



Mission Kakatiya and Rural Development : An Empirical Study in Telangana

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Abstract: *This paper focuses on various rural development issues by the Mission Kakatiya Programme (MKP) to supply water to the rural areas in general and the agricultural field in particular. This programme provided benefits to the farmers in many ways, like efficient irrigation systems and improved water management techniques. The intensity of the cropping pattern and the suitable cropping pattern increased the productivity of the farmlands, and one of the most significant benefits of Mission Kakatiya is the balanced use of chemical fertilisers in the agricultural field. Cost reduction during the cultivation is another feature provided by this programme. Furthermore, the high technological agricultural practices increased the revenue of the farmers. It examines social status, marital status, religion, levels of education, fuel for cooking, house type, type of farmers and source of irrigation—occupational status of respondents who are doing other than agriculture, annual income and expenditure of sample respondents.*

Key Words: *Rural development, agricultural practice, irrigation, productivity, Mission Kakatiya.*

1. INTRODUCTION :

India is the second most populated nation in the world after China. Hence, its population growth issue has become a significant subject as the nation is now overpopulated. However, the waning experience of poverty perplexes the majority population. Poverty, which affects millions of Indians, has long been seen as a severe problem for the public and the government. Climate change, rising food and water costs, health concerns, and the disappearance of traditional social safety nets centred on the family and community are just a few challenges that poor people must contend with, Mehta(2001).

The unequal socio-economic structure led to poverty, not the fact that there was an overwhelming amount of people. Agriculture's excessive and ongoing dependency is the primary cause of poverty. The dominant British Imperialism, which distorted all economic policies to favour British interests, is the primary contributor to India's poverty. The economic growth of a nation was significantly impacted by poverty. Therefore, to initiate the simultaneous process of overall balance development (irrigation, power, communication, railways, roads and other essential services, social development in health, education, and housing), the National Planning Commission set up in March 1950 took many measures to eradicate poverty at certain extents. Numerous programs are being launched to combat poverty, create jobs, and provide essential services, Mehrotra (2020).

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A review of literature provides earlier studies related to the topic and their important findings are given below; Singh (2002) presented a comprehensive picture of the rural development programmes in chronological order from the first five-year plan to the eighth five-year plan. An attempt has been made to present the temporal dimensions of policies and objectives being adopted, extended, and modified after reviewing the needs of the identified target area and target groups.

Karuppaiyan (2002) found that significant conclusions have been drawn from the secondary data analysis of the report on Centrally Sponsored and State Sponsored Rural Development programmes implemented in the State. These analyses were done based on available aggregated and disaggregated data in respect of the schemes. In realising the importance of the database and documentation, the State Government is paying attention to building a computerised database to monitor and evaluate the programmes.



Gangopadhyay(2008) described that rural development has assumed global attention, especially among the developing nations. It has great significance for a country like India, where the majority of the population, around 65% of the people, live in rural areas. The current strategy of rural development in India mainly focuses on poverty alleviation, better livelihood opportunities, and provision of basic amenities and infrastructure facilities through innovative programmes of wage and self-employment.

Mishra, (2011) presented the overall development of the country as the main objective of the Indian government since its independence. Earlier, the main thrust for development was laid on Agriculture, Industry, Communication, Education, Health and Allied sectors, but soon it was realised that the all-round development of the country is possible only through the development of rural India. Keeping this in view, Panchayati Raj Institutions have been introduced under the 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution of India.

The last few years have seen a remarkable change in the nature of the global discussion of issues of environment and development. Unfortunately, considerable debate and confusion surround both the terms “sustainable” and “development” and only modest forward progress has been made Lal(2019a).

The first pioneer research work undertaken on the economics of irrigation is accredited to Gadgil, (1948) studied the primary & secondary and direct & indirect benefits of Godavari and Panvara Canals on the basis of techniques of research evolved.

Pingle (2011) explained the changes in irrigation sources during 1875-2009 in Telangana state. The study focused mainly on the Telangana region and examined its three sources of irrigation (canal tank and well) and their variations over time. He found a significant increase in well and canal irrigation, but a drastic decline in tank irrigation over the period. After reviewing the existing literature, we found that many studies have focused on the importance of irrigation in the growth of agriculture in India and other states and the impact of irrigation on output, cropping pattern, cropping intensity and instability of farm production.

Naik(2013), Many countries in Asia have not given alcohol the serious attention accorded to other addictive drugs such as narcotics and nicotine. Since the alcohol problem is not given due urgency, it warrants comprehensive information on alcohol consumption, and its net effects on society are lacking in most developing and low-income countries.

Lal (2019). A study by Lal provides insights into agriculture in the globalisation scenario regarding land utilisation, cropping pattern, expenditure and income pattern, credit sources and livestock of the Kaniparthi village in Karimnagar district of Telangana.

3. OBJECTIVES :

1. To understand the socio-economic conditions of the farmers.
2. To analyse the outcomes and impact of the Mission Kakatiya programme (MKP) on the production and profitability of agriculture.
3. To describe the implications of Mission Kakatiya on the socio-economic status of the people in particular and on overall development in rural areas in general.

4. HYPOTHESES

1. There is no positive relationship between the Mission Kakatiya programme (MKP) and irrigation facilities in the new formation of Telangana, and
2. There is no positive relationship between issues of drought and irrigation in rural areas of Telangana State and the Mission Kakatiya programme(MKP).

5. RESEARCH METHOD :

The study has used descriptive research designed to capture the data from the field using different qualitative methods and quantitative tools to understand and describe the research problem.

Study Area

The study has been carried out in the Warangal district of the newly formed Telangana State in India. The reason for the selection of the district is that Kakatiyas ruled the Telugu-speaking areas for an extended period during the medieval period, from Warangal as their capital, and they are historically known for the development of minor irrigation projects. Since the Mission Kakatiya programme (MKP) is named after Kakatiyas with a spirit of minor irrigation development, the researcher felt it was appropriate to choose the Warangal district as the study area for this topic of research.



6. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :

The study analysed core parameters of socio-economic variables like social status, marital status, religion, levels of education, fuel for cooking, house type, type of farmers and source of irrigation—occupational status of respondents who are doing other than agriculture, annual income and expenditure of sample respondents.

Table-1: Socio-Economic Information of Sample Respondents

Social Status	Frequency	Per cent	Total
General	56	14.5	56(14.5)
BC	237	61.2	237(61.2)
SC	68	17.6	68(17.6)
ST	26	6.7	26(6.7)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)
Marital status	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Married	383	99.0	383(99.0)
Unmarried	4	1.0	4(1.0)
total	387	100.0	287(100.0)
Religion	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Hindu	350	90.4	350(90.4)
Christian	37	9.6	37(9.6)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)
Education status	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Illiterate	37	9.6	37(9.6)
Read & write	84	21.7	84(21.7)
Primary	50	12.9	50(12.9)
Secondary	58	15.0	58(15.0)
10 + 2	87	22.5	87(22.5)
Degree	53	13.7	53(13.7)
Post-Graduation	18	4.7	18(4.7)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)
Fuel for Cooking	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Firewood	29	7.5	29(7.5)
Gober Gas	06	1.6	6(1.6)
LPG	352	91.0	352(91.0)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)
Type of House	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Own House	358	92.5	358(92.5)
Rented House	25	6.5	25(6.5)
Shared House	4	1.0	4(1.0)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)
Type of Farmer	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Full-Time Farmer	265	68.5	265(68.5)
Tenant	2	.5	2(.5)
Part-Time Farmer	120	31.0	120(31.0)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)
Source of Irrigation	Frequency	Per cent	Total
Tank	8	2.1	8(2.1)
River/Rivulet	55	14.2	55(14.2)
Well	252	65.1	252(65.1)
Borewell	57	14.7	57(14.7)
Canal	15	3.9	15(3.9)
Total	387	100.0	387(100.0)

Source: Field study data



The table-1 explains the social status of the farmers living in the study area. The data shows that a substantial number of respondents that is 237 (61.2%) are from Backward Classes (BCs), while the next set of them that is 68 (17.6%) belong to Scheduled Castes (SCs). A significant number of 56 (14.5%) respondents hail from the general category. In the end, a considerable number of them that is 26 (6.7%) are about Scheduled Tribes (STs).

The table indicates the marital status of the farmers living in the study area. The data shows that an overwhelming number of respondents that is 383 (99%) have been married whereas only four respondents are still unmarried. Therefore, it is concluded that most of the respondents are married. Thus, it is inferred that getting married is a desired social norm in Indian society, particularly in rural and tribal areas. An overwhelming number of married people can be seen in the study area.

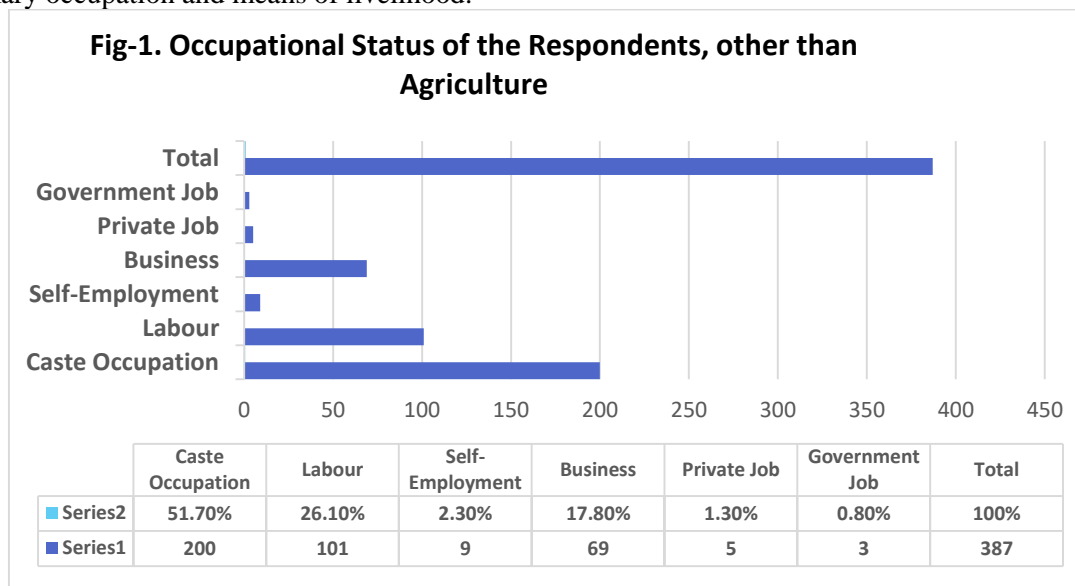
It is found that an overwhelming number of farmers that is 350 (90.4%) are Hindus, whereas 37 (9.6%) are Christians. Although the State of Telangana is very divisive in terms of religion, the study area comprises only two religions. It is noteworthy to state that a predominant population of Muslims has existed in Telangana state historically. However, most of them have migrated to towns to start petty businesses or engage in self-employment activities. This is because of a shift that came into Indian society along with globalisation. As a result, the traditional jajmani system was weakened in rural areas so people started moving to towns and cities in the quest for livelihood. This trend can be widely seen among the artisan communities and Muslim populace.

The table explains the educational background of the respondents in the study area. The data show that the majority of the respondents that is 87 (22.5%), have studied up to the intermediate level, and almost an equal number of respondents, 84 (21.7%), can read and write but are not having any formal education. As many as 58 (15%), 53 (13.7%), and 50 (12.9%) respondents have finished their secondary, under-graduation, and primary education, respectively. It is also observed that a significant number of 37 (9.6%) respondents are illiterates, while 18 (4.7%) of them completed post-graduation studies.

The table explains the fuel used for cooking the food in the respondents' houses. The data shows that an overwhelming number of farmers that is 352 (91%) are using Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) to prepare their food. In contrast, a considerable number of them, 29 (7.5%), still depend on traditional ways of cooking by using firewood. There are 06 (1.6%) respondents who use Gobar gas as fuel for cooking.

The table explains the housing status of the farmers living in the study area. The data shows that an overwhelming number of respondents that is 358 (92.5%) possess their own house, whereas a considerable number of 25 (6.5%) stay in rental houses. On the whole, only 4 (1%) are sharing their houses with their siblings. From the above analysis, it can be concluded that most of the respondents have their own houses. Thus, it may be inferred that a house is not just a place to stay but also a social status. Therefore, all the rural dwellers are constructing houses on their own.

The table explains the type of farmer, whether the farmer engaged in agriculture full-time, part-time, or tenant. The data shows that more than 2/3rd of the farmers, 265 (68.5%), do agriculture full-time. The next set of farmers 120 (31%), engage in agriculture as part-time farmers. Only two farmers work as tenants apart from their agriculture. From the above analysis, it can be concluded that a majority of the respondents are farmers who work in agriculture on a full-time basis. Thus, it may be inferred that rural areas in India are known for agriculture, so most farmers take agriculture as their primary occupation and means of livelihood.





The above figure explains the occupational patterns of respondents in the study area, besides agriculture. The data reveals that just above half of the respondents, i.e. 200 (51.7%), still engage in caste occupations apart from agriculture. The subsequent perusal of respondents, i.e. 101 (26.1%) do labour activities. Thereabout 69 (17.8%) respondents were involved in trade or business-related activities. A portion of respondents that is 9 (2.37%), perform self-employment professions. Only 5 (1.3%) and 3 (0.8%) respondents are employed in private and government sectors respectively. However, it is clear from the above data that rural areas in India are still predominately focusing on agriculture and its allied occupations, followed by traditional caste occupations.

Table-2: Descriptive Statistics of Annual Income and Monthly Expenditure

Variables	Annual Income	Monthly Expenditure
N	387	387
Mean	352118.86	9700.26
Median	300000.00	8000.00
Mode	300000	5000
Std. Deviation	22378.511	6075.780
Range	1400000	29000
Minimum	100000	3000
Maximum	1500000	32000

Source: Field study data

The above table explains the annual income statistics of the respondents. The data show that the average income of the respondents is 3,52,118 per annum with a 2,23,378 standard deviation. Therefore, the exact half of the income is 3,00,000 rupees, and the most repeated income is 3,00,000. It also denotes that Rs. 1,00,000 is their minimum annual income, whereas Rs. 15,00,000 is their highest income. Thus, the range constitutes Rs. 14,00,000. However, it indicates a vast disparity in income among the respondents who stay in various rural areas and are involved in farming.

It is evident from the above table that the average monthly expenditure of the farmers is Rs. 9,700, with Rs. 6,075 as the standard deviation. Rs. 8,000 is the median of the distribution. The most repeated expenditure per month is 5,000 rupees. However, it is said that the monthly expenditure is deficient in rural areas, indicating that the stakeholders have good saving habits in the study area. It is also observed that the maximum expenditure per month is 32,000, whereas the minimum expenditure is 3,000 rupees per month. The regression test was conducted to analyse the interdependency between income and expenditure, and the results are as follows;

Model Summary for Income and Expenditure

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. The error in the Estimate
1	.353 ^a	.125	.123	5691.014

a. Predictors: (Constant), Annual Income

It is evident from the above table that the correlation (R) is 0.353, and multiple correlations (R²) are 0.125. It indicates that the income and expenditure of the respondents are associated with only 3.5 per cent of the association. To understand the inter-dependency between the attributes of income and expenditure, the ANOVA test was conducted, and the details are as follows;

ANOVA for Income and Expenditure

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	1779987175.96	1	1779987175.96	54.959	.000 ^b
Residual	12469242798.19	385	32387643.63		
Total	14249229974.16	386			

a. Dependent Variable: Monthly Expenditure

b. Predictors: (Constant), Annual Income

The data of the ANOVA test of income and expenditure describes the 'F' value as 54.959.309 with 385 degrees of freedom at a 0.00 level of probability.



7. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION :

The Mission Kakatiya program laid the groundwork for Telangana farmers to revitalize their water resources. It was carried out by restoring minor irrigation sources, strengthening community-based irrigation management, providing agricultural services, and encouraging diversification and the use of new technologies. The Mission's work includes tank de-silting, feeder channel restoration, irrigation channel re-selection, cross drainage and cross masonry repairs, and Bund, Weir, and Sluice repairs. Further, rural servicing and entrepreneur communities need regular monitoring and facilities to improve their livelihood. Lal(2016), The mission Kakatiya has to create women empowerment by providing various amenities. It is necessary to build up women capacities so as to involve them in productive activities, family and social transformation, decision-making process, political representation, entrepreneurial development and social leadership.

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