

Correlates of Extent of Participation and Impact of National Watershed Development Programme by the Beneficiaries

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ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted in Beed and Nanded district of Marathwada region in Maharashtra State. The main objective of the study was to assess the relationship between profile of beneficiaries with their extent of participation and impact of NWDP. The data were collected with the help of pre-designed interview schedule by contacting 200 respondents i.e. 100 beneficiaries from watershed villages and 100 non-beneficiaries from non-watershed villages. The result revealed that majority (70.00%) of the beneficiaries having middle aged, followed by 38.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were educated up to secondary school level, while 52.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were having medium family size. Further it was observed that 53.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were from higher caste i.e. major castes – Maratha, Brahmin, while 49.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having semi medium land holding, whereas 60.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium area under irrigation. It was also found that 66.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium annual income, while 46.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium social participation, whereas 61.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium level of extension contact, and 52.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium level of economic motivation. Also the result showed that education, family size, land holding, area under irrigation, annual income, social participation, extension contact and economic motivation were found to be positively and significantly related with extent of participation and impact of NWDP.

Key words : Extent of participation; Impact; Beneficiaries;

The challenges before Indian agriculture is to transform rainfed farming into more sustainable and productive system by giving social, economical and technological backup to the people who depend upon it. Moreover, the economy is mainly dependent on stability of crop production in rainfed areas. The land, water, climate, flora and fauna are the basic resources for agricultural development, which are subjected to various processes leading to their deterioration, particularly in rainfed areas. Development of the dry land areas is, therefore, an inescapable necessity for increasing and stabilizing income, generating employment and to rise the living of standard of dry land farmers on one hand and ensuring 'equity' on the other. The soil conservation techniques aim at reducing short-term risk in crop production, while maintaining long term stability of production. Thus, the uplifting rainfed farmers from their

pathetic condition through development of dry farming by improving soil and moisture conservation on watershed approach received gather attention. The present study was undertaken with the following specific objective:

- i. To study the profile of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of NWDP.
- ii. To delineate relationship between profile of beneficiaries with their extent of participation and impact of NWDP

METHODOLOGY

The research study was carried out purposively in Beed and Nanded district of Marathwada region in Maharashtra State. From each district, two talukas were purposively selected based on the maximum treated area (in ha.) under NWDP. The study was conducted in 8

villages (4 watershed villages and 4 non-watershed villages) of Beed and Nanded district. Watershed villages were selected purposively based on the maximum treated area (in ha.) under NWDP. From each village 25 respondents were randomly selected to make 200 samples of respondents in total. All the respondents were personally interviewed at their home and farms and data was collected. The collected data was analyzed with the help of suitable statistical methods i.e. frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, coefficient of correlation, path analysis, multiple regression and Z-test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Profile of the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries:

It was found that majority (70.00%) of the respondents from watershed villages and 73.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages were middle aged, followed by 38.00 per cent of the respondents from watershed villages and 36.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages were educated up to secondary school level, while more than half (52.00%) of the respondents from watershed villages and 47.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages were having medium family size. Further it was observed that 53.00 per cent of the respondents from watershed villages and 48.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages were from higher caste i.e. major castes – Maratha, Brahmin. Nearly half (49.00%) of the respondents from watershed villages having semi medium land holding, whereas 47.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages having marginal land holding, whereas majority (60.00%) of the respondents from watershed villages having medium area under irrigation, whereas 77.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages having low area under irrigation.

It was also found that 66.00 per cent of the respondents from watershed villages and 64.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages were having medium annual income, while it was noticed that 46.00 per cent of the respondents from watershed villages having medium social participation whereas 48.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages having low social participation. Majority (61.00%) of the respondents from watershed villages having medium level of extension contact whereas 56.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages

Table 1. Profile of the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries

Characteristics	Watershed		Non watershed	
	No.	%	No.	%
Age				
Young age	16	16	14	14
Middle age	70	70	73	73
Old age	14	14	13	13
Education				
Illiterate	12	12	17	17
Primary school	23	23	26	26
Secondary school	38	38	36	36
Higher secondary	20	20	16	16
Graduates	07	07	05	05
Family size				
Big	36	36	28	28
Medium	52	52	47	47
Small	12	12	25	25
Caste				
Higher	53	53	48	48
Middle	10	10	19	19
Lower	37	37	33	33
Land holding				
Marginal	08	08	47	47
Small	30	30	40	40
Semi-medium	49	49	10	10
Medium	12	12	03	03
Big	01	01	00	00
Area under irrigation				
Low	15	15	77	77
Medium	60	60	18	18
High	25	25	05	05
Annual income				
Low	24	24	20	20
Medium	66	66	64	64
High	10	10	16	16
Social participation				
Low	19	19	48	48
Medium	46	46	38	38
High	35	35	14	14
Extension contact				
Low	19	19	56	56
Medium	61	61	27	27
High	20	20	17	17
Economic motivation				
Low	18	18	45	45
Medium	52	52	32	32
High	30	30	23	23

having low extension contact and More than half (52.00%) of the respondents from watershed villages having medium level of economic motivation whereas

45.00 per cent of respondents from non-watershed villages having low economic motivation.

Relational analysis : The correlation analysis of profile of beneficiaries with their extent of participation and impact of NWDP were calculated and illustrated. Table 2 revealed that the independent variables viz., education, family size, land holding, area under irrigation, annual income, social participation, extension contact and economic motivation were found to be positively and significantly related with extent of participation. However age and caste could not establish any relationship with extent of participation. These findings are in line with the findings of *Naberia and khare (2006)*, *Jirli and Kumar (2010)*, *Mendel and Mukhopadhey (2012)*, *Singh et al. (2015)* and *Sharma and Badodiya (2016)*.

Table 2. Relationship between profile of beneficiaries with the extent of participation

Independent variable	Correlation coefficient
Age	0.140 ^{NS}
Education	0.789 ^{**}
Family size	0.531 ^{**}
Caste	0.137 ^{NS}
Land holding	0.891 ^{**}
Area under irrigation	0.852 ^{**}
Annual income	0.584 ^{**}
Social participation	0.825 ^{**}
Extension contact	0.624 ^{**}
Economic motivation	0.778 ^{**}

** Significant at 0.01 per cent level of probability

Table 3. Relationship between profiles of beneficiaries with the impact of NWDP

Independent variable	Correlation coefficient
Age	-0.122 ^{NS}
Education	0.685 ^{**}
Family size	0.433 ^{**}
Caste	-0.099 ^{NS}
Land holding	0.794 ^{**}
Area under irrigation	0.782 ^{**}
Annual income	0.665 ^{**}
Social participation	0.753 ^{**}
Extension contact	0.524 ^{**}
Economic motivation	0.677 ^{**}

** Significant at 0.01 per cent level of probability

The result of correlation analysis evident from Table 3 that education, family size, land holding, area under irrigation, annual income, social participation, extension

contact and economic motivation were found to be positively and significantly related with impact of NWDP. The other independent variables namely age and caste could not establish any relationship with impact of NWDP. These findings are in agreement with the findings of *Ahire (2000)*, *Erappa (2000)*, *Bhange (2004)* and *Sirohiya (2012)*.

Multiple regression analysis: Multiple regression analysis was calculated to know combine effect of all independent variables in explaining the dependent variables. It is observed from Table 4 that co-efficient of determination (R^2) of the independent variables was 0.942. It means that selected ten independent variables explained 94.20 per cent variation in extent of participation. The value of 't' showed that education ($t = 2.553$), land holding ($t = 3.545$), area under irrigation ($t = 2.809$), annual income ($t = 6.631$) and social participation ($t = 4.479$) were found to be positively and significantly in extent of participation. These variables therefore emerged as crucial variables in explaining the variation. Hence, these five variables were found most important variables in exercising influence on extent of participation of beneficiaries in NWDP.

Table 4. Multiple regression analysis of profile of beneficiaries with the extent of participation of beneficiaries in NWDP

Independent variable	Regression co-efficient	SE (bi)	't' value
Age	0.074	0.048	1.520
Education	1.252	0.490	2.553*
Caste	-0.194	-0.220	-0.881
Family size	-2.380	0.561	-4.239
Land holding	2.616	0.737	3.545**
Area under irrigation	3.446	1.226	2.809**
Annual income	0.053	0.008	6.631**
Social participation	3.359	0.749	4.479**
Extension contact	0.188	0.169	1.108
Economic motivation	-0.773	0.249	-3.102

$R^2 = 0.942$

$F = 1.442$

*Significant at 0.05 level of probability

** Significant at 0.01 level of probability

It is seen from Table 5 that co-efficient of determination (R^2) of the independent variables was 0.895. It means that selected ten independent variables explained 89.50 per cent variation in extent of participation.

Table 5. Multiple regression analysis of profile of beneficiaries with impact of NWDP

Independent variable	Regression co-efficient	SE(bi)	't' value
Age	-6.934	3.992	-1.736
Education	18.712	38.944	0.480
Caste	-15.735	15.481	-1.016
Family size	-134.42	45.278	-2.968
Land holding	183.41	59.268	3.094**
Area under irrigation	352.18	102.47	3.436**
Annual income	3.647	0.648	5.624**
Social participation	207.16	60.302	3.435**
Extension contact	14.369	13.777	1.042
Economic motivation	-97.351	20.228	-4.812

R² = 0.895

F = 7.549

** Significant at 0.01 level of probability

The value of 't' showed that impact was significantly related with land holding (t = 3.094), area under irrigation (t = 3.436), annual income (t = 5.624) and social participation (t = 3.435). These variables therefore emerged as crucial variables in explaining the variation. Hence, these four variables were found most important variables in exercising influence on impact of NWDP of beneficiaries.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that majority (70.00%) of the

beneficiaries having middle aged, followed by 38.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were educated up to secondary school level, while 52.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were having medium family size. Further it was observed that 53.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were from higher caste i.e. major castes – Maratha, Brahmin, while 49.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having semi medium land holding, whereas 60.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium area under irrigation. It was also found that 66.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium annual income, while 46.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium social participation, whereas 61.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium level of extension contact, and 52.00 per cent of the beneficiaries having medium level of economic motivation. Also education, family size, land holding, area under irrigation, annual income, social participation, extension contact and economic motivation were found to be positively and significantly related with extent of participation and impact of NWDP. While age and caste could not establish any relationship with extent of participation and impact of NWDP. Multiple regression analysis indicated that from all selected ten variables, five variables namely education, land holding, area under irrigation, annual income and social participation were significantly contributing factors in case of extent of participation and impact of NWDP.

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