

SEMINAR II REPORT

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Seminar Report
On
Flagship Schemes of South Indian states in Agriculture

SUBMITTED TO
SEMINAR TEACHERS

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Contents

S.No	Particulars	Page numbers
1	Introduction	1
2	Objectives	1
3	Rythu Bandhu scheme	1-6
4	Rythu Bima scheme	7-8
5	YSR Rythu Bharosa scheme	8-11
6	Krishi Bhagya scheme	11-13
7	Krishi Yantra Dhare scheme	13-16
8	Success story of CHSC, Sirwar	17-18
9	Uzhavar Santhai scheme	18-21
10	Research studies	22-25
11	Conclusion	25
12	Discussion	26
13	References	27
14	Synopsis	28-29
15	Presentation slides	

I. Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy. The geographical position of India has been very friendly for agricultural activities. Since past, the Indians had taken agriculture as their basic means of livelihood. But due to some unforeseen circumstances agriculture and farmers are facing distress. In order to improve their condition both central and state governments are coming up with many schemes of which few have received higher importance at times. These are referred as Flagship schemes. Flagship schemes are those which are main or the most important and which address major national concerns on health, education, environment, irrigation, urban and rural development, employment, agriculture, and other sectors. In Agriculture flagship scheme can be defined as main or most important scheme that address the concerns of farmers on sustainable or long-term basis. The main objective behind the flagship schemes in agriculture is to achieve broad-based improvement in the living standards of farmers. By considering the current issues of respective states, each state has come up with schemes which are unique and replicated elsewhere.

II. Objectives

1. To know the various flagship schemes implemented by South India states in Agriculture.
2. To get insights into the objectives, features and benefits provided under each flagship scheme in Agriculture.
3. To review the relevant research studies

MAJOR FLAGSHIP SCHEMES:

A. TELANGANA STATE

In order to support Agriculture and Farmer, Government of Telangana launched two prestigious Agricultural schemes namely

1. Rythu Bandhu – 2018 - Agriculture Investment Support Scheme
2. Rythu Bheema – 2018 - Farmer Life Insurance Scheme

III. RYTHU BANDHU – 2018

Rythu Bandhu is an Agriculture investment support scheme providing financial assistance to the farmer for growing two crops in a year. It is the first ever Farmer Investment Support Scheme (FISS) to be launched by any Government (state or central) in India, where the cash is paid directly.

Objectives of the scheme :

The main objective of the Rythu Bandhu scheme is to provide financial support of Rs.5000/- per acre per season per farmer for purchase of essential inputs and carry out other agricultural operations.

Timeline of the scheme:

The scheme was announced by the Chief Minister of Telangana ,K. Chandrashekhara Rao garu at Farmers Coordination Committee (Rythu Samanvaya Samithi) at Professor Jayashankar Agriculture University on 25 February 2018.

A budget of Rs.12,000 Crores has been provided for the financial year 2018-19 by Government of Telangana.The Government provides Investment Support for Agriculture and Horticulture crops by way of grant of Rs. 4,000/- per acre per farmer each season (8,000 per year). The amount was enhanced to Rs 10,000 per acre per year from 2019.

Why Rythu Bandhu ?

Government's rationale behind this scheme is farmers can take care of their initial investment needs and do not fall into a debt trap.Investment enhances agriculture productivity and income to the farmers, besides breaking the vicious cycle of rural indebtedness.The grant also helps them cover the expenses on input requirements such as purchase Seeds, Fertilizers, Pesticides, Labour and other investments in the field operations of Farmer's choice for the crop season

Current scenario of Rythu Bandhu scheme:

Starting with farmers owning up to one acre land, the authorities are covering all beneficiaries in phases. For Kharif season a total of Rs 7,521 crore will be deposited in a phased manner.The government of Telangana on 5th July 2022 started disbursing financial assistance to farmers having more than five acres of land under Rythu Bandhu. As of July 12, 2022 63.86 lakh farmers received Rs 6,764 crore under Rythu Bandhu

Various Details of Rythu Bandhu scheme

- Area coverage
- Amount allocated
- Unit of implementation and pattern
- Identification of beneficiaries
- Mode of payment

Area Coverage:

Number of farmers in Telangana state and their land holdings

Land Extent	No. of farmers (approx)
under 1 acre	18 lakhs
under 1-2 acres	24 lakhs
under 3-5 acres	11 lakhs
5-10 acres	4.4 lakhs
> 10 acres	94,000
> 25 acres	6488
> 50 acres	298

Amount allocated Year wise

Year	Fund allocated (in crores)
2018 – 19	Rs. 12000
2019 – 20	Rs. 12000
2020 – 21	Rs. 14000
2021 - 22	Rs. 14800

It is purely state government scheme with 100% financial support by Telangana Government

Implementation of Rythu Bandhu:

- Unit - Per acre Per season Per farmer
- Cheque distribution v. Direct benefit transfer

While the RBS is now a DBT scheme but for the first round of distribution, it was through cheques. The cheques to be distributed will be “Order cheques”. To operationalise the cheque distribution to the beneficiaries, on an appointed day, village level agricultural officers distributed the cheques for the eligible farmers.

After the first season of cheque distribution, the government abandoned the method of cheque distribution by shifting to the DBTs method. Like most other DBTs schemes of Telangana, the process of DBT in the RBS also involves transfer of money from the state consolidated account of Telangana with the RBI through the E-Kuber platform directly into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.

Process flow for delivery of RBSs through cheques (Kharif 2018)

- Eight banks were designated for the purpose

Bank Name	Mandals coverage
State Bank of India	251
Andhra Bank	130
Syndicate Bank	38
Corporation Bank	31
Indian Overseas Bank	27
Canara Bank	23
AP Grameena Vikas Bank	35
Telangana Grameena Bank	33

IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES

- Land Records Updation Program (LRUP)

The beneficiaries under this scheme are identified through LRUP which ensures accuracy and transparency in disbursing the funds to the farmers based their true land holding.

MODE OF PAYMENT :

Order Cheques- Kharif Season (2018) – First round

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) - Rabi Season (from 2018 to till date)

Benefits of Rythu Bandhu Scheme

- It was supposed that over a period of five to ten years telangana farmers will get rid of all debts due to assistance from Rythu Bandhu scheme.
- Transparency in terms of direct benefit transfer obtained through LRUP programme
- Rythu Bandhu money provides support to the farmer because with that money the farmer can purchase seeds and fertiliser and start sowing.

TS Rythu Bandhu Status

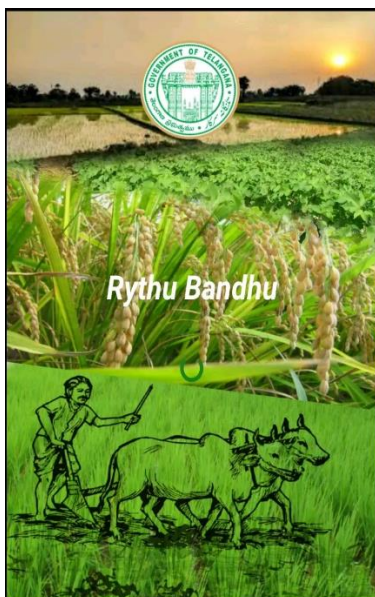


Rythu Bandhu Status : Payment Status, Farmer List



Rythu Bandhu Online
portal

Rythu Bandhu Mobile App



IMPACT OF THE SCHEME ON THE FARMERS

Enhanced the investment capacity of the farmers. Reduced the dependency of farmers on loans. Telangana registered 10.9 per cent growth rate in agriculture sector and recorded a growth rate of 1.35 per cent. This is due to financial support provided to farmers under rythu bandhu.

Impact of Rythu Bandhu on other states

A screenshot of a news article from 'Telangana Today'. The article title is 'Karnataka ryots to seek implementation of Telangana farm schemes'. The byline is 'BY TELANGANA TODAY' and the publication date is 'PUBLISHED: PUBLISHED DATE - 05:01 PM, THU - 17 MARCH 22'. Below the text are social media sharing icons for WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, and Telegram. The main text of the article reads: 'Hyderabad: Farmers' leaders from 10 States will congregate in Bengaluru on March 19 and 20 to discuss the issues faced by ryots in Karnataka and other States and issue an appeal to implement Telangana's farmer-friendly programmes in Karnataka.'

IV.RYTHU BIMA

It is a scheme that provides life insurance to the farmers in Telangana state

Objective:

The main objective of Rythu Bima is to provide financial relief and social security to the family members/ dependents, in case of loss of farmer's life due to any reason.

Eligibility:

Farmers in the age group of 18 to 59 years are eligible for enroll under the scheme.

Amount paid:

In the event of the death of the enrolled farmer due to any cause , the insured amount of 5.00 Lakhs is deposited into the designated nominee account within (10) days.

Number of beneficiaries:

Year	Farmers enrolled (in lakhs)	Premium amount paid by State Government (in crores)
2018 – 19	31.25	710.58
2019 – 20	30.81	1065.37
2020 – 21	32.73	1141.44

Implementation pattern:

This scheme has been implemented through the Information Technology and MIS developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC). Here, the nominee is not required to approach any office for the settlement of claim amount. The outreach officers at village level collect data from revenue department in the event of loss of life of any farmer and submitted to the LIC on behalf of designated nominee of the farmer.

Mode of payment:

The claimed amount would be transferred through RTGS into nominees account DBT.

Statistics till date:

1. For the year 2020-21, 32.73 lakh farmers were enrolled under rythu bima.
2. Insurance premium of 2917.39 crores had been paid by state government.
3. Claims of 40,273 farmers were settled so far.
4. Out of total beneficiaries enrolled under this scheme, 70.2 per cent of them are small and marginal farmers.



RYTHU BIMA
FARMER'S INSURANCE

HOME

CONTACTS

PHOTO GALLERY

DOWNLOAD MOBILE APP

DEPARTMENT LOGIN

CONTACT US



**Rythu Bima Online
Portal**

Special Appreciation for the scheme:

The Rythu Bima scheme is one of the 20 schemes selected by the United Nations among the innovative programs undertaken for the development of farmers in the countries of the world. From 20 to 23 November 2018, an international conference on 'Innovations in Agricultural Development' was held at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Department of Agriculture of the United Nations, in Rome. In this conference, Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima schemes of Telangana State were selected, while Parthasarathy, Chief Secretary of Agriculture Department, gave a special presentation on the measures being taken for the welfare of agriculture in Telangana State.

B. ANDHRA PRADESH

At present A.P Government is majorly focussing on 9 schemes, which are called as Navaratnalu. Among these 9 schemes, one scheme is exclusively related to Agriculture and farmers namely YSR Rythu Bharosa.

V. YSR RYTHU BHAROSA:

YSR Rythu Bharosa is a program launched by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in 2019 to financially assist farmers by depositing an amount of ₹13,500 per annum in three installments, in association with Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi .State government contributing ₹7500 and the center ₹6000.

- Tenant farmers were also considered eligible to the scheme.

Objective:

The main objective of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to the farmer families, including tenant farmers across the State @ Rs.13,500/- per farmer per year, to support

the cultivators in meeting the investment during the crop season with a view to enable them to timely sourcing of quality inputs and services for higher crop productivity.

Timeline of the scheme

YSR Rythu Bharosa was launched by Chief minister of Andhra Pradesh Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on 15th October 2019 releasing ₹3785 crore benefiting 38 lakh farmers in the state. Rythu Bharosa Kendras were later established on 30th May 2020 to supply seedlings, fertilizers and seeds to horticulture, aquaculture and agriculture sectors.

A total amount of ₹6,173 crore was spent on the scheme for the year 2019-20 and ₹6,928 crore for 2020-21. As of now, 51.59 lakhs farmers are benefitted under this scheme.

Unit of Implementation and Mode of Payment:

- Unit is - Per Farmer.

Irrespective of land holding all the eligible farmers are given financial assistance of Rs.13,500 per annum.

Mode of Payment

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

- The benefit of Rs.13,500/- will be extended to the farmer in 3 installments as detailed below;
- 1st installment @Rs.7500/- during the month of May (including Rs.2000/- from PM-KISAN)
- 2nd installment @Rs.4000/- during the month of October (including Rs.2000/- from PM-KISAN)
- 3rd installment @Rs.2000/- during the month of January (Exclusively of PM-KISAN scheme).

Eligibility conditions & Methodology for Identification

A.Land Owner Farmer Families:

- Farmers of A.P who own cultivable land.
- Farmers enrolled under the PM-Kisan Scheme are also eligible.
- Farmer families Cultivating under ROFR lands are also eligible

B. Land Less Cultivators:

S.No	Crop	Min.Lease extent
1	All agriculture, orchards and sericulture crops	1 acre
2	Vegetables, flowers and fodder crops	0.5 acre
3	Betel vine	0.1 acre

Not eligible or Exclusions

- Persons who receive retirement monthly pension of Rs.10,000 or more.
- Individuals who paid income tax or any other type of tax during the last assessment year.
- Persons owning farmlands that are converted into aquaculture, house sites or any other non-agricultural usage.
- Persons serving or retired, employee or officer of the Central or State government Ministry or officers or departments and their fields.
- Persons or farmer families where one or more of its member is a former or present member of Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha or State Legislative Assembly or State Legislative Council, former or present mayors of the municipal corporation and former or present Chairperson of District Panchayat.

How to apply?

The existing validated landownership database will be used for identification of beneficiaries under this category of the Scheme.

Newly selected village volunteers have the responsibility to identify eligible farmers in the given areas. After collecting the information, the village volunteers will report to revenue officials. These officials will then prepare a final list of beneficiaries. This final AP Rythu Bharosa farmer list will be submitted to the government.

After this, the district wise beneficiary list will be uploaded and made available online. Interested farmers can check their names in the Rythu Bharosa scheme list.

Whom to contact?

Gram Panchayats

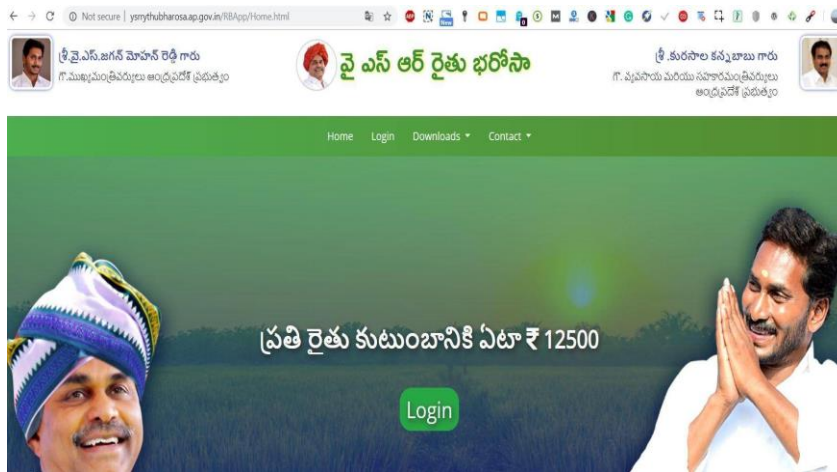
The prepared Rythu Bharosa beneficiary lists are available online as well as offline. The lists are being displayed in the panchayat offices as well as on the official website.

Benefits under YSR Rythu Bharosa

Under this scheme, financial assistance of Rs.13,500 per year for land owning farmers, landless tenant farmers and Recognition of Forest Rights (ROFR) Cultivators belonging to ST, SC, BC Minority categories in the state

In addition to cash transfer, farmers in the state are assured of services like help in purchasing farm inputs, training and capacity building activities through RBKs. The farmers can

purchase farm inputs through digital kiosks stationed at these kendras which reduces the transportation cost for the farmers for purchasing.



**YSR Rythu
Bharosa Online
Portal**

C.KARNATAKA

VI. KRISHI BHAGYA SCHEME

In Karnataka 70% of the land -rain fed area.5 out of 10 agro-climatic zones are facing deficit rainfall ,450-850mm.Agriculture productivity is also decreasing day by day due to lack of timely irrigation.Agricultural land holding in Karnataka has decreased from 2.56 ha to 1.55 ha.Small and marginal farmers are falling in debt because of the failure of bore wells.

In order to overcome the problem of irrigation water , Government of Karnataka has come up with a scheme namely KRISHI BHAGYA.

The government of Karnataka has launched a flagship scheme name Krishi Bhagya Scheme to achieve revolutionary change in Karnataka agriculture sector. Under this scheme, the government is supporting farmers for constructing farm pond with polythene lining (to prevent percolation), in situ soil moisture conservation. This scheme facilitates farmers to harvest rainwater in their form and use the collected water efficiently for agriculture during times when there is scarcity of water, which enhances yield by almost 30%. Krishi Bhagya Scheme is implemented in different agro climatic zones of Karnataka covering 23 districts

Timeline of the scheme:

- Started in the year 2014.
- Implemented in 5 Agro-climatic zones of Karnataka covering 23 districts ,107 taluks (45 lakh ha).Each taluk approx. 210 beneficiaries are selected.Recently on March 29 2022, Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka took a mention about reintroducing Krishi Bhagya Scheme in some areas because of its utility.

Eligibility and selection of farmers:

According to The Department of Agriculture, farmers who possess 1-acre land and more is applicable to avail the benefits of the scheme. Farmers who have received subsidy for pump sets and drip irrigation system during the last three years are not eligible for the fund for them now. However, can avail fund for farm ponds. Applications are issued in Raitha Samparka Kendra's (RSK).

Components under this scheme:

Under Krishi Bhagya scheme, there are 4 components namely

1. Construction of Farm ponds (KRISHI HONDA)

Water conservation by using polythene/ tarpaulin in farm ponds. Krishi Honda in Krishi Bhagya Scheme is a farm pond dug to store rainwater that can help irrigate land during the dry spells. The scheme allocates funds for the purchase of polythene tarpal and fencing along with the other components, which approximately costs Rs.1.75 Lakhs. The Government grants a subsidy up to 90 per cent for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and 80 per cent for other farmers

2. Diesel pump set:

- 5hp diesel pump set 80% subsidy
- 2hp solar pump set 50% subsidy

3. Micro irrigation

- 80% subsidy for general category
- 90% subsidy for SC/ST

4. Protective Cultivation

- Construction of green house units and shadenets.
- ✓ The krishi Bhagya package has been divided into two groups

a. With poly house - 50% subsidy (10 to 13 lakhs)

b. Without poly house:

- ✓ Horticulture crops: 80%(1.6 lakhs) subsidy for general category and 90% (1.8 lakhs) for SC/ST.
- ✓ Agriculture crops: 80%(1 lakh) subsidy for general category and 90% (1.1 lakhs) for SC/ST.

Impact of Krishi Bhagya scheme

The fact that about more than one lakh farm ponds were constructed after KBS introduction is a commendable performance. Cropping intensity and cropping pattern has been improved. Further, the scheme emphasized on utilizing water effectively through micro irrigation facility to reap full benefits for crop production.

VII.KRISHI YANTRA DHARE SCHEME

Indian agriculture is undergoing a gradual shift from dependence on human and animal power to mechanical power because of increasing cost and scarcity of labour. Further, use of mechanical power has a direct bearing on the productivity of crops apart from reducing the drudgery and facilitating timeliness of agricultural operations. Thus there is a strong need for taking farm mechanization. Under Krishi Yantra Dhare scheme, Custom Hire Service Centre (CHSC) were established at hobli-level in the state.

Krishi Yantra Dhare scheme was started in the Year 2014-15. Under Krishi Yantra Dhare, the districts have been divided into 3 Slabs viz., Slab -1 = Rs.40.00 lakhs, Slab-2 = Rs.75.00 lakhs & Slab-3 = Rs.100.00 lakhs. The equipments of worth Rs.40.00 lakhs, Rs.75.00 lakhs & Rs.100.00 lakhs are shelved in the Krishi Yantra Dhare Centres. Krishi Yantra Dhare centers are established through Service Providers in phased manner on a PPP model. The Subsidy Pattern under CHSC is in 70:30 ratio, where 70% subsidy is given from Government and 30% is borne by the Service Provider. Out of 70% subsidy, 40% subsidy is given under Sub Mission on Agricultural Machinery (SMAM) and remaining 30% is being given by Karnataka state government.

Objectives of the scheme:

- To provide machineries at farm gate.
- To enhance the production and productivity of the crops
- To provide High- Tech farm machinery services to small and marginal farmers in time
- To mitigate problem of labour
- To increase profitability of the farmers
- To run the centres throughout the year effectively and efficiently.

Features

- **Availability of modern equipment:**

With the budget provided to various CHSCs, modern equipment is purchased and maintained for the use of farmers.

- **Reasonable price:**

Hiring rate of equipments and machines under this center will be relatively low when compared to private hiring centers.

- **Availability of timely service:**

Based on availability of machines timely service is provided to the farmers, which makes their work easy.

- **Quality service:**

Quality service is provided to the farmers under this CHSCs

- **Advance booking facility:**

Inorder to meet the farmer need in time, advance booking facility of one month is being provided to the farmers.

The details of Service Provider wise CHSCs established.

Sl. No.	Service Providers	No. of CHSCs established
1	Shree Kshetra Dharmastala Rural Development Project Dharmastala.	164
2	Indian Society of Agricultural Professionals (ISAP), Kalburgi	11
3	V.S.T. Tillers Tractors Limited, Bengaluru	79
4	Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., (FES), Punjab	21
5	Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., (FES), Mumbai	33
6	John Deere India Private Limited, Pune	34
7	Rehman Engineering Works, Chikmagaluru	06
8	CLAAS Agricultural Machinery pvt ltd.,Bengaluru	35
9	Varsha Associates, Chitradurga	284

10	Balaji Agro Engineering, Kalburgi	18
11	Easy Life Enterprises, Udupi	02
12	Veeresh Enterprises, Hubballi	02
13	Gram Kiran Seva Samsthe, Kalburgi	06
14	Vidyashree Integrated Development Association, Koppala	01
	TOTAL	696

Machinery & Equipment

- Tractors/ Mini tractors
- Plough
- Tiller
- Harvesting Machinery
- Sprayers
- Levelling Blade
- Sowing & Planters
- Areca tree climber
- JCB
- Chaff cutter
- Arecanut Deoshker
- Paddy trans planter
- Power Cona weeder
- Diesel Pump
- Kubota Rotavater
- Seed cum fertilizer
- Nursery Tray
- Cotton picking machine
- Pit former

Hiring Charges of various machines at CHSCs

S.NO	Name of the machinery	Hiring rate
1	Multi crop thresher (Rs. /quintal)	500
2	Hand sprayer (Rs. /Day)	100
3	Power sprayer (Rs. /Day)	300
4	Power tiller (Rs. /hr.)	250
5	Harvester / reaper (Rs. /hr.)	1800
6	Cultivator (Rs. /Day)	500
7	Rotary (36 blades) (Rs. /hr.)	700
8	Hole digger (Rs. /dig)	18
9	Tractor operated seed drill (Rs. /Day)	350
10	Tractor (Rs. /8 hr.)	1500

11	Mini Tractor (Rs. /8 hr.)	800
12	Disc Harrow	1000
13	Battery sprayer (Rs. /8 hr.)	100
14	Rotary weeder (Rs. /hr.)	200
15	Leveller (Rs. /Day)	350
16	Rotavator (Rs. /hr.)	700
17	MB plough (Rs. /hr.)	600

Impact of Krishi Yantra scheme of Karnataka

Till date 696 centres have been established benefitting around 35 lakh farmers through out the State. Timely availability of Hi-Tech Farm Machinery at the Farmers door step. Nominal Hiring Charges upto 25-30% lesser than the market price which decreased farmers cost of production. Farmers became aware about Hi-Tech/advanced Farm Machinery which reduced drudgery and saved time.

Impact of Krishi Yantra scheme of Karnataka on other states



VIII.SUCCESS STORY OF CHSC AT SIRWAR, RAICHUR

- Sirwar is around 35 Km from the district headquarters of Raichur established under SKDRDP. The main crops grown in the jurisdictional area include paddy, jowar, cotton, redgram, bengal gram and some farmers also grow vegetables. The beneficiary farmers of all the 34 villages under CHSC of Sirwar are fully aware of the availability of farm machines and necessity to use these machineries both under irrigated and rainfed conditions. Farm activities requiring different farm machineries are distributed throughout the year in the jurisdictional area.
- March-April: Harvesting of summer paddy crops requiring combine harvesters/ threshers
- May-June: Land preparation for both rainfed and irrigated regions requiring tractors/ power tillers along with MB ploughs, rotovators, cultivators, etc.,
- June-July: Sowing rainfed crops like redgram, cotton, kharif jowar requiring seed drills, seed-cum-fertilizer drills and tractors,
- July-August: Planting of paddy requiring puddling/ levelling equipment and transplanters
- September- October: Weeding and spraying requiring weeders, harrows and sprayers
- November-December: Harvesting kharif crops requiring combine harvester, threshers and land preparation machines like tractors for rabi/summer crops
- January- February: Inter-cultivation/ weeding/ spraying of rabi/summer crops requiring cultivators, harrows, tractors, weeders, sprayers etc.
- This centre recorded demand for machinery for 10 to 11 months in a year by fully aware farmers is an important factor for the success of the unit
- The demand created by such an excellent network for machines/ equipment is so high that CHSC will invariably adopt the method of advance booking of almost all machines/ equipment even up to one month. Of course, such a demand is effectively satisfied by CHSC by effective and transparent method of advance booking and satisfy the farmers with a definite time line commitment.
- In addition to this, CHSC adopts another ideal practice of conducting demonstration of its machines in important villages often with relevant technical/ commercial information every year along with the registration programme. Yearly, it is reported, CHSC of Sirwar undertook registration of at least 500 new farmers in 34 villages, till recently, to reach a coverage of 90 % farmers now. The success of CHSC of Sirwar may also be ascribed to other factors like upkeep of their machines by timely repairs, availability of manager in

Sirwar on 24 X 7 basis, hire rates lesser than local rates and full transparency in all the transactions.

- As a result of all these ideal practices, CHSC of Sirwar has been earning profit consistently. Its profits made in very first year (Rs.1.88 lakh) it increased to more than Rs. 13.66 lakhs till date.



Why coverage of farmers is exemplary in Sirwar CHSC?

In the jurisdiction of Sirwar centre, nearly 400 farmers' groups, each with 8-10 farmers, work mainly as self-help groups. They are suitably assisted by a sewapratinidhi, appointed for 35-40 groups. These leaders not only advise the concerned farmers on various agricultural/social/personal issues but also they provide micro finance for the immediate need of the farmers. Territorial officer available for 200-300 groups will oversee all the activities under the broad umbrella of social services provided under the Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Programme religiously flanked by the moral and religious support of Lord Majunatheshwara of Dharmasthala.

IX.TAMIL NADU

UZHAVAR SANTHAI

Agriculture occupies a very important role in the growth of economy of our country, which is also the backbone of the economic system. India is primarily an agricultural country. The prosperity of the Indian economy is dependent on the course of agricultural production. Of course, agriculture contributes a major share of the national income of India. In India,

agriculture meets almost the entire food requirements of the people. Agriculture also provides fodder to sustain livestock whose number runs to several crores.

In the field of agriculture, marketing determines the value of the agricultural product in terms of money and delivers them to the final customer. Most of the farmers sell their produce through village level markets, fairs, Mandies, Co-operative Societies etc. In the above process of agricultural marketing, the middlemen exploit farmers as well as consumers. In order to eliminate the middlemen between farmers and consumers, the Government of Tamilnadu introduced the new concept, namely “UZHAVAR SANTHAI” in 1999.

Generally, the middlemen and wholesale businessmen purchase the Agricultural products from the farmers at a lower price. They also get the commission from the farmers for the transactions made. In turn, fresh vegetables and fruits purchased at the lower price from the farmers are sold out to retail businessmen at higher price and the retail businessmen sell those Agricultural Products further at higher price to the consumers. As a result, the farmers get only the lower price for their produce whereas the consumers have to pay higher price for the same produce. Hence, the Government of Tamilnadu has introduced an alternate scheme of marketing, which is known as “UZHAVAR SANTHAI” in order to derive more benefits to the farmers as well as consumers.

Objectives

- To facilitate direct contact between the farmers and public.
- To provide fresh vegetables and fruits at reasonable price daily without any interference of middlemen.
- To provide correct measurement to the consumers.
- To aim for providing higher price than that of wholesale price to the farmers for their vegetables and fruits.
- The Uzhavar Santhai also functions as a Technical Information Centre to the farmers
- Seeds and Other Inputs are also provided in some Uzhavar Santhais

Why Uzhavar Santhai?

No Middle men. The prices of the vegetables and fruits are daily fixed at the average of 20 % higher than the wholesale prices and 15% less than retail prices by the Committee consisting of the representatives of farmers and officials.

Facilities provided at Uzhavar Santhai (Farmer's Market)

- **Displaying of Price**

Prices of various products will be displayed at the entrance of the market and in the stalls.

- **Photo Identity Card**

Based on the recommendations made by the team, identity cards are to be issued to the farmers, in which photo of the land owner and his nominee with the particulars of the village name to which the farmer belongs, survey number, extent of the land owned by him, and the vegetables grown are mentioned. The identity cards are to be renewed every six months with reference to the vegetables grown in their fields.

- **Transport Facility**

Transport facility for pick up and dropping down of the registered farmers to the farmers market are arranged by the market functionaries through tie-up with state transport department.

- **Allotment of stalls**

Stalls are to be allotted to the farmers by following lot method or first come first basis. The farmers are not allowed to occupy the stalls permanently. No fee is to be collected from the farmers.

- **Prices Fixation**

The market committee will every day communicate the moderate wholesale prices of vegetables through fax between 7.30 AM and 8.00 AM . Based on the same, the prices of vegetable are fixed in consultation with the farmers committee, which may be 20% -25% higher than the whole sale price and lower than the local retail market prices in the area.

- **Public Address System**

Prices of vegetables are frequently announced through public address system to create awareness of the rates of the vegetables among the consumers as well as farmers.

- **Supply of weighing scales**

When the farmers enter into a Farmers market their names along with the particulars such as name of the village and the quantity of vegetables brought by them are entered in a register and they are issued a token. On the basis of the token issued to them, all the farmers are provided with weighing scales without collecting any fee. The farmers will return back the scales after completing their sales.

Other facilities:

Drinking water facilities, Canteen facilities for food and tea and Plastic boxes to collect rotten fruits and vegetables.

- 25 Uzhavar Sandhais have been supplied with computers.

Tamil Nadu Budget 2021

A facelift will be given to around 50 Uzhavar Santhais (farmer's markets) spending Rs 12.50 crore. As many as 10 new Uzhavar Santhais will be set up in town panchayats and other urban areas of Tamil Nadu and an amount of Rs 6 crore will be spent for this.

- As of now there are 180 Uzhavar Santhais functioning in Tamil Nadu

RESEARCH STUDIES

Research Study 1

Performance assessment of Krishi Bhagya scheme in North Eastern Karnataka region

Gondali *et al.*, (2022)

Research Area:

The study was purposively conducted in Kalaburagi and Ballari districts of North-Eastern Karnataka region as these districts had highest number of beneficiaries in the Krishi Bhagya scheme of Government of Karnataka.

Methodology:

The present study confined to an Ex-post-facto research design. From each selected district, two taluks were selected based on highest number of beneficiaries. From each taluk 45 beneficiaries of Krishi Bhagya scheme were selected by following simple random sampling procedure. Thus study comprises of 180 respondents.

Results:

Table 1: Performance assessment of the respondents (component wise) of Krishi Bhagya scheme

S. No.	Components of KBS	Performance			
		Before KBS		After KBS	
		F	%	F	%
1	Farm pond	2	1.11	180	100.0
2	Diesel Pumpset	23	12.78	157	87.22
3	Micro Irrigation	24	13.33	103	57.22
4	Protective Cultivation	0	0.00	17	9.44

Table 2: Performance assessment of the respondents based on farm pond utilization component of Krishi Bhagya scheme

S. No.	Components of KBS	Performance			
		Before KBS		After KBS	
		F	%	F	%
1	Protective irrigation for crops	2	1.11	180	100.00
2	Raising of nursery seedlings	2	1.11	17	9.44
3	Store stream water / bore well water	2	1.11	62	34.44

4	Store water from run-of water	2	1.11	33	18.33
5	Recharge ground water	2	1.11	77	42.78
6	Drinking water facility for animals	2	1.11	52	28.89

Table 3: Performance assessment of the respondents based on Diesel Pumpset utilization component of Krishi Bhagya scheme

S. No.	Components of KBS	Performance			
		Before KBS		After KBS	
		F	%	F	%
Diesel Pumpset utilization					
1	Water lifting from farm pond	2	1.11	178	98.89
2	Water lifting from stream water	4	2.22	39	21.67
3	Water lifting from open well	17	9.44	23	12.78

Table 4: Performance assessment of the respondents based on Micro irrigation component of Krishi Bhagya scheme

S. No.	Components of KBS	Performance			
		Before KBS		After KBS	
		F	%	F	%
Micro Irrigation utilization					
1	Sprinkler	24	13.33	103	57.22
2	Drip	0	0.00	24	13.33

Table 5: Performance assessment of the respondents based on Protective cultivation component of Krishi Bhagya scheme

S. No.	Components of KBS	Performance			
		Before KBS		After KBS	
		F	%	F	%
Protective Cultivation utilization					
1	Shade net	0	0.00	17	9.44

Findings of the study:

The study reported that in Kalaburagi and Bellary districts of North-Eastern Karnataka region among various components of Krishi Bhagya scheme, only 1.11 per cent of the farmers had farm pond before the implementation of Krishi Bhagya scheme, while cent per cent of them had farm pond after Krishi Bhagya scheme. In case of diesel pump set, earlier the pump set was possessed by 12.78 per cent whereas, after Krishi Bhagya scheme it is increased to 87.22 per cent. Among Micro irrigation, it was practiced by 57.22 per cent and 13.33 per cent after and before Krishi Bhagya scheme. In case of protective cultivation, 9.44% and 1.67% of the respondents possessed shade net and poly house after Krishi Bhagya scheme.

Research Study 2

Impact of Uzhavar Sandhai on livelihood empowerment of farmers

Indumathy *et al.*,(2016)

Research Area:

The present study was conducted in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu. Totally 7 uzhavar sandhais are working in Vellore district, out of that 4 uzhavar sandhais were selected based on convenience sampling method. The uzhavar sandhais were selected from four blocks of Vellore, Arcot, Ranipet and Katpadi

Methodology:

Expost facto research design was applied to conduct this experiment. The study was conducted during the year of 2014-2015. From the selected blocks sample of 20 respondents from Arcot, Ranipet, Katpadi and 30 respondents from Vellore uzhavar sandhai was selected. Thus, a total of 90 respondents was selected based on available number of population from four sandhais through simple random sampling technique

Results: Table 1: Distribution of respondents based on impact on purchasing power

	Yes		No		Total	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Purchase TV	8	8.90	82	91.10	90	100
Farm implements	27	30.00	63	70.00	90	100
Farm animals	32	35.50	58	64.50	90	100
Bought vehicle	5	5.50	85	94.50	90	100
No purchasing	24	26.00	66	74.00	90	100

Table 2 : Distribution of respondents based on impact on investment

	Yes		No		Total	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Bought land	0	0	90	90.00	90	100
Construct house	38	43.00	52	57.00	90	100
Constructed irrigation sources	0	0	90	100	90	100
Started new enterprises	0	0	90	100	90	100
Insurance	2	2.20	88	97.80	90	100
Opened savings account	15	16.70	75	83.30	90	100

Findings of the study:

In this study, Impact on livelihood empowerment of farmers was studied under two components, namely , increase in purchase power and increase in investment. Table 1 reveals the impact of farmers after joining uzhar sandhai, majority 74.00 per cent of the respondent's purchasing power was increased. One third 35.50 per cent of the respondents mainly bought farm animals like dairy and goat then they purchased farm machineries and implements like sprayers, conoweeders. One fourth 26.00 per cent of the respondents revealed that their purchasing power was not increased after joining uzhar sandhai because of the earnings are only sufficient for their medical expenses and their children's educational needs

The Table 2 shows about the increasing investment of respondents. Majority of the respondents invested their money by constructing / reconstructing their houses. Farmers were availing subsidies to build houses from state government. Only two respondents said that they have insurance policy after joining Uzhar Sandhai and followed by 16.70 per cent of the respondents were opened savings account in banks.

Conclusion

Since the ultimate objective of any agricultural scheme is to support farmers, instead of coming up with new schemes all the time the respective state governments can follow the flagship schemes of other states which proved to be highly successful in meeting the needs of the farmers to carry out agriculture and enhance their living standards. For example Krishi Yantra Dhare of Karnataka is replicated in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Uzhar Santhai of Tamil Nadu was started after looking into the success of Apni Mandi of Punjab. In line with Rythu Bandhu of Telangana many farmers investment support schemes started in other states of India.

Discussion

1. Are all types of deaths of farmers deaths are eligible for grant under Rythu Bima?

Ans: Be it a case of suicide, natural death or accidental death of the farmers, the grant of 5 lakh rupees is provided to the deceased farmer family.

2.Is Krishi Bhagya scheme a separate scheme or a submission under Integrated watershed development programme?

Ans: Krishi Bhagya scheme is a separate scheme launched by Karnataka government to conserve rainwater in farm ponds.

3.What are the main success features behind the CHCs under SKDRDP?

Ans: The features that make the CHCs under SKDRDP different and successful from others is transparency in carrying out the activities, lesser price of hiring rates of machines than other private centres and demonstrations of the latest machines or equipment's during registration so that the people will be aware of the benefits about the equipment.

4.Direct Benefit Transfer or Kisan Credit Card which is better?

Ans: Direct Benefit Transfer is better because in this method the farmer is provided with the money directly into his bank account and he need not pay any interest for that money.

5.Whether cash or kind component which is better to give to farmers?

Ans: Cash component is better in most of the cases because the money provided to the farmer can be used for his immediate and long-term practical need like purchase of any equipment or any construction activity in the field. whereas if kind component is provided it can be used only for the designated purpose for which it is provided which lacks deciding options from the farmers point of view.

6.Is PM-KISSAN and Rythu Bandhu are given together in Telangana state?

Ans: The money provided under Rythu Bandhu does not include the financial support of PM KISSAN. The money provided under Rythu Bandhu is 100% financed by state government. Therefore, the eligible farmers of Telangana can get financial assistance from both the schemes.

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Name : Chinni Venkata Sai Bharath
Class : Sr. M.Sc
ID. No. : PAMB0144

Venue : Dwarakinath Hall
Time : 2:30 P.M
Date : 22-07-2022

Seminar-I

Flagship Schemes of South Indian states in Agriculture

Synopsis

Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy. The geographical position of India has been very friendly for agricultural activities. Since past, the Indians had taken agriculture as their basic means of livelihood. But due to some unforeseen circumstances agriculture and farmers are facing distress. In order to improve their condition both central and state governments are coming up with many schemes of which few have received higher importance at times. These are referred as Flagship schemes. Flagship schemes are those which are main or the most important and which address major national concerns on health, education, environment, irrigation, urban and rural development, employment, agriculture, and other sectors. In Agriculture flagship scheme can be defined as main or most important scheme that address the concerns of farmers on sustainable or long-term basis. The main objective behind the flagship schemes in agriculture is to achieve broad-based improvement in the living standards of farmers. By considering the current issues of respective states, each state has come up with schemes which are unique and replicated elsewhere. With this brief background, the current seminar has been conceptualized with the following objectives:

- 1.To know the major flagship schemes implemented by South India states in Agriculture.
- 2.To get insights into the objectives, features and benefits provided under each flagship scheme in Agriculture.
- 3.To review the relevant research studies.

Major Flagship schemes:

Telangana:

In Telangana, the twin schemes namely Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima are considered as flagship schemes at present context. Rythu bandhu is an Agriculture Investment support scheme and its main objective is provision of grant of Rs. 5,000/- per acre per farmer each season for purchase of inputs. Whereas Rythu Bima is farmers life insurance scheme and its objective is it provides Rs. 5 lacs to the designated nominee of the deceased farmer within 10 days to support the farmers family.

Andhra Pradesh:

In Andhra Pradesh, YSR Rythu Bharosa is flagship scheme in Agriculture. The main objective of this scheme is to financially assist farmers by depositing an amount of ₹13,500 per

annum in three installments, in association with Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi with the state government contributing ₹7500 and the central ₹6000 in a view to support the cultivators in meeting the investment during the crop season.

Karnataka:

In Karnataka Krishi Bhagya and Krishi Yantra Dhare are considered as flagship schemes because of their importance. Under Krishi Bhagya scheme, the farmers obtain grants for constructing farm ponds (Krishi Honda) to conserve rainwater and for buying lift pumps, diesel motors to draw water during deficit rainfall. The main objective of Krishi Yantra Dhare scheme is to provide Hi - Tech farm machinery and equipments to farmers on Custom hire service basis for carrying out timely agricultural operations in their vicinity. As of 2022, there are 696 custom hiring centers under Krishi Yantra Dhare scheme.

Tamil Nadu:

In Tamil Nadu, Uzhavar Santhai is considered as flagship scheme in Agriculture. The main objective of this scheme is to promote direct contact between farmers and consumers in the state of Tamil Nadu by eliminating the middlemen. These are also called as Farmers markets and at present there are 180 Uzhavar Santhais which are operating in Tamil Nadu.

Research studies

Indumathy *et al.*, (2016) reported that after joining Uzhavar Santhai majority 74.00 per cent of the respondent's purchasing power was increased. One third 35.50 per cent of the respondents mainly bought farm animals like dairy and goat followed by 30.00 per cent purchased farm machineries and implements like sprayers, 26.00 percent of the respondents revealed that their purchasing power was not increased after joining Uzhavar Santhai.

Gondali *et al.*, (2022) reported that in Kalaburagi and Bellary districts of North-Eastern Karnataka region among various components of Krishi Bhagya scheme, only 1.11 per cent of the farmers had farm pond before the implementation of Krishi Bhagya scheme, while 1.11 per cent of them had farm pond after Krishi Bhagya scheme. In case of diesel pump set, earlier the pump set was possessed by 12.78 per cent whereas, after Krishi Bhagya scheme it is increased to 87.22 per cent. Among Micro irrigation, it was practiced by 57.22 per cent and 13.33 per cent after and before Krishi Bhagya scheme. In case of protective cultivation, 9.44% and 1.67% of the respondents possessed shade net and poly house after Krishi Bhagya scheme.

Conclusion

Since the ultimate objective of any agricultural scheme is to support farmers, instead of coming up with new schemes all the time the respective state governments can follow the flagship schemes of other states which proved to be highly successful in meeting the needs of the farmers to carry out agriculture and enhance their living standards.

References

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