Journal of AgriSearch, 5(4):287-290
An Open Access International Peer Reviewed Quarterly
ISSN : 2348-8808 (Print), 2348-8867 (Online)

Socio-economic status of selected villages of Muzaffarpur district of Bihar under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav

ANIL KUMAR SINGH, RC BHARATI, NARESH CHANDRA AND VISWENDHU DWIVEDI

ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna-800 014 (Bihar) India

ARTICLE INFO

Received on	:	05.07.2018
Accepted on	:	21.09.2018
Published online	:	15.12.2018

ABSTRACT

Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) programme is an endeavour towards speedy development of the selected backward villages. For this very purpose five villages were selected from Marwan community development block of Muzaffarpur district of Bihar. Socioeconomic indicators viz., total area, total population, population density, sex ratio, SC and ST population, total literacy percent, male and female literacy percent, and gender gap in literacy were compared among the villages under study. The socio-economic data were taken from Census of India (Census, 2011). In terms of land resources, Jiyan Khurd village has got highest geographical area (450 ha), while the lowest (63 ha) was in Mohamadpur Aima village. The people of the selected villages are mainly inhabitants of the rural area with better sex ratio. Overall level of literacy is low in the study villages, and male literacy is more than the female literacy. It was observed that the villages having high male literacy had adverse sex ratio. Female literacy increased with increase in total literacy although male literacy was more than female literacy. There is socioeconomic inequality which is indicated by less representation of women and scheduled caste group as head of farm families. Since literacy is mother of sustainable equitable socioeconomic development, the present study emphasises that it is imperative to implement different government programmes efficiently in order to bring the literacy of people of the selected as well as adjoining villages to a respectable level.

KEYWORDS : Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav, Gender gap, Literacy, Sex ratio

INTRODUCTION

Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) or My Village My Pride (MVMP) programme was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfares, Government of India to quickly and effectively transform these districts with a view to raise the living standards of the people ensuring inclusive growth for all considering '*Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas*'. The programme aims to rapidly transform the districts that have shown relatively lesser progress in key social areas and have emerged as pockets of under-development, thereby posing a challenge to ensure balanced regional development (National Commission on Farmers, 2006). To enable optimum utilization of their potential, in the aspiration / selected villages, program focuses on agriculture and allied sector development through technical backstopping from ICAR institute. An innovative initiative known as "Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav" has been planned to promote the direct interface of scientists with the farmers to hasten the lab to land process. The programme envisages rapid agricultural development of five selected villages located in Marwan Block of District Muzaffarpur, of Bihar, which is one of the thirty-eight districts of Bihar, India, and is one of the largest commercial and educational centers in North Bihar. It is well known for its litchi production particularly Shahi and China Litchi (Bharati *et al.*, 2014). We know that agriculture is base of Indian economy since start of civilization. At the time of independence, in the national GDP, contribution of agriculture and allied sectors was highest (>50%), among all sectors. Gradually over a period of time, development has been taken place and currently contribution of agriculture and allied sectors is around 16 percent. In the recent past, and currently also agriculture production system is facing new challenges due to decline in factor productivity, coupled with sharp decline in natural resources especially diminishing water fertility status of soil. Majority of India population (>65%) lives in more than 6.64 lakh villages, and they predominantly depend upon agriculture and allied sectors. Majority of Indian Farmers are small and marginal type having very less agricultural land holding. Hence, participation of small and marginal farmers in Indian agriculture is very important. Small farmers put forth their desire on various forums to have timely information on investment in agriculture, loans, availability of other basic amenities, market rates, extension activities and facilities provided by different agencies, new research findings and technologies, etc (Singh *et al.*, 2013).

The major objectives of this scheme are to

1. To periodically update farmers about agricultural activities through phone and mobile messages.
2. To provide technology handout as per the agro-ecological conditions of the village.
3. To provide information to farmers about agricultural inputs, seed, fertilizer, chemical, agricultural machinery, climate, market, etc.
4. To make farmers aware of the sensitive issues of national

*Corresponding author email: anil.icarpat@gmail.com

importance such as: Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, climate change, water conservation, soil fertility, etc.

5. To identify technical problems at village level and make use of those in prospective research programmes.

Overall objectives are to provide farmers with required information, knowledge and advisories on regular basis to the adopted villages.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Formation of Team Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG)

The main focus of Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) programmes, launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfares, Government of India is the quick extension of technologies, developed and refined by research institutes, agricultural universities, and other organisations that need to be adapted to various extents by farming community. Therefore, the awareness among farmers about the organisations and their programmes needs to be created on regular basis. The group of 4 scientists at every Institute/University will adopt villages within a radius of 50-100 km from their place of working. Hence, for the implementation this project, Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Research complex for Eastern Region Patna, has constituted ten scientific teams each having 4-5 scientists. Our team has been headed by Dr. A K Singh and other members of team were Dr. RC Bharati, Dr. N Chandra and Dr. V Dwivedi (Table 1).

Table 1: List of Scientist Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) or My Village My Pride (MVMP)

Name and Designation	Specialization	Responsibility
Dr A K Singh, Pr. Scientist	Agronomy	Group Leader
Dr. RC Bharati, Pr. Scientist	Agril. Statistics	Member
Dr. Naresh Chandra, Sr. Scientist	Agril. Economics	Member
Dr. V Dwivedi, Sr. Scientist	Agril. Extension	Member

Results and Discussion

To achieve the objectives of Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) selection of villages and study of socioeconomic status of selected villages are the initial. Soon after notification of team members, action was initiated and a formal meeting of all the team scientists for selection of district/block and villages was held. As per guideline of Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG), 4-5 villages have to be selected by a team. Keeping in view terms and conditions laid down in the Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG), after discussion we selected Marwan Community Development Block of district Muzaffarpur, Bihar, India.

Selection of Villages under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG)

Marwan Community Development Block of Muzaffarpur District of Bihar State, India has been selected. It consists of 63 villages and 15 panchayats. Chakia urf Chak Afzal is the smallest village and Barka Gaon is the biggest village. Its elevation is 59 m (altitude). It was decides that one visit should be planned to select villages for the purpose. Accordingly on the spot selection of village was done on 26-27 September, 2015. Five villages namely Chainpur, AimaVishanpur, Jiyan Khurd, Parri and Mohamadpur Aima were selected (**Fig.1**).

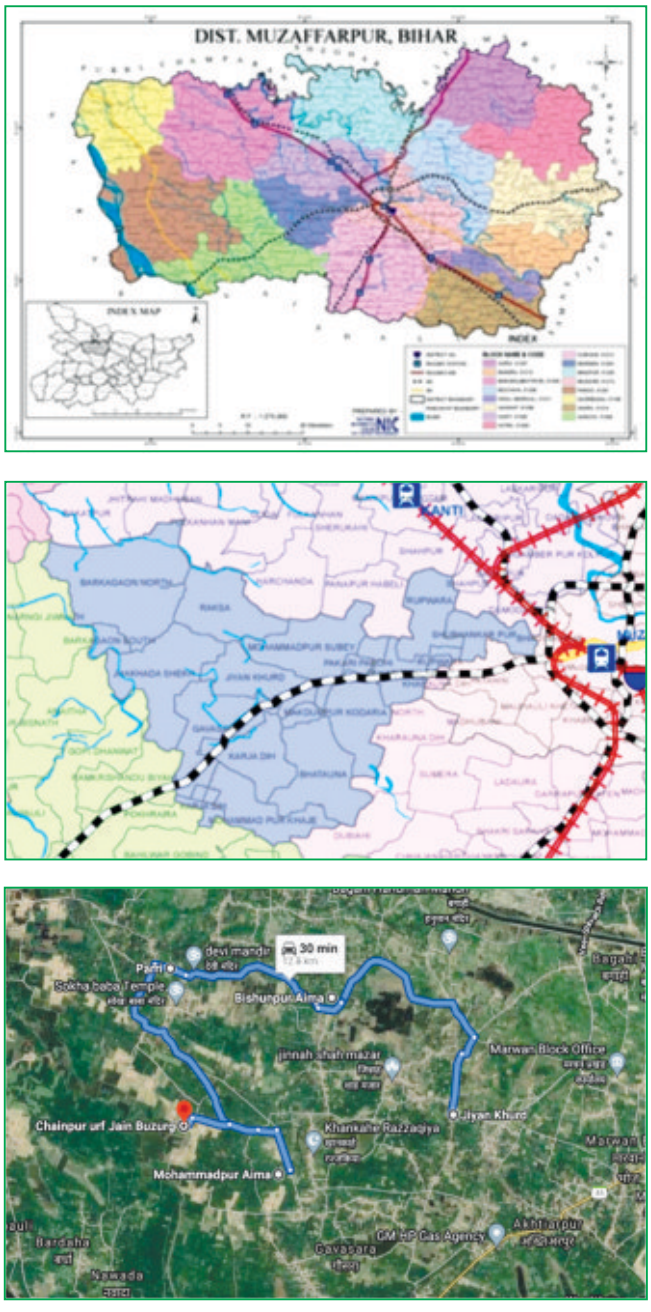

Fig.1: Selected village under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG)

Agroclimatic conditions of the locality

Average rainfall of locality is 1280 mm, and approximately 85% rain is received during monsoon period during June to September from south-westerly monsoon. Winter rain is

caused by north -easterly monsoon. Three distinct weather is experience in the area i.e., severe winter (November to March), very hot summer (April to June) and then by heavy downpour of monsoon (July to October).

Geographical area (ha) of the selected villages

Village selected were true representative of the Marwan community development Block, this can be clearly visible from the location of the selected villages in map of Marwan Community Development Block (Fig. **1**). Perusal of data presented in **fig.2** indicated that there is huge difference in the total geographical area in the selected villages under this programme. Highest geographical area (450 ha) is with Jiyan Khurd, whereas corresponding lowest (63 ha) was with village Mohamadpur Aima. Other three selected village has got geographical area within the range (105-139 ha).

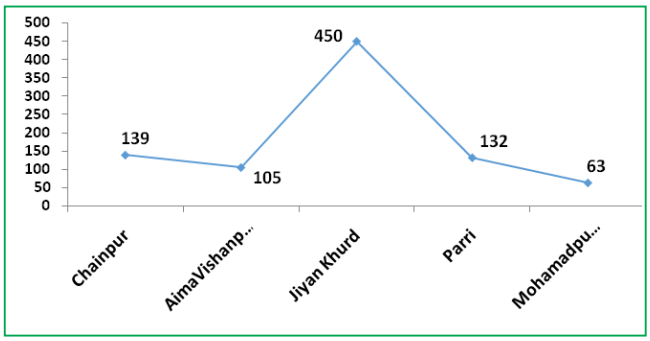

Fig.2: Geographical area of the selected villages

Population dynamic of selected village

Data present in the table 2 reveals that as per census 2011, highest population (6782) was recorded in the village Jiyan Khurdand lowest (886) in case of Mohamadpur Aima; other three village population was ranged in between 1519-1985. Population pressure on natural resources can be easily workout with the help of population density. Lowest population density (1400) and highest (1506) was recorded by village Mohamadpur Aima and Jiyan Khurd respectively. These studies indicate that the village having lowest geographical area has least population and lowest population density as well (**Table 2**). In case of sex ratio average of selected five villages is 934, whrereas highest 1033 was recorded in case of AimaVishanpur village and lowest (887) in case of Chainpur village. Regarding representation of weaker section of society, maximum (54%) Scheduled Caste population was found in Parri village, followed by Chainpur with 38% representation of total village population. Though there was no Scheduled Tribe in the selected village (Sharma and Singh, 2016).

Farmers' Classification in the selected village

Perusal of data presented in **table 3** clearly revealed that total number of farm families was as per the geographical area and their corresponding population in the respective village (**Table 3**). Though the overall average of number of farm family of five villages were 430, however,it ranged from (116)

Table 2: Area, population, and other socio-economic indicators in the selected village under MGMG (Census 2011)

Village Name	Popul-ation	Density (Persons/ km2)	Sex ratio	Sched-uled Caste %	Sched-uled Tribe %
Chainpur	2079	1500	887	38	0
AimaVishanpur	1519	1450	1033	1	0
Jiyan Khurd	6782	1506	901	8	0
Parri	1985	1505	903	54	0
Mohamadpur Aima	886	1400	947	0	0
Average	2650	1472	934	20	0

in Mohamadpur Aima to (1112) in Jiyan Khurd. With respect to women headed farm families, lowest was found (1) Mohamadpur Aima and highest (20) in case of Jiyan Khurd. Meagre share of women were noticed with respect to head of their respective families and it was staggering low and over all it stood only 1.4 percent, with maximum (1.9 %) in Aima Vishanpur village (DFID, 2007). Situation is further grim of in case of SC farm families, on an average only <1.0 % (0.9%) has their own farm. Perusal of data confirm that Chainpur has highest (2%) SC farm families, though numerically it was second (7), leading village (20) is Jiyan Khurd which is having maximum population. This situation revealed that representation of women and Scheduled caste is still for away and indicate that maximum Scheduled Caste communities are landless but actively involved in farming as sharecropper or agricultural labour (Chaudhry and Farhana, 2009).

Table 3: Farmers' Classification in the selected village under MGM (2011)

Village Name	Total number of farm families	Women headed farm families	SC farm families	Tribal farm families
Chainpur	357	3	7	0
Aima Vishanpur	259	5	1	0
Jiyan Khurd	1112	20	2	0
Parri	307	2	10	0
Mohamadpur Aima	116	1	0	0
Average	430	6	4	0
Percent	100	1.4	0.9	

*Including landless involved in farming

Literacy scenario in the selected village

As per census, 2011, total literacy rate in the selected villages under study reveal that overall average literacy rate are 52 percent, though it vary from 46% in Parri village and 57% in Jiyan Khurd. Similarly in case of Male literacy, highest (71%) in Chainpur village and lowest male literacy (58%) was found in Aima Vishanpur village. It was strange to note that lowest female literacy (29%) was noticed in the village having highest male literacy i.e. Chainpur, and unfortunately due this

highest gender gap in literacy (42%) was also found in the village Chainpur (**Fig. 3**). This might be due to the fact that having 38% population of village belongs to weaker section of society i.e. Scheduled Caste. Interestingly, village Parri having more than half (54%) resident belong to scheduled caste has just 34% gender gap in literacy. Highest female literacy (42%) has been found in Aima Vishanpur village and owing to this minimum gender gap in literacy (16%) was also recorded in the Aima Vishanpur village (India Today, 2016). togethe

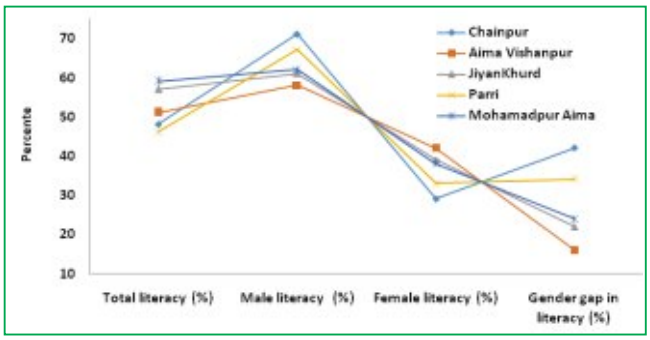

Table Fig.3: Literacy in the selected village under MGM (2011)

Educational facilities

Over all literacy status of the selected villages has been primarily attributed by poor economic conditions, as 20% population belongs to scheduled cast communities. This situation is further aggravated poor primary educational infrastructure, and so on and so forth. Only few and poorly managed primary schools are available and they are unable to sustain the increasing population pressure with passing of each day. In the Marwan community Development Block , there are seven upper Middle schools, one Ramjanki College exist at Jajuar Badipokhar Ramjanki and Alliance Industrial Training Centre at near Banaras Bank Chowk, Pakki Sarai, Muzaffarpur Bihar.

CONCLUSION

In the present study, the socio-economic status was analyzed for five villages selected under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav programme. Socioeconomic indicators included total area, total population, population density, sex ratio, SC and ST population, total literacy percent, male and female literacy percent, and gender gap in literacy percent, besides others. It was observed that the village having high male literacy had poor sex ratio. Study confirms that selected villages have 20% scheduled caste background, overall poor literacy with high gender gap in literacy. Socioeconomic inequality has been indicated by less representation of women and scheduled caste group as heads of farm families. Since the education is an important indicator for measuring the backwardness in general, there is urgent need that different government schemes are implemented effectively to bring up the literacy of people of the selected as well as adjoining villages to a respectable level.

REFERENCES

Bharati RC, Singh KM, Chandra N and Singh AK.2014. Economic condition of eastern region of India -An statistical evaluation. *Journal of AgriSearch***1** (3):173-179.

Census of India. 2011. Census data. http://censusindia.gov.in .

Chaudhry IS and Farhana N. 2009. The Determinants of Women Empowerment in Southern Punjab (Pakistan): An Empirical Analysis. European Journal of Social Sciences 10(2):.216-229.

DFID. 2007. Gender Equality Action Plan 2007-09 making faster progress to gender Equality. A DFID Practice Paper, UK.

India Today. 2016. Literacy rate of women goes up, sex ratio goes down: family health.

National Commission on Farmers. 2006. Serving farmers and saving farming: Towards faster and more inclusive growth of farmers' welfare. Fifth and Final Report, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

Sharma A and Singh AK.2016. Information needs of farm women for efficient farming in Uuttarakhand. *Journal of AgriSearch*.**3** (2):122-126.

Singh AK, Manibhushan, Bhatt BP, Singh KM and Upadhyaya A.2013. An Analysis of Oilseeds and Pulses Scenario in Eastern India during 2050-51. *Journal of Agril. Sci*.**5** (1) 241- 249.

Citation:
Singh Anil Kumar, Bharati RC, Chandra N and Dwivedi V. 2018. Socio-economic status of selected villages of Muzaffarpur district of Bihar under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav. *Journal of AgriSearch*.**5** (4): 287-290