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A STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF URBANIZATION ON AGRICULTURE CROPPING PATTERN

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ABSTRACT

Urbanization is the common trend in these days, urban area expansion directly affect rural and agriculture cropping pattern. In this study, which is based on primary data, the data is collected from a village in Hassan district, Karnataka where majority of the formers were growing paddy as the main crop. This work observe that expansion of urban area attracts the agriculture laborers and small farmers and these people instead of migrating completely to cities shift to changing cropping pattern which is suitable to work in urban area. These job seekers work and earn in urban area comfortably without discontinuing their farming activity with family members. This type of changing crop pattern helps to improve the socio economic condition of the job seekers.

KEYWORDS

Agriculture, cropping pattern, labour, Urbanization.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the one of the core sectors in the Indian economy, agriculture provide food fodder and employment to large population of the country. More than 65% of the population involve in the agriculture sector directly or indirectly.

Agriculture labourers move towards urban area is one of the common trends in these days. This movement of labour directly linked to the urbanization of the small towns and semi urban areas of the country. This expansion of the dimension of the cities has affected agriculture and also agriculture labourers, urban area attract rural agricultural labourers with higher wage for less effort. In the same time agriculture labourers are facing adverse weather condition in agriculture sector. This condition in agriculture sector pushes the labourers out of the agriculture sector.

Urbanization and infrastructure development are necessary for achieving the desired growth rate of the economy. But this type of development is negatively affecting agriculture sector as there is a big shift of agriculture labourers and farmers to urban and semi urban areas. This is directly affecting whole of agriculture. The labour class which does not have their own land tends to go out in search of better wage to urban areas. This has created labour problem to those who owns land and are in need of some help both financial and manual to continue their farming.

Changing cropping pattern has been considered by such farmers as a boon in some places where they can stay back in their own native and also work in a nearby town so that they can improve their standard of living. These labourers search the jobs in cities and semi urban areas which are near to their farm or village, but they are not ready to sacrifice the agriculture all together. They change the crop, preferring the one which needs less attention and work there for few hours in a day and they deploy their family members to continue the agriculture work in his land or give his land to other farmers for rent. This type of farming has actually increased the agriculture and agricultural labour productivity.

DEFINITION

Urbanization: Urbanization is the physical growth of urban areas as a result of rural migration and even suburban concentration into cities, particularly the very largest ones.

Agriculture labour : Agricultural Labour Enquiry Committee defined agricultural labour as a person who, for more than half of the total number of days, worked as an agricultural labour. An agricultural labour may be the small or marginal farmer or an artisan, but when a person derives his main earning by doing some agricultural work on others farm is called an agricultural labour.

Cropping pattern: Cropping pattern is defined as the spatial representation of crops rotations, or as the list of crops that are being produced in an area and their sequence in time.

Job seeker: The act of searching for employment. A job search is performed when an individual is either unemployed or dissatisfied with their current position.

Review literature

Biplab Dasgupta (1987) examine particular pattern of urbanization in West Bengal-the overwhelming role of the primate city, the wide gap between the former and the other major cities in the region in terms of population size, economic activities and cultural influence, and the predominantly rural character of the other areas in the region-is distinct from the alternative pattern of decentralized urbanization one sees in Punjab, Haryana, Kerala and some other states.

Bryan R. Roberts' (1989), this author looks at the effect of the new international division of labor on urbanization in developing countries. Previous histories, particularly of in-sertion into the world economy, affect responses to the new order. Also, previous phases in the organization of the world economy, particularly those associated with import-substitution industrialization, have shaped the urban systems and urban social organization of developing countries in particular ways.

Julia j. Henderson (1957) analyze rate of urban growth is now higher in some of the economically underdeveloped countries than it is in the United States. The apparent imbalance between rates of urban growth and of industrialization is pointed out. Levels of employment, health, education, nutrition, and housing among the masses of rural migrants to the cities in most countries are posing problems which strain overburdened resources of the underdeveloped countries to the breaking point. There is some reason to hope that planned economic development as well as the techniques of regional and city planning may be applied more generally in the solution of these problems in Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East than they have been in North America.

Liu Shaoquan et al(2004)This study focuses on the impacts of urbanization and resettlement on employment of rural inhabitants, based on a tracking investigation of migrants and host inhabitants in Lishu Village, and local inhabitants in other villages of Changing Town in the Three Gorges Reservoir (TGR) area. Urbanization in its initial stage, driven by non-conventional forces and resettlement, has triggered a shift of rural labor from agriculture to industry. This has worsened the labor surplus situation for both migrants and host inhabitants, especially women.

M S A Rao (1996), attempts to understand the process of modern urbanization, with special reference to a village near Delhi. Urbanization as a process of interaction between town and country may be studied in terms of rural-urban relations, that is, in terms of participation of villagers in the social and cultural life of the town and vice versa, and in terms of inter-personal relations between villagers and town dwellers.

NataDuvvury(1989), India in the recent past has witnessed an upsurge in research on various aspects of women's existence, with the early focus on the social facets of their status giving way of analyses of women's location within the sphere of economic production, a shift that was prompted by the alarming decline in female participation. This paper reviews literature women in agriculture, highlight lacunae and pointing to possible areas of fruitful future research

PabitraGiri (1998), in this paper discusses the urbanization process in West Bengal during 1951-91 with reference to the changes in workforce structure and urban-rural productivity gap. In general the relative industrial stagnation and the population pressures determined the urbanization process in West Bengal in the post-independence period. Moreover, the agricultural growth and the changed political scenario since the late 1970s had influenced the process.

Stanley et al. (1969) this research, based on data collected in a north Indian village, is an analysis of the relationship of family types to a number of variables: caste, type of house, ownership of land, and the urbanization, type of employment, age, and education of the family head. There is no statistically significant difference in family types between families headed by urban-oriented men and those headed by village-oriented men. Type of house, education, and type of employment also prove to be non-significant. Family type is correlated with high- and low-caste status, landownership, and the age of the family head. High-caste landowning families are more likely to be joint than low- caste landless ones. Also, older men are more likely to head joint families than younger ones.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Agriculture sector is one the core sector in Indian economy. Agriculture played a vital role in economic growth, but after speedy spread of urbanization and industrialization and adverse environment of agriculture, farmers and agriculture labourer slowly depend on other areas for stable income and livelihood , after reviewing the literature so many studies done on urbanization and migration, urbanization and development ,migration and development ,this paper try to find out the effect of urbanization on changes in agriculture pattern and changes in cropping pattern.

OBJECTIVES OF THIS PAPER

This paper has three objectives

- 1) To analyze the recent trends in agriculture sector in rural areas.
- 2) To study the effect of changed cropping pattern on farmers income level
- 3) To examine the effect of urbanization on agricultural cropping pattern.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- 1) There is no significant difference between income level of the farmers before and after changing the cropping pattern.
- 2) There is no significant difference between income level of the farmers before and after their migration to urban areas

METHODOLOGY

This paper is based on both secondary and primary data. Primary data is collected from 100 households with scheduled questionnaire in a village closely located near Hassan district. SPSS package is used for data analysis. Paired T test method was used to analyze wage differences before and after migration. Excel is used for tabulation and construction of Chart. Garret's ranking technique is use to rank the reasons for urbanization effect on farmers and changing cropping pattern.

TABLE - 1: AGE

AGE	Frequency	Percentage
21-30	58	58.0
31-40	29	29.0
41-50	13	13.0
TOTAL	100	100

Collected data has been classified based on age group of the farmers who are seeking jobs in other sectors of the urban area. Here we find that 58%of the them are belonging to 21-30 age group and 29%of the labourers belong to 31-40 age group. It is clearly shows that younger age people are more mobile compared to older age groups. 41-50 ages consists only 13 %of the labourers and more than 50 age group people do not want to move to urban area.

TABLE - 2: EDUCATION LEVELS OF THE VILLAGERS

Class	Frequency	percentage
Illiterate	15	15.0
Higher primary	9	9.0
High school	42	42.0
P.U.C	9	9.0
Graduation	10	10.0
Job oriented training	13	13.0
Master degree	2	2.0
Total	100	100

Above table refers the education status of the farmers. It shows 42% of them are having high school level of education. This is the highest percentage of education attained by the farmers. Illiterates are second highest constituting 15 percentages. There are very few post graduates and graduates. This statistics shows that high school level is sufficient enough to fetch a job for them in urban or semi urban areas. With this education normally they prefer urban life to rural.

TABLE - 3: GENDER

Gender	Frequency	percentage
Male	88	88.0
Female	12	12.0
Total	100	100

This table shows the gender based classification of the surveyed population. according to the above table, men constitute highest share of 88 %in total job seekers and female are lowest ie 12 %job seekers .Here one of the interesting thing is when the males are seeking jobs in other sectors of the economy for earning more for livelihood, women are shouldering the responsibility of the family and agriculture activities in male members absence.

TABLE - 4: MARITAL STATUS

Marital status	Frequency	Percent
Married	57	57.0
Unmarried	43	43.0
Total	100	100

Table 4 refers the marital status of job seekers in surveyed area, 57% of laborers are unmarried and 43% of the labourers are married job seeking to earn more in urban area where they got more income.

TABLE- 5: CASTE

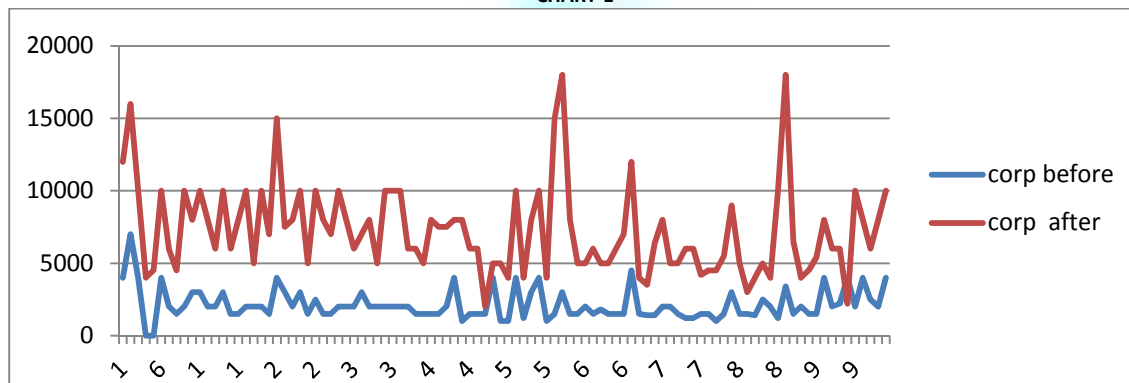
caste	Frequency	Percent
3A	85	85.0
SC	13	13.0
CAT1	2	2.0
TOTAL	100	100

Table 5 shows the caste status of the job seekers. 85 % of the labourers are from 3A, in this surveyed 3A is the major caste group living in the village and same trend followed in migration also. SC and CAT1 have 13% and 2% respectively.

TABLE – 6: INCOME DIFFERENCE AFTER CHANGING CROPPING PATTERN

Paired	Mean	std deviation	std error mean	95% confidence interval		T	df	Sig
				Lower	Upper			
Before and after crop	-1364.000	875.540	87.554	-1537.726	-1190.274	-15.579	99	.000

CHART-1

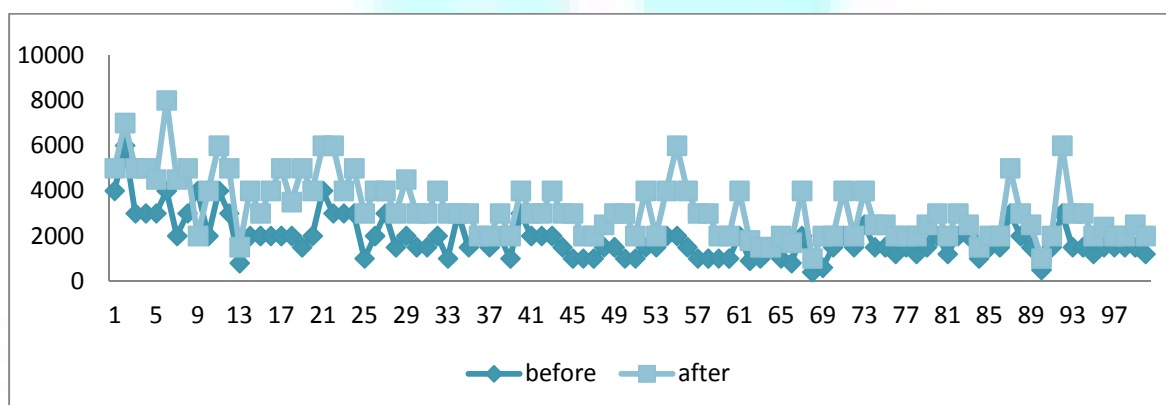


Above Table 6 refers to the income difference of the before and after changing the cropping pattern of the farmers moving to the other sectors of the urban area with changing the cropping pattern. The table value is greater than calculated value ($1.660 > 15.579$). Therefore the null hypothesis is rejected. Rejecting null hypothesis shows that the test is statically significant. There is a significant difference between income level of the job seekers before and after changing the cropping pattern. The income has actually increased. This type of changing the cropping pattern not only helped to improve the standard living of the job seekers, this type of movement and cropping pattern positive impact on agriculture growth and productivity.

Chart -1 also clearly shows the difference between income of the before and after changing cropping pattern.

Table – 7: INCOME DIFFERENCE OF AFTER MIGRATION

Paired	Mean	Std deviation	Std error mean	95% confidence interval		T	df	Sig
				upper	lower			
before and after migration	-5128.00	2630.8611	263.8611	-5650.0199	-4605.9801	-19.492	99	.000



Above Table with paired T test refers to the income earning status of the job seekers before and after their migration from agriculture to urban area. As shown above, the table value is greater than calculated value ($1.660 > 19.492$). therefore the null hypothesis is rejected. Rejecting null hypothesis shows that the test is statically significant. There is a significant difference between income level of the job seekers before and after their migration. The income has actually increased. This type of migration not only helped to improve the standard of living of the job seekers, but also made them economically strong and this type of economic improvement positively impact agriculture activities also. this type of part-time job seekers earn more and apply advanced technology, seeds, fertilizers to land and get higher productivity and contribute to the agriculture.

Chart -2 clearly shows the difference between income of the before and after changing cropping pattern.

TABLE – 8: REASONS FOR NOT PREFERING AGRICULTURE

Indicators	Scores	Rank
Loss in agriculture	5393	II
Unstable income	6487	I
Environmental reasons	5230	III
Over dependency	3115	V
Higher input cost	4367	IV
Labour problem	3021	VI

Garrett's ranking technique is used for ranking the reasons for leaving agriculture and working in urban area; first and foremost reason for leaving the agriculture is unstable income in agriculture .second most influencing reason is loss in agriculture, environmental reasons like drought, heavy rain fall, insecticides problems are the third reasons to influence to leave the agriculture. Higher input cost got fourth rank in the Garrett's ranking table like hybrid seeds, fertilizer, and technology. Many of the job seekers are marginal and small farmers hence one or two members of the family to other sectors for employment and higher wages, over dependency is the fifth reason for moving to urban area.

TABLE – 9: REASONS FOR JOB SEEKING IN URBAN AREA

Indicators	Scores	Rank
Good demand for labour /irregular work in village	4694	III
Stable income	6206	I
Improvement of infrastructure	5734	II
Weekly/monthly income	4200	VI
Higher income	3845	V

Above Garrett's ranking table is also used to rank the reason for moving to urban area in search of jobs. Unstable or seasonal income in agriculture sector is most influencing reason for job seeking in urban area, improvement in infrastructure like more bus facility, good roads, telephone and mobile facilities are the second in the ranking table , speedy urbanization has creating demand for huge amount of labourers and observe more labourers from rural areas , most of the workers are working in informal sector they get weekly or monthly income, this type of income helps in repayment of loan and to make saving through chits ,SHG's and fixed deposit with bank and post office fixed bank account , it is the fourth reason in ranking table, lastly higher wages attract the labourers to migrate and work in other area where they are get more wages and continuous employment.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

In this paper we find that most of the agricultural labourers migrate to other sector for regular employment and higher wages. All marginal farmers they slowly depending on other sector for higher wages without fully neglecting the agriculture. Instead of that they have shifted to changing the cropping pattern and continued their agriculture activity with other family members and relative's. They are changing cropping pattern with modern technology which reduce their time and risk on farming and support their move to higher income jobs in urban areas. After they move to urban areas, farmers spend 2 or 3 hours in their land and use technology to save their time and money. Now farmers use tractors for cultivating the land instead of bullock, use high yield seeds instead of traditional seeds. Most of the farmers discontinue feeding the bullocks and cows. Cropping pattern is having positive impact on agriculture sector by increasing their income. After the migration they earn more from land and also at working place, and spend some amount of income of agriculture input cost, cultivation labour cost etc.

This increased income of the labourers increase the overall standard of living. They have purchased bikes/cars, send their children to town school, construct new houses, involve in financial activities, access a good health care facility, celebrate festivals with grand parties, etc. Migration and crapping pattern, both are having positive impact on agricultural labourers who have earned more not by completely stopping agricultural activities and migrating to urban areas but by changing the cropping pattern and by doing so they get more time to work in urban area and also to take care of the farming with family members support. This has really improved their standard of living.

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