

## Original Research Article

### **Constraints and Suggestions expressed by the beneficiaries of Krishi Bhagya scheme in North Eastern Karnataka Region**

#### **ABSTRACT**

The present study confined to an Ex-post-facto research design. The study was purposively conducted in Kalaburagi and Ballari districts of North-Eastern Karnataka region during the year 2019-20. The primary data on constraints and suggestions about *Krishi Bhagya* scheme were collected from 180 beneficiaries. The results indicated that 90.00 per cent of the beneficiaries stated that the lengthy time required for completing procedure (Rank I) and it was the major constraints stated because there was lot of paper work involved, official procedures and 85.00 per cent of the beneficiaries stated complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy and it was ranked second. 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.

**Key Words:** *Krishi Bhagya* scheme, Constraints and Suggestions, farmers

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In Karnataka 70% 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 ha to 1.55 ha. 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*.

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.

## **MATERIALS AND METHOD**

The present study confined to an Ex-post-facto research design. The study was purposively 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.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Constraints faced by the beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme**

Table 1 indicates the major constraints as perceived by *Krishi Bhagya* scheme beneficiaries in implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme. One of the major problems was the lengthy time required for completing procedure which scored first rank, followed by complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy (Rank II), absence of fences and roof covers (Rank III), present subsidy amount is not sufficient (Rank IV), siltation of sediments (Rank V), lack of technical guidance (Rank VI), suitable for only small farmers (Rank VII) and poor quality of inputs (Rank VIII).

Majority (90.00 %) of the beneficiaries stated that the lengthy time required for completing procedure and complexity and delay in sanctioning of subsidy (85.00 %) were the major constraints stated 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 Manohara (2018), Raman et al. (2020) and Nadeerpoor and Poddar (2021).

### **Suggestions as expressed by the beneficiaries of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme.**

The results observed from Table 2 indicated the suggestions as expressed by the beneficiaries for effective implementation of *Krishi Bhagya* scheme. One of the major suggestions expressed was to increase the percentage of subsidy which scored first rank followed by timely release of subsidy amount (Rank II), construction of fence around farm pond (Rank III), upliftment of sediments frequently (Rank IV), provide technical guidance in time (Rank V), provide training on frequent basis (Rank VI) and provide good quality inputs (Rank VII).

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 (2018), Chaithra (2020) and Raman et al. (2020).

### **CONCLUSION**

The results of the study shows 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 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.,

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**Table 1. Constraints as perceived by the beneficiaries in practicing the *Krishi Bhagya* scheme project activities**

(n=180)

Sl. No.	Constraints	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

**Table 2. 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

UNDER PEER REVIEW