

How to make dry land farming profitable one & farmers economically sound in Washim district of Vidarbha region



*Santosh B. Soni **Dr. Shri H.R.Bhelonde



August, 2011

*Research Scholar: S.R.T.M.U. Nanded (Maharashtra)

** Vice Principal, Reader & H.O.D. Comm. & Management Studies, People's College, Nanded.

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Introduction:-

At present six districts of vidarbha region are declared as farmer's suicide zone area. It includes Washim district also. Farmers are facing various problems in agriculture sector. Presently agriculture becomes unprofitable business. It provides seasonal work and employment to the villagers. In most of the period of year their energy is unused. Geographically Washim district comes under run-of-zone area, most of rain water flows away from district and meets to bay of Bengal & Arabian sea. It results agriculture in washim district to be dry land agriculture. Agriculture in Washim depends purely on rain water from monsoon. So it is called that agriculture is a gambling played with rain water. It results in getting single crop and seasonal employment with uncertain crop, low productivity, high costing. It adversely affecting economical aspects of farmers and villagers to make them bankrupt. It makes farmers and villagers turned towards suicide.

In order to turn down farmers and villagers from suicide stage to economical sound and happy stage. It is necessary to have minute study on rural areas backbone of agriculture business along with the various factors affecting on it. Our research study has gone through all these practical and real multiple aspects along with government policies related to rural and agriculture.

National development = Rural + Urban development.

Objectives of study:-

1) To study the role of dry land agriculture in rural development. 2) Find out remedies on suicide problem in dry land area with the help of various Government schemes. 3) To study the possibilities of becoming economical soundness of dry land rural agriculture sector.

Hypothesis :-

1) Dry land agriculture is having tremendous capacity of productivity and employment generation.
2) Proper planning in rural area can makes India su-

preme power in the world.

Methodology :-

1) Field visit to 150 villages in Washim district randomly 25 villages from each Tahsil. Discussion with various groups related to the field.

2) Actual practical experience in working field.

Agriculture is a backbone of Indian economy. India is a nation of villages & the villages are in the rural area. In India most of things directly or indirectly depends on agriculture. In Washim district there are 789 villages. As per census of 2001 82.50% population of the district is leaving in rural area. It seems that the development of the Washim district is depends on the development of the rural area.

In rural area agriculture and agro based industries, cottage industries are most influencing business for productivity, livelihood employment and economical development of villagers & villages. So why it is necessary to have minute study of agriculture business for the real economical up-lift-ment of farmers, villagers and villages in India which will indirectly makes national development.

Our research study on rural development specifically on agriculture part gone through various real aspects of present farming system, government schemes and policies and find out remedies for real low costing, high productivity & profitability in agriculture business, along with annual and ample employment generation in rural masses in vidarbha region specifically in Washim district. Though the study is related to Washim district but the findings & remedies are useful for the development of national agriculture, considering with some slight changes in a dry land farming area also.

Conclusions and recommendation :-

Our study reveals various ways to overcome all these adverse problems have 100% irrigation to 100% rainwater storage, have annual multiple crops and annual employment in rural area. Agriculture with low cost, high productivity & profitability, incentive to agro based cottage industries will become boon to farmers. It will make farmers, villagers in the area economically sound, happy and turned them from suicide stage to happy life

living phase. Our study reveals that following important techniques must be adopted. for low cost farming, high productivity and high profitability with ample employment generation in the rural area.

1) To prepare cropping plan for each village considering fertility of land, weather, availability of irrigation facility, demand of market, availability of labour etc. with scientific and realistic study, discussion with technical experts and local farmers. To give basic information & guidance to farmers considering farmers experience and local factors best cropping plan is to be prepared, implemented, reviewed and control regularly.

2) Use of certified seed... To give motivation to village seed programme under the guidance of technical experts of agriculture field. Try to prepare own seed from own farm which will reduce input cost and give assurance about quality of seed.

3) Ample use of organic fertilizer for maintaining & increasing fertility of land. Use of vermiculture, prepare vermiculture on own farm and avoid huge expenditure on chemical fertilizers.

4) Use of drip & sprinkler for irrigation in order to have a optimum utility of available resources of water in maximum area of land for multiple crops to increase productivity, profitability & reduction in costing.

5) Efforts should be taken to store each drop of rainwater by preparing master plan for irrigation. By way of small, medium dams, village tanks, percolation tanks, kolhapuri bandhara, check dams, vanrai bandhara, farm ponds, use of watershade techniques. Taking into consideration the technical feasibility of site situation suitable project is to be implemented. It will help to have 100% success in water storing fully in area, it will help to make maximum land irrigated and possible to have 3 crops instead of only one as at present.

6) Implementation of water shade development programme correctly at each feasible site. 7) Regular technical guidance to farmers by government expertise in the field to each farmer. 8) To give correct guidance regularly to farmers about crops having demand in market 9) Have research activities on large scale for increasing productivity with same available resources.

10) To take intercrop where second crop is not possible. 11) Seed testing must be done by government agencies of each farmers who prepares own seeds. 12) Training to farmers for seed production, vermiculture unit, seed processing, techniques of using new equipments, of harvesting, processing, storage, marketing etc. 13) Supporting self employment generating programme

should be framed by government based and related to agro based industries like silk farming, farm pond, dairy, fishery, horticulture, floriculture, honeybee keeping, through taking financial benefit of governments schemes. 14) Declaring assured minimum prices as per standard costing with considering reasonable profit portion. Assurity for purchasing agricultural products at assured prices from farmers will make market assurity and assured income. 15) Motivation for multi cropping system to farmers. 16) Tree plantation on barren land, on bandhs taking help through social forestry department on 100% grant basis. It will help to have income in long term. While keeping environmental balance and stop erosion of land. 17) Dryland trees plantation like Ber, Aonla, Tamarind, Bhilawa, charoli, sitafal etc. through government, horticulture schemes will give regular income and employment without any cost. 18) Use of Gobar gas, solar system with government subsidies helps to reduce regular household expenditure and also helps to stop unnecessary cutting of trees for fuel and keeping environment free from pollution. 19) Tree plantation on bandhs lemon sitafal flowers, teak, medicinal plants, etc; which will give additional source of income without incurring cost.

20) To have ample storage facilities for avoiding losses in wastage of grain & taking real benefit of market prices. 21) To arrange farmers tours in successful areas for their diversion of mind and motivation towards diversification of farming from traditional system 22) To have workshop and group discussion of farmers and experts on common issues like crop situation, diseases, remedies, marketing etc. 23) Use of local skill in agriculture supporting business and with research reduce labour costing in farm 24) Government should give special emphasis on employment and self employment oriented activities like agro based industries, cottage industries and co-related business. It will provide annual employment to family members which will give regular earning to family & have proper utilisation of energy manpower and available local resources in rural area. 25) Motivation to agro tourism and silk farming on large scale. 26) Formation of farmers self help groups for purchasing input & selling out put in economical & profitable way. 27) Use of organically insect control system. Will reduce heavy cost on insecticides. 28) Instead of canal system use plastic pipes for moving water form dam to farm. It will avoid huge losses of percolation & evaporation. Such saved water can use for bringing more land under irrigation.

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1. District economical and statistical analysis of Washim District by statistical office Washim. 2. Own experiences in actually field visit and discussion with all concerns. 3. Library related to agriculture, News papers etc. 4. Various Government of Maharashtra Agriculture and animal husbandry departments G.R. and guide lines.