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## Impact of Mann Deshi foundation on socio-economic status of beneficiary farmers

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### Abstract

The research entitled “Impact of Mann Deshi Foundation on socio-economic status of beneficiary farmers.” was conducted at Man and Khatav Tehsils from Satara District. The result showed that 57.33% beneficiary farmers were from middle age group, 32.67% beneficiary farmers had secondary level of education, 65.00% beneficiary farmers had medium level of farming experience, 40.00% beneficiary farmers had small land holding, 60.67% beneficiary farmers had medium level of annual income, 63.33% beneficiary farmers had medium level of risk orientation, 64.00% beneficiary farmers had medium level of information seeking behaviour, 67.33% beneficiary farmers had medium level of extension contact, 68.67% beneficiary farmers had medium level of mass media utilization, 52.67% beneficiary farmers had medium level of social participation and 68.67% beneficiary farmers had medium level of overall impact on socio-economic status.

**Keywords:** Mann Deshi foundation, beneficiary farmers

### Introduction

India is the global agricultural powerhouse. Agriculture and its allied sectors are unquestionably the largest livelihood provider in India, more in vast rural areas. It also contributes with significant figure to the gross domestic product (GDP). Sustainable agriculture in terms of food security, rural employment and environmentally sustainable technologies like sustainable natural resource management, soil conservation, and biodiversity protection has vital role in rural development. Because of this, Indian agriculture and its allied sectors are witnessed of green revolution, white revolution, yellow revolution, blue revolution etc.

Beneficiary farmers and NGO (Mann Deshi Foundation) are these two aspects are studied under this research.

In general we can say Indian farmers are those people who grow crops. India's National Policy for farmers 2007 defined the Farmer as - according to this policy, the term 'FARMER' refers to a person who is actively engaged in the economic and livelihood activities of growing crops and producing the agricultural commodities and will include all agricultural operational holders, cultivators, sharecroppers, agricultural labours, poultry and livestock rears, beekeeper, fisher, pastoralist, gardner, non-corporate planter and planting labours, persons engaged in various farming related occupation like vermiculture, sericulture and agro-forestry. This term also include the tribal persons/ families engaged in shifting cultivation and in collection, use and sale of timber and non-timber forest produce.

The second aspect of research study is non-government organization (Mann Deshi Foundation). A Non-Government Organization is any non-profit, voluntary citizens group which is legally constituted, organized and operated on a local, national and international levels. Non- Government Organizations are task oriented and driven by people with common interest. Altruism and Voluntrism are the two basic principles of the NGO.

### ✓ Mann Deshi Foundation

Mann Deshi Foundation is non-profitable, non-political, secular, voluntary, non- governmental organization established in the year 1996 under the Societies Registration Act (SRA) 1860. Mann Deshi foundation was established in the year 1996 by Chetna Sinha firstly for women empowerment in Man taluka of Satara district. That means the Man taluka is birth place Mann Deshi Foundation, as we well known that this Man taluka is drought prone area hence it (Man taluka) faces lots of problem regarding to availability of water, practicing agriculture and maintaining livestock. So to solve this problem Mann Deshi Foundation had started to work

on drought mitigation and management.

The activities performed by the Mann Deshi Foundation were Water conservation practices under which they built Dams, rejuvenated the wells, another activity was Goat Doctor (Sheli Sakhi) it was the activity regarding breaking the stereotype. Under this Goat Doctor programme the all veterinary practices are taught to rural women under the Nimbkar Agriculture Research Institute, Phaltan. The next activities were Chamber of Commerce, Farm to Market, Farmer Producer Company Cold Storage and Warehousing, Training Farm Women and Youth, Input Supply, Health Camp, Business School, Mobile Bus, Radio Programme.

### Objective

To study the personal, socio-economic, psychological and communicational characteristics of beneficiary farmers.

### Methodology

The study was conducted in Satara district of Maharashtra

from this district two tehsils were selected purposively, First was Man and Second was Khatav. Ten villages from Man tehsil and Five villages from Khatav tehsil were selected for collecting the research information. From each village Ten beneficiary farmers were selected which resulted 150 beneficiary farmers got included in this research study.

Appropriate statistical tools were used to interpret the data. The independent variables measured by using suitable scale and procedure adopted by various researcher in past with due modification. The dependent variable was measured on two point scale before and after.

### Result and Discussion

The personal, socio-economic, psychological and communicational characteristics of beneficiary farmers are Age, Education, Farming experience, Annual income, Land Holding, Risk orientation, Information seeking behaviour, Extension contact, Mass media utilization, Social participation.

**Table 1:** Distribution of respondents according to their socio-economic profile (N = 150)

Sl. No.	Category	Respondent	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	<b>Age</b>		
	Young (Up to 35 years)	43	28.67
	Middle (36 to 55 years)	86	57.33
	Old (56 and above)	21	14.00
2.	<b>Education</b>		
	Illiterate	20	13.33
	Primary Education (I to VII standard)	22	14.67
	Secondary education (VIII to X standard)	49	32.67
	Higher secondary education (XI to XII standard)	39	26.00
3.	<b>Farming Experience</b>		
	Low (Up to 8.17)	33	22.00
	Medium (8.18 to 15.54)	97	65.00
	High (15.55 and above)	20	13.00
4.	<b>Size of Land Holding</b>		
	Marginal (Up to 1.0 ha)	56	37.34
	Small (1.1 ha to 2.0 ha)	60	40.00
	Semi-medium (2.1 to 4.0 ha)	18	12.00
	Medium (4.1 to 10.0 ha)	05	03.33
5.	<b>Annual Income</b>		
	Low (Up to 1,81,000)	40	26.67
	Medium (1,81001 to 4,18,000)	91	60.67
	High (4,18001 and above)	19	12.67
6.	<b>Risk Orientation</b>		
	Low (Up to 16.06)	28	18.67
	Medium (16.07 to 25.1)	95	63.33
7.	<b>Information Seeking Behaviour</b>		
	Low (Up to 26.63)	24	16.00
	Medium (26.64 to 52.54)	96	64.00
8.	<b>Extension Contact</b>		
	Low (Up to 3.41)	23	15.33
	Medium (3.42 to 12.18)	15.33	67.33
9.	<b>Mass Media Utilization</b>		
	Low (Up to 5.23)	28	18.66
	Medium (5.24 to 10.26)	103	68.67
10.	<b>Social Participation</b>		
	Low (Up to 2.32)	45	30.00
	Medium (2.33 to 4.57)	79	52.67
	High (4.58 and above)	26	17.33

It was evident from table 1 that a more than half i.e. 57.33 per cent of the beneficiary farmers were from middle age group i.e. from age group category of 36 to 55 years, followed by young group having 28.67 per cent of beneficiary farmers and only 14.00 per cent of respondents belongs to old age group i.e. from old 56 and above year's category. And out of total beneficiary farmers, the near about one third i.e. 32.67 per cent beneficiary farmers had education up to secondary level followed by higher secondary level category having 26.00 per cent, followed by primary education category having 14.67 per cent, followed by illiterate and graduation and above category having 13.33 percent and 13.33 per cent respectively. It is observed from table that, near about two-third i.e. 65.00 per cent of beneficiary farmers possess the medium level of farming experience followed by the low level category having 22.00 per cent and at last the high level category having 13.00 per cent of beneficiary farmers. Also from table 1 it is clearly seen that out of total beneficiary farmers the small and marginal farmers together having more than three-fourth of the beneficiary farmers i.e. 77.34 per cent and remaining one-fourth beneficiary farmers includes the category semi-medium, large and medium together which having individual contribution of 12.00 per cent, 07.33 per cent, 03.33 per cent respectively. According to table 1 it can be revealed that more than fifty per cent i.e. 60.67 per cent of the beneficiary farmers having medium annual income followed by 26.67 per cent and 12.67 per cent were belongs to low and high annual income category respectively. From table 1 seen that near about two-third i.e. 63.33 per cent of the beneficiary farmers belongs to medium group of risk orientation and remaining one-third beneficiary farmers belongs to both low (18.67 per cent) and high (18.00 per cent) category together. According to above table near about two-third i.e. 64.00 per cent of the beneficiary farmers have medium level of information seeking behaviour followed by 20.00 per cent high and 16.00 per cent beneficiary farmers having low level of information seeking behaviour. It is clear from above table that, more than two-third i.e. 67.33 per cent beneficiary farmers had medium level of extension contact, followed by the high and low level of extension contact having 17.33 per cent and 16.33 per cent of beneficiary farmers respectively. And two- third i.e. 68.67 per cent beneficiary farmers had medium level of utilization of mass media, followed by 18.67 per cent and 12.67 per cent of the beneficiary farmers belongs to low and high level of mass media utilization. From table 1 it is seen that two-third i.e. 68.67 per cent beneficiary farmers had medium level of utilization of mass media, followed by 18.67 per cent and 12.67 per cent of the beneficiary farmers belongs to low and high level of mass media utilization.

According to table more than fifty percentage i.e. 52.67 per cent beneficiary farmers had medium level of social participation, followed by the low level having 30.00 per cent and high level having 17.33 per cent of social participation.

**Table 2:** Overall impact of Mann Deshi Foundation on socio-economic status of beneficiary farmers

Sr. No.	Category	Respondents (N=150)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (Up to 209.53)	21	14.00
2.	Medium (209.54 to 350.68)	103	68.67
3.	High (350.69 and above)	26	17.33
	Total	150	100.00

This refers to the profound effect or overall change on the livelihood of the beneficiary farmers. In the present study, this aspect was studied in terms of impact of Mann Deshi Foundation's programmes on agricultural, livestock, dairy development and welfare activities of the beneficiary farmers. The distribution of the beneficiary farmers according to impact on the agricultural, livestock and dairy development and welfare activities through the various development and welfare programmes of Mann Deshi Foundation are presented in Table- 2

It is concluded from the Table-2 that, more two-third i.e. 68.67 per cent of the beneficiary farmers were under the category of medium impact group, whereas remaining 14.00 per cent and 17.33 per cent were belonged to low and high impact groups respectively.

### Conclusion

It was concluded that majority of beneficiary farmers having medium level of overall impact on socio-economic status. Majority of the beneficiary farmers were from middle age group having secondary education and possess small size of land holding along medium level of farming experience. Majority of beneficiary farmers having medium level of annual income, risk orientation, information seeking behaviour, extension contact, mass media utilization, social participation.

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