



A REVIEW ON FARMERS OF TELANGANA: WELFARE SCHEME CHANGING STATUS AND DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

The situation of farmers who have been improved since the Telangana government launched the finest initiatives in Telangana state is examined in this study. Farmers have benefited from a variety of farmer-related programmes that have been created and are effectively operating. The direct and indirect initiatives assist farmers in cultivating their land. In the state of Telangana, this has never occurred before. Because Telangana is located on a rock plateau, there are no rivers flowing across the state. Some rivers run from the state's boundaries, although not from all of Telangana's districts. To address this problem and attract farmers, a variety of programmes were established from the ground level to encourage farmers to farm.

The systematic review was done on literature on how traditional practises are carried out all over state with reference to the different papers published in different journals and government annual reports from the year 2015-2021.

It is noteworthy that the 'Agriculture & Allied Sectors', which are the backbone of rural Telangana, and employ more than 55% of the population on of the state, make up the major proportion of this sector. While Telangana started out with a negative 0.7% growth rate in the 'Agriculture & Allied Sectors' in 2014-15, attained growth rates of 35.9% and 18.5% even during the pandemic years of 2019-20 and 2020-21. The Gross Value of Output (GVO) for paddy in 2020-21 increased 5 times its value in 2014-15, the GVO for cotton in 2020-21 increased 3 times its value in 2014-15, the GVO for 'Meat' in 2020-21 also increased 3 times its value in 2014-15, and the GVO for 'Inland Fish and Prawns', & 'Eggs' in 2020-21 increased nearly double their respective values in 2014-15. (Des.ts,2014-2021).

KEY WORDS: Rural development, farmers, Telangana farmer's schemes.

1. INTRODUCTION

The situation of farmers who have been improved since the Telangana government launched the finest initiatives in Telangana state is examined in this study. Farmers have benefited from a variety of farmer-related programmes that have been created and are effectively operating. The direct and indirect initiatives assist farmers in cultivating their land. In the state of Telangana, this has never occurred before. Because Telangana is located on a rock plateau, there are no rivers flowing across the state. Some rivers run from the state's boundaries, although not from all of Telangana's districts. To address this problem and attract farmers, a variety of programmes were established from the ground level to encourage farmers to farm. Telangana State is India's 29th state. It is bordered on the north west by Maharashtra, on the west by Karnataka, and on the east and south by Andhra Pradesh. The region covers 276.96 lakh acres and has a population of 350.04 people. According to the 2011 census, there were lakhs of people. In terms of population, the state ranks 11th in the nation.

In terms of land, it is the 12th biggest, and in terms of people, it is the 12th largest. The majority of the people in the state are in rural regions, agriculture is the primary source of income. Agriculture is vital not only for the economics of the country, but also for the economy of the world. Telangana state, but also for ensuring the state's food security, and for the sake of the nation Telangana's economy is based on agriculture and related sectors. Development. Aside from

assisting in food security, the industry plays an important role in the economy.

It also employs more than half of the state's workforce (about 50,000 people). Agriculture and associated industries employ 60% of the state's workforce activities). Farmer income is mostly determined by agricultural output and access to markets. Markets. Various agricultural inputs, such as fertiliser, influence yield. Water, electricity, fertiliser, seeds, labour, and automation are all necessities. As a result of its the government has placed a premium on the sector's development and farmers' livelihoods. Affluence via a number of key programmes, such as bettering irrigation to providing free of charge via the Kaleshwaram Project and Mission Kakatiya farmers have access to electricity 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as well as investment assistance. Rythu Bandhu, which facilitates access to inputs, markets, and loans, as well as offering financial services. Rythu Bima provides life insurance.

In general, government actions have reflected in agriculture. The state's expansion has been fuelled by rising agricultural output. Between the years 2019-20 and 2020-21, paddy output grew by 29.9%. As a result, the state has become the national leader in paddy production. Cotton output has grown, with 29.4 percent of seeded lands in cotton. According to the 2nd advance forecasts, the year 2020-21 will be the busiest. As a result, the state has emerged as the country's second-largest cotton-producing state Accordingly, the state's Gross Value Added (GVA) output from agriculture and related industries in the years 2020-21, the sector (including



the whole crop) expanded by 20.9 percent. Agriculture has one of the greatest growth rates, with a production share of GVA of 42.98 percent. India's GVA agricultural growth rate is much higher than the country's overall growth rate. 3% of the population Despite the COVID-19 havoc, the agricultural sector was the least affected by output growth between 2019-20 and 2020-21 (Source: Telangana's socioeconomic prognosis for the year 2021).

The state's biggest issues, however, include rising water shortages, and natural resources, such as land, are being degraded, and the availability of natural resources per capita is declining. Resources of land and water Agriculture output was not harmed, however farmers still faced several challenges in accessing markets and procuring inputs. Further, rainfed agriculture in the state is very much vulnerable to the impacts of natural calamities. (Agriculture action plan 2020-2021).

2. OBJECTIVES

To review the various welfare schemes in Telangana.

To review about the development of agriculture and farmer's livelihood.

3. METHOD

A systematic search of the literature was conducted in PubMed, Academic Source, and Science Direct, Springer Link, Taylor & Francis, Wiley Online Library, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), google scholar as well as annual reports from Telangana government the search criterion was the descriptor "welfare schemes changing status and development."

4. FINDINGS

About the implemented agriculture and allied schemes from 2015-2021

Telangana state comprises of 33 districts namely Adilabad, Jagityal, Jangoan, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Jogulamba Gadwal, Kothagudem, Mahabubabad, Mahbubnagar, Malkajgiri, Mancherial, Medak, Nagarkurnool, Nalgonda, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Peddapally, RajannaSiricilla, Rangareddy, Sangareddy, Siddipet, Suryapet, Vikarabad, Wanaparthy, Warangal (R), Warangal (U), Yadadri, Hyderabad, Narayanpet and Mulugu. Each district is subdivided into Revenue Divisions and Mandals. Altogether there are 593 Mandals in the State.

I. Seed Subsidy Distribution

The Subsidy Seed Plan for the year 2021 is based on the government's category-by-category budget for seed supply, as well as district-by-district, season-by-season, and village-by-village seed sales and requirements. The State's District Agriculture Officer under the Green Manure Seed Program, 1.92 lakh qtl of Green Manure seed will be distributed. During the years 2021-22, there will be a subsidy. There are currently plans in place to ensure a steady supply of high-quality products. Farmers get green manure seed as a subsidy under the Normal State Plan (NSP). Telangana State Seed Development would provide the subsidised seed. (TSSDC).

II. Seed Farms of the State

In the state of Telangana, there are ten State Seed Production Farms with the primary goal of producing Foundation Seed. fulfil the seed needs of the Seed Village Program, and then provide it. to the growers The government has designated the State Seed Farms as a priority. Breeder seed is used as a source of foundation seed production. provided by the Agricultural University's Research Institutes Crop cultivation fees for crops enrolled in the State Seed Program farms will be paid from the state Seed Farms' Revolving Fund account. It will be kept at the Commissionerate and recouped via the sale revenues from the farm's seed production.

III. Fertilizers

Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy (NBS Policy):

Department of Fertilizers (DoF), Government of India communicated the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy from 01.04.2010.

Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy (NBS Policy):

The Department of Fertilizers, Govt. of India implemented the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy from 1-4-2010. Under this policy, fixed subsidy is extended on the fertilizer products (except Urea) based on the Nutrient content. The fertilizer companies will decide indicative MRPs based on the cost of the raw materials / Finished Goods (FGs) in the international market, under intimation to the Department of Fertilizers, Govt. of India. The State Government has no role regarding fixation of MRPs of fertilizers.

Subsidy applicable: The primary nutrients of N, P, K and Sulphur (S) are eligible for subsidy. (The per Kg subsidy fixed is N- Rs.18.789/-, PRs.14.888/-, K-Rs.10.116/-, S-Rs.2.374/- for the year 2020-21 was extended for the year 2021-22 also by the Department of Fertilizers, Government of India).

Additional per ton subsidy is given for fertilizers carrying other secondary and micro-nutrients. This is to encourage balanced use of fertilizers. The per MT additional subsidy on Boron is Rs.300/- and for Zinc Rs.500/-.

The Department of Fertilizers (DoF) fixes the subsidy of fertilizers and the companies will fix the MRPs reasonably, which will be monitored by Department of Fertilizers from time to time.

Sale of fertilizers through PoS machines: With the introduction of DBT and roll out of implementation of DBT pan India, the sale of fertilizers is made mandatory through PoS machines only, based on Aaddhar card of the farmers.

Printing on the Bags: The fertilizer companies are required to print the Maximum Retail Prices (MRP) along with the applicable subsidy on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP will be punishable under EC Act.

All the Fertilizer Inspectors will ensure compliance of the above item.

The distribution and movement of fertilizers along with import of finished fertilizers, fertilizer inputs and production by indigenous units will continue to be monitored through the online web based "Integrated Fertilizer Monitoring System (iFMS), (Erstwhile mFMS)".



IV. FARM MECHANIZATION

Agriculture is undergoing a gradual shift from dependence on human power and animal power to mechanical power because of, Increasing cost for upkeep of animals, Growing scarcity of human labour. Expanding area under the assured Irrigation in view of the completion of the new Irrigation Projects and simultaneously pro farmer support schemes being extended to the farmers, has resulted in increase of the Gross Cropped area to 203 Lakh acres as against the 121.72 Lakh acres during 2014-15.

Keeping in view the strong need for promoting farm mechanization the Government has allocated an amount of Rs.150000 Lakhs for promotion of Agricultural Mechanization during 2021-22.

V. PLANT PROTECTION

Plant protection needs greater attention to prevent yield loss due to incidence of pest and diseases. This can be achieved through release of new pest and disease resistant varieties development of new pesticides molecules, by adopting Integrated Pest management practices and timely communication of plant protection measures to the farmers through print and electronic media. The pesticide consumption is reduced due to increased awareness created among farmers on Integrated Pest Management practices by conducting Farmers field programs in farmers – fields, introductions of Bt. Hybrid in cotton. Usage of bio-pesticide and timely communication of Integrated Pest Management Practices to the farmers through extension programs, Print and electronic media.

VI. TRAINING FARMERS

To meet the growing demands of the population for food grains, it is imperative that productivity has to be enhanced as land is non-expandable resource. Hence continuous trainings to farmers is essential for enhancing their knowledge and skills to increase the production with low cost technology. In view of the rapid changes occurring in agriculture sector it is necessary for upgrading skills, knowledge of the farming community. The basic objective of the Agriculture Extension being the transfer of latest agricultural technologies to farmers and thereby increasing their levels of income, capacity building in agriculture assumes an important role.

Area Identified for Trainings:

- 1) Seed treatment techniques and proportionate mixing up of plant protection chemicals
- 2) Soil sample collection and analysis of the soil testing cards (N.P.K wise), Selection of good seed, seed germination tests.
- 3) Identification of pests and diseases of major crops with suitable control measures (based on IPM) and Weed Management
- 4) Water management in important crops to increase crop productivity.
- 5) Awareness on entrepreneurial opportunities in agricultural and allied sectors.
- 6) Awareness on use of straight and complex fertilizers and integrated nutrient management.
- 7) Correct methods for placement of fertilizers.
- 8) Application of gypsum in groundnut.

9) Preparation of poison bait for rodent control (both at residence & fields).

10) Creating Awareness on Departmental schemes.

VII. CROP LOAN WAIVER

1) The Government vide G.O Rt No.148 dt 17.03.2020 had issued the Guidelines for implementation of the Crop Loan Waiver Scheme-2018.

2) This scheme will cover short term production loans and crop loans against gold disbursed to farmers in the Telangana State by scheduled Commercial Banks, Cooperative Credit Institutions (including Urban Cooperative Banks) and Regional Rural Banks collectively called as the “lending institutions”.

3) The Amount eligible for waiver will be up to Rs.1.00 lakh (principal together with applicable interest) per family. The farmer family is defined as head of family, spouse and dependent children.

4) All crop loans sanctioned/ renewed on or after 01.04.2014 and outstanding as on 11.12.2018 are eligible under the scheme.

5) Gold Loans availed from Urban and Metropolitan Banks/Bank branches as Crop Loans shall not be eligible for waiver. However, Loans availed from the Urban/Metropolitan branches, which have rural areas also as their service areas are eligible for Loan waiver.

6) The farmers who have outstanding loan up to Rs. 25,000/- only will be waived off in the 1st Phase.

7) In first phase, an amount of Rs.408.38 crores was credited into 2,95,571 farmers Loan Accounts after processing of data furnished by Bankers at NIC by Aaddhar ceding and family grouping.

8) SMS Alert messages are sent to farmers registered mobiles after successfully crediting the Loan Waiver benefit into their Loan Accounts.

9) An amount of Rs.522500.00 lakhs is allocated under the scheme for the financial year 2021-22.

VIII. NATURAL CALAMITIES

NC Cell deals with Agriculture Crop damage due to natural calamities i.e., Heavy rains/Floods/Unseasonal / Hailstorms/ Drought/ Fire/ cyclones etc. As and when any calamity occurs, the preliminary Agricultural crop damages above 33% will be obtained from all the concerned District Agricultural officers and a consolidated report of all the affected districts will be submitted to the Government i.e., Principal Secretary to Govt., A&C department and the Commissioner for Disaster Management (Rev. dept.) for according enumeration permission. The Disaster Management Department is the Nodal Department for according Enumeration permission for assessing the crop damage due to any natural calamity. The crop damage reports submitted by District Agriculture officers through the District Collectors will be consolidated and submitted to the Government for necessary action. The Department will prepare and keep ready the Contingency plans for timely supply of alternate crops seed on subsidy in case of the late onset of Monsoon/ Dry spells if the rains are not received by 15th July, 30th July and 15th August 2021.



IX. RYTHU BANDHU – AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT SUPPORT SCHEME (AISS)

Key Features

1) Agriculture in Telangana is characterized by stagnation, low productivity and frequent occurrence of droughts and low levels of public and private investments. Therefore, it was felt that investment is the surest way to enhance agricultural productivity and also incomes of the farmers besides breaking the vicious cycle of rural indebtedness.

2) Keeping in view of the above situation, Telangana Government has initiated a new scheme- “Agriculture Investment Support Scheme- Rythu Bandhu” for implementing since 2018-19 for the farmers ‘welfare.

3) The broad details of the scheme are as follows:

Relieving the farmers from debt burden and not allowing them to fall in the debt trap again.

For providing investment support to Agriculture and Horticulture crops by way of a grant @ Rs. 4000/- per acre per farmer each season for purchase of inputs like (1) Seeds (2) Fertilizers (3) Pesticides (4) towards Labour and other Investments in the field operations of farmers’ choice for the crop season.

The assistance is revised to Rupees. 5000/per acre/season since 2019-20.

The updated and purified land record data base in the form of Land Records Updating Program (LRUP) will form the basis for implementing the Investment Support Scheme (Rythu Bandhu).

Rythu Bandhu assistance is being extended to the pattadars proportionate to the extents indicated against the names of the pattadars in the digitally signed data obtained from the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration.

The Rythu Bandhu assistance is also being extended to ROFR Pattadars based on the data received from the Commissioner Tribal Welfare, TS, Hyderabad.

The amounts are directly transferred through e-kuber or IFMIS platform into the bank account of the pattadars proportionate to their extents as per the data obtained from CCLA & Commissioner Tribal Welfare.

An amount of Rs.1480000 Lakhs has been allocated for the year 2021-22 pertaining to Agriculture Investment Support Scheme (Rythu Bandhu) which is sufficient to assist for an extent of 148.00 Lakh acres/season @Rs.5000/acre/season during 2021-22, as compared to 147.35 Lakh acres during 2020-21 Yasangi.

X. RYTHU BIMA - FARMERS GROUP LIFE INSURANCE SCHEME

The Government of Telangana introduced Group life insurance scheme for all the farmers in the State of Telangana from the year 2018-19. All the holders of Pattadar Pass Books issued after the land records updating programme are eligible for enrolment in this scheme. The farmers in the age group of 18–59 are eligible under this Scheme and the sum assured of Rs. 5.00 lakhs is being paid on death, due to any cause, to the nominee of the enrolled farmer, declared by him/her at the time of enrolment. Government has paid an amount of 2917.39 Crores Rupees (2472.22 Crores Premium + 445.17 Crores GST) to LIC during the three years ‘scheme period. As on 7.5.2021 during the 2 years and 9 months of scheme period

49495 farmer families are benefitted under the scheme. An insurance Claim amount of 2474.75 Crores @Rs.5.00 Lakh/deceased farmer’s family/nominee has been paid by the LIC.

XI. RYTHU VEDIKA

1) The Government of Telangana has taken an initiative to construct 2601 Rythu Vedika Work Sheds in every Agriculture Extension Officer Cluster consisting of 1-3 villages with construction cost of Rs. 22,00,000/- for each Rythu Vedika with a share of Rs. 12,00,000/- from the Department of Agriculture and Rs. 10,00,000/- from MNREGS funds vide G.O Rt. No: 264, Dt: 15-06-2020 of A&C (Agri.II) Department.

2) Rythu Vedikas are the first of its kind in India where a platform is being created for the farmers to motivate and stabilize the farmers in attaining the higher returns and making the farmers Rythu Raju.

3) Rythu Vedikas will help in mobilising the farmers to organise themselves in to groups for attaining their ultimate objective of getting the remunerative prices, better marketing facilities, higher productivity and ultimately making the Agriculture profitable.

4) It will facilitate the Government to know ground level basic problems and difficulties faced by the farmers and to formulate new strategies and upgrading the existing system to make the Agriculture more profitable and sustainable.

Rythu Vedika will serve as a platform:

5) To create awareness among the farmers to know about all the farmer’s welfare schemes taken up by the Government, Subsidies available etc.

6) Can be used as skill imparting centres by the Agriculture and allied departments.

7) In stabilizing the income of farmers by providing the information on the institution finance and to ensure their continuance in farming.

8) To encourage farmers to adopt innovative and modern agriculture practices.

9) To help the farmers to interact and share the knowledge.

10) It can be used as a venue to conduct and organise trainings and awareness campaigns on the latest Agriculture know how by the Agriculture and allied departments.

5. CONCLUSION

Growth of Per Capita Income

In the 2 years prior to state formation, Telangana had an average growth rate of PCI (current prices) of 10.9%, which was 0.7% lower than the national PCI growth rate. For each year since state formation, Telangana’s growth rate of Per Capita Income has exceeded that at the national level. On an average, Telangana’s Per Capita Income has grown at a 4.6% higher rate than India’s every year in the period post 2014-15. In fact, even during the pandemic year of 2020-21, when India’s growth rate of PCI dropped to a negative 4%, Telangana still achieved a positive rate of growth of Per Capita Income, at 1.8%. With its consistently increasing Per Capita Income, Telangana improved its all-India ranking in terms of PCI with each passing year. In the year of state formation, Telangana surpassed Himachal Pradesh to move



from 11th to 10th rank. Further, it surpassed Gujarat in 2015-16, Tamil Nadu in 2016-17, Maharashtra in 2017-18, and Karnataka, Kerala, & Utharakhand in 2018-19. In 2020-21, Telangana ranked 3rd in terms of PCI out of the 18 states in the country for which MoSPI released data. In terms of the average growth rate of Per Capita Income post 2014-15, Telangana outdid all Southern states to become the top-ranking state.

Initiatives of the Government

All these accomplishments were made possible because of the policy initiatives taken and concerted efforts put in by the state Government towards the improvement of all aspects of these sectors. The Government initiated the Rythu Bandhu scheme to provide investment support to farmers, flagship initiatives such as the Kaleshwaram Project and Mission Kakatiya to improve irrigation infrastructure, and provides 24x7 free power and seed subsidies to agricultural consumers, and free seedlings to fish farmers. Rythu Bima, the farmer's group life insurance scheme, was initiated to provide an essential lifeline to agricultural households struck by tragedy. Credit disbursal and market access to farmers has been improved as well. Recognizing the importance of livestock for contributing to rural incomes, the Government encouraged livestock production through programmes such as the Sheep Distribution and incentives on milk sold to milk dairies at Rs.4 per litre. (Directorate of economics and statistics, 2022)

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