

Challenges of Agrarian Crisis, A case study of Saran District

Anjali Kumari

Research Scholar
Department of Geography
J.P.U Chapra, Bihar

Agriculture is method or practice of farming including cultivation of the soil for the growing of crops and the rearing of animals to provided food, wool and other products.

The term agriculture has its origin in the Latin words ager meaning 'fields' and culture meaning to culture or cultivate, thus it refers mainly to the tilling of fields for growing crops. Agriculture includes the rearing of livestock such as cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horse, camels, chicken, ducks and even fish, silk worms and honeybees.

Location of Saran District:

The present area of study is Saran District, is an important district of the state of Bihar, Located in Southern part of newly created Saran Commissionary of North Bihar and headquarter of the saran division is at Chapra, Geographically it lies between 25.36° to 26.13° north latitudes and 84.24 to 85.15 east longitudes. The district of saran is a part of the Ganga – Ghaghara doab has a different physiography: although there are a number of tals, Ox-Bow lakes and deserted Channels of river, particularly along the Ghaghara and in the eastern parts¹ and this area is known Bhangar soil region.

The length of the study area is 122 KM from the river Gandak in the east of sonpur sub-division. Its width varies from 65 KM in the east and 44 KM in the west. It extends over an area of 2641 sq. Kms, and contain a population of 3,943,098 persons, according the census 2011.

This part is divided in to three division according to their physiographiy .

- (a) The plain :- The alluvial plain along the big rivers Ganga, Gandak and Ghaghara, which are subjected to seasonal inundation and area of flood prone.

- (b) The upland land :- This area of the district is far away from the rivers and free from threat of flood in rainy season and this area is densely populated. This area is locally known 'CHAWRS' cover large areas in the south and south east of the district.
- (c) The दौरा land :- This area have unique feature, which is situated in the beds of the great rivers and they are also called is an interesting example of soil formation. The levels of दौरा which is so for nothing but a heap of sand, then gradually raises as the water lying stagnant spreads thin large of clay and silt over the sand and this deposit silt deepens at every high flood until at the last दौरा rises above the flood level, a high fertile soil and produce 'BHADAI' crops and highest production of 'RAVI' Crops.

Agricultural Position of Study Area:

Agriculture is the primary activity of human beings. It varies in spatial pattern in a time and space. Basically agriculture is major source of livelihood in rural of the study area lies in Gandak Ghaghara Doab, a fertile soil region, produces bumper crops. This region is agricultural region in Bihar. Yearly 80% of total population of Saran District have engaged themselves in agriculture and its allied business and 199300 hectares area is net sown area. This area of study enjoys Rabi and Kharif both cropping system and its 101611 hectare area is under net irrigation.

The table 2.1 show the production of different crops for the last five years in the study area.

Table - 2.1
Area of Different Crops from 2007 to 2011

Rabi	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Wheat	108225	99827	104900	103608	108049
Maize	42350	42350	41350	36416	42469
Pulses	8959	10283	9045	7484	7216
Oil Seeds	6642	6589	6320	5997	7216
Potato	12067	12712	12680	12772	12500
Paddy	83700	59600	52278	80935	71853

Source – Compiled from the data of Directorate of statistic, Bihar

Table 2.2 show the distribution of land in cultivated area.

Table - 2.2
Types of cultivable land of Saran District

Types of Land	Area (In Hectare)	Percentage
High Land	54212	27%
Medium High Land	13326	07%
Medium Land	36630	15%
Low Land	23300	12%
Chaur Land	42271	21%
Diara Land	29561	15%
Total	199300	98%

Source – Compiled from the date of Directorate of statistic, Bihar.

As we know that saran is agricultural area, where mostly people engaged in primary work, only few percentage of people evolved in secondary and tertiary work. But due to some reason this area also suffered from many problems toward agriculture. Agriculture in this district is the gamble due to rain fall. Some time the precipitation is very low it causes drought situation as well as some time it became too much is also caused for heavy flood. So it is major challenging situation for farmers about their good production. The situation of production fully depends of percentage of rainfall in the study area.

There are some factors which is responsible for agrarian challenges towards study area.

1. Small and fragmented land holdings.
2. Seeds.
3. Manures; fertilizers and Biocides.
4. Irrigation.
5. Lack of Mechanization.
6. Soil erosion.

7. Agricultural Marketing.
8. Inadequate storage facilities.
9. Inadequate transport.
10. Scarcity of capital.

These 10 factor is major challenges in the progress of study area. We should try to improve and metalised these situation by proper planning for satisfactory development of agriculture.

Suggestion:-

1. Government should implemented more schemes towards agricultural field.
2. The project of agricultural development should be transparent.
3. It is necessary to aware the facilities and schemes which is launched by government.
4. Bank should have to coperative for farmers and their functioning for crop related activates.
5. There should be proper storage facilities of crops after harvesting.
6. We should try to planting more tree for conservation of soil erosion and its related problems.
7. Government should set up agro-based industries which provide job as well proper livelihood for local people of study area.
8. Government should be focused on three main resources of study area are forest, land and water resources.
9. It is also very necessary to focus on education of each and every people for better development in agriculture as well as another aspects of life.
10. Agriculture is backbone of study area, so it needs skillfull training in agricultural method.

References

- ❖ Statistics office of Bihar.
- ❖ Saran Gazetteer.
- ❖ Habib, I, 1963, "Agrarain System of Mughal India (1956-1707)" Asia Bombay.
- ❖ Gender & Governance – Human Development Resource Centre, UNDP.
- ❖ Sources of information :- Offices of agricultural offices and B.D.O. Offices

