to conserve the ground water.

2.OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To analyze the problems faced by the farmers in agriculture.

3.SCOPE OF THE STUDY

1. The present study is undertaken to understand the problems faced by the farmers.
2. This study helps to find out the frequent level of the agriculture.

4.LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. Due to illiterate people it took time to convey the problem and get response.
2. The surveying respondents are very low because of uneducated farmers.

5.REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Farmers in many parts of India are largely dependent on timely rainfall for harvest and subsequent profits. Uncertainty surrounding this phenomenon has also haunted them since the beginning of civilization.
2. Over time however, this uncertainty had reduced significantly as farmers back in the day could almost accurately plant crops based on previous experience with weather conditions. This wisdom has been passed on from one generation of farmers to the other.
3. Gradual onset of global warming and climate changes, over the last century, has slowly-yet steadily put this wisdom out of use. As for rain-fed farmers preparing for agriculture, soil-water equation is fragile and any delay in rainfall could easily mar the harvest.

6.RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

6.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

1. A Master plan that specifies the method and procedures for collecting and analyzing needed information.
2. A research design is a framework or blueprint for conducting the marketing research project.

6.2 SAMPLE DESIGN

Sampling is the process of selecting a sufficient number of elements from the population. A Sample Design is a definite plan for obtaining a sample from the sampling frame. It refers to the technique or the procedure the researcher would adopt

in selecting some sampling units from which inferences about the population is drawn.

6.3 CONVENIENCE SAMPLING

Convenience sampling (also known as Availability Sampling) is a specific type of non-probability sampling method that relies on data collection from population members who are conveniently available to participate in study.

6.4 SIZE OF THE SAMPLE

The Sample size is **30.**

7.DATA COLLECTION METHOD

7.1 PRIMARY DATA

These are data which are collected for the first time directly by the Researcher for the Specific study undertaken by him. In this research primary data are collected directly from the Respondent by using Questionnaire.

7.2 SECONDARY DATA

These are data which are already collected and used by someone preciously. The data's are collected from journals, magazines and websites.

8.STATISTICAL TOOLS USED

To analyze and interpret collected data the following simple percentage and ranking were used.

8.1 SIMPLE PERCENTAGE AND RANKING

To analyze and interpret collected data the following statistical tools were used.

8.2 HENRY GARRETT RANKING

Garrett's ranking technique to find out the most significant factor which influences the respondent, Garrett's ranking technique was used. As per this method, respondents have been asked to assign the rank for all factors and the outcomes of such ranking have been converted into score value with the help of the following formula:

Percent position = 100 (Rij – 0.5) Nj

Where Rij = Rank given for the ith variable by jth respondents.

Nj= Number of variable ranked by jth respondents.

9 FORMULA

$$\text{Percentage analysis} = \frac{\text{Number of respondents}}{\text{Total number of respondents}} \times 100$$

10.DATA ANALYSIS

PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

The Respondent who participated in the research is from diversified background with gender, age group, marital status and educational qualification.

TABLE 1: DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS TABLE

Details of the respondent		No. of Respondents	Percentage
Gender	Male	29	96.67
	Female	01	3.33
	Total	30	100
Age Group (in Years)	30 – 35 Years	08	26.67
	40 – 45 Years	09	30
	45 – 50 Years	09	30
	Above 50 years	04	13.33
	Total	30	100
Annual Income	1-2 lakhs	10	33.33
	2-3 lakhs	10	33.33
	3-4lakhs	05	16.67
	Above 4 Lakhs	05	16.67
	Total	30	100
Land owned	Below 5 acres	15	50
	5-10 acres	10	33.33
	10-15 acres	04	13.33
	Above 15acres	01	3.34
	Total	30	100

10.1 Interpretation

The participants of respondent in the survey male (96.7) percentage and female (3.3) percentage and the age group of respondent from 30to35 (26.66) percentage and 40to45 (30) percentage 45-50 (30) percentage and above 50years (13.34) percentage and the annual income of respondent from 1-2 lakhs (33.33) percentage 2-3 lakhs (33.3) percentage and 3-4

lakhs (16.67) percentage and above 4 lakhs (16.67) and the land owned of the respondent from below 5 acres (50) percentage and 5-10 acres (33.33) percentage and from 10 -15 acres (13.33) percentage and above15 acres (3.33) percentage.

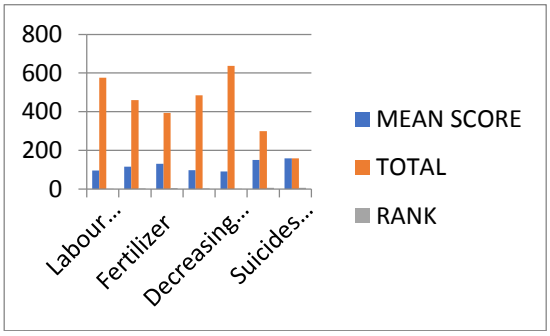
Table: 2
10.2 RANK THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE RESPONDENTS.

S.NO	Problems	Mean Score	Total Score	Rank
1	Labour availability	96	576	2
2	Irrigation	115	460	4
3	Fertilizer	131	393	5
4	Lack of rains affect productivity	97	485	3
5	Decreasing level of ground water	91	637	1
6	Pesticides, quality seeds, are also be provided on subsidy	150	300	6
7	Suicides committing due to increasing loans	158	158	7

10.2 Interpretation

The participants of respondent in the survey the first rank is "Decreasing level of ground water" with total score 637 and the second rank is "Labour availability" with total score 576 and the third rank is "Lack of rains affect the productivity badly" with total score 485 and the fourth rank is "Irrigation" with total score 460 and the fifth rank is "Fertilizer" with total score 393 and the sixth rank is "Pesticides, quality seeds, are also be provided on subsidy" with total score 300 and the seventh rank is "Suicides committing due to increasing loans" with total score 158.

Figure 1.BAR CHART



10.FINDINGS

1." Decreasing level of ground water" is ranked no.1 problem with a total score 637 points.
2." Labour availability" is ranked no.2 problem with a total score 576 points.
3." Lack of rains affect the productivity badly" is ranked no.3 problem with a total score 485 points.

11.SUGGESTIONS

1. Water scarcity, including depleting levels of ground water is a subset of problems associated with climate change and unfortunately both of them are global man-made disasters. To overcome this problem, huge investments in infrastructure as well as institutions are required. As serious as it may sound, there still is time to repair the damage done.
2. The cooperative farming with improved mechanization is also giving a hope to alleviate the labor shortage.
3. The farmers should looking ahead and using the following methods to conserve water like Drip irrigation, capturing and storing water, irrigation scheduling.

13.CONCLUSION

In this conclusion we can conclude that the condition of agricultural workers is not so good in, their living standard and income is very low. To improve the labour working condition, to improve the rural development like better irrigation faculties, water housing etc. For the improve the conditions government should take proper steps for various aspect for agricultural labours, like wage reforms, new methods for agriculture, hours of works, improve the living conditions and overcoming the natural factors.

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