

IMPACT OF IRRIGATION ON AGRICULTURE IN KHODASHI DAM COMMAND AREA OF KARAD TAHSIL

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Abstracts :

Present research paper focus on the impact of irrigation on agriculture in khodashi dam command area of Karad tehsil. Irrigation is important for the better yield of the crops. Irrigation development is the very important for agricultural productivity in the study region. Therefore, irrigation is playing vital role for the success of agriculture. The data thus collected through primary and secondary sources. Were processed and represented by statistical and cartographic techniques. Sources of irrigation are represented on the map by divided circles.

Keywords : *Irrigation, Cropping Pattern, Agriculture, Crops*

INTRODUCTION:

The availability of adequate irrigation facilities transforms the subsistence agricultural landscape gradually into commercial one making agrarian economy market oriented. Simultaneously, it creates healthy atmosphere to develop several agro-based industries providing employment opportunities to rural masses (Pawar,1989). Irrigation is a prime input in agriculture. It helps farmers to grow two or more crops from the same field within a year and it increases the productivity of the land by transforming the agriculture. Also irrigation is an integral part of a sound infrastructure and it is one of the basic ingredients of agricultural

activities. To be successful and well developed, agriculture requires supply of water at regular intervals and in required quantity. But, due to the excessive use of water and chemical fertilizers and unsuitable soil management practices, the problem of soil degradation is coming up in irrigated tracts. The problems like water logging, soil salinization, particularly in sugarcane tracts are emerging very fastly.

STUDY AREA:

Satara district is renown in the Maharashtra in many aspects. The study region falls in Karad tahsil in southern part of the Satara district of Maharashtra (Fig No.1.). It is one of the important and leading tahsil in agriculture. Study region is situated on left bank of Krishna river through which the Krishna canal passes (Fig No.1). The region extends between $17^{\circ}8'$ North and $17^{\circ}18'$ North latitudes and $74^{\circ}10'$ East and $74^{\circ}16'$ East longitudes. It has compact shape with east west stretch of about 14 km. And north south of about 32 kms.. Administratively it is divided into 14 villages(Fig.1).The river Krishna drains the entire region.Study region covers an area of about 8846.59 hectares and covers about 22 per cent area of Karad tahsil and support population of 57116 (2001). The soils vary from laterite patches in the west through deep medium black alluvias of the river in the center and poor gray soils in the east.