



Constraints and Suggestions Expressed by the Beneficiaries of Krishi Bhagya Scheme in North Eastern Karnataka Region, India

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Article Information

DOI: 10.9734/AJAEES/2023/v41i112265

Open Peer Review History:

This journal follows the Advanced Open Peer Review policy. Identity of the Reviewers, Editor(s) and additional Reviewers, peer review comments, different versions of the manuscript, comments of the editors, etc are available here: <https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/109085>

Original Research Article

Received: 30/08/2023

Accepted: 05/11/2023

Published: 09/11/2023

ABSTRACT

Krishi Bhagya Scheme lunched by Government of Karnataka with the aim of securing the farmer's income by taking up on-farm rainwater conservation practices exclusively for the dry-land farmers who rely on the annual rainfall for their farming. It also encourages the farmers to adopt modern

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technologies for efficient use of. In this study, an attempt has been made to document the constraints faced by the Krishi Bhagya Scheme beneficiaries and seek their suggestions to overcome them in Kalaburagi and Ballari districts of North-Eastern Karnataka region during the year 2019-20. Totally 180 respondents were considered for the study and personal interview method was adopted for collection of data. The data was analysed using frequency and percentage analysis. The results revealed that, The results indicated that 90.00 per cent of the beneficiaries stated that the lengthy time required for completing procedure (Rank I), 85.00 per cent of the beneficiaries stated complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy and it was ranked second and Absence of fence and roof covers (62.22%) are the major constraints expressed by the *Krishi Bhagya* scheme beneficiaries. Increase percentage of subsidy (94.44%) and Timely release the subsidy amount (87.78 %) are the major suggestions expressed by the beneficiaries for effective implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme

Keywords: *Krishi Bhagya* scheme; constraints and suggestions; farmers.

1. INTRODUCTION

In Karnataka 70.00 % of the land area under rainfed cultivation. 5 out of 10 Agro-climatic zones are facing deficit rainfall 450-850mm. Agriculture productivity is also decreasing day by day due to lack of timely irrigation. Agricultural land holding in Karnataka has decreased from 2.56 hectare to 1.55 hectare. Small and marginal farmers are falling in debt because of the failure of bore wells. In order to overcome the problem of irrigation water, Government of Karnataka has come up with a scheme namely *Krishi Bhagya* [1].

The *Krishi Bhagya* scheme, implemented by the Karnataka government, is one of the leading agricultural development initiatives in India. The program has played a pivotal role in strengthening the agricultural industry of the state, providing farmers with much-needed support, and increasing agricultural output since its establishment in 2014. The program focuses on effectively using rainwater by building farm ponds, it aims to increase irrigation water availability and lessen reliance on unpredictable monsoons, it encourages the use of micro-irrigation techniques like drip and sprinkler irrigation, which not only conserves water but also ensures that it is used efficiently in agriculture. Finally, the program aims to increase crop productivity by offering a consistent source of water and promoting contemporary agricultural practices.

Krishi Bhagya scheme majorly helping farmers to get financial assistance and subsidies for constructions farm ponds, digging borewells, setting up drip and sprinkler irrigation systems, and implementing rainwater harvesting structures. The scheme encourages community

involvement in the planning and implementation of water conservation and irrigation projects. It promotes collective action among farmers, leading to shared benefits. With this brief background the present study has been focused on major Constraints faced by beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme and Suggestion to overcome them.

2. METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out during 2019-20 to study the constraints and suggestion expressed by the farmers about the *Krishi Bhagya* scheme. The data was collected from the beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme in Kalaburagi and Ballari districts of Karnataka. 180 beneficiaries were selected randomly with the help of simple random sampling method

Ex-post facto research design was adopted and it is a systematic empirical enquiry in which the scientists do not have direct control on influencing the variables because of their manifestation have already occurred. Hence, this design was considered as appropriate for the study [2].

2.1 Selection of Respondents

The study was conducted in Kalaburagi and Ballari districts of North-Eastern Karnataka region during the year 2019-20 as these districts had highest number of beneficiaries in the *Krishi Bhagya* scheme of Government of Karnataka.

From each selected district, two taluks were selected based on highest number of beneficiaries. From each taluk 45 beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme were selected by following simple random sampling procedure. Thus, study comprises of 180 respondents.

The detailed name of district, taluk and number of the beneficiaries selected from North-Eastern Karnataka region are presented in the Table 1.

Table 1. Details of Taluks and respondents selected for the study

Districts	Talukas	Number of beneficiaries
Kalburgi	Jewargi	45
	Aland	45
Ballari	Hoovinahadagali	45
	Kudligi	45
	Total	180

2.2 Sampling Technique

Simple random sampling was employed in the study. It is a sampling method in which a subset of individuals chosen from a larger set in which a subset of individuals are chosen randomly

2.3 Data Collection

2.3.1 Secondary data

Name and address of the beneficiaries of Krishi Bhagya scheme was collected from Joint Director of Agricultural Office Kalaburagi and Ballari.

2.3.2 Primary data

The data was collected using well-structured and pre-tested interview schedule and personal interview method was adopted to obtain the

essential information from Krishi Bhagya scheme beneficiaries. The data generated was analysed using frequency and percentage and the constraints and suggestions were ranked using Garret ranking.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Constraints Faced by the Beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* Scheme

Table 2 and Fig. 1 indicates the major constraints as perceived by *Krishi Bhagya* scheme beneficiaries in implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme. Majority (90.00%) of the beneficiaries stated that the lengthy time required for completing procedure [3] and 85.00 per cent of the beneficiaries stated that complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy, because there was lot of paper work involved, official procedures and also to get loan from banks to construct poly house. The absence of fences and roof covers opined by 62.22 per cent of the beneficiaries because loss of water in summer due to high temperature and also some deaths were noticed. Now, government came forward to made compulsory construction of fence around the pond to get subsidy. Over half (54.44%) of them stated that present subsidy amount is not sufficient to construct the pond because the most of the beneficiaries were medium to semi-medium farmers, therefore they were unable to invest huge amount on *Krishi Bhagya* scheme components on their own. The findings were also supported by Asha [4], Manohara [5], Raman et al. [6] and Nadeerpoor and Poddar [7].

Table 2. Constraints expressed by the beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme (n=180)

Sl. No.	Constraints Statements	Beneficiaries		
		Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1.	Lengthy time required for completing procedure	162	90.00	I
2.	Complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy	153	85.00	II
3.	Absence of fence and roof covers	112	62.22	III
4.	Present subsidy amount is not sufficient	98	54.44	IV
5.	Siltation of sediments	76	42.22	V
6.	Lack of technical guidance	70	38.89	VI
7.	Suitable for only small farmers	61	33.89	VII
8.	Poor quality of inputs	27	15.00	VIII

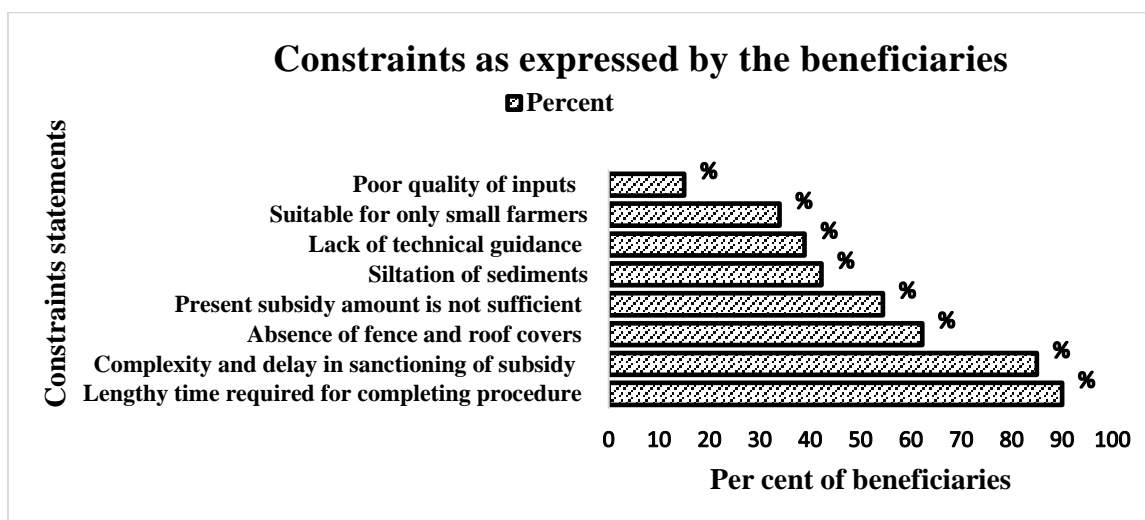


Fig. 1. Constraints as expressed by the beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme

Table 3. Suggestions as expressed by beneficiaries for effective implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme (n=180)

Sl. No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1	Increase percentage of subsidy	170	94.44	I
2	Timely release the subsidy amount	158	87.78	II
3	Construction of fence around the farm pond	106	58.89	III
4	Up liftment of sediments frequently	62	34.44	IV
5	Provide technical guidance in time	53	29.44	V
6	Provide training on frequent basis	45	25.00	VI
7	Provide good quality inputs	23	12.78	VII

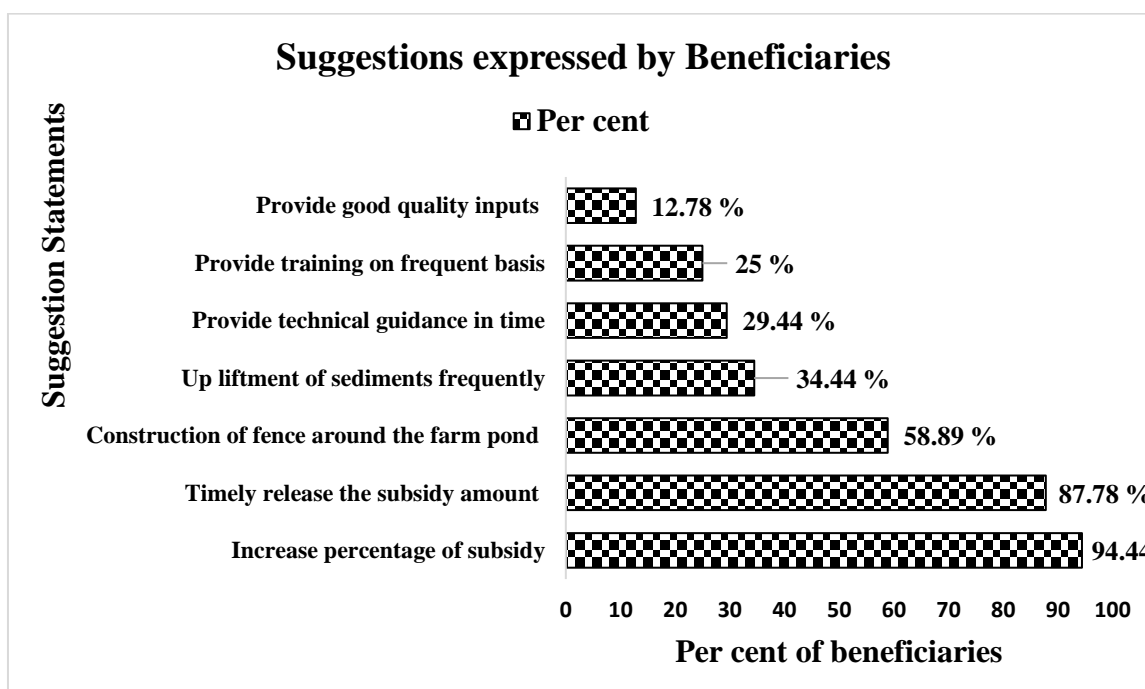


Fig. 2. Suggestions as expressed by beneficiaries for effective implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme

3.2 Suggestions as Expressed by the Beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* Scheme

The results observed from Table 3 and Fig. 2 indicated the suggestions as expressed by the beneficiaries for effective implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme. A large majority (94.44%) of beneficiaries suggested that, subsidy percentage should be increased and timely release of subsidy amount (87.78%) which will help to reinforce the small and medium farmers to construct farm pond and also poly house, whereas, 58.59 per cent of the beneficiaries suggested to include extra amount needed to construct fence around the pond in the subsidy. Unforeseen circumstances, where in unknowingly children and animals may fall into pond losing their lives. Hence, the fencing has to be made mandatory. The similar results are found with Manohara [5], Chaithra [8] and Raman et al. [6].

4. CONCLUSION

The results of the study reveal that majority of the beneficiaries faced a problem of lengthy time required for completing procedure and complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy while getting the benefits from the *Krishi Bhagya* scheme. Hence, the Government has to formulate a district level committee to approve the beneficiaries and speed up the process of its implementation. Similarly, the beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme in the study area suggested that subsidy percentage should be increased and timely release of subsidy amount will help to reinforce the small and medium farmers to construct farm pond and also poly house in turn which will enhance the productive capacity of the land so as to improve the livelihood of the farming community and in order to improve the performance of the scheme and increase the general agricultural production is indeed essential to increase agricultural extension functionaries' visit to the farmers and invest in the dissemination of agricultural knowledge to the farmers, problems in agricultural and horticultural crops production.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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Peer-review history:

The peer review history for this paper can be accessed here:
<https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/109085>