Chapter IV

Socio Economic Aspect

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Demographic Details in WDP villages.

4.3 Educational Status in WDP villages.

4.4 Scenario of Socio Economic Parameters of Watershed in WDP villages.

4.5 Social Services Sector Unit in WDP villages.

4.6 Village Level Institutions in WDP villages.

4.7 People participation in watershed programme.

4.7.1 Village watershed committee (VWC)

4.7.2 Joint forest Protected committee (JFPC)

4.7.3 Gram Panchayat

4.7.4 Mahila Mandal (Self help group)

4.7.5 Co-Operative Society Member Participation

4.7.6 Dairy Co-Operative Society

4.7.7 Youth Club

4.7.8 Bhajni Mandal
4.1 INTRODUCTION:

The study villages are major villages involved in their respective watershed projects implemented under IGWDP at Mendhvan, Maswandi, Bhojdari, Sarolepathar, Malegaon Pathar, Gunjalwadi, Karule, Kasare, Shivapur, Kaute Kamleshwar Darewadi shelakewadi, vankute, Kumbharwadi Jondhalewadi, sawarchol, Mhaswandi & Sattyachiwadi. All thesefiten villagers are situated in Sangamner taluka of Ahmednager district.

These projects under IGWDP are being implemented in Maharashtra state since 1992 through direct involvement of NABARD. The project under this programme is primarily selected on watershed basis and non Governmentental organizations (NGOS) are active as guide and philosopher. The local community is fully involved in planning, implementation, resource utilization and post development management.

Ten (10) years have passed after the completion of Twelve (12) projects. Three (03) projects were completed before 05 to 06 years. This project conducts an evaluation study to understand their implementation, socio-economic impact on agriculture and sustainability in future.

The following tables indicate the various data collected by the project implementing agencies (NGO) during the year 1990-91 and source from Feasibility study Report and by preparing questionnaires of socio-economics aspects.

4.2 DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS IN WDP VILLAGES.

In fifteen villages, amongest the number of sample households, male population is approximately 10 to 12 percent more than that of females, The gender ratio of women to men in Mendhvan is 854, Mhaswandi 939, Sarole Pathar 971, Bhojdari 785, Karule 1024, Sattyachiwadi 809, females per 1000 males.

After implementation of the project Gender ratio in Mendhvan became 975, Mhaswandi 972, Sarole Pathar 877, Bhojdari 912, Karule 898, Sattyachiwadi 839, females per 1000 males. It is evident that before the implementation of the programme the gender ratio was in worst state but after the implementation period the
gender ratio improved considerably as compared to that was during the period 1992-93.

As per the census of India 1991, total number of households and population in Mendhven was 212 and 1455, Kasare 183 and 1111, Shivapur 251 and 1451, Darewadi 146 and 921, Vankute 268 and 1477, Gunjalwadi 139 and 840. Malegaon Pathar 161 and 759, respectively after implementation of the project. As per the census of India 2001, total number of households and population in Mendhven was 255 and 1620, Kasare 251 and 1451, Shivapur 277 and 1411, Darewadi 192 and 1206, Vankute 309 and 1968, Gunjalwadi 182 and 1222, Malegaon Pathar 87 and 952, respectively. The gender ratio of these villages thus is showing more equitable distribution of population among men and women (Census 2001). Literacy rate was 50 to 60 percent in these villages. The following table 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 shows the demographic details.

Occupational pattern at the current situation of the projected villages viz Kumbharwadi, Vankute, Sarole Pathar, Gunjalwadi, Darewadi, Mhaswandi, Kasare, Shivapur, Kauthe Kamaleshwar, Mendhven and Bhojdari shows that they draw employment from growing crops in all season except summer. Agricultural labour migrates from these villages in the summer season.

The Total numbers of persons are engaged in other livelihood activities like Dairy farming, rearing sheep, Goat, poultry. In all three season after watershed implementation project, the situation is significantly better in Bhojdari, Sarole pathar, Mhaswandi, Malegaon Pathar, Kasare Gunjalwadi, Mendhven as Compared to Karule, Shivapur, Kauthe Kamaleshwar, Sawarchol, Sattyachiwadi, Kumbharwadi because the number of livelihood activities have increased in the above projected villages.

With respect to migrating laboures in Karule, Kasare, Gunjalwadi, Sawarchol, Sattyachiwadi, Vankute, Kauthe Kamaleshwar, there is no change in the situation as same number of labourers continue to migrate in these seasons. In Mendhven, Sarolepathar, Malegaon Pathar, Bhojdari, Mhaswandi, Darewadi, Kumbharwadi, Shivapur there is no incidence of migratory labourer observed in both periods.

In Bhojdari, Sarolepathar, Darewadi, Mendhven, Kumbharwadi, Vankute, Shivapur, Significant number of people are engaged in agriculture labour during summer. Whereas in Karule, Kasare, Kuthe Kamalesher, Sawarchol, Sattyachiwadi negligible people are involved in this activity throughout the year. This is probably
because of land cultivation activities done in summer so as to make the land ready for Kharif Crops. These works are done by manual labour and with the help of animals in Sawarchol, Kumbharwadi, Kasare, Mhaswandi, Malegaon Pathar while the farmer in Sarole Pathar, Gunjalwadi, Mendhvan Kauthe Kamleshwar, Karule, Kasare, Bhojdari mostly prefer tractor driven agriculture implements to do the similar works.

4.3 EDUCATIONAL STATUS IN WDP VILLAGES.

Sangamner taluka is ranked second among the Ahmednager districts in Maharashtra in HDI (Human Development Index) due to number of educated Population.

Education level of the people is enhanced, especially the number of High School going children significantly increased as compared to the pre watershed situation. The following table (Table 4.5, 4.6, 4.7) shows the educational status.

**Primary School age group**

95 to 100 percent of the girls and boys between 6-10 years are attending primary school. Secondary school age group- 85 to 95 percent girls and boys are attending the secondary school. In Gunjalwadi, Darewadi, Sarole Pathar, Mhaswandi, Kumbharwadi there are no children of the school going age who are out of school. In the projected villages i.e. Sarolepathar, Gunjalwadi, Bhojdari, Kauthe Kamleshwar, better educational facilities are available. In Sarole Pathar project village there is 110-year-old primary school. There is one Secondary School, Junior college, Tribal boys and girl's school with the Hostel facility. These villages have good educational set up.

After watershed development project. There is much improvement in college level education. The general Literacy level shows improving trend. But, is not much improvement in post Graduate Level education. Only in a few project villages such as Sarole Pathar, Mhaswandi, Bhojdari, Gunjalwadi, Malegoan Pathar post Graduate education is good. A very few people have acquired vocational skills for livelihood such as Weaving, electrician, driving, Tailoring, Motor rewinding, fabrication, colouring, building contraction, etc. There are 15 persons in projected villages who have been trained in watershed development and livestock management during the project period from the PIA (Project Implementing Agency) it self. There are two women in projected villages that have been trained in SHG Record keeping, and Nursery management during the project period from the WOTR (Watershed
Organization Trust). But it is evident that after the watershed development programme the educational status of the villages improved considerably.

### 4.4 SCENARIO OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARAMETERS OF WATERSHED IN WDP VILLAGES

The stock of family asset is an indication of the standard of living of the people of society. Show Table No.4.8, 4.9, 4.10

During the last 10 years people of Mendhwan, Mhaswandi, Sarole Pathar, Bhojdari, Karule, Darewadi, Kasare, Gunjalwadi have increased their family assets such as Tractors, Motorcycles, Threshers, Kadabakutti, spray pump. An only Bullock cart family asset was decreased in all the projected villages. The main assets that each family owned was either a cycle, Motorcycles and pair of bullocks and farm implements during pre-watershed period. With the improvement in agricultural operations and increase in family income from farm, the communication and Transport facilities increased. The people of Sawarchol, Sattyachiwadi, Kumbharwadi, Malegaon Pathar villages are against as spending money on entertainment. They do not spend money on entertainment because their income is comparatively less.

The people from these villages invested comparatively less on communication and building and other assets. But they mostly used the income for their livelihood and consumption.

But in the post watershed development Programme, the assets positions of the families have improved as compared to the Pre-WS development situation. Other family assets such as kitchen garden, Individual latrines, soakpits were negligible before watershed development projects in Mendhan, Mhaswandi, Bhojdari, Kauthe Kamleshwar, Darewadi, Vankute, Kumbharwadi, Sawarchol, Malegaon Pathar and Sattyachiwadi. But, after implementation watershed development Programme these family assets are being used on large scale.

People participation increased because of VWC, GS & Mahila Mandal. The sense of responsibility & unity is being developed among the people and social changes could also take place due to various external factors.
The external intervention has contributed for changes in economic and social conditions of the community. The relevant changes in social services sector unit are presented in Table No. 4.11, 4.12, 4.13

Mhaswandi, Vankute, Bhojdari, Sarolepathar, Gunjalwadi, Darewadi, Kumbharwadi, Sawarchol, Sattyachiwadi, all these villages were considered as the most backward villages in the region. People from the surrounding villages were not ready to give their daughters in marriage to the residents of all these villages. These Villages were affected by drinking water problem. Nearly 40 percent of the families from these villages were affected by alcoholism. Most of the men young and old used to waste most of their time in futile discussion, gossiping and playing cards for 04 to 06 months in the year. The villages were dependent on Agricultural works. There was lack of many necessary facilities like medical dispensary, veterinary aid center, post office, and State transport bus stand. HYV seed and fertilizer distribution center, godown etc for facility for which they had to depend upon neighboring villages.

Growth and development of primary sectors like Agriculture, Horticulture, social forestry, Animal Husbandry and Dairy farming have led to the growth and development of other social service type units like carpentry, tailoring, barber unit, Grocery shop, flourmills, Hotel (Tea Stall) transport rentals facility owned by some families from the project area itself. Before implementation of the watershed development project villagers in Medhavan, Mhaswandi, Karule, Kasare, Shivapur, KautheKamleshwar, Darewadi, Vankute. Kumbharwadi, Gunjalwadi, Sawarchol, Malegaon Pathar, Sattyachiwadi were dependent on neighboring villages for all these facilities. This indicates that the situation of the project area before implementation of watershed development programme was so poor, that it was not able to sustain the units, providing even the most basic services.

After the completion watershed development project these service units have been helpful in creating additional direct / indirect employment opportunities in the Projected Village Darewadi, Kumbharwadi, Gunjalwadi, Sawarchol, Bhojdari, Mhaswandi, Shivapur, Kasare, Karule, Kauthe Kamleshwar, Mendhvan, Sarolepathar.
4.6 VILLAGE LEVEL INSTITUTIONS IN WDP VILLAGES.

The projects may look to be successful soon after its implementation but it may not be sustainable in the long period. This may be due to lack of proper management, poor know-how about project, improper management of funds and above all lack of people's participation in the maintenance of assets created under the project.

Small informal groups or associations oriented toward fulfilling certain board needs of villagers developed in projected villages. These groups are not directly related to program implementation. But they helped in the smooth implementation of the program and have become partners of VWC. For example, to help the poor, a group of villagers formed the credit co-operative. Society, self help Group (SHG) dairy, co-operative society, farmer help group (FHG) Which are organized and managed by the villagers in association with NGO's like WOTR, social center Nisargayan, Sangamner Bhag Sahkari Sakhar Karkhana. (SBSSK)
Table No.4.14, 4.15, 4.16

In addition to these villages level groups there are formal institutions of local government, such as Grampanchayat, co-operative society. Ahmednagar District co-operative credit bank (ADCCB) and credit society.

In the pre watershed development period in projected villages like Mendhvan, Mhaswandi, Bhojdari, Karule, Kasare, Shivapur, Darewadi, Kumbharwadi, Vankute, Gunjalwadi, Sattyachiwadi, there was no Dairy co-operative society, Self Help Group (SHG) and Farmer Help Group (FHG). But after implementation of watershed project these villages developed these institutional facilities of the NGO's.

Thus, the various institution actors are directly related to the implementation of the watershed development program, and their contribution to the program is operational in the legal and political framework.
4.7 PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN WATERSHED PROGRAMME.

This Programme was formulated in the late 1980s and launched in 1991. The first phase lasted from 1991 to 1998. Initially people's participation was consultative in nature. In 1996 the participation approach was intensified and accelerated.

Watershed development programme provided an opportunity to people to involve at all stage and participate in all activities to develop their own resources. The involvement of people including women increased through associations\ group, training, field visit, demonstration etc.

Two most important factors for the success of the 15 projects were effective leadership and people participation in watershed development. Fa Harmann Bacher, (Chairman, WOTR), Fa. Crispino Lobo (Executive Director WOTR) Mr. Balasaheb Thorat (Agricultural Minister, MS), Fa. Robat, Prof. V.M. Shewale (President, Nisargayan), Mr. Balasaheb Umberlar, Prof. Dilip Pokharkar, Mr. Kedari, Mr. Phapale in consolation with the people, evolved a code of conduct to be followed by them in the process. This was essential for maintenance and protection of various works and for sharing equitably the benefits generated by these works.

The common characteristics observed in these 15 projects was that the consultation leaders / lead agencies were strongly motivated to find a solution to chronic drought in Maharashtra in the case of Mendhvan, Darewadi, Gunjal wadi, Malegaon Pathar, Mhaswandi, Bhojdari, Kasare, Karule, Sarolepathar. The leaders had this specific motive in their mind.

The following tables No. 4.17, 4.18, 4.19 indicate the opinion and perception of the respondent with regard to participation, leadership, villages institutions, and resource status in their respective villages. These perceptions are important and indicate level of awareness.
4.3.1 Village Watershed Committee (VWC)

The VWC has been constituted and registered under societies Act.1860. There are 10 to 25 member including 03 Women representing all the 15 villages. The President of VWC is the joint signatory for the joint account operated under indo German watershed development programme. The work to be taken up, quality of the work done and the payments to be made and the issues related to watershed are regularly discussed in the monthly VWC meetings and the latest development report is presented in Gram Sabha. The VWC is empowered to take action against the people who violate the basic principles of the programme like Shramdan (contribution of voluntary Labour), ban on cutting trees from public lands, ban on free Grazing of livestock and payment of dues etc.

The percentage of participation of VWC in watershed development programme is as follows: Mendhan (16%) Mhaswandi (15%), Sarolepathar (14%), Darewadi (14%), Kumbharwadi (14%), Sattyachiwadi (18%), Sawarchol (21%), Malegaon Pathar (16%), Vankute (19%), Kasare (16%), Bhojdari (15%), Karule (07%) and Kauthe Kamaleshwar (14%).

4.3.2 Joint forest Protect Committee (JFPC)

In the 15 watersheds project Joint Forest Protect Committee was formed (JFPC) at the village level. This JFPC have been registered to forest Department. The forest Department permitted the treatments under in forest area. The JFPC is taking steps to protect the forest and hence people forms the neighborhoods have stopped cutting the forest trees in the watershed area.

The percentage of participation of JFPC in watershed development programme is as follows - Mendhvan (14%), Bhojdari (04%), Mhaswandi (06%) , Vankute (12%), Kasare (08%), Darewadi (21%), Sarolepathar (08%), Malegaon Pathar(07%),Sattyachiwadi (11%), Gunjalwadi (11%), Kumbharwadi (08%), Shivapur (08%), Sawarchol (04%), Karule (03%), Kauthe Kamaleshwar (03%).

4.3.3 Grampanchayat (Gram Sabha - Village Assembly)

The watershed committee organized voluntary Gram Sabhas (GSS) in 15 villages. Every Grampanchayat has 07 to 12 member including 02 women. The Grampanchayat members motivate people for Shramdan and spreading awareness regarding Watershed Development Programme. The Gram Sabha discusses about the
Degraded area and women facing the problem of drinking water before WSDP.

Traditional farming methods before WSDP.

Gram sabha- Decision making process
work planning, Shramdan, fund, field visit and it always motivates people for participation in watershed development activities. There is a need for promoting cooperation, co-ordination and relationship between local organization and watershed committee.

The percentage of participation of Grampanchayat member in watershed development programme is as follows – Mendhvan (06%), Mhaswandi (06%), Bhojdari (06%), Sarolepathar (05%), Gunjalwadi (04%), Kumbharwadi (06%), Kasare (05%), Karule (04%), Shivapur (05%), Malegaon Pathar (07%), Sattyachiwadi (03%), Kuthe Kamaleshwar (04%), Vankute (04%).

4.3.4 Mahila Mandal (Self Help Group)

The Mahila Mandal has been registered under societies Act. There are 15 to 145 Women members from all 15 villages. Women were involved in the project implementation right from the planning and decision making in watershed development programme.

Women are more comfortable in smaller homogeneous women groups and are able to express their views too. Most of the Self Help Groups (SHGS) formed in the projects are having 15 to 35 members. There are 135 SHGS in the 15 villages having membership of about 3000. They contribute small loans for household needs and for income generating activities to increase their potential and awareness and to support each other financially.

The percentage of participation of Mahila Mandal in watershed development programme is as follows- Sarolepathar (30%), Malegaon Pathar (22%), Mhaswandi (26%), Gunjalwadi (20%), Darewadi (21%), Karule (22%), Kasare (23%), Bhojdari (23%), Sattyachiwadi (33%), Shivapur (13%), Kaute Kamleshawar (13%), Sawarchol (27%), Mendhvan (19%).

4.3.5 Co-operative society Member Participation –

In the co-operative societies in 15 villages there are 07 to 09 members including 02 women. The co-operative society Members are motivated for Shramdan. The society provides the Agricultural loan for fertilizers, crop loan to develop the Agriculture.

The percentage of participation of co-operative society Member in watershed development programme is as follows-Mendhvan (04%), Sarole Pather (04%),
Hon. Miss Koth (German official) observing and having dialogue with SHG Member

The participation of women in gram sabha in the WDP

Panlot melawa- MPKV Experts Guiding the villagers
A poultry run by SHG members

People contributed (Shramdan) 16 percent of the labour cost.

Farmer Club member taking information about weather instrument.
4.3.6 Dairy co-operative society.

Dairy co-operative society is a formally registered body and the members are farmers who own land are eligible for membership, which cost Rs 51. This Dairy aims to increase farm income through related activities and support to watershed development programme. The percentage of participation of Dairy member in watershed programme is as follows- Mendhvan (06%), Mhaswandi (07%), Sarolepathar (04%), Bhojdari (08%), Karule (03%), Kasare (08%), Shivapur (07%), Darewadi (07%), Kauthe Kamleshwar (05%), Kumbharwadi (06%), Gunjalwadi (07%), Sawarchol (07%), Malegaon Pathar (07%), Sattyachiwadi (03%).

4.3.7 Youth Group

The youth from the 15 villagers have formed Youth Groups. Youth organize every year sport competition in cricket, Kabbaddi etc. They involve and help in marriage ceremonies and cultural functions like Ganesh Utsav, Navratra festival, Pola, Holi and village fair. These youth groups are always actively involved in watershed development programme for creative work. The percentage of participation of youth club Members in watershed development programme is as follows- Sarole Pathar (12%), Vankute (12%), Darewadi (20%), Bhojdari (10%), Malegaon Pathar (16%), Gunjalwadi (18%), Kauthe Kamleshwar (13%), Karule (28%), Kasare (13%), Shivapur (13%), Kumbharwadi (20%), Sattyachiwadi (16%).

4.3.8 Bhajani Mandal

The Religious people have formed the Bhajani Mandal. This Mandal organizes every week Bhajan, Puja, Swaddhyaya, These Mandal is always helpful to watershed development programme. The village wise Bhajani Mandal percentage participation in watershed programme is as follows – Mendhvan (11%), Mhaswandi (12%), Sarolepathar (08%), Bhojdari (08%), Karule (15%), Kasare (09%), Shivapur (11%), Darewadi (11%), Vankute (08%), Kumbharwadi (12%), Gunjalwadi (09%), Malegaon Pathar (10%), Sattyachiwadi (12%).