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Impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries

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Abstract

The study was conducted to study impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries purposively in Nanded district of Marathwada region. The impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries (40 sericulturists) were calculated by comparing with non-beneficiaries i.e. non-sericulture farmers. The data revealed that there is significant changes in child education, annual income, saving pattern, employment generation and material possession of sericulture farmers due to sericulture enterprise as compare to non-sericulture farmers. It was observed that majority 67.50 percent of beneficiaries were in medium change categories regarding changes in child education, annual income, saving pattern, employment generation and material possession. Majority of respondents (87.50%) were expressed the constraint of decrease in cocoon production due to diseases, followed by constraints about high cost of production (82.50%), lack of skilled labours (80.00%), greater distance to market (75.00%), constraints regarding transportation facilities (70.00%), less guidance from the experts (57.50%) unavailability of fertilizers and pesticides (55.00%). The data also revealed that cent percent (100%) of beneficiaries had suggestion to establish thread manufacturing center at district level, followed by establishment of training center at Tehsil level (95.00%), suggestion about government should motivate women group to start sericulture (92.50%), establish godowns for storage of goods (90.00%), creation of awareness campaign (87.50%) and subsidy provision in the form of amount and material (82.50%).

Keywords: Sericulture, enterprise, impact, profile, sericulture farmers

Introduction

Agriculture plays a vital role in Indian economy and considered as backbone of Indian economy. Over 60 percent rural household depends on agriculture. India encompasses an upscale and sophisticated history in silk production and silk trade dates back to fifteenth century. India is the second largest producer of silk within the globe after China. Since the independence, India has witnessed manifold increase in area and production of Mulberry Silk due to improved varieties of Mulberry and improved breeds of silkworm. It stands for livelihood opportunity for millions owing to high employment oriented, low capital intensive and remunerative nature of its production. Day-by-day the well-educated youths are getting unemployed. So, they migrate from rural to urban area for getting a job. This industry affirms and provides opportunity to enhance their life. So, there is wide scope for this industry for the betterment of life.

Sericulture industry provides employment to approximately 9.18 million persons in rural and semi-urban areas in India. Sericulture is a labour extensive activity that involve intensive agriculture of Mulberry and careful husbandry of silkworm rearing. About 60 percent of activities and pre and post cocoon are carried out by women. More than 60 lakh persons are employed as full time workers in production chain, out of which 35 to 40 lakh persons are women. Sericulture provides an opportunity to improve living standards of people in rural areas. The study helps to understand the socio-economic conditions of the sericulture farmers.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted to study impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries purposively in Nanded district of Marathwada region. For this, two talukas namely Nanded and Loha were selected purposively. From each taluka two villages i.e. total four villages were selected. From each selected village, 10 beneficiaries (Sericulturists) and 10 non-beneficiaries (non-sericulturists) were selected randomly. Thus, from marginal and small land holders total 80 respondents [40 beneficiaries and 40 non-beneficiaries] were selected from selected 4 villages. The impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries (40 sericulturists) were calculated by comparing with non-beneficiaries i.e. non-sericulture farmers. Six parameters viz., change in child education, change in annual income, change in saving pattern, change in

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employment generation and change in material possession were selected for the study. Statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, mean and 'Z' test were used for the analysis of the data.

Results and Discussion

1. Impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries

Impact of sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries is presented in Table 1.

Change in child education: From Table 1, it was observed that majority of the beneficiaries 42.50 percent were capable to educate their children upto bachelors degree, followed by 40.00 percent beneficiaries upto masters degree and 17.50 percent beneficiaries upto Ph.D. level. Whereas, majority of non-beneficiaries (i.e. 60.00%) were capable to educate their children upto bachelors degree, followed by 35.00 percent of non-beneficiaries were capable to educate their children upto bachelors and remaining 5.00 percent of them were capable to educate their children upto masters degree.

It is observed that the capability of sericulture farmers to educate the children at higher as compare to non-sericulture farmers. The sericulture enterprise can increase the income of the farmer and make him spend more money on higher education of his children. The Z value of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries was found highly significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Change in annual income : Table 1 revealed that majority of the beneficiaries (72.50%) earned medium level of annual income i.e. Rs. 2,67,338 to Rs. 4,65,913 /-, followed by 15.00 percent of them earned more than Rs. 4,65,913/-, and remaining 12.50 percent beneficiaries earned upto Rs. 2,67,337/-. Whereas, majority of non-beneficiaries 87.50 percent earned medium level of annual income i.e. in between Rs. 90,049 /- to Rs. 2,17,952 /-, followed by 10.00 percent non-beneficiaries earned more than Rs. 2,17,952 /- and remaining 2.50 percent of them earned upto Rs. 90,048 /-. Mean annual income of sericulture farmers was Rs. 36,6625 /- as compare to mean annual income of non-sericulture farmers was Rs. 1,54,000/-.

Sericulture gives more earning with less land holding and investment. The annual income of respondent changes due to additional income gained with the main farming through sericulture. The Z value of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries was found highly significant at 0.01 level of probability. It revealed that due to sericulture enterprise, the annual income of sericulturists were more as compared to non-beneficiaries.

Change in saving pattern: From Table 1, it was concluded that majority of beneficiaries (70.00%) had medium annual saving between Rs. 99,756/- to Rs. 1, 87,745/-, followed by 17.50 percent of beneficiaries had low annual saving upto Rs. 99,755/- and remaining 12.50 percent of beneficiaries had high annual saving above Rs. 1,87,745/-. Whereas, majority of non-beneficiaries (77.50%) of beneficiaries had between Rs. 20,269/- to Rs. 62,432/- , followed by 12.50 percent low annual saving upto Rs. 20, 268/- and remaining 10.00 percent had high annual saving above Rs. 62,432/-. Mean annual saving of sericulture farmers was Rs. 1,43750 /- as compare to mean annual saving of non-sericulture farmers was Rs. 41,350 /-

The Z value of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries was found highly significant at 0.01 level of probability. It revealed that

beneficiaries get more annual income due to sericulture enterprise and able to save more money.

Change in employment generation

It was further observed from Table 1 that majority of beneficiaries (85.00%) had belonged to medium level of employment generation category i.e. 352 to 589 man day annually, followed by the beneficiaries belonged to high (12.50%) and low (2.50%) employment generation category.

The Z value of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries was found highly significant at 0.01 level of probability. It revealed that beneficiaries get more annual income due to sericulture enterprise and able to save the money.

Change in material possession: From Table 1, it was observed that majority of beneficiaries (52.50%) had medium material possession change categories, followed by 32.50 percent had high material possession change categories and 15.00 percent had low material possession change categories. Whereas, majority 60.00 percent of non-beneficiaries had medium material possession change categories, followed by 32.50 percent had low material possession change categories and remaining 7.50 percent had high material possession change categories. The Z value of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries was found non-significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Overall impact: From Table 2, it was observed that majority 67.50 percent of beneficiaries were in medium change categories, followed by 17.50 percent beneficiaries were in high change categories and remaining 15.00 percent beneficiaries were in low change categories. The reason might be that significant change in education, annual income, saving pattern and employment generation due to sericulture enterprise on its beneficiaries as compared to non-beneficiaries.

2. Constraints faced by the beneficiaries in sericulture enterprise

Table 3 showed that majority of respondents (87.50%) were expressed the constraint of decrease in cocoon production due to diseases, 82.50 percent had constraints about high cost of production, 80.00 percent of them were expressed constraints regarding lack of skilled labours, and 75.00 percent of them faced the problem regarding greater distance to market. Whereas, 70.00 percent of beneficiaries were had constraints regarding transportation facilities, 57.50 percent beneficiaries had constraints regarding less guidance from the experts while 55.00 percent beneficiaries had constraints regarding timely unavailability of fertilizers and pesticides.

3. Suggestions of beneficiaries to overcome the problems in sericulture enterprise

Table 4 revealed that cent percent (100%) of beneficiaries had suggestion to establish thread manufacturing center at district level, followed by 95.00 percent of them suggested to establish training center at Tehsil level, 92.50 percent of them were suggested that Government should motivate women group to start sericulture, 90.00 percent beneficiaries had suggestion to establish godowns for storage of goods, 87.50 percent of them were suggested to create awareness campaign and 82.50 percent beneficiaries had suggestion of subsidy provision in the form of amount and material.

These findings were supported by the findings of Todmal (2012) [5], Hadimani *et al.* (2017) [3] and Raju *et al.* (2019) [4].

Table 1: Impact of Sericulture Enterprise on its Beneficiaries

Sr. No.	Category	Beneficiary (n=40)		Category	Non-beneficiary (n=40)		Z value
		F	%		F	%	
A	Change in child education						
1	Primary school	00	00.00	Primary school	00	00.00	7.12**
2	Middle school	00	00.00	Middle school	00	00.00	
3	Higher secondary	00	00.00	Higher secondary	14	35.00	
4	Bachelors	17	42.50	Bachelors	24	60.00	
5	Masters	16	40.00	Masters	02	05.00	
6	Ph.D.	07	17.50	Ph.D.	00	00.00	
	Mean		4.75	Mean		3.70	
B	Change in annual income						
1	Low (upto Rs. 2,67,337)	05	12.50	Low (upto Rs. 90,048)	01	02.50	11.38**
2	Medium (Rs. 2,67,338-4,65,913)	29	72.50	Medium Rs. 90,049 - 2,17,952)	35	87.50	
3	High (Rs. 4,65,914 & above)	06	15.00	High (Rs. 2,17,953 & above)	04	10.00	
	Mean		366625			154000	
C	Change in saving pattern						
1	Low (upto Rs. 99,755)	07	17.50	Low (upto Rs. 20,268)	05	12.50	13.27**
2	Medium (Rs. 99,756 - 1,87,745)	28	70.00	Medium (Rs. 20,269- 62,432)	31	77.50	
3	High (Rs. 1,87,746 & above)	05	12.50	High (Rs. 62,433 & above)	04	10.00	
	Mean		143750	Mean		41350	
D.	Change in employment generation						
1	Low (upto 351)	01	02.50	Low (upto 231)	07	17.50	5.05 **
2	Medium (352-589)	34	85.00	Medium (232-450)	27	67.50	
3	High (590 & above)	05	12.50	High (451 & above)	06	15.00	
	Mean		470.25	Mean		341.00	
E.	Change in material possession						
1	Low (upto 6)	06	15.00	Low (upto 6)	13	32.50	1.72 NS
2	Medium (7-9)	21	52.50	Medium (7-9)	24	60.00	
3	High (10 & above)	13	32.50	High (10 & above)	03	07.50	
	Mean		7.90	Mean		7.37	

** - Significant at 0.01 level of probability NS - Non-significant

Table 2: Overall Impact of Sericulture Enterprise on its Beneficiaries

Sr. No.	Overall Impact	Beneficiary (n=40)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Low (upto 3)	06	15.00
2	Medium (4-6)	27	67.50
3	High (7 & above)	07	17.50

Table 3: Constraints faced by the beneficiaries in sericulture enterprise (n = 40)

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Percentage
1	High cost of inputs required for sericulture.	33	82.50
2	Lack of skilled labours at village level.	32	80.00
3	Lack of transportation facilities.	28	70.00
4	Greater distance for selling of cocoons to market.	30	75.00
5	Decrease in cocoon production due to disease.	35	87.50
6	Less guidance from experts.	23	57.50
7	Timely unavailability of fertilizers and pesticides.	22	55.00

Table 4: Suggestions given by beneficiaries to overcome the problems in sericulture enterprise (n=40)

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage
1	Establishment of training center at Tehsil level.	38	95.00
2	Subsidy should be provided in the form of amount and materials by the Government such as Karnataka state.	33	82.50
3	Establishment of godowns for storage of cocoons.	36	90.00
4	Awareness campaign for sericulture enterprise should be made strong by MGNREGA.	35	87.50
5	Establishment thread manufacturing center at District level.	40	100
6	Government sericulture department should motive women groups to start sericulture enterprise.	37	92.50

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