Chapter VI

Infrastructure of Agriculture
Infrastructure of Agriculture

6.1 Introduction:

Agricultural development is a function of environment, technology and institution. The process of crop production is not a single one; it consists of a number of inter-related processes. All these processes depend on the infrastructural facilities available in the area. It includes irrigation from different sources, number of irrigation machineries available, agricultural machineries other than irrigation machineries, credit facilities available for both agriculture and allied activities, availability of fertilizers and pesticides, marketing and storage facility etc. In this chapter, an attempt has been made to find out the different infrastructural facilities available in different parts and also to sort out the areas which are backward in agriculture due to non-availability of infrastructural facilities.

6.2 Irrigation:

Irrigation and timely supply of water is the basic determinant of agricultural growth and productivity. As the rainfall is highly variable and uncertain in the Kangsabati basin area, timely water supply becomes the most important criterion for agriculture. Firstly, the source wise areas under irrigation have been studied in detail. It is observed from the map (Fig.6.1) that maximum area under irrigation is in the blocks of Bankura where more than 100 per cent of the net sown area (NSA) are under irrigation in some blocks. In the district of Puruliya, very little area is under irrigation. It varies between 10 per cent and 30 per cent of the net sown area in most blocks. The area under irrigation is high in the western blocks of Medinipur also. In the southeastern and southern parts of the basin, the area under irrigation is very low, less than 20 per cent of the net sown area in some blocks. The major sources of irrigation in the upper part of the basin in Puruliya district are tanks and different schemes. A small amount of area in some blocks is under river lift irrigation and minor irrigation scheme.
KANGSABATI BASIN

AREA UNDER DUGWELL AS PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

percent to total irrigated area

- 35
- 25
- 15
- 5
- No dugwell irrigation

FIG 62
KANGSABATI BASIN
AREA UNDER IRRIGATION SCHEME AS PERCENT TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

in percent

- 60
- 40
- 20

No irrigation scheme

Fig 6.4
In the rugged and hilly terrain of Puruliya district, construction of dugwell is difficult. So, small and large tanks become the only sources of irrigation there. The other important source is different irrigation schemes from which some blocks like Jhalda-I and Jhalda-II, Bagmundi, Arsha, Balarampur, Barabazar, Puruliya-I and Puruliya-II and Puncha receive some amount of irrigation water. A number of irrigation schemes are there on the tributaries of Kangsabati, viz., Saharjore, Kumari, Tara, Patloi, Nangasai, Bhairabbanki etc. But none of them are operating in their full capacity.

The blocks of Bankura district receive maximum amount of irrigation water from the Kangsabati project. Tanks are also a source of irrigation there. Minor irrigation schemes, river lift irrigation etc. cover a very small portion of the irrigated area.

In the western blocks of Medinipur district, dugwell and river lift irrigation are a major source. The blocks also receive water from the Kangsabati reservoir. In the eastern part of Medinipur, an important source of irrigation is deep tube wells which are totally absent in other parts of the basin. Minor irrigation schemes are the only sources of irrigation in the extreme southeastern part of the basin.

Now, the isopleth maps showing the areas under dugwell, tank, river lift etc. as percentages to total irrigated area have been studied separately. In analysis, it has been observed that dugwells are most important in the blocks of Medinipur, Salbani etc. in the central part where it covers more than 35 per cent of the irrigated area at some places (Fig.6.2). It is also high in Binpur-I and Binpur-II blocks. From this central part, it decreases towards both sides and is totally absent in Medinipur East. Dugwells and tanks are the major sources in the blocks of Puruliya and at few places, they are the only sources covering 100 per cent of the irrigated area, eg., in Jaipur (Fig.6.3). Dugwell and tank irrigation is also very high in Bura and Balarampur blocks. From these two blocks, it decreases to the central part. Irrigation schemes are there only in the upper part of the basin in the district of Puruliya (Fig.6.4). Here it is maximum in Balarampur, Barabazar.
KANGSABATI BASIN
AREA UNDER TANK AS PERCENT TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

Fig 6.5

in percent

No tank irrigation
Fig 6.6

KANGSABATI BASIN

AREA UNDER MINOR IRRIGATION SCHEME AS PERCENT TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

in percent

80

60

40

20

No minor irrigation scheme

Fig 6.6
KANGSABATI BASIN
AREA UNDER SHALLOW TUBE WELLS AS
PERCENT TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

No shallow tube well irrigation

Fig 6.7
KANGSABATI BASIN

AREA UNDER DEEP TUBE WELL AS PERCENT
TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

in percent

- 15
- 9
- 3

No deep tube well irrigation

Fig. 6.8.
KANGSABA'I BASIN
AREA UNDER RIVER LIFT IRRIGATION AS PERCENT TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA
KANGSABATI BASIN

AREA UNDER KANGSABATI AND MID OLD CANAL

AS PERCENT TO TOTAL IRRIGATED AREA

Fig 6.10
KANGSABATI BASIN
NUMBER OF IRRIGATION INSTALLATION
PER HECTARE NET SOWN AREA
1984-'85

Fig. 6.11

No./hectare m³/h

1.1

0.1

km

10

0

20

30 km
KANGSABATI BASIN
AREA IRRIGATED BY ONE DUGWELL
1984-85

Fig. 6.12
Fig. 6.13
KANGSABATI BASIN
AREA IRRIGATED BY ONE SHALLOW TUBE WELL
1984-85
etc. from which it decreases towards north and east. In the south, it covers over 60 per cent of the irrigated area. Only tank irrigation is found in the blocks of Bankura (Fig. 6.5). Maximum area under tank irrigation is observed in the Ranibandh block where it is more than 70 per cent. Minor irrigation schemes are most important in the extreme south and southeastern parts from where it decreases towards north and northwest (Fig. 6.6). Shallow tube wells cover more than 70 per cent of the irrigated area in the southern part of the basin in the blocks of Dantan-I and Dantan-II (Fig. 6.7). From the south central part, it decreases towards east and west. In this part, it is important as the depth of ground water table is high and construction of shallow tube wells are economical. Deep tube wells are also important in the southcentral part, but it covers very little amount of irrigated area (Fig. 6.8). It covers more than 15 per cent of the area in the blocks of Keshtihari, Debra, Panskura-I and Panskura-II and Bhagwanpur-I. River lift irrigation is practised throughout the basin area, but it covers maximum area in southcentral part (Fig. 6.9). In most parts of the basin, it is between 0 and 5 per cent whereas in the southcentral part, it covers more than 35 per cent at some places. The Kangsabati project and the Medinipur old canal covers more than 70 per cent of the irrigated area in the blocks of Bankura (Fig. 6.10). It covers 10 per cent to 50 per cent of the irrigated area in the blocks of Medinipur West.

Now, the number of irrigation installations available per hectare net sown area has been studied (Fig. 6.11). It is observed that the number is increasing from northwest to southeast of the basin. The number varies from 0.02 per hectare in Bankura to 1.63 per hectare in Nandigram-II. Among the four districts, Medinipur East is most developed so far as the availability of irrigation installation is concerned.

Lastly, the area served by one dugwell, one tank etc. has been studied. One dugwell irrigates maximum amount of land in the block of Debra from where it decreases towards east and west (Fig. 6.12). One shallow tube well irrigates maximum amount of land, above 14 hectares in Binpur-I block of Medinipur district (Fig. 6.13). In most parts of Medinipur district, it irrigates 3 hectares to 6 hectares of land. A tank irrigates over 10 hectares of land at some places in the blocks of Bankura district (Fig. 6.14). But in
Fig. 6.15

KANGSABATI BASIN
AREA IRRIGATED BY ONE DEEP TUBE WELL
1984-85

No deep tube well irrigation

IN HECTARES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Km</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>30</th>
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</table>

| 0  | 20 | 40 | 60 | 80 |

Fig. 6.15
KANGSABATI BASIN

AREA IRRIGATED BY ONE RIVER LIFT IRRIGATION 1984-85

IN HECTARES

Fig. 646
the extreme southeastern part of the basin, a tank irrigates very little amount of land. A deep tube well irrigates maximum amount of land in Debra and Kharagpur-II (Fig. 6.15). From this part, it decreases towards east and west. A deep tube well irrigates 20 hectares to 30 hectares of land in most parts of Medinipur district. A river lift irrigates up to 142 hectares of land in Debra block (Fig. 6.16). It ranges from 7 hectares to 142 hectares. In most blocks of Puruliya district, it irrigates less than 20 hectares of land. It irrigates maximum amount of land in the southcentral part of the Medinipur district.

From the study of this source wise area under irrigation, a number of irrigation installations and area irrigated by one irrigation installation, it can be said that the lower part of the basin is in a favourable position. One irrigation installation irrigates larger amount of land in the lower part of the basin. Amount of irrigated area is also high in this part except the extreme southeast. But, amount of irrigated area is meagre in Puruliya district and availability of irrigation machineries are also few there.

6.3 Agricultural Machineries:

Availability of agricultural machineries has of late been an important factor for development of agriculture in a region. A comparative study on the availability of agricultural machineries in the Kangabati basin area is not possible because data for the blocks of Bankura district and Medinipur East are not available. But it can be said that the lower part of the basin is favourably placed so far as the availability of agricultural machineries are concerned. Small machineries like sprayer, duster, thresher etc. are available in almost all blocks of Puruliya district, but larger machineries like tractor, power tiller, power thresher etc. are yet to be introduced there.

Among the blocks of Puruliya district, maximum number of agricultural machineries are available in Barabazar block which is under the S.R.V.P. Scheme (Special Rice Variety Programme). The agricultural machineries like sprayer 9 litre and 14 litre, duster, paddle thresher, sarala pump, wheel hoe and paddy weeder are found here.
KANGSABATI BASIN
FERTILIZER CONSUMPTION
1984-85

Consumption in metric ton
5000
2000
100

Rabi
Nitrogen
Phosphorus
Potassium

Khair
Nitrogen
Phosphorus
Potassium

Fig 6.17
Among the machineries, the number of sprayer are maximum totaling 202, i.e., .01 per hectare of net sown area in this block. The number of paddle thrasher is 106, i.e., .006 per hectare of the net sown area. In other blocks, the number of sprayer vary between 20 and 50, i.e., .002 per hectare and .005 per hectare of the net sown area. Wheel hoe is available only in Jaipur, Hura and Barabazar. The number of agricultural machineries are minimum in the two blocks of Jhalda. Hand Rolling duster and seed drill are available only in Hura block (Table 6.2).

Among the blocks of Medinipur, the maximum number of agricultural machineries are available in Sabong block where the number of pumping plant is 1,000, i.e., .04 per hectare net sown area, paddle thrasher 300, i.e., .01 per hectare net sown area, hand sprayer 400, i.e., .02 per hectare net sown area, hand duster 50, i.e., .002 per hectare net sown area and so on. But, tractors are available in Kharagpur-I and Kharagpur-II, Narayangarh, Dantan-II, Pingla and Jhargram though few in number. Availability of agricultural machineries are minimum in the block of Jamboni. In most blocks of Medinipur, plenty of agricultural machineries are available which alongwith other infrastructural facilities helps in the development of agriculture in the part.

6.4 Fertilizer Consumption:

The fertilizer consumption in different blocks of the basin during kharif and rabi seasons has been shown with the help of pie graphs. From the map (Fig. 4.17), it appears that consumption of fertilizers increases from north to south of the basin and it is maximum in the southcentral part of the basin. Fertilizer consumption is up to .03 metric ton per hectare net sown area in most blocks in the upper part while it is more than .21 metric ton per hectare net sown area in Potaashpur block of Medinipur district. Consumption of fertilizer is minimum in Manbagar-II block of Puruliya district (Table 6.1). In the upper part of the basin in the district of Puruliya, maximum consumption of fertilizer is observed during kharif season in all the blocks. This implies that due to lack of other infrastructural facilities like availability of irrigation water etc., the most important kharif crop rice also needs artificial fertilizers. On the other
hand, rabi crops are grown to a little extent creating the need for small amount of fertilizer in the area. Among different types of fertilizers, consumption of nitrogen is maximum during both the seasons.

In the lower part of the basin, consumption of fertilizer increases from west to east. It is maximum in the central part in the blocks of Debra, Pingla, Sabong, Tamluk-I, Panskura-I and Panskura-II and Potashpur. Then again, it decreases towards southeast. But, in all the blocks of Medinipur district, consumption of fertilizer is higher than in most blocks of Puruliya district. Consumption is minimum in the two blocks of Dantan. In this lower part, consumption of fertilizers is maximum during rabi season, but it is minimum in the kharif season. An interesting feature is that nitrogen consumption is higher than other fertilizers in both seasons. Data for blocks of Bankura district is not available.

6.5 Agricultural and Allied

Agricultural credit:

Availability of agricultural (Fig.6.18) as well as allied agricultural credit (Fig.6.19) has also been studied source wise and are shown with the help of pie graph. It is observed that in general, the lower part of the basin get more agricultural and allied agricultural credit than the upper part with a few exceptions. In the upper part of the basin in the blocks of Puruliya and Bankura districts, agricultural credit is Rs. 10,000,00, i.e., Rs. 100 per hectare net sown area and below in most blocks during 1986-'87 (Table 6.1). It is above Rs 50,000,00, i.e., above Rs 600 per hectare net sown area, in Puruliya-I and also high in Jhalda-I and Balarampur. In almost all the blocks, major credit has been given as crop loan and minor irrigation and in few blocks for farm equipment. It varies between Rs 50,000,00 to Rs 10,000,000, i.e., Rs 200 to Rs 400 per hectare net sown area in the lower part of the basin and in some blocks, it is greater than Rs 10,000,000, i.e., Rs 1,000 per hectare in Tamluk-I. In the extreme southeastern part, availability is less compared to the central part as it is below Rs 5,000,000, i.e., Rs 300 per hectare net sown area in most blocks. Major credit has also been given as crop loan here. In other sectors, loans are available for irrigation and farm equipment (Appendix 6.1).
AMOUNT OF ALLIED AGRICULTURAL CREDIT AVAILABLE PER AGRICULTURAL WORKER
1986-87
An isopleth map has been drawn to study the amount of agricultural credit available per agricultural worker (Fig. 6.2a). Here also it has been observed that availability of agricultural credit is more in the lower part and increases from the upper to the lower part of the basin. It varies between less than Rs 50 per worker to more than Rs 450 per worker. In most police stations of Puruliya district, it is less than Rs 50. It is as high as Rs 177 in Dalampur and Rs 247 in Puruliya police stations. The agricultural credit available per worker increases from west to east of the basin, but after Medinipur, it decreases and then again, it increases in the extreme southeastern part. It is very high in Narayangarh and Medinipur and in the southeastern part in Tamluk-I and Sutahata-II. In most police stations, it varies between Rs 150 and Rs 250 (Appendix 6.1).

Source wise allied agricultural credit map also shows the similar picture. Availability of allied agricultural credit is very low in almost all the blocks of Puruliya and Bankura districts with the exception of Puruliya-I and Dalampur. In most blocks, it is below Rs 5,000,00, i.e., Rs 50 per hectare net sown area (Table 6.1). Here major credit has also been given for animal husbandry and for fishing. Bio-gas also occupies an important position. But, in the middle and lower part of the basin, excepting a few blocks, certain amount of credit has also been given for beekeeping, sericulture and floriculture. In Patamdeh block of Singbhum district of Bihar also, a considerable amount of credit has been given for this last item. In most blocks in the middle part of the basin, the amount of allied agricultural credit varies from Rs 15,000,00 to Rs 25,000,00, i.e., Rs 100 to Rs 200 per hectare net sown area. It is above Rs 200 per hectare net sown area in the blocks of Medinipur, Kharagpur-I and Tamluk-I, Panskura-II etc. In the extreme southeast, it is less than Rs 5,000,00, i.e., Rs 150 per hectare net sown area in almost all the blocks (Appendix 6.2).

The amount of allied agricultural credit available per worker (Fig. 6.2a) varies from less than Rs 30 in the upper part to more than Rs 180 in the extreme southeast of the basin. In most parts of Puruliya and Bankura districts, it is less than Rs 30 per worker.
It is slightly higher in Balarampur and Puruliya police stations. Then, the amount increases up to Rs 171 in the middle part of the basin after which it decreases. It is again high in the extreme southeast in the Sutahata police station of Medinipur East (Appendix 6.2).

Thus, studying the agricultural and allied agricultural credit maps, we find that the blocks of Medinipur district are favourably placed. They also get credit for a larger number of agricultural as well as allied agricultural items. The situation of Puruliya and Bankura districts is unfavourable as they are getting a meagre amount as credit. From the field study, it is observed that though there are a number of Government bodies etc. to provide credit, in reality, very few are getting the benefit from them.

6.6 Marketing Facility:

Now, another important infrastructural facility, i.e., marketing facility, has been studied. Data has been collected from marketing offices of all districts in the Kangsabati basin area under the following headings: number of markets, number of processing units, number of regulated markets, number of cold storages and also number of storages of the Government, Food Corporation of India, Central Ware Housing Corporation, State Ware Housing Corporation, Command Area Development Project (CADP) and private with their capacity. But, all the data are not available for all the blocks. But studying all these it can be said that the blocks of Medinipur West are getting better facilities with more numbers of markets and storages and their higher capacities. In the blocks of Medinipur East, though there are less number of storages, their capacity is higher. There are a few storages in the blocks of Bankura and Puruliya district. The data for regulated markets are not available for the blocks of Medinipur and their numbers are very few in the other two districts (Table 6.3).

6.7 Pesticides:

Lastly, the number of sale points of pesticides have been taken into consideration. It is observed that the number of sale points
of pesticides are very few in different blocks of Bankura and Puruliya districts where it varies from 1 to 14. But, in the middle part, the number is high and in the southeast in the blocks of Medinipur East, the number goes up to 41. This implies that very few farmers purchase pesticides for their fields as they cannot afford for it in the upper part of the basin and as a result, sale points are also few; whereas in the lower part, the economic conditions of the farmers are better and they cultivate vegetables and other crops which need a larger amount of pesticides. So, the number of sale points is higher in this part. Data regarding the consumption of pesticides are not available.

6.8 Conclusion:

Studying all the infrastructural facilities of agriculture available in different parts of the basin, it can be said that the upper part of the basin is backward in this respect. The most important factor that affects the agriculture is timely supply of water or irrigation facility. In the upper part of the basin, rainfall is scanty and uncertain. There is also very little portion of the net sown area under irrigation. This little supply of irrigation water affects agriculture in this part. From the field survey also, it appears that the most serious problem faced by people living here is scarcity of water. Double cropping is not possible in most areas. Even a single crop; Aman, suffers from scarcity of water in most years.

Construction of tube wells is difficult due to rugged terrain. Small irrigation schemes also cannot solve the problem. Construction of tanks and as many storage sites as possible on the tributaries of the river Kangsabati can solve the problem to a certain extent.

Other infrastructural facilities like credit facility, availability of fertilizers, marketing and storage facilities etc. are also very much limited in this upper part. Following this, most blocks of Bankura and Puruliya districts remain backward in agriculture. Though there are a number of Government schemes to improve the condition of these agriculturally backward areas, very few of them in reality reach the poor farmers. Proper implementation of these schemes can solve the problem to a large extent.
Compared to this, the lower part of the basin gets a lot of infrastructural facilities. After the construction of the Kangsabati reservoir, some blocks get assured supply of water. Ground water level is also high. Favourable physical condition along with a lot of infrastructural facilities make this part agriculturally most prosperous within the basin area. Availability of more agricultural machineries and credit facilities can help in further improvement of the area.

References


Table 6.1: Infrastructural Facilities of Agriculture

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<th>Name of Blocks</th>
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<th>Allied Agricultural Credit In Rupee</th>
<th>Fertilizer In Metric Tonne</th>
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# Table 6.2

**Number of Agricultural Machineries Per Hectare Net Sown Area**

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<th>Tractors</th>
<th>Power Tiller</th>
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<th>Duster</th>
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