AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON CONSTRAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS EXPRESSED BY THE BENEFICIARIES & NON-BENEFICIARIES OF KRISHI BHAGYA SCHEME IN KOLAR DISTRICT

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Introduction:

Seventy percent of Karnataka's land area is used for rainfed agriculture. Rainfall is lacking in five out of ten agroclimatic zones by 450 to 850 mm. Lack of timely irrigation is another factor contributing to the daily decline in agricultural productivity. Karnataka's holdings of agricultural land have shrunk from 2.56 hectares to 1.55 hectares. Due to bore well failure, small and marginal farmers are becoming indebted. The Karnataka government has developed the Krishi Bhagya project to address the issue of irrigation water. The program encourages the use of micro irrigation techniques like drip and sprinkler irrigation, which not only conserves water but also guarantees that it is used efficiently in agriculture. It also focuses on building farm ponds as an efficient way to use rainwater, increase irrigation water availability, and reduce reliance on erratic monsoons. Lastly, by providing a reliable supply of water and encouraging modern farming methods, the initiative seeks to raise crop output. The Krishi Bhagya initiative primarily assists farmers in obtaining financial aid and subsidies for bore well excavation, agricultural pond development, installing rainwater collection structures and drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. The program promotes community participation in irrigation and water conservation project planning and execution. It encourages farmers to work together, which helps everyone. Given this brief

background, the current study has concentrated on the main obstacles that Krishna Bhagya plan beneficiaries must overcome as well as suggestions for how to do so.

Objectives

- To Analyse the Utilization of Farm Pond and its Impact on Productivity of beneficiaries & non beneficiaries under Krishi Bhagya Scheme in Kolar District.
- To evaluate the implementation of the scheme primarily focuses on securing the farmer's income by taking up on-farm rainwater conservation practice.
- To study the constraints faced by the Krishi Bhagya Scheme beneficiaries and seek their suggestions to overcome them in Kolar District.
- To adopt modern technologies at a subsidized price to farmers for efficient use of water.

Methodology

Kolar district was specifically selected for the study due to its diverse farming conditions and reputation as a forward-thinking district with a rapid adoption of cutting-edge technologies. Through pre-structured examinations and a carefully thought-out schedule, both primary and secondary data were gathered in order to assess the study's varied objectives. Each of Kolar district's five taluks were selected for the study. From each of the taluk, two villages were selected randomly. Thus, 10 villages from five taluks were considered for the study.

Selection of respondents

Using a basic random sampling technique, 20 KBS beneficiaries and 10 non-beneficiaries were selected from each taluk for data collection; hence, the sample size was 100 beneficiaries and 50 non-beneficiaries, or 150 total

Name of the Taluk	Name of the Villages	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of non-Beneficiaries
Mulabagilu	Madivala	10	5
	Khadripura	10	5
Bangarpet	Hosakote	10	5
	Thoraganadhoddi	10	5
Malur	Thoralakki	10	5
	Kommanhalli	10	5
Srinivaspura	Somayajalahalli	10	5
	Nagadevanahalli	10	5

Kolar	Narasapura	10	5
	Kendatti	10	5
Total sample size		100	50

Table 1: Details of taluks, villages and number of respondents selected for the study

Primary data

Primary data were collected through pre tested well structure from 150 sample farmer- respondents chosen randomly from 5 selected taluks at the rate of 30 farmers from each taluk(20 beneficiaries & 10 Non Beneficiaries). The study was undertaken in five Taluks of Kolar District

Secondary data

Secondary data were collected from the Departments of Agriculture and District at a glance from other published sources for analysis of physical and financial progress of the scheme.

Results & Conclusions

According to the study's findings, the majority of recipients had issues with the lengthy processing times, intricacy, and delays in subsidy approval when receiving benefits under the Krishi Bhagya scheme. Therefore, in order to approve the beneficiaries and expedite the implementation process, the government must establish a district-level committee. Similarly, the Krishna Bhagya plan recipients in the research region recommended raising the subsidy percentage and releasing the subsidy amount on time to support small and medium-sized businesses. Increased visits from agricultural extension workers and investments in the dissemination of agricultural knowledge to farmers regarding issues in the production of horticultural and agricultural crops are crucial for improving the scheme's performance and raising overall agricultural production. Farmers can also build farm ponds and poly houses, which will increase the land's productive capacity and improve the farming community's standard of living.

Project Outcome & Industry Relevance

- Farmers who constructed farm ponds were able to get better returns due to changes in their cropping patterns.

- Aims to increase crop productivity by offering a consistent source of water and promoting contemporary agricultural practices.
- According to the study, non-beneficiaries can also adopt to increase their productivity and revenue.
- Promotes better technologies in agricultural practice.

Working Model

Establish the priority
Data Types
Collection of data
Data Analysis
Findings & Suggestions
Conclusion

Future Scope

1. Expansion and Accessibility:

- The scheme is being expanded to cover all 236 taluks in 31 districts, rather than the previous four dry climatic zones.
- This wider coverage aims to address the needs of more farmers and ensure that the benefits of the scheme are available to all those who need it.

2. Water Conservation and Irrigation:

- The scheme focuses on creating farm ponds to store rainwater and improve irrigation infrastructure.
- This helps reduce the dependence on bore wells and promotes sustainable water management practices.

- The increased availability of water for irrigation is expected to lead to higher crop yields and improved livelihoods for farmers.

3. Supporting Farmer Livelihoods:

- The scheme aims to improve the overall well-being of farmers by providing them with access to water and other resources.
- This can lead to increased income and a better quality of life for farmers and their families.

4. Promoting Sustainable Farming Practices:

- The scheme encourages farmers to adopt sustainable farming practices, including water conservation and efficient irrigation techniques.
- This helps ensure the long-term viability of agriculture and protects the environment.

5. Integrating with Other Initiatives:

- The scheme is being integrated with other government initiatives, such as the "District Regional Cooperative Organic Growers Federations" to promote the cultivation of millets, fruits, vegetables, and spices.
- This helps create a more holistic approach to agriculture development and ensures that farmers have access to a wider range of support services.

6. Technology and Innovation:

- The future may also see the integration of technology and innovation into the scheme to further improve its effectiveness.
- This could include the use of precision agriculture techniques, remote sensing, and other technologies to optimize resource use and improve crop yields.

In essence, the future scope of the Krishi Bhagya scheme is about creating a more resilient and sustainable agricultural sector in Karnataka, benefiting farmers and the environment alike.