

Farming as a Profession- A study on Employees attitude with reference to Raichur District.

by Prof. Earanna.S^[a]

Abstract

According to the research surveys one billion people sleeping hungry every night in the world, it is estimated to cross 9 billion by the year 2050. “Roti, Kapda aur Makan”- Food, Cloth and Shelter are three important things are necessities for mankind to live. If Cloth and Shelter is not there, we can adjust with the old clothes and old houses / huts/ temples. If the proper food, air, water is not there, it is not possible to survive for a long period.

Farmer is one such a person, who invests for the food not only for him but also others, whereas he does not know the assured returns. With the fall in rain & monsoons, global earth warm, improper planning of water distribution, rapid industrialization of agriculture land, non implementation of the advance technology in agriculture, financial problems for investment made the farmer took back his step and migrate to the urban and choose the any job which is monthly income assured. The farmer is king in the village where he is ready to become slave by choosing the urban places because for the assured monthly income. Now days even the young farmer will not get the girl for marriage.

Career choosing, selection of courses / field, future planning is very tough decision for both parent and children among the choices like Engineering, Medical, Commerce, Arts, Ayurveda Science, Agriculture etc., This paper tries to know the opinion of employees and their preferences for their children, to analyse their perspectives on agriculture and to recommend the suitable strategies there upon.

Keywords: farming, agriculture, profession, India, employees, parent

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1. Introduction

On the papers and documents everywhere it is coming as “India is the land of villages, 65% of the Indian population depends on agriculture.” In India it is not possible to access properly statistics of the dependents on agriculture due to the migration of the people from rural to urban. Lands on some person name, cultivating by someone, beneficiary is someone. The person who is having the lands, stays somewhere in urban area, cultivated by someone who is the real farmer.

An old proverbial saying is “Farmer is King”, but in reality he is suffering and dying everyday due to not getting yield in the farming. For every business, there is a calculation of manufacturing cost, marketing cost, then the profit percentage will be added based on demand. But in case of farmer, he can not add the percentage or lump sum of profit based on his calculation. It is under the mercy of buyer, mediator, trader, middlemen, commission agents, financiers and manipulators etc., Uncertain rains, prices makes the farmer less yield and not getting the invested amount.

A lot of people are not aware of the career in farming. One can become a scientist, teach in a university, assist various state departments like Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Horticulture, Floriculture etc, work in banks, join the booming food and processing industry, opt for service sector or become an entrepreneur.

2. Literature Review

NFC’s Chairman Dr. Swaminathan^[8] (Jun 2017), recommended the **Land reforms** by distribution of ceiling-surplus and waste lands; prevention of diversion of prime agricultural land and forest to corporate sector for non-agricultural use; **Irrigation Reforms** to provide farmers with “sustained and equitable” access to water for irrigation, rainwater harvesting, water level recharging by mandatory aquifers, Million Wells Recharge programme; **Productivity Growth-** “Substantial increase in public investment in agriculture-related infrastructure particularly in irrigation, drainage, land development, water conservation, research development and road connectivity etc.” ; **Credit and Insurance-** Expand outreach of formal credit system; reduce crop loan interest rates to 4%; provide moratorium on debt recovery; agricultural risk fund; kisan credit cards for women farmers; integrated credit-cum-crop-livestock human health insurance package; crop insurance across country for all crops with reduced premiums; sustainable

livelihoods for the poor, investment in human development; institutional development services etc.; **Food Security-** Implementation of a universal public distribution system; reorganising delivery of nutrition support programmes on a life-cycle basis with panchayat participation and that of local bodies; elimination of micronutrient deficiency induced hunger and food cum fortification; community food and water banks to be operated by women self-help groups; help small and marginal farmers; formulate national food guarantee act with features as food for work and employment guarantee programmes; **Prevention of Farmer Suicides-** Providing affordable health insurance at primary healthcare centres in villages; national rural health mission to be extended to suicide hotspots on priority basis; state level farmers' commissions with representatives of farmers, restructuring of microfinance policies that may serve as a sort of livelihood finance; covering all crops by crop insurance; village to be the assessor and not the block, social security net that gives old age support with health insurance and aquifer recharge and rain water conservation; plans for decentralised water usage etc.

Swaminathan^[5] (2017), who is a Member of Parliament, said the younger generation including women could be mobilised into the field of agriculture only by making it a profitable occupation. Swaminathan, credited with the Green revolution in the country, stressed on technological upgradation of Indian agriculture and more effective use of communications to educate farmers.

Aiswarya Kumar^[6] (June 2017), "Need serious attention to their long-term economic viability," he posted on Twitter. He further said if the government didn't take care of farmers, everything else would go wrong. "If agriculture goes wrong, nothing else will go right. That's why ministry of agriculture should make farmers' well-being centre of all programmes and policies," he added.

Shaielsh^[3] (August, 2011), Around 60% of the rural population in India lives in primitive conditions. Still a lot of people in India do not have basic necessities like Proper health care services, electricity and infrastructure. Migration of rural people to urban created another serious problem. Most of them have no access to electricity, necessary education and health services.

A solution to all bunch of problems is “ **Sri Anna Hazare**”- The reformer’s successful model “Ralegan Siddhi”. “The World Bank Group has concluded that the village of Ralegan Siddhi was transformed from a highly degraded village ecosystem in a semi-arid region of extreme poverty to one of the richest in the country. The Ralegan Siddhi example, now 25 years old, by demonstrating that it is possible to rebuild natural capital in partnership with the local deconomy, is a model for the rest of the country”

Ralegan Siddhi is the sustainable model increased agricultural productivity, scientific farming, Hunger removal. The secret of success is a sense of community and sharing among all the people. Ralegan has shows the world how the whole system can stand on its own legs from scrap. **RALEGAN SIDDHI: A Model of Sustainable Development** ^[4], Transformation of village economy alone could bring in transformation of the economy of the nation. That is possible only through watershed development programme.

Rain water harvesting, Watershed Development and Renewable energy are utmost important for sustainability which is recognized by Anna and by community involvement with the common interest converted human muscle power into prosperity of the village. Now, Relegan Siddhi is the best example of watershed management in the country.

Sri Anna Hazare always says, “The dream of India as a strong nation will not be realized without self-reliant, self-sufficient villages, this can be achieved only though social commitment & involvement of the common man.”

Sanjoy Chakravorty, S Chandrasekhar, Karthikeya Naraparaju ^[9] (Nov 2016), analysed the data on “How unequal is India?” Branko Milanovic (2016), concluded that “No”, because of three methods of coneptualisation of inequality by wealth, income, and consumption, there does not exist a single estimate for India from official. The gap estimated between the inequalities of consumption (the “standard” measure of inequality in India) and income is so large that it is possible to make a case that the true level of income inequality in India may be among the highest in the world. The out come of his research is income inequality in rural India is very high; it is driven by income from cultivation, which in turn is driven by landownership.

Dr. Farhat Umar^[2] (Aug 2015), According to him 1 billion people sleeping hungry every night in the world, it is estimated to cross 9 billion by the year 2050. Choosing profession is crucial decision which shapes future and gives the identity. Farming makes one’s living by growing crops and keeping live stock . Failed crops ends their lives.

Dr. Norman Borlaug, a well known scientist has said, “You cannot make a peaceful world on empty stomachs and human misery”. Farming profession in post independence made India dignified. India’s white revolution ranks 2nd in the milk production.

Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen in his monograph ‘India: Agriculture in India will become more profitable and rewarding, the people of India depending upon it make the requirements into demand by opting the professional approach. The Government policies like New Agriculture Policy , National Agricultural Insurance Scheme of 2000, Green Revolution, Bharat Nirman 2005 and the others schemes with major focus on Agriculture and many other schemes and policies have farming professionals as their important implementers.

As per the report of **International Labour Organisation**, by 2020 there will be 160 million in the age group of 20-24 years. The average age of India’s population will be 29 i.e Youngest Nation on earth. These young people have to be managed properly, otherwise it will be disaster to India. Extension education with the help of Krishi Vigyan Kendras, State Agriculture Universities and other related departments can train the youth for a bright future of the individual and the country.

Joshi (2012)^[9], discussed the need for application of science and technology in Indian agriculture sector. Its absence is the major cause of declining production, lack of insitutional finance, crisis in irrigafion facilities, collapsing agriculture extension, problems in agricultural marketing, degradation of land resources and climate change. The major revolution in India constitutes a gene revolution for modifying crops before their commercial use in the market. IT has revolutionized the delivery of extension services in rural India. Study recommended that there should be alliance of business, NGO and government sector to overcome the problems. Internet, mobile telephony, FM radio could be the enabling tools for accessing information related to agro inputs, crop production technologies, agro processing, market support, agro finance, agro clinics and agribusiness through integrated use of these technologies.

Pray and Nagarajan^[9] (2012), presented a comparative study on the development, use and research innovations in agribusiness in India. Study based on secondary data of seeds, pesticides, machinery etc. for the time period of 1990-2010, showed an increase in cultivars of wheat, rice, maize to the tune of roughly two-fold where as cotton cultivars got tripled. Agricultural machinery, veterinary medicine, agricultural processing industries also adopted more irmovations. Researchers discussed major policies in agribusiness research and

innovations. Modern inputs like fertilizers, tractors etc. showed an enhanced consumption pattern. This research showed that agricultural innovations in

Ferroni and Zhou^[9] (2012), discussed the purpose of extension with respect to farmers in dissemination of knowledge. Farmers experienced a knowledge gap of services and quality inputs, information of price and markets, post harvest management, quality production and safety standards. Extension can generate the best and desired outcomes. He concluded that mobile application could communicate and inform farmers when tackled by innovative actors. NGOs and private players were found growing rapidly as compared to public extension.

Dethier and Effenberger^[9] (2012), Agriculture faces mainly two challenges; the first one is to increase food productivity and production in developing countries. The other one is extension services etc. Green revolution in the country has led to sustained increases in yields, intensive mode of agriculture and adoption of new varieties by farmers, improved irrigation and a massive use of fertilizers. But some challenges, which prevented reaping the benefits, are missing markets for insurance and credit, low education levels, limited market access and market information etc. Further the role of extension services in addressing the problems in reaching the rural people (caused due to lack of accountability of extension agents) can efficiently be solved by ICTs such as mobiles. Finally, they concluded that HYVs, integration of small farmers into modern value chains and the use of communication technology in extension services could nurture technology adoption and profitable cultivation among farmers.

3. Objectives

- 1) To know the opinion of employees and their preferences of profession for their children
- 2) To analyse their perspectives on agriculture
- 3) To recommend the suitable strategies based on findings.

4. Research Methodology

- Primary Data is collected from 100 Employee Parent who is working in and around of Raichur District through the Questionnaire method.
- Secondary Data used for getting the data for Introduction and Literature Review through the internet sources.

5. Limitations of the Study

- 1) Data surveyed is of only of Raichur City Employees
- 2) High income, low income, small, medium agriculture land holders are considered.
- 3) Findings cannot be generalized as the climate; geography differs from place to place.

6. Data Analysis

Table 6.1 showing “Farming is good Profession and Farmer is like God.”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
100	0	0	0	0	100

All the respondents agree that Farming is a good Profession and Farmer is like God

Table 6.2 showing “I would like to make Agriculture as my Son’s Profession”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	20	20	20	40	100

Totally 60% respondents disagree that they are opting Agriculture as a profession to their child. Only 20% agree.

Table 6.3 showing I would like to make Agriculture as my daughter’s Profession

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	0	0	0	0	100

100% respondents disagree to make their daughters to prefer as Agricultural Profession.

Table 6.4 showing “Agriculture / farming / farmer is having good status and dignity in Society”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	0	0	75	25	100

75% employees disagree and 25% strongly disagree that the Farmer is having dignity.

Table 6.5 showing “Agriculture is self respect profession”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	50	0	50	0	100

50% of the respondents agree that Agriculture is self respect profession.

Table 6.6 showing “Government gives the good support to Agriculture”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	50	30	20	0	100

50% of the respondents agree that there is a good support from Government for Agriculture.

Table 6.7 showing “I am confident that I can earn the better in agriculture than any other professions”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	0	0	0	100	100

100% respondents strongly disagree that they can earn better in agriculture than any other profession.

Table 6.8 showing “The Farmer will have good health than any other Profession.”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	80	20	0	0	100

80% respondents agree that Farmer will have good health.

Table 6.9 showing “The farmer’s families will have happiness and values”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	80	20	0	0	100

80% respondents agree that Farmer’s families will have good values and happiness.

Table 6.10 showing “Farmer’s Children get the alliances easily”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	0	0	0	100	100

100% respondents strongly disagree that Farmer’s Children will get the alliances easily.

Table 6.11 showing “The farmer spends more time with family members than any other profession.”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
100	0	0	0	0	100

100% respondents strongly agree that the farmer spends more time with family members than any other profession.

Table 6.12 showing “Agro based Industries will have the good option for present youth.”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
0	50	50	0	0	100

50% respondents agree that Agro based industries will be good option for the present youth.

Table 6.13 showing “There is a need of application of Technology for farming.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
100	0	0	0	0	100

100% respondents strongly agree that there is a need of application of Technology for farming.

Table 6.14 showing “There is a need for Irrigation of land to enter into Agriculture”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
100	0	0	0	0	100

100% respondents opined that there is a need for irrigation of land to enter into agriculture.

Table 6.15 showing “Farmers need Training on selection of suitable crop, preservation and marketing.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
100	0	0	0	0	100

100% respondents agree that there is a need of training for farmers for selection of crop, preservation and marketing.

Table 6.16 showing “Farmer needs financial support by the Government like other Industries”

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
100	0	0	0	0	100

100% respondents agree that the Farmer needs financial support by the Government like other Industries.

7. Findings

- 1) All the respondents agree that Farming is a good Profession and Farmer is like God
- 2) Totally 60% respondents disagree that they are opting Agriculture as a profession to their child. Only 20% agree.
- 3) 100% respondents disagree to make their daughters to prefer as Agricultural Profession.
- 4) 75% employees disagree and 25% strongly disagree that the Farmer is having dignity.
- 5) 50% of the respondents agree that there is a good support from Government for Agriculture.
- 6) 100% respondents strongly disagree that they can earn better in agriculture than any other profession.
- 7) 80% respondents agree that Farmer will have good health.
- 8) 80% respondents agree that Farmer’s families will have good values and happiness.
- 9) 100% respondents strongly disagree that Farmer’s Children will get the alliances easily.
- 10) 100% respondents strongly agree that the farmer spends more time with family members than any other profession.

- 11) 50% respondents agree that Agro based industries will be good option for the present youth.
- 12) 100% respondents strongly agree that there is a need of application of Technology for farming.
- 13) 100% respondents opined that there is a need for irrigation of land to enter into agriculture.
- 14) 100% respondents agree that there is a need of training for farmers for selection of crop, preservation and marketing.
- 15) 100% respondents agree that the Farmer needs financial support by the Government like other Industries.

8. Suggestions

Awareness:

- 1) There is a need of awareness, profitability & commercialization of crops, when people starts believing Agriculture will give the better health and wealth, dignity, alliances, then automatically they will choose the Agriculture. Gender discrimination should be removed from the minds of people by creating the proper awareness.

Government Role:

- 2) The Government should take the responsibility for creating the awareness of the advanced cultivating methods, profitability, commercial crops not only for farmers, but also in general public by conducting the workshops, seminars, camps etc., there is a requirement of financial support to the farmers starting from seeding. Dry lands should be converted into Irrigation land by providing water through dams, canal systems, River linkage programs, filling the lakes, underground storage methods, storage of rain water, circulation of rain water so that it should rotate in the country itself, instead of flowing to the seas. Government should support to open agriculture and allied industries, so that it is possible to have rural development, controlling of migration, balance of resources. Government should inspect the technology usage in the agriculture, and recommend the advanced technology.

Employee Parent Role:

- 3) As an educated parent they should analyse the available options, they have to involve themselves in agriculture, and support to their children towards farming. The parents have to teach the values of farmers and agriculture at the young age only.

9. Conclusion

Farming as a profession will be accepted by youth, when the parents get the awareness of the Agriculture and it's importance. If there is a certainty in farming, there is no need of force to choose Agriculture as profession. Hence, the Government need to think agriculture as the Industry by supporting the farmers from seeding to the Marketing. Creation of employment, ecological balance, health & wealth and total economy development can be achieved.

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