

Study on the problems of implementing farm mechanization process in rural areas of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

This paper mainly studies the concept of the farm mechanisation process in the suicidal prone areas of Vidarbha region. It includes the study on the policy of the agriculture instruments being innovated by the local agriculture universities. It also examines the problems of the farmers about their inability to implement the farm mechanization process (Acharya, 2009). It also focuses on the Govt. policy being implemented for the betterment of providing this instruments at a cheaper rate to the farmers. The demand for farm mechanics is a derived demand. A timely and adequate supply at fair prices of farm machinery are of great importance in the production of farm output. Most of the mechanical inputs have displaced human and bullock labour, which is socially unjustified. Suitable policies should be framed for the suicidal prone area of Vidarbha such as encouraging cooperative management of machinery, imparting training to the farmers regarding such investment, encouraging standard service inputs, devising machinery problem from small farmers and dry land cultivation.

Key words : Farm mechanization, Agriculture sector, Crops, Farmers

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The technological improvements in Indian agriculture since mid sixties have brought about revolutionary increase in agricultural production. Interestingly, the growth rate of food grain production particularly in case of wheat and rice was much higher than the growth rate of population. The country was facing acute food shortages till eighties has now become not only self-sufficient but also a net exporter of food grains. This has been made possible due to evolution of high yielding crop varieties, increased use of chemical fertilizers, development of irrigation facilities and plant protection measures accompanied by effective price support programmes of farm products. The increased use of purchased inputs in agriculture necessitated to raise their use efficiencies through mechanization. The increase in the use of human and bullock labour and rising wage rates and cost of up-keep of bullock further made the case of farm mechanization still stronger (Kumar, 2011).

In the context of increasing commercialization of agriculture, mechanization is very important. The agricultural engineering inputs have played appreciable role in increasing production and productivity through appropriate mechanization inputs for production and post production agriculture enabling timely field operations, conservation and judicious application of water, appropriate post harvest operations to reduce losses, value addition to the product and by-products for enhanced economic returns and employment generation. Though, India has abundant labour force in agriculture, non-availability of manpower during peak crop season is a growing problem. The infrastructure needed for agricultural diversification like rural roads, drying yards, storage structures, transportation facilities, packaging and branding system is further strengthening (Kumar, 2011).

It is possible for farmers to take yields of crops two times every single years by using the innovative machines, which increases the productivity of the land by around 12 – 34 per cent and the profit by around 29-49 per cent. Currently in India around 10 lakh technician are being employed in the repairing of the farm instruments. Around 126 lakh

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