

Chapter 9

CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

9.1 MAIN FINDINGS

The existing method of measuring the impact on the beneficiaries as well as our own method of typological approach lead to unimpressive results. The returns we received from informants among the beneficiaries may be psychologically coloured to uphold the benefits they received. On the other hand if the projects were really integrated, that is to say, if they were supported by complementary activities and infrastructural facilities the rate of growth of income would have been clearly colossal.

Another important finding is that even when there is just a little improvement on the infrastructural facilities, there occurs enormous heightening of incomes and employment. Even the specific crop development programmes of the central government are more income creating than the non-integrated IRDP. Marginal and sub-marginal farms have improved upon their incomes and employment on the basis of the specific crop development schemes.

On the basis of analysis of crude data of costs and output by farm sizes we have found how important inputs can add to variation in output and employment of labour. Regression functions also show the productivity of important inputs. So in this dissertation we have succeeded to support the hypothesis

that growth of income generates in such activities where inputs can be bought from input markets and outputs are marketed at fair price through well-planned marketing set-up. Unless these are created, the IRDP will not contribute substantially to incomes and outputs.

9.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The objective of the IRDP is to contribute to the heightening of incomes and employment of the rural poor. In view of the persistence of poverty in the rural sector, it is first importance to realise that the highest priority be given to the problem of the elimination of this poverty. The country cannot afford the luxury of a scheme which is not really integrated but may catch votes.

Whatever we spend on IRDP must be a part of truly integrated model of development at the grass-roots. The structural transformation of the local level rural economies can be built up on a scheme of interdependent activities and infrastructural facilities. The infrastructural facilities might also be broken up as separate entities among interdependent activities. The recipients of IRDP would just be parts of these interdependent activities if their plight as well as the plight of other economic agents of the rural economies are to improve radically.