

RESEARCH PAPER

An analytical study on impact of National Horticulture Mission(NHM)
among the beneficiaries in Chhatarpur district (M.P.)

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ABSTRACT

Study was conducted in Chhatarpur district of (M.P.) in 2011. After independence, several programmes and project have been launched in the country to increase agricultural productivity for solving the food problem. Horticultural crops play a unique role in India's economy by improving the income of the rural people. Cultivation of these crops is labour intensive and as such they generate lot of employment opportunities for the rural population. Fruits and vegetables are also rich source of vitamins, minerals, proteins, carbohydrates etc. which are essential in human nutrition. Hence, these are referred to as protective foods and assumed great importance as nutritional security of the people. Thus, cultivation of horticultural crops plays a vital role in the prosperity of a nation and is directly linked with the health and happiness of the people. But in our country area under horticultural crops is not to a considerable level because of several factors. NHM playing a important role in increase in area as well as productivity of horticultural crops through motivation of farmers, providing subsidy, providing guidance and other facilities. The present study will explore the change in attitude and economic gain of the beneficiaries and would highlight the factors which are promoting the process of horticultural development through NHM. Majority of the beneficiaries had favorable attitude while non-beneficiaries had unfavorable attitude.

Key Words : Horticulture development through NHM, Constraints.

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Horticulture is very closely associated with human civilization from prehistoric era. Agricultural and environmental scientists of the world have unanimously admitted significance of horticulture in the livelihood security, nutritional security, environment and now in international trade. Horticulture is an important component of today's farming homestead and corporate agriculture. In the changing scenario, the potential for horticulture is enormous in the context of globalized economy and open competitive market. India with diverse soil and climate : comprising several agro-ecological regions provides ample opportunity to grow a variety of horticulture crops. These crops form a significant part of total agricultural produce in the country comprising of fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, flowers, ornamental plants, medicinal and aromatic plants, spices, condiments, plantation crops and mushrooms. India is a large, low-cost producer of fruit and vegetables, and horticulture is a sector with huge export potential. India with more than 28.2 million tones of fruits and 66 million tones of vegetables is the second largest producer of fruits and

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