Chapter Nine

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS
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The present investigation has presented Agro Service Centre and Agricultural Development in Satara District (1981 to 2001) in its totality. It is the time to present all the significant and relevant results of investigation. The main objective of the researcher is to present findings of investigation through this chapter.

Satara District is one of the District in the Maharashtra has significant location like a state. The Krishna, Koyana, Venna, Taralil, Mand, Vasna, Vangna covers major portion of the District. The rivers facilitate the irrigation facilities. The river basin is covered by fertile soil in river basins and low quality soil in other part of the region. The region to east central is plain and to the west hilly mountainous region. The rivers basins are covered by highly fertile soil and in other portion deep, medium and shallow laterite soil. The climate of satara is hot and dry even though world famous tourist centre Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani located in the western part of the District. The amount of rainfall varies from east to west. Heavy rainfall is at west region and less or some scanty in eastern region it creates very severe droughts many time. At the point of view of agriculture it is sufficient.

Agriculture is more dominant in the main river basin i.e. Krishna and Koyana. The land is useful for dry and irrigated farming in the study region. The different crops are growing Kharip and rabbi, these season changed seasons the agrarian economy of the study region changed because day by day the land under cash crop is increasing for example, sugarcane, rice, wheat, fruits-grapes, pomegranate etc.
Out of total workers 80 percent workers engaged in different agricultural activities which shows economy of study area depends on agriculture, Transporting is most important factor that influences on the Agro Service Centres. All Agro Services Centres are well connected with roads. The Satara District divided into eleven talukas Man, Khatav, Phaltan Patan, Jawali, Mahabaleshwar, Wai, Khandala Koregaon, Satara and Karad. The highest agricultural worker found in Karad taluka because it comes in urban area people are engaged in all three activities. In the study region area under net sown area is there in Karad, Patan, Satara and Khatav taluka because of fertile soil, irrigation facilities and plain topography. In karad taluka lift irrigation is most important and in other areas well and canal irritation in study region. Out of total cropped area maximum area under food crop. Jowar is staple food and sugarcane and grapes and pomegranate are the cash crops. Sugarcane is most important cash crop along with Krishna and Koyana rivers. Karad is largest producer of sugarcane production due to irrigation facilities fertile soil and well developed transport network.

Agro Service Centres are playing very important role in providing advanced technology services and inputs for different agricultural activities. All the farmers The functions of Agro Service Centres are clearly related with agricultural activities Agro services Centres classified into with facilities of primary agricultural credit society, banks, Markets, veterinary dispensaries and the distributing of hybrid seeds, insecticides and fertilizers Agro Service Centres are located many in urban as well as in rural area. More number of primary agricultural credit societies are there in Karad taluka ,Phaltan, Satara Patan i.e.(above 100), Maximum concentration of SDCC Bank is in Karad and satara (above 40 branches). Less branches of SDCC bank are in Khandala, Wai, Jawali and Mahabaleshwar. Karad taluka has two LDB, s is there and remaining talukas have one branch.
Markets are economically important and represents regional pattern of development. Daily, weekly market is market yards and market yards are the in the District. Veterinary dispensaries closely related to the Agro Service Centres. 22 veterinary hospitals are found in study area which is run by state government and 125 veterinary dispensaries are operated by Zilla Parishad.

The role of extension service centres is also considerable these are not spread everywhere in the District only in Karad taluka maximum concentration is there as per 2004-2005 record. It consist 34 extension services centres for 127 Agro Service Centres. Other taluka of the District not having such facilities. Fertilizers plays very important role in the agricultural development. It is not only increasing production but also maintaining fertility status of the farm. The Karad Phaltan and Khatav taluka more concentration of fertilizers distribution centres and lower in M’shwar, Wai and Khadanla. In karad, Khatav and Phaltan taluka more concentration of seeds distribution centres as these area has more land under agriculture.

Out of 3086 Agro Service Centres 1254 are fertilizers distribution centres, 1076 are seeds distribution centres and 756 are insecticides distribution centres in Satara District which enables the farmer to take more production from agriculture.

In the Satara District total 96 weekly market centres, 22 submarket yards and 10 market yards which facilitate to 3086 Agro Services Centres. In Mahabaleshwar taluka no submarket yard and market yard facilities. A farmer from these taluka depends on Wai and Jawali market yards.

Physical and economical factors are correlated with agro services centres. Total picture is the result of cumulative effect of these factors. Recently the development of transport, communication and industrial area can also determine the number of Agro Service Centres. In the last 30 years span tremendous increase in number of Agro Service Centre. The high concentration of Agro Service
Centres is in plain and deep black soil belt and lower concentration in shallow and medium laterite soil belt in the study area.

Agricultural workers also affecting the distribution of Agro Service Centres. The more number of agricultural workers found in Karad Phaltan and Khatav taluka of the District and less number of agricultural workers are found in Khadala, M’shwar and Jawali taluka as this taluka are in the hilly area. Remaining taluka has moderate number of agricultural workers.

The ranks of taluka of agriculture implements and number of Agro Service Centers is very identical, the coefficient correlation between agriculture workers and number of Agro Service Centers is very strong i.e. 0.93 (r = 0.93)

The rank of the taluka net sown area and number of Agro Service Centers is remarkable. The coefficient correlation in between Nets own area and number of Agro Service Centres is moderate i.e. 0.55 (r = 0.55)

And the coefficient correlation between Agricultural implements and number of Agro Service Centers is also high degree positive i.e. 0.72(r=0.725)

The spatial distribution of variables and agricultural development is not uniform in Satara district. It provides very significant information about level of agricultural development. The study highlights that the majority of district come under high development of agriculture and it located at middle and southern part of study region.

Agriculture is not developed in Wai, Khandala, Patan, Jawali and Mahabaleshwar due to industrialization, conducive topography and irrigation facilities. For the development there is need of irrigation facilities restrict during the agriculture.

The study highlights the impact of location and Agro Service Centres on agricultural development planning for the study region.
In case of Karad taluka very weak correlation coefficient (-0.042) is in about Net Sown Area and number of Agro Service Centers, the correlations coefficient is positive i. e. 0.12 where as the coefficient correlation between agriculture workers and number of Agro Service Centers is 0.28

Agro Service Centers are very important for the development of agriculture. Day by day the need of it increasing .It came into notice by the study, increasing trend in number of Agro Service Centers all over the District

Now- a- days everyone who are interested to set up the Agro Service Centers. He / She can obtain permission for it. Only they have to go in proper channel.

The proprietors’ are just finding chance to maximize the income. They require fix benefit or profit but due to change in the policies of government they suffered more.

Many Agro Service Centres suffering from different problems like high transportation cost, fertilizers and chemicals not reaching well in time and increasing MRP values. In the Karad taluka of District has high number of Agro Service Centers, huge net sown area and high number of agricultural worker.

Exactly opposite of this Man and Phalatan taluka have high number of Agro Service Centres but agricultural workers and Net Sown Area is less

Mahabaleshwar is the taluka where there less number of Agro Service Centres due to less Agricultural workers and less Net Sown Area no chances to extent the agricultural production.

Fertilizers are reaching well in time to the farmers through the Agro Service Centres. Most of the seller importing chemicals and other necessary material from state or out of state
The central and union government opened up all the control orders regarding to Fertilizers, Seeds and Insecticides to the common people so the people of lower strata of the society are also knows everything about Agro Service Centres. In these orders all details are given so it becomes very possible to everyone to set up Agro Service Centres and to provide all the required inputs to the development of agriculture.

The production of cereal crops and cash crops are increasing day by day because the Agro Service Centres are increasing. The educated people also diverted themselves towards agriculture to take maximum advantage of farm land with the help of Agro Service Centres.

It is observed that in the last 20 years span the number of Agro Service Centres are increasing even though eastern part of the study area is in permanently drought prone area. Some irrigation projects proved boon to the study area like Urmodi, Jihe Katapur, Vasana and Wangna projects.

Due to artificial shortage of fertilizer, seeds and other required material farmers are suffering more. Sufficient provision should be there of fertilizers, seeds and chemicals.

Government should form a policy regarding to the material availability, quality through Agro Service Centres, sufficient storage of all these goods.

Whatever samples are given, many times that samples are failed to prove themselves. It means to play with agriculture, resulted into complex problems so samples should be given after testing its quality and quantity so that poor farmer should not suffer.

There should be a proper policy regarding to the permission of Agro Service Centre. It should be given to such a person who has completed graduation
and some training or some specific qualification related to Agro Service Centres should be there.

Many time state and central government giving subsidies to the farmer on Fertilizer and Seed, so the owners are not getting any profits.

Poor status of Indian farmers is also one of the unsolved questions for proprietor. There is acute problem of the recovery of the sums.

Advanced means of communication and transportation are also helpful for the development. For every kind of problem solutions are there today

Government toll free numbers are there for agricultural assessments. All lines open for the farmers all the time. So the farmers can consult any kind of problems with the experts.

The prices of the commodities available in Agro service center should be same everywhere, but there is change in rates or prices. It should be fixed for specific span.

Change in price can change the attitude of the farmers due to that farmers are giving up to purchase the inputs.

The code of conduct prescribed by the government implemented everywhere. Agro Service Centres can misguide the farmers unfair trade can practice by them.

There should be specific benefits to the propitiator for providing all the essential service to the farmers.

Regarding to subsidy given to fertilizers and seeds. It should be considered in the annual budget by the both government and it should be highlighted.
There should be coordination in between companies and Agro Service Centres owner, all inputs should be available at reasonable prices, as per our status many times it is not possible to purchase the inputs due to poor economic condition of the farmers

Policies related to transport of goods should changed. It can exploit the Agro service Centre’s owner and farmers. Direct benefits are to the proprietors of the Agro Service Centres.

Due to frequently drought condition less consumption of fertilizers and other chemicals.

During the time of natural calamities owner and farmer should get help very soon as early as possible.

Soil testing laboratories should be at every taluka places at reasonable prices. Farmer should get results well in time.

Every Agro Service Center should be accessed by cattle food and farm implements facilities.

For introducing and spread the use and its importance proper acknowledgement should be there through the means of mass communication.

Along with chemicals there should be some organic material available at Agro Service Centres because it is the need of age. It can protect soil from degradation. More stress on the introduction of organic farming because of huge potentials to the organically produced agricultural goods in national and international markets.

Agro service centers should enlisted in the list of essential services.

Authority and workers of shops should be well trained and qualified.
All Agro Service Centres should connect with ministry by the internet for the transparent conduct in trade activities. Due to difference in soil types and other physical obstacles area wise introduction of chemicals and fertilizers should be there.

It is needed to enhance to the agricultural production with the help of Agro Service Centre to meets the ever growing demand of food materials.

It is very much needed to formulate the plans for the development of agriculture because it is the only way which can accommodate everyone. By keeping view of the problems recommendation narrated. I am sure this would defiantly help to enhance the level of agricultural development in the study region.