

F. No. 5-1/2020-AER-ES
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Directorate of Economics & Statistics
(AER Division)

Room No.- 102, F-Wing
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-1
Date: 8.06.2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:-‘Minutes of online meeting on presentation on four studies with AERCs/Us held on 02nd June, 2022 at 1200 Hrs’-regarding.

The undersigned is directed to enclose the Minutes of online meeting on presentation of studies with AERCs/Us held on 02nd June, 2022 at 1200 Hrs (**enclosed**) under the chairpersonship of Sr. ESA , Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, for information and necessary action.

Encl.: as above



(Dr. P. Babu)
Asth. Economic Adviser (AER)
Ph. 011 2338 4022

To,

All Participating AERCs/Us

MINUTES OF ONLINE MEETING ON THE STUDIES OF WORKPLAN 2021-22
HELD ON 02nd JUNE, 2022 AT 1200 Hrs

A virtual meeting under the Chairpersonship of Sr. ESA, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, was held on 02nd June, 2022 at 12.00 hrs to 2.40 pm on presentation on the draft studies submitted by the AERCs/Us. List of participants who attended the meeting is at **Annexure-I**.

2. Adviser (AER) welcomed all the participants of AERCs/Us and briefed about the studies being presented by the AERCs/Us. It was informed that out of 21 studies allotted for 2021-22 work plan, a total of 9 studies were self proposed by AERCs itself. As on date draft of six studies are submitted to the ministry. Out of that four studies, having peer review comments, are ready for presentations. Adviser invited AERCs/Us to present their respective studies allotted during the work plan 2021-22.

3. The following studies were presented:

- I. Role of Women in Agricultural Sector: Case of Maharashtra by Prof. Jayanti Kajale and Dr. Atreyee Sinha Charkraborty, AERC Pune.
- II. Castor Crop Cultivation in Gujarat: Problems, Prospects and Export Potential by Prof. S. S. Kalamkar and Dr. H. Sharma, AERC VV Nagar.
- III. Identification of nodal markets for price monitoring by Prof. C.S.C.Sekhar, Dr. Yogesh Bhatt and Dr. Namrata Thapa, AERU IEG Delhi.
- IV. Farmers Perception regarding Production and Marketing of Quality Seed Production in Madhya Pradesh by Prof. Hari Om Sharma, Dr. Deepak Rathi, and Dr. H. K. Niranjana AERC Jabalpur.

4.

- i. The study “Role of Women in Agricultural Sector: Case of Maharashtra” was presented by Prof. Jayanti Kajale, AERC Pune. The observations and comments of the ministry are at **Annexure-II**.
- ii. The study “Castor Crop Cultivation in Gujarat Problems, Prospects and Export Potential” was presented by Prof. S. S. Kalamkar, AERC VV Nagar. The observations and comments of the ministry are at **Annexure-III**.
- iii. The study “Identification of nodal markets for price monitoring” was presented by Prof. C.S.C. Sekhar, AERU, IEG Delhi. The observations and comments of the ministry are at **Annexure-IV**.
- iv. The study “**Farmers Perception regarding Production and Marketing of Quality Seed Production in Madhya Pradesh**” was presented by Prof. Hari Om Sharma, AERC Jabalpur. The observations and comments of the ministry are at **Annexure-V**.

5. Later, Adviser (AER) made some general comments on the presentation made by the AERCs/Us which are as follows:

- i. Executive summary of the study report may be included in the study and may be restricted to 3-4 pages summarizing the entire report along-with the recommendations.
- ii. The dated data analysis has limited use; therefore, as far as possible the latest may be used in the study report. The table on secondary data must be updated with the latest available data.

- iii. While introduction may be narrative, the repetition must be avoided and must not be a repetition of concluding summary. Unnecessary details which are available in public domain must not be reproduced.
- iv. The findings of the econometric model/table may be written in simple terms. Along with table presentations, the textual presentation with detailed findings must be incorporated.
- v. The methodology section may be given as point-wise rather than narrative. Definition of variables and parameters may be given clearly in this section.
- vi. Draft report has to be finalized after incorporating the peer review and Ministry comments. The comment/observations of Ministry and responses on the same must also be printed at the end of the study report.
- vii. On the approval of the Ministry, a final study report is to be submitted to the Ministry, both in soft and hard copies, along with a three page policy brief.
- viii. Before the approval and acceptance of the study report by the Ministry, any part of the study must not be published in any Journal, paper, edited book, magazine etc. Further, a prior approval of the ministry is needed before such publication. This has been already conveyed to all AERCs/Us vide this Ministry's letter dated 20th April, 2022.
- ix. The constructive peer-review comments may be given by AERCs/Us for the overall quality improvement of the study.
- x. It is Centre/Unit's responsibility to come out with a good study report, based on qualitative and a grass root/evidence based data reflecting ground reality.
- xi. Lengthy data tables, computer results, tables, raw data, questionnaire etc., may be placed at Annexure. Results in summary table, may be placed along with its analysis in the chapter.
- xii. Further, the Quality of the study report should reflect the level and standard of the University/Institutes and must be up to a mark. All these are necessary in the view of resources allocated and also in view of its utility for the policy making.

Table: List of participants in the meeting

S.No.	Name	Designation & Organization
Participants from DES, DA&FW		
1.	Sh. Lalsanglur	Sr. ESA, DES
2.	Dr. PromoditaSathish	Adviser, AER Division, DES
3.	Dr. P. Babu	Astt.Eco.Adviser, AER Division, DES.
4.	Sh. Santosh	Economic Officer, AER Division, DES.
5.	Officials from AER Division, DES, DA&FW	
AER Centres/Units		
6.	Prof. Hari Om Sharma	Director, AERC, Jabalpur
7.	Dr. Deepak Rathi	AERC, Jabalpur
8.	Prof. S.S.Kalamkar	Director, AERC-VV Nagar
9.	Dr. Hemant Sharma	AERC-VV Nagar
10.	Prof. Jayanti Kajale	Professor, AERC Pune
11.	Shri Anil Memane	AERC Pune
12.	Prof. C.S.C. Sekhar	Professor, AERU IEG Delhi
13.	Dr. Yogesh Bhatt	AERC Delhi
14.	Dr. Namrata Thapa	AERU IEG Delhi

**Comments on Draft Study report titled, 'Role of Women in Agricultural Sector:
Case of Maharashtra'**

This study was proposed by AERC Pune itself and conducted by Prof. Jayanti Kajale and Dr. Atreyee Sinha Chakraborty.

During presentation, Sr. ESA intervened and raised a doubt whether or not the sample size of about 240 Households would be representative for the whole of state of Maharashtra, to which Dr. Jayanti Kajale replied that two districts are selected on the basis of different agro-climatic regions and the sample size of 240 was decided based on time-constraints.

Adviser (AER) made the following observations and comments:

1. It was mentioned that the study focused on women empowerment and women centric components, if added, in the scheme would influence the outcome of the scheme. This would have a greater impact on various socio-economic parameters.
2. The study also take into the account all the objectives of the research proposal with relevant policy recommendations. The study has built the Women Empowerment Agriculture Index being a novel step.
3. It has tried to capture the developments due to Covid-19 in terms of problems faced by respondents.
4. The study also talks about agriculture distress manifesting into suicides of male farmers and challenges faced by women cultivators therefore awareness about inclusion of name of women cultivator in landholding/title, along with male cultivator, is needed.
5. It was observed that Table No 4.6 brought out various Govt. Schemes and its awareness among women cultivators. However, it is very much needed that at the very beginning when some scheme is conceived, there may be some component which emphasizes that the names of both male and female cultivators is included in landholding of cultivating households. Further, some benefit may also be attached with it, which may be in terms of relatively higher subsidy, etc. This would definitely be a step toward women empowerment, and would also save female cultivators from facing various challenges. It was suggested that recommendations of these types may be suitably incorporated in the study.
6. It was suggested that the methodology may be in a point-wise form, rather than in narrative form. All variables may be defined in the methodology section.
7. The reference of period of primary data collection i.e. year/month etc. was missing in the methodology section, as well as, in chapter 3. This needs to be incorporated.
8. In the discussion and concluding chapter, repetition of the objectives, review of literature, sampling design and methodology, design of the study etc. are not necessary, as these are already included in the respective chapters.
9. The recommendations may be included in a separate chapter followed by summary and conclusion.

Comments on Draft Study report titled, ‘Castor Crop Cultivation in Gujarat Problems, Prospects and Export Potential’

This study was proposed by AERC VV Nagar itself and conducted by Prof. S. S. Kalamkar and Dr. H. Sharma.

1. Adviser (AER) informed that the study report is comprehensive, well drafted as well as well structured.
2. It was informed that on Pg. 17, the Cuddy Della Valle index (CDVI) formula needs a re-checking

$$CDVI = CV * X$$

Where, $X = 1 - R^2$, CV is coefficient of variation, and 2 is adjusted coefficient of determination.

The formula given above need rechecking and may be $CV * (\text{root of } X)$ where $X = 1 - R^2$ and R^2 is the adjusted coefficient of determination

3. It was observed that the study period has been divided into 05 time periods, viz. Period I to Period V and overall. This needs to be incorporated in Table 1.3 and other table(s), if required.
4. It was suggested that the Tables like 3.5, 3.6 etc have data up to 2017/18 which may be updated.
5. It was mentioned that the policy recommendations arising out of Granger–Causality test of co- integration test be suitably placed in the report, since it has been found that various castor markets are related. Some policy recommendations on the interconnectedness of the markets may be made.
6. Overall, the objectives set out in the research proposal have been well studied.

Comments on Draft study report titled, ‘Identification of nodal markets for price monitoring’

This study was proposed by AERU IEG itself and conducted by Prof. C.S.C.Sekhar, Dr. Yogesh Bhatt and Dr. Namrata Thapa.

Adviser (AER) made the following observations and comments:

1. It was observed that the study is a well researched report based on an econometric analysis. The study has tried to identify important markets of TOP through which important parameters may be monitored for taking policy decisions.
2. The study has taken into account AGMARKNET prices and confines to APMC markets of the various states. There are states like Bihar which do not have APMC. The study must comment on the procedures for covering these types of states in All India study like this.
3. It was commented that it is a farmer-centric study, the scope which is limited. The wholesale prices take into account APMC prices, non-APMC Mandi, local market, prices sourced from the Govt deptt. Wholesale prices may give wider coverage of prices and would be a better representative of prices. It may be at a higher level than the APMC prices. It was also suggested that the study may also include the reason for choosing APMC AGMARKNET prices over wholesale prices.
4. The report finds that the various variables like, prices, lagged prices, market arrivals, etc. have affected the prices and vice-versa. All these findings may be incorporated in the study in textual form. The effect of other variables like distance to market/area covered, transportation, government schemes/policies influencing (control variable), supply/demand chain effects may be considered for specific identification of effective nodal markets and accurate assessment of monitoring of the prices.
5. It was observed that the study was limited to analysis of the domestic market only. Influences of markets, other than the domestic market, particularly as seen in the case of onion, may also be addressed.
6. Policy recommendations for each of TOP crops may also be given, and also separately for all the types of strongly integrated markets, and the weekly integrated markets.

7. The paragraph/line on Food Inflation may be revised keeping in view the current scenario.
8. It was suggested that the Agriculture Year may be corrected as July to June in Table No. 4.2.
9. It was informed that the First Advance Estimates for 2021-22 are already out in public domain. Further, the 2nd Advanced Estimates of 2021-22 would be out within a week's time and the same may be used to update the table, eg.4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and in other tables. Table 4.6 needs to be updated with the latest available data.
10. It was suggested that paragraph heading like methodology, data source, and reference may be avoided in executive summary. The chapterisation may be done properly. Data should be updated with the latest available.
11. It was suggested that a policy brief of (2-3 pages) on the study report required to be submitted.
12. It was suggested that other factor/variables such as seasons, distance to market/area covered, transportation and government schemes/policies influencing (control variable) the total market arrivals(supply)/demands and prices along with supply/demand chain effects may have been considered for specific identification of effective nodal markets and accurate assessment of monitoring of the prices' .
13. In the results section, along with table presentations, the textual presentation with detailed findings must be incorporated, along with the notable features of nodal markets.
14. It was suggested that the Executive summary requires to be re-written afresh with a continuous flow of 3-4 pages highlighting the need, purpose, methodology, findings and policy implications etc. The heading/sub-headings/references may not be placed in the study report's executive summary.

Comments on Draft study report titled, 'Farmers Perception regarding Production and Marketing of Quality Seed Production in Madhya Pradesh'

This study was proposed by AERC Jabalpur itself and conducted by Dr. Hari Om Sharma, Dr. Deepak Rathi, and Dr. H. K. Niranjana.

The following are some of the observations which may be looked into:

1. The objectives spelt out have been met in the study report with a detailed data analysis.
2. An Executive summary is missing in the report which needs to be incorporated in the study report.
3. A policy brief of (2-3 page) may be submitted.
4. The chapterisation of the report needs to be separate and not clubbed together.
5. The latest available data may be incorporated for relevant data in the study report.
6. A combined report in a single PDF needs to be sent to the Ministry (file size less than 20Mb).