



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Social Science

“A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF FARMERS CAUSED BY COVID-19”

KEY WORDS: Covid-19, Economic Problems, Farmers, India, Agricultural

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ABSTRACT

India is a country of agriculture ministers and villages. His main occupation there is farming and animal husbandry. Agriculture plays an important role in the economic and overall development of the country. Even today, agriculture is at the forefront of the economy. The Indian economy has depended on the Agriculture sector. Like other nations, agriculture has a special significance in the economic development of India. Visits to nearby agricultural research centers, agricultural science centers, agricultural farms of any progressive farmer or organization can be arranged by forming small groups of farmers. So it is necessary to solve their various problems due to farmers.

Economic Status of Indian Farmers:

Agriculture and its ancillary sectors have been the main occupation of the Indian people since time immemorial. Agriculture and its ancillary sectors were the main occupation of the rural people. The various steps taken after independence for the development of agriculture have affected Indian agriculture and Indian farmers. Indian agriculture such as irrigation, modern farm implements, hybrid seeds, pesticides, chemical fertilizers have entered. Due to which the economic condition of the farmers has improved.

However, some issues that hindered the development of agriculture after independence have not been resolved. Such as low production and productivity, dependence on natural factors, volatility of prices, lack of education and training of farmers as compared to other sectors of agricultural markets, debt burden on farmers, etc. hinder the development of agriculture. Farmers faced various problems during the lockdown. Small farmers who have a limited amount of production. They and some of the more large-scale farmers are also included. Merchants from them take it at a lower price stating that the sale does not take place as it is a lockdown. Thus, farmers do not get a fair price for their produce. Covid-19 caused problems for farmers due to lockdown. It also caused more damage especially to vegetables and fruits. Thus, farmers do not get proper compensation for their hard work.

Literature Review:-

The study of review of literature is an important aspect of any academic research. The analysis of review of literature enables one to identify the past trends and area of research concentration in any particular branch of science.

M. A. Qureshi (1974) in "New Horizons Unfolding for Small and Marginal Farmers" notes that the fourth plan was aimed at enabling small and marginal farmers as well as farm laborers to participate in the development process and reap its benefits. For 41 programs were launched.

A R Mistry (1977) has studied Umraya village in Padra taluka of Vadodara district, "marginal farmer from small farmer and farm laborer from marginal farmer". Due to debt, small farmers have become marginal farmers and marginal farmers have become farm laborers. The exploitation of farmers by traders continues in many ways even today. Production costs of farm produce have skyrocketed. But the prices of farm produce are not relatively good.

C.S.Jhala (1978) "Effects and Consequences of Green Revolution on Farmers' Economic Situation" (a study in the context of Surendranagar District) Worse than. Modern farming implements are essential for speedy and quality completion of agricultural work. The work that used to take days to complete in traditional farming can now be completed

in hours with the help of modern farming tools.

Objectives of the Study:-

- Know primary, family information of farmers.
- Know the economic, social information of farmer
- Knowing the problem of farmers.
- Know the approach of farmers towards scientific facilities and technology.
- To know the problems faced by the farmer due to Covid-19.
- Know the attitude of farmers about hat market.

Scope and Limitation of the Study:-

Five villages of Kaprada taluka of Valsad district have been selected as study areas. To see the reality of the respondent, 10 respondents have been studied in five villages of Kaprada taluka. It is a subject chosen by the researcher. "A Study of the Economic Problems of Farmers Caused by Covid-19" This study will find out the problems of farmers. This research only got information about the problem of farmers which is the main limitation.

Methodology:-

The present Article was conducted using the survey method. A structured questionnaire was designed for the purpose of data collection and the copies of the same were distributed personally on randomly basis to the five villages of Kaprada taluka of Valsad district. A total of 120 questionnaires were distributed; out of which, 50 questionnaires were received back (41.66%). On the idea of a filled-up questionnaire, the info has been analyzed and tabulated. All the results have been presented in the form of tables and charts. For the info analysis, the percentage technique has been adopted.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data:-

Table 1: Information on what the farmer thinks the Price has changed during the lockdown

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	Increased	06	12 %
2	Decreased	06	12 %
3	Both	38	76 %
Total		50	100 %

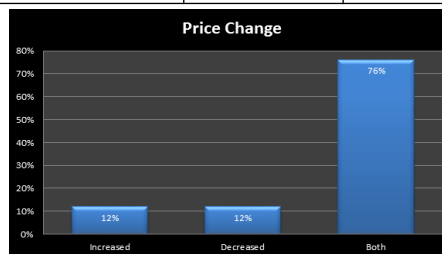


Chart: 1

Based on the Table and Chart above, it can be said that in the opinion of 12% of the respondents, the price has come down. As well as 12% in the opinion of the respondent. 76% of respondents have a say in both price increases and decreases

Table:2 Cause of crop damage during lockdown

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	Not getting labor on time	00	00 %
2	No sales due to lockdown	00	00 %
3	Rotting	03	06 %
4	All	47	94 %
Total		50	100 %

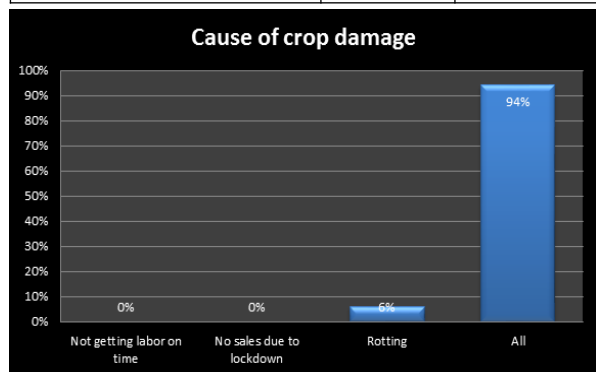


Chart:2

Based on the above table and Chart, it can be said that 6% of the respondents have lost their crops due to rot. And 94% of the respondents attribute all these reasons to non-receipt of labor on time, non-sale due to lockdown.

Table 3: Damage to crops during lockdown

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	Cash crop	00	00 %
2	Cereal crops	02	04 %
3	Vegetable crops	47	94 %
4	All	01	02 %
Total		50	100 %

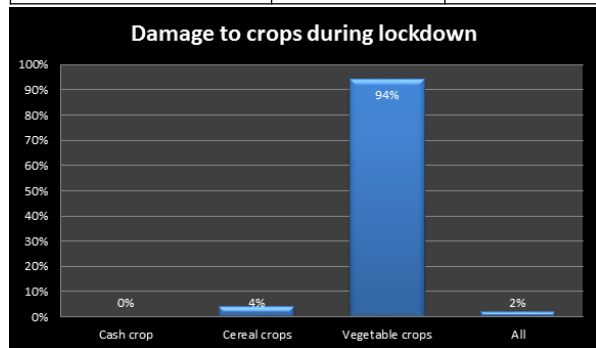


Chart:3

Based on the table and chart above, it can be said that 4% of the respondents lost their crops. 94% of vegetable crops and 2% of all crops have been damaged.

Table 4: Difficulty in getting a vehicle to take the crop To market during lockdown

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	Couldn't sell	01	02 %
2	Damage to vegetable crops	00	00 %
3	Throw comes the crop produced	02	04 %
4	Above all	47	94 %
Total		50	100 %

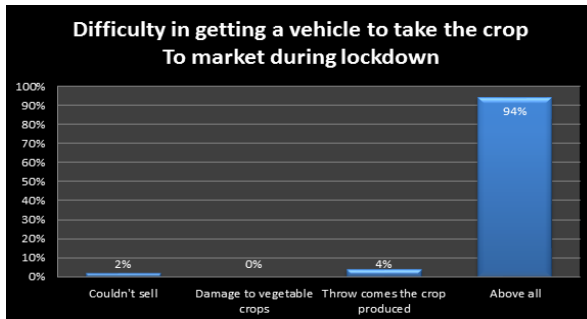


Chart:4

The 94% of respondents in the present study could not sell as they could not get vehicles to take the crop to the market and threw away the produced crop. And 2% could not sell.

Table 5: What if the vegetables are not sold in the lockdown

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	Threw away	03	06 %
2	Give to people in need	27	54 %
3	Fed the cattle	15	30 %
4	Given to a voluntary organization	05	10 %
Total		50	100 %

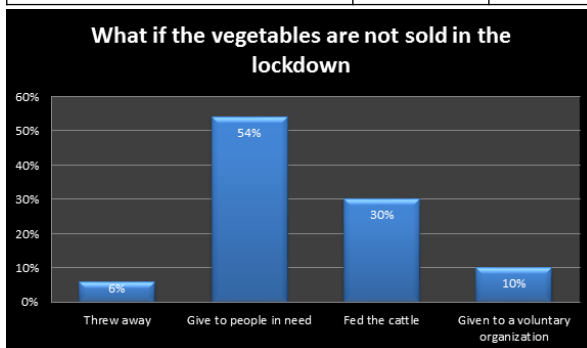


Chart:5

Based on the table above, it can be said that 6% of the respondents threw away when the vegetables were not sold. 54% was given to those in need. 30% fed the cattle and 10% was donated by the respondent to the voluntary organization.

Table 6:What a problem if the crop produced in the Lockdown is not sold

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	Economic hardship	31	62 %
2	Health problems	04	08 %
3	Agricultural expenses	10	20 %
4	Another problem	05	10 %
Total		50	100 %

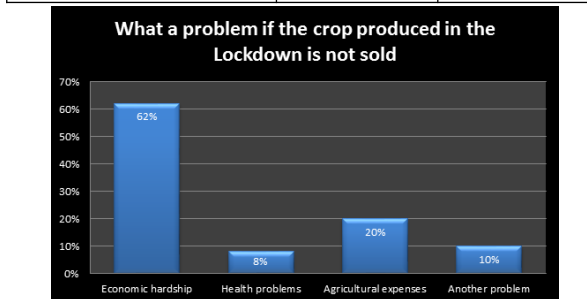


Chart:6

Based on the above table and chart, it can be said that if the crop was not sold, 62% of the subscribers had financial difficulties, 8% had health problems and 20% of the subscribers had agricultural problems and 10% of the subscribers had various other problems.

Table 7: Use of method for sale of crops in lockdown

No	Detail	Respondents	Response (%)
1	The farmer takes it to the market for sale	02	04 %
2	Retail	03	06 %
3	The merchant takes it from home.	05	10 %
4	All	40	80 %
Total		50	100 %

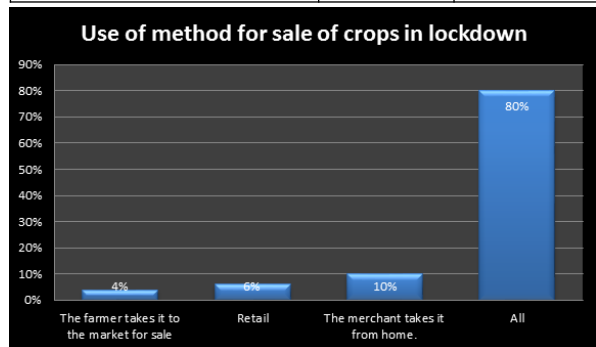


Chart: 7

Based on the above table it can be said that 4% of the farmers take the crop to the market for sale. 6% retail, 10% take merchant from subscriber's home and 80% subscriber use all these methods for sale.

Major Findings:

- 76% of farmers think prices have changed both ways.
- According to 94% farmers, the crop has been damaged during the lockdown
- According to 94% of farmers, most of the vegetable crop loss occurred during the lockdown
- 94% According to 4% of the farmers, they could not sell the crop at the time of lockdown as there were no vehicles available to take it to the market.
- 54% of the farmers included in the present study gave vegetables to the needy at the time of lockdown.
- According to 62% of farmers, if the crop was not sold at the time of lockdown, there was a problem for economic expenses.
- 80% of farmers use all methods to sell crops in lockdown at the time of lockdown

Suggestions:

- Farmers should store products that can be stored and when prices should sell when there is more.
- Farmers should form their organization so that they get good prices for their produce can get.
- Farmers can earn more if they sell their produce (retail) themselves.
- Farmers should get agricultural information from Krishi VigyanKendra.
- Farmers should engage in animal husbandry along with farming.
- Farmers should classify the product according to its quality and sell it. So that they can get high prices of products.

Conclusion

If we look at the problems of farmers, they see various problems. In particular, farmers do not get a fair return on their produce. And the cost is higher than the income. So the economic condition of the farmers is weak. The purpose of

this study was to know the problems of farmers. So that research has been done on the problems of the farmer. And the emphasis is on how farmers can get a fair return on production. So knowing the various problems of small and marginal farmers, he wants to do research on how to get more returns in the future if there is flexibility.

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