



Agriculture Situation in Karnataka: An Overview

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ABSTRACT

Today we are in the 21st century and facing many problems in agricultural sector due to monsoon and small holdings as well as decreasing dependence on agriculture. It is really effecting on national income and food production. At present situation last one decade so many problems occurring on agriculture depend population like crop failure, rising cost of cultivation, mounting indebtedness and bottlenecks in agricultural marketing. Therefore in this paper, an attempt has been made to understand the agriculture situation in Karnataka using secondary level information

KEYWORDS

Agriculture, Situation. Karnataka

I. Introduction:

Agriculture in India at present holds the second position in the world in agricultural production. Agriculture plays a vital role in India's economy; over 58 per cent of the rural households depend on agriculture as their principal means of livelihood. Agriculture, along with fisheries and forestry, is one of the largest contributors to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). As per estimates by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the share of agriculture and allied sectors (including agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishery) was 15.35 per cent of the Gross Value Added (GVA) during 2015–16 at 2011–12 prices. India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices and spice products. India's fruit production has grown faster than vegetables making it the second largest fruit producer in the world. India's horticulture output, comprising fruits, vegetables and spices, has reached to a record high of 283.5 million tonnes (MT) in 2014-15. It ranks third in farm and agriculture outputs. Agricultural export constitutes 10 per cent of the country's exports and is the fourth-largest exported principal commodity (Economic Survey 2015–16). In the other hand the agriculture percentages has been declining in GDP growth as well as their depending population also declining in rural area. Looking to overall situation of agriculture in this paper an attempt has been made to study the agriculture situation in Karnataka an overview.

II. Objective and Database:

This paper examines on the specific objective of understanding the agricultural situation in Karnataka as well as some extent of India and problems of agriculture in Karnataka. The paper mainly based on the secondary data will be collected from census reports, journals and other published documents for used in the study.

III. Demographic profile of Karnataka:

Karnataka is one of the major states of South India. It's total land area is 1,91,791 sq.km. It accounts for 5.83 percent of the total area of the country (32.88 lakh sq.km) and ranks eighth among major States of the country in terms of size.

Table -1: The Demographic profile of Karnataka and India

Items	Unit	Karnataka	India
Total Population as per 2011 Census	000s	61131	1210193
Male (2011 Census)	do	31058	623724
Female (2011 Census)	do	30073	586469
Rural Population (2011 Census)	do	37553	833087
%Of Rural population		61.43	68.84
Urban Population (2011 Census)	000s	23578	377106

%of urban Population		38.57	31.16
Sex ratio (2011 Census)	Females Per 1000 males	968	940
2001-2011 Decadal Growth of Population	Percent	15.67	17.64
Literacy Rate (2011 Census)	Percent	75.6	74.04
Geographical Area (2001 Census)	Lakh Sq.Kms	1.92	32.87
Area Under Principal Crops (2009-10)	000s ha		
Paddy	do	1486	41850
Maize	do	1240	8330
Jowar	do	1369	7670
Wheat	do	284	28520
Bajra	do	305	8920
All Food Grains	do	7955	121370
Total Pulses	do	2480	23350
Sugarcane	do	337	4200
Cotton	do	457	10310
Goundnut	do	818	5470
Total Livestock - 2007 (P)	000s	32812	510600
Forest Area (2005)	Sq.Kms	4335	774740
Total Electricity Generation (2007-08)	G.W.H	24239	722625
Total Electricity Consumption (2007-08)	K.W.H	34235	501977
Electricity Consumption in Industries (2007-08)	G.W.H	11104	189424
% of Industrial Consumption in to Total consumption		32.44	37.73
Banking Offices (March 2011)	No.	6291	89110
Sate / National Income 2010-11 Q Eat Current Prices Gross Income	Rs. Crore	405123	7078512
Net Income	do	360615	6325038
Net Per capita Income	Rs.	60946	53331
Gross Per capita Income	do	68468	59684

Source: Economic Survey of Karnataka 2011-12 report, Pp-xxxii

The population of Karnataka is divided into different religions. Hinduism is the dominant religion with 83.9% of the population, 12.2% are Muslim, 1.9% are Christian, 0.78% are Jains, 0.73% are Buddhist, Sikhs form an mere 0.03% of the total population in the state. Most of the people in the state speaks Kannada (75.48%), followed by Urdu (9.50%) Telugu (6.03%), Tamil (3.55%), Tulu (2.84%) and, Marathi (2.6%).

According to the 2011 census, the total population of Karnataka is 6.11 crores. Of this, 50.9 percent are male and 49.1

percent are female. The 2001-2011 decadal growth of population is 15.67 percent. Population density is 319 per km, the sex ratio is 968 females per 1000 males and 38.57 percent of the people in Karnataka live in urban areas. The literacy rate is 75.6 percent with 82.85 percent of males and 68.13 percent of females being literate has been present in the Table-1.

Agricultural Workforce:

Looking to agricultural workforce is declined from 70.36 percent in 1961 to 54.8 percent in 2011 and during the same period the percentage of cultivators also declined from 53.7 percent in 1961 to 29.4 percent respectively in the state. In the other side the total percentage of agricultural labourers have been increased from 16.65 to 28.74 percent over a decade of 1961 to 1991, and also comedown in 2011 at 25.4 percent (see table 2). But in population concern it has been increased rapidly along with workers depending on agriculture (land) like cultivators and agriculture labourers declined significantly. However, the non- agricultural employment opportunities are not created to absorb the surplus labour force from agriculture in the state as well as the country.

Table - 2: Distribution of Agricultural Workforce in Karnataka 1961- 2011

Year	Total Population (in Millions)	Total Agricultural Workers (4+5 in %)	Total Cultivators (in %)	Total Agricultural Labourers (in %)
1961	235.9	70.36	53.7	16.65
1971	293	66.69	40	26.69
1981	371.4	65.03	38.25	26.78
1991	448.1	63.1	34.36	28.74
2001	527.3	55.88	29.48	26.4
2011	611.3	54.8	29.4	25.4

Source: Census of India 1961 to 2011 various reports.

Irrigated Area in Karnataka:

Agriculture being the main occupation of the state, irrigation plays utmost significant role in obtaining increased yields from the land. The development of irrigation in the state was slow and unsystematic during the pre independence era. However, the situation improved in the post independence period, where irrigation projects increased. In the state 1980 to 2010 total cultivated area increased from 106.6 to 128.73 lakh hectares. According to Economic Survey of Karnataka 2011-12 reports the gross irrigated area have increased from 16.76 lakh hectares to 40.96 lakh hectares during period of 1980 to 2010. In the other hand, net irrigated area have increased from 13.62 to 33.91 lakh hectares and gross irrigated area as percentage of gross cultivated area increased from 16 to 32 percent during the period of 1980 to 2010 (ESK 2011-12). It shows that the development of irrigation to agriculture has been tremendously increased in the state.

Cropping Pattern

In Karnataka during five decades show that cropping pattern is dominated by food crops, with a share of more than 60 percent of the gross cropped area in the state. Rice, sorghum and finger millet were the major cereals till 2000-03. However, the share of maize crop went up substantially after 2005 due to improved productivity and prices. The area under food crops declined from 79.1 percent in the 1960-63 trienniums to 59.4 percent of the GCA in 1990-93. Karnataka has a varied topographical character ranging from coastal plains to gentle slopes and the heights of the Western Ghats. The State is delineated into 4 sub-regions viz., northern dry region, central region, southern region and hills and coastal region. In the northern dry region, sorghum is the lead crop dominating the cropping system followed by cotton and pigeon pea. Maize and sugarcane are also important crops there. In the central region, ragi-based cropping system is predominant. In the hills and coastal region, the cropping system is rice based and there are some pockets in this region where ragi also forms an important component of the cropping system along with rice. The northern dry and central regions are the major

producers of oilseeds. Groundnut is cultivated in the central region whereas sunflower and soybeans are popular in the northern dry region. Karnataka is endowed with varied climatic conditions and has good potential for the development of horticulture and floriculture, which needs to be exploited for domestic and export markets (Bhende. 2013).

Food Grain Production and Agriculture Share:

Moving to food grain production has observed fluctuating growth over the last decade. It can be seen from table 3 that in the year from 2001-02 to 2003-04 the food grain production stating 86.97 lakh tones were decreased to 65.64 lakh tones. And increased tremendously on 2004-05 to 2005-06 and fell down food grains production in 2006-07. After this though food grains production increased till 2006, drought was even observed during 2006-07. In the other hand, the agriculture and allied activity GSDP has significantly decreased in the state it has further clear (Table 3).

Table 3: Food grain Production, GSDP share and Expenditure on Agriculture in Karnataka 2001-02 to 2011-13

Years	Food grain (lakhs tones)	GSDP share (%)	Expenditure on Agriculture In Crores	Total Expenditure In Crores	Proportion of Total Budget expenditure to Agriculture expenditure
2001-02	86.97	26.00	-	-	-
2002-03	66.64	-	413.95	8610.61	4.81
2003-04	65.62	-	487.71	9779.75	4.99
2004-05	104.91	-	481.14	10904.23	4.41
2005-06	115.35	19.6	-	-	-
2006-07	93.29	17.3	936.22	16166	5.79
2007-08	120.49	17	1255.05	17782.56	7.06
2008-09	111.34	16.1	2491.63	25952.83	9.6
2009-10	109.55	17.6	2122.13	29500	7
2010-11	126.86	16.78	2356.99	30931.13	8
2011-12	124.24	15.94	3830.64	38270.02	10
2012-13	-	-	3991	42030	9

Source: ESK various reports, Various Budget Reports (2003-13), Govt. of Karnataka, Finance Department

The agriculture and allied sectors contribution to Karnataka GSDP was around 43 percent in 1980-81 that came down to 26 percent in 2001-02, which further came down to 16.8 percent during 2007-08 and it is stagnant during 2009-10. Despite the declining shares of primary sector in GSDP (ESK.2010-11). Overall it shows that the agriculture dependency has drastically come down in the terms of GSDP share in Karnataka economy. In the other hand the state budget expenditure total proportion of agricultural expenditure has found lot of variation over period of time. But the proportion of budget expenditure on agriculture has been continuously increased in the ten years period from 2001-02 to 2012-13 is 4.81 to 9 percent respectively in the state (see table-3).

IV. Conclusion:

Overall agriculture situation in the state has been declining trends in growth of productivity as well as share of national income. In the other side the budgets allocation for agriculture development and various programme for farmer encouragement is still progress, even though, the condition of agrarian is very critical in terms of income and indebtedness and over time monsoon gambling on agriculture, increasing rise price cultivation and crop failovers is directly affecting on declining of agriculture production as well as agriculture work-

force. Therefore, development of irrigation facility along with modern cropping patterns, in time agriculture subsidy, loan facility and strictly implementing of National Agricultural Development Programme (NADP) is needed for more improvement of food production as well as increasing agriculture share in national income.

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