

Study on Degradation of Common Property Resource on Access to willingness of conservation in Study Areas

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Abstract

Each living being requires certain natural assets for survival of human being, for example, clean air, potable water and other natural resources. Exhaustion of natural resources has received serious attention from researcher, scientists and policy maker. In this circumstance, identification and conservation of natural resources deserve serious concern. In this connection, resources have been broadly classified into four aspects which based on the relationship between the resources and resource user. They are: (a) Private Property Resources (b) State Property Assets, (c) Open Access Resources, and (d) Common Property Resources (CPRs).

Index Terms; Common, Property, Resources Natural,

1.1 Introduction

The property can be defined as private, if only an individual or a family has use rights over resources, **Common Property Resources (CPRs)** the use of resources is collectively. In nutshell, Common Property Resources (CPRs) include all such resources that are accessible to the whole Community in rural area and to which no individual has an exclusive property right. In the context of rural India, Common Property Resources (CPRs) include Community forests, Community pastures, Common grazing lands, threshing grounds, wastelands, watershed drainages, ponds, tanks, rivers, rivulets, riverbeds, water reservoirs, canals, irrigation channels, public roads, etc. During pre-British period, a very large part of the country's natural resources was freely available to the rural population. These resources were largely under the control of local communities.

1.2 Research Problem

Issues pertaining to Common Property Resources (CPRs).which received scant attention from the social scientists, despite the fact that Common Property Resources (CPRs) provides life sustenance to rural households. Particularly, rural poor. In recent past, most of the rural commons were degraded owing to open access situation with a weak property rights, lack of institution arrangements and break down of local empowerment.

1.3 Objectives

- to find out the causes on degradation of Common Property Resources (CPRs) and;
- to study willingness of conservation of Common Property Resources (CPRs) by sample respondents in study villages.

1.4 Hypothesis

- H_0 : There is no significant association between social group and contribution to Common Property Resources (CPRs).
- H_1 : There is significant association between social group and contribution to Common Property Resources (CPRs).

1.5 Methodology

Based on objectives of the study, the methodology has been designed to carry out the present research work in a scientific manner that a comprehensive analysis of the research problem. In this regard, the methodology applied in the study besides, the method of sampling procedure way determining the sample size is along with the area of the study, tools and techniques employed in the data collection were discussed the following aspects.

1.6 Study Area

Keeping the mind of objectives of the study which attempt to explore a comparative assessment of Wet and Dry Villages with respect to access and status of Common Property Resources (CPRs), in four study villages namely; Vettamangalam (west) and Kumbupalayam as Wet Villages in Karur Block and Mavathur and Keeranur as Dry Villages in Kadavur Block in Karur District has been purposely selected.

1.7 Causes of Degradation of Common Property Resources (CPRs)

An empirical evidence shows that the enrichment of Common Property Resources (CPRs) quality. Factors like globalisation, privatisation, population pressure, unsustainable developmental activities, and free riders issues have been found responsible for the rapid depletion of Common Property Resource (CPR). In addition to Common Property Resources (CPRs) both in Centre and State governments integrating the issue of Common Property Resources (CPRs) as part of the rural development strategies for their sustainable manner use.

In this backdrop, the present study attempt to explore the knowledge of the sample households regarding the degradation of Common Property Resources (CPRs) in the study area has been analysed with the help of a scaling technique. For analysing each category of factor, the opinion of the respondents on five given statements with help of Hendry Garrett been extracted on a five-point scale. Scaling developed by the investigator with the consultant of expert. SA - Strongly Agree (5), A - Agree (4), UD - Undecided (3), DA., Disagree (2) and SD - Strongly Disagree (1).

The ten factors include siltation in the water spread area, catchment degradation, poor condition of supply channels, increase in number of private wells, dominate of social groups, political influence in encroachment of Common Property Resources (CPRs), encroachment of grazing/fallow/cultivated/uncultivated lands and other Common Property Resources (CPRs), over exploitation of ground water, contamination in the quality of water and in and surrounding area has bad outlook (dumping, open defecation, open drainage system etc.). It is evident from table 1 shows that the respondents said that “encroachment of grazing land occupies the first place. The sample respondents felt that, “dominance of social groups”, “political influential in encroachment of Common Property Resource (CPR) land where second and third rank respectively”, “over exploitation of ground water” got the next highest score. “Contamination in the quality of water “occupy the fifth rank. The sample respondents stated that “catchment degradation “with sixth rank “poor condition of supply channels”, “increase in number of private wells “with goes to seventh and eighth rank. Whereas “in and surrounding area has bad outlook (dumping, open defecation, open drainage system etc.)”, and “siltation in the water spread area” occupy ninth and tenth places respectively. Therefore, the above analysis clearly express that the rural people well aware about the causes of degradation of CPRs. It is also observed that free rider issues were quite common in study Villages.

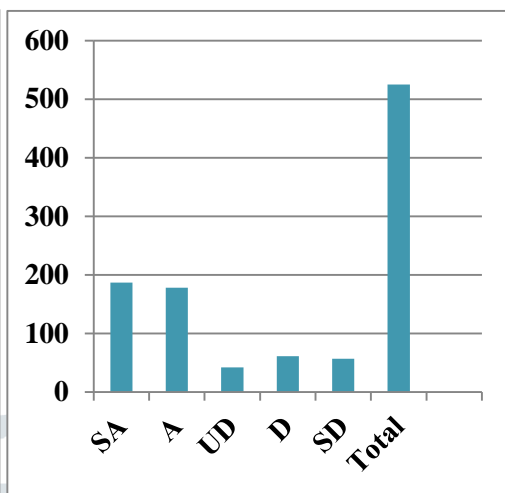
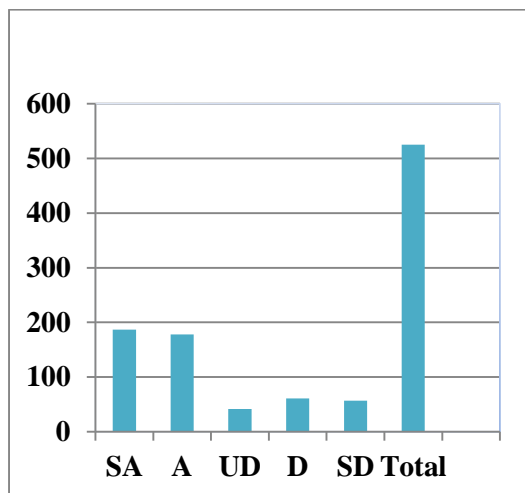
Table 1: The Opinion Respondents about Causes of Declining CPRs

S.No	Factors Leads to Degradation of CPRs	SA	A	UD	D	SD	Garrett Score	Average	Garrett Rank
1.	Siltation in the water spread area	133	187	42	85	78	28567	54.41	X
2.	Catchment degradation	202	178	45	52	48	31312	59.64	VI
3.	Poor condition of supply channels	198	176	46	47	58	30982	59.01	VII
4.	Increase in number of private wells	178	203	54	35	55	30950	58.95	VIII
5.	Dominate of social groups	224	198	25	30	48	32282	61.49	II
6.	Political influential in encroachment of CPRs	218	205	25	28	49	32196	61.33	III
7.	Encroachment of grazing lands and other CPRs	245	185	21	45	29	33021	62.90	I
8.	Over exploitation of ground water	206	185	38	58	38	31682	60.35	IV
9.	Contamination in the quality of water	172	229	37	52	35	31410	59.83	V
10.	In and surrounding area has bad outlook (dumping, open defecation, open drainage system etc.)	187	178	42	61	57	30613	58.31	IX

Note : SA – Strongly Agree, A – Agree, UD – Undecided, D – Disagree, SD – Strong Disagree
 Source: Computed from Primary data

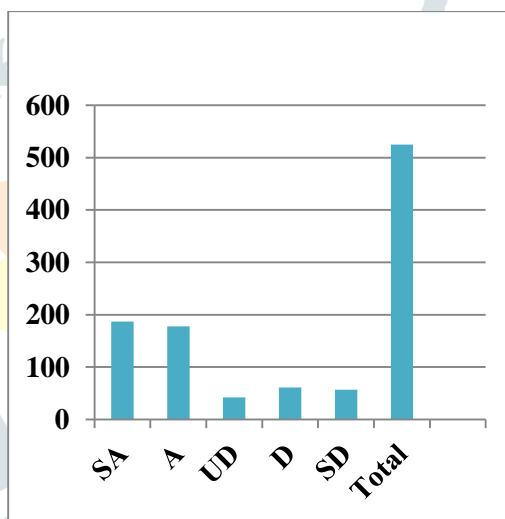
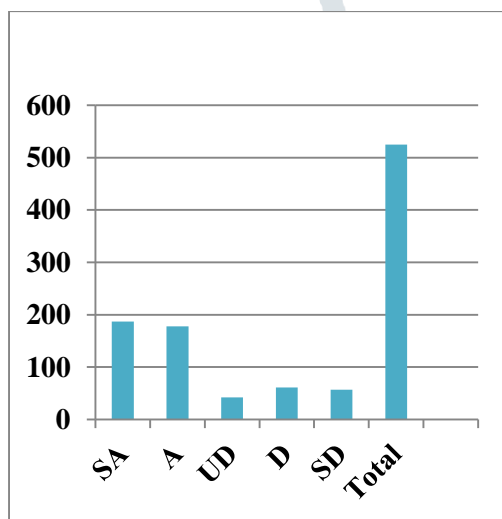
Figures 1 Siltation in the Water Spread Area

Figures 2 Catchment degradation



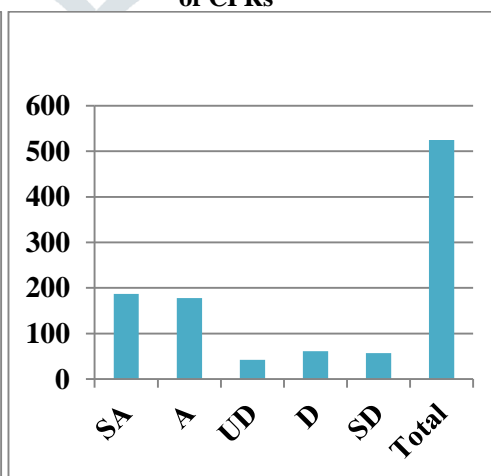
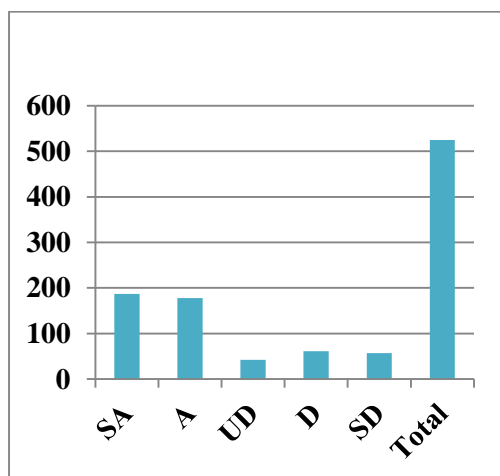
Figures 3 Poor condition of supply channels

Figures 4 Increase in number of private wells

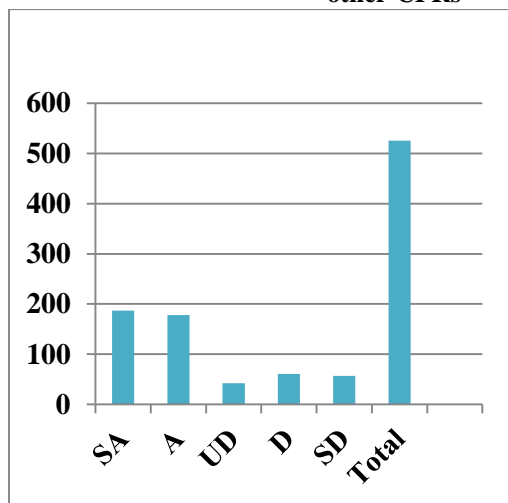


Figures 5 Dominate of social groups

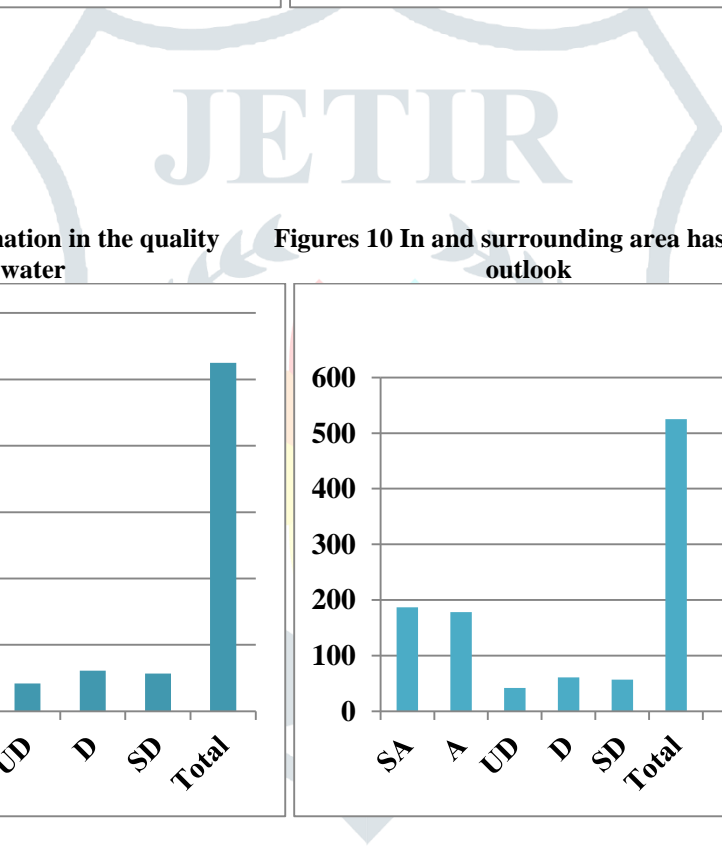
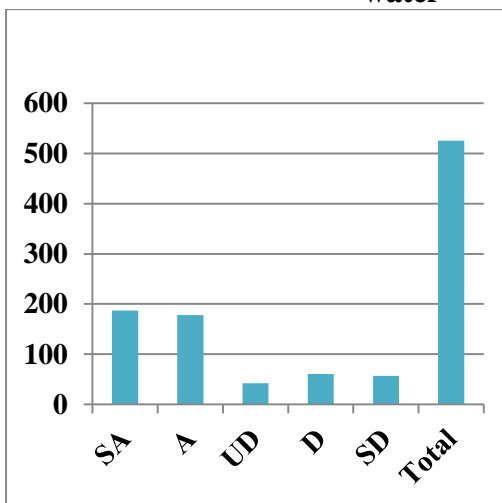
Figures 6 Political influential in encroachment of CPRs



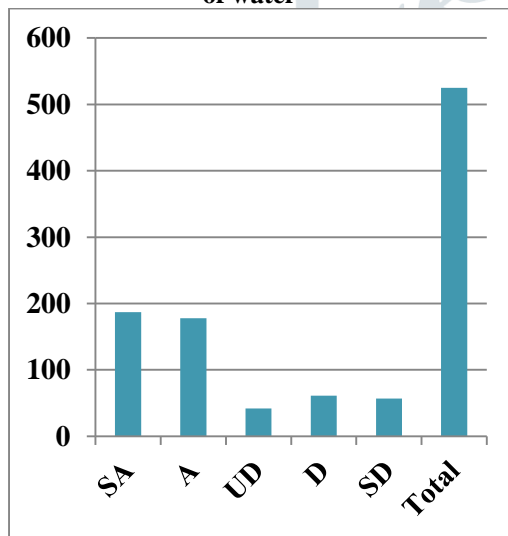
Figures 7 Encroachment of grazing lands and other CPRs



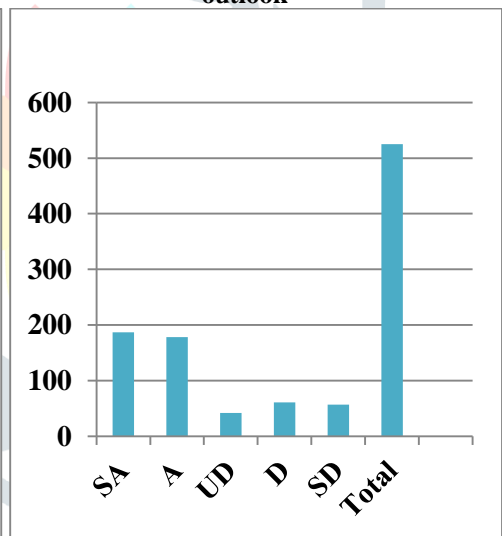
Figures 8 Overexploitation of ground water



Figures 9 Contamination in the quality of water



Figures 10 In and surrounding area has bad outlook



1.8 Willingness of Conservation of Common Property Resources (CPRs)

Common Property Resources (CPRs) is serve as insurance against risk for the rural poor, particularly during the lean seasons of the year. In the on-going process of liberalization, privatisation and globalization, new markets are opening up, urbanization is expanding and production and demand patterns are changing very fast even in the rural sector. It is possible that Common Property Resources (CPRs) are over exploited and have suffered a quality deterioration affecting rural people in general and the rural poor in particular by causing further worsening of their resource position and economic status. Table 4.25 portrays the level of participation of the in conserving local available Common Property Resources (CPRs) by the sample households.

Table 2: Level of Participation in Conservation of Common Property Resources (CPRs)

Level of Participation Conserving CPRS	Name of Blocks				Total	
	Karur		Kadavur			
	F	Per cent	F	Per cent	F	Per cent
Not at all	83	72.2	115	40.9	198	37.7
Little bit	128	52.5	119	42.3	247	47
Very much	33	13.5	47	16.7	80	15.2
Total	244	100	281	100	525	100

Note : F- frequency

Source : Computed from Primary data

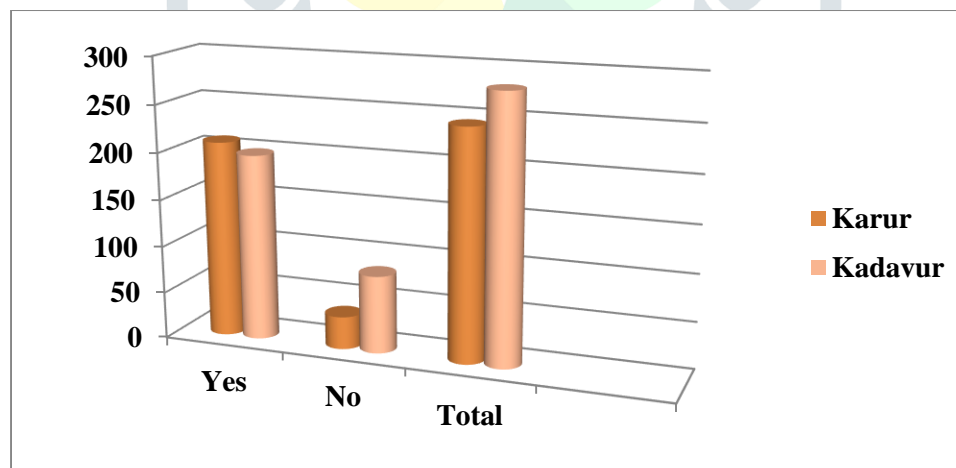
Figure 11: Level of Participation in Conservation of Common Property Resources (CPRs)

Table 2 reveals that 47 per cent of the sample households reported that they are “Little bit” show any interest in conserving Common Property Resources (CPRs) in the surveyed villages. The prime factor which influenced the lack of people's participation are: lack of awareness and knowledge about Common Property Resources (CPRs), lack of training programme, not a self-interest of individual, village politics .etc., However, 37.7 per cent reported that they participate a “Not at all and 15.2 per cent participated at a “Very much” show to interest in conservation the CPR in their own villages.

1.9 Testing of Hypothesis

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SOCIAL GROUP AND CONTRIBUTION TO COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES (CPRs)

H₀: There is no significant association between social group and contribution to Common Property Resources (CPRs).

H₁: There is significant association between social group and contribution to Common Property Resources (CPRs).

To find out the association between social group and contribution to Common Property Resources (CPRs), Chi-Square test was employed.

Chi-Square Test

Calculated Chi square Value	Table Value	df	Remarks
0.00107	5.991	2	Significant at 5% level

From the top row of the above table, Pearson Chi-Square statistic is 0.00107. Hence, the calculated value of χ^2 (0.00107) is less than the table value (5.991) at 0.05 level of significance, the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that there is significant association between social group and contribution to Common Property Resources (CPRs) in the study area.

1.10 Conclusion

Degradation of CPRs has contributed to change in the composition found in study villages again it affect the life sustaining of landless people. It may be leads to income inequality in study villages. The determination of CPRs had directly affected the agricultural production. Further, diminution in number of animals reared due to lack of common grazing lands are noticed in all study villages. The study clearly shows a rural folk much aware about the causes of decline the CPRs. Hence, it should be kept in mind (rules and regulations)at each and every process of the preservation of CPRs by the rural community.

1.11 References

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