



Study on the Role of Information Technology in change in Rural Economic Structure of Rural Society of Gwalior District (M.P.) India

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ABSTRACT

The Present study was conducted in 2014-15 at Gwalior District of Madhya pradesh The main objective of the study was to find out the Role of Information Technology in change in Rural Economic Structure. Household material possession, annual income and amount of loan received for agriculture and other activities. after interventions of Information Technology .The study concluded that there was a major change occurs in household material possession, annual income and amount of loan received by the use of Information Technology

Key words: Information Technology, Rural Economic Structure, Change.

INTRODUCTION

Progress in an economy, or the qualitative measure of this economic development usually refers to the adoption of new technologies, transition from agriculture-based to industry based economy and general improvement in living standards.

Economic development generally refers to the sustained, concerted actions of policymakers and communities that promote the standard of living and economic health of a specific area. Economic development can also be referred to as the quantitative and qualitative changes in the economy. Such actions can involve multiple

areas including development of human capital, critical infrastructure, regional competitiveness, environmental sustainability, social inclusion, health, safety, literacy, and other initiatives. Economic development differs from economic growth. Whereas economic development is a policy intervention endeavor with aims of economic and social well-being of people, economic growth is a phenomenon of market productivity and rise in GDP. Consequently, as economist Amartya Sen points out: “economic growth is one aspect of the process of economic development.

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Today, because of the information technology and modernization and subsequent impact of science and technology the agricultural as well as rural economy is gradually changing in to monetary economy. Many cultivators who could earlier depend upon their traditional ties whenever required can now no longer have labours without offering cash payment on competitive basis.

Changing economy is also motivating individuals to take up new occupation due to which the traditional roles and obligation enjoyed by each caste are in the flux of change. Further, there is a tendency towards leveling of economic difference among the village people. The status structure is also in a fluid state, while still clinging to the traditional modes of earnings, the villagers are experiencing the impact of change and changing economic patterns due to information technology and modernization process.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Selection of the study area.

Present study conducted in Gwalior district of Madhya Pradesh. Gwalior is the largest city in the region, and its historic center. The study was conducted in purposively selected in Gwalior district. The district comprises of 4

blocks namely- Morar, Ghatigaon, Dabra, Bhitwarwar. Five villages in each block total 20 villages were selected randomly by using simple random sampling methods..

Selection of the respondents-

For the selection of the respondents, the holistic list of rural people/farmers was obtained from the District Rural Development Agency, Panchayati Raj Institutions and village level extension workers. From the list obtained from the DRDA, PRIs and the Financing Agencies, 15 rural people/farmers were selected by using simple random sampling method. This method was applied to all selected villages. In this way, total 300 beneficiaries were selected for the collection of primary data.

Out of the 300 respondents, majority 80.33 per cent of the respondents were male while only 19.67 per cent of the respondents were females were selected for the study.

Method of data collection and Statistical tools for data calculation.

For study the data were collected through pre tested interview schedule by the researcher. statistical tools used for the analysis of data were frequencies and percentage.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Responses of the beneficiary respondents regarding their household material possession

| S. No. | Household items | No. of respondents (N=300) | Percentage |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 1. | Radio | 198 | 66.00 |
| 2. | Television | 176 | 58.67 |
| 3. | CD/DVD player | 56 | 18.67 |
| 4. | Cycle | 248 | 82.67 |
| 5. | Motor - cycle | 09 | 03.00 |
| 6. | Sofa – set | 08 | 02.67 |
| 7. | Wooden bed | 45 | 15.00 |
| 8. | Cot | 265 | 88.33 |
| 9. | Chairs | 84 | 28.00 |
| 10. | Tables | 76 | 25.33 |
| 11. | Deshi plough | 141 | 47.00 |
| 12. | Draught animals | 89 | 29.67 |
| 13. | Bullock cart | 126 | 42.00 |
| 14. | Seed drill | 15 | 05.00 |
| 15. | Bakhar | 116 | 38.67 |

The above table depicts the household material possession of the beneficiary respondents. It is

evident from the above table that 66.00 percent of the total respondents possessed Radio,

58.67 percent had Television, 18.67 percent have CD/DVD player, 82.67 percent have cycles, 03.00 percent have motorcycles, 02.67 percent have sofa set, 15.00 percent have wooden beds, 28.00 percent have chairs, 25.33

percent have tables 47.00 percent have Deshi-plough, 29.67 percent have Draught animals, 42.00 percent have Bullock –carts , 05.00 percent have seed –drills and 38.67 percent of the respondents have bakhar.

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to their initial annual income before and after interventions of I.T. and development-

| S. No. | Income group Rs. | Beneficiaries | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|--------|
| | | Before | % | After | % |
| 1 | Upto 25,000 | 96 | 32.00 | 35 | 11.66 |
| 2 | 25,001 to 50,000 | 63 | 21.00 | 26 | 08.66 |
| 3 | 50,001 to 75,000 | 57 | 19.00 | 74 | 24.66 |
| 4 | 75,001 to 1,00, 000 | 49 | 16.33 | 80 | 26.66 |
| 5 | 1,00, 000 to 2,00, 000 | 21 | 07.00 | 48 | 16.00 |
| 6 | More than 2,00, 000 Rs. | 14 | 04.67 | 37 | 12.33 |
| Total | | 300 | 100.00 | 300 | 100.00 |

Table shows the distribution of respondents according to their reported annual income before and after the benefits of information technology. Data reveals that before information technology, out of 300 respondents, only 4.67 per cent has annual income Rs. More than 200000, 7.00 per cent has annual income in the range of Rs. 10000 to 200000, 16.33 per cent has Rs. 75000 to 100000, 19.00 per cent has Rs. 50,001 to 75000, 63.00 per cent has Rs. 25001 to 50,000 Rs. and 32.00 per cent has annual income Rs. upto to 25000 Rs.

After benefits of information technology out of 300 respondents, 12.23 per

cent has reported their annual income above Rs. 200000 whereas 16.00 per cent had annual income between Rs. 100001 to 200000, 26.66 per cent had annual income between Rs. 75001 to 100000, 24.66 per cent had annual income between Rs.50,000 to 75,000, 8.66 per cent had annual income between Rs. 25,000 to 50,000 and 11.66 per cent had annual income upto to Rs. 25,000. This referred to extent of increase in annual income of the respondents as a result of information technology in the trade in which they received benefits of technologies.

Table 3: Sector wise distributions of the responses of the beneficiary respondents regarding the loan applied and loan received -

| Responses | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| S. No. | Sectors | Received the applied amount | Received less amount | Total |
| 1. | Agriculture | 75(61.47) | 47(38.53) | 122(100.00) |
| 2. | Industry | 22(64.70) | 12(35.30) | 34(100.00) |
| 3. | Business | 34(70.83) | 14(29.17) | 48(100.00) |
| 4. | Services | 20(71.43) | 8(28.57) | 28(100.00) |

The above table revealed that out of the total respondents in the Agriculture sector, 61.47 per cent had received the applied amount while 38.53 per cent had received fewer amounts.

In the industry sector, 64.70 percent of the total respondents had received the applied amount while 35.30 percent had received fewer amounts.

Under the Business sector, 70.83 percent of the total respondents had received the applied amount while 29.17 percent had received less than the amount applied for.

Similarly, under the services sector, 71.47 percent of the total respondents received the applied amount while 28.57 percent had received lesser amount.

CONCLUSION

The major findings of this study was that the household material possession of the beneficiary respondents. that 82.67 percent have cycles, 66.00 percent of the total respondents possessed Radio, 58.67 percent had Television, the study also concluded that 26.66 per cent had annual income between Rs. 75001 to 100000, 24.66 per cent had annual income between Rs.50,000 to 75,000, and 16.00 per cent had annual income between Rs. 100001 to 200000. after the benefits of information technology and in the Agriculture sector, 61.47 per cent had received the applied amount of loan while 38.53 per cent had received fewer amounts. Of the loans respectively.

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