



VOLUME No. - 50; Issue 2 of 2017

JOURNAL OF SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY

(HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES)

(Double blind and peer reviewed)

SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR

ISSN : 0368-4199



JOURNAL OF SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY

(Humanities and Social Sciences)

ISSN: 0368-4199

VOLUME No. - 50; Issue No. 2 of 2017

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VOL. No.
50



Issue No. 2
of 2017

SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY

KOLHAPUR – 416004 (INDIA)

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© SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR
ISSN: 0368-4199

Published by:

Dr. V. D. Nandavadekar
Registrar,
Shivaji University Kolhapur.

Printed by:

Press Superintendent,
Shivaji University Press,
KOLHAPUR – 416 004.

Year of Publication: October, 2018

(The Managing Editor, on behalf of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Shivaji University (Humanities and Social Sciences) Volume No. - 50; Issue No. - 2 of 2017, wishes to express his thanks to the contributing authors and the experts for acting as referees for the papers included in this volume.)

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1. FARMERS SUICIDES IN MAHARASHTRA, 2001-2018: MEASUREMENT AND INTERPRETATION ACROSS DISTRICTS OF MARATHWADA AND VIDARBHA REGION OF THE STATE

Dr. Dnyandev C. Talule¹

Abstract:

The present paper is a precursor to our larger canvas study on farmers' suicides in Marathwada and Vidarbha region of the state of Maharashtra. It intends to conduct a census study on farmers' suicides of two most affected districts respectively the Usmanabad and Yavatmal from these two regions which is covering the period from Jan 2014 to Dec. 2017. The present paper is based on the district level data of farmers' suicides from Marathwada and Vidarbha regions of Maharashtra. Data spans for over a period between Jan. 2001 and July 2018. It estimates the district wise suicide mortality rates both for the eligible and non-eligible farmers' suicides across eighteen districts of these two regions. Marathwada and Vidarbha are known as most affected regions of farmers' suicides not only in the state but also at the all India level. Mainly the data are sourced in from divisional commission rate records respectively the Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur. These suicide records that come in from respective district police records go to the SCRB maintained by the CID headquarter then onwards form the source of NCRB data on suicides. The data are for about two decades from Jan. 2001 to July 2018. Annual suicide mortality rates for the categories of total, eligible and non-eligible farmers suicides are computed based on the per lac cultivator population obtained from the respective census of 2001 and 2011. For the number of cultivators the information used is from population census and not from the agricultural census that gives the number of operational holdings as there can be multiple operational holdings in the name of one cultivator or one unit of operational holding may also be operated by more than one cultivator. Hence the use of cultivator data from agricultural census is avoided. Also the census data bifurcate between the cultivators and agricultural labourers which in Indian rural set-up are two distinct categories which cannot be clubbed together. Therefore the census data on number of cultivators appear more realistic than the agricultural census data. The issue of eligible and non-eligible categorization of farmers' suicides in Maharashtra is purely an administrative one. State gives an ex-gratia amount of rupees one lac to a family of a deceased. And if a deceased farmer didn't have 7/12 abstract in his/her name; a revenue department record entitling the presumptive ownership of land is not termed as a farmer by the state administrative machinery. Thus the family of a deceased farmer does not stand eligible for an ex-gratia amount of rupees one lac and the suicide is termed as non-eligible farmers' suicide. Presumptively such deceased person does not stand as a farmer. Therefore the substantial portion of total farmers' suicides in the state is categorized as ineligible farmers' suicides. This, besides the social tendency of Indian people due to the social shame or for other reasons of not reporting the act of suicide that leads to the underreporting of suicides which further underreports the farmers' suicides in Maharashtra. Another complexity of trend analysis both for the farmers and non-farmers suicides is that it is neither appropriate nor relevant because one; as the suicides in India are underreported and two; if one were to agree with the view that the cultivator population provided by the census is an overestimation then it implies that farmers suicide rates in the country would be underestimates (Mishra 2014).

Keywords: Farmers' suicides, agricultural labour, agricultural productivity, mortality rate, cultivators

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I. INTRODUCTION:

For over a period of more than last two decades, the suicides by farming community in the country have become a worrying concern. The states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have become the hotspots of farmers' suicides at all India level. The issue of farmers' suicides in country has led to a discourse mainly an academic exercise and least the public policy to attempting to arrest the magnitude of the same. By now it is clear that the suicide by farmers is a complex phenomenon which is easy to quantify but difficult to decode the reasons so as to end the apathy. It is estimated that the years of life lost on account of suicide for a period between 1990 and 2010 has increased by 12 per cent and for the same the rank of India moved up from twentieth to eighth (Srijit Mishra 2014). As per the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) estimate of 2010 India accounts for 35.6 per cent of the global years of life lost on account of suicides (Ibid). It is more than double of its global population share. In India the data on suicides is collected and reported by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Information compiled by the police stations goes to the respective State Crime Records Bureau (SCRB/CID) and then to the NCRB which forms the source of the national level information. But in India what is reported by the NCRB is half of the GBD estimate. Srijit Mishra links such poor investigation with the Indian Penal Code (IPC) holding suicide as a criminal act or society to avoid the shame or for other reasons. Suicides by cultivators and agricultural labourers cannot be clubbed together. Neither the suicides by these two categories can be combined and termed as farmers suicides. Because in India the cultivators and agricultural labourers are distinctly two different groups in its rural population suicides by cultivators do include that of the suicides by agricultural workers. To address the problem of small population groups in Europe and North America the suicide rates are computed for 'farm population' that includes farm owners and workers (Ibid). But in the Indian context cultivators and agricultural labourers being two distinctly large population groups they cannot be clubbed together. Besides economic this also has a social angle. Another vital complexity of estimating farmers' suicides in India is that in the states like Maharashtra a large number of farmers suicides are categorized as ineligible suicides. The classification as eligible and ineligible farmers' suicides has a significant connotation especially when it comes to processing the suicide case for state compensation for rupees one lac that is an ex-gratia given by the state to the family of a deceased. Farmer one who commits suicide but does not have the 7/12 abstract; a revenue department record stating the presumptive title of land ownership is not deemed eligible to be treated as farmer. In Maharashtra the proportion of such cases is one of the highest. Farmers Suicide rates in India are grossly underestimated. It is mainly due to the overestimation of cultivator population and the underestimated suicide data by the reporting mechanism and the social stigma. This has further accentuated by categorizing it as an ineligible farmer suicide in a state like Maharashtra.

II. DATA, SOURCES AND METHODS:

Village level information on suicide is registered at the nearest police station. This is through an FIR. The same is consolidated at the divisional commissioner office. From there the divisional commissioner office sends the district wise information to the State Crime Records Bureau (SCRB); a separate department at the state Crime Investigation Department

(CID) at its headquarters. For Maharashtra it is located at Pune from where the information goes to the NCRB. Since 1995 NCRB compiles the data on profession wise suicides by sex across states in the country. Among professions for those self-employed in cultivation and those who are owner or tenant cultivators but are not agricultural labourers are termed as farmers. This for computing the suicide mortality rates is normalized with an equivalent population category obtained by combining the main and marginal category of workers in the census. Mainly the district census abstracts. These are used to compute suicide deaths per one lac (Suicide Mortality Rate) cultivator population from Jan. 2001 to July 2018 (Respectively the data for Aurangabad division are up to July 2018, for Amravati are up to March 2018 and for Nagpur are up to June 2018. The total of Illegible and Ineligible suicide cases comes less than the total suicide cases because the enquiry of rest of the cases is pending. But for computing the SMR we have taken into account the total farmer suicide cases and not just the total of eligible and ineligible suicide cases.). This is for across eighteen districts of Marathwada and Vidarbha region in the state. The data for eighteen districts of these two regions is obtained from the respective divisional commission rate of Aurangabad for Marathwada and Amravati and Nagpur for Vidarbha region. For rest of the districts, the data used are from SCRB while for all India and major suicide states the data used are from NCRB records. Looking at the local to national channel of suicide information broadly the source for entire data sets is of NCRB.

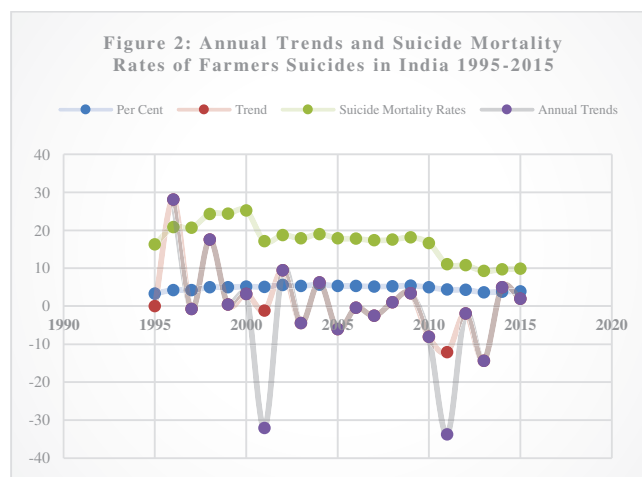
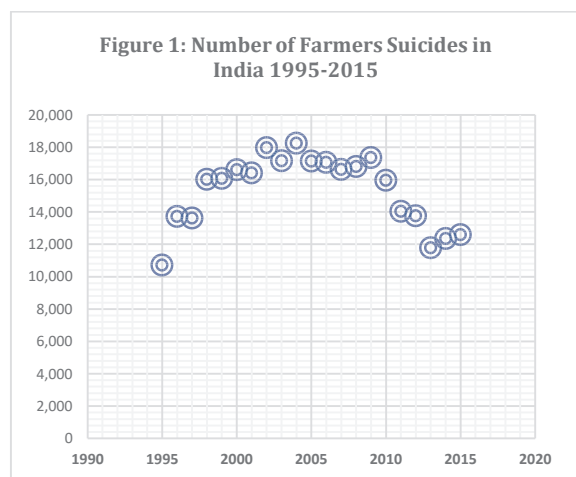
III. REVIEW AND CONTEXT:

On account of farmer suicides the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have been hitting the headlines for about last two decades while the states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have joined the rank in last few years. Besides the crop failures accruing to the bad weather and erratic monsoon the rising cost of cultivation and drastic price fall during glut are frequently experienced across these states (Mohanty and Shroff 2004). In recent past the glut that made prices to slide much below the MSP in Maharashtra was evident in 2016. At all India level on an average the farmers receive a meager share of 32.50 per cent (ranging from 20 to 45 per cent) in the consumer's rupee paid for most commodities. The reduced margin realized by farmers from market continues to be the cause of widespread indebtedness and farm suicides in the country (Narayanamoorthy 2018). Many studies in past have been undertaken in these affected states. Even though the crop failure leading to an indebtedness happens to be the major cause for farmer suicides at the ground level (Shiva and Jafri, 1998; Deshpande, 2002), politico economic issues such as the decline in rural and agricultural investments, market imperfections, infrastructure and mechanism handling price falls blame the state for tragedies (Assadi 1998; Revathy 1998; Vasavi 1999; Mohankumar and Sarma 2006). While many studies in these three states have attributed farm suicides to the cotton cultivation (Prasad 1999) others attribute the cotton to the increase in cost of cultivation mainly on account of IPM consumption by the cotton crop and seeds and fertilizer prices. This is mainly on account of the unprecedented requirements of IPM in cultivation of the crop and state specific seed price difference (Vaidyanathan 2006). Invariably the cotton cultivators have resorted to cultivating of Bt varieties propagated for more yield but the crop performance of these varieties crucially determined by the availability, adequacy and reliability of irrigation. In a state like Gujarat the Bt cotton is cultivated under irrigated

conditions with an access to indigenously developed new varieties of seeds at a much lower price than the varieties developed and propagated by the MNCs in Maharashtra (Ibid). Post liberalization, there happened to be the secular increase in imports of cotton and the prices of the crop in the world market have been falling steadily while the increase in input prices multiplied the cost of cultivation. Most of the cotton farming of Vidarbha and Marathwada fall under rainfed conditions and the seed prices are much higher than the neighboring state of Gujarat. In 2016 cotton farmers of both these region had faced a severe pink bollworm attack that destroyed almost the entire crop season. More than sixty lac acres of crop spread was abandoned due to the face Bt seeds supplied by the private seed companies in 2016 which succumbed to bollworms. Farmers uprooted the standing crops and burnt them. By the time state agricultural department people arrived for *panchanama*(survey) for state compensation in most of the cases there were no standing crops and thereby many farmers got automatically excluded from the beneficiary list.Or many had to pay the bribe to these state people for survey and recording the crop acerage. Mainly these cultivators are small and marginal holders and face the unavailability of irrigation water with associated uncertainty in cash crops like cotton (Mishra 2006). Now it is not only the cotton that is causing the negative returns to these farmers. During last (2017) *rabbi* season there was a bumper produce of Channa, Soybeans and Tur in Marathwada. Naturally the prices rocked bottom. But there was no state procurement in place.By the time farmers agitated and as a result of typical delayed state response the mechanism was in place it was too late and much of the crop was already bought by the local traders. Obviously at the price below the MSP and those who were left were exposed to the corruption and exploitation of market bureaucracy. One way it is true that the suicides by farmers are not the outcome of poverty. It is an outcome of disillusionment mainly due to a gap between the expected and resultant returns from cultivation. The reasons for such gap range from natural calamities to the deliberate manmade attempts like the marketplace corruption and the politico economic negligence.This makes suicide a complex and multifaceted phenomena. It has become equally difficult to analyze and to arrive at a concrete conclusion and to ascertaininga definite cause for the same. Almost every study in the past has revealed that about half of the farmers in the respective study region were in debt (Suri 2016; Talule 2011). 96.72 per cent of the suicide affected farmer households had strictly used their credit money for productive purposes (Talule 2013) which disqualifies the argument of misuse of credit money by them.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

By any development parameter and the right to livelihood; suicide by 3.22 lac Indian farmers in last two decades is not a small number. The socio economic risk factors that precipitated during the reforms period need to be identified. Owing to the development paradigm without human face and non-recognition of right to livelihood leads to the overall agrarian crisis in the country that precipitated in suicides by farmers.

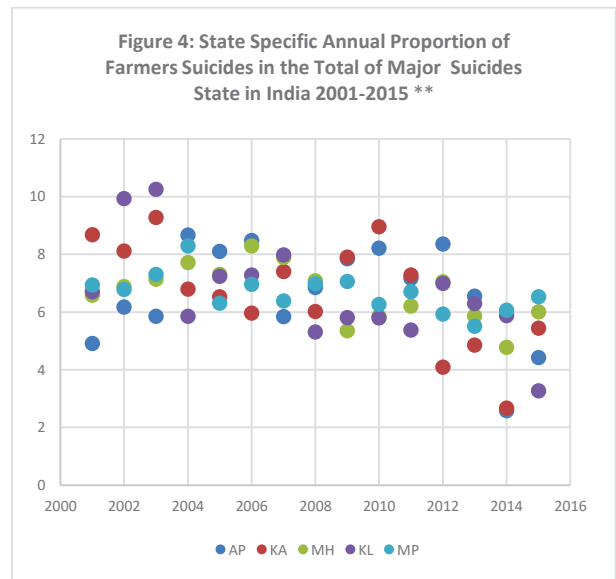
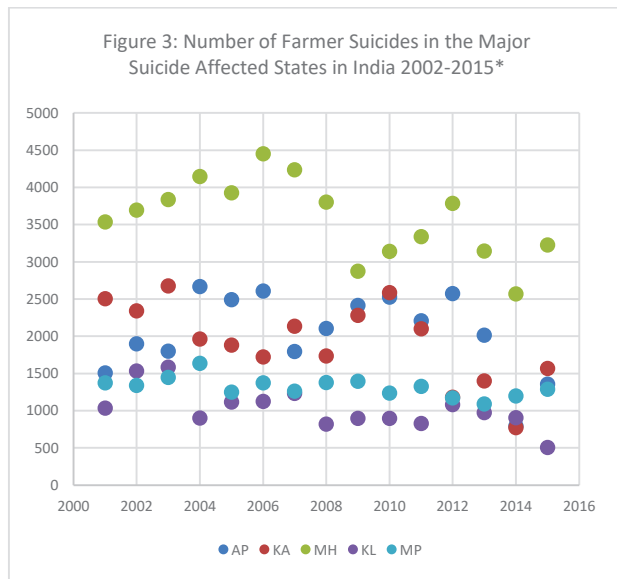


Source: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for Years and Author's Calculations based on relevant data from NCRB for years.

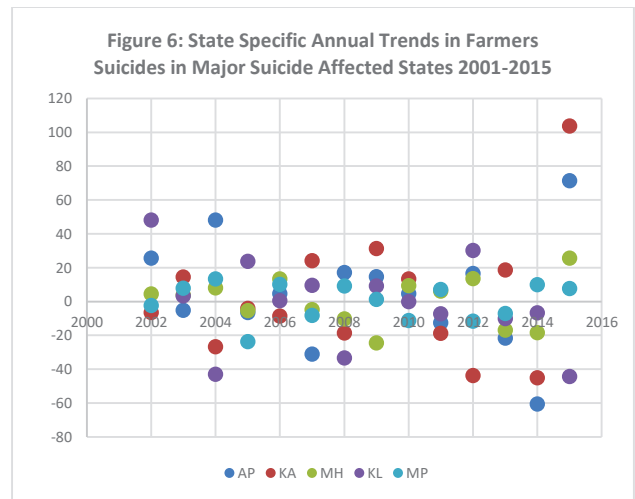
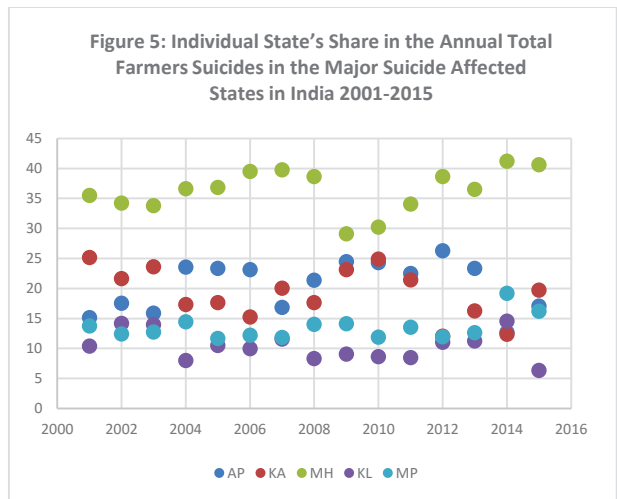
In fact the NCRB started recording profession wise suicide data since 1995. But the paucity of information prior to this limits the discourse and understanding about the problem. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh rocked the suicide list at all India level. On an average 63.13 out of all India suicides by farmers are reported from these five states. Other states fall in line; are Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Chhattisgarh is a bordering state of Vidarbha. A common thread across all these states is that there has been a steady decline in the agricultural outlays and the states are known for their development efforts in past. For example in Karnataka it saddled down to 31 per cent in the ninth five year plan (1997-2002) from 48 per cent in the first five year plan (Deshpande 2002).

Extent of the Problem in Maharashtra:

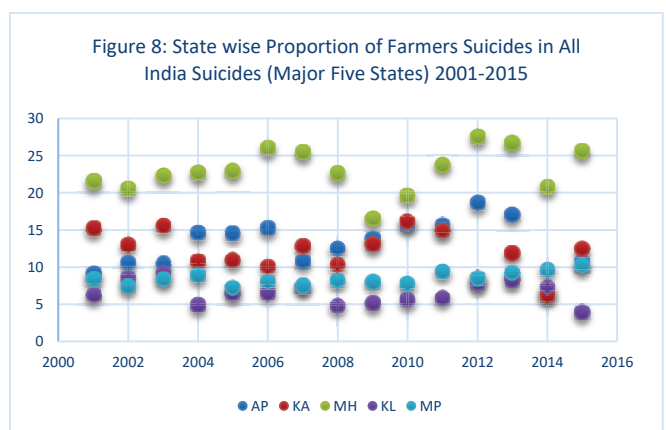
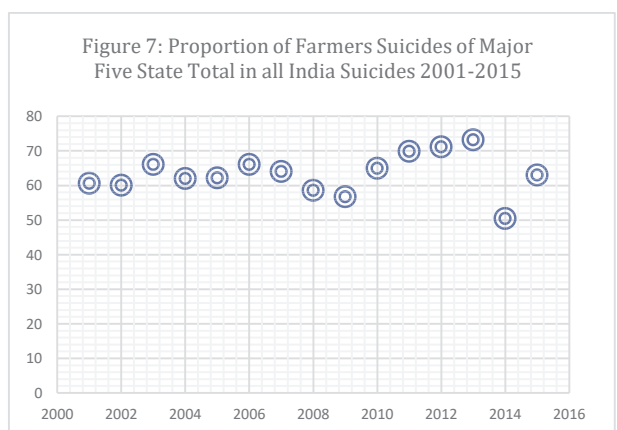
Agricultural economy of Maharashtra is a typical combination of vast drought prone areas. About twenty thousand villages across twenty districts of the state are always drought stricken. Most of these belong to Marathwada and Vidarbha region. Almost after every five years there is a reoccurrence of drought in the state. Vast tracts of cultivable lands are un-irrigated. Hence the cultivation is vulnerable to drought. One needs not to repeat the reality of state irrigation cover which is less than the half of national average. This coexists with regions having assured irrigation such as the western Maharashtra. Farmers of the state have in past and continue to face frequent distress conditions owing to the drought and erratic monsoon. One can observe the inverse relation between the monsoon and the number of suicides by the state farming community. These conditions are more common in Marathwada and western Vidarbha districts.



Source: *National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for Years **Author's Calculations based on relevant data from NCRB for years.

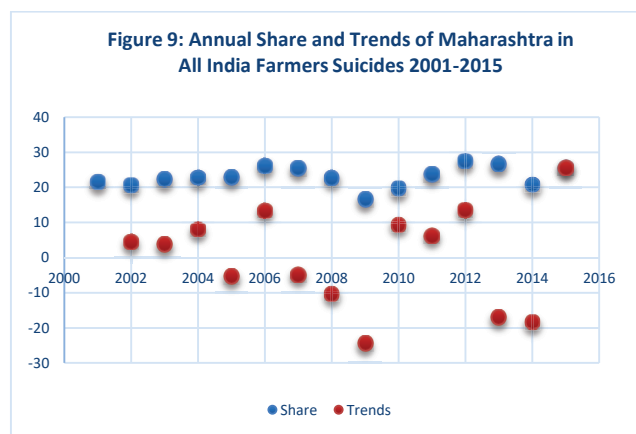


Source: Author's calculations based on the data of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for Years



Source: Author's calculations based on the data of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for Years

Note: AP=Andhra Pradesh, KA=Karnataka, MH=Maharashtra, KL=Kerala, MP=Madhya Pradesh



Source: Author's calculations based on the data of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for Years

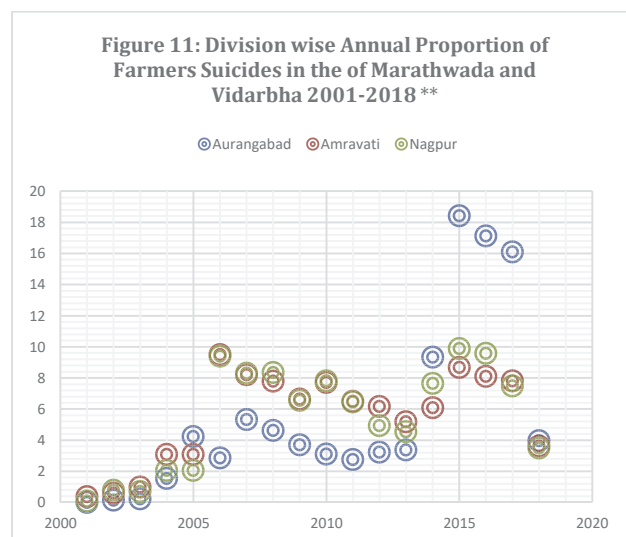
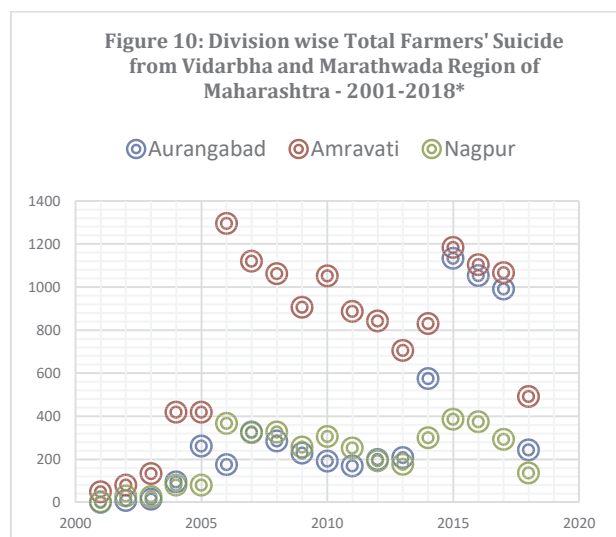
Often the crops like Bt cotton are lost due to the fake seeds and IPM devices and inadequate irrigation facilities. One learns about the fake seeds only when the crop is fully grown but does not yield or blossom and the entire cost is already incurred. Crop does not yield as expected or it is fully lost. Bt cotton was supposed to be the bollworm resistant but now it has become susceptible to the disease. It was evident in 2016. This falters the farmers' expectations about yield and income flow and leaves them under financial stress (Deshpande 2002). Maharashtra accounts for about 90 per cent of the cotton area and. In 2016 thousands of fake Bt seed bags were sold in the market. The crop grown was proved to be susceptible to bollworms. Almost every cotton-boll was affected by bollworm. There were complaints from districts of Beed and Jalna in Marathwada and from western Vidarbha districts known for cotton cultivation. State banned the Mahyco a seed company from selling its 12 varieties of Bt for allegedly false information on seed supply during the *Khariff* of 2016. But by this on account of fake seed procurement from the market the farmers had lost their crops and incurred losses. Bringing marginal lands under cultivation also put pressure on inputs and farm practices. Last year when there was a bumper crop of Channa in Marathwada like one that for Tur and Soybeans in 2016 and the market prices of crops nosedived but the procurement mechanism was not in place. By the time it was there most of the produce was already sold to the traders at price below the MSP. Owing to the absence of handling mechanism at APMCs like in Usmanabad in Marathwada the farmers had to wait for days and weeks for their turn to come. This was the case of all other APMCs across Marathwada in 2016. Owing to such waiting farmers had experienced the corruption by crop graders and handlers. Crop like Bt yield more under irrigated conditions but the penetration of it in the state is mere 18 per cent one that is half the national average. Most of the irrigation water is used by predatory farming community of sugarcane cultivation from western Maharashtra. Geographically the sugarcane cultivation areas belong to the upstream riverine of Marathwada and they being politically dominant resist the release of water to downstream Marathwada dams like the one Jayakwadi at Paithan near Aurangabad termed as the lifeline of the entire region. 65 per cent of the state irrigation water is used for 3 per cent of the GCA under sugarcane. Despite huge potential for Vidarbha the gap between the potential and attainment of irrigation is one of the largest. In short unlike Gujarat the Bt cultivation in both the cotton predominant regions of the state cannot be profitable. The districts of Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Washim and Wardha in western Vidarbha have become hotspots of farmers' suicides in last two decades. These are known as the districts of white gold in Vidarbha. Marathwada and Vidarbha also record one of the lowest HDI in the state. Development backlog brought out by the Fact Finding Committee in 1984 (Dandekar Committee) persists in the High Power Committee report in 2013 (Kelkar 2013). Most striking fact is that the number of suicide cases from tribal districts of both the regions is almost negligible. These are the districts of western Vidarbha and Washim from

Marathwada. It means that the less dependent on cash crops like cotton have least inclination and pushing to committing suicide. Now while after Vidarbha the other parts of the state have fallen in line is the region of Marathwada ranks second after Vidarbha followed by western Marathwada. Beed district in Marathwada with most of its agriculture being in arid zone tops the rank in suicide cases in the region. This is for a period from 2001 to July 2018. In Marathwada there was a sudden spurt in farmers' suicide cases in 2014 which continued afterwards in all other districts of the region. The year 2014 was a drought year and in 2015 and 2016 there was a bumper crop of Tur. Price nosedived and no procurement mechanism was in place. Once again the farmers incurred losses. This year also (2018) the drought in Marathwada and Vidarbha is one of the most severe. For Vidarbha the increase in number of suicide cases was witnessed in 2014 but the trend for eighteen years spanning between 2001 and 2018 remains almost the constant.

Suicide Trends in Marathwada and Vidarbha:

Profile of Regions:

Marathwada and Vidarbha together account for 52.31 per cent (20.99 and 31.32 per cent respectively) of the total state area with a combine share in state population of 41.76 per cent (18.74 and 23.02 per cent). Besides 27.84 per cent (2.42 and 25.42 per cent) of the state tribal population, 33.87 per cent of state's total drought stricken population also lives in these two regions (7.21 and 26.66 per cent). Such characteristics of Marathwada and Vidarbha need special attention on the region specific development which when compared to rest of the state shows a huge backlog. All sectors taken together the development deficit for Marathwada stands at 20.16 per cent while the same for Vidarbha it is 48.30 per cent. While 26.60 per cent of the SGDP of Maharashtra is contributed together by Marathwada and Vidarbha (10.10 and 16.00 per cent) respectively the SGDP per capita of these regions is 40824 and 52282 rupees. Respectively 73.83 and 75.51 per cent of the population of regions for employment and livelihood depend on agriculture. But the irrigation cover of both these regions is confined to 14.08 and 12.82 per cent. This is far below the state average of 18 per cent which already is half of the national average of 38 per cent. While the development gap for Marathwada is 37.27 per cent the same for Vidarbha it is 38.83 per cent. This is when compared to rest of the Maharashtra (Mitra and Shroff 2007; Kelkar 2013). With such a macro economic status predominantly the farmers of both the regions rely on cash crops like Bt cotton, Soya beans and Tur. Most of the GCA under these crops is rain fed. As in cotton cultivation the predominance is on Bt varieties and yield is irrigation determined unlike Gujarat the cultivation under irrigated conditions is almost impossible in both these regions. Public extension services and institutional mechanism in both the regions have a least presence or failed to alert farmers about high risk involved in cultivating Bt cotton under rainfed conditions (Vaidyanathan 2006). Such agro economic conditions tend to act as multiple reasons for precipitating the agrarian crisis in these regions and highest number of suicides by the farming community.

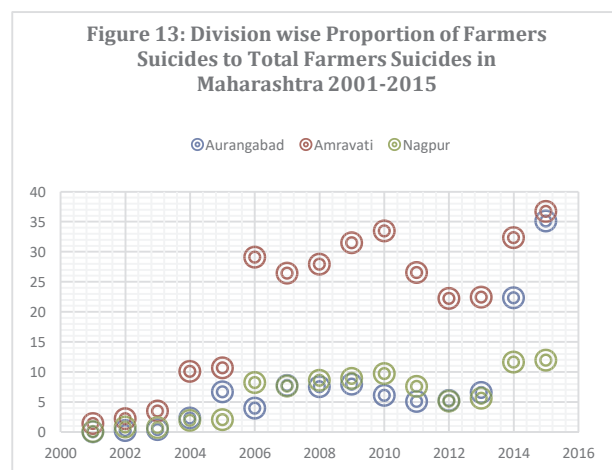
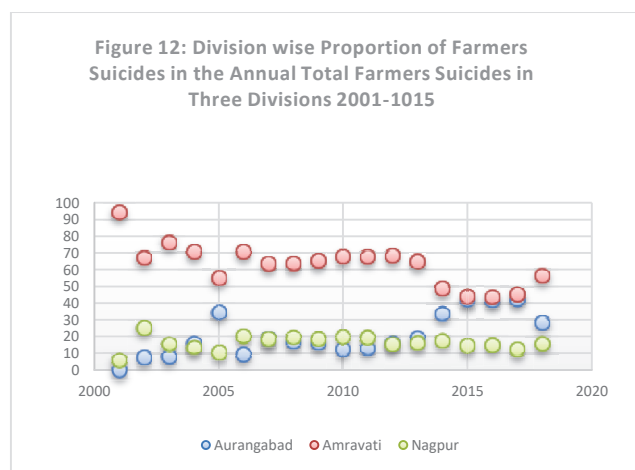


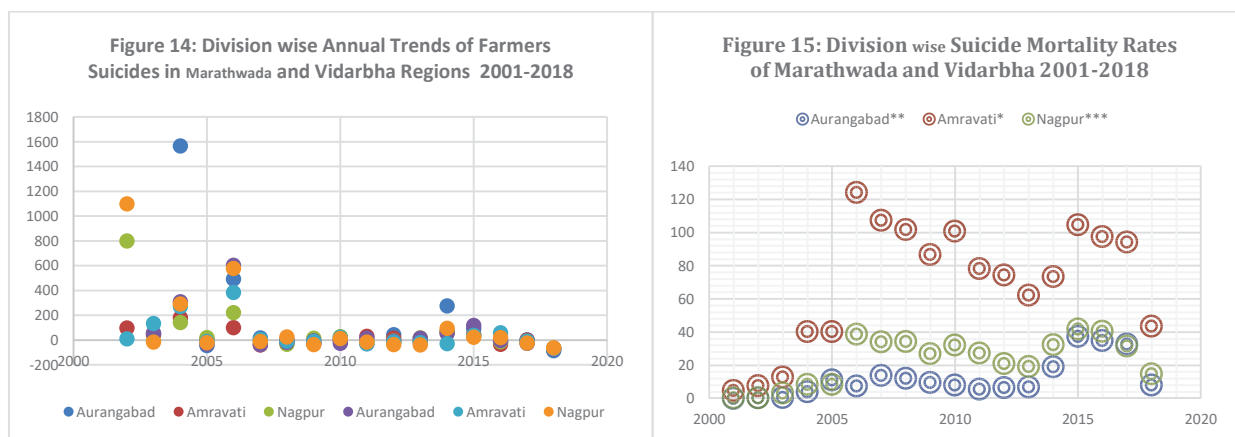
Source:*Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

** Author's calculations based on the data of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for Years

Suicide Trends:

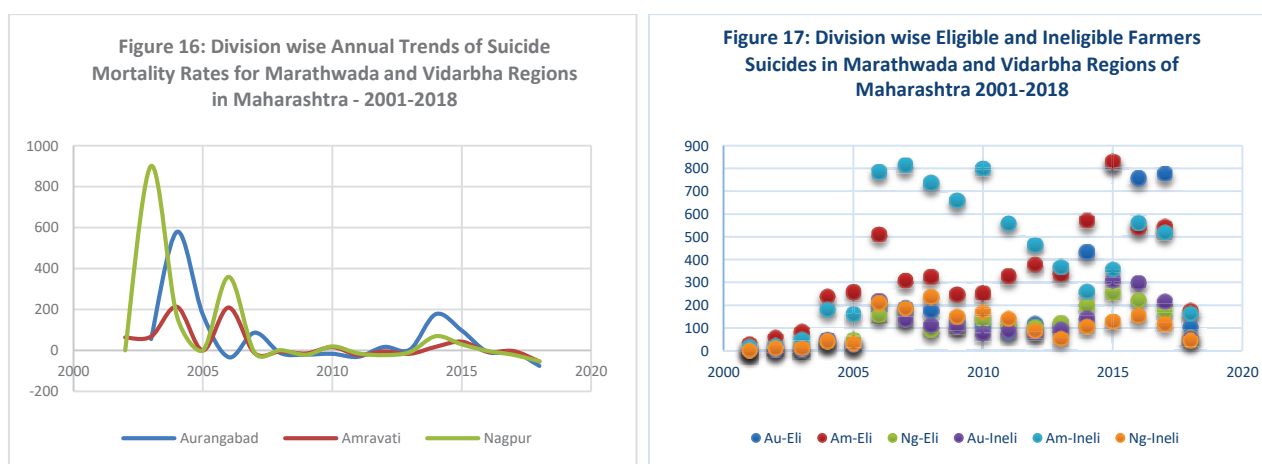
A total of 23701 farmers from the two regions of Marathwada and Vidarbha have ended their life through suicide. This is for a period between Jan. 2001 and July 2018. Agriculturally both these regions are water starved. While for irrigation Marathwada depends on the upstream riverine western Maharashtra to release water at the dams located in the downstream river flows of Marathwada, Vidarbha's irrigation potential remains vastly unattained. The gap between the irrigation potential and attainment is one of the largest. Therefore often when the monsoon fails and there is drought the death toll of suicide increases. Year 2014 was a drought year in Maharashtra.





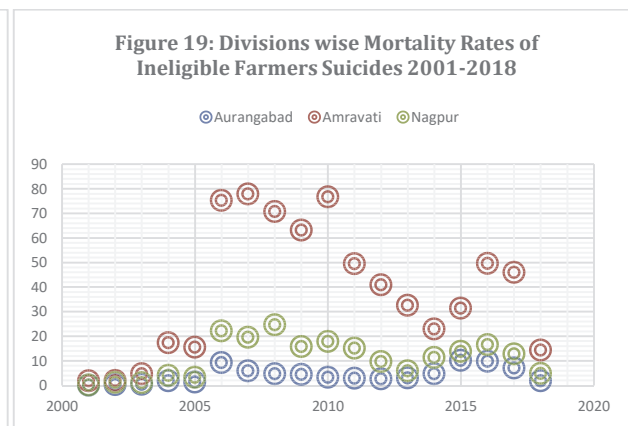
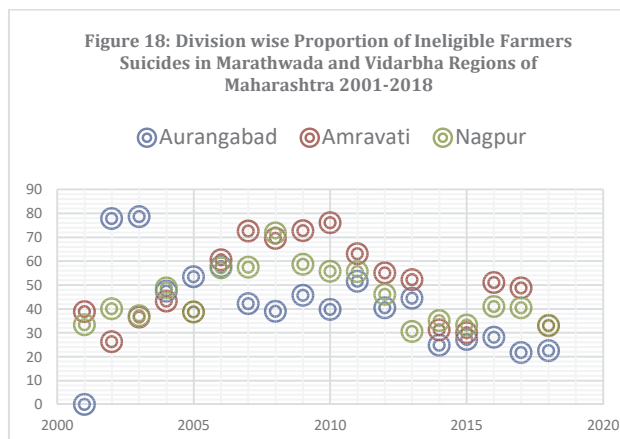
Source: Author's calculations based on the data of Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

Many rural families from these two regions of Marathwada and Vidarbha migrated to urban areas for water and temporary employment took asylum on the footpaths of Pune and Mumbai who were using the public taps and hand pumps for water. Back in the villages they had sold almost every cattle owing to no fodder and water. The number of suicides had increased in both the regions during 2014 and continued then after. Because post the 2014 there was a crop failure due to fake Bt seeds followed by a glut of Tur, Soya beans and Channa in 2016 that rock bottomed the prices. Consistently it was a crisis period in the state agriculture. Now the fear of drought in this year (2018) is back. This was coupled with the pink bollworm attack on cotton that destroyed huge tracts of crops across both the regions. Almost every plant on the field was spoilt by bollworms. Erratic monsoon of 2014 and the fake Bt seeds followed by glut and price diving in 2016 produced a multiple triennium agrarian crisis which was across vast tracts of the state that ultimately covered both these regions.

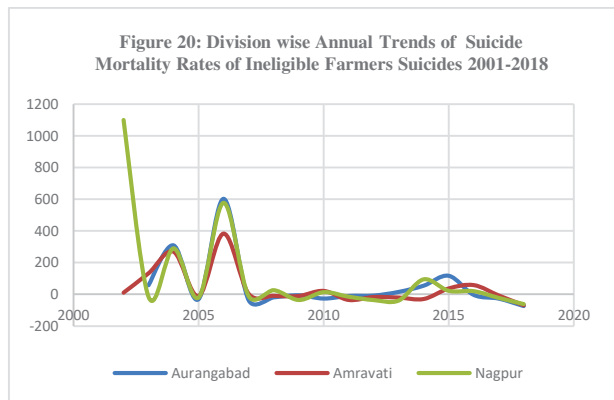


Source: Author's calculations based on the data of Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

Note: Au=Aurangabad, Am=Amravati, Ng=Nagpur



Source: Author's calculations based on the data of Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur



Source: Author's calculations based on the data of Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

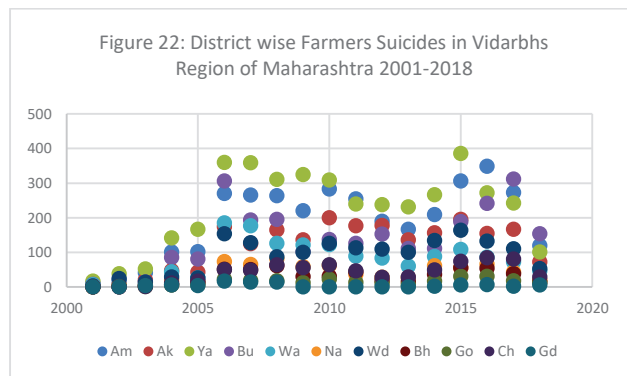
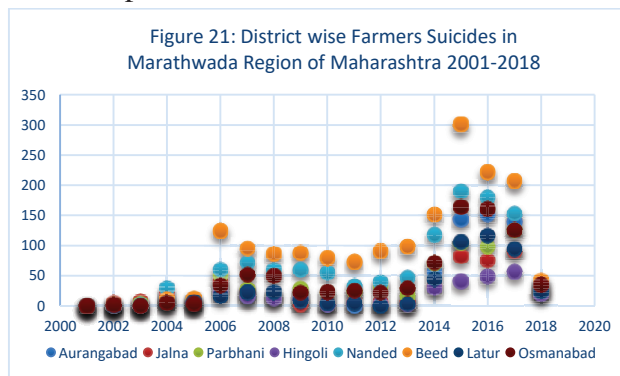
There is no question of plateauing of land yield levels either in Marathwada or Vidarbha which have so far never attained the national average for crops. Availability of nonfarm employment is a distant dream in both the regions. Another part of the country with which the agrarian situation of these two regions is comparable is Bundelkhand in central India where every drop of water is a luxury where the Hindi say goes as; '*Bund Bund Bundelkhand*'.

The farm crisis of 2014-2016 had two dimensions. One that the absence of drought mitigation mechanism and two the issues of market failure and lack of timely state intervention and putting in place the procurement system. Result is that the farmers have to sell at prices 10 to 15 per cent below the MSP. Agricultural development and livelihood concern of farmers are interdependent dimensions of rural livelihood. When first is not met with the negative outcome on second is given certainty. All these aspects are applicable to Marathwada and Vidarbha in their entirety. Therefore as long as these complexities are not addressed to the answer to the problem would be as good as; 'no light at the end of the tunnel'.

District Specific Scenario in Marathwada and Vidarbha:

Barring exception most of the districts both from the Marathwada and Vidarbha face acute water shortage. Mainly these are Beed, Nanded and Usmanabad in Marathwada and Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Washim and Wardha respectively from western Vidarbha. Comparatively the number of suicide cases is also more from these districts. Most of the agriculture of Beed and Nanded district in Marathwada is rainfed. Large flocks of cane harvesting workers migrate to the rest of the Maharashtra and Karnataka hail from these two districts. Land, weather, irrigation and monsoon conditions of Beed are like Bundelkhand in Central India. Rural connectivity is one of the weakest. And cropping pattern is dominated by cotton which needs assured water supply while it is a distant dream. In Marathwada we find the lowest number of suicide cases from Hingoli the tribal district carved out from Nanded. Identical pattern is observed from Gadchiroli, Gondia and Bhandara the tribal belt of eastern Vidarbha where the dependence on commercial cultivation is least. Exact opposite is the

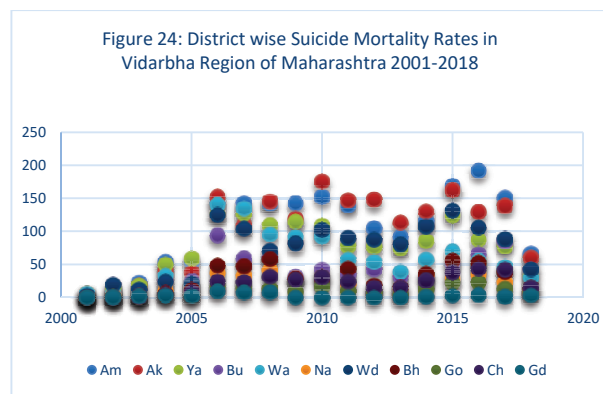
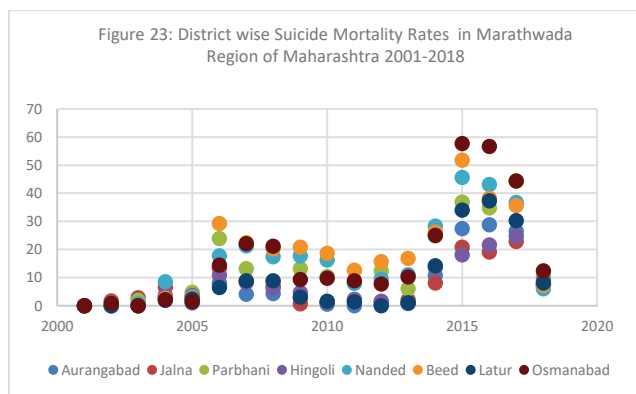
picture of western Vidarbha districts of Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Washim and Wardha. The entire region is known for cotton cultivation with the predominance of Bt varieties post its introduction in the late 1990s.



Source: Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

Note: Am=Amravati, Ak=Akola, Ya=Yavatmal, Bu=Buldhana, Wa=Washim, Na=Nagpur, Wd=Wardha, Bh=Bhandara, Go=Gondia, Ch=Chandrapur, Gd=Gadchiroli

After 2008 debt waiver visibly the death toll on account of suicides had declined. But in the immediate aftermath by 2012 again there was a spurt in the cases of farmers' suicides. District of Yavatmal witnessed the highest number of cases in Maharashtra. Year 2014 was a drought year in Maharashtra when the suicide cases across districts had increased. On account of fake Bt seeds in 2015 the farmers of both these regions had lost most of their crops and this crisis was further aggravated by the glut in 2016. State farmers then had experienced an unprecedented absence of state intervention and procurement mechanism. Cotton has predominance in the cropping pattern of Beed, Nanded and Usmanabad in Marathwada and the western Vidarbha districts where irrigation is one of the weakest. In cropping pattern of these districts the Bt varieties have a strong demonstration effect. In Gujarat where the Bt varieties are indigenously developed, the seeds are available at lower rates than Maharashtra and are cultivated under irrigated conditions obviously yield more which benefit the farmers there. Contrary to this in Maharashtra for Bt seeds the farmers depend on varieties developed and propagated by the MNCs which cost more. Most often the cotton crops are lost on account of fake seeds, bollworms and water shortage. This makes the crisis more complex and the cultivation uneconomic one.

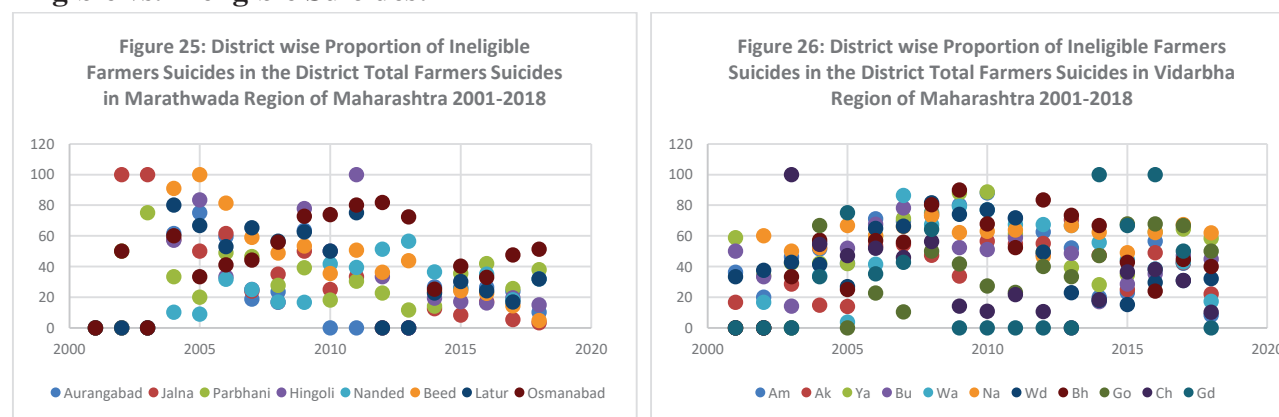


Source: Author's calculations based on the data of Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

Note: Am=Amravati, Ak=Akola, Ya=Yavatmal, Bu=Buldhana, Wa=Washim, Na=Nagpur, Wd=Wardha, Bh=Bhandara, Go=Gondia, Ch=Chandrapur, Gd=Gadchiroli

As per the police records most of the suicides are committed by consuming pesticides. It is mainly because of the easy availability of pesticide in almost all cotton cultivating households as the crop has high IPM consumption ratio. Once the pesticide is consumed the death is almost certain. This is because the medical help is exceptionally available at the village level. In 2012, 88.88 per cent of the suicide households in Yavatmal district had no local access to the medical facility while 33.82 per cent of them had private visiting medical practitioner ferrying once or twice a week. They being general practitioners for small illness need not necessarily to possess the facilities of treating the pesticide consumed farmers (Talule 2013). Similar is the condition of transport facilities that takes more time to reach to the nearby public health Centre to avail medical treatment. Even after reaching there one cannot guarantee that the doctor would be available at the said public health Centre as many posts of public health officers remain vacant. And even if the doctor is there then the medicines are not available. Hence even rushing the affected person to such place is a futile attempt.

Eligible vs. Ineligible Suicides:



Source: Author's calculations based on the data of Divisional Commissioner Office of Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur

Note: Am=Amravati, Ak=Akola, Ya=Yavatmal, Bu=Buldhana, Wa=Washim, Na=Nagpur, Wd=Wardha, Bh=Bhandara, Go=Gondia, Ch=Chandrapur, Gd=Gadchiroli

Title to land in India is presumptive and not the conclusive one. 7/12 abstract is a crucial revenue department document maintained by a village level revenue officer called '*patwari*' (village level revenue officer). It carries the landowner's name and for administration it makes him/her the farmer. Therefore only one who has an authentic 7/12 abstract of land in his name stands as farmer who is a legal landowner. And only such person is treated as farmer. For police and revenue administration those who do not enjoy such legal and presumptive ownership of land are not farmers. It happens in case when one commits suicide and does not possess the 7/12 abstract in his name. Then such suicide is not recorded as a farmer's suicide. There are cultivators who cultivate the leased in land or the land is in the name of some other elderly person in the family like father or a grandfather which is a common practice in a rural family setup. Having land in the name of a female is almost impossible but the district suicide lists are not exclusive of female. But this leads to the complexity of eligible and ineligible farmer suicide. It is purely an administrative aspect. Legal title of profession of a deceased person needs to be established whether he was a farmers or not. For this purpose the only document used is 7/12 abstract. Therefore only a

family of a deceased who had 7/12 abstract in his name is treated deemed eligible for an ex-gratia compensation of rupees one lac. Such complexity in Maharashtra leads to suicide categorization as eligible and ineligible suicide. Because of the condition of 7/12 abstract the proportion of ineligible farmer suicides in this state is considerably high. In other states the suicide compensation amount is also higher than Maharashtra. In Punjab the same is rupees two lac. For the period between Jan 2001 and July 2018 on an average 32.76, 54.77 and 47.99 per cent of the total suicides from Marathwada, Amravati and Nagpur division of Maharashtra were declared as ineligible farmer suicides. Families of these deceased farmers were deemed ineligible for state compensation of rupees one lac. Already in India many suicides remain unreported and the case of Maharashtra it dwarfs the figure further by applying such administrative logic of defining the farmer and non-farmer suicide. It is mostly due to the compensation amount and to show the less number of suicides by farmers in the state. Mortality rates (SMR) of ineligible farmer suicides in Amravati division remain one of the highest (687.53) followed by Nagpur (203.28) and Aurangabad division (74.84).

V. CONCLUDING REMARKS:

Concentration of suicides by farmers in certain parts of the state of Maharashtra is a complex issue. Not only the farmers but now the young generation in the state to get their demands approved from the government has in recent past resorted to suicides during their agitation. This is a typical case of Durkheimian analysis of suicide. When compared to other suicide affected states in the country the suicide rates for Maharashtra remained higher. In the year immediate after the debt waivers of 2008 the suicide rate in the state had declined to increase the same in an immediate aftermath in 2010 and became one of the highest in 2012. In 2012 the district of Yavatmal in western Vidarbha was at the top of the list. Again as a result of the drought in 2013 the suicide rates for farmers in both the regions of Marathwada and Vidarbha increased and continued during the glut of Tur, Soya beans and Channa in 2016. The percentage share of Maharashtra in the major five suicide states for a period from 2001 to 2015 remained in the range of 57–73 per cent (56.77 the minimum and 73.24 per cent the maximum) while at all India level it remained in the range of minimum of 16.54 and the maximum of 27.53 per cent. It brings out the total of 2.35 lac farmers who ended their life through suicide. Fluctuating trends underline the negative relationship between the tragedy and the monsoon (that leads to droughts) and market glut on account of bumper crop in the state. Western Vidarbha districts of Amravati division remained one of the most affected followed by Beed, Nanded and Usmanabad districts of Marathwada. From Jan. 2001 to July 2018 a total of 23701 farmers of eighteen districts of Vidarbha and Marathwada have committed suicides. 83.74 per cent of the state's total farmers' suicides were committed from Vidarbha and Marathwada. Respectively for the period between Jan 2001 and July 2018 division wise SMR for Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur remained in the range of .38-37.43, 4.70-124.24 and .32-41.85.

Significant complexity of suicides by farmers in Maharashtra is the administrative categorization of suicides as the eligible and ineligible suicides. It is therefore the families of ineligible farmer suicides are deemed ineligible even for the state compensation of rupees one lac. It is unjustifiable as to why one who despite being an exclusive cultivator but did not have the 7/12 abstract the land record document in his name is assumed to be the non-farmer and the suicide is reported as ineligible one. Suicide prone areas of Maharashtra relatively have low irrigation support and unlike Gujarat the Bt cotton is cultivated under rainfed conditions. Similarly the Bt seeds in these areas are propagated by the MNCs for which the

prices are higher than indigenously developed varieties in the neighboring state like Gujarat. As 33.87 per cent of the state's drought stricken population lives in Vidarbha and Marathwada need special attention. About twenty thousand villages across twenty districts of the state are always water starved while majority of them belong to these two regions.

Price distortions in last twenty years on account of high subsidies by the US and low import tariffs in India and the failure of procurement mechanism in Maharashtra made it more pitiable for state farmers. Poor state agricultural extension services and predominance of non-institutional credit mechanism in rural financial market are evident of the withdrawal of state from rural and agricultural scenario. To add to this; 2004, 2010, 2013 and now 2018 were the rain deficient years. This was followed by cotton bollworm attack and fake Bt seeds in 2015 and the market glut of Tur, Soya beans and Channa in 2016 which nosedived the prices. Besides this the burden of obligatory social and family expenditure continues. All these points call for multipronged strategy to address the larger agrarian crisis. One is that the state cannot withdraw from the rural and agricultural scenario. We have many examples of industrial credit rollover and largest ever NPAs on account of industrial lending while no legal action is initiated. Adequate attention on Yield, Price, Credit, weather and health, life, crop and cattle insurance besides improving water availability and rural electrification will facilitate the diversification. Sell at price below the MSP is not a new phenomenon therefore timely intervention of procurement mechanism during the glut would be a face saving attempt on the part of the government. Public health Centre with adequate staff and medicines plus treating facilities need to have an immediate attention so as to treating of poisoning cases. Even the rural society today has become nuclearised therefore the socio-psychological support by NGOs would be a step forward in arresting the suicide death toll among the farmers.

Agrarian distress in Marathwada and Vidarbha region of the state in last eighteen years (Jan 2001 to July 2018) has taken the toll of thousands of farming lives. The situation that has precipitated into such distress needs to be tackled. Thus the problem needs to be tackled by helping farmers of suicide prone areas of the state in a way that would build productive and marketing capabilities. Mechanism of ensuring greater share for farmer in every rupee paid by the end consumer would be a step in helping not only the farmers' conditions but it would be a step forward in achieving the dream of doubling the farm income also.

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2. VILLAGE PANCHAYATS AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN PANHALA TALUKA OF KOLHAPUR DISTRICT

Dr. Bandu Jayshing Kadam¹

Abstract

In India, the inclusive approach is not a new concept as Indian development strategies relied on the socialistic pattern of society through economic growth with self-reliance, social justice and alleviation of poverty. However, in 2007, India moved to a new strategy focusing on higher economic growth, making it more inclusive. As the economy achieved 5 percent growth rate per annum, the policy makers were anxious about the inclusive growth. As a result, the primary objective of the 11th Five Year Plan was to achieve inclusive growth with development. The Indian economy has entered into the 11th Plan period with an impressive record of economic growth at the end of the 10th Plan. A major weakness of the economy is that the growth is not sufficiently inclusive because it does not cover many groups. Gender inequality persists in India and has an adverse impact on women. The percentage of people living below the poverty line has decreased but the rate of decline in poverty was at a slower pace than the GDP growth rate. Besides, human development indicators such as literacy, education, health, maternal and infant mortality rates have shown steady improvement but with sluggish rates. The present research papers focus on role of village panchayats in the economical inclusive development special reference to Panhala Taluka of Kolhapur district.

Key words: Inclusive Development, Human Development, Village Panchayat, Poverty Alleviation

I. INTRODUCTION:

In India, the inclusive approach is not a new concept as Indian development strategies relied on the socialistic pattern of society through economic growth with self-reliance, social justice and alleviation of poverty. However, in 2007, India moved to a new strategy focusing on higher economic growth, making it more inclusive. As the economy achieved 5 percent growth rate per annum, the policy makers were anxious about the inclusive growth. As a result, the primary objective of the 11th Five Year Plan was to achieve inclusive growth with development. The Indian economy has entered into the 11th Plan period with an impressive record of economic growth at the end of

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the 10th Plan. A major weakness of the economy is that the growth is not sufficiently inclusive because it does not cover many groups. Gender inequality persists in India and has an adverse impact on women. The percentage of people living below the poverty line has decreased but the rate of decline in poverty was at a slower pace than the GDP growth rate. Besides, human development indicators such as literacy, education, health, maternal and infant mortality rates have shown steady improvement but with sluggish rates. The present research papers focus on role of village panchayats in the economical inclusive development special reference to Panhala Taluka of Kolhapur district.

Role of Village Panchayats in Economical inclusive development is the soul (Central idea) of the present research paper. It is found that Panchayats have been playing a pivotal role in speeding up inclusive development.

Concept of Inclusive Development:

According to the ADB literature (Ali and Son 2007a, Ali and Zhuang 2007b), there is no agreed-upon and common definition of inclusive development. The concept, however, is often referred to as growth coupled with equal opportunities. Inclusive growth emphasizes that economic opportunities created by growth should be available to all, particularly to the poor, to the maximum extent possible. A Commission on Growth and Development (WB, 2008) set up by the WB defines inclusiveness as a concept that encompasses equity, equality of opportunity and protection in the market and employment transition.

According to Klasen (2010), inclusive growth is a broad term. It extends beyond people below the poverty line. As per outcomes, inclusive growth is not the same as pro-poor growth. Pro-poor growth approach concentrates on measuring the impact of growth on poverty reduction by implementing various poverty alleviation measures whereas inclusive growth focuses on both the pace and pattern of growth with productive employment rather than income distribution. In other words, pro-poor growth targets people below the poverty line, while inclusive growth is arguably more general as it wants growth to benefit all strata of society.

Inclusive development of Village Panchayats:

Inclusive development is most important factor in overall development. Economic inclusive development, social inclusive development, financial inclusive

development and environmental inclusive development are components of inclusive development.

Need for Inclusive development at village Panchayat level:

The village Panchayats are playing important role in economical inclusive development. Gram Panchayats have taken the responsibility of implementing various inclusive development programs of both state and central governments. The study is needed for evaluating the role of Panchayat and the impact of the same on the development of study area. Village Panchayat have been facing various problems. So I wanted study this problem

Structure of Economical Inclusive Development

Poverty Alleviation and Employment, Agriculture, Education, Health, Basic facilities.

II. REVIEW OF RESEARCH STUDY

Dr. Kamble P.S. (2008)³³ in his research paper, “Role of Village Panchayats in the rural development of Kolhapur District” studies Village Panchayats finances in Kolhapur district in the context of rural development and finds the following conclusions. Village Panchayat is a backbone of rural local bodies within sufficient resources. Therefore, it is an obstacle to find in making fast process of rural development. Panchayats mainly stand on taxes as a source of income. However, heavy dependable of Panchayats on taxes are results in heavy tax burden on the citizens. Non tax sources contribute considerably to total income of the government, but except Kodoli Panchayats others have neglected these revenue sources.

Rashid Md. and Anjan Sen (2010) research paper examines the level of people’s participation in panchayat activities and level of people’s awareness about rural development programs. The study is done against the background of the Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Act, 1992, and Bihar Panchayati Raj Act, 1993 and 2006, both of which aim to empower the rural people by strengthening the Gram Sabha. Gram Sabha happens to be the heart or the core of the panchayati raj system of local self-governance. The study is entirely based on a primary survey conducted in four villages of Atri Block in Gaya District of Bihar, which is among the least developed and most backward districts of India.

Katar Singh (1999) in his research paper entitled, “The Role of Gram Sabha in village Development” considers that the Gram Sabha despite being envisaged as the

foundation of the Panchayati Raj system and an effective role player in village development is handicapped due to the lack of closely of its role in village development vis-a-vis the Gram Panchayati. He points out that none of the State Panchayati Raj Acts empowers the Gram Sabha to have a control over the Gram Panchayati and to take any final decision in matters of village development its role is only advisory.

K.S. Narayana (2003) in his research paper entitled, “unending of debate on Rural Development Issues: A Relook at diagnostics-part II”, analyzed the social components of rural development viz., health, education, sanitation, etc., in a long term perspective. He stated that all our efforts to enlarge the health facility must rank highest priority with an allocation of 6 percent GNP. According to him continued lukewarm policy efforts would be a big liability to health of the nation, as a majority of rural people are confronted with health hazards, there by curtailing people’s contribution to the economy much less than potential lives. Health insurance must be propagated, expanded and policy procedures simplified.

M.R.Biju (2008) in his research paper entitled, “Sustainable Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in the Era of Globalization” discussed the various aspects of rural development in the context of globalization. He reviewed and evaluated the functional competence of Panchayat Raj institutions in different parts of the country in Gandhian terms. Through his reviews he found that except in a few states like West Bengal, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, the Panchayat Raj institutions have been rarely given a change to perform their functions on sizable scale.

C.Siva Murugan and Dr. V. Anbumani (2008) in his research paper entitled, “Community Participation in Rural Development”, expressed hopes that India might have lost a few battles against poverty but now with people’s participation, it will win war. They made a bird’s-eye-view of community development programmes and the success and failures of these programmes. The study mainly concentrated on Bharat Nirman Programme. They consider that people’s participation is a pre-condition of any development programme and now a condition of survival for the civil society.

B.J.Kadam(2009)submitted M.Phil Dissertation “Village Panchayats and Rural Development: A study of village Panchayats in Panhala Taluka of Kolhapur district” to Shivaji University, Kolhapur (unpublished). In this study researcher has found the role of village panchayats in rural development of six village panchayats taken for research

study. He has also examined the tax, non-tax and grants structure of village panchayats under the study.

Research Gap

Some studies made a retrospective study of role of Panchayat Raj Institutions in the development rural areas. The studies on the role of Panchayat Raj Institutions on rural development are very limited. Moreover, role of village Panchayat in inclusive development is missing as part of review of literature.

III. OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH STUDY

The major and important objectives of the present study are as follows:

- To study of concept of Inclusive development
- To review the role of village panchayats in the inclusive development.
- To identify the problems of these village panchayats and to suggest measures.

The major and important hypothesis of the present study is the village panchayats have contributed in the inclusive development.

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION:

The study is mainly based on primary data. The primary data have collected from selected villagers .Necessary secondary data have collected from the official records of concerned Village Panchayats. Collected data is tabulated and interpreted with the help of necessary statistical tools. There are 12 talukas in Kolhapur District. In above one selected taluka, there are 111 Village Panchayats. Out of them 3 villages i.e. 5percent of Village Panchayats are taken for the study. For the collection of primary data, I used Simple random sampling-Regular marking method for the selection of villagers. With the help of this method, I selected 22 villagers from each village in the Panhala and Shahuwadi taluka. In this way 66 respondents are selected from 03 village panchayats in Panhala taluka for the present study.The collected data is classified, tabulated and processed by using appropriate statistical tools like Average, Percentage. For this, the use of computer software packages such as Excel is made as per necessity.

V. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Poverty alleviation and employment

The village panchayats run to Mahatma Gandhi employment guarantee programme and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

a) Mahatma Gandhi employment guarantee programme

Table No: 1 Number of beneficiaries from Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme in Panhala taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Beneficiaries	
		Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13
1	Kodoli	---	11(50.00)
2	Awali	---	7(31.82)
3	Kolik	---	4(18.18)
	Total	---	22

Source: field work, Note: Figures in bracket shows percentage to total

This table shows number of beneficiaries from Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme in Panhala taluka. There are 22 beneficiaries of this scheme in the year 2012-13. There are only 4 beneficiaries of this scheme in the Kolik village Panchayats. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme plays vital role in the development of rural areas.

b) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY):

Table No: 2 Number of beneficiaries from Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in the Panhala taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Beneficiaries	
		Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13
1	Kodoli	7 (58.33)	12 (60)
2	Awali	4 (33.33)	6 (30)
3	Kolik	1 (8.34)	2 (10)
	Total	12(100)	20(100)

Source: field work, Note: Figures in bracket shows percentage to total

The data shows the number of beneficiary's from Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in the Panhala taluka. There are 12 beneficiaries in the year 2003. It is increased to 20 beneficiaries in the year 2012-13.

2. Agriculture

Agriculture is very important sector of rural areas. It plays a major role in the overall development of the rural areas providing employment, supporting rural industries, supplier of food and fodder.

The village Panchayats is helping them in procuring their products at predetermined rates and marketing them. Special schemes have been started to improve the production of commercial crops. Village Panchayats also provide seeds, fertilizer, pesticides and machine.

3. Education

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the principal programme for universalization of elementary education. SSA aims at providing useful and relevant elementary education

for all children in the age group of 6–14 years by 2010. Besides focusing on elementary education of satisfactory quality, the other significant objective is to bridge social, regional and gender gaps with the active participation of the community in the management of schools. With an emphasis on education for life, SSA successfully ensured universal access to primary education.

The Mid Day-Meal scheme, launched in 1995, aims to give a boost to primary education by increasing enrolment, retention, attendance and simultaneously impacting upon the nutritional status of students in primary classes. The scheme, revised in June 2006, provides for 450 calories, 12 gm of protein and adequate quantities of micronutrients such as iron, folic acid, and vitamin A to children. The cooking cost has been enhanced to Rs 2.00 per child per school day.

4. Health

Table No: 3 Health facility in the Panhala taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Primary Health Centre		Doctors		Medical Stores	
		Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13	Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13	Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13
1	Kodoli	2	2	12	18	7	15
2	Awali	1	1	2	5	2	3
3	Kolik	--	--	1	2	--	--
	Total	3	3	15	25	9	18

Source: field work

This table shows the health facility in the Panhala taluka. Numbers of Primary Health Centre did not change in the study period. There are no primary health centers in the low population village Panchayats. Number of doctors was 15 in the year 2003. It is increased to 25 in the year 2012-13. There are no medical stores in the Kolik village Panchayats. So there is urgent need to open the primary health centers in the Kolik village panchayats in the Panhala taluka.

5. Basic facilities

a) Public Distribution System

Table No: 4 Number of Public Distribution System (PDS) in Panhalataluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13
1	Kodoli	2	4
2	Awali	1	1
3	Kolik	1	1
	Total	4	6

Source: field work

This table shows the number of Public Distribution System (PDS) in Panhala taluka. It was 4 PDS in the year 2003. It is increased 6 in the year 2012-13.

Table No: 5 Beneficiaries of Public Distribution System in Panhala taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Up to 2003			Up to 2012-13		
		APL	BPL	Total	APL	BPL	Total
1	Kodoli	2240 (70.44)	940 (29.56)	3180 (100)	4826 (84.98)	853 (15.02)	5679 (100)
2	Awali	254 (72.36)	97 (27.64)	351 (100)	354 (83.49)	70 (16.51)	424 (100)
3	Kolik	191 (71.27)	77 (28.73)	268 (100)	278 (81.29)	64 (18.71)	342 (100)
4	Total	2685 (70.68)	1114 (29.32)	3799 (100)	5458 (84.89)	987 (15.31)	6445 (100)

Source: field work, Note: Figures in round bracket shows percentage to total

This table shows the beneficiaries of Public Distribution System in Panhala taluka. There were 1114(29.32 percentage) below poverty line families in the year 2003. It declined to 987 (15.31 percentages) in the year 2012-13. It is good for socio economic development of village Panchayats. In this way village panchayats and taluka Panchayat samiti also try to provide a sufficient food facility through the public distribution system.

There were 2685(70.68) beneficiaries of above poverty line in the year 2003. It increased to 5458(84.89) in the year 2012-13.

b) Water

Table No: 6 Drinking Water schemes in Panhala Taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Jalswaraj Scheme	NRDWP
1	Kodoli	1	1
2	Awali	1	1
3	Kolik	1	--
4	Total	3	2

Source: field work

This table shows the village Panchayats provide drinking water schemes in Panhala taluka. All village Panchayats have completed Jalswaraj scheme. This is good thing for socio- economic development of rural areas. National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP): are progresses in present period. It is also helpful for maintaining healthy life of the villagers.

c) Shelter

This table shows the number of beneficiaries and sanction amount from IAY in the Panhala taluka. There were 7 beneficiaries in the year 2003. It increased to 19 beneficiaries in the year 2012-13. It was Rs. 225000 sanction amount in the year 2003. There are increased Rs.1301500 sanction amount in the year 2012-13.

Table No: 7 Number of beneficiaries from IAY in the Panhala taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Beneficiaries		Sanction Amount (Rs.)	
		Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13	Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13
1	Kodoli	3	8	84000	548000
2	Awali	2	5	57000	342500
3	Kolik	3	6	84000	411000
4	Total	07	19	225000	1301500

*Source: field work***d) Toilet**

Table No: 8 Number of toilet in the Panhalataluka (2012-13)

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	NBA	IAY	Self	Total
1	Kodoli	--	11	--	11
2	Awali	2	8	1	11
3	Kolik	1	9	--	10
4	Total	3	27	1	31

Source: field work, NBA:Nirman Bharat Abhiyan, IAY:Indira Gandhi AwasYojana

This table shows the number of toilet facility of village Panchayats in Panhala taluka. 3 toilets are completed under the Nirman bharat abhiyan. And Indira Gandhi Yojana has completed 27 toilets. There is only 1self toilet in the year 2012-13

e) Public Libraries

Table No: 9 Number of Public Libraries of village Panchayats in the Panhala taluka

Sr. No	Name of village Panchayats	Up to 2003	Up to 2012-13
1	Kodoli	4	6
2	Awali	1	2
3	Kolik	--	--
4	Total	5	8

Source: field work

This table shows the number of public libraries of village Panchayats in the Panhala taluka. There were 5 public libraries in the year 2003. It increased to 8 public libraries in the year 2012-13. The village Panchayats provides places, electricity. So, public libraries increased in the study period.

Analysis of hypothesis

Village panchayats run to poverty alleviation programme in the study period. Beneficiaries of Mahatma Gandhi employment guarantee programme and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) are increased in the study period. Village panchayats are help to agriculture and education development. Villagepanchayats provides health facilities and basic facilities.

VI. CONCLUSION, FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS:

Findings:

1. The villages Panchayats are implement two schemes i.e. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Swaran Jayanti Swarozgar Yojana called Aajeevika in the Panhala and Shahuwadi taluka. It is also helpful for reducing poverty. The beneficiary of SJSY is also increased in the study period. Because, the village Panchayats are effectively run this schemes in the year 2012-13.
2. Agriculture sector is very important in the rural areas. It plays a major role in the overall development of the rural areas providing employment, supporting rural industries, supplier of food and fodder. The villages Panchayats are helping them in procuring their products at predetermined rates and marketing them. Special schemes have been started to improve the production of commercial crops. Village Panchayats also provides seeds, fertilizer, pesticides and machine etc.
3. Primary health centre are available in the high and medium population village Panchayats of both taluka. Number of doctors and medical stores are increased in the study period. The village panchayats have run to Rajiv Gandhi Jivandayi Arogy Yojana. The main aim of NRHM is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable health care facility, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of society.
4. The Public Distribution System is most important in the rural areas for the poor people. Beneficiaries of below poverty line also declined in the Panhala and Shahuwadi taluka. It is good thing for socio- economic development of rural areas.
5. The village Panchayats is to provide houses to the poor villagers in the rural areas from Indira Gandhi Awas Yojana (IAY). These schemes also run in the all village Panchayats. Beneficiaries of this scheme are increased in the study period.
6. Toilet facility is most important factor of development particular in the rural area. The villages Panchayats are implement Indira Gandhi AwasYojana (IAY) and Nirman Bharat Abhiyan. With the help of this scheme number of toilets increased in the study period. This is good thing for health and inclusive development.

Suggestions:

1. Village panchayats should pay due attention towards water supply, education, environment protection, agriculture and agro based industries, which are important components of inclusive development.
2. Representatives of the people, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Youth Clubs, Social Organizations should participate and cooperate to the village panchayats in speeding up their development.
3. Village panchayats made project of rural area. The project aims at making the rural mass computer literate, so as to reap the maximum benefits of E governance
4. People's participation in various activities of the village panchayats directed towards inclusive development is most welcome and expected.

5. It is necessary to provide for environment protection activities that are necessary for sustainable development and maintenance of environment balance as per 73rd constitutional amendment.
6. The street light system of village panchayats should be changed to solar from electricity that will be economical and eco- friendly.

Conclusion:

The implementation of inclusive development programs through the village Panchayats has a drastic change in the socio economic conditions of the rural people in the selected areas. The implementation of inclusive development programs has affected even the social and political affairs of the people of the selected area. In the economic front of the inclusive development programs have created an improvement in economic position of the selected area, as a result of implementation of inclusive development programs most of the people gain additional income. From the created assets which has resulted into deprivation in selected areas. After the implementation of inclusive developments programs, efforts have been made to strengthen village and cottage industries, as a result most of the people have become employed in various agriculture and allied activities like animal husbandry, sheep/goat rearing, handicrafts, small business and other activities. This has brought vigorous change in socio economic setup of the selected village Panchayats in the Panhala taluka. The implemented rural programs like SJGSY, housing schemes and power schemes have created various gainful activities for poor in selected area to be placed above the poverty line. It indicates that there is a cumulative process for infrastructure development of rural area.

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3. USE OF CASE STUDIES IN SCIENCE TEACHING

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Abstract:

In the modern world, science and society often interact in a perverse way. It is vital that science be taught in schools so students can understand the world around them. As children grow up in the scientifically advanced world there is the need that every child should be scientifically literate, to live life successfully. Because of this at school level science is very important subject for students and teachers. Today it is the utmost need of time to use innovative methods to teach science subject. Teaching with the Scientific method means teaching how to think, learning to learn, and creating ability in students to solve problems. Taking into considerations all these skills can be developed amongst students by using case studies as a teaching tool for science subject from school level to higher education. This research paper explains how a science teacher can improve students' achievement in science subject by using case studies as a teaching tool. This research paper throws light on making of a case study and implementing it in the classroom teaching. Use of case studies definitely allow students to think creatively, to develop critical thinking level, to take proper decisions quickly and makes student self-motivated learner. This is the actual need of global citizenship, let us take initiative and step forward into proper direction to guide our next generation through education.

Keywords: Case study, Teaching of Science, conceptual knowledge

Introduction:

In a world of modern technology scientific inquiry scientific thinking, scientific methods have become necessary for everyone. Every child has a right to understand and learn about the natural world, The 'National science Education standards' suggested that "different students will achieve understanding in different ways but all students can develop the knowledge and skills", if they will get proper education.

A science teacher can use many different teaching methods to make the subject interesting and easy to learn. A case study as a teaching tool is one of the best alternative which will improve students achievement in science.

Teaching with cases is utilized in many university disciplines and mostly in business schools. The purpose of this paper is to provide a new teaching tool that as case studies which can be used at school level for better results, especially in science subject. Cases are best used to teach people about realistic decision making situations. Cases have helped train pre service teachers, instructional designers doctors, lawyers and others how to respond to actual problems, they will encounter in their fields.

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In this research paper teachers will find a new teaching tool for school children which will make teaching interesting and will make students to think creatively.

Teaching is purely an intellectual activity which is stimulated by our senses, i.e., by eye, ear, nose, tongue and skin which are the gateways of knowledge and experience. Teaching Learning Materials to the teachers and the learners aims to provide necessary skills and knowledge along with the inculcation of proper interests and attitudes among them for the effective utilization of the audio-visual aid material and equipment in the process of teaching and learning.

The case method is an approach of teaching that uses decision-forcing cases to put students in the role of people who were faced with difficult decisions at some point in the past. In sharp contrast to many other teaching methods, the case method requires that instructors refrain from providing their own opinions about the decisions in question. Rather, the chief task of instructors who use the case method is asking students to devise and defend solutions to the problems at the heart of each case.

History of use of case studies in Science teaching and learning:

Case based teaching was adopted in the field of theology in the 1960s and was used by a limited number of professors. In 1971 the Association of Theological schools (ATS) established the case study Institute (CST) in Cambridge. Their use in science education however is relatively recent. Cases can be used not only to teach scientific concepts and content, but also process skills and critical thinking.

It is generally believed that the case-study method was first introduced into social science by Frederic Le Play in 1829 as a handmaiden to statistics in his studies of family budgets. Other roots stem from the early 20th century, when case studies began taking place in the disciplines of sociology, psychology, and anthropology. In all these disciplines, case studies were an occasion for creating new theory, as in the Grounded Theory work of sociologists Barney Glaser and Anselm Strauss.

The popularity of case studies in testing theory or hypotheses has developed only in recent decades. One of the areas in which case studies have been gaining popularity is education and in particular educational evaluation. Case studies have also been used as a teaching method and as part of professional development, especially in business and legal education. (PBL) movement is such an example. When used in (non-business) education and professional development, case studies are often referred to as *critical incidents*.

The traditional teaching methods provide answers to the questions of the subject but there is no space for the expansion of students thinking process. Teach tells them what to learn and they learn it. Use of case studies in teaching is such an innovative technique which definitely helps children in their studies and energizes them to look into the subject, find different angles to get clear picture of concepts on the screen of their mind.

Case studies:

The term case studies refers both, a method of analysis and specific research design for examining a problem, both of which are used in most circumstances to generalize across populations.

A case study examines a person, place, event, phenomenon or other type of subject of analysis and illuminates previously hidden issues that can be applied to practice and provides a means for understanding an important research problem with greater clarity.

The case is the real life situation and the case study is the analysis of this situation. A case study of a phenomenon most often encompasses an in depth analysis of a cause and effect that is grounded in an interactive relationship between people and their environment in some way.

Definitions of a case study:

Case study: A process or record of research into the development of a particular person, group or situation over a period of time. (Christensen, 1981)

- Case studies can be an important methodology for ethics and philosophy in humanistic management and liberal education as well as in the social sciences because they integrate a deeper, reflective, philosophical and ethical understanding of organization. (Journal of Management Education, Feb. 2015, Vol. 39, 1 : pp. 36-55)
- As an instructional strategy, case studies have a number of virtues. They bridge the gap between theory and practice between the academy and workplace. (Barkley, Cross and Major, 2005)

Case selection:

When selecting a case for a case study method, teachers should use information-oriented cases which reveal more information than the potentially representative case. Alternatively, a case may be selected as a key case, chosen because of the inherent interest of the case or the circumstances surrounding it. Alternatively it may be chosen because of a teachers' in-depth knowledge; and thereby to offer this knowledge in the form of reasoned lines of explanation based on this rich knowledge of setting and circumstances.

Beyond decisions about case selection and the subject and object of the study, decisions need to be made about purpose, approach and process in the case study.

Types of Case Studies:

There are different types of case studies based on their purpose and field of application as given below-

Illustrative case studies: These are primarily descriptive studies. They typically utilize one or two instances of an event to show the existing situation

Exploratory (or pilot) case studies: These are condensed case studies performed before implementing a large scale investigation. Their basic function is to help identify questions and select types of measurement prior to the main investigation.

Cumulative case studies: These serve to aggregate information from several sites collected at different times. The idea behind these studies is that the collection of past studies will allow for greater generalization without additional cost or time being expended on new, possibly repetitive studies.

Critical instance case studies: This method is useful for answering cause and effect questions.

How to make a case study:

This paper explains how to construct a case study to use it in the classroom teaching especially for undergraduate students.

There are two different approaches of case studies-

- 1) The analytical approach.
- 2) The problem oriented method.

This research paper considers the problem oriented method which is useful for the students to know the subject in deep and to solve their difficulties.

Here researcher's point of view about case studies is based on the Science textbook content. Researcher suggests here that case studies can be used as a teaching as well as learning tool for the teachers and students respectively.

Steps involved in the making of a case study:

While making case studies researcher follows some rules and steps as given bellow-

1. To make/write a case study first step is to select the topic, relate the theory to the practical situation. If the topic is 'Air pollution' then in the Case Study teacher can give information about Pollution in that particular city to connect it with real situation. (Example-Pollution in the Kolhapur city)
2. For this researcher should be able to analyze the content then identification of the important topics or problems from the respective text books should be done.
3. Select the major problems on which case study can be written.
4. Suggest solutions to these problems and write a case study.
5. Recommend the best solution to be implemented.
6. Ask questions based on case study to know students understanding after completion of solving case study in the class.

Method of implementing a case study in teaching:

While there are many variations in how case studies can be used, these six steps provide a general framework for how to implement a case-study in the classroom.

1. A teacher can Inform students prior about the topic of the case study. Students should be given ample time to read and think about the case. If the case study is long, (cannot be completed in one period) assign it as homework with a set of questions so that students can solve it at home.

2. Introduce the case briefly and provide some guidelines for how to solve questions given in the case study. While actual implementation distribute the printed copies of case studies in the class, so that every student can solve it individually.
3. Inform students about the timing for completion of the exercise given in the case study. Students should write answers on the same paper. Also teacher can Create groups and monitor them to make sure everyone is involved.
4. Inform students about group presentation of their solutions/reasoning: If groups know they are responsible for producing something (a decision, rationale, analysis) to present to the class, they will approach the discussion with greater focus and seriousness. Assign certain marks so that students will solve the case study to get maximum marks
5. After the allotted time period collect the case studies and discuss the answers with the students. Teacher can solve doubts of students and students will learn the topic very well.
6. Synthesize issues raised. Be sure to bring the various strands of the discussion back together at the end, so that students see what they have learned.

A case study of a phenomenon most often encompasses an in-depth analysis of a cause and effect that is grounded in an informative relationship between students and their environment.

Instructor or teacher who conducts case study should follow certain rules while conducting a case study. The case selection should be proper as per student's requirement and it should help students in their academic achievement. The cases chosen should be researched, cases may be short or long with charts, financial statements, technical information, historical data or any other material is made available to the character in the case.

A good case study encourages unraveling the dynamic interplay between the inductive and deductive methods of discovery. Case solving improves the skills like problem solving, decision making of students.

Example of a case study-

This is an example of a case study based on content of science textbook.

Health at Risk:

It was 4.15 am Mrs. Kale was having difficulty in breathing. She felt it was because of her hectic schedule; she scared and called her mother for help. She was 34 years old, working as an engineer in an IT company and later diagnosed with coronary artery disease. Now she is finding different ways to adopt a healthier lifestyle.

This is just symbolic example of today's problems which are at the door step of every youngster. Causes are many such as inhalation of tobacco, drinking alcoholic solutions which increase cholesterol level beyond limit. This was actually a Wake-up call for her health.

Health:

It is the state of being free from illness or injury. Health represents a person's mental or physical condition. In 1986, the WHO clarified that health is "A resource to support an individual's function in wider society."

Types of health:

Mental and physical health are the two most common types of health. Physical health can be obtained by maintaining physical fitness with the help of balanced nutrition, regular exercise and proper rest.

Mental health refers to a person's emotional social and psychological wellbeing, which is necessary for active lifestyle.

Emotional stress, smoking, intake of harmful drugs are the threats to a healthy body. Improper diet, lack of physical exercise, excess fats and oils put our health at risk.

Do you know a star basketball player who is HIV positive? Yes on Nov. 7, 1991 Magic Johnson declared himself as HIV positive.

Let us find the reasons behind this

1) Malnutrition and obesity:

Many children of adolescent age making them more vulnerable to disease.

2) Exercise and Nutrition:

World health organization is devoted to health risk 'Better health is central to human happiness and well-being. It also makes an important contribution to economic progress, as healthy population live longer, is more productive, and save more.' (WHO)

3) Cell phone use and cancer

This is a familiar debate in everyone's family now a day-

Raju, 'please switch off your mobile', said his mother.

But mamma, 'I want to talk with my friends and it's free you know', he said.

. What are we getting back from cell phones? Long term mobile use causes tumor growth.

4) Road accidents, respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, unhealthy diet etc. are main factors which put our health at risk.

What can we do to maintain our health?

1) Building life skills in children and adolescents in schools can help promote good mental health.

2) Violence is a leading cause of death in older adolescent males. By developing relationships between parents and children will help to build a healthy society.

Risk Assessment Process:

Once we identify what type of risk we are facing then only we can eliminate it.

Following are the steps involved in health risk assessment process-

1) Hazard identification

Where, how and what health problems people are facing that should be clear to us.

2) Finding cause behind

Depending upon health problems we can find cause behind it.

3) Risk characterization

It is necessary to know if there is any extra risk to health. How many people are in problem? Which area is affected with the same health risk and so on -

Let us think about health risk causes and remedies:

As shown in figure 1 there are many factors that can affect our health such as drinking alcohol, intake of drugs, smoking, unhealthy diet, ignorance towards fitness.

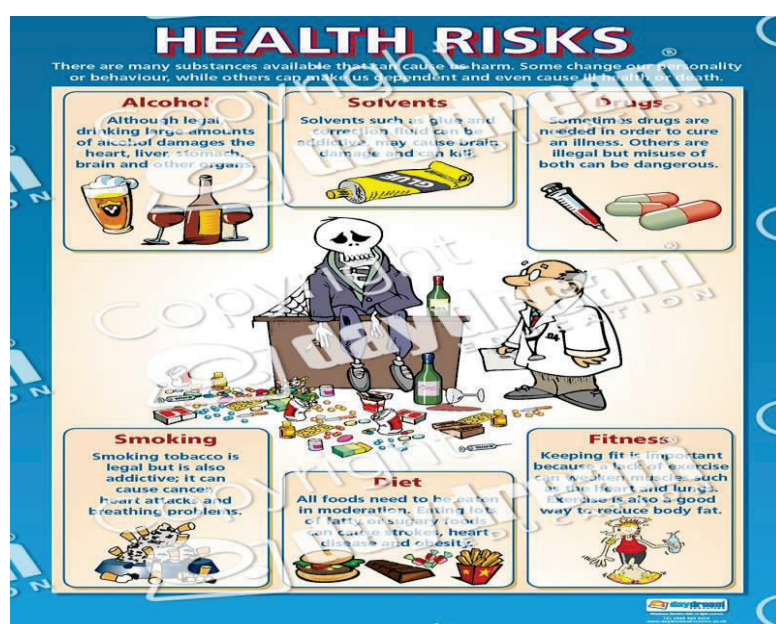


Figure (1) Health risks (www.daydreameducation.co.uk)

Remedies to maintain health-

Always remember healthy choices means healthier you.

Everyone should follow some rules as given below-

1. Eat for good health.
2. Exercise and keep proper weight.
3. Keep stress in check.
4. Get routine screenings and vaccinations.
5. Stay tobacco and alcohol free.

By inculcating hygiene habits we can reduce diseases like pneumonia, diarrhea. We should insist children to adopt habits of hand washing with soap, drinking pure water, vaccinating them at proper age for particular disease plays important role in health maintenance. An alert, clean, hygienic society will definitely help in reducing risk factor of overall health of the country.

Questions:

- Q.1) what is the health status of today's society?
- Q.2) Can we reduce health risk? How?
- Q.3) 'Pollution is the main cause of bad health,' Comment on this statement.
- Q.4) Give your solution to reduce health risk.

(It is expected that after completion of case study implementation, teacher will check answers written by students and discuss with them to clear their doubts.)

Advantages of using Case Study Method in Teaching of Science subject:

The following points assure us that using case studies in teaching definitely enhance the level of understanding of the students and will create more interest in study.

1. Case studies will challenge students to apply concepts and content of their text books and enable them to develop process skills, critical thinking, and analytical thinking.
2. Case studies will help to develop deductive and subjective reasoning.
3. The case method of teaching connects students with real world contexts and relates them with the environment.
4. The case studies when used in teaching can facilitate deeper conceptual learning that reinforces understanding of content knowledge.
5. This method develops decision making skills amongst students.
6. The teacher can put forward and give stress on self-study technique for the students.
7. It develops reading as well as writing skills of all students.
8. The students will learn time management while solving case studies.
9. The "case study method" encourages students to augment the reading of case materials with their own pace and interest.
10. The case method gives students the ability to quickly making sense of a complex problem, rapidly arrive at a reasonable solution, and communicate that solution to others in a succinct and effective manner.
11. The case method fosters interest in professional matters; the case method facilitates the learning of facts, nomenclature, conventions, techniques, and procedures.
12. By providing both a forum for discussion and concrete topics to discuss, the case method encourages interaction between students and teachers.
13. By asking difficult questions, the case method empowers students to improve their thinking level.

Conclusion:

This research paper explains how to write a case study and how to implement it in the classroom. Solving a case study definitely increases knowledge of the students and they try to learn by self-study method. Teacher's role as a facilitator is completely served in this teaching process. Traditional teaching is a base of education but case

study is a teaching which acts as a ladder towards success and knowledge for students as well as teachers.

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4. WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECTS IN RURAL INDIA: A CASE STUDY OF NIDHAL VILLAGE IN SATARA DISTRICT

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Abstract:

Women constitute half the World's population. They are the caretakers of children, the guardians of family health and well-being, and frequently the managers of household resources. In the developing world, where millions of families still lack clean water and adequate sanitation, women invariably have to ensure that the family has water.

Women collect water and manage it for household use, ensuring adequate supply, storing and keeping it clean while stored in the house. They also play key community management roles in domestic water supply at community level including maintenance of traditional sources. Many water resources management initiatives are under taken by many villages in rural India. Nidhal village from Satara district is one of them which awarded best initiatives of water resources management and popularly known as an ideal village. As we aware that women are best managers of natural resources. This paper was based on the argument that how far women's participation is considered important into this type of initiatives. Present study was based primary as well as secondary data. There are 797 households. Out of total households 6% was selected which covers nearly 50 households and care was taken that household should have women from the age group of 18 to 60 yrs.

Key words: Rural India, Water Resource, Water Resource Management Projects, Resource Management and Women's Participation

I) INTRODUCTION:

Natural resources have been crucial for existence of life on this planet. However, with each millennium, we have witnessed new advances in the sophistication of use and accumulation of material resources due to the ever increasing population, development resulting in destruction of ecosystem and natural habitat, and the intensification of agriculture for demand driven commodity production. All these have led to degraded landscapes, resources and loss of potentially renewable resources to the great detriment of the wildlife and rural communities. Thus, sustainable practices for management of natural resources to meet the need of life for both the present and future generations is of crucial concern to all societies. The rural poor and in particular women, in developing countries are those most directly dependent on natural resources for their immediate livelihood and food security. However, in natural resource management, there are differences between the roles and responsibilities of

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men and women due to the socially constructed division of labor. Given the increasing demand on natural resources leading to resources degradation and exploitation. (Kiki Chozule and Kiki Kedilezo: 2011)

Natural resources are one of the foundations in the effort to overcome poverty among poor people in rural areas. Thus improvements in the management of these resources are the focus of many development initiatives and projects that seek poverty reduction by empowering poor people to improve their livelihoods. Experience shows that many challenges remain in achieving these goals in an equitable and sustainable manner. One of the main obstacles to improving the livelihoods of poor rural people is the lack of attention given to gender issues and women's access to natural resources, in particular land and water. Although research offers evidence on women's multiple roles in agricultural production, their access to productive resources such as land, water, fertilizer, credit and other inputs remains limited. In most societies, the provision of water for fulfillment of fundamental human needs has always been a woman's responsibility. Women are responsible for preparing food, washing clothes, cleaning. Family hygiene is in their hands and caring for the ill when hygiene is insufficient. In developing countries, women and girls spend an estimated 40 billion hours every year to fetch water from distant and frequently polluted sources. Women have been reported to spend as much as 8 hours per day carrying up to 40.8 kg of water on their heads or hips. (Niala Maharaj: 1999). Water resource is a critical element for sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction. Freshwater is a scarce resource for improving quality of life. It is said that 4 billion people, that is half the World's population will live in countries with high water stress by year 2025. Management of water resources is associated with household water supplies, irrigation, flood control, wetland preservation and fisheries. One cannot ignore gender perspectives in development of strategies such as the perceptions, knowledge, contributions, needs and priorities of women and girls that constitute 50 percent of the population. Water management projects are implemented in the country to save and manage the water resources in rural areas.

Water is the key to development and sustenance of all communities. Under conditions of increasing stress on this essential renewable but scarce natural resource, effective and efficient management of water is emerging as an urgent contemporary issue. The realization of its limited availability in space and time has necessitated the designing of new globally viable water management regimes aiming at striking a balance between the use of water as a basis for livelihood and its protection to help ensure its sustainability through present to future generation India is no exception to this emergent global trend and over the last couple of

decades, new water management interventions are being designed and implemented throughout the country in anticipation of improved water management practice. Water resources management should be based on a participatory approach. Both women and men should be involved and have an equal voice in managing the sustainable use of water resources and sharing the benefits. The role of women in water-related areas needs to be strengthened and their participation broadened improvement, etc. (Nandita Singh: 2006)

II) REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Kiki Chozule and Kikhi Kedilezo's study titled with "*The Role of Women in Natural Resource Management*" focuses on the role of women in Natural Resource Management in Nagaland. This paper has also investigated the role of women in management of resources like land, water, forests and related activities like marketing, collection of seeds and exploitation of forest biodiversity. The thematic Report on 'The Role of Women in Natural Resource Management' highlights the role of women in preservation of plant species, flora and fauna and on their livelihood options. This report widens people's awareness on the role of women in retarding the effects of resource depletion. The report helps to understand the vast range of environmental, economic, social and political issues and the linkages for resource management. This paper looks at questions like 'how the resource degradation is impacting on women's work load and drudgery?', 'whether women's' work drudgery and livelihood are getting more challenged and difficult with increasing resources degradation?'

Singh Nandita: (2006) study titled with "*The Changing Role of Women in Water Management: Myths and Realities*" tries to know the relations in the water management. The findings shows that it is very essential know gender biases and situation of women. This study emphasis that existing roles can be effectively modified only when interventions are built upon realistic, workable strategies that are meaningful and acceptable to the women and their communities.

Joshi Deepa and B Fawcett's (2001) paper "*Water Projects and Empowerment of Women*" focuses on women's participation in water projects and empowerment. It is evident through this paper that women cannot be homogenized as a single social category. Further, increased involvement of women at the community level does not enable them to achieve the space and support that is necessary to change decisions to their benefit. In this context, women are not empowered through these forms of participation. Empowerment cannot be achieved by separating and isolating women from the context of social relations in which they live, as women cannot on their own resolve their subordinate position and condition. Further efforts at

empowering women cannot be sustained if interventions are isolated at the community level. 'Gender inequalities do not operate within a social vacuum but is products of way in which institutions are organized and continuously reconstituted' (Kabeer and Subrahmanian: 1999). In other words, agencies involved in development work, including water projects, need not only to be aware of the social realities in the communities with whom they are working and to strive sensitively to bring about real changes in men's and women's lives there. They also need to examine and deal with the inequalities and inequities in their own agency values, principles, structures and practices. Only then will they be able to better support their work with poor communities and only then can we claim to be really empowering women through our work. CAPRI Working Paper No. 61 by Smita Panda (2005), titled with "Women's Collective Action and Sustainable Water Management: Case of SEWA's Water Campaign in Gujarat, India" discusses the Self Employed Women's Association's (SEWA) Women, Water and Work Campaign which organizes women's collective action in Gujarat, India to sustain local water management. Some of the significant factors that have sustained women's collective action are the presence of strong grassroots institutions, the establishment of a technical cadre of women, the ability of women's groups to transcend social barriers and continuous dialoguing with the state. Women have benefited in terms of increased income, reduced drudgery, improvements in the livelihoods of their families, reduced migration of both women and men and increased participation in SEWA's other programs. The most important impact observed is the strengthening of women's collective agency and women's confidence to independently negotiate in the public domain in the water management sector, which was earlier occupied by men. Women's collective agency has catalyzed some gender-equitable change processes at the household level among SEWA leaders but the impacts are not yet widespread.

Background Paper for the World Vision Process titled 'Mainstreaming Gender in Water Resources Management' focuses on approaches of current water management studies. The findings of this study are current approaches to water management are highly segregated, focusing on technical improvements and sectoral solutions without sufficient attention to their basic social and sustainability goals. Recent research has shown that shifting the emphasis to the social base has major implications for strategy and the technologies employed. More technology is not always better. A reorientation of the technological approach may be more effective in delivering water services where they are needed, when they are needed, at a cost that is realistic and acceptable. Within this social re-orientation, most recent policy documents have recognized, a gender approach is essential to the development of effective, efficient and

sustainable systems and strategies. This paper outlines why and it also provides some simple guidelines for putting a gender approach into action. It is meant for policymakers in international and national institutions, professionals within water-sector organizations, and individuals working on sustainable development and conservation strategies. This paper is not just for water specialists but aims to convince all the partners of the vision exercise that gender is a crucial issue that has to be taken into account in the different ongoing vision consultations to build a comprehensive shared vision.

III) OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

- i) To know the profile of Nidhal Village and Water Resource Management Programmes.
- ii) To study the socio-economic characteristics of women respondents.
- iii) To know the women's participation in water resource management programmes undertaken by Nidhal village

IV) METHODOLOGY OF STUDY:

The present study is undertaken to know the women's participation in water resource management programmes undertaken by Nidhal village and awareness concern with water resources. The present study is based on primary as well as secondary data. The primary data were collected by using interview schedule and observation. A sample of 50 women from age group 18-61 above was selected by using random sampling technique for the study.

i) Research Design: Descriptive as well as empirical research design is adopted for the present study.

ii) Study Area: The present study has been carried out only in Nidhal village from Satara district in Maharashtra which is small but this small village developed rapidly after water projects.

iii) Sample Size: All women from the Nidhal village from Satara district is universe of the present study. There is prepared list of households and there are 797 households. Out of total sampling 6% households were selected which covers nearly 50 households and from 50 households 50 women were selected by random sampling technique. Care was taken that all respondents should be women and they are from Nidhal village only.

iv) Sources of Data: The present study was based on the primary as well as secondary data. Interviews with the sampled women with the help of interview schedules and observation were the techniques of data collection. Primary data is collected by fieldwork visits to selected residential areas of Nidhal village and the secondary data is collected from relevant reference

materials have been collected from various Govt. Circulars, Reports, Books and Journals and Websites.

v) Data Processing: The quantifiable data were coded and codebooks were prepared. The coded data were entered into the computer and have been processed with the help of SPSS software, made available under the UGC-DRS-SAP-Phase- III programme, in the Department of Sociology. The computer generated out-put is used for tabulation, analysis and interpretation.

Descriptive statistics is used. Single frequency tables are used for data analysis and interpretation

V) RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

Section-I: Water Resource Management Programmes undertaken by Nidhal

Village

Nidhal constitute the Gram Panchayat office in the year 1952. Nidhal village is situated in Khatav Taluka of Satara district. It is 50 km far from Satara city. Even though this small village get developed rapidly. Until 1983 the village 'Nidhal' was one of the usual backward villages of the Maharashtra. Within the span of 25 years the villagers with community action, participation and contribution transformed a backward village into modern and ideal village in Maharashtra. In India the local self-governments, State Governments, Government of India collectively covers almost all the schemes which can transform any backward village into self-sufficient and self-dependent village. There are also many non-governmental organization and foreign aided projects, which also provide funds for comprehensive development of various sectors. Only thing which is required is the village community has to come together and work collectively and consistently with proper objectives. Nidhal is a village which has become self-dependent and self-sufficient by making use of all these government and other schemes as well as from the contribution and participation of the villagers under the leadership of Shri Chandrakant Dalvi.

Chandrakant Dalvi is born, brought up and educated in the village. He joined as a Deputy Collector through Maharashtra Public Service Commission in the year 1983 and subsequently nominated into Indian Administrative Service (IAS) from the year 1995. He organized people in the village who had gone out of the village for service, trade and profession. Nidhal Nokarvarga and Vyavsaik Sanghatana, Mumbai (NNAVSM) was formed in the year 1983 and through this organization the villagers decided to develop the village through community action, participation and contribution. There are about 530 members of the

NNAVSM and they started contribution of Rs.100 up to 2005 and Rs.200 thereafter every year. The first activity which was undertaken by this NNAVSM and Villagers was the construction of School building for the Secondary School of the village. Chandrakant Dalvi and other members of the NNAVSM and many devoted and active workers of the village are working collectively and continuously towards the all-round development of the village. The village has made use of various government schemes as mentioned above wherever possible and wherever required through the community contribution, community action and community participation for the development of the village.

Today all the physical needs of the village and 8 hamlets of the village are almost fulfilled and the standard of the living of the villagers is increased manifold from the year 1983. The economic development of the village and of the every family is the ultimate aim of the development in the village. Presently village is collectively working upon the economic development of the village in which the five areas are identified viz. watershed development, changing cropping pattern, horticulture plantation, dairy development, and commencing various economic activities for all the 35 self-help groups. The profile of the village, developmental taken place and progress of the activities of the economic development is given in brief in the forthcoming paragraphs.

A) PROFILE OF THE VILLAGE

Population :3596 , Number of Families: 797, Total Population :3596, Geographical area:2001.48hectores., Cultivable area:1558.86 hectares, Forest area :233.34 hectares, Non-Agricultural area : 24.98 hectares Uncultivable area : 182.19 hectares, Rainfall received : 547 mm (Drought Prone Area) Ponds : 03

B) AWARDS RECEIVED FOR THE VILLAGE

1) Cleanest Village in Maharashtra

An ambitious Sanitation Campaign called Sant Gadgebaba Gram Swachata Abhiyan was launched by Government of Maharashtra from year 2001-02. The village Nidhal is declared as “Cleanest Village” in Maharashtra in the Year 2002. The cash prize of Rs.12.50 lacs was awarded and the village was felicitated at the hands of the then Hon .Governor of Maharashtra Dr. P.C.Alexander and in the presence of Hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri Vilasraoji Deshmukh at the State level function organized at Mumbai.

2) Nirmal Gram Award 2007

The Government of India started Total Sanitation campaign under which a scheme called “Nirmal Gram Yojana” was launched to stop open defecation in the villages. The village Nidhal participated and villagers constructed 639 individual latrines from their own expenses.

All households in the village are having individual toilets and they are using it. Village is declared as open defecation free. The village was felicitated at the hands of H.E. President of India, Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at New Delhi with the cash prize of Rs.2.00 lacs.

3) Award for Soil and Water Conservation Campaign 2003-04.

To promote soil and water conservation activities in the villages through community action and participation, the Maharashtra Government launched a scheme called “Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jal Sandharan Abhiyan”. The village Nidhal also participated in this campaign of Government of Maharashtra and executed various soil conservation and water works amounting to the tune of Rs.27.45 lacs. The Village is declared as “First” in the Satara District and Cash prize of Rs.1.50 lacs was awarded.

4) Vima Gram (Insured Village)

The Life Insurance Corporation of India launched a Scheme called “Vima Gram”. If 100 persons from the villages has taken insurance policies the village can be declared as Vima Gram. The villagers were motivated by village leaders and two L.I.C. agents who are also from the village Nidhal and until today 150 persons in the village have taken the Insurance Policies. The L.I.C. of India in the year 2007 declared the village as Vima Gram and awarded cash prize of Rs. 25,000.

C) Management of Waste Water and Solid Waste

As part of participation of the Gram Panchayat through community action in Government of India’s “Total Sanitation Campaign” and Government of Maharashtra’s “Saint Gadgebaba Gram Swachhyata Abhiyan, villagers decided to have best management of waste water and solid waste.

The management of wastewater and sold waste are the important factors for maintenance of sanitation of the village. With the community participation, Gram Panchayat funds and the funds of various State and Central Government Schemes in the due course of time of about 5 years the 3.21 k.mtrs of pucca drainages are constructed. Wastewater of every house is carried to these drainage lines and it is carried out of the villages through main drainages and used for the irrigation of the crops of the nearby farmers.

Solid Waste

Until 2001 every household was having their individual manure pits nearby their houses. All solid waste of every family, was used to be thrown in these pits. There was no system of collection of solid waste and management of it. When village decided to participate in the Saint Gadgebaba Gram SwachhataAbhiyan, it was also decided to remove all the individual manure pits. A mini tractor is being used as “GhantaGadi” which everyday collects the solid waste of

every house and it is collected at one place at outside of the village and converted into the compost.

Because of the excellent system of management of waste water and solid waste the sanitation of the village is improved.

D) Jalswaraj Project. (World Bank & Government of India aided)

The village is having Piped Water Supply Scheme from the year 1985. However, the biggest hamlet of the village i.e. “ThombreWadi” was not having Piped Water Supply. With the help of World Bank, Government of Maharashtra launched a project called “Jal Swaraj” to provide better drinking water facility to the villagers through the community participation.

The village decided to supply the drinking water through piped water scheme under Jalswaraj Project. The cost of the project is Rs.11.02. lacs and there will be 15% contribution of the community in the project. The project will be implemented by the villagers i.e. survey, preparation of plan and estimate, issue of tenders, engagement of contractors and execution of the scheme through the Jalswaraj Samithi comprising of the Gram Panchayat and the representatives of the beneficiaries. The project is due for completion.

E) WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT: (Soil & water conservation measures under taken in the village)

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the village. The geographical location of the village is in the drought prone area as such shortage of water and insufficient and scanty rainfall is the challenge for agriculture before the village. The only programme which can be of help to the village, is soil and water conservation. Village decided to execute the different measures of soil and water conservation.

1) Indo-German Watershed Development Programme

With the help of NABARD by the 20% contribution of the villagers, Indo-German Watershed Development Project is being implemented in the village. The project cost is 1.27 crores. Normally this programme of NABARD is always implemented through NGO. This is the first project which is being implemented by the Village Watershed Development Committee. The NABARD has released funds directly to Village Watershed Development Committee. The project is being implemented for the 2001 hectors of the area of the village. Until today the works of around 20 lacs are completed.

2) Construction of Chain of Cement Bandharas

There are four streams in the village. The village had identified 30 sites suitable for construction of cement bandharas. Until today 24 bandharas are completed out of which in 16 bandharas the beneficiary farmers have contributed 33% of the cost of the bandhara. The

cement bandharas are constructed by village watershed development committee. The bandharas were completed between the periods from 2002 to 2005. The total cost of all the said construction is Rs.38.30 lacs. The length of the back water in the 24 cement bandharas is 8.50 k.mtrs. With the effect of these cement bandharas the water table is increased and as a result the cropping pattern of the village is being transformed.

3) Joint Forest Management

There is 233 hectors of forest land in the village. Under the scheme of Government of India, through the Joint Forest Management protection and preservation of forest as well as soil and water conservation measures in the forest are undertaken. JMFC is registered in the year 2002. The provision of 7.00 lacs is made for 70 hectors of the forest land to undertake the measures of Contour-cum-trench (CCT) Tree Plantation, Mati Nala Bandh and forest bandhs. The Joint forest Management Committee basically constitutes the villagers and officers of the forest department of Government of Maharashtra. JMFC is registered in the year 2002.

F) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMNT OF VILLAGE

The villagers now working upon the economic development of the village. Various projects are being implemented through individual, community action and participation.

1) Establishment of Village Cooperative Credit Society

The villagers have established Nilkantheshwar Cooperative Credit Society (Nilkantheshwar Sahakari Pat Sanstha) in the year 2000. The credit society has deposit of Rs.2.20 crores and had distributed the loan to the villagers to the tune of Rs.1.25 crores. The society has maintained audit class “A” from the beginning of the year. The recovery percentage of loan is 95%. The credit society had constructed recently an independent building for the society with the modern amenities. The society had also recently started MSEB bill collection of the village and also from the surrounding villages.

2) Horticultural Plantation

The Government of Maharashtra had launched Phalbaug Lagvad Yojana (Scheme for encouraging the farmers to go for the horticultural plantation.). The National Horticultural Board had also sanctioned the scheme and it is also being implemented in Maharashtra.

The villagers are guided and promoted to implement this scheme in this village on an extensive scale. From the year 2001-2002 till today about 125 acres of land is brought under horticultural cultivation which included 37 acres of Avla, 20 acres of mango, 32 acres of Pomegranates, 8 acres of custard Apples, 5 acres of Chikoo and 13 acres of Anjir. The Village has set an object of covering additional 125 acres of land under horticulture.

3) Dairy Development and Dairy Farming

The Agriculture of the village being dependent upon the whims of the rainfall, the farmers must be supported through the alternative means of livelihood. The villagers have decided to go for the dairy development. In the year 2005-2006 there was only 400 liters of milk production in the village. The village has set a target to produce 4000 liters of milk within four years. The exposures tours and workshops were organized for the villagers and the programme has now being implemented in the full speed. Within two years the milk production has gone up to 2200 liters and the villagers are hopeful to achieve the target set by them for themselves within coming two years. There is a plan of going for milk processing in the coming years.

4) Changing the Cropping Pattern

The village being in the DPAP area, traditionally the grain crops were basically cultivated on the large scale. Due to implementation of Indo-German Watershed Development Project, construction of 24 cement bandharas and various measure of rain harvesting, the water table of the village had remarkable raised and there is guarantee of water for the cultivation of Kharip and Rabbi crops. To make the best use of available groundwater the villagers have banned the digging of bore wells.

Various agriculture extension measures are undertaken and the farmers are being guided to go for the commercial crops, crash crops, oil sides, vegetables, floriculture and horticulture. The village watershed development committee had appointed an agronomist to guide the farmers. In the year 2006-2007 there are 321 hectors of commercial crops, 125 acres of horticultural plantation, 10 hectors of oil seeds and 11 hectors of flowers are being cultivated in the village.

5) Use of Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation Methods

The efforts are being made for the judicious development of watershed of the village. The increase in availability of water has to be used with maximum efficiency. The villagers have decided to go for drip and sprinkler irrigation methods. There is just beginning on this front and 12 farmers are using the drip irrigation system and 4 farmers are using sprinkler system of irrigation. As on today 22.20 hectors of area is being irrigated through drip and sprinkler irrigation system. All horticulture plantation is being brought under this alternative system of irrigation. The target of 100 hectors is set for the next two years.

6) The marketing of agriculture produce

There are 4 persons of the village are in Mumbai in the business of trading vegetables, commercial crops and orchards. The village is collectively working for the marketing of

agriculture produce through these village traders at Mumbai. The vegetable, orchards and commercial crops are collectively transported to these traders at Mumbai which guarantee the earliest sale and best prices of the day for the farmers of the village.

There is a plan of establishing co-operative, horticultural and vegetable marketing and processing society so that the marketing of the village produce will be done through this cooperative society of the villagers. The processing unit will also be established through this cooperative society; for the value addition to the agriculture produce.

G) Women Welfare and Village Development

Participation of the women in the development process of the village is very important. Community participation depends upon how women in the village are organized.

To organize women in the village, encouragement was given to form Mahila Mandals and Mahila Bachat Gat (SHG). There are 33 self-help groups in the village out of which 27 are of women. There 378 women and their families are organized through these SHGs. Until today the total savings of SHGs is around 15 lacks. Most of the SHGs have started dairy as an economic activity and the Bank of Maharashtra had recently financed Rs.26.75 lacs to these SHGs to purchase cows and buffalos and to construct cattle sheds. This activity is on the rise and village is hopeful of achieving the target of production of 4000 liters of milk per day in the coming few years.

There is a federation of SHGs viz., Sanyukta Mahila Bachat Gat. Through this organization the participation of women is ensured in maintaining proper sanitation of the village. Because of the participation of these women in the Sant Gadgebaba Gram Swachhata Abhiyan of the Maharashtra State and the Total Sanitation Campaign launched by the Government of India, the village "Nidhal" is honoured as "Cleanest Village" in Maharashtra in 2002 and "Nirmal Gram" in the year 2007. Through these organization, the women in the village work for the family planning and as a result there are only 15 eligible couples who are to be operated for the family planning. These Mahila Mandal supervise Mid-Day Meal Scheme for the primary school and Anganwadis. Because of the awareness created among the women by this organization there are no mal-nutrited children in the village.

H) Organisations in Village

Nidhal Nokar warg Ani Vyavasayik Gramvikas Sanghatana, Mumbai, Chandrakant Dalvi Yuva Pratishthan Nidhal, Shri. Nilakantheshwar Mahadeo Devasthan Trust Nidhal, Panlot Vikas Sanstha Nidhal, Mahila Bachat Gat Federation Nidhal

I) Current Activities concern with Water Resource Management:

There are started on 22/5/2016 under Jalyukta Shivar Yojana of Maharashtra government.

Section-II- Respondents Socio-economic Background:

This section discussed the socio-economic background of selected samples. The socio-economic background of respondents is studied in terms of age, marital status, and religion, caste type of family and membership of organisation

Table-No: 1 Distribution of respondents by Socio-economic Characteristics

Age	Frequency	Percent	Type of Family	Frequency	Percent
21 to 40	20	40.0	Joint Family	22	58.00
41 to 55	14	38.00	Nuclear	28	40.00
56 to 65	12	24.0	Total	50	100.00
Total	50	100	Religion	Frequency	Percent
			Hindu	50	100.0
Marital Status	Frequency	Percent	Total	50	100
Married	47	94.00	Education	Frequency	Percent
Unmarried	1	2.00	Illiterate	10	20.0
Widow	2	4.00	1 st to 10 th	25	58.0
Total	50	100.00	10 th to 12	12	24
			Graduated	03	06
Caste-Category	Frequency	Percent	Total	50	100
Open (Maratha, Lingayat & Brahman)	45	90	Membership of Organization	Frequency	Percent
OBC (Mali,Navi,Kumabar ,Parit)	05	10	Yes	47	94
SC/ST/ NT/DNT/VNT	-	---	No	03	06
Total	50	100	Total	50	100
			Yes	47	94

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table: No: 1 represents socio-economic background of respondents in terms of age, marital status, religion, caste category and education, type of family and membership of organisation

Age-wise distribution of the respondents: Above Table shows that out of 50 respondents 20 (40%) belong to the age group of 21-40, 14 (28%) belong to the age group of 41-55 and 12(24%) belong to the age group 56-65above.

Distribution of the respondents by marital status: Table shows that out of 50 respondents 47(94%) respondents are married, 1(2%) are unmarried and 2(4%) are widow. Research concluded that majority of respondents are married.

Religion-wise distribution of the respondents: Table shows that out of 50 respondents, all respondents are Hindus

Caste-category wise distribution of the respondents: Table shows out of 50 respondents, 45(90%) respondents are from open category, 5(10%) are from OBC category and one respondent is from SC/ST/NT/DNT/VNT category.

Distribution of respondents by education: Out of 50 respondents, 10(20%) are illiterate, 25(50%) have education upto 1 to 10th and 12(24%) have education 12th std and 3(6%) are graduated.

The distribution of the respondents by the type of family: Out of 100 respondents, 22(44%) respondents have joint family, whereas 28(56%) have nuclear.

The distribution of the respondents by membership of organisation: Out of 50 respondents, 47(94%) respondents are members of any organisation and only 3(6%) are not members of organisation.

In this section the socio-economic characteristics of respondents are discussed.

SECTION-III: Women's Participation in water Resource Management Projects

In this section questions are asked to women respondents concern with participation and their opinions are assessed in the form of table.

Table-2: Information of Projects

Information and awareness of Projects	Frequency	Percentage
YES	48	96
No	02	04
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-2 represents opinion of respondents concern with information and awareness of projects, out of total respondents, 48(96%) are aware and have information and only two are not aware and not have information.

Table-3: By whom these projects are implemented

Implementation of Projects	Frequency	Percentage
Govt	18	36
Community Participation	31	62
Semi-government	1	02
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-3 represents opinion of respondents concern with by whom projects implemented. Out of total respondents, 18(36%) have told that government has implemented, 31(62%) have told that through community participation these projects are implemented and only one told that

semi-government has implemented. But all central and state are projects are implemented with the help of community participation.

Table-4: Duration of these projects

Duration of Projects	Frequency	Percentage
Months	-	-
One year	04	8
Five year	17	34
Ten year	29	58
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-4 represents opinion of respondent's concern duration of projects. Out of total respondents, 4(8%) have told that duration of project is one year, 17(34%) have told that five yrs and 29(58%) that above ten yrs.

Table-5: Opinion of women concern with their participation.

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	48	96
No	02	04
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-5 represents opinion of respondents concern with their participation in projects. Out of total respondents, 48(96%) have told that they have participated in the project and only two respondents told that they have not participated.

When question was asked that what type participation or when they participated what they did. Majority of respondents answered very spontaneously and they told they participated through Shramdahan, tree plantation, sowing the seed, creating awareness through self-help groups, digging pits,, village cleanliness, cleaning ponds and wells, removing stones and bring the cement in bucket, social forestry, participation of construction of Bandharas and work done through Shramdhanuptoone lakhs.

Table-6: Opinion of women concern with participation in Village Watershed Development Committee

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	38	76
No	10	20
No idea	2	04
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-6 represents opinion of respondents concern with participation in village watershed development committee. Out of total respondents, 38(76%) have told that they have participated and 10(20%) not participated, 02(26%) respondents told that they have no idea.

When it was asked that how they participated in this committee? They through Self-Help groups by attending meeting, as member, training, awareness campaign and through Shramdan increase in self-confidence, awareness, community participation, development communication skill and they got gifts also.

It was asked that how the members of this committee was selected. Majority of women have no idea. But nearly ten to twelve women told that they were selected SHGs, Gramasaba and on their own skills. But actually for the selection of members Gramsaba was called and with opinions of villagers members were selected.

Table-7: Opinion of women concern with satisfaction of projects

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	49	98.00
No	01	2.00
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-7 represents opinion of respondents concern with satisfaction of projects. Out of total respondents, 49(98%) told that they are satisfied and only one respondents told that she is not.

Table-8: Opinion of women concern improvements after projects

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	49	96.00
No Idea	01	2.00
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-8 represents opinion of respondent's concern improvements after projects. Out of total respondents, 49(98%) told that there is much improvements and only one respondents told that she is no idea.

When question was asked that what type of improvements occurred after projects are availability of work, improve in socio-economic conditions, plenty of drinking water, increase in livestock, greenery, empowerment of women through SHGs and increases community participation and unity among women.

Table-9: Opinion of women concern with participation in Jalyukta Shivar Yojana

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	39	78.00
No Idea	11	22.00
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-9 represents opinion of respondents concern with participation in Jalyukta Shivar Yojana. Out of total respondents, 39(78%) told that they have participated and 11(22%) they have not.

Table-10: Distribution of women who allow to put their opinion in meeting of Jalyukta Shivar Yojana

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	43	78.00
No Idea	11	22.00
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-10 represents distribution of women who allow put their opinion in meeting of Jalyukta Shivar Yojana. Out of total respondents, 43(86%) told that they were allowed and 07(22%) were not allowed.

Table-11: Awareness about depletion of water resources

Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	42	84.0
No	7	14.0
No idea	1	2.0
Total	50	100

(Source: Data Collected from Field Work)

Table-11 shows awareness about depletion of water resources among of women. Out of total respondents, 42(84%) told that they are aware, 07(14%) were not aware and one respondent has no idea about this.

Measures to conserve the water resources: When the question was asked that what should do to conserve the water resources in future. All respondents gave the answers. Some of the measures are proper use of water for irrigation, new projects, rain harvesting, sprinkler and drip irrigation, storage of water through bandaras, measure control ground water and laws concern with ground water, continuous implementation of projects, management of waste water, control over bore-wells , awareness and proper management of rain water to avoid overflow of river, ponds and streams.

Some Observations: Nidhal is a village which has become self-dependent and self-sufficient by making use of all these government and other schemes as well as from the contribution and participation of the villagers under the leadership of Shri Chandrakant Dalvi. Women are giving the positive response about the projects. According to them due to implementation of projects they are getting the work in village only, they got sufficient water for drinking and agriculture, number of self-help groups also increases and increase in self-help groups helps to improve the socio-economic conditions of women in village. Old women are telling that when they came village after marriage there were less number of trees. No after the projects number of trees increased and it will help to protect environment. According these women they faced severe drought in 2002 and severe problem of drinking water, but in future if there will severe drought occur they will not face water problems because there is plenty of water. It is important

observation that women who are the members of SHGs are giving spontaneous response and they are well aware about that. In case of some women their husbands are giving the answers they are not allowed. Two to three women feel that there is no equal benefits.

VI) CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS:

Major findings of study concern with socio-economic characteristics that majority of respondents are from age group of 21-40yrs , married, educated upto 10th class, maratha castes and from open category, households are nuclear and women are member of SHGs. Findings of women's participation show that majority of respondents (96%) have information and are aware about projects, respondents have participated in village watershed development committee which are implemented, government and semi-government. Women told that all central and state are projects are implemented with the help of community participation. Majority of women respondents told that improvements occurred after projects are availability of work, improve in socio-economic conditions, plenty of drinking water, and increase in livestock, greenery, and empowerment of women through SHGs and increases community participation and unity among women. When the question was asked that what should do to conserve the water resources in future. All respondents gave the answers yes. Majority of women told that within the span of 25 years the villagers transformed a backward village into modern and ideal village in Maharashtra with community action, participation and contribution.

Implementation of projects with rigorous community participation brought rapid changes and improvements in lives of the villagers. With help of SHGs women's participation in these projects made successful implementation of projects. While we are discussing about the community participation in such projects us do not ignore half population i.e. women's population. In case of water resource management women's participation must be there consider because women are best managers. So Nidhal village is best model where women's participation in these initiatives is considered seriously.

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5. RIGHT TO PROTECTION' OF FOREIGN TOURIST: THE HUMANITARIAN APPROACH

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Abstract:

Crimes against foreign tourist are increasing day by day. There are so many cases of assault, rape and murder of foreign tourist. From the economical point of view Tourism plays very important role. It earns foreign exchange for our country. Many people looks at 'Tourism Industry as' the source of livelihood. But unfortunately some ill minded people causes harm to the Tourist who comes to India in search of peace of mind and to see its natural beauty. India has its unique culture & values. Whole world appreciates our values of life. One of the most important value of Indian people is "Āthithi Deo Bhawa". Athithi means guest. In India we call our guest as "God" Oxford Dictionary defines the "Tourist" as the person who is travelling or visiting a place for "Pleasure". In 2016 India has seen 266% growth in foreign tourist arrival. As the number of tourist are increasing the crime rate against them is also increasing. In majority of the cases it has been seen that Indian people are crazy about foreigner's skin tone, their clothing, and their life style. When foreign tourist goes for visit to different places they unintentionally become the point of attraction. It results into many crimes. Total crimes registered against foreign tourist were 365 in the year 2015 (Source: Immigration Control & Measures in India, 2015). This Article attracts the attention of readers towards the rights of tourist against crimes, Incidences of crimes against tourist which has attracted the attention of whole world, Accountability of Indian Government and suggestions to deal with ill minded people, responsible for causing harm to foreign Tourist.

Key words: Brotherhood Crime, Constitution, Foreign Exchange, Foreign Tourist, Human Rights, Violations, Government Accountability, Ministry of Tourism

Crimes against foreign tourist are increasing day by day. There are so many cases of assault, rape and murder of foreign tourist. India attracts the attention of foreigners by its great culture, religious places, and historical monuments. Diversity in

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culture, language, food, clothing, folk dance, music is again the matter of attraction. To enjoy its cultural diversity and many time for educational purpose foreigners visit to India. India is known to whole world for its respect for human values. The incidence recently happened with Swiss Couple really raises the question is people of India really respect human values. Ill behavior of few ill minded people is stigmatizing the whole country unnecessarily.

When a Swiss couple from Lausanna, a city in French-speaking part of Switzerland was chased, assaulted and humiliated by a group of youth in Fatepur Sikri in the month of October 2017 once again question has arisen about the safety of the foreign tourist. It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Tourism to ensure the safety and security of the foreign tourist. The number of crimes against foreign tourist are increasing day by day. Tourism in India is very important from economical point of view. It is growing at tremendous rate. India earns foreign exchange through tourism. It also creates job opportunities as well. It really plays a vital role in economic development of the country.

We, as the citizens of democratic life connect each and every right which is related to life with Article 21, "Right to life and personal liberty"ⁱ. Today after this and much other such type of incidences of crimes against foreign tourist make us to think whether 'The right to life and personal liberty which also includes Right to live life in a dignified manner' is accessible only to Indian people. What about the right to live life in dignity of foreign tourist, students and what are the steps taken by state to protect their rights? The incidence above mentioned is the clear example of violation of Article 14, 19, 21, if the couple would have been the Indian citizens. 'They were not Indian ... cannot be an excuse' for violating their human right to move freely as they come only after completing necessary formalities. They were also had freedom of expression. When the lady in this case said 'no' for the selfie. It was her choice. Respecting her choice was the duty of the culprits. Instead of following the duty, culprits attacked them brutally. This attack left Clerc with a fractured skull and a clot in his brain, serious injury to an ear which has resulted into hearing impairment. Droz was left with a broken arm and multiple bruises.ⁱⁱ

This is not the first case where human rights of tourist were violated. We have witnessed another case that is Scarelett Keelings rape and murder case, 2008. Scdarelett Keeling was drugged and sexually abused and murdered by two local men. This case

also grabbed international attention as British nationals are the largest number of tourist visiting Goa. When these two accused were acquitted by the Goa Court Scarlets mother Fiona Mackeown showed distrust on Indian justice system.ⁱⁱⁱ

Human Rights are accessible to all irrespective of place of birth, color, origin, caste and creed. According to Gandhiji 'freedom' means not only self-rule by Indians, but freedom from all social evils like inhuman customs and behavior, traditions and various forms of discrimination in public and private life, based on caste, community, creed or gender. Obviously, restrictions are placed on foreign tourist in interest of security and integrity of nation by state. But no private person is permitted to violate their freedoms without a lawful reason. India's foremost commitment is to create situation in public and private life protecting right to life in dignity without any distinction. A new provision on 'Fundamental Duties' by Article 51A (e)^{iv}, "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women".

Hon'ble Supreme Court has been incorporating human rights jurisprudence. It is globally recognized and accepted, as the creed of the governance of the country.^v Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has kept the constitution alive and relevant to the changing Indian social conditions by interpreting constitutional provisions in global human rights perspective.^{vi} The internationally recognized human rights have been treated as enforceable by Supreme Court. The human rights of foreign tourist are also treated as enforceable by taking stringent action against culprits.

Hon'ble Supreme Court has not discriminated in enforcing right to life which also includes 'Right to Privacy' even against the women of easy virtues in the case 'State of Maharashtra V. Madhukar Narain'^{vii} It has been held that the 'right to privacy' is even to a woman of easy virtue and no one can invade her privacy. Even a police officer visited the house of one Banubai in uniform and demanded immoral favor. On refusing he tried to have her by force. She raised a hue and cry. When he was prosecuted he told the court that she was the lady of easy virtue and therefore her evidence was not to be relied. The Court rejected the argument of the applicant and held him liable for violating her right to privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution. Thus right to privacy is basic right. It is the human right of every person. Foreign Tourists have equal right to privacy; and it is correlative duty of the state machinery to protect their right.

Non-Citizens also entitled to right to life. It was held in very popular Chakmas Migrant Case^{viii}. In this case Supreme Court held that the State is bound to protect the life and liberty of every human being whether he is citizen or non-citizen. In this case Public Interest Litigation was filed by National Human Right Commission under Article 32 for enforcing the right under Article 21 of the constitution of about 65000 Chkmas. These Chakmas were migrated from East Pakishtan (Now Bangladesh) in 1964, first settled in Assam and Tripura and became Indian Citizen in due course. However State of Assam expressed their inability to rehabilitate all of them. So these 65000 Chakmas shifted to State of Arunachal Pradesh. The All Arunachal Pradesh Student Union (AAPSU) had threatened to forcibly expel them from the state. All the efforts to tackle the problem of their security had failed the National Human Right Commission was compelled to approach the Supreme Court for appropriate relief. The Hon'ble Supreme Court held that the State is bound to protect the life and liberty of every being whether citizen or non-citizen. The court also directed the state to pay to the petitioner i.e. Human Right Commission Rs. 10,000 as a cost of the petition for bringing the matter before court.

Compensation can be given under Public Law even though violation of human right is of Foreign Women: Indian Constitution: Gang Rape on Bangladeshi women.

In Chairman, Railway Board V. Chandrima Das^{ix} the Supreme Court held that “where a foreign national, a Babladeshi was gang raped compensation can be granted under Public Law (Constitution) for violation of fundamental right on the ground of Domestic Jurisdiction bases on constitutional provisions and Human Rights Jurisprudence. In this case the question aroused whether Fundamental Rights are available to foreign nationals, or not the Court held that the relief can be granted to the victim for two reasons, firstly, on the ground of Domestic Jurisprudence based on constitutional provisions and secondly, on the ground of Human Rights Jurisprudence based on the ‘Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948’. It has the international reorganization as the “Moral Code of Conduct” having been adopted by the General Assembly by the United Nations”

Press Information Bureau Government of India, Ministry of tourism had published the Law for safeguarding the Rights of Tourists. No Central Government or Tourism legislation has been formulated by the Government of India. However the

National Tourism Policy has been formulated in 2002 for development and promotion of Tourism sector which also contain basic principles for safeguarding the interest of tourist and tourism agencies. These principles include:

1. Government led, Private Sector driven, and Community welfare oriented actions
2. Sustainability
3. Earmarking a section of State Police to act as Tourist Police.

Accordingly, the ministry of Tourism has taken following steps for safeguarding the interest of tourism and tourism agencies.

1. Adoption of code of conduct for safe Tourism.
2. Grant of Central Financial Assistance to the State Government of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for setting up Tourist Facilitation and Security Organization on a pilot basis.
3. Issue of Guidelines on Safety & Security of Tourist for State Government/ Union Territories and Tips for Travelers
4. The launch of a 24*7 Toll free Multi-Lingual Tourist Helpline in 12 Languages including Hindi& English on Toll free number
5. Issue of advisory to State Government/ UT Administration for creation of Tourist Police^x

Suggestions:

Every time stringent punishment cannot be a solution for each and every crime. Of course there must be the provision of punishment for breaking of law; value based education can also prove to be helpful to protect the human rights of other people.

The purpose and scope of the criminal justice system should not restricted to controlling and punishing crime but it should in broader sense protect the rights of vulnerable groups. When a person leaves his state and goes to other state for any reason for instance education, tourism, and training. Many times due to his different skin color, language way of living becomes vulnerable. In this scenario it is the responsibility of the state as well as the citizens of that state to help the person who has visited by completing necessary formalities. Such moral values don't come only by birth. But these values have to be taught from childhood.

1. Moral education based on human values is required to be introduced in each Indian while giving national education.
2. 'Sharing and Caring for each other' in the society is the basic culture of India. This value should be inculcated by parents as well as teacher in children at an early stage. Such type of human values can be inculcated right from childhood for developing an

individual to become an enlighten citizen of his country, who will be eager and ever ready to care for other and share social responsibility.

3. 'Good Governance' is again an important factor to protect the 'right to live in dignity' of foreign tourist. Under the 'Good Governance' every individual enjoys all human freedoms not because he is citizen of the country but merely by his being the member of human family.
4. Every Indian should keep in mind that development is not just scientific, technological, commercial and economic development. Real development is developing attitude and behavior of one human being with other human being.
5. Research has to be done in the issue of the protection and security of tourist. If we analyse the problem carefully, solution can be easily find out.

Conclusion:

Tourist travels for pleasure but when they have to face ill treatment from the places where they had gone to get pleasure it becomes very shocking experience for them. They never even think of visiting such places again. Shocking experience they face stigmatizes whole country as well as people of that country. Prospective tourists avoid such places for visit. It effect on "Right to Livelihood" of the people who depends on "Tourism Industry" for their living and ultimately foreign exchange, our country is earning through foreign exchange. Most important of all, incidences above mentioned raises a question whether the culprits who violate human rights of tourist should be left without any stringent action. Answer is definitely no. People who witness such incidences should help such tourist. If it is physically not possible to stop the incidence at least we have an option to take the help of police. Ultimately it the responsibility of the state to provide extra protection to 'Foreign Tourist' by providing and implementing proper code of conduct provided by 'Ministry of Tourism'. Police should take extra efforts to provide protection to 'Foreign Tourist'. If we fulfill our responsibility as human being, we can definitely stop such type of violence before occurring.

Nation is known by its people. Thousands of foreign tourist visit India to experience the hospitality of Indian people. They wish to see our culture and tradition. So it is the duty of every citizen to obey law and to see others are also doing so. Deep sense of patriotism teaches us brotherhood with all human being without discrimination. We should never forget that we belong to the nation of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Gautam Buddha and Gandhiji who promoted 'ahimsa' and 'humanity'. Dr.

Babasaheb Ambedkar added the word “Brotherhood” in Indian Constitution. Our behavior and hospitality provided to Foreign as well as local tourist can make us proud about our country and its people. It is the duty of every citizen to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood among all the people India. This positive attitude about the humanity attracts foreign tourist towards our country. One of our duties is to raise economic growth and development our country. Foreign Tourism is surely helpful to increase our GDP. So, it is not only the responsibility of the state but also of the civilians of India to protect human rights of our foreign tourist without discrimination.

We should start practicing ‘Atithi Devo Bhav’ instead of just preaching it.

ⁱ Article 21, Right to life and personal liberty, Constitution of India

ⁱⁱ The Times of India, Swiss Couple attacked in Fatehpur Sikri, 3 arrested; Centre, UP Government condemn incident, pp1 Thursday, October 26,2017

ⁱⁱⁱ Indianexpress.com/article/India/India-news-India/scarlett-keeling-goarape-and-murder-case-fiona-mackeown-3046347

^{iv} Fundamental Duties, Article 51 (A), Constitution of India

^v Human Values and Human Rights, Justice Dharmadhikari, Universal Law Publishing Co, New Delhi, pp 6

^{vi} Ibid pp 9

^{vii} AIR 1991 SC 207

^{viii} National Human Right Commission v. State of Arunachal Pradesh, (1996) 1 SCC 742

^{ix} AIR 2000 SC 988

^x Pib.nic.in/news site/Print Release

६. शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमान

- डॉ. एम.एस. देशमुख^१, तानाजी नामदेव घागरे^२

गोषवारा:

१९९१ च्या आर्थिक सुधारणावादी धोरणाने भारतीय कृषी क्षेत्र अधिकाधिक बाजाराभिमुख बनले. आर्थिक बदलांच्या अंमलबजावणीमुळे कृषी क्षेत्रात नवीन आदाने, तंत्रज्ञान व यंत्रसामुग्रीचा वापर अधिक वाढला. शासकीय व खाजगी क्षेत्रात निर्माण झालेले संशोधन, तंत्रज्ञान, यंत्रसामुग्री व आधुनिक कृषी प्रणालीचा वापर अधिक सखोल करण्यात आला. त्यामुळे पीक उत्पादन, जमिनीची उत्पादकता व पीक आराखडा यामध्येही सरंचनात्मक बदल घडून आले. त्याचा फायदा कृषी क्षेत्र व त्यावर अवलंबून असणाऱ्या शेतकरी वर्गास, ग्रामीण जनतेस, कृषी प्रक्रिया उद्योगक, व्यापारी आणि शहरी ग्राहक वर्गास झाला. परंतु त्याच वेळेस देशात निर्माण करण्यात आलेली नफा केंद्रीत बाजार व्यवस्था, शासनाचे कृषी विषयक धोरण व निर्णय, राजकीय पक्ष व त्यांची विचारधारा, भांडवलदारांची भूमिका आणि व्यापारी-दलाल-उद्योजक यांनी निर्माण केलेली समांतर बाजार व्यवस्था यामुळे शेतकरी वर्गास त्याच्या कृषी मालास योग्य, वाजवी व किफायतशीर किंमत मिळण्यात अडचणी निर्माण झाल्या. शिवाय शहरी, निम-शहरी भागातील ग्राहक वर्गास अन्नधान्य, कडधान्य, फळे व भाजीपाला यासारखे जीवनावश्यक कृषी उत्पादन उच्च दराने खरेदी करावे लागत आहे. म्हणजेच एकीकडे कृषी मालास किफायतशीर व रास्त दराची उपेक्षा तर दुसरीकडे ग्राहकांची उच्च दराने लूट ह्या दोन्ही प्रथा एकाच वेळेस देशात सुरू असल्याचे पहावयास मिळते. शेतकरी आपल्या कृषी मालास योग्य व वाजवी दर मिळावा म्हणून संपावर जात आहे वा आत्महत्या करीत आहे तर शहरी, निम-शहरी ग्राहक वर्ग वाढत्या भाववाढीवार नियंत्रण ठेवावे म्हणून मोर्चे काढत आहे वा आंदोलने करीत आहे. त्यामुळे कृषी उत्पादनास किफायतशीर भाव मिळवून देणारी, ग्राहकांच्या आर्थिक बाजूंची जपवणूक करणारी आणि बाजार व्यवस्थेत समन्वय साधणारी यंत्रणा/प्रणाली/प्रतिमान म्हणजेच 'शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमान' होय.

(प्रस्तुत प्रतिमान मा. मुख्यमंत्री, महाराष्ट्र राज्य यांना सादर केले आहे. संदर्भ क्रमांक: ३०३/७३३/२०१८, दिनांक: २३/०३/२०१८)

मुख्य /सूचनक शब्द: शेतकऱ्यांचे उत्पन्न, किमान हमी भाव, कृषी विकास, शाश्वत प्रतिमान, ग्रामीण विकास

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१. प्रस्तावना: मानावाच्या अस्तित्वासाठी व दैनंदिन उदरनिर्वाहासाठी आवश्यक असणारे कडधान्य, तृणधान्य, पालेभाज्या, तेलबिया, फळे, मसाल्याचे पदार्थ, दूध, अंडी व मांस यांचे उत्पादन व पुरवठा फक्त कृषी क्षेत्रातूनच होतो. परंतु विकासाच्या टप्प्यात स्वीकारलेल्या व्यवस्थेत कृषी व्यवस्था व त्याच्याशी संबंधित घटकांवर नकारात्मक परिणाम घडून आले. या व्यवस्थेत एकीकडे शेतकऱ्यांच्या कृषी मालास किफायतशीर व रास्त दराची उपेक्षा तर दुसरीकडे ग्राहकांची उच्च दराने लूट ह्या दोन्ही प्रथा एकाच वेळेस देशात सुरू असल्याचे पहावयास मिळते. कृषी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमानाचा मुख्य उद्देश म्हणजे शेतकऱ्यांना त्यांच्या कृषी उत्पादनाचा योग्य व रास्त दर मिळवून त्यांच्या उत्पन्नात शाश्वत वाढ करणे आणि कृषी क्षेत्रावर आधारित असणाऱ्या ग्रामीण भागाचा सर्वांगीण व चिरंतन विकास साध्य करणे होय. प्रतिमानाच्या माध्यमातून शेतकऱ्यांना उच्च उत्पादन घेण्याची ऊर्जा तर मिळेलच; पण त्याबरोबर ग्राहकांना कृषी उत्पादने वाजवी व माफक दरात सहज आणि सर्वत्र उपलब्ध होतील. शिवाय या माध्यमातून शेतकरी व ग्राहक यांच्या आर्थिक बाबींचे संरक्षण होणार आहे. प्रतिमानामध्ये सरकारच्या भूमिकेबरोबर शेतकरी-ग्राहक यांच्यावरही महत्वाची जबाबदारी टाकण्यात आली आहे. किंबहुना शेतकऱ्यांचा सहभाग व त्यांची जबाबदारी हीच शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्न वाढीचा भाग असणार आहे. जे शेतकरी या प्रतिमानातून निर्माण झालेल्या योजनेत वा यंत्रणेत पूर्ण सहभागी होतील, अशाच शेतकऱ्यांना किमान हमी भावाचे (एकूण खर्च अधिक ५० टक्के ज्यादा भाव) संपूर्ण कायदेशीर व न्यायालयीन अधिकार प्राप्त होतील.

२. शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमान

शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमानामध्ये शासन, शेतकरी व ग्राहक यांच्यावर सम-समान जबाबदारी टाकण्यात आली आहे. या प्रतिमानामुळे सरकार आणि शेतकरी यांना न्यायालयीन व कायदेशीर बाबतचे समान अधिकार प्राप्त होणार आहेत. परंतु या सर्वांमध्ये शासनाची भूमिका महत्वाची ठरते. कारण या सर्व योजनेची अंमलबजावणी व त्यावरील पूर्ण नियंत्रण ठेवण्याची जबाबदारी ही संपूर्णतः शासनाची असणार आहे.

३. प्रतिमानाचे उद्देशः

- १) शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्नात शाश्वत वाढ करून त्यास कायदेशीर अधिष्ठान प्राप्त करून देणे.
- २) कृषी उत्पादनास रास्त व किफायतशीर किंमत मिळवून देणे.
- ३) ग्राहकांची कृषी उत्पादनाच्या दर्जा व किंमतीबाबत होणाऱ्या फसवणूक व पिळवणूकीस आळा घालणे.
- ४) शहरी व निम-शहरी भागातील ग्राहकांना उच्च प्रतीचे कृषी उत्पादन रास्त किंमतींना उपलब्ध करून देणे.
- ५) शेतकऱ्यांमध्ये उच्च उत्पादन घेण्याची प्रेरणा व कुवत वृद्धिंगत करणे.
- ६) कृषी क्षेत्रास आधुनिक, व्यवसायाभिमुख व पारदर्शक करणे.
- ७) जिल्हा स्तरीय कृषी प्रक्रिया उद्योगांची स्थापना व चालू असलेल्या उद्योगांचा विस्तार करणे.
- ८) कृषी व कृषी आधारित क्षेत्रामध्ये अधिकाधिक नवीन रोजगार निर्माण करणे.
- ९) स्थानिक पातळीवर तरुण व कुशल नव-उद्योजक निर्माण करणे.
- १०) ग्रामीण बाजारपेठेचा विस्तार घडवून आणणे.
- ११) आंतरराज्य व्यापार सुलभ करून त्यात वाढ घडवून आणणे.
- १२) केंद्र सरकारचे कृषी विषयक आयात-निर्यात धोरण अधिक लवचिक व कृषिपूरक बनविणे.
- १३) कृषी मालांच्या किंमतीवर नियंत्रण ठेवून देशात विकासात्मक भाववाढ निर्माण करणे.
- १४) शेतकऱ्यांना विविध योजनांचे अनुदान व वित्तीय मदत प्रत्यक्ष लाभ हस्तांतरण (DBT) माध्यमातून बँक खात्यात वर्ग करणे.
- १५) नैसर्गिक साधनसामुग्रीचा महत्तम वापर करून तिचे संवर्धन व संरक्षण करणे.
- १६) ग्रामीण भागातून शहरी भागात होणाऱ्या लोकसंख्येच्या स्थलांतरणास आळा घालणे आणि त्यांच्या उदरनिर्वाहाचे साधन ग्रामीण भागात उपलब्ध करून देणे.
- १७) ग्रामीण भागात नवनवीन उत्पन्न प्राप्तीचे मार्ग निर्माण करून आर्थिक विषमता कमी करणे.
- १८) पायाभूत सेवा-सुविधेच्या माध्यमातून सामाजिक-आर्थिक सुधारणेसह ग्रामीण भागाचा सर्वांगीण विकास साध्य करणे.

४. प्रतिमानाचे स्वरूप व प्रणाली:

शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमानाचे स्वरूप व त्याची प्रणाली ८ भागात विभागली आहे.

I) सरकारची कार्ये, भूमिका व जबाबदारी:

प्रस्तुत योजना ही एक सरकारी योजना असून त्याचे स्वरूप, कार्ये व अंमलबजावणी करण्याची जबाबदारी सरकारची राहणार आहे. त्यासाठी सरकारवर पुढील सेवा-सुविधा उपलब्ध करून देणे बंधनकारक/अनिवार्य आहे.

१) नोंदणी प्रक्रिया: शेतकऱ्यांचा आधार क्रमांक हेच त्याचे 'युजर नेम' असेल.

शेतकऱ्यांना पीक उत्पादनाबाबतची सर्व नोंदणी करण्यासाठी शासनाने एक वेब पोर्टल आणि मोबाईल ॲप तयार करावे. त्यामध्ये कृषिविषयक सर्व प्रकारची माहिती भरण्याची व्यवस्था करावी. शेतकरी वर्गाची आर्थिक, सामाजिक व शैक्षणिक माहितीसह पशुधनाची माहिती यामध्ये जमा करावी. किमान हमी भावाचा माध्यमातून लाभ घेण्यासाठी शेतकऱ्यांना कृषी उत्पादनाची नोंदणी करणे अनिवार्य आहे. जर एखादा शेतकऱ्याने नोंदणी केली नाही तर तो शेतकरी मिळणाऱ्या सर्व लाभास अपात्र ठरविण्यात येईल. तसेच त्याच्या उत्पादनास किमान हमी भाव देण्यासाठी सरकारवर कोणतेही कायदेशीर बंधन राहणार नाही.

नोंदणी

(शेतकऱ्यांचा आधार क्रमांक बँक खात्याशी सलग्न असणे अनिवार्य)

अ.क्र	नोंदणी	तपशील
पहिला टप्पा		
१	वैयक्तिक शैक्षणिक कौटुंबिक	१. शेतकऱ्यांचे संपूर्ण नाव: ----- २. लिंग: १. महिला २. पुरुष ३. संपूर्ण पत्ता : गाव ----- तालुका ----- जिल्हा ----- पिन कोड: ----- ४. भ्रमणध्वनी क्रमांक: ----- ५. वय: ----- वर्ष ६. शिक्षण: १. प्राथमिक २. माध्यमिक ३. उच्च माध्यमिक ४. पदवी ५. पदवीतोर पदवी ६. कुटुंबातील एकूण सदस्य संख्या: पुरुष ----- महिला ----- मुले -----
२	शेती	एकूण जमिनीचे क्षेत्रफळ:एकर/हेक्टर i. जिरायती: एकर/हेक्टर ii. बागायती:एकर/हेक्टर

३	पशुधन (संख्या)	देशी गाय: ----- संक्रमित गाय: ----- म्हैस: ----- शेळी: ----- मेंढी: ----- पक्षी (कोंबडी/बदक/इतर) -----
४	पीक हंगाम	पीक लागवडीचा हंगाम १. खरीप २. रब्बी ३. उन्हाळी
५	पीक लागवड (अत्यावश्यक माहिती)	<div> <p>१. कडधान्य</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>२. तृणधान्य</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>३. फळे</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>४. पालेभाज्या</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>५. तेलबिया</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>६. इतर पिके</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> </div> <div> <p>१. लागवडीचा दिनांक: -----</p> <p>२. लागवडीखालील एकूण क्षेत्रफळ:गुंठे/एकर/हेक्टर</p> <p>३. पीक लागवडीचा प्रकार :</p> <p>i) जिरायती ii) बागायती</p> <p>४. जलसिंचनाचा वापर: होय/नाही</p> <p>५. पीकाचा प्रकार:</p> <p>i) सेंद्रिय ii) रासायनिक</p> <p>६. पीक विमा नोंदणी क्रमांक : प्रत्येक पिकांचा पीक विमा उतरवणे कायदेशीर व अनिवार्य करावे. त्याशिवाय नोंदणी पूर्ण होऊ शकणार नाही. त्यासाठी सरकारने पीक विमा नोंदणी क्रमांक शेतकऱ्यांना ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध करून द्यावा.</p> </div>
६	माती परीक्षण	माती परीक्षण कार्ड काढले आहे का ? ----- १. होय २. नाही (विशिष्ट कालावधीनंतर माती परीक्षण कार्ड काढणे अनिवार्य करणे)
<p>नोंदणीचा पहिला टप्पा पूर्ण</p> <p>प्रत्यक्ष वित्तीय मदत: शासनाने पीक लागवडीची नोंदणी केलेल्या शेतकऱ्यांना त्यांच्या बँक खात्यात 'प्रत्यक्ष लाभ हस्तांतरण' माध्यमातून प्रती एकरी विशिष्ट रक्कम जमा करून मदत करावी. गावातील तलाठ्यांनी नोंदणी केलेल्या लागवड क्षेत्राची तपासणी करावी. त्यामुळे या प्रणालीत पारदर्शकता निर्माण होऊन शेतकऱ्यांना अधिक विश्वास निर्माण होईल. शेतकऱ्यांनी लागवड क्षेत्राची अचूक माहिती भरावी. अयोग्य माहिती भरल्यास ते शेतकरी पुढील काळात सर्व योजनास व लाभास अपात्र राहतील.</p> <p>पीक लागवडीची अचूक माहिती उपलब्ध: या प्रणालीच्या माध्यमातून शासनास विविध पिकांखाली असणारे लागवड क्षेत्राची माहिती प्राप्त होईल. शासनास देशांतर्गत एकूण उत्पादनाची माहिती उत्पादनपूर्व काळात मिळेल. त्यामुळे मागणी-पुरवठा तत्वांनुसार कृषी विषयक धोरण व निर्णय ठरविता येतील.</p>		

दुसरा टप्पा		
१	<p>पीक उत्पादन (अत्यावश्यक माहिती)</p> <p>पीक विक्री (अत्यावश्यक माहिती)</p>	<p>१. कडधान्य</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>२. तृणधान्य</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>३. फळे</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>४. पालेभाज्या</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>५. तेलबिया</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>६. इतर पिके</p> <p>i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>१. एकूण उत्पादन:</p> <p>.....क्विंटल /टन</p> <p>२. विक्रीसाठी उपलब्ध असणारे एकूण उत्पादन:</p> <p>.....क्विंटल /टन</p>
२	पीक उत्पादनाची खरेदी-विक्री	<p>अ) ज्या शेतकऱ्यांनी पीक लागवडीची/पीक उत्पादनाची प्रथम नोंदणी केली असेल अशा शेतकऱ्यांची शासनाने पीक विक्रीसाठी प्रथम निवड करावी. कृषि उत्पादनाच्या विक्रीसाठी शासनाने शेतकऱ्यांना तालुका, जिल्हा, शहरी वा जवळच्या भागातील कृषि उत्पन्न बाजार समितीमध्ये विशिष्ट तारखेस कृषि माल विक्रीसाठी पाचारण करावे. त्यासाठी विक्री दिनांक व ठिकाण यासंदर्भातील संदेश शेतकऱ्यांच्या मोबाईल क्रमांकावरती पाठवावा. त्यामुळे निश्चित दिवशी विशिष्ट बाजार समितीमध्ये कोणत्या कृषि मालाची व किती आवक येणार आहे ते कळेल. त्यानुसार विक्रीचे नियोजन करता येईल. शिवाय शेतकरी स्वतःच्या पातळीवर आपल्या उत्पादनाची विक्री करू शकतो.</p> <p>ब) ज्या कृषि उत्पादनांची तात्काळ विक्री करावी लागते (भाजीपाला, फळे), अशा कृषि मालाची विक्री करण्यासाठी शेतकरी स्वतः बाजार समितीची निवड करू शकतो. त्यासाठी शेतकऱ्यांनी कोणत्या दिवशी व कोणत्या बाजार समितीत आपला कृषि माल विक्री करणार आहेत त्याची नोंदणी मोबाईल ॲप/वेबसाईट/नोंदणी सुविधा केंद्राद्वारे करावी.</p>

२. नोंदणी सुविधा:

शेतकरी स्वतः वेब पोर्टल व मोबाईल ॲपद्वारे पिकांबाबतची संपूर्ण नोंदणी करू शकतात. शेतकऱ्यांना नोंदणी करण्यासाठी सरकारने पुढील ठिकाणी केंद्र चालू करावे वा आहे त्या केंद्रात वा ग्रामपंचायत कार्यालयात ऑनलाईन नोंदणी करण्याची सुविधा उपलब्ध करून देण्यात यावी.

१. ई-सेवा केंद्र २. ग्रामपंचायत कार्यालय ३. तलाठी कार्यालय

३. संदेश सुविधा :

नोंदणी केलेल्या शेतकऱ्यांना त्यांच्या मोबाईल नंबरवरती कृषी विभागाचे संदेश प्राप्त होतील. शेतकऱ्यांनी नोंदणी केलेल्या पिकांबाबतची सर्व माहिती, हवामान, पीक नियोजन, पिकांवरील रोग, रोगांवरील प्रतिबंधात्मक उपाय आणि बदलते वातावरण (वार्याचा वेग, ढगाळ वातावरण व बर्फवृष्टी) यासंबंधी माहिती संदेशाच्या स्वरूपात पाठवली जाईल. त्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांना नोंदविलेल्या पिकांचे योग्य व शास्त्रशुद्ध नियोजन करता येईल. शिवाय पशुधनाबाबत आवश्यक असणारी माहिती (रोग व त्यावरील प्रतिबंधात्मक लसीकरण) संदेशाच्या स्वरूपात मिळतील.

II) शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे मुख्य आधारभूत मार्ग

१. पीक लागवडीची अचूक माहिती:

स्वातंत्र्यप्राप्तीनंतर ते आजतागायत देशामध्ये वा विविध राज्यांमध्ये एकूण पिकाखालील क्षेत्र व एकूण कृषी उत्पादन याबाबतची अचूक माहिती उपलब्ध होत नसल्याचे निदर्शनास येते. शासन मागील वर्षीचे अंदाजित क्षेत्र विचारात घेऊन ढोबळमानाने चालू वर्षाचे पीक लागवडीखालील क्षेत्राचा अंदाज घेत कृषि क्षेत्राशी संबंधित शासकीय योजना व धोरणात्मक निर्णय घेत असे. त्यामुळे हे निर्णय व धोरणे शेतीसाठी अनुकूलच असायचे असे नाही. परंतु या प्रतिमानच्या माध्यमातून विविध राज्यात, जिल्ह्यात, तालुक्यात व गावामध्ये विविध पिकाखालील एकूण लागवड क्षेत्र वा एकूण पीक उत्पादनाची अचूक व शास्त्रीय सांख्यिकीय माहिती शासनास प्राप्त होईल. त्यानुसार पीक लागवड व पीक उत्पादनाच्या माहितीच्या आधारे शासनास आपले चालू व भविष्यकालीन कृषिविषयक धोरण व निर्णय घेता येतील.

२. पीक उत्पादन व पीक विक्रीचे नियोजन:

शेतकऱ्यांनी नोंदणीच्या दुसऱ्या टप्प्यात भरलेल्या माहितीच्या आधारे विविध राज्यात, जिल्ह्यात, तालुक्यात व गावामध्ये विविध पिकाखालील एकूण पीक उत्पादन व विक्रीसाठी उपलब्ध असणारे उत्पादन याची अचूक व शास्त्रीय सांख्यिकीय माहिती शासनास प्राप्त होईल. त्यानुसार शासनास मागणी-पुरवठ्याच्या आधारे कृषी उत्पादनाची आंतरराज्य व्यापार, परकीय धोरण (आयात-निर्यात) आणि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणालीचे धोरण निश्चित करता येईल. यातून अतिरिक्त उत्पादनाचा प्रश्न निकाली लागेल.

३. ग्रामीण विमा विकास निधी:

योजनेचा लाभ घेण्यासाठी शेतकऱ्यांना पीक विमा काढणे अनिवार्य असल्यामुळे पीक विमा मधून मोठ्या प्रमाणात रक्कम निर्माण होईल. कृषी विमा योजना सुविधा संपूर्ण देशभर व सर्व पिकांना लागू करावी. त्यामुळे पीक विमा मधून जमा होणारी ही रक्कम कांही लाख करोड रुपये असेल. पीक विम्यासाठी शासनास करावी लागणारी गुंतवणूक याचीही माहिती सरकारला प्राप्त होईल. शासनास पीक विमा प्रणालीतून जमा होणारी रक्कम 'ग्रामीण विमा विकास निधी'त जमा करता येईल. या निधीचा वापर शेतकरी वर्गास प्रती एकरी/हेक्टरी पीक नुकसान भरपाई, अनुदान, वित्तीय मदत व इतर कृषी जोखीम कमी करण्यासाठी करता येईल. परंतु त्यासाठी सरकारने स्वतः पीक विम्यासाठी एक स्वतंत्र व स्वायत्त सरकारी कंपनी स्थापन करावी. इतर कोणत्याही खाजगी कंपन्यांकडे पीक विमाविषयक जाबाबदारी देऊ नये.

४. जिल्हा प्रक्रिया उद्योगांची उभारणी:

देशातील प्रत्येक जिल्ह्याकडे विशिष्ट कृषी पीक घेण्याची क्षमता व नैसर्गिक सधनता आहे. नोंदणी प्रणालीच्या माध्यमातून पीक आराखडा, पीक लागवड व पीक उत्पादन विषयक माहितीच्या आधारे शासनाने प्रत्येक जिल्ह्यात सर्वाधिक उत्पादन होणाऱ्या किमान तीन कृषी पिकांवर प्रक्रिया करणारे उद्योग सुरू करावेत (सरकारी/सहकारी/संयुक्त/खाजगी तत्वावर). म्हणजेच प्रत्येक जिल्ह्यात पहिल्या वर्षी मोठ्या आकाराचे ३ प्रक्रिया उद्योग सुरू होतील आणि शेतकऱ्यांना आपला कृषी माल

त्याच जिल्ह्यातील प्रक्रिया उद्योगास विक्री करता येईल. फक्त महाराष्ट्र राज्याचा विचार केला असता एकूण ३६ जिल्ह्यांपैकी ३३ जिल्ह्यांत पहिल्याच वर्षी एकूण ९९ प्रक्रिया उद्योग निर्माण होतील. देशातील प्रत्येक राज्यात अशा प्रकारचे कृषी प्रक्रिया उद्योग स्थापन झाल्यास कृषी उत्पादन, उत्पादकता, ग्रामीण रोजगार, शेतकरी उत्पन्न व प्रक्रिया उद्योग यावरती सकारात्मक बदल घडून येतील. प्रत्येक जिल्ह्यामध्ये नवीन रोजगार निर्माण होऊन नवनवीन तरुण व कुशल उद्योजक तयार होतील.

५. आंतरराज्य व्यापार:

सदरचे प्रतिमान देशातील सर्व राज्यात लागू केल्यास सर्व राज्यातील पीक लागवडीखालील क्षेत्र आणि पीक उत्पादन याची माहिती जमा होईल. एखाद्या राज्यात एखाद्या पिकाची लागवड वा उत्पादन कमी झाल्यास त्या राज्यास इतर राज्याकडून पिकाची खरेदी करता येईल. म्हणजेच देशपातळीवरील कृषी उत्पादनांची खरेदी —विक्री करता येईल. उदा. जर एखाद्या राज्यात कांदा पिकाचे लागवडीखालील क्षेत्र कमी असल्यास वा कांद्याचे उत्पादन कमी झाल्यास त्या राज्यास इतर ज्या राज्यात कांद्याचे उत्पादन जास्त झाले आहे, त्या राज्याकडून खरेदी करता येईल. म्हणजेच देशांतर्गत पीक उत्पादनांची खरेदी -विक्री झाल्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांना जास्तीचे उत्पन्न प्राप्त होईल. शिवाय परकीय देशातून कृषी मालाची उच्च दराने आयातही करावी लागणार नाही.

६. परकीय आयात -निर्यात धोरणामध्ये लवचिकता:

केंद्र सरकारला राष्ट्रीय पातळीवर एकूण पिकाखालील क्षेत्र आणि पीक उत्पादन यांची अद्यावत माहिती प्राप्त होईल. राष्ट्रीय स्तरावर आवश्यक असणारे अन्नधान्य, भाजीपाला व फळे याबाबत एकूण उत्पादन व त्याची मागणी यानुसार तौलनिक मांडणी करता येईल. त्यानुसार देशांतर्गत उपभोगानुसार सरकारला कृषी क्षेत्राचे आयात-निर्यात धोरण (परकीय व्यापाराचे धोरण) ठरवता येईल. कृषी विषयक आयात-निर्यात धोरणात अधिक लवचिकता निर्माण होईल. ज्या हंगामात वा वर्षामध्ये देशांतर्गत उपभोगाच्या पातळीपेक्षा अधिक उत्पादन झाल्यास अनुकूल निर्यात धोरण

स्वीकारून शेतकऱ्यांच्या मालास अधिक दर प्राप्त होईल. शिवाय परकीय चलन प्राप्त होऊन देशाच्या परकीय चलन साठ्यात वाढ होईल.

७. कृषी वित्त पुरवठा व कर्ज वसूली:

या योजनेच्या माध्यमातून नोंदणी केलेल्या शेतकऱ्यांना कृषी विषयक आवश्यक असणारी सर्व प्रकारची आर्थिक मदत प्राप्त करता येईल. शिवाय शासनास व बँकांना अधिकचा कृषी वित्त पुरवठा करता येईल. साधारण एका वर्षांनंतर नोंदणी केलेल्या सर्व शेतकऱ्यांच्या पीक लागवड व उत्पादन बाबतची माहिती व रेकॉर्ड तयार होईल. त्यामुळे बँकाना (सरकारी/खाजगी/सहकारी) शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पादकतेची माहिती घेऊन शेतकऱ्यांना उत्पादन क्षमतेनुसार कर्जपुरवठा करता येईल. यामध्ये नोंदणी केलेल्या महिला शेतकऱ्यांना तत्काळ 'किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड' देणे शक्य होईल.

नैसर्गिक आपत्तीच्या काळात (दुष्काळ, महापूर, बर्फवृष्टी व विविध रोग) कर्ज वसूली लांबणीवर टाकता येईल वा त्यामध्ये सवलत देता येईल. कारण बँकाकडे वा शासनाकडे शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पादकतेची, उत्पन्नाची व त्याच्या कृषी कुवतेची सांख्यिकीय माहिती शासनाकडे उपलब्ध असणार आहे. शिवाय अनुदानास पात्र असणाऱ्या शेतकऱ्यांना थेट आर्थिक मदत करता येईल. त्यामुळे राजकीय लाभासाठी राबविल्या जाणाऱ्या विविध अनुदान व कर्जमाफी योजनांचा वापर करण्यापासून शासनाची कायमची सुटका होईल.

८. अनुदानाचे हस्तांतरण:

शेतीमध्ये आवश्यक असणाऱ्या आदानांवर प्रत्यक्ष लाभ हस्तांतरण (DBT) व जनधन, आधार व मोबाइल (JAM) माध्यमातून किमान हमी भाव, खते, बी-बियाणे, जलसिंचन, यंत्रासामुग्री व प्रत्यक्ष आर्थिक सहाय्य इत्यादींचे अनुदान देणे वा वित्तीय मदत करणे शक्य होईल.

९. गट शेती:

कृषी गणना २०१०-११ नुसार, भारतातील एकूण शेतकऱ्यांपैकी ८५ टक्के शेतकरी हे सिमांत व लघु धारण क्षेत्र प्रवर्गात मोडतात आणि त्यांचे एकूण जमीन धारण क्षेत्र हे फक्त ४४.६ टक्के आहे. लोकसंख्येची वाढ व जमिनीचे विभाजीकरण विचारात घेता, जमीन धारकांच्या संख्येत वाढ होत

जाईल आणि जमीन धारण क्षेत्र उत्तरोत्तर कमी होत जाईल. त्यामुळे भविष्यात शेतीतून शेतकऱ्यांना अधिकचे व शाश्वत उत्पन्न प्राप्त करावयाचे असल्यास गट शेती करण्याशिवाय पर्याय राहणार नाही. त्यामध्ये प्रत्येक गावामध्ये गट शेती वा सहकारी शेतीचे प्रयोग सहज करता येतील. या प्रणालीच्या माध्यमातून प्रत्येक गावांमधील एकूण कुटुंबातील सदस्य संख्या, जमिनीचे आकारमान, पिकांखालील क्षेत्र संदर्भातील सर्व माहिती प्राप्त होईल. त्यानुसार सिमांत व लघु शेतकऱ्यांना गट शेती वा सहकारी शेती करण्यासाठी प्रोत्साहित करता येईल.

१०. पीक आराखड्यामध्ये सकारात्मक बदल:

शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमानाचा महत्वाचा फायदा म्हणजे पीक आराखड्यामध्ये घडून येणारा सकारात्मक बदल होय. प्रतिमानाच्या सहाय्याने कृषी उत्पादनास किमान हमी भावाचे सुरक्षा कवच लाभल्यामुळे शेतकरी उपलब्ध कृषी आदानांचा पर्याप्त वापर करून विविध पिकांचे उत्पादन घेण्यास प्रारंभ करतील. त्यामुळे आंतरपिक, बहुविध पीक पद्धतीचा अधिक गतीने विस्तार होईल. शेतकऱ्यांना उपलब्ध क्षेत्रामध्ये विविध पिकांचे अधिकाधिक उत्पादन घेऊन आपल्या उत्पन्न वाढ करता येईल.

११. भूगर्भातील पाणी पातळीत वाढ:

देशातील एकूण पिकाखालील क्षेत्राचा व त्यास आवश्यक असणाऱ्या पाणी वापराचा विचार केल्यास असे दिसून येते की, उस पिकाखालील क्षेत्र फक्त ४ टक्के आहे; मात्र शेतीत वापरल्या जाणाऱ्या एकूण पाण्यापैकी ६५ टक्के पाण्याचा वापर उस पिकासाठी होत आहे. इतर ९६ टक्के पिकांसाठी फक्त ३५ टक्के पाणी शिल्लक राहते. ऊसाचे उत्पादन घेण्याचे महत्वाचे कारण म्हणजे इतर पीक उत्पादनापेक्षा ऊस उत्पादनातून काही ठोस उत्पन्न प्राप्त होईल, अशी शेतकऱ्यांची धारणा आहे आणि त्यात तथ्य आहे. पाण्यासाठी शेतकरी विविध स्रोतांचा शोध घेत असून जमिनीखाली खोलवर असणाऱ्या पाण्याचा वापर करण्यास सुरवात केली आहे. त्यामुळे भूगर्भातील पाणी पातळी नष्ट होण्याच्या मार्गावर आहे. यावर कायमस्वरूपी मात करावयाची असल्यास इतर पिकातून शेतकऱ्यांना कायमस्वरूपी उत्पन्न प्राप्तीची हमी मिळाली पाहिजे. शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत

प्रतिमानाच्या सहाय्याने निर्माण होणाऱ्या किमान हमी भावाच्या सुरक्षतेमुळे शेतकरी कमी पाण्यावर उत्पादन होऊ शकणाऱ्या पिकांची लागवड करतील. त्यामुळे भूगर्भात असणाऱ्या पाण्याचा वापर कमी होऊन पाणी पातळीत झपाट्याने वाढ होईल.

१२. कृषी शिक्षण-प्रशिक्षणाची सोय:

कृषी शिक्षण व प्रशिक्षण द्वारे बदलते तंत्रज्ञान व पीक उत्पादनाची आधुनिक पद्धतीची माहिती होते. त्यांतून शेतकऱ्यांना भविष्यकालीन नियोजन करता येते. या प्रणालीच्या माध्यमातून प्रत्येक गावातील अधिक उत्पादन घेणाऱ्या उच्च शिक्षित तरुणांना कृषी विषयक तंत्रज्ञान, यंत्रासामुग्री, नवीन लागवडीचे तंत्र यासंदर्भात शिक्षण व प्रशिक्षण देण्यासाठी निवड करता येते. शिवाय विविध अभ्यास दौऱ्यांसाठी (देशांतर्गत व पाश्चिमात्य) त्यांची निवड करता येईल. त्यामुळे गावामध्ये कृषिविषयक आधुनिक तंत्रज्ञान व बदलते पीक नियोजन याबाबतची माहिती प्रशिक्षित शेतकऱ्यांमार्फत होईल.

III) शेतकऱ्यांची भूमिका व जबाबदारी:

कृषी उत्पादनास योग्य व रास्त दर मिळावा म्हणून शेतकऱ्यांनी मागील चार दशकापासून संघर्ष चालू केलेला आहे. संघर्षाचा अखेरचा उपाय म्हणून तो काही काळासाठी संपावरती गेला. तरीही शेतकऱ्यांना त्यांच्या मागण्यांना योग्य न्याय मिळाला नाही. त्यामुळे कृषी उत्पादनास शेतकऱ्यांच्या मागणीनुसार किफायतशीर दर हा शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतीमानातून प्राप्त होणार आहे. त्यासाठी शेतकऱ्यांनी नोंदणी करताना पूर्ण व योग्य माहिती भरावी. कारण या माहितीवरच शासनाचे आयात-निर्यात धोरण, आंतर राज्य व्यापार, प्रक्रिया उद्योग यासारखे धोरण ठरणार आहे. शेतकऱ्यांना या योजनेतून लाभ प्राप्त करून घेण्यासाठी पुढील जबाबदारी व कर्तव्य पार पाडणे अनिवार्य असणार आहे.

- १) नोंदणी संदर्भातील सर्व माहिती ऑनलाईन भरणे.
- २) आधार क्रमांक बँक खात्याशी लिंक करणे.

- ३) योग्य कालावधीमध्ये पीक लागवड, पीक उत्पादन व पिक उत्पादनाची खरेदी-विक्री बाबतची अचूक माहिती भरणे.
- ४) ऑनलाइन नोंदणीपूर्वी पीक विमा काढणे.
- ५) पीक लागवडीपूर्वी माती आरोग्य कार्ड (माती परीक्षण) काढणे.

IV) किमान आधारभूत किंमत:

किमान आधारभूत किंमत/हमी भाव ही शेतकऱ्यांसाठी उत्पादनाची एक उत्तेजक प्रेरणा आहे. परंतु सद्य स्थितीतील किमान हमी भावाचे धोरण उत्पादनामध्ये वाढ घडवून आणण्यास पोषक/अनुकूल नसल्याचे दिसून येते. अन्नधान्याच्या किमतीत वाढ होऊन भाववाढ निर्माण होण्याची शक्यतेमुळे सरकारने किमान आधारभूत किंमतीत दोन दशकांपासून शाश्वत व रास्त वाढ केलेली नाही. शिवाय मागील कांही वर्षांपासून आधारभूत किंमतीचा लाभ फक्त १० टक्के शेतकऱ्यांनाच होत निदर्शनास आले असून त्याचा अप्रत्यक्ष लाभ व्यापारी/दलाल घेत असल्याचे दिसून येते. ज्या प्रकारे तिमाही ग्राहक किंमत निर्देशांकानुसार महागाईचा दर ठरतो त्याच प्रकारे किमान हमी भाव हा पीक हंगामानुसार (तिमाही कालावधी) जाहीर करावा. या पीक हंगामानुसार कृषी आदानांच्या बदलत्या किंमतीनुसार किमान हमी भावामध्ये बदल करावा.

आदानांच्या किंमतीत बदल करण्यासाठी कृषी आदानांच्या उत्पादकांना आदानांच्या किंमतीची माहिती सरकारला देणे कायदेशीर व बंधनकारक करावे. त्यामुळे सरकारकडे या आदानांच्या बदलत्या किंमतीची माहिती जमा होईल आणि त्याचा वापर किमान हमी भावाचे धोरण ठरविताना करता येईल. किमान हमी भाव ठरविताना स्वामीनाथन आयोगाने सुचललेल्या शिफारशीनुसार एकूण खर्च अधिक ५० टक्के ज्यादा भाव हे सूत्र वापरावे.

किमान आधारभूत किंमत = कृषी उत्पादनाचा एकूण खर्च (C₂) + खर्च आधारित ५०% ज्यादा भाव

किमान आधारभूत किंमतीचे हस्तांतरण:

शासनाने जाहीर केलेला किमान हमी भाव व बाजारातील प्रत्यक्ष किंमत यामध्ये तफावत निर्माण झाल्यास त्या फरकावएवढी रक्कम प्रत्यक्ष लाभ हस्तांतरणाच्या (DBT) माध्यमातून कृषी उत्पादक

शेतकऱ्यांच्या बँक खात्यात जमा करावी. त्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांना त्याचा प्रत्यक्ष, पारदर्शक व तात्काळ लाभ प्राप्त होईल.

V) न्यायालयीन संरक्षण:

शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमानास शासनाने कायदेशीर व वैधानिक दर्जा देण्यात यावा. त्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांना काही न्यायिक अधिकार प्राप्त होतील. त्याच प्रकारचे न्यायिक अधिकार शासनासही प्राप्त होतील.

- नोंदणी केलेल्या शेतकऱ्यांच्या कृषी उत्पादनास किमान हमी भाव देण्यास सरकारची कायदेशीर बांधिलकी राहिल. जर शासनाने किमान हमी भाव देण्यात दिरंगाई केल्यास अथवा असमर्थता दर्शविल्यास शेतकरी न्यायालयात आपला हक्क आणि कायदेशीर न्याय प्राप्त करू शकतो. शिवाय या कायदेशीर प्रक्रियेसाठी येणारा खर्चही शेतकरी प्राप्त करू शकतो.
- जे शेतकरी चुकीची, अयोग्य माहिती वा इतरांनी उत्पादित केलेला कृषी माल स्वतःच्या नावावर नोंदणी करतात; अशा शेतकऱ्यांनावर कायदेशीर कारवाई करण्याचे अधिकार शासनास प्राप्त होतील. अशा शेतकऱ्यांचे नाव अपात्र यादीत समाविष्ट करणे, वित्तीय दंड वा सर्व योजनांपासून शेतकऱ्यांना अपात्र ठरविण्याचे अधिकार शासनाचे राहतील.

VI) कृषीमाल दर मोबाईल ॲप्लिकेशन व कृषी माल विक्री कायदा:

एकूण खर्च अधिक ५० टक्के भाव या तत्वाने किमान आधारभूत किंमत सरकारने जाहीर केली तर दैनंदिन उपभोगाच्या कृषी उत्पादनांची किंमत वाढून भाववाढ घडून येईल आणि शहरी मतदारांचा सरकार वरील रोष वाढेल, या भीतीपोटी सरकार खर्च आधारित ५० टक्के भाव तत्वाने हमी भाव जाहीर करित आणि वा त्यामध्ये कालानुरूप वाढ करित नाही. परंतु सरकारच्या गलथान कारभारामुळे वा कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणीच्या अभावामुळे देशात कृषी उत्पादनांची एक समांतर बाजार व्यवस्था निर्माण झाली आहे. त्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांकडून कवडीमोल किंमतीने विकत घेतला जाणारा कृषी माल अवाढव्य/ उच्च किंमतीने ग्राहकांना विकला जातो. या समांतर बाजार व्यवस्थेवर मात करण्यासाठी व खर्च अधिक ५० टक्के भाव या तत्वाने किमान आधारभूत किंमत

लागू कार्यासाठी 'कृषी माल विक्री कायदा व कृषीमाल दर मोबाईल ॲप्लिकेशन' धोरण निर्माण करावे.

सरकारने ग्राहकांसाठी एक मोबाईल ॲप्लिकेशन तयार करावे. त्यामध्ये प्रत्येक बाजार समित्यांमार्फत विक्री केलेल्या कृषी उत्पादनाचा दैनंदिन दर मोबाईल ॲप्लिकेशन मध्ये जाहीर करावा. ग्राहकास बाजार समितीकडून विक्री झालेला दर आणि प्रत्यक्ष बाजारात मिळणारा दर यांची तुलना करता येईल. कृषी उत्पादनाच्या बाजारातील किंमती (ग्राहक प्रत्यक्ष खरेदी करतो ती किंमत) ही बाजार समितीमध्ये विक्री केलेल्या किंमतीपेक्षा ३० ते ४० टक्के पेक्षा अधिक नसावी. त्या अनुषंगाने 'कृषी माल विक्री कायदा' तयार करावा. त्यामध्ये या बाजार समितीतील विक्री किंमतीच्या ३०-४० टक्के पेक्षा जास्त किंमतीने विक्री करणाऱ्या विक्रेत्यांवर 'कृषी माल विक्री कायदा' अंतर्गत कायदेशीर कारवाई करावी. शिवाय ग्राहकांना त्या विक्रेत्याविरोधात तक्रार करण्याचा अधिकार बहाल करावा. यामुळे कृषी वस्तु बाबत ग्राहकांची होणारी आर्थिक लुट व पिळवणूक यास प्रतिबंध घालता येईल. त्यामुळे शासनास 'खर्च अधिक ५० टक्के भाव' तत्वाने हमी भावात शाश्वत व चिरंतन वाढ करता येईल व ग्राहकांची आर्थिक पिळवणूकीस आळा घालता येईल.

VII) कृषी उत्पादन विक्रेत्यांची नोंदणी:

ज्या प्रकारे शेतकऱ्यांना आपल्या पिकांची संपूर्ण नोंदणी करणे अनिवार्य आहे त्याच प्रकारे नोंदणी अनिवार्यता कृषी माल विक्रेत्यांवर करावी. जे विक्रेते बाजार समित्यांकडून कृषी माल विकत घेतात त्यांना नोंदणी करणे कायदेशीर करावी. यामध्ये त्यांना एक नोंदणी क्रमांक द्यावा किंवा त्यांचा आधार क्रमांक हाच नोंदणी क्रमांक करावा. या नोंदणी क्रमांकावर त्यांनी विकत घेतलेल्या कृषी मालाची नोंद करावी किंवा शासनाने करून द्यावी. या माध्यमातून सर्व विक्रेत्यांची व त्यांनी विकत घेतलेल्या कृषी उत्पादनाची सर्व माहिती प्राप्त होईल. विक्रेत्याने किती माल विकत घेतला आहे, याची सर्व माहिती असल्यामुळे बेकायदेशीर शेतमाल साठवणुकीवर आळा घालता येईल. शिवाय बेकायदेशीर साठेबाजी करणाऱ्या व्यापऱ्यांवर कडक कायदेशीर करवाही करावी व त्यांचा परवाना कायमचा रद्द करावा. तसेच कृषी उत्पन्न बाजार समितीत होणारे कृषी मालाचे लिलाव हे शासन

नियुक्त व्यक्तींकडून करण्यात यावेत. यामध्ये इतर कोणत्याही दलाल/व्यापऱ्यांना लिलावाचे कोणतेही अधिकार देऊ नयेत. त्यामुळे संगनमताने केले जाणारे लिलाव व त्यातून होणाऱ्या शेतकऱ्यांच्या आर्थिक शोषणास आळा घालता येईल.

VIII) शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे सहाय्यक आधारभूत मार्ग:

देशातील शेतकऱ्यांचे उत्पन्न २०२२ सालापर्यंत दुप्पट करण्याचे उद्दिष्ट सरकारने नुकतेच जाहीर केले आहे. देशाच्या कृषी विकासाचा दर व सद्यस्थिती विचारात घेतली असता, फक्त शेती क्षेत्रातून शेतकऱ्यांचे उत्पन्न दुप्पट होणार नाही. त्यासाठी कृषी आधारित वा कृषीपूरक व्यवसाय व उद्योग स्थापन करावे लागतील किंवा आहे त्या व्यवसायात पारदर्शकता निर्माण करून शेतकऱ्यांना पूर्ण कार्यक्षमतेने त्यामध्ये सहभागी होण्यासाठी प्रवृत्त करावे लागेल. कृषी व कृषी आधारित व्यवसायाच्या मदतीने शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्नात नियोजित वेळेपूर्वीच दुप्पट वाढ करता येईल. देशातील सर्व शेतकऱ्यांना कृषी व कृषी आधारित व्यवसायांमध्ये सामावून घेणारे व शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्नात वाढ घडवून आणणारे पुढील सहाय्यक आधारभूत मार्ग आहेत.

१. सेंद्रिय शेती:

भारतात ब्रिटिश राजवटीचा शेवट होण्यापर्यंतच्या कालखंडात सेंद्रिय पद्धतीने शेती करणारा भारत जगात 'सुजलाम सुफलाम' देश म्हणून ओळखला जात होता. नैसर्गिक पद्धतीने अन्नद्रव्यांनी समृद्ध केलेल्या जमिनीत जेव्हा पिके घेतली जातात तेव्हा त्यास सेंद्रिय शेती असे म्हटले जाते. सेंद्रिय शेती ही एक जीवनपद्धती आहे. केवळ पिकांचे उत्पन्न वाढविण्यासाठी ही संकल्पना मर्यादित नाही. सेंद्रिय शेतीमुळे (i) सेंद्रिय शेतीमुळे जमिनीचे, प्राण्यांचे, मानवाचे आणि प्रत्येक सजीवांचे आरोग्य व त्यांच्या जीवनमानाचे संतुलन निर्माण राखले जाते. (ii) सेंद्रिय शेतीची कार्यपद्धती ही पर्यावरणीय पद्धत व नैसर्गिक जीवनचक्र पद्धतीवर आधारित असून पर्यावरणास पोषक आहे. (iii) सभोवतालची परिस्थिती व जीवनमानाची हमी यामध्ये खात्रीशील व सट्टा संबंध निर्माण करण्याचे कार्य सेंद्रिय शेती पद्धतीतून पार पडले जाते. (iv) वर्तमानकालीन मानवी आरोग्य व पर्यावरणाचे रक्षण करण्याबरोबर भविष्यकालीन वा पुढील पिढीच्या जीवनमानाची व आरोग्याची शाश्वती सेंद्रिय

शेतीतून प्राप्त होते. सेंद्रिय शेतीच्या माध्यमातून 'सुजलाम सुफलाम' कृषी भारताची पुन्हा एकदा नव्याने ओळख निर्माण होईल. शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्नात वाढ घडवून आणण्यासाठी कृषी उत्पादकतेत वाढ व उत्पादन खर्चात घट होणे आवश्यक व अनिवार्य होते. ही दोन्ही उद्दिष्टे सेंद्रिय शेतीमधून पूर्ण होतात. सेंद्रिय शेती शेतकऱ्यांचे उत्पन्न वाढविण्यासाठी पुढील प्रमाणे कार्य करते.

■ **पीक उत्पादन व जमिनीच्या उत्पादकतेत वाढ:**

सेंद्रिय शेतीत वापरली जाणारी आदाने ही पुर्णपणे पर्यावरण पूरक असतात. त्यामुळे जमिनीचा पोत समतोलीत राहण्यास मदत होते. मृदेची गुणवत्ता वाढण्याबरोबरच उपयुक्त सूक्ष्मजीव, जंतु व जिवाणू यांच्या वाढीस पोषक वातावरण निर्माण होते. त्यामुळे पीक उत्पादन व जमिनीची उत्पादन क्षमता यामध्ये दीर्घकालीन व चिरंतन वाढ घडून येते.

■ **उत्पादन खर्चात घट:**

सेंद्रिय शेतीत पीक उत्पादन घेण्यासाठी वापरली जाणाऱ्या आदानांमध्ये कंपोस्ट खते, गांडूळ खत, हिरवळीची खते, बायोडायनॅमिक, बायोडायजेस्टर, जिवामृत, पंचगव्य, बिजामृत, अमृतपाणी, व्हर्मीवॉश, नत्र स्थिरीकरण जिवाणू, स्फुरद विरघळणारे जिवाणू, नत्र स्थिरीकरण वनस्पती, सापळा पिके, रक्षक सापळा, प्रकाश सापळा, फेरोमेन ट्राप्स, दशपर्णी अर्क, परोपजीवी वा परभक्षी कीटक, विषानुजन्य औषधे, बुरशीजन्य औषधे, वनस्पतीजन्य औषधे इत्यादींचा समावेश होतो. रासायनिक शेती पद्धतीत वापरल्या जाणाऱ्या आदानांच्या किंमतीपेक्षा सेंद्रिय शेतीमधील आदानांच्या किंमती कमी असल्यामुळे उत्पादन खर्चात मोठ्या प्रमाणावर घट होते. आंतरराष्ट्रीय व राष्ट्रीय पातळीवर केलेल्या सेंद्रिय शेतीच्या यशस्वी प्रयोगातून उत्पादन खर्चात घाट होत असल्याचे सिद्ध झाले आहे.

भारतातील सेंद्रिय शेती व शेतकरी विखुरलेला आहे. सेंद्रिय शेतीमाल प्रक्रिया उद्योग पुरेशा प्रमाणात उपलब्ध नाही. पुरेशा प्रमाणात बाजारपेठाचा अभाव, शेतमाल साठवणुकीसाठी गोदामांच्या सुविधांची कमतरता, उत्पादक व ग्राहकांमध्ये अयोग्य समन्वय, सेंद्रिय शेती विस्तारासाठी शासनाची उदासिनता यासारखे प्रश्न आजही सुटलेले नाहीत. सेंद्रिय शेतीच्या वृद्धी

व विकासासाठी सेंद्रिय शेतीबद्दल शेतकरी व उत्पादकांमध्ये असणार्या गैरसमजुती दूर केल्या पाहिजेत. प्रमाणीकरणाच्या मानकांचे विश्लेषण शास्त्रीय व सोप्या भाषेत शेतकऱ्यांसाठी उपलब्ध करून दिले तर मानकांच्या बाबतीतील गैरसमज दूर होतील. सेंद्रिय शेतीच्या विकासासाठी पीकनिहाय तंत्रज्ञान प्रायोगिक तत्वावर विकसित करणे, शेतकऱ्यांना सेंद्रिय शेती प्रशिक्षणाची सोय, सेंद्रिय मालाला हमीभाव, सेंद्रिय शेतीमाल विक्रीसाठी सुनियंत्रित यंत्रणा व निर्यातक्षम सेंद्रिय मालाला बाजारपेठ उपलब्ध करून देणे यासारख्या उपायोजना करणे अत्यावश्यक आहे.

२. दुग्ध व्यवसाय:

शेतकऱ्यांच्या शेतीला सर्वाधिक उपयुक्त ठरणारा पूरक उद्योग किंवा जोडधंदा म्हणजेच दुग्ध व्यवसाय. भारतात डॉ. वर्गीस कुरियन व सरकारने राबविलेली दुधाचा महापूर योजनेमुळे दुग्ध उत्पादनात क्रांती घडून आली. त्यामुळे भारत मागील दशकांपासून दूध उत्पादनात जगात अव्वल स्थानी आहे. येत्या काही वर्षात बाजारात सेंद्रिय दुधास मागणी वाढणार असून सेंद्रिय दूध उत्पादक शेतकऱ्यांना तो एक सर्वाधिक उत्पन्न प्राप्त करून देणारा मार्ग ठरणार आहे. शिवाय सेंद्रिय दूध उत्पादनात देशी गाईचा वापर हा कृषी उत्पादनास सहाय्यभूत आहे.

i) भारतातील सद्य परिस्थितीतील दुग्ध व्यवसायाचा विचार केला असता असे दिसून येते की, शेतकऱ्यांना प्रती एक लिटर दुधापासून मिळणारा मोबदला किंवा किंमत ही ग्राहकांनी एक लिटर दूध खरेदी करण्यासाठी दिलेली रक्कम वा किंमत यामध्ये सर्वाधिक तफावत आहे. संकरीत गाईच्या एक लिटर दुधापासून शेतकऱ्यांना आज साधारणपणे १८ ते २० रुपये दर मिळतो. तर तेच दूध खरेदी करण्यासाठी निम-शहरी भागातील ग्राहकांना ४५ ते ५० रुपये मोजावे लागतात. शहरी भागात राहणार्या ग्राहकांना (मुंबई-पुणे सारख्या शहरात) यापेक्षा अधिकच किंमत मोजावी लागते. म्हणजेच दुग्ध व्यवसायात व्यावसायिक/व्यापारी शेतकऱ्यांचे व ग्राहकांची आर्थिक लूट करताना दिसतात. त्यामुळे सरकारने कायदा करून शेतकऱ्यांना त्यांच्या दुधाचा योग्य मोबदला देण्याचे धोरण राबवावे.

ii) शेतकऱ्यांनी दूध संकलन केंद्रात जमा केलेल्या दुधातील पोषक द्रव्य व त्याची पातळी आणि ग्राहकांनी खरेदी केलेल्या दुधातील पोषक द्रव्य व त्याची पातळी यामध्येही प्रचंड तफावत पाहावयास मिळते. म्हणजेच शेतकऱ्यांनी जमा केलेल्या दुधापासून जे काही दुग्धजन्य उपपदार्थ (दही, ताक, लस्सी, श्रीखंड, पनीर, आइसक्रीम, चॉकलेट व इतर पदार्थ) तयार केले जातात, त्यांचा मोबदला शेतकऱ्यांना मिळत नाही. त्यासाठी सरकारने दुग्धजन्य उपपदार्थ पासून मिळणार्या आर्थिक मिळकतीचा हक्क दूध उत्पादक शेतकऱ्यांना उपलब्ध करावा.

iii) शेतकऱ्यांना दुग्ध व्यवसायातून अत्यल्प उत्पन्न मिळण्याचे प्रमुख कारण म्हणजे दुधातील भेसळ होय. आजही भारतात भेसळयुक्त दुधाचा महापूर सुरूच आहे. दुधात भेसळ करण्यासाठी त्यात खाण्याचा सोडा, साबणाचा चुरा, साखर, धुण्याचा सोडा, कपड्यांची पावडर, ग्लुकोज, युरिया, अमोनियम पदार्थ, भेसळ केलेले दूषित पाणी, मैदा, मीठ, न्युट्रिलायझर, हायड्रोजन पेरोक्साईड युरिया इ. पदार्थ मिसळतात. या भेसळीमुळे मानवी आरोग्यावर दुष्परिणाम होऊन आरोग्यास धोका निर्माण होतो. भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा आणि मानक प्राधिकरण (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) यांच्याद्वारे करण्यात आलेल्या दूध तपासणीत, भारतातील विविध राज्यात सुमारे ४० ते ७०% दूध हे भेसळयुक्त आहे. म्हणजेच प्रत्यक्ष उत्पादनापेक्षा अधिकचे दूध भेसळ रूपाने बाजारात उपलब्ध आहे. शिवाय काही समाजकंटकांनी रासायनिक प्रक्रिया केलेले नकली दूध निर्माण करण्याचा उद्योगच चालू केला आहे. भेसळयुक्त व नकली दुधाच्या उत्पादनामुळे शेतकऱ्यांना त्यांच्या शुद्ध दुधास योग्य किंमत मिळण्यात अडचण निर्माण झाली आहे. त्यामुळे भेसळयुक्त व नकली दूध निर्माण करून समस्त नागरिकांच्या आरोग्याशी खेळणाऱ्या गुन्हेगारांवर सरकारने कठोरातील कठोर कारवाई करावी व दूध भेसळ गुन्हा हा अजामीन पात्र गुन्हा म्हणून लागू करावा.

३) मत्स्य शेती:

शेती पूरक व्यवसायाच्या व अन्न सुरक्षेच्या दृष्टीने मत्स्य उत्पादन हा महत्त्वाचा घटक आहे. मत्स्य शेती म्हणजे कृत्रिमरीत्या नैसर्गिक वातावरणात केली गेलेली माशांची पैदास. मत्स्य उद्योगामध्ये

हजारो लोकांना रोजगार मिळालेला आहे. मागील काही दशकापासून समुद्रातील मत्स्य उत्पादनाच्या बरोबरीने गोड्या पाण्यातील मत्स्य शेती, शेततळ्यातील मत्स्य शेती मोठ्या प्रमाणात सुरू झाली आहे. शिवाय शहरी भागाचा विचार करता शोभिवंत माशांनादेखील चांगली मागणी आहे. त्यामुळे ग्रामीण भागात शोभिवंत माशांच्या उत्पादनाचा व्यवसाय सुरू झाला आहे. निर्यातीमधील संधी ओळखून केंद्र सरकार आणि राज्य शासने किनारपट्टी भागात मत्स्यप्रक्रिया उद्योग तसेच निर्यातीच्यादृष्टीने सोयीसुविधांची उभारणी केली आहे. त्याचा फायदा मत्स्य उत्पादकांना होत आहे.

शेततळ्यातील मत्स्य शेती हा शेतकऱ्यांना शाश्वत उत्पन्न प्राप्त करून देणारा व्यवसाय आहे. शिवाय अल्प पर्जन्यवृष्टी/दुष्काळी भागातील शेतकऱ्यांसाठी तो एक वरदानच ठरणार आहे. कारण शेततळ्यातील मत्स्य व्यवसाय हा शेतकऱ्यांना दुहेरी लाभ मिळवून देतो.

१) पीक उत्पादनासाठी पाण्याची उपलब्धता २) मत्स्य पालन.

त्यामुळे सरकारने शेततळ्यातील मत्स्य शेतीच्या विकासासाठी व शेततळे बांधणीसाठी शेतकऱ्यांना अनुदान द्यावे. शेतकरी मत्स्य विक्रीबरोबर पिकांच्या उत्पादनातूनही शेतकऱ्यांना अधिकाचे उत्पन्न प्राप्त होईल. शिवाय शेततळ्यातील पाण्याच्या उपलब्धतेमुळे जलसिंचन साधनांनाचा वापर शेतकऱ्यांना पीक उत्पादनात करता येईल.

४. मधुमक्षिका पालन:

मधुमक्षिका पालन हा शेतीवर आधारित एक उपक्रम आहे. मधुमक्षिकांच्या परागीकरण कार्यामुळे शेती क्षेत्रात विशेष करून फुलोरा वनस्पती, फळबाग व तेलबियांचे पीक उत्पादनात दुपटीने वाढ होते. मधुमक्षिकांमुळे पीक उत्पादनात वाढ आणि मध व उपपदार्थ पासून आर्थिक फायदा होतो. मध आणि त्यापासून बनवलेल्या उत्पादनांची बाजारपेठेतील मागणी वाढत असल्याने मधुमक्षिका पालन हा शाश्वत उत्पन्न प्राप्त करून देणारा उद्योग म्हणून उदयास येत आहे. मध हे एक अत्यंत पौष्टिक अन्न व औषध असल्यामुळे त्याची बाजारातील मागणी दिवसेंदिवस वाढत आहे. मधमाशापासून मिळणारे मेण हे सौंदर्य प्रसाधने, औद्योगिक उत्पादनाचा घटक म्हणून त्याचा वापर

वाढत आहे. मधमाशा पासून मिळणारे राजान्न (रॉयल जेली, दंश, विष, व्हिनम), पराग (पोलन) व रोंगणे (प्रो पॉलीस) पदार्थांना उच्चप्रतीचे औषधमुल्य आहे. इस्राईल या देशात मधुमक्षिकांना मोठे महत्त्व आहे. इस्राईल सरकारने प्रत्येक शेतकऱ्याने शेतात मधुमक्षिका पालन केले पाहिजे, असा कायदा केला आहे. त्याच प्रकारच्या कायद्याची गरज भारतातील कृषी क्षेत्रासाठी आहे.

देशातील सर्व शेतकऱ्यांना कृषी व कृषी आधारित व्यवसायांमध्ये सामावून घेणारे व शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्नात वाढ घडवून आणणारे आधारभूत मार्ग म्हणून सेंद्रिय शेती, दुग्ध व्यवसाय, मत्स्य शेती व मधुमक्षिका पालन महत्वाचे आहेत. याच प्रकारे कुक्कुट पालन, शेळी पालन आणि रेशीम उद्योग याद्वारे शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्नात वाढ करता येईल. तत्पूर्वी देशात असणारे शेतीविषयक कायदे वा अधिनियम की जे कालबाह्य झालेले आहेत, शेतकऱ्यांच्या आर्थिक पिळवणूकीस व विकासातील अडथळे ठरत आहेत असे सर्व कायदे सरकारने रद्द करावेत.

५. कालबाह्य शेतीविषयक कायदे रद्द करणे:

स्वातंत्र्यानंतर भारतीय संसदेने जीवनावश्यक वस्तू अधिनियम, १९५५ लागू केला. या अधिनियमानुसार शासनाला अत्यावश्यक वस्तूंचे उत्पादन, वितरण, व्यापार व वाणिज्य यावर नियंत्रण ठेवण्यासाठी आदेश काढता येतात. सद्यःस्थितीत या अधिनियमाखाली समाविष्ट करण्यात आलेल्या जीवनावश्यक वस्तूंची यादी केंद्र शासनाने १२ फेब्रुवारी, २००७ पासून सुधारित केली आहे. यामध्ये औषधे, खते (रासायनिक, अकार्बनी किंवा मिश्र यापैकी कोणतीही), अन्नसामुग्री (खाद्यतेल, बिया व तेल यांच्यासह), पूर्णतः कापसापासून तयार केलेला धागा, पेट्रोलियम व पेट्रोलजन्य पदार्थ, कच्चा ताग व तागाचे कापड, अन्न पिकांचे बियाणे तण आणि फळे भाजीपाल्याचे बियाणे, गुरांच्या वैरणाचे बियाणे, तागाचे बियाणे, सरकी व इतर वस्तु इत्यादींचा समावेश होतो.

देशात कृषी माल महाग होऊ नये आणि त्याची दाखल माध्यमांनी वा नागरिकांनी घेऊ नये म्हणून सरकार अगोदरच सर्वच कृषी उत्पादनांची आयात करते. त्यातील बहुतांश वस्तूंचे सेवन न केल्यामुळे नागरिकांना अनेक प्रकारचे रोग वा त्यांचे आरोग्य खूपच खलवल्याचे एकिवात नाही. मग अशा वस्तु या जीवनावश्यक वस्तू कशा? हा पारंपरिक मानसिकतेचा पगडा आहे आणि तो नष्ट करणे

आवश्यक आहे. जेव्हा कृषी मालाची मुबलकता असते तेव्हा सरकार शेतकऱ्यांना वाऱ्यावर सोडून देतात व बाजार खरेदी-विक्री किंवा मागणी-पुरवठा मूलतत्त्वाप्रमाणे लिलाव करा, असा उपदेश करतात. शेतमालाला निर्यातीचे स्वातंत्र्य नाही, तर अनेक जाचक व कडक बंधने आहेत. जीवनाश्यक वस्तू कायद्याचा आणखी एक तोटा म्हणजे त्याच्या अधिकारान्वये सरकारला कधीही एखादा अध्यादेश काढून शेतमालाच्या साठा मर्यादेवर, निर्यात धोरणावर बंधने घालता येतात. या कायद्यामुळे होणार्या आयात व्यापारामध्ये कांही राज्यकर्त्यांचे व अधिकाऱ्यांचे हितसंबंध गुंतले असल्याच्या घटना घडलेल्या आहेत. त्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांच्या मालास रास्त भाव मिळण्यासाठी आवश्यक वस्तू कायद्यामधून शेतीमाल वगळण्यात यावा व त्याच संदर्भात सरकारला कायद्याने जे नियंत्रणाचे अधिकार दिले आहेत ते संपुष्टात आणणे काळाची गरज आहे. १९९१ मध्ये स्विकारलेल्या मुक्त अर्थव्यवस्थेमध्ये शेतकऱ्यांना देशांतर्गत व परकीय व्यापारात खरेदी-विक्रीचे स्वातंत्र्य द्यावे. त्यामुळे निर्यातीमधून शेतकऱ्यांच्या उत्पन्न प्राप्तीबरोबरच सरकारला परकीय चलन मिळेल. शेतकऱ्यांची दुरवस्था संपविण्यासाठी शेतमाल बाजारातील सर्व बंधने काढून मुक्त बाजारपेठेचा स्विकार अनिवार्य आहे. सरकारला बंधनमुक्त शेती व्यवसाय व बंधनमुक्त विपणन व्यवस्था तत्पर निर्माण करावीच लागेल.

६. शेतकऱ्यांना प्रत्यक्ष आर्थिक मदत:

देशातील शेतकऱ्यांचा सर्वांगीण विकास साध्य करण्यासाठी सरकारने त्यांना भरीव, शाश्वत व पर्याप्त आर्थिक मदत करावी. त्याकरिता सरकारने शेतकऱ्यांच्या बँक खात्यात प्रती एकरी १० हजार रुपये रक्कम थेट जमा करावी. देशात तेलंगाना सरकारने ‘गुंतवणूक सहाय्य योजने’च्या माध्यमातून राज्यातील प्रत्येक लाभार्थी शेतकऱ्यांना प्रती एकर ८,००० रुपये (खरीप व रब्बी हंगामासाठी प्रती ४,००० रुपये) प्रत्यक्ष आर्थिक मदत केली आहे. या आर्थिक मदतीच्या सहाय्यने पीक उत्पादनासाठी येणारा खर्च कमी करता येईल वा कृषी उत्पादनासाठी आवश्यक असणारी कृषी आदानांची वेळेवर व विनाविलंब खरेदी करता येईल. परंतु शासनाकडून केली जाणारी

आर्थिक मदत खर्च करण्याचे पूर्ण स्वातंत्र्य शेतकऱ्यांना द्यावे. ही मदत करण्यासाठी 'शेतकरी उत्पन्न वाढीचे शाश्वत प्रतिमान' मध्ये सुचविलेल्या नोंदणी प्रणालीचा वापर शासनास करता येईल.

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७. शाहू महाराजांची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना

डॉ. प्रकाश पवार^१

गोषवारा:

श्री शाहू छत्रपती यांचे कार्य आणि कर्तृत्व सामाजिक न्याय यामध्ये गुंतलेले आहे. त्यांचे कार्य आणि कर्तृत्व सामाजिक न्यायाशी एकजिव झालेले दिसते. प्लेटो, अ‍ॅरिस्टॉटल, जॉन रॉल्स या पाश्चात्य तत्त्ववेत्त्यांनी न्यायाची संकल्पना स्पष्ट केलेली आहे. तसेच भारतामध्ये महात्मा फुले, सयाजीराव गायकवाड, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर, अमर्त्य सेन यांनीदेखील न्याय संकल्पनेचे विविध पदर वैचारिक आणि प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवर स्पष्ट केले आहेत. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ऐतिहासिक आहे. शाहू महाराजांनी जे राजकारण केले, त्या राजकारणाचा उद्देश सामाजिक न्याय हा होता. त्यांच्या राजकारणाचे अग्रक्रम हे सामाजिक न्याय संकल्पना केंद्रीत होते. श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवरती व वैचारिक पातळीवरती सातत्याने नाकारली. श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ही साधनांच्या वितरणांशी संबंधीत होती.

मुख्य/सूचनक शब्द: न्याय, मराठा राज्यसंस्था, क्रांती, हिंदू समाज, वितरणाचे तत्त्व, क्षत्रियत्व, उपभोक्ते, स्त्रीमुक्ती, कार्यक्षमतांचा विकास.

प्रस्तावना:

श्री शाहू छत्रपती यांचे कार्य आणि कर्तृत्व सामाजिक न्याय यामध्ये गुंतलेले आहे. त्यांचे कार्य आणि कर्तृत्व सामाजिक न्यायाशी एकजिव झालेले दिसते. नैतिक, कायदेशीर आणि राजकीय तत्वज्ञान या तीन पातळ्यांवर त्यांची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना व्यक्ती आणि समाज यांच्यातील निष्पक्ष, उचित संबंधांच्या जुळवाजुळवीची स्पष्टपणे दिसते. त्यांच्या या संकल्पनेत संपत्तीचे वितरण व व्यक्तीला समान संधी ही तत्वे सामावलेली आहेत. सामाजिक व राजकीय संस्थांचा सदगुण असा अर्थ शाहू महाराजांच्या सामाजिक न्यायाचा लागतो. किंबहुना त्यांनी त्यांच्या जीवनातील सर्वात जास्त ताकद सामाजिक न्यायासाठी वापरली. त्यांनी न्यायाची संकल्पना प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवरती जोरकसपणे राबविली. त्यास त्यांनी कायद्याचे पाठबळ मिळवून दिले. साधन संपत्तीचे पुनर्वितरण, आत्मसन्मान, लिंगभाव आधारित न्याय, आधुनिक कायद्यावर आधारित न्याय अशा पद्धतीने न्यायाची संकल्पना त्यांनी व्यवहारात आणली. त्यांनी न्यायावर आधारित समाजाची पुनर्रचना केली. ही प्रक्रिया भौतिक, सांस्कृतिक, वैचारिक प्रक्रियेचा महत्वाचा भाग दिसते. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींच्याबद्दल सविस्तर, विस्तृत, अधिकृत माहितीचे संकलन, विश्लेषण झालेले आहे. जवळजवळ श्री शाहू छत्रपतींच्या कार्याचे व विचारांचे सर्व कंगोरे स्पष्ट केलेले आहेत. परंतु

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पाश्चिमात्य आणि भारतीय विचारातील न्याय संकल्पनेशी तुलना करून त्यांच्या न्यायाची वैश्विकता निटनेटकेपणाने पुढे आलेली नाही. प्लेटो, अ‍ॅरिस्टॉटल, जॉन रॉल्स या पाश्चात्य तत्त्ववेत्त्यांनी न्यायाची संकल्पना स्पष्ट केलेली आहे. तसेच भारतामध्ये महात्मा फुले, सयाजीराव गायकवाड, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर, अमर्त्य सेन यांनीदेखील न्याय संकल्पनेचे विविध पदर वैचारिक आणि प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवर स्पष्ट केले आहेत. या एका व्यापक चौकटीमध्ये श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना समजून घेणे जास्त प्रस्तुत ठरते.

सामाजिक न्यायाचा वारसा:

श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ऐतिहासिक आहे. कारण त्यांनी सातत्याने त्यांचा वारसा आणि त्यांचे निर्णय यांची सांधेजोड केलेली दिसून येते. या संदर्भातील चर्चाविश्व राजाराम शास्त्री भागवत, जयसिंगराव पवार, गोंविंदराव पानसरे, अशोक चौसाळकर इत्यादींनी विकसित केले आहे. पाश्चिमात्य तत्त्वज्ञानामध्ये सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना एकोणिसाव्या शतकातील आहे (१८४०). त्या आधीच्या शतकामध्ये टॉमस पेन यांनी ही संकल्पना वापरली होती. परंतु शाहू महाराजांनी सामाजिक न्यायाच्या ऐतिहासिकतेचा केलेला दावा श्री शाहू छत्रपतींना हिंदुस्थानमधील सामाजिक न्यायाचे आत्मभान होते. हिंदुस्थानमधील सामाजिक न्यायाचा इतिहास त्यांच्या न्याय संकल्पनेवरती विलक्षण प्रभाव टाकणारा आहे. कारण श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींना मन्हाठा मंडळाचा वारसा होता. मन्हाठा मंडळ म्हणजेच राज्यसंस्था होय आणि त्यास जनपद म्हटले जात होते. मन्हाठा मंडळ ही हिंदुस्थानातील जुनी राज्यसंस्था आहे, असा दावा राजारामशास्त्री भागवतांचा आहे. त्या जुन्या राज्यसंस्थेचा उदय आणि विकास गोदावरीच्या खोऱ्यात झाला. देवगिरी ही अगदी आरंभीची राज्यसंस्था. या अर्थाने, जनपद देवगिरीमध्ये घडले. त्यानंतर दक्षिण, उत्तर, पूर्व भागात मन्हाठा मंडळाचा विस्तार झाला. जनपद म्हणजेच मन्हाठा होय. मन्हाठा मंडळ ही संकल्पना सकलजनवाचक होती. ती संकल्पना शहाजी, जिजाबाई आणि शिवाजी महाराजांनी प्रत्यक्ष घडविली. सतराव्या शतकामध्ये स्थापन झालेल्या मराठा राज्यसंस्थेचा एकोणिसाव्या शतकाच्या आरंभी न्हास झाला (१८१८). मराठा राज्यसंस्था आठराव्या शतकामध्ये बाह्य राज्यसंस्थेशी स्पर्धा करीत होती. परंतु तिचा झगडा अंतर्गत शक्तीशी देखील झाला होता. सरतेशेवटी मराठा राज्यसंस्था कोल्हापूर, बडोदा, ग्वाल्हेर, इंदूर अशा चार गटांमध्ये विभागली गेली. त्यावर अंतिम नियंत्रण ब्रिटिशांचे आले. साहजिकच मराठा राज्यसंस्थेचे अंतिम सार्वभौमत्व संपुष्टात आले. ही उदय, विकास आणि न्हासाची कथा महत्त्वाची व लक्षवेधक आहे. परंतु त्यापेक्षा जास्त महत्त्वाची कथा म्हणजे मराठा राज्यसंस्था ही एक ग्रीकांच्या वैचारिक घडामोडी इतकी महत्त्वाची मध्ययुगातील घटना आहे. अशा वैचारिक-सांस्कृतिक क्रांती केलेल्या राज्यसंस्थेचे चार भाग झाले. या पैकी कोल्हापूर व बडोदा या दोन्ही संस्थांची राज्यसंस्था म्हणजे आरंभीच्या वैचारिक-सांस्कृतिक व भौतिक क्रांतीची प्रतिरूपे होत. कारण त्यांच्या राजनिती किंवा राजकारणामध्ये साधन आणि साध्य अशा दोन गोष्टी होत्या. या दोन्ही पैकी मन्हाठा राज्यसंस्थेचे साध्य सामाजिक न्याय या संकल्पनेमध्ये सामावलेले होते. स्वराज्य संस्थापना म्हणजे सामाजिक न्याय अशी मन्हाठा राज्यसंस्थेच्या संस्थापकांची धारणा होती. तिचा खोलवर प्रभाव मराठा राज्यसंस्थेवर पडला.

विशेषतः श्री. शाहू छत्रपती आणि सयाजीराव गायकवाड यांच्यावरती या विचारांचा प्रभाव विलक्षण होता. त्याचे मोजमाप केले तर ते त्या काळात युरोपमधील सामाजिक न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेच्या सीमारेषा ओलांडून प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवर खूप पुढे गेले होते. या अर्थी मराठा राज्यसंस्थेची अंतर्दृष्टी आणि दूरदृष्टी सामाजिक न्यायाची होती. सामाजिक न्यायाचा अर्थबोध झालेली आणि त्या विचारासाठी सामूहिक कृती करणारी राज्यसंस्था श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींची होती. त्या राज्यसंस्थेचे मार्ग चर्चा, संवाद, वाटाघाटी, जुळवाजुळव असे आधुनिक लोकशाहीशी मिळते जुळते होते. राजारामशास्त्री भागवतांनी ही घटना अचूकपणे ओळखली होती. त्यास भागवत रक्तपातविरहित असे संबोधित होते (पाटील श्रावण, २०१८ : १४०). या वैचारिक-सांस्कृतिक भौतिक क्रांतीचा विलक्षण प्रभाव शाहू महाराजांच्या व्यक्तीमत्त्वावर झाला होता. शाहू महाराज राज्यकर्ते म्हणून मराठा राज्यसंस्थेच्या सामाजिक न्यायाच्या राजनितीचा प्रयोग करत होते (१९९४-१९२२). या अर्थाने शाहू महाराजांचे राजकारण सामाजिक न्यायाचे होते. त्यांच्या विचारातून, निर्णयामधून, वेळोवेळी केलेल्या भाषणांमधून सामाजिक न्यायाचा अर्थ स्पष्ट होत जातो.

शाहू महाराजांनी सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना विद्याशाखीय पद्धतीने मांडलेली नाही. ही वस्तुस्थिती आहे. परंतु शाहू महाराजांनी जे राजकारण केले, त्या राजकारणाचा उद्देश सामाजिक न्याय हा होता. त्यांच्या राजकारणाचे अग्रक्रम हे सामाजिक न्याय संकल्पना केंद्रीत होते. त्यांनी आरंभी जनकल्याणाची ग्वाही देणारा जाहिरनामा प्रसिध्द केला (२ एप्रिल १८९४). दिवाणी न्यायालयाने शेतकऱ्यांच्या गुरांचा लिलाव करू नये ही राजाज्ञा त्यांनी दिली. जाहिरनामा आणि शेतकऱ्यांच्या हिताचा निर्णय हे श्री शाहू छत्रपतींच्या राजकीय करकीर्दीतील आरंभीचे निर्णय होते. या निर्णयापासून सामाजिक न्यायाची सुरुवात झाली होती. हे सामाजिक न्यायाचे राजकारण त्यांनी विसाव्या शतकाच्या दुसऱ्या दशकाच्या सुरुवातीपर्यंत केले (१९२२). म्हणजे जवळपास तीन दशके सामाजिक न्यायाचे राजकारण शाहू महाराजांनी केले. या बदलचे तपशील विविध लेखकांनी नोंदविलेले आहेत. परंतु त्या तपशीलामधून प्रतिबिंबित झालेली सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना मात्र अस्पष्ट आणि धूसर राहिलेली आहे.

पर्यायी न्याय संकल्पना:

श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवरती व वैचारिक पातळीवरती सातत्याने नाकारली. महात्मा फुले व डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांनी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना केवळ नाकारली नाही, तर त्यांनी पर्यायी न्यायाची संकल्पना मांडली. या परंपरेतील श्री शाहू छत्रपतीं एक महत्त्वाचे दुवा होत. श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी हिंदू समाजातील जाती व वर्णव्यवस्थेतील न्यायाची संकल्पना नाकारून त्यांनी आधुनिक उदारमतवादी न्याय संकल्पना पर्यायी म्हणून स्वीकारली. वेदोक्तांच्या अधिकाराचा त्यांनी दावा केला. आर्य समाज आणि क्षत्रियत्व यांचाही दावा केला. यामुळे शाहू महाराज हिंदू समाज व्यवस्था आणि हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना स्वीकारतात, असे सरधोपटपणे दिसते. परंतु त्यांनी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेला केवळ वळसा घातला असे नव्हे तर त्यांनी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेला आतूनच धक्के दिले. त्यांनी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना आतून पोखरण्याच्या प्रक्रियेचे राजकारण केले. म्हणजेच हिंदू समाजाच्या वर्चस्वाचे स्वरूप त्यांनी नाकारले. जात

वर्चस्व, पुरुष वर्चस्व, धार्मिक वर्चस्व या संकल्पना सामाजिक न्याय विरोधी म्हणून त्यांनी जाणीवपूर्वक नाकारल्या. श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी हिंदू समाजातील अशा विविध वर्चस्वाच्या संकल्पना नाकारल्या. व्यक्ती-व्यक्तींचे आपआपसातील संबंध, समाजा-समाजातील संबंध तसेच व्यक्ती आणि संस्थांतील संबंध आणि त्यांचा सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक व्यवहार या गोष्टी श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी हिंदू समाजातील नाकारल्या. त्यांनी त्यांच्या आकलनाप्रमाणे वैदिक आणि उदारमतवादी या दोन गोष्टींचा मेळ घालत नवीन समाजाची संकल्पना मांडली. त्यांच्या कृतीकार्यक्रमातून प्रामुख्याने जुन्या हिंदू समाजाचे पुनरुज्जीवन होत नाही. त्यांच्या कृतीकार्यक्रमातून एका नवीन आधुनिक समाजाची कल्पना पुढे येते. त्या आधुनिक समाजामधील न्यायाची कल्पना ही नागरिकत्वाशी जोडली गेलेली आहे. यामुळे श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची न्यायाची संकल्पना आधुनिक समाजाच्या धारणेतून उदयाला येते.

गोपाळ गुरु यांनी डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांची न्यायाची संकल्पना प्लेटो, अॅरिस्टॉटल यांच्यापेक्षा वेगळी असल्याची चर्चा केली आहे. बाबासाहेबांच्या प्रमाणे शाहू महाराजांची न्यायाची संकल्पना प्लेटो, अॅरिस्टॉटल यांच्यापेक्षा वेगळी आहे. शाहू महाराजांची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना प्लेटोच्या श्रेणीबद्ध न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेपेक्षा वेगळी आहे. प्रत्येक मनुष्याने आपल्या गुणानुसार व्यवहार केला तर न्याय निर्माण होईल, असा शाहू महाराजांचा विचार नव्हता. अॅरिस्टॉटलने समाजात समता, प्रमाणबद्धता आणि संतुलन अशी तीन न्यायाची तत्वे मांडली होती. त्यापेक्षा शाहूंची न्यायाची संकल्पना वेगळी होती. शाहू महाराज हे हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना प्रक्रियेमध्ये नाकारतात. प्रत्यक्ष निर्णय घेताना हिंदू न्यायाच्या विरोधी जाणारे निर्णय त्यांनी घेतले. शाहू महाराज आर्य समाज ही संकल्पना हिंदू समाजातील सुधारीत आवृत्ती म्हणून स्वीकारतात. हिंदू समाजातील परंपरागत न्यायापासून शाहू महाराज पूर्णपणे वेगळे होतात. त्यांनी वर्णाश्रम पद्धतीची न्यायाची संकल्पनादेखील नाकारली. म्हणजेच समानाला समानतेने आणि असमानाला असमानतेने वागवणे म्हणजे न्याय ही प्राचीन ग्रीकांची आणि ग्रीकांच्या जवळ जाणारी हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेला वळसा घालून श्री. शाहू छत्रपती पुढे जातात. न्याय म्हणजे राज्याने लोकजीवन आणि व्यवहाराला सुनियंत्रित करण्यासाठी स्विकारलेली व्यवस्था; असा अर्थ शाहू महाराजांच्या न्यायाचा लावता येतो. शाहू महाराजांच्या राज्यकारभारात सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ही समाजाचे लक्षण मानले गेले होते. समाजाने मान्य केलेला मापदंड न्याय आहे की अन्याय आहे यांचे मूल्यमापन शाहू महाराजांच्या राज्यकारभारात दिसते. न्याय निर्माण करण्यासाठी राज्यसंस्थेचा उपयोग होऊ शकतो. अशी शाहू महाराजांचे आकलन होते. व्यक्ती आणि समाज या दोन घटकांमधील संतुलन न्याय संकल्पनेत शाहू महाराजांनी राखले होते. व्यक्तीच्या हक्कासोबत समाजाची सामूहिक ध्येय आणि उद्दिष्ट आहेत, अशी शाहू महाराजांची सुस्पष्ट कल्पना होती. शाहू महाराज व्यक्तीला स्वायत्त आणि कार्यक्षम म्हणून स्थान देतात. त्यांच्या विचारात हा व्यक्तीवाद आहे. परंतु व्यक्तीवादाची मर्यादा शाहू महाराजांनी ओळखली होती. त्यांनी व्यक्तीवादाच्या सोबत समूहदायवादी भूमिका घेतली. व्यक्ती सुरुवातीपासून समाजाची सदस्य असते. त्यामुळे व्यक्ती बरोबर समूदाय महत्त्वाचा असतो. भारतात जातीव्यवस्था असलेल्या समाजात व्यक्ती कोणत्या जातीमध्ये जन्माला येते. त्यावर तिला मिळणाऱ्या सामाजिक सुविधा व हक्क अवलंबून आहेत.

त्यामुळे उत्पादन आणि वितरण या दोन्ही गोष्टींबद्दल शाहू महाराजांचा दृष्टीकोन समूदायवादी होता. या चौकटीमध्ये शाहू महाराजांच्या राज्यकारभाराची राजनीती घडत जाते. समूदायवादी राजनीतीच्या चौकटीमुळे शाहू महाराजांनी वैयक्तिक स्वातंत्र्याचे पूर्णतः समर्थन केले नाही.

वितरणाचे तत्त्व:

श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ही साधनांच्या वितरणांशी संबंधीत होती. हे न्यायाचे तत्त्व जॉन रॉल्स यांनी प्रक्रियात्मक पद्धतीचे सत्तरीच्या दशकात मांडले (जॉन रॉल्स, १९७१). विद्याक्षेत्रीय अभ्यासात रॉल्सचे महत्त्व अनन्यसाधारण आहे. त्यांच्या तत्त्वाशी सुसंगत असा न्यायाचा प्रक्रियात्मक व्यवहार श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींचा होता. त्यांनी सर्वाधिक वंचित घटकाला जास्तीत जास्त लाभ मिळावा असा प्रयत्न केला. हे तत्त्व डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांनी देखील मांडले (गुरु गोपाल, २०१५ : २१). असमान साधनांचे वाटप किंवा साधनांचा तुटवडा होता. अशा प्रसंगी श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी सामाजिक न्यायासाठी भौतिक, सामाजिक आणि सांस्कृतिक साधनांचे पुनर्वितरण केले. हा मुद्दा उदारमतवादी न्यायाच्या चौकटीमधील आहे. श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी साधनांच्या वितरणाचे तत्त्व आणि प्रत्यक्ष लाभाचे तत्त्व या दोन मुद्द्यांचा न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेत समावेश केलेला होता. या संदर्भातील शाहूंच्या जीवनातील तीन उदाहरणे बोलकी आहेत. (१) श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी रयतावा हा प्रत्यक्ष लाभाचे तत्त्व म्हणून स्वीकारला. या संकल्पनेमध्ये वितरणाचे तत्त्व आणि लाभाचे तत्त्व एकत्रित आलेले दिसते. कोल्हापूरच्या संस्थांनामध्ये इनामहक्क वतन खालसा करण्यात आले. शाहू छत्रपतींनी जमिनी रयतावा म्हणून दिल्या. ही कल्पना राजर्षी शाहू छत्रपतींनी प्रथम आंबेडकरांसमोर मांडली होती. आंबेडकरांनी ती कल्पना स्वीकारली. इनामहक्क वतन खालसा करून जमिनी रयतावा म्हणून दिल्या. त्यामुळे आमची स्थिती सुधारली, असे आंबेडकरांचे मत होते. “कै. शाहू महाराजांसारखा सखा अस्पृश्यांना पूर्वी लाभला नव्हता व पुढे लाभेल की नाही याबद्दल आम्हास शंकाच आहे. त्यांना पक्केपणी कळून चुकले होते की, वतनामुळेच महारांची अधोगती झाली आणि म्हणूनच त्यांनी आपल्या अधिकाराच्या जोरावर कोल्हापूर संस्थानातील महारांची वतने जबरदस्तीने खालसा केली. वतन नष्ट होणे ही आपल्या हिताची गोष्ट आहे, असे कोल्हापूर संस्थानातील महारांनी अखेर ओळखले व आमची वतने खालसा करावीत असे स्वखुशीने करवीर सरकारकडे त्यांनी अर्ज केले. वतन गेल्यामुळे कोल्हापूर संस्थानातील महारांची स्थिती सुधारली.” (फडके य. दि., १९९० : १३१). राजर्षी शाहू छत्रपती आणि आंबेडकरांनी सहमतीने कोल्हापूर संस्थानात वतन निर्मूलनाचा कार्यक्रम राबविला होता. (२) शाहू महाराजांनी गंगाराम कांबळेना चहाचे दुकान व्हावून दिले. ही प्रक्रिया म्हणजे इतरांबरोबर स्पर्धा करण्याच्या संधीचे तत्त्व होय. परंतु श्री. शाहू छत्रपती यांनी गंगाराम कांबळे यांना उपभोक्ते व ग्राहक मिळवून दिले. म्हणजे गंगाराम कांबळे हे चहा विक्रेते आणि चहा विकत घेणारे शाहू महाराज हे उपभोक्ते आणि ग्राहक या भूमिकेत होते. म्हणजेच न्यायाची संकल्पना प्रत्यक्ष कृतीत उतरण्यासाठी साधनांच्या वितरणाबरोबर, समान स्पर्धेबरोबर, समान उपभोक्ते किंवा ग्राहक मिळणेसुद्धा आवश्यक आहे. ही गोष्ट प्रत्यक्ष कृतीमधून श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींनी प्रक्रियात्मक न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेत प्रत्यक्ष मांडून दाखवली (गुरु गोपाळ, २०१५ : २१). (३) भौतिक

साधनांच्या वितरणाची शाहू महाराजांच्या जीवनातील अनेक उदाहरणे आहेत. त्यांनी भौतिक साधनसामुग्रीच्या पुनर्वितरणासाठी समाजातील वतन पद्धती बंद केली. तसेच त्यांनी शिक्षण व नोकरीमध्ये राखीव जागांची पद्धत सुरू केली. कुलकर्णी वतनाची बरखास्ती केली. या उदाहरणांवरून देखील कुलकर्णी वतन, पोलीस पाटील, महार वतन, अशा पद्धती बंद केल्या आणि त्यांनी उत्पादनाच्या साधनांचे समाजात नव्याने पुनर्वितरण केले. शाहू महाराजांनी शेतकऱ्यांसाठी पाण्याचा हक्क दिला. राधानगरी धरण बांधले. म्हणजेच संपत्तीचे झालेले केंद्रीकरण त्यांनी मोडीत काढले. आणि संपत्तीच्या पुनर्वाटपाचा त्यांनी प्रयत्न केला. म्हणजेच त्यांची न्यायाची संकल्पना भौतिक स्वरूपाची होती. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची न्यायाची संकल्पना रॉल्स सारखी वितरणाची असूनही ती समुदायवादी स्वरूपाची आहे. कारण श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी सामाजिक संदर्भात न्यायाचा निर्णय घेतला. योग्य आणि अयोग्य त्यांनी जातीव्यवस्थेच्या संदर्भात ठरवले. तात्पर्य, व्यवस्था समजून घेण्यासाठी त्यांनी सामाजिक संदर्भावर लक्ष केंद्रीत केले होते. म्हणून रॉल्सवर मिचेल वॉल्झर व्यक्तीवादाची टीका करतात. तसा अवकाश श्री शाहू छत्रपतींच्या न्याय संकल्पनेत दिसत नाही.

आत्मसन्मान आणि न्याय संकल्पना:

सामाजिक न्यायाचे आत्मसन्मान हे एक मध्यवर्ती सुत्र आहे. गोपाळ गुरु यांनी आत्मसन्मान व न्यायाची संकल्पना यांची सांगड घातली (गुरु गोपाळ, २०१५ : २१). श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी सामाजिक न्याय आणि आत्मसन्मान यांचा एकत्रितपणे व्यवहार केला. त्यांनी आत्मसन्मानासाठी सातत्याने संघर्ष केला. वेदोक्त प्रकरण, छात्रजगतगुरुंची नेमणूक या प्रक्रियेमध्ये आत्मसन्मान म्हणजे न्याय असे आपणास समजते. त्यांनी स्व निवडीचे स्वातंत्र्य घेतले. त्यांनी स्व निवड करण्यामुळे आत्मसन्मान या गोष्टीला महत्त्व प्राप्त झाले. तसेच त्यांनी आत्मसन्मान या तत्त्वावर आधारलेल्या चळवळी आणि विचारवंतांच्या विचारांचे समर्थन केले. महात्मा फुले, पेरीयार स्वामी नायकर, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर यांचे विचार व कार्य आत्मसन्मान म्हणून श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी अत्यंत महत्त्वाचे मानले होते. तसेच श्री शाहू छत्रपती यांनी शिवछत्रपती यांचा वारसादेखील न्यायाच्या तत्त्वाशी जोडून घेतला. श्री. शाहू छत्रपतींचा राज्यव्यवहार, कायदे, निर्णयप्रक्रिया ही आत्मसन्मानाच्या तत्त्वावर आधारलेली होती. त्यांनी आत्मसन्मान हा आंतरिक भाग म्हणून स्वीकारला. त्यांनी विविध जातीतील मुलांसाठी वसतिगृह चळवळ सुरू केली. तसेच शिक्षणाची चळवळ सुरू केली. यामध्ये देखील आत्मसन्मान त्यांनी महत्त्वाचा मानला होता. अस्पृश्यता आणि जातीभेद या दोन्हीही गोष्टी शाहू महाराजांनी नाकारल्या. शाहू महाराजांनी जातीवर आधारलेली वसतिगृहे काढली. ही वसतिगृहे पूर्ण समतेकडे जाण्याच्या मार्गातील एक मधला टप्पा होता. परंतु त्यांना एकत्रित व समतेवर आधारलेली अस्मिताच अपेक्षित होती. या चळवळीमधून देखील शाहू महाराजांची न्यायाची संकल्पना खूप व्यापक दिसून येते. सुटा सुटा विचार मांडला तर शाहूंच्या विचारांचे व कार्याचे अवशेषीकरण होते. त्यामुळे अस्पृश्यता, जातीभेद, वसतिगृह चळवळ या गोष्टी सुट्या सुट्या लक्षात घेतल्यास न्यायाचे तत्त्व समजत नाही. या सर्व गोष्टींचा एकत्रितपणे विचार केला तरच शाहूंची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ही समतेवर आधारलेली आणि स्वातंत्र्य, समता आणि बंधुभाव यांना जोडणारी होती हे दिसून येते. १९०७-०८ मध्ये अस्पृश्य शाळांची संख्या १६ होती. तर १९१२ साली ती २७ झाली (पवार जयसिंगराव, २००७ : ७३).

शिक्षणासाठी हा खालून वरती जाणारा प्रयत्न होता. त्यामुळे न्याय हे तत्त्व खालून वरती जाणारे शाहू महाराज मांडत होते. तसेच श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी मुलींच्या शिक्षणासाठी स्वतंत्रपणे कायदे केले. ४ ऑक्टोबर १९०७ च्या कायद्याने अस्पृश्य समाजातील मुलींच्यासाठी शाळा मंजूर केली. तसेच स्त्री शिक्षणासाठी अंदाजपत्रकात आर्थिक तरतूद केली (पवार जयसिंगराव, २००७ : ७४). या उदाहरणावरून देखील असे दिसून येते की, न्यायाची सुरुवात श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी तळागाळातून केली होती. अस्पृश्यता निर्मूलन करण्यासाठी त्यांनी कायदे केले. त्यांनी अस्पृश्यांसाठी असणाऱ्या स्वतंत्र शाळा बंद केल्या व स्पृश्य अस्पृश्य मुले एकत्रितपणे शिकण्याची पद्धत सुरू केली. या प्रक्रियेमध्ये देखील सर्वांना समान न्याय आणि सर्वांचा आत्मसन्मान या गोष्टी स्पष्टपणे दिसतात (पवार जयसिंगराव, २००७ : ७४). २७ जुलै, १९१८ ला अस्पृश्य मुक्तीचा कायदा त्यांनी केला. तसेच त्यांनी गुन्हेगार जातींची ओळख खोडून काढली. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी गुन्हेगार जातींना गुन्हेगारी अस्मितेतून बाहेर काढून आत्मसन्मानाची ओळख दिली. हजेरी पद्धत, वेठवरळा पद्धत, वतन पद्धत बंद केली. तसेच गट्टेचोर अशा ओळखी निर्माण झालेल्या त्यांनी पूर्णपणे नष्ट केल्या (पवार जयसिंगराव, २००७ : ७६-७७). थोडक्यात श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी हिंदू समाजातील परंपरागत वर्चस्वाच्या पद्धतीमधून व्यक्तीची मुक्ती केली. आणि त्यांना स्वतःची अस्मिता प्राप्त करून दिली. भटक्या विमुक्त जातींना त्यांनी न्याय दिला. त्यांना गुन्हेगारी अस्मितेतून तर मुक्त केलेच शिवाय श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी त्यांना राहण्यासाठी घरे, नव्या वस्त्या वसवल्या. त्यांना आत्मसन्मान दिला. या सर्व उदाहरणामधून शाहू महाराज आत्मसन्मान आणि न्याय यांची जुळवाजुळव करत होते. तसेच हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पनाही नाकारत होते. म्हणजेच श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी आर्य क्षत्रिय समाज अशी संकल्पना स्वीकारून देखील त्यांनी हिंदू समाजातील आत्मसन्मान विरोधी तत्त्वाचा विमोड करण्यासाठी प्रयत्न केले. या अर्थाने श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी न्यायाची संकल्पना आणि आत्मसन्मान या गोष्टी महत्त्वाच्या मानल्या.

स्त्रीमुक्तीशी न्यायाची सांगडः

श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी त्यांच्या कार्यामध्ये कुटुंबांचा गंभीरपणे विचार केला. सुसान मॉलर ऑकिन या स्त्री मुक्तिवादी लेखिका आहेत. यांनी न्याय आणि कुटुंबांचा एकत्रित विचार केला. तसेच त्यांनी पाश्चिमात्य राजकीय विचारात स्त्रियांच्या न्यायाची संकल्पना अपुरी असल्याचे स्पष्ट केले (सुसान मॉलर, १९८९). या उलट भारतामध्ये स्त्री आणि न्याय या दोन्ही गोष्टींचा एकत्रित विचार झाला. या परंपरेतील श्री शाहू छत्रपतींचे महत्त्वाचे कार्य होते. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी कुटुंबाचे खाजगी स्वरूप कमी केले. न्याय ही संकल्पना सार्वजनिक आहे. सार्वजनिक कक्षेमध्ये श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी कुटुंबांचा विचार केला. मालमत्ता, वारसा हक्क, घटस्फोट, दत्तकविधान, आत्मसन्मान, प्रतिष्ठा, संपत्तीत वाटा, आंतरजातीय विवाहाचा पुरस्कार, पुनर्विवाहाचा कायदा, जातीसंस्थेविरोधी जाण्याचा अधिकार, कौटुंबिक छळाविरोधीचा अधिकार या पद्धतीने श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी स्त्रियांची गुलामगिरीतून मुक्ती केली. तसेच त्यांनी कुटुंबांना सार्वजनिक कार्यक्षेत्र सामिल केले. या चौकटीमध्ये न्यायाची संकल्पना प्रक्रियात्मक पातळीवरती त्यांनी विकसित केली. व्यक्ती स्वातंत्र्य, शिक्षणाचा हक्क, संपत्तीचा हक्क, पुनर्निर्णयाचा हक्क, छळाविरोधीचा अधिकार

स्त्रियांना देवून त्यांनी सामाजिक न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेची खोली-उंची व रुंदी वाढवली. याबद्दलची अनेक उदाहरणे एकत्रितपणे जयसिंगराव पवार यांनी नोंदविलेली आहेत. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी आंतरजातीय विवाहाचा पुरस्कार केला. चंद्रप्रभाबाई यांचा विवाह यशवंतराव होळकरांशी केला. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींच्या पुढाकारातून २५ आंतरजातीय विवाह झाले (पवार जयसिंगराव, २००७ : १११). जातसंस्था अंताचा आंतरजातीय विवाह हा एक महत्त्वाचा कार्यक्रम आंबेडकरांनी सुचविला होता. यामुळे जातीसंस्था आणि हिंदू समाजातील न्यायाची संकल्पना या प्रक्रियेतून मोडली जाते, ही देखील न्यायाच्या संदर्भातील एक घडामोड त्यांनी घडवून आणली. १९१७ मध्ये कोल्हापूर संस्थानात विधवांच्या पुनर्विवाहास कायदेशिर मान्यता देणारा कायदा संमत केला. विधवांच्या पुनर्विवाहास मान्यता म्हणजे देखील जातीअंताचाच एक कार्यक्रम होता. तसेच त्यांनी १९१९ मध्ये विवाहासंबंधीचा कायदा केला. त्याच वर्षी त्यांनी स्त्रियांना कुरपणे वागविण्याचे नाहीसे करावे आणि कोल्हापूरचे काडीमोडीचे नियम (घटस्फोट) हे दोन महत्त्वाचे कायदे केले. कुटुंबांतर्गत छळ त्यांनी थांबविला. स्त्रियांना कुरपणाची वागणूक देणाऱ्या अपराध्यास ६ महिन्यांचा कारावास व २०० रुपयांचा दंड अशी शिक्षा देण्याची तरतूद केली होती (पवार जयसिंगराव, २००७ : ११४). तसेच हिंदू वारसांच्या कायद्याच्या दुरुस्तीचा कायदा त्यांनी केला. या कायद्याने वारसा हक्कातील भेदभाव नष्ट केला. जोगतिण, मुरळी, देवदासी, भाविण अशा प्रथांच्या विरोधात त्यांनी ठाम भूमिका घेतली. रॉल्स यांनी मूलतः कुटुंब हे खाजगी मानले होते. तसेच पुरुष हाच कुटुंब प्रमुख म्हणून मान्यता दिली होती. मात्र श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी रॉल्स पेक्षा जास्त क्रांतीकारी भूमिका घेतली होती.

राजकीय न्याय:

श्री शाहू महाराजांची राजकीय न्यायाची संकल्पना स्वराज्याशी संबंधित होती. म्हणजेच त्यांनी राजकीय कार्यक्षमताच्या विकासाची संकल्पना मांडली होती. त्यांनी स्वराज्याचा अर्थ शिवाजी महाराजांच्या स्वराज्य संकल्पनेमधून घेतला होता. त्यामुळे त्यांचा राजकारणाचा अर्थ रचनात्मक कार्य असा होता. रचनात्मक कार्याच्या मदतीने स्वातंत्र्य, समता, बंधुभाव व न्याय या मुल्यांची प्रस्थापना करणे हा त्यांच्या राजकारणाचा मुख्य उद्देश होता. त्यांनी त्यांच्या काळात क्रांतिकारकांना मदत केली. तसेच त्यांनी स्वराज्याचा अन्वयार्थ देखील लावला. टिळकांच्यापेक्षा श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची स्वराज्याची संकल्पना वेगळी होती. ब्राह्मणेतारांची स्वराज्याची भागीदारी आणि ब्राह्मणेतारांचे कल्याण या दोन्हीही गोष्टी त्यांनी स्वराज्य संकल्पनेमध्ये गृहीत धरलेल्या होत्या. त्यामुळे त्यांनी सर्वसमावेशक अशा स्वराज्याची कल्पना केलेली होती. त्या स्वराज्यामध्ये त्यांना शिक्षण, स्वाभिमान, ब्राह्मणेतारांची भागीदारी या गोष्टी त्यांच्या राजकीय न्यायाच्या संकल्पनेच्या मध्यभागी होत्या. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी राजेशाहीच्या ऐवजी लोकशाही शासनपद्धतीचा पुरस्कार केला. त्यामुळे लोकशाही पद्धतीतील न्याय अशी त्यांची कल्पना होती. म्हणूनच खंडेराव बागल यांनी त्यांना लोकशाहीचे अद्य प्रवर्तक म्हटले होते (बागल खंडेराव, २००७ : ३२९-३०). श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी राज्याचा उत्कर्ष सामान्य जनतेमध्ये पाहिला. सामान्य जनता आणि अभिजन यापैकी त्यांनी सामान्य जनतेला प्राधान्य दिले. या अर्थाने त्यांची स्वराज्याची संकल्पना विस्तृत पायावर उभी होती.

अमर्त्य सेन यांनी कार्यक्षमतांचा विकास म्हणजे न्याय अशी न्यायाची व्याख्या केलेली आहे (सेन अमर्त्य, २००९,). शाहू महाराजांच्या कार्य आणि कर्तृत्वामध्ये सामान्य माणसांच्या कार्यक्षमतांच्या विकासाला अग्रक्रम दिलेला दिसतो. त्यांनी दलित, भटके विमुक्त, शेतकरी, महिला या वंचित समाजाला त्यांच्या कार्यक्षमता विकसित करण्याची संधी दिली. त्यांनी सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्रामध्ये अनेक ब्राह्मणेश्वरांवर जबाबदाऱ्या सोपवल्या. त्यामुळे त्या त्या व्यक्तींनी स्वतःच्या कार्यक्षमतांचा विकास केला. त्याबरोबरच त्यांनी समाजातील सामान्य व्यक्तीचाही विकास केला. यामुळे श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना ही वंचित समुहामधून पुढे येते. तसेच ती संकल्पना व्यक्तीच्या क्षमतांच्या विकासासाठी अग्रक्रम देते. शिक्षणाची सुविधा हे याचे सर्वात उत्तम उदाहरण सांगता येते. सर्वसामान्य व्यक्तीच्या समस्या सोडविणे हेच त्यांनी प्रथम मानले. त्यामुळे त्यांच्या राज्यसंस्थेने न्याय हा सर्वसामान्य व्यक्तीच्या क्षमतांच्या विकासाशी जोडलेला होता. याचे उत्तम उदाहरण म्हणजे त्यांनी न्याय प्रस्थापित करण्यासाठी नैतिकतेवर आधारित भेदभावाची संकल्पना स्वीकारली. दबलेल्या सर्वसामान्य व्यक्तीच्या कार्यक्षमतांचा विकास करण्यासाठी त्यांना संरक्षण देणे गरजेचे होते. म्हणून त्यांनी २००२ मध्ये सरकारी नोकरीमध्ये मागासवर्गीयांसाठी ५० टक्के जागा राखीव ठेवल्या. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी या आपल्या न्याय धोरणाचे समर्थन करण्यासाठी युक्तीवाद केले. त्या युक्तीवादामध्ये त्यांनी सर्वसामान्य व्यक्तीला बरोबरीचे स्थान दिल्यानंतर न्याय मिळेल, अशी भूमिका घेतली होती. थोडक्यात शाहू महाराजांनी वंचित समूहाला सामाजिक न्यायाची सर्वात जास्त गरज असल्याची भूमिका मांडली.

सारंश स्वरूपात श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना त्यांचा सांस्कृतिक वारसा, उदारमतवाद आणि महात्मा फुले-डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर अशा तीन विचारांमधून विकास पावली आहे. श्री शाहू छत्रपतींनी सातत्याने उदारमतवाद आणि समुदायवाद अशा दोन्ही चौकटीमध्ये कसरत केलेली दिसते. त्यामुळे श्री शाहू छत्रपतींची सामाजिक न्यायाची संकल्पना रॉल्सच्या मर्यादा ओलांडते. तसेच महात्मा फुले, सयाजीराव गायकवाड, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर, सुसान मॉलर ऑकिन आणि अमर्त्य सेन यांच्या न्यायाच्या सिद्धांताशी संवादी राहाते.

संदर्भ सूची:

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