Chapter - VII

Summary and Conclusion
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The main objective of the study is to find out the impact of new agricultural technology on employment and Income in agriculture in the study area. Having analyzed this objective, the researcher has identified some findings and evolved some suggestions. This Chapter is divided into three sections.

FINDINGS

In the study area, the researcher observed certain points that could be summarized in this Chapter.

- The objective of the research was to find out how far agriculture is advanced and mechanized in the study area. As far as my knowledge goes, the sample villages of my study area are a good example for mechanization of agriculture. In the study area, mechanization is practised in agriculture. It is very popular among the big farmers and it is prevalent among the medium farmers. It is not very popular among the small farmers. By and large farmers are adopting modern techniques in agriculture. The farmers are very up to date and familiar with the latest developments in agriculture.

- The Government has enacted many legislations on land reforms and it is against bonded labour. But permanent labour is still existing and
persisting in the area. The farmers employ them on contract basis in order to escape from the Government. The bonded labour system is not fully abolished in the study area. It is prevalent even now. Since there are many loopholes in the legislations, the big land lords take advantage of them. In order to escape from land reform act, lands are in different names of the family members.

- The price of agricultural commodities is very low. So, the farmers are very much affected by it. They get very low income, because of procurement price and levy, they invest on agricultural cultivation. But the remuneration is very discouraging and disheartening.

- The village revenue officers exploit the farmers. They get paddy from the farmers at procurement rate which is cheaper but, they show a higher rate to the Government. But the money does not reach the Government. It goes into the pocket of the Revenue officer and village officer. So, the procurement and levy are a disadvantage to the farmers. They want to cheat Government as to get higher income from their crops.

- The agricultural loans provided by the co-operative bank is in no way beneficial to the farmers. They prefer agricultural bank to co-operative bank, because the interest on loan is very high and the loan is not disbursed in time to the farmers. The farmers have to fulfil so many formalities to get loans from the co-operative society; it is too much for the farmers.
The pesticides, fertilizers and seeds are provided by the agricultural department. The cost of fertilizer is very high and the quality is not up to the mark and it is not distributed when it is required for the farmers. The seed must be checked and rechecked properly before it is sold to the farmers.

The agricultural extension centre is enabling the farmers and guiding them through training and visit system and it is keeping in touch with them. The farmers are constantly helped by the farmers. But the agricultural officers choose the farmers who are known to them and who are well-to do and rich. The small farmers are not taken care of and not paid attention to by them. They too must be assisted by the agricultural officers.

The crop insurance scheme is not known to the many farmers. Even if some are aware of it, the conditions laid by the Government are too strict and rigid, so the farmers are not benefited by it at all. This scheme does not serve its purpose. The farmers find it useless to ask for crop insurance from the Government.

The farmers complain that the Cauvery water was not released for more than five years. They cannot rely on that now. So they have sunk wells and they have filter points in their fields. It has affected their cultivation and income. They have to depend on well water only.
The farmers want to electrify their wells so as to reduce the expense on irrigation. But the Government delays in granting permission for the electric motors. The farmers have to bribe the officials in order to get electric motors. Besides the small farmers cannot enjoy this privilege. Because they do not have money they cannot influence the officials even if they bribe the officials. They go to the big farmers and then they fulfill the needs of the small farmers. It is not easy for a small farmer to get electric motors.

In the study area, people are occupied throughout the year. They have agricultural work the whole year. Since they have got wells they cultivate their fields according to the seasons and people are involved in agricultural work throughout the year. People are fully occupied and employed.

In the sample villages, old variety of paddy, banana, and sugar cane is not found. Since they are business minded and they want to earn more income, they want to cultivate new variety of crops so that they could get more yield and more income from the crops.

The farmers want to cultivate in time and harvest the crops in time. So they are in favour of mechanization and they want to employ more and more of modern implements and machinery in agriculture than the employment of human labour and animal power in agriculture. So, the farmers have sold off their cattle, very few farmers have bullocks for the
purpose of ploughing and watering and so on. They do not feel the need of bullocks for agricultural purposes. They want to switch over to mechanization.

- Each panchayat union has got a tractor to hire out to the farmers. But they are not helping the farmers. They are given to the big farmers and influential people only. Moreover, when the people need them they will not be in a good condition because they are not maintained properly.

**SUGGESTIONS**

Mechanization in agriculture is picking up in the study area. It has to be revitalized and strengthened, them only we can think of advancement, fast progress in agriculture. So, some steps have to be taken by the Government with the view of boosting and encouraging the farmers and motivating them to put in more efforts and hard work in agriculture.

- The distribution of fertilizer must be properly done in time and the cost of fertilizer, pesticides and weedicide is very high. It has a bearing on the farmers and the cost of cultivation is very high and the income from cultivation is very low. In order to encourage them and support them, the cost of fertilizer, seed, and pesticides must be subsidized and given at concessional rates. This will be an incentive for the farmers to carry on agriculture with their whole heart and soul.

- The price of the agricultural commodity is very low. It really discourages agriculturists. The Government must fix a higher price for
agricultural commodities. Then only they can get good income from their cultivation and it will motive them to carry on agriculture and to introduce new methods and implements.

- The procurement and levy is misused by the Revenue officials. This must be checked and stringent action must be taken on those who are responsible for exploitation in this. It is eyewash on the part of the Government, the purpose of the Government is defeated because of the bribes and exploitation of the Revenue officials.

- The farmers are provided loan by the co-operative society which is not helpful to the farmers. Because the conditions laid down by the co-operative societies are very difficult and inconvenient for the farmers and the dealing with the farmers is very rude and rough. So, the conditions must be relaxed and reformulated in such a way that ordinary farmers can profit by the co-operative societies. The loans must be sanctioned in time without delay. The officials must be very sympathetic and understanding towards the farmers which is very lacking now.

- The farmers undergo many hardships and suffering because they do not have electric motors. The Government must sanction electric motors without any undue and unnecessary delay. This will enable the farmers to carry on their cultivation and will bring down the cost of cultivation as well.
The agricultural extension service centers are not properly functioning. The officers are not really interested in the farmers. They do not approach all kinds of farmers. They are not sincere and responsible, so they must approach all the farmers and their way of dealing with the farmers must be cordial and friendly.

The farmers do not know how to handle the modern agricultural machines and implements. The Government must start centers to disseminate knowledge to the farmers about the operation and repair of the modern tools and equipments.

The crop insurance is a good step to rescue the farmers from any unfortunate and loss. But the intricacies must be reformulated and simplified so that the farmers may feel that they are supported by the Government in times of crisis and unexpected situations.

The main source of irrigation is the Cauvery water. But the Cauvery water is not timely released to farmers. So the farmers have lost the faith in the canal irrigation. In order to restore their hopes, our Government must initiate and negotiate with the neighbouring State Governments and come to a negotiation and decision which will be acceptable to all and fruitful and beneficial to the farmers in the study area. If the Government of TamilNadu fails to take any measure towards it, the whole block will turn out to be a desert and forest very soon. It will retard the agricultural production of TamilNadu.
The farmers do not have faith in the Government programmes, so the Government must make them realize that the Government is interested in the welfare of the farmers and it must encourage them and support them through reasonable price for the agricultural commodities, subsidies and concessions. The Government must ask for the opinions of the farmers. Before it fixes procurement price and the farmers must be consulted through their trade unions before it takes any decision pertaining to agriculture.

Mechanization in agriculture among the small farmers is not very popular because the size of holding of land is very small. So they find no meaning in purchasing machines. Besides they run short of money to buy modern machines in order to intensify their agriculture. So Government must give preference to the small farmers while sanctioning agricultural loans.

Besides land Reform Act must be vehemently put into effect and those who have lands more than the stipulated acres, must be taken to task and the excess land must be distributed to the landless people. This will step up agricultural production in the study area and the number of farmers will increase.

The officials and people must extend their co-operation to the Government. Otherwise, the land will be concentrated in the hands of a few big farmers and they will produce more and get more income from the products.
The small farmers will produce less and get less income from the products. So the Government must stringently implement the land ceiling act without giving any consideration to any politics.

- The Agriculture extension service centre has started many demonstration farms in many panchayats to inform the farmers about the modern cultivation and to instill them to follow them in their cultivation. But this is situated in a very few places and in important places only. On the contrary, the demonstration farms must be started in many villages which are accessible to all farmers. So that they can imitate the modern technique in their farms too. More demonstration farms must be started in as many rural villages as possible.

CONCLUSION

In general, Agriculture is a backward sector. The Government is taking serious steps to develop the sector. It gives emphasis to Agriculture in all the Five Year Plans. Agriculture is slowly becoming a business and it is progressing and advancing. As far as the study area block is concerned, Agriculture is progressing faster and quicker. The farmers are adopting modern techniques and implement in agriculture. They are very open to modern technology and they favour mechanization in agriculture. Because of modernization in agriculture, they are getting good yield and income from their crops.
Agricultural production can be still stepped up, if the farmers are paid attention and their needs and demands are fulfilled and accomplished. Agricultural production is hindered and impeded because of financial constraints, Government policies, and water problem, lack of standard seeds and good fertilizer and pesticides.

The Government must deem Agriculture as important as industry, and it must frame policies to boost agricultural production. The Government should focus its attention on the farmers and come to their rescue and provide all financial facilities and distribute standard seeds, fertilizer, weedicide and it must start research centers in various places in order to revitalize agriculture. If the Government takes all these steps, Agriculture will contributes a substantial portion of income to the National Economy. The Government must show interest in the farmers and encourage them through various ways and means. The farmers must extend their full support and co-operation to the nation along with their interests, when the Government and the farmers co-operate with each other the agricultural production will be increased and the National Income will go up.

The progress and future of agriculture depends on the policy of the Government. The Government must frame its policies keeping in mind the interests of the farmers and the interest of the National when the Government is with the farmers, the agriculture will undergo stupendous changes and it will bring about a tremendous change over the National Economy. So it is not
enough that the Government frames policies in the interest of the farmers. But, it must see to it that the policies are put into practice and it must create a conductive climate for that purpose. The Government must play a pivotal role in modernizing agriculture.