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"Evaluation of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme."

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Abstract: This study is a detailed analytical study of the beneficiaries of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme, the scheme implemented through the Department of Agriculture under Ahmednagar Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar, the grants given to them, the benefits given to them, from the period of 2015-16 to 2019-20.

• INTRODUCTION

If we consider the families below the poverty line in India, it is seen that there is a higher proportion of people belonging to the Scheduled Caste group on an average because these families are considered untouchables in the society and are assigned menial jobs. Due to this, their income appears in Very low form. This is the main reason why this society is poor or not raising their economic status. The government is making financial provisions for the implementation of various schemes for such backward and deprived communities. Due to this, the grass root people are getting financial support.

The Maharashtra government is also implementing many schemes in rural and urban areas to bring the Scheduled Caste community below the poverty line. Due to this scheme, the Scheduled Caste farmers in the rural areas have received financial assistance and have helped to raise their social and economic status. One such scheme is the "Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme,". This scheme is being specially adopted for the Scheduled Castes and Neo-Buddhists in Maharashtra. The researcher has made a detailed study of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Yojana in the published article to evaluate the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme under the Scheduled Caste in Ahmednagar district.

• Research Subject

"Evaluation of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme."

• Importance of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme

In the post-independence period in India as well as the Government of Maharashtra has established many departments like Social Welfare Department, Agriculture Department, etc. Under it, many schemes have been implemented to raise the economic status of people belonging to scheduled castes. Due to this scheme, it can be seen that the Scheduled Castes have developed to some extent in the 21st century. Most of the scheduled caste people in Maharashtra are uneducated, economically disadvantaged, most of the people live in remote areas, the government is helping to raise the standard of living of the scheduled caste people through various schemes.

Similar Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme, is a scheme. Due to the spread of this scheme, there has been a change in the farming methods of the people there and due to the increase in the amount of land acquisition, the change in the farming method of the people and the increase in the amount of land acquisition has helped to a great extent in raising the standard of living of the scheduled caste people. Therefore, due to the increase in the amount of farming methods and the necessary tools and materials in this area, it is helping to improve the economic condition of the Scheduled Caste people.

•Objectives of the research

- 1) To study the number of beneficiaries allocated in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme, according to the component.
- 2) Allocation of funds and total cost study for Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme to do
- 3) Dr. in increasing agricultural production of scheduled caste people. Implementation of in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme and To study the system.

•Study period

The researcher has assumed the period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 for the present research work.

• Information Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme

The Government of Maharashtra started implementing this scheme in the year 1982-83 to help the farmers of the Scheduled Castes and Neo-Buddhist communities in Maharashtra to increase their agricultural income by helping them in their economic upliftment. By partially changing the name of this scheme for the financial year 2017, Scheduled Caste/New Buddhist Special Constituent Scheme, Mr. The Minister (Finance) while presenting the budget for the financial year 2016-17 informed that the special component scheme will be implemented under the new name Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Krishi Swavalamban Yojana. Through this new scheme, it is seen that there has been a great deal of success in making the Scheduled Caste / Neo-Buddhist farmers financially self-reliant.

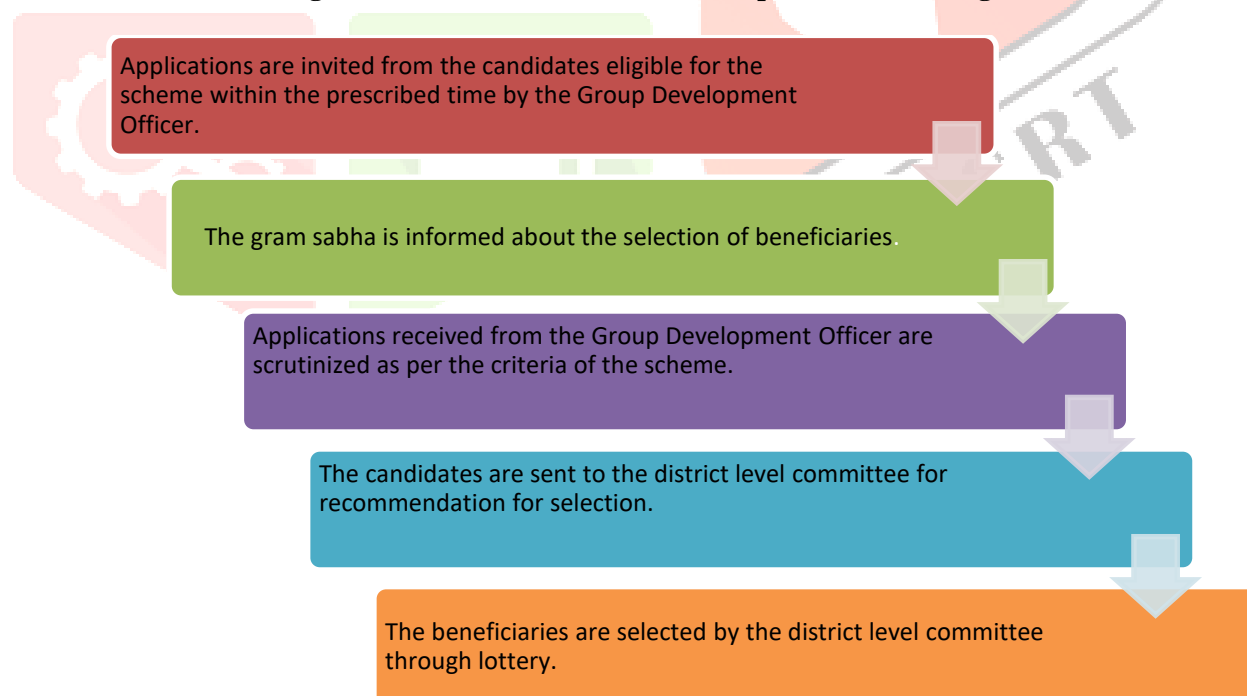
On 5 January 2017, by amending the Special Component Scheme, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Krishi Swavalamban Yojana, new wells, old wells repair, inwell boring, electricity connection, pumps to Scheduled Caste/New Buddhist farmers with an annual income of Rs.1.50 lakhs. Subsidy is provided for sets, plastic lining of farm beds, micro irrigation sets. This scheme is implemented through the Department of Agriculture under Zilla Parishad.

• Implementation of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme

Implementation of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme is efficiently selected and prioritized. Under this scheme, Group Development Officer at Taluka level is widely publicized through various publicity media. Also, information about this scheme is prominently published on notice boards. Also, information about the selection criteria of the beneficiaries of this scheme is given in the Gram Sabha.

Applications received at taluka level are scrutinized strictly as per scheme criteria. After scrutiny, the list of eligible applicants is sent to the District Level Committee along with recommendations. And the Group Development Officer so informs the applicant disqualified during the scrutiny in writing giving sufficient time to rectify the deficiencies along with the reason thereof. If the ineligible applicant rectifies the deficiencies, it is confirmed and the date on which the complete application is received is recorded in the order. The concerned Block Development Officer remains fully responsible if any deficiencies/problems arise in the future regarding the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme in the concerned taluka.

• Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme implementation design



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• Committee for Selection of Beneficiaries of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme

To implement the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme, a committee at the Zilla Parishad level has been set up by the government to select the beneficiaries from the following committee under the chairmanship of the Additional Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad.

Table No. 1
Beneficiary Selection Committee

Sr.No	Details	Post in A. Committee
1	Additional Chief Executive Officer,	Zilla Parishad Chairman
2	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Zilla Parishad	Member
3	District Level Official Member of Ground Water Survey System	Member
4	District Social Welfare Officer	Member
5	Special District Social Welfare Officer, Zilla Parishad	Member
6	Special District Social Welfare Officer, Zilla Parishad,	Member
7	Agricultural Development Officer, Zilla Parishad	Member Secretary

(Source: Government Decision Agriculture, P. No., Dairy Vs. and
Department of Fisheries, Vighyo-2016/Prakr176/4A dt. 5 Jan 2017)

For the selection of the beneficiaries of the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Krishi Swavalamban Yojna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme na, the committee appointed by the government is formed as above.

• Beneficiary number

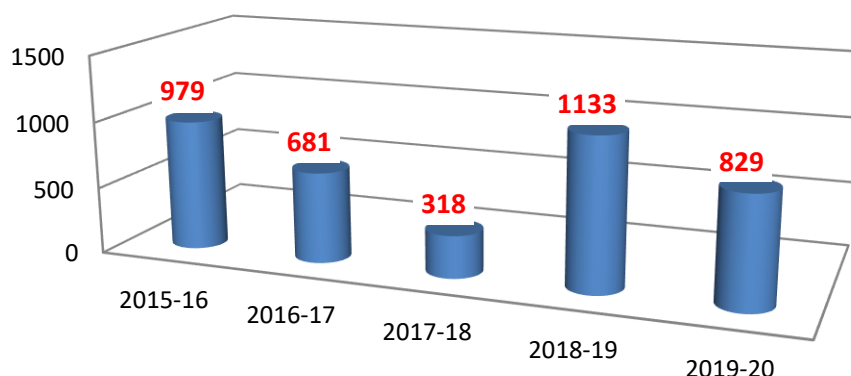
After scrutinizing the applications received at the taluka level strictly according to the criteria of the scheme, the eligible applicants are sent to the district level committee along with their recommendation and the final selection of the beneficiaries is done by lottery method. Following is the list of taluka wise total beneficiaries selected in the years 2015-16 to 2019-20.

Table No. 2
Table showing number of beneficiaries

Sr.No	Block	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
1	Shevgaon	72	99	8	383	113	675
2	Nevasa	134	80	55	140	78	487
3	Srigonda	113	19	33	107	68	340
4	Pathardi	128	114	71	83	53	449
5	Jamkhed	54	54	15	67	64	254
6	Karjat	100	75	19	37	73	304
7	Nagar	44	35	14	37	75	205
8	Sangamner	72	45	20	49	540	240
9	Rahuri	57	55	21	48	52	233
10	Parner	75	32	21	53	39	220
11	Rahata	22	27	10	38	57	154
12	Kopargaon	31	34	12	43	48	168
13	Srirampur	67	5	113	26	37	148
14	Akole	14	10	7 6	22	18	63
	Total	979	681	318	1133	829	3940

(Source: District Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture, Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar)

Block Wise Beneficiary



Beneficiaries are allocated by Block wise lottery system. Accordingly, as shown in the above table and figure, the highest number of beneficiaries were selected in 2018-19 followed by 2015-16 followed by 2019-20 and the lowest number of beneficiaries in the five years from 2015-16 to 2019-20. It has been done in 2018 and also in the same five years the highest number of beneficiaries have been selected in Shevgaon Block and the lowest number of beneficiaries have been selected in Akole Block.

•Fixed Grants subject to Scheme

For Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme, the funds are distributed to the concerned Zilla Parishads through the Social and Special Assistance Department. Minimum 0.40 Hectar for new well for selection of beneficiary under this scheme. Area restrictions apply. And minimum 0.20 for other items in the scheme excluding digging of new wells. The area is limited and maximum 6 Hectar for all matters under this scheme. Area restrictions apply.

Under this scheme, all the Blocks are allocated equal funds by adopting an equitable system. According to the agricultural census, the economic index of each Block is determined in proportion to the number of farmers of the said category in the respective Block among the total scheduled caste category farmers in the district.

• Grants received for the scheme year wise

For the implementation of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self Reliance Scheme for the Department of Agriculture, Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar, the grant sanctioned for the year 2015-16 to 2019-20 and the total expenditure in each financial year is as follows.

Table No. 3
Grant details for the year 2015-16 to the end of 2019-20

(figures in lakhs)

S.No.	Financial Year	Grants Sanctioned	Grants Received	Total Expenditure
1	2015-16	579.00	579.00	579.00
2	2016-17	665.00	665.00	559.51
3	2017-18	732.00	732.00	672.16
4	2018-19	805.20	805.20	674.00
5	2019-20	885.72	885.72	685.00

(Source: District Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture,
Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra)

Considering the grant received by the Department of Agriculture under Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar from the end of 2015-16 to 2019-20 and the expenditure on the items given to the beneficiaries of the scheme, the amount of grant sanctioned for the scheme from 2015-16 to 2019-20 is increasing and also the expenditure incurred on the scheme in the respective year. The amount is less compared to the subsidy received.

• Number of selected beneficiaries in the scheme

The following are the number of selected beneficiaries in year 2015-16 to 2019-20 wise.

Table No. 4
Number of selected beneficiaries as per case

Sr.No	Item	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
1	Input Allocation	12	06	0	0	0	18
2	Improved agricultural implements	975	345	0	0	0	1320
3	bullock pairs	784	294	0	0	0	1078
4	bullock carts	642	207	0	0	0	849
5	INWELL BORING	1	0	5	24	30	60
6	old well repair	44	39	90	216	248	637
7	Pipeline	216	330	0	0	0	546
8	Pump sets	263	342	5	454	552	1616
9	New Well	25	89	150	171	160	595
10	Farms/Plastic	0	0	9	12	15	36
11	Parasbag Program	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Frost Irrigation/Drip Irrigation	122	120	4	147	24	417
13	Tarpaulins	195	113	0	0	0	308
14	Power connection size	0	0	89	36	60	96
	Component wise total	1512	668	289	656	672	3797

(Source: District Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture, Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra)

In 2017, the government has named the scheme as Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme. Accordingly, changes were also made in the scheme, according to which bullock carts and bullock pairs have been excluded from the scheme. Also, among the number of selected beneficiaries in the years 2015-16 to 2019-20, the highest number of beneficiaries are pump sets while the least are the beneficiaries of input distribution.

• Expenditure incurred in the scheme

The item wise expenditure during the year 2015-16 to 2019-20 is as follows.

Table No. 5

Expenditure incurred as per item

Sr.No	Item	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
1	Input Allocation	0.8	0.3	0	0	0	1.10
2	Improved agricultural implements	50.92	22.80	0	0	0	73.72
3	bullock pairs	784	294	0	0	0	1078
4	bullock carts	235.2	88.20	0	0	0	323.4
5	INWELL BORING	0.2	0	0.48	4.80	6.2	11.68
6	old well repair	13.4	11.70	92.52	94.54	119.45	331.61
7	Pipeline	43.3	46.075	0	0	0	89.37
8	Pump sets	52.6	68.45	3.55	84.00	110.45	319.05
9	New Well	25	222.50	450.83	415.17	383.64	1497.14
10	Farms/Plastic	0	0	12.85	113.84	14.99	141.68
11	Parasbag Program	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Frost Irrigation/Drip Irrigation	24.54	29.92	0.45	5.77	1.62	62.3
13	Tarpaulins	14.94	7.48	0	0	0	22.42
14	Power connection size	0	8.90	0	1.96	5.10	15.96
	Component wise total	579.49	559.51	672.16	674.01	685.00	3170.17

(Source: District Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture, Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar)

In the year 2015-16, the expenditure incurred on the selected beneficiaries of the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Yojana was Rs. 579.49 lakhs and the expenditure increased from the year 2016-17 to Rs. . In the same way, the total item wise expenditure in the year 2015-16 to 2019-20 is Rs 3170.17 lakh.

• Conclusion

- 1) Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme is being implemented by the government since last 40 years.
- 2) Beneficiary selection process in this scheme is easy and transparent.
- 3) Schedule caste and neo-Buddhist farmers get more irrigation facility in the scheme.
- 4) In this scheme, in the five years from the year 2015-16 to 2019-20, initially improved implements, bullocks and carts, Pump sets, old well repairs and new wells have been benefited in descending order.
- 5) In the five years from 2015-16 to 2019-20, the least number of beneficiaries have been selected in 2017-18 and In the same five years, the highest number of beneficiaries was selected in Shevgaon Block while the lowest number of beneficiaries was selected in Akola It has been done in Block.

6) Amount of grant sanctioned for the scheme is increasing from 2015-16 to 2019-20.

•Conclusion

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Agricultural Self-Reliance Scheme , implemented by the Department of Agriculture under Ahmednagar Zilla Parishad, is a boon for scheduled caste and neo-Buddhist farmers. Beneficiary selection in this scheme is done in a transparent manner so no injustice is done to any beneficiary. As the expenditure incurred on the beneficiaries of this scheme and the grant sanctioned by the government is increasing every year, so is the allocation of subsidy according to the scheme.

• REFEREMCES

- 1) Government Decision(5 Jan.2017) - Agriculture, P.S., Milk.v. and Department of Fisheries, Vighyo-2016/ Prakra176/ 4A/ Dec.
- 2) Department of Agriculture, Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar(2021) Letter No. of M/s District Agriculture Officer,, Agriculture/Work-8/414/2021 Datev09/08/2021
- 3) Physical interview of M/s District Agriculture Officer (Vighyo), Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar.

