

**STUDY ON EVALUATION OF THE HIGH YIELDING VARIETIES PROGRAMME - KHARIF -
1968**

1. The Study

At the instance of the Planning Commission, the PEO initiated a detailed evaluation Study of High Yielding Varieties Programme on a continuing basis since 1967 - Kharif Season. This report relates to study conducted during Kharif season covering four important, Kharif crops, viz. Paddy, Jowar, bajra and Maize.

2. Objectives

- i) To assess the spread of the various high yielding varieties in different parts of the country and also determine the extent of such spread;
- ii) To ascertain the reactions, attitudes of cultivators/participating cultivators; and
- iii) To study the problems of implementation of the programme at different level of administration such as States, district, block and village.
- iv) Besides above, the study also covered certain other important and relevant aspects such as research efforts in evolving of new varieties.

3. Sample Size/Sample Selection

Adopting multi-stage systematic sampling technique, the study was carried out on a sample basis by selecting a sample of participating and non-participating cultivators. The sample comprised 974 participating and 643 non-participating cultivators drawn from 44 development blocks in as many districts spread over 16 States.

4. Period of Study

The field enquiry was conducted during Kharif 1968 season.

5. *Main Findings*

1. Adequate stress was laid on the breeding of High Yielding (HY) Strains in most of the selected research stations. Inadequacy **of research** functionaries was reported for many of the research stations and this was particularly acute regarding **staff other than** breeders and to a lesser extent for breeders also. There was inadequacy of equipment such as green rooms/glass houses for screening the varieties and equipment like electronic microscopes, etc. The extent of the 'feed back, process by way of field problems to the research station was quite encouraging in many stations indicative of the two way contact between **research and** the extension agency which was essential.

2. The facilities **for soil** testing were very inadequate and the current programme of soil testing fall too short of the technical requirements for the formulation of realistic **agronomic practices and manurial** schedules.

3. The training programme for the functionaries as well as the cultivators also recorded slight improvement. Radio was reported to be the most effective audio medium bringing out **varied and** interesting programme on the RYW.

4. Self-sufficiency in the HY seed was not yet achieved fully although in most States near self sufficiency had been reached during the season. The popularity of IR,8 seed in preference to other exotic varieties created a huge demand for this variety from a number of States.

5. A notable feature of this season was that pest/disease attack was reported to be less severe and widespread in the observed areas.

6. The total number of distribution depots showed a marginal increase in regard to fertilisers whereas for other inputs there was a slight fall during 1968-69 compared to earlier year. However, the level currently reached in regard to the distribution points in many areas, was quite adequate.

7. The special allocations for HYVP contemplated in the initial years through the Reserve Bank of India were discontinued in almost all the States during the season. However, provision for supplementary credit was made by the RBI. Thus, there was no dearth of funds for

this programme. The liberal system of extending taccavi loans to cultivators, as observed in the last years' report had proved more attractive than cooperative credit.

8. The average cash expenditure on current inputs worked out to Rs.1030 per hectare for the cultivation of HY paddy and this was more than double that for the cultivation of non-HY crops (Rs.460). Among the hybrid crops, the highest per hectare expenditure was for maize (Rs.714) followed by Jowar (Rs.593) and bajra (Rs.447). For all these four crops a large proportions of the expenditure was accounted by fertilizers and labour charges.

9. The non-adopters still predominate among the relevant cultivators but almost all the sample non-participants reported knowledge of the high yielding and hybrid varieties.

6. **Major Suggestions**

For improving the implementation of the programme, timely and adequate supply of inputs, more credit facilities and reasonable minimum price fixation for the produce are necessary. Selection of compact blocks for propagation and taking up PP measures on a mass scale particularly for paddy and jowar and starting of processing units for the produce in the areas are required for success of the programme.