



ANNA BHAGYA SCHEME: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY (With Special reference to Ballari District)

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ABSTRACT

KEYWORDS:

food security, Anna bhagya scheme, food grains, poverty line

This paper to explore whether Anna bhagya program is ensuring food security among the Ballari District, the Government of Karnataka has been launched the scheme for food subsidization and public distribution systems are the cornerstone for the appraisal and eradication of food insecurity in Karnataka. Whereas the Government of India passed the National Food Security Bill, the Government of Karnataka implemented a revised food distribution system, known as the Anna bhagya Yojana Scheme. Captivating into consideration the severity of food security in the state of Karnataka, the scheme must become optimized in order to efficiently allocate and distribute food for the people at affordable prices. The state government will spend Rs 4,500 crore every year for the scheme. A total of 108.98 lakhs priority households will be eligible to receive free food grains through a network of 20.778 fair price shops across the state from May 2018. As per revised Anna bhagya Scheme from the year 2017-18 beneficiaries are given 35 kgs of food grains (Rice/ Wheat/ Ragi) at 30 kg of rice at Rs 1 per kg and also 1 kg of sugar, 1 kg of Palm oil, 1 kg of Salt and 3 litres of kerosene at concessional rate to the AAY and BPL families. This study is focusing on the Historical background of food security in Karnataka and Ballari District, problems and challenges after the implementation of Anna bhagya Yojana scheme. This study of the Anna bhagya scheme I taking time into consideration when deciding which methodology would be the most effective. My tactics began with the use of descriptive statistics in order to conduct a basic analysis of the information collecting, this study taking place throughout various taluks in Ballari, including both rural and urban site. Finally, the Anna Bhagya scheme is a lifeline to poor families in Ballari District.

Methodology: *present study is based on Primary as well as secondary sources of information obtained from various journals, reports, newspapers and internet and field survey*

Objectives of the Study

The following are the specific objectives of the present study.

- *To study the impact of Anna Bhagya scheme on the below poverty people in providing food security.*
- *To look into the problems and challenges faced by beneficiaries of Anna Bhagya to get the food grains timely and Public Distribution shops in distribution of food grains freely or at economical prices fixed by the Government in Bellary district.*

INTRODUCTION

The deprivation of basic need represented by food insecurity and starvation are undesirable in their own right and also are possible precursors to nutritional, health, and developmental cornerstone for the assessment and eradication of food insecurity in India. While the government of India passes the National Food Security Bill, the government of Karnataka has implemented a revised food distribution system, known as the Anna Bhagya Yojana from July 2013. Under this ambitious programme, the government is supplying food grains free of cost to priority and non-priority households across the State. A total of 108.98 lakh households holding either antyodaya or below poverty line cards are eligible for the same. This scheme is critical in addressing issues of starvation and foodstuff insecurity, especially among the impoverished. In most developing countries, people spend only around 6-8% of their incomes on foodstuff, while a typical poor household India used to spend up to 70% of their income on foodstuff. Apart from the uncertainty that unstable incomes create, the impoverished had very little money left over for fulfilling other needs after spending such a large share of the food itself. With foodstuff now being free or at very little cost, the poor can re-deploy their freed up incomes for other gainful activities. Food subsidization and public distribution systems are the (Balasubramaniam, 2017).

We known, there are many problems that independent India is faced, one of the major problems of minimum quantities of food, shelter, cloths, refuges, communalism, poverty. One of the major overcoming the initial problem is providing food security to all the poor weaker section of society has received an excellence deal of attention among the policy makers both in the state and central governments. In the last decade and a half that India has successfully embraced socio-economic reforms, a curious problem has haunted the country and angry its policy maker, India's excellent growth has had little impact of foodstuff security and nutrition levels of its population.

How can we develop policies and strategies which can help to achieve harmony between human beings and nature and also among human beings? We have to start with our human resource to provide a roadmap for sustainable development. While FAO estimates that 490 million people across Asia and Pacific are suffering under nutrition.

Under the theme of our actions are our futures , zero hunger India Dr. Jose Graziano Da Silva, Director-General of FAO, 16 Oct-2018, in Rome he has warned that achieving the zero hunger target is a challenging task and that the battle for eliminating hunger is far from over.

BRIEF HISTORY OF BALLARI DISTRICT

After the independence Ballari people naturally rich but they are practically poor, Ballari (known days is famous on iron City & Second leading revenue gives after Bangalore to government of Karnataka) is a district in Karnataka state, India. Historical site, farm land and rich minerals characterize Ballari district, recently making headlines with mining industry, it also known as Steel City, iron City and Gani Nadu (City of mining).

Earlier Ballari District was part of Rayalseema, a region in toddy's state Andhra Pradesh, during the period of the British Raj. Ballari District was part of Madras presidency. The area was severely affected by the Great famine of 1876-78. After India independence, when the Indian states were reorganized along linguistic lines, Ballari became part of Karnataka.

While the High -power committee for Redressal of Regional imbalances (HPCRR) headed by the late Dr. Dogganal Mahadevappa Nanjundappa (2002) report 14 out of 175 taluks in Karnataka were declared backward, of which 59 were from North- Karnataka. In a further sub-classification, 26 out of the 39 "most backward" taluks were from North-Karnataka. Besides that 7 out of 8 districts having Human Development Index (HDI) lower than India's HDI level of 0.621 are in North Karnataka.

Table No. 01: Ballari District Ration Card statistics

Sl. No	Particulars	AAY	BPL	APL	TOTAL
01	Ballari	14834	81112	16491	112437
02	Hadagali	5578	31311	3335	40224
03	Hagaribommanahalli	6964	20829	3024	30817
04	Hospet	9805	47831	7325	64961
05	Kudligi	11320	34750	4002	50073
06	Sandur	6318	28034	8488	42840
07	Siruguppa	7660	25277	11494	44431
	Total	62479	54160	269144	385783

Source: www.ahar.kar.nic.in

The current study was confined to investigate the whether Anna Bhagya program is ensuring food security and hunger free Karnataka among the Ballari poor or not. To evaluate the impact of the programme, Evaluation research design was adopted, thus analyzing the impact of Anna Bhagya program in providing basic minimum quantity of essential food grains at lowest prices especially to the AAY and BPL families in ensuring food security among the respondents. For the

convenience of the study researcher has adopted Purposeful sampling technique, with the sample size of total Beneficiere static is 15,51,107 not only that, the total number of coupon shops in Ballari 798 are available. In that some selected 50 respondents. From each taluk, 7 respondents were selected from Ballari, Hadagali, Hagaribommanahalli, Hospet, Kudligi, Sandur and Siruguppa Taluks of Ballari District. Prior consent was taken from the BPL families to participate in the study.

Table No. 02: Minimum Support Price: (Per quintal)

Commodity	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Paddy-Grade 'A'	1110	1280	1345	1400	1450	1510	1590
Jowar-Hybrid	980	1500	1500	1530	1570	1625	1700
Bajra	980	1175	1310	1250	1275	1330	1425
Ragi	1050	1500	1500	1550	1650	1725	1900
Wheat	1285	1350	1400	1450	1525	1625	1735

Source: www.ahar.kar.nic.in

Above given the detail described, Food grains are procured at the Minimum support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government. For KMS 2017-18, the MSP for Grade a paddy was fixed at 1590/- per quintal. The MSP of wheat was fixed

at 1625/- per quintal for the RMS 2017-18, and RMS 2018-19, it has been fixed at 1735/- per quintal, the comparative MSP of wheat and paddy as announced by the Ministry of Agriculture for crop year 2011-to 2017-18.

RESULT AND FINDINGS

Table 03: Demographic information of the sample respondents

Sl.No	Particulars	Respondents	In percentage	
1	Gender	Male	30	60
		Female	20	40
		Total	50	100
2	Religion	Hindu	25	50
		Muslims	10	20
		Christian	15	30
		Total	50	100
3	Types of family	Joint family	05	10
		Nuclear family	45	90
		Total	50	100
4	Occupation	Agriculture	20	40
		Labour work	30	60
		Total	50	100
5	Types of Ration Cards	AAY	10	20
		BPL	35	70
		APL	05	10
		Total	50	100
6	Category	SC	15	30
		ST	17	34
		OBC	11	22
		GEN	07	14
		Total	50	100

Source: field survey

Above given the detail described, it is emphasized that, the average family type is nuclear of respondents is 90%. In addition, the size of the land owned by these consumers is, on average, 1.2 acres. This means that they do not have the capability to mass-produce crops, and therefore, the foodstuff

they cultivate is primarily used for consumption, rather than for selling in the market. Also, the small land size indicates that the individuals really do fall below the poverty line, and thus have rightfully been granted BPL cards, but this is merely a general observation.

Table 04: Experience with the service

Sl.No	Particulars	Respondents	In percentage
1	Good	32	64
2	Normal	12	24
3	Bad	06	12
4	Total	50	100

Source: field survey

Above given the detail described, reveals that majority of the respondents were satisfied with the services providing. Refers to how well the fair price shops provide information about the specific date and time of public distribution system commodities distribution. Nearly all respondents felt that

this service was conducted in a good or normal manner, with only a six respondents classifying it as bad.

During the field survey conducted for this study, it was observed that most of the respondents perceived public services such as Anna bhagya scheme more as a courtesy

bestowed by government rather sensing it with rights based approach and perform critical analysis of the scheme.

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF ANNA BHAGYA SCHEME

The food grain production has impact on the food security directly. In India, the growth rate of food grain production declined from 2.93 per cent to 0.93 per cent during the same period. The growth rate of production was much lower than that of population in the latter period. Similarly, growth rate of yields of food grains declined from 3.21 percent to 1.04 percent. The decline in production of food grains has direct negative impact on Public Distribution System. In Karnataka, Anna Bhagya is such scheme which aimed to provide essential food grains at cheapest prices. Taking into consideration the severity of food security in the state of Karnataka, the scheme has become optimized in order to efficiently allocate and distribute food for the people at affordable prices.

The main objective of the scheme is to make Karnataka a hunger-free state and ensure food security to the under privileged families. But, many of the challenges are faced by the Government of Karnataka to manage the scheme. They include lack of adequate food production in Karnataka compared to demand difficulty to manage financial resources to distribute food grains, identification of targeted BPL families, etc. Still, it is revealed from the Evaluation Report of the Government of Karnataka that the Anna Bhagya scheme has become successful. There is also criticism that the poor work lesser as there is free distribution or distribution of food grains at very cheapest (Re.1 per Kg). It is essential to know that whether the weaker sections and poor have really benefitted from Anna Bhagya scheme and to know the awareness of the Anna Bhagya Scheme among the targeted groups. It is also needed to know about the Anna Bhagya performance since last five years and impact on the overall development of BPL families and beneficiaries of the scheme.

CONCLUSION

As discussed above, many of the reports by various news agencies have proved that Anna Bhagya scheme has become successful in Karnataka to provide essential food grains to poor, but on the other hand, there is also criticism that due to shortage in food grains and lack of financial resources, the Government of Karnataka is facing many of the problems to distribute food grains through Anna Bhagya Scheme. Further, few of the restrictions have also been imposed to distribute food grains such as limiting the foodgrains, compulsions of Aadhar Cards and Biometric identifications, etc. Government should focus on quality and

quantity of food grains and other food grains to give on subsidiaries prices it is better to achieve undernourishment and universal food access. The latest available estimates indicate that about 815 million people in the world were undernourished in 2017, UN agencies working for food security like WFP, WB, FAO, IFAD, adopting measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets.

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