Agricultural development and Diversification of Chamarajanagara District in Karnataka

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***Abstract*: In parts of Kollegala and Chamarajanagara Districts in Karnataka practice of growing high value crops on organic method is becoming popular. There are some leading enterprising and also educated farmers are involved in this activities and these practices are expected to increase in future. The new agricultural methods and practices like precision farming are expected to be adopted these educated farmers. There has been a revolution of the flowers been cultivated in large number due to the market accessibility of market facility in the neighbourhood markets namely Coimbatore and erode. The growing practices of flowers has led to a revolution called floriculture.**

***Keywords*: Organic method, Markets and Floriculture**

1. INTRODUCTION

'Chamarajanagara district created in 1997 by bifurcating the Mysore district' is basically an agri-dominated district is now shifting to other sectors. Agricultural development in this district is growing and diversifying in response to the changes that are taking place across the country. At the outset there is a quiet revolution taken place in the crop and other diversification activities in the district. The traditional cereals some of which are replaced by a new cereal crops like maize. Another group of crops which emerged in the last two decades are vegetables, fruits and flowers. These three crops category is increasingly becoming the menu of the cropping pattern across all the size farmers more, particularly the small and marginalised farmers. Being the border district of Tamilnadu the agricultural practices and activities are influenced by the neighbouring Tamilnadu and there has been a shift in the cropping pattern from low value crops to high value crops. Some of the core cereals are being replaced by the new crops as said above namely vegetables and flowers. There has been a revolution of the flowers been cultivated in large number due to the market accessibility of market facility in the neighbourhood markets namely Coimbatore and erode. The growing practices of flowers has led to a revolution called floriculture. Further the district agricultural farmers are responding quickly to the changes taking place in the field of agriculture and cropping pattern. The district though receives lowest level of rainfall is favourable for growing some of the fruit and flower crops. In addition to this there are some new methods and practices in the agricultural sector which are influencing the farmers in this district. Farming systems like sustainable agriculture – organic farming and natural farming – have been initiated in this district by some of the enterprising farmers raising organic products namely fruits in particular. The nearby markets in the Tamilnadu namely Coimbatore and Erode districts are responding to these products. In addition to this the contract farming is very much practised in some of the border areas of Tamilnadu.

2. IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Agriculture today essentially includes animal husbandry activities mainly with dairying and i.e., adding to the supplementary sources of income to the farmers. Besides goat and sheep raring have also come up on a large scale as the potential base for this highly potential and the environment is favourable. In parts of Kollegala and Chamarajanagara Districts the border practices of growing high value crops on organic method is becoming popular. There are some leading enterprising and also educated farmers are involved in this activities and these practices are expected to increase in future. The new agricultural methods and practices like precision farming are expected to be adopted these educated farmers. With this backdrop the study assumes great importance

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE PAPER

The overall objective of the study is to evolve technically feasible economically viable, environmentally sound and social acceptable of farming system models by integrating crops with appropriate supplementary and complimentary enterprises for rain fed regions like chamarajanagara district. This helps to generate sustained stable income and higher employment from the entire farm. As mentioned in the beginning the district having lot of potential at the same time they remaining a considerable portion of uncultivated land this appears to be sound policy for agricultural development.

4. DATA ANALYSIS

Indian agriculture is dominated by small farmers the average size of holdings will be a mere 0.68 hectare in 2002 comparing this with the average size in Brazil which is more than 50 hectares to address the small farmers particularly the land less farmers it is advised to take up to these types of practices in agricultural sector at large. Added to this the integrated farming system which is an innovative and unique approach in the development of agriculture and improve the living standards of the small and landless agricultural labourers. It is a technique to promote this in the district to improve the land use technique on animal management techniques, as mentioned above sheep and goat raring have encouraging environment. In this broader context development of agriculture by following integrated farming system though micro approach and the entire farms of the individual farmer is considered as a unit. This approach calls for concerted efforts with farmers primarily focus of maximising the net income of farmers over a period of time. This is closely related to realistic planning of farms of selected farmers in order to help to generate maximum family employment and to get sustainable net income.

Table 1
Net Sown Area in Chamarajanagar District (in Percentages)

Talukas	2001	2011	% Changes
Gundulpete	65875	53995	-18.03
Chamarajanagara	53679	54504	1.54
Yelanduru	10476	8470	-9.60
Kollegala	58446	66427	13.66
Total	**188476**	**184396**	**-2.16**

Source: National Horticulture Board: Horticulture Data Base-2015

Table 1 shows that the net sown area of talukas of Chamarajnagar District. Compared to 200, in 2011 Kollegala has positive growth of 13 percent in net sown area followed by Chamarajanagara which is about 1.54 per cent growth rate.

Table 2
Net area irrigated by sources: 2011-2012

Talukas	Canal	Tanks	Well	Tube wells	Total
Gundulpete	--	--	10.54	89.46	100.0
Chamarajanagara	10.40	4.96	5.06	79.57	100.0
Yelanduru	48.65	26.91	6.16	18.28	100.0
Kollegal	24.11	15.28	5.57	53.40	100.0
Total	**18.95**	**11.13**	**6.41**	**62.79**	**100.0**

Source: Economic Survey-2015-2016, Government of Karnataka

It is clear from the Table-2 that Chamarajnagar has highest tube wells of 79.57 per cent in net area irrigated by sources. Yelanduru has highest Canal source whereas Gundlupete has 10.54 percent of Well.

Table 3 exhibits the demographic information of Chamarajnagara District. Population growth of the district has been come down about 4.68 percent. Female literacy has increased compared to male literacy. Average literacy is also increased. Density is also raised. Total population has the growth rate of 0.56 per cent per annum compared with 2001 and 2011 census.

Table 3
General Demographic and Geographic Information of Chamarajanagara District

Description	2001	2011	Growth Rate (per annum)
Total Population	**965,462**	**1,020,962**	**0.56**
Male	**489,940**	**513,359**	**0.47**
Female	**475,522**	**507,603**	**0.66**
Population Growth	**9.29%**	**5.75%**	**-4.68**
Density/kms	**189**	**200**	**0.57**
Proportion to Karnataka Population	**1.83%**	**1.67%**	**-0.91**
Average Literacy	**50.87**	**61.12**	**1.85**
Male Literacy	**59.03**	**67.88**	**1.41**
Female Literacy	**42.48**	**54.32**	**2.49**

Source: District at Glance, 2016

Table 4
Agricultural Operational Holdings in Chamarajanagar District

Taluk	Marginal (1-H)	Small (1-2H)	Semi-medium (2-4H)	Medium (4-10H)	Large (10H)	Total
Chamarajanagar	19659	24813	17311	9019	1738	72530
Percentage	27.10	34.21	23.87	12.43	2.40	100.00
Gundlupet	11921	20847	17413	9488	1727	61391
Percentage	19.42	33.96	28.36	15.46	2.81	100.00
Kollegal	17097	24174	17975	6689	1456	67391
Percentage	25.37	35.87	26.67	9.93	2.16	100.00
Yelandur	4759	2503	1842	925	317	10346
Percentage	46.00	24.19	17.80	8.94	3.06	100.00
Total	**53436**	**72337**	**54541**	**26121**	**5233**	**211658**
Percentage	**25.25**	**34.18**	**25.77**	**12.34**	**2.47**	**100.00**

Source: Horticulture Statistics Division, Department of Agri. & Cooperation.

The Table 4 presents the structure of Agricultural Operational holdings in Chamarajanagar District. Small holding is highest about 34.18 percent in the district. Large holding is very less about only 2.47 per cent.Yelanduru taluk has much marginal farmers.

CONCLUSION

Agriculture today essentially includes animal husbandry activities mainly with dairying and i.e., adding to the supplementary sources of income to the farmers. Besides goat and sheep raring have also come up on a large scale as the potential base for this highly potential and the environment is favourable. In this broader context development of agriculture by following integrated farming system though micro approach and the entire farms of the individual farmer is considered as a unit. This approach calls for concerted efforts with farmers primarily focus of maximising the net income of farmers over a period of time. This is closely related to realistic planning of farms of selected farmers in order to help to generate maximum family employment and to get sustainable net income.

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