

A study of agricultural development of Saora Tribes in Bolangir district of Orissa state

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ABSTRACT

The characteristics namely, education, size of family, occupation, annual income, size of land holding, social participation, socio-economic status, extension contact and aspiration exhibited positive and statistically significant correlation with the knowledge level and adoption of recommended agricultural practices. However, traditions and beliefs about agriculture were negatively significant with knowledge and adoption of recommended agricultural practices. Age showed non-significant correlation with knowledge level and adoption of recommended agricultural practices.

INTRODUCTION

Tribal development is a constitutional obligation of India. The constitution has not only made specific provisions of protecting tribals, who are 8 per cent of total population spread over 500 development block but also has imposed the constitutional obligation of regular review of performance and development effect directly to the president of India. Tribes in India, have their unique features that differ from each other in terms of their respective structural and historical specificities. The tribal communities though treated as a community but represent the original fabric of Indian society and its cultural heritage. Tribals are mainly depending on agriculture, forest and live stock. Agriculture development and tribal development is closely related with each other since agriculture is basic factor for the progress of tribals. Studies on tribal development before and even after independence revealed that tribals have facing problems such as land alienation indebtedness, poverty etc. Orissa State is largest in tribal population after Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and largest in number of tribal concentration. Saora tribe is second largest tribes in Orissa having a glorious past. The investigation was undertaken with the following : to study the agricultural development of Saora tribal farmers by developments departments and to find out the co-relation between socio-economic

characteristics and the level of knowledge and extent of adoption of recommended agricultural practices.

METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was conducted in Khaprakhol block of Bolangir district of Orissa comprising 132 villages having predominately tribal area. Ten villages were selected randomly from the list of Saora Tribal farmers employing 'n' method of random sampling. The data were collected from the sampled respondents with the help of specially designed inter view schedule. The information was also collected by using the participant observation method by the investigators.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings obtained from the present study are presented below:

From Table 1 it is observed that cent per cent of the respondents cultivated paddy as their main crop. 48 per cent respondents grew other cereals viz., millets (Ragi, maize) and 21.50 per cent respondents grew cotton. 17.50 per cent, 28.50 per cent and 23.00 per cent respondents cultivated sugarcane, vegetables and groundnut, respectively, in *Kharif* season. 34.00 per cent, 39.50 per cent, 31.50 per cent respondents cultivated paddy, pulses and groundnut, respectively in *Rabi* season.

Key words :
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