

Impact of Education on Agricultural Productivity of Tribal People in Dudhnoi Revenue Circle

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Abstract: *The function of the society to help in all round development of the individual. This help would mean that every social instruction should educate an individual in one form or the other and educational duties of the society are in the interest of the individual. Through education, individuals get mental development, vocational training, dignity, of labour and also the opportunity for free expression of their ideas. Education is also necessary for economic, political, social, ethical and cultural development for the agriculturist, education is necessary for understanding of the advantage of the use of such advanced agricultural techniques, such as tractors, fertilizer, harvester and threshers which help in increase of production and also increase the standard of living.*

Key Words: *Development, education, productivity, and tribal people.*

1. INTRODUCTION:

Population is increasing day by day everywhere on the earth surface particularly more in developing countries of the world, but agriculture area is not increasing rather it is decreasing slowly due to population pressure and industrialization. So, to feed the over increasing population, agricultural productivity must be increased.

Dudhnoi Revenue Circle which is located in the western part of Goalpara district is predominated by tribal people. So, in this paper, an attempt has been made to analyse the relationship between education and agricultural productivity in the area.

The main function of the society is to help in the all round development of the individual. This help would mean that every social instruction should educate an individual in one form or the other and educational duties of the society are in the interest of the individual. Through education, individuals get mental development, vocational training, dignity, of labour and also the opportunity for free expression of their ideas. Moreover, education is necessary for economic, political, social, and cultural development. For the agriculturists, education is necessary for understanding the advantage of the use of such advanced agricultural techniques as tractors, fertilizers, harvesters and threshers which help in the increase of production and also increase the standard of living. Tribal people are backward in many events, most of them live below the poverty line. It is known to us that India is an agricultural country where about 70.7% population is engaged in agriculture and the p.c. is more in case of tribal population.

Education and agricultural productivity have a positive relationship. Population is increasing day by day everywhere particularly more in developing countries, but agricultural land is not increasing rather, it is decreasing slowly because of population and industrialization. So to feed these ever increasing population, agricultural productivity must be increased.

2. LOCATION:

Dudhnoi Revenue Circle is located in the eastern part of Goalpara district having an area of 118 km sq. comprising 67 revenue villages. The total population of the area is 60370 out of which 26471 are tribal according to Census Report of 2011. Most of the people of this area are engaged in the primary sector of economy i.e. agriculture. People are backward in case of education also. So in this paper an attempt has been made to analyse the relationship between education and agricultural productivity of tribal people.

Dudhnoi Revenue Circle is located in between 90°40'E longitude to 91°15'E longitude and latitude 25°20'N to 25°52'N latitude. The eastern boundary is bounded by Rongjuli Revenue Circle, in western there is Balijana Revenue Circle, in north there is Matia Revenue Circle and in south there is the foothills of the Garo Hills. The physiography of the area is very uneven. The area consists of plain, flood plain and hillock. It also consists of more than 50 numbers of small and medium size wetlands which are generally termed as beels. The area is well drained by southern tributaries of the Brahmaputra river namely Dudhnoi, Habrinoi, Rong Ronga and Fulnoi.

To assess the relationship between education and agricultural productivity of tribal people, a survey schedule was prepared where 100 tribal households were selected from 5 villages taking random sampling technique. The relevant data were collected and summarized in the study.

3. ANALYSIS:

The surveyed villages are Puranibhit, Prithupara, Chairamari, Habanguri, and Rang Pathar. There are 839 households having a total population of 4440 out of which 1940 is tribal population. Out of these, 100 S.T. households have been selected for the study purpose, taking 20 households from each village. The density of population in the circle is 512 person/km² and the tribal population share 44% of the total population. So tribal people plays an important role in the economy of the area.

The following Table No. 1 shows the no. of household, total population, S.T. population, rate of literacy and p.c. of S.T. population in 5 villages.

Name of the village	No. of household	Total population	S.T. population	Literacy rate	P.C. of S.T. population
1. Puranibhita	271	991	203	59%	20%
2. Prithupara	158	942	550	66%	58%
3. Charaimari	69	412	251	43%	61%
4. Habangiri	127	1698	778	58%	46%
5. Rangpathar	69	397	156	36%	39%
Total	839	4440	1940		

Source: Census Report 2011

From the above it is clear that the average size of the family is 5 and p.c. of S.T. population is 45% .

Table no. 2 : shows the education status and agricultural production of 100 families.

Educational status	No. of families	Crops practiced	Production per acre in quintals
Illiterate	10	Sali	6
Primary	39	Sali	6
Secondary	43	Sali	7
Graduate and above	8	Sali	8

Source : Field Study

The general hypothesis is that the agricultural productivity increases with the increase of educational status. Through education and vocational training and human resources can be developed fully which ultimately increases productivity. From Table 2, it is clear that educational status and productivity of agriculture have a positive relationship, but the relation is not so strong particularly in the study areas because of the following reasons :

- **Monocropping pattern of agriculture:** It is observed that a set of 100 families, not a single family practice either double or multicropping pattern. All the cultivators practice Sali paddy cultivation in years. But the soil has the potentiality to produce more than one crop a year, to increase production.
- **Traditional implements:** From the study, it is clear that all the cultivators use traditional methods of cultivation. Nowadays, also the cultivators do not use the modern implements like tractor, power tiller, power pump, chemical manure and HYV seeds. So a satisfactory production cannot be expected from the cultivation which depends upon nature.
- **Ignorance of educated people:** Educated people are engaged in service, if not in service, they do not take part actively in agriculture as the society does not recognize cultivation as a prestigious profession. Therefore only illiterate and less educated people who are not fit for any job, practice agriculture in traditional ways.
- **Lack of motivation and training:** The cultivators are not aware about mechanized cultivation because of non participation of educated people in agriculture. Moreover, Govt. also failed to create awareness about mechanized cultivation to replace traditional cultivation, although there is a independent dept. of agriculture

who works more on paper rather than an agricultural field. The cultivators do not receive any training to practice cultivation.

So to overcome these difficulties, the following remedial measures can be taken to increase agricultural productivity to feed the over increasing population.

- Mono cropping pattern of agriculture should be replaced by double or multi cropping pattern.
- Mechanized cultivation should be preferred.
- Educated youth should come forward to take agriculture as their profession.
- All the cultivators should be motivated to practice modern cultivation.
- Govt. should train the cultivator to encourage mechanized cultivation.
- Awareness is to be created amongst people to accept cultivation as a noble profession.

4. CONCLUSION:

So from the above discussion, it is clear that agricultural productivity in Dudhnoi Revenue Circle is not satisfactory among the tribal people. Education fails to create awareness and importance of agriculture in the locality. So there will be shortage of food if the present situation prevails for long because of rapid growth of population. The educated tribal people have not fully accepted cultivation as their profession and this has affected the population. So it is the duty of educated youth, planner, Govt. and NGO's to create motivation and awareness amongst the cultivators.

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