

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Improving Rural Economy through Agri Business Avoids Suicides and Migration of Farm Populace

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural and non agricultural activities are necessary for development of rural economy by involvement of farmers by imparting modern skills in processing, marketing of farm produce for value addition is basic need that gives employment generation and breaks the rural migration of Beed district. Some implications could be discerned from the findings of the study, which can help policy makers and planners for formulating appropriate strategies in minimizing the rural migration.

Key Words: Constraints, Rural Migration, Farmers Suicide, Interventions.

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INTRODUCTION

Farming is the backbone of rural economy and livelihood security of our country. India's total employment 59% and total rural employment 73% comes from this sector. About 75% of farmers of Beed district land holdings less than 1 acre (more or less than 5 acre) with such small land holdings and non irrigated farming it is difficult to get two square meals to their families. Most of the farm populace are in debt to bank and money lenders and many cannot even hope to repay these loans. In many regions of the country, farmers see a bleak future because of pressure from bank and private money lenders.

In Beed district of Marathwada region, with the size of each family increasing more people are dependent on the same piece of land, fragmentation of land has added to the problems. There is need now to look at other allied activities. Wearing people away from agriculture would prevent fragmentation of farm land.

Drought leads farmer's suicide in district:

As drought is the main vein of Beed district leads to the suicides of farmers in last 5-6 years. In Vidharbha region also farmer get suicide because of economical problems and drought in year till from January 2014 about 104 farmers suicide and from April 2014 it was 72 in the govt. was in flippancy. Vidharbha is first and Beed is on second position. Up to December 2014 in Beed district 141 farmers suicide. That problem was not solved only by sympathy, can't give the life to farmers but it needs to eradicate utterly a spate of suicide from district and also from whole Marathwada region.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

From the district migration of low land holder farmers to other district or state was increased yearly that leads question marks on education and life of their children also affect the social health and security of new generation. Migration is an outcome of multitude of factors currently inters sectoral co-operation and concerted efforts for providing sustainable livelihoods to rural farm families are lacking. Hence there is need for convergence schemes and benefits will accrue at farm families so that various farm and non-farm constraints issues can be tackled.

In year (2012-13) the migration of rurals was about 5 lakh 500 thousands and it was increased by about 1 lakh 500 in the year 2013-14 and counting goes to 6 lakh 500 thousand from Beed district it means number of migrant increasing day by day in other district and also in other states, named Uttar Pradesh (UP) Madhya Pradesh (MP), Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh (AP)

Table : 1: According to survey April - 2014

Sr.No	Taluka	No of farmers succided	Sr. No	District	No of farmers succided
1	Beed	12	1	Beed	141
2	Shirur	6	2	Nanded	109
3	Ambajogai	6	3	Aurangabad	46
4	Patoda	4	4	Jalna	27
5	Georai	23	5	Parbhani	64
6	Parali	4	6	Hingoli	30
7	Ashti	4	7	Latur	36
8	Kaij	3	8	Usmanabad	59
9	Dharur	0		Total	512
10	Vadwani	2			
11	Majalgaon	-			

Reasons of migration**Percentage**

- Non-availability of work round the year 90
- Low wages 80
- Natural calamities 100
- Crop failure
- Water Problems of cattles and their won
- Repayment of loan. 25
- Non-availability of resources (Agri cultural land) 70
- Influenced by friends and relatives 65

As per census 1991 there are 7.59 lakh workers in the district and the counting was increased yearly. There are about 13 thousand different kinds of works are sanctioned by government far Beed district through MGNREGA policy. In which development of roads, water conservation and other developing works are going on. Which gives jobs to rural ones? From the 11 taluka of Beed district 36 thousand and 766 workers gets jobs. In district 2 lakhs 46 thousand job cards are distributed. It was less than Nanded and Aurangabad District.

However the farming status of the villages of Beed district was poor due to various constraints Table -3. The experts in the respective subject (constraints) matter domain were consulted for preparing possible solution in addressing the constraints so that appropriate intervention can be undertaken by development Agencies there by reducing the migration rate and improving the lively hood of rural farm families.

Table : 3 CONSTRAINTS OF MIGRANT FARM FAMILIES.

Sr.No.	Constraints
1	Crop failure : untimely rain and drought was the main cause of crop loss.
2	Poor returns from agriculture due to uneconomical farm size.
3	Poor logistical support in marketing of farm produce.
4	Labour scarcity and delay in farming operation the farmers faced labour scarcity problem during trans plantation and harvesting, need to hire labour with higher wages to avoid delay of farming operation.
5	Lack of scientific knowledge in tackling the pest attack in crop such as vegetables, cereals etc. which cause enormous monetary loss.
6	Poor contact of extension functionaries : the villagers were exploited by middlemen through pre-harvests contract in activities such as procurement of seed, fertilizers and plant protection measures.
7	Farmers are poor in knowledge about various government schemes and support facilities.

There is also need to earn more from the piece of land to sustain livelihood. It is possible if Indian Agriculture is diversified and shifted from input based to knowledge Based growth. The other approach is to divert at least 50% of population to off farm and on farm activities. There are about 40% workers in agriculture sector. Who have seasonal jobs (sugar factories in seasons only.)

After harvesting they are jobless and are in search of temporary jobs in the village or nearby towns. There is no social security for these workers in the organized sector. Empowering them with knowledge and entrepreneurship skills may check their displacement and provide social security.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Constraints		Possible interventions
	Farm based agriculture Fragmented land holding pattern	For couraging group farming activities with value added at farms site. Formation of producer groups and operation thought PPP mode (Public Private partnership)
	Predominance of small land holders and their abject poverty	Value addition activities at farm site formation of producer groups and its operation with proper mode.
	Rain fall in district (Erratic)	Adoption of improved high yielding and drought resistant crops.
	Rain fed Agriculture	Construction and cleaning of dams, ponds etc., water shed development programmes through MGNERGA ., soil conservation etc.
	Low productivity in non-irrigated areas.	Encouragement for using improved irrigation methods eg. Drip, sprinklers for water management.
	High weed and pests infestation	Adoption of integrated weed and pest management practices.
	Undulated topography	Improving land management practices, using improved technologies. Recommending area specific crops to the farmers to meet high productivity .
	Limited use of farm mechanization equipment	Popularization of improved drudgery reducing farm tools and technology. Awareness among farmers about prevailing schemes and policies. Advance planning of farming operations under guidance of agriculture department experts.
	Poor marketing and storage facility of agri produces	Sun drying, cold storage demands, for fruit and vegetables motivating and involving women in agri processes with training.

Off Farm activities

*	Lack of technology, skill up gradation in almost all traditional industries like food processing , silk casting etc.	Training on use of advanced technology, small scale industries.
*	Poor market linkage, economy achievement	To develop a strategy and marketing channel from village level-Taluka-District-Well marketing area (other district) states International level. Mobile Cold storage van with all facilities was necessary for fruit and vegetables.

Animal Husbandry :

*	Inadequate live stock Aid centre Genetic up gradation of live stock for productivity is limited to diary sector only.	Hire veterinary doctors at village levels. Development of livestock management plan for the district. Poor knowledge of breed animals cow, sheep's, goat, buffalos etc. with experts
*	Non-availability of improved milch breed in sufficient numbers and scientific rearing.	Give knowledge and new technologies and scientific rearing of breeders to villagers to increase milk.
*	The animal husbandry department is restricted due to non availability of mobility. Service is not properly reachable in remote areas.	Integrating small ruminants like goat and sheep with crop husbandry To strengthen extension services in the remote areas Promotion of para- veterinary workers.
*	Ban order of the forest department to graze in the forest area.	Sensitizing the forest dwellers and farmers on maintenance of agro forestry and small holder farming.

Horticulture :

*	Non availability of sufficient land for plantation for individual farmers	Commercial cultivation of fruits medicinal plants (with processing techniques) and its scientific value and cultivation knowledge's.
*	Scattered plantation of fruit bearing trees.	value and cultivation knowledge's Inter cropping of floriculture and medicinal plants of less time periods.
*	Inadequate group farming.	Hilly areas, fallow lands and cultivable waste lands in group basis. Easy for marketing and less expensive in trading travelling the produce.
*	High value vegetable crop not grown according to market demand.	Awareness creation through electronic. (SMS, T.V.) and printed media about the going on government schemes and policies for promotion of horticulture in the district.
*	Exploitation by local traders	Promoting commodity groups for marketing

Fishery :

*	Inadequate storage and fish processing facility	To develop for leasing water bodies and utilization of water bodies for fish.
*	Awareness regarding aquaculture	Azolla, spirulina culture for dairy animals.
*	Use of breeders in fishery	With the income of fishes the cultivation of vegetables, flowers on the borders of water bodies.

SUMMARY

Migration is an outcome of multitude of factors. Currently inter sect oral cooperation and concerted efforts for providing sustainable livelihoods to rural farm families are lacking. Hence there is need for convergence schemes and benefits will accrue to farm families so that various farm and nonfarm constraints (policies) issues can be tackled for rural migrants of Beed district need to be brought under, food security net.

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