

Case Study

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Socio-economic Status of Farmers of Sitapur District of Uttar Pradesh: A Case

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ABSTRACT

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The present study describes the Socio-economic Status of farmer of Sitapur district, Uttar Pradesh India. The study area was Maholi and Hargao Blocks of the Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh. The information was collected on the basis of personal interview to each of the farmer through a questionnaire. A total sample of 400 farmers was selected randomly from thirty different villages of two blocks during 2016-17. The study revealed that they are very poor farmers with low literacy and knowledge about agricultural methods and they grow wheat or tomato, rice, sugarcane without any awareness about their improved management practices. By introducing facilities of modern technology, their socioeconomic standard can be increased.

Introduction

Sitapur is one of the administrative districts of Uttar Pradesh which is located in the Eastern part adjacent to Uttar Pradesh India. Sitapur is located at 27.57°N 80.68°E. It is located in the Gangetic Plain, with elevations ranging from 150 m above sea level in the north-west to 100 m in the south-east. The gradual rise in temperature starts in the months of February and becomes more rapid by March and April unless checked by more humid easterlies. The

local hot and dusty winds, locally known as 'loo'; result in hot and scorching weather. The major crops grown in the district are tomato, sugarcane, and rice. The district has total population of 4,483,992. The Literacy rate of the district is 63% <http://www.indiamapia.com/Sitapur.html>.

The farmers are socio-economically backward as compared to the other district of Uttar Pradesh. Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for the overwhelming majority of

the population in the district. Majority of the farmers are engaged in agricultural and livestock rearing activities. The present study reveals the socio economic status of the farmers of the district with the following objectives.

To appraise the socio-economic condition of farmers in Sitapur District Of Uttar Pradesh

To study the existing cropping and resource use patterns to locate the specific socio-economic weaknesses in their production organization.

To find the social constraints that inhibit the adoption of new technology

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted with a sample of 400 farmers of thirty different villages of Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh. A multistage purposive cum random sampling design was followed for selection of the respondents. The investigation was carried out with various problems faced by the farmers in Maholi and Hargao blocks of the district.

The data were collected by personal interview method using both structural schedule and semi-structured interview during 2016-17 by supplying the questionnaire mentioning the following salient points.

1. Average Population of the villages
2. Family Structure
3. Educational Status of Family Members
4. Housing Conditions
5. Electricity Facility
6. Source of Water
7. Mode of Transportation
8. Occupational
9. Land Holdings
10. Source of Irrigation
11. Farm Mechanization
12. Livestock

13. Difficulties in Agriculture Improvement
14. Priorities for Future Investment
15. Source of Agricultural Information
16. Sources of Credit Supply
17. Cropping Pattern
18. Plant Protection
19. Dynamics of Crop Production
20. Marketing System of Agricultural Produce
21. Marketed Surplus of Farm Produce
22. Returns from Agricultural Produces
23. Literacy rate (%)
24. Cropping Pattern
25. Soil type
26. Av. Pesticide used (/ha)
27. Knowledge about IPM

After completion of survey, a total of 800 filled in questionnaire were received and were analyzed to find out the socio economic condition of the farmers of the blocks.

Results and Discussion

In the present study, it was observed that the farmer are socio-economically backward as compared to the other district farmer of the studied area.

Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for the overwhelming majority of the population. So as to eradicate the problems of villagers people, it is necessary for the policy makers to identify and quantify the socio-economic factors which are inhibiting their growth and development.

The farmer owing to their life style and community habits and habitats have not been able to keep pace with the modern society. Farmer are not as advanced as the people of rest of India. The base line information gathered as part of study is included in the Table 1Table.

Table.1 Base line information at Maholi and Hargao block of Sitapur District of Uttar Pradesh

Sl. No.	Component	Results	
		Maholi Block	Hargao Block
1	Average Population of the village		
2	Average Family Structure	Nuclear Joint	Nuclear Joint
3	Average Educational Status of Family Members	Illiterate High School Graduate	Illiterate High School Graduate
4	Average Housing Conditions	Kachcha Pucca	Kachcha Pucca
5	Electricity Facility	Electrified Unelectrified	Electrified Unelectrified
6	Source of Water	Tube Well Hand pump Pond River	Tube Well Hand pump Pond River
7	Mode of Transportation	Two wheeler and Public transport	Two wheeler
8	Major Land Holdings	Landless Marginal Small	Landless Marginal Small
9	Source of Irrigation	Tube well Pond Other	Tube well Pond Other
10	Farm Mechanization	Tractor Pump set Sprayer Others	Tractor Pump set Sprayer Others
11	Livestock	Cow, Goat, Poultry and Duck	Cow, Goat, Poultry and Pig
12	Difficulties in Agriculture Improvement	Irrigation Credit Transport Agriculture Knowledge Labour	Irrigation Credit Transport Agriculture Knowledge Labour
13	Source of Agricultural Information	Extension staff, Mass Media and Relatives	Mass Media and Relatives
14	Sources of Credit Supply	Cooperative society	Nil
15	Cropping Pattern	Rice, Sugarcane	Rice and Sugarcane
16	Plant Protection	Use chemical	-
17	Marketing System of Agricultural Produce	Local traders Village market	Local traders Middle man Village market
18	Soil type	sandy loamy	Sandy loam alkaline
19	Average Pesticide used (/ha)	Very rarely	Very rarely
20	Knowledge about IPM		

Suggestions

Policy suggestions based on the findings from field study of farmers are presented for consideration:

Educational facilities should be provided for the people.

Positive steps should be taken to check the exploitation of the farmer.

Good, reliable transport and communication facilities should be provided.

Multiple cropping and intercropping should be actively encouraged. The government must make major moves to create permanent assets with farmers and provide infrastructural support for meeting input, credit and marketing needs.

Extension agencies must visit the villages and interact with farmers

Training should be provided to the farmer in different income generating activities.

Suitable steps should be taken by the Government so as to educate the farmers about the importance of crop loan and crop insurance facility.

The role of middle man should be minimized for more benefit to the farmers.

Hence concluded that if all the suggestions mentioned above are implemented in the villages, the development of those backward areas can be seen in near future. By introducing facilities of modern technology, their socioeconomic standard can be increased. Thus this weaker part of the society can be turned into the huge mass of human resource. However, further studies are required to know more about them.

References

<http://www.indiamapia.com/Sitapur.html>

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