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A Study of Socio-economic Profile of Farming Community in Hadoti Region of Rajasthan, India

Vinay Kumar Singh [a++*], Dheerendra Kumar [b#], M. K. Jangid [c#], Kunwar Devdat Singh [d†] and Anand Kumar Mishra [e‡]

[a] Department of Agricultural Extension, Career Point University, Kota, Rajasthan, India.
[b] Department of Agricultural Extension, School of Agricultural Sciences, CPU, Kota, India.
[c] Department of Agricultural Economics, School of Agricultural Sciences, CPU, Kota, India.
[d] Department of Agricultural Extension, SHUATS, Allahabad (U.P.), India.
[e] Department of Agricultural Extension, Oriental University, Indore, MP 453555, India.

Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Original Research Article

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ABSTRACT

Aims: The present research aimed to study the socio-economic profile of the farming community of Hadoti region of Rajasthan state of India.
Study Design: In this study, the stratified random sampling method was used for the selection of farmers/respondents in the study area.

[++]PhD Research Scholar;
[#]Associate Professor;
[†]Research Scholar;
[‡]Assistant Professor;
**Corresponding author: E-mail: vinaykumarsingh775@gmail.com;*

Place and Duration of the Study: The study was conducted in Hadoti region of Rajasthan in 2022.
Methodology: A total of 320 farmers were randomly selected from different district's villages of the region. Total four districts Kota, Baran, Bundi and Jhalawar are in Hadoti region of Rajasthan. A total of 2-2 tehsils were selected from each district, 4-4 villages were selected from each tehsil and 10-10 farmers were selected from these selected village of each district. Thus, a total of 320 respondents were selected from Hadoti region for this study.
Results: The study found that majority of the farmers were small and marginal farmers with an average land holding of less than 2 hectares. Most of the farmers belonged to the 31–45-year-old group and most belonged to the Scheduled Castes. His 66.25% of farmers were engaged in agriculture, and the education level of the majority of farmers (25.31%) was his eighth level. According to the data obtained in the study, the respondents were from joint families (53.44%). The houses of the farmers were mostly (58.13%) both mud (kutcha) and solid (pucca). The study also revealed that the farming community faced various challenges including low education level, insufficient agricultural resources and lack of knowledge of new technology.
Conclusion: The study concluded that there is a need for policy interventions to improve the socio-economic conditions of the farming community in the Hadoti region of Rajasthan. The annual income of the farmers of the selected area is low due to the availability of agricultural resources in them.

Keywords: Hadoti region; farming community; socio-economic profile; agriculture land holding; agriculture challenges.

1. INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy, and the majority of the rural population is engaged in farming. Rajasthan is one of the largest states in India, and agriculture is the main occupation of the people in the rural areas [1,2]. The Hadoti region of Rajasthan comprises four districts, namely Kota, Baran, Bundi, and Jhalawar. The region is known for its Chambal reiver, rich cultural heritage, historical monuments, and ancient temples [3-5]. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people in the region, and the farming community is facing various challenges [6-8]. To understand these challenges in a systematic and systematic manner, it is necessary to study them [9,10]. This study sheds light on the social and economic status of the people in this region and the factors that influence villagers' occupations and incomes, as well as their annual income.

In this context, the present study aimed to study the socio-economic profile of the farming community of the Hadoti region of Rajasthan.

2. METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Hadoti region of Rajasthan in 2022. A total of 320 farmers were randomly selected from different district's villages of the region. Total four districts Kota, Baran, Bundi and Jhalawar are in Hadoti region of Rajasthan. A total of 2-2 tehsils were selected from each district, 4-4 villages were selected from each tehsil and 10-10 farmers were selected from these selected village of each district. Thus, a total of 320 respondents were selected from Hadoti region for this study. A structured questionnaire was prepared to collect data on various socio-economic factors. The questionnaire included questions related to the landholding pattern, irrigation facilities, traditional agriculture practices, education, access to credit, market information, and challenges faced by the farming community (Table 1). The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Age

Respondent's age is a direct measure of farming experience which was considered to be an important determinant with respect to adoption. The highest percentage of farmers in the age group of 31-45 years in the region is about 43.44 per cent while the lowest in case of farmers in the age group above 60 years is about 6.25 per cent (Fig. 1).

3.2 Caste

In this region the highest percentage of farmers caste 34.69 per cent SC while the lowest in case of farmers in the General is about 15 per cent (Fig. 2).

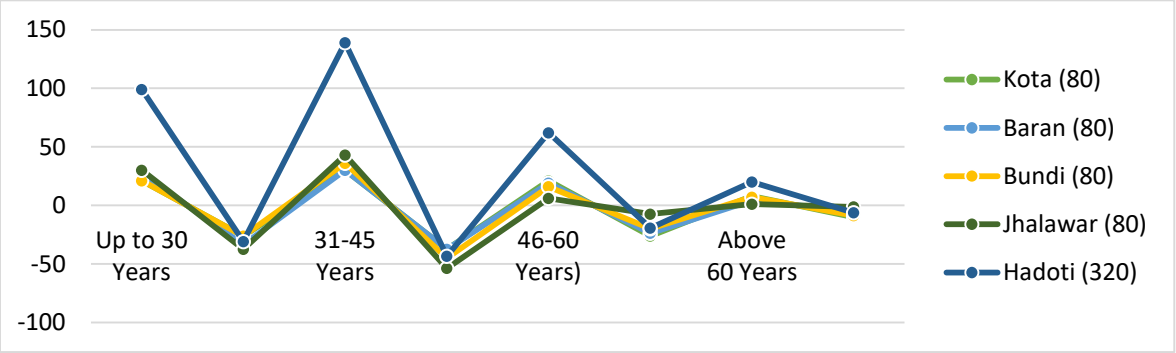

Fig. 1. Age of respondents

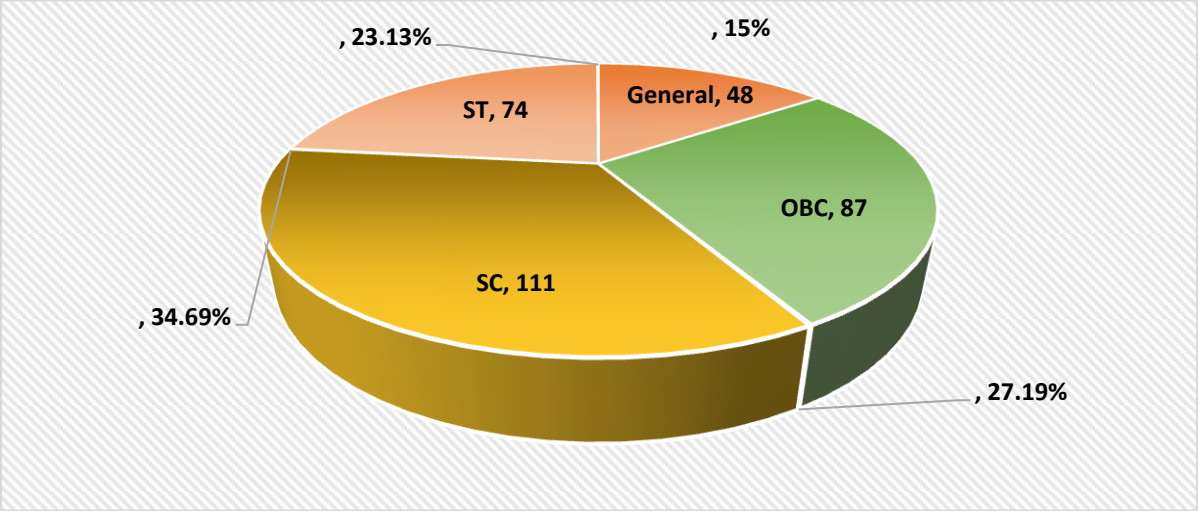

Fig. 2. Caste of respondents

3.3 Education

The highest percentage of 10th pass was (25.31 per cent) while 5.00 per cent were post-graduation and above. The probable reason could be due to the higher incomes and exposure of the large farmers of this region. Hence, education level was positively associated with the income level and farm size (Fig. 3).

3.4 Type & Size of Family

In Hadoti region, the maximum number of types of family was joint family 53.44 percent and nuclear family system was 46.56 percent. Size of the family on the basis of number of members in the family: The percentage of families with more than 4 members was 55, followed by the percentage of families with 2 to 4 members, 39.69 and the lowest percentage was 5.31 for families with up to two members.

3.5 House Types

In the research, the highest figures in the types of houses are kutcha and pucca type houses 58.12 percent, pucca houses 25.63 percent and the lowest percentage of kutcha houses was 16.25. Therefore, Hadoti division had the maximum number of kutcha and pucca houses and the least number of kutcha houses (Fig. 4).

3.6 Land Holding

In Hadoti region, the largest size of holding is small (1 to 2 ha) 38.75 per cent followed by marginal (less than 1 ha) 32.81 percent, medium (2 to 4 ha) 19.06 percent, large (more than 4 ha) 8.13 percent and most Less than 1.25 per cent belonged to the landless labourers (Fig. 5).

3.7 Occupation

In the current research findings, the maximum number of occupations of the respondents was

agriculture 63.75 percent, followed by agriculture with other business 17.50 percent, agriculture with agricultural activities 13.75 percent, and the lowest percentage was 2.50 under service and labour category with agriculture (Fig. 6).

Table 1. Socio-economic profile of the farming community in the Hadoti region

S. No.	Particulars		No. of Respondents (%)				
1	Age	**Age gap**	**Kota (80)**	**Baran (80)**	**Bundi (80)**	**Jhalawar (80)**	**Hadoti (320)**
		Up to 30 Years	21 (26.25)	27 (33.75)	21 (26.25)	30 (37.50)	99 (30.94)
		31-45 Years	30 (37.50)	30 (37.50)	36 (45.0)	43 (53.75)	139 (43.44)
		46-60 Years)	21 (26.25)	19 (23.75)	16 (20.0)	6 (7.50)	62 (19.38)
		Above 60 Years	8 (10.00)	4 (5.00)	7 (08.75)	1 (1.25)	20 (6.25)
2	Caste	General	21 (26.25)	7 (8.75)	15 (18.75)	5 (6.25)	48 (15.00)
		OBC	9 (11.25)	21 (26.25)	24 (30.0)	33 (41.25)	87 (27.19)
		SC	21 (26.25)	28 (35.00)	27 (33.75)	35 (43.75)	111 (34.69)
		ST	29 (36.25)	24 (30.00)	14 (17.50)	7 (8.75)	74 (23.13)
3	Education	Illiterate	2 (2.50)	5 (6.25)	7 08.75)	4 (5.00)	18 (5.63)
		5th pass	15 (18.75)	6 (7.50)	14 (17.50)	12 (15.00)	47 (14.69)
		8th pass	22 (27.50)	16 (20.00)	19 (23.75)	13 (16.25)	70 (21.88)
		10th pass	15 (18.75)	26 (32.50)	19 (23.75)	21 (26.25)	81 (25.31)
		Intermediate	2 (2.50)	15 (18.75)	10 (12.50)	10 (12.50)	37 (11.56)
		Graduation	18 (22.50)	9 (11.25)	7 (8.75)	17 (21.25)	51 (15.94)
		Post-graduation and above	6 (7.50)	3 (3.75)	4 (05.0)	3 (3.75)	16 (5.00)
4	Family type	Joint family	48 (60.00)	41 (51.25)	56 (70.0)	26 (32.50)	171 (53.44)
		Nuclear family	32 (40.00)	39 (48.75)	24 (30.0)	54 (67.50)	149 (46.56)
5	Size of Family	Less than 02 members	1 (1.25)	4 (5.00)	5 (6.25)	7 (8.75)	17 (5.31)
		02-04 Member	30 (37.50)	30 (37.50)	25 (31.25)	42 (52.50)	127 (39.69)
		More than 04 members	49 (61.25)	46 (57.50)	50 (62.50)	31 (38.75)	176 (55.00)
6	House	Mud house	21 (26.25)	15 (18.75)	6 (7.50)	10 (12.50)	52 (16.25)
		Both mud and solid	43 (53.75)	47 (58.75)	46 (57.50)	50 (62.50)	186 (58.12)
		Pucca house	16 (20.00)	18 (22.50)	28 (35.00)	20 (25.00)	82 (25.63)

S. No.	Particulars		No. of Respondents (%)				
7	Land Holding	Marginal (less than 1 hectare)	29 (36.25)	33 (41.25)	30 37.50)	13 (16.25)	105 (32.81)
		Small (1-2 ha)	22 (27.50)	27 (33.75)	29 (36.25)	46 (57.50)	124 (38.75)
		Medium (2-4 ha)	16 (20.00)	16 (20.00)	13 (16.25)	16 (20.00)	61 (19.06)
		Large (more than 4 hectares)	11 (13.75)	4 (5.00)	7 (8.75)	4 (5.00)	26 (8.13)
		Landless labor	2 (2.50)	0 (0.00)	1 (1.25)	1 (1.25)	4 (1.25)
8	Occupation	Agriculture	41 (51.25)	59 (73.75)	51 (63.75)	53 (66.25)	204 (63.75)
		Agricultural activities with agriculture	13 (16.25)	13 (16.25)	12 (15.00)	6 (7.50)	44 (13.75)
		Other business with agriculture	21 (26.25)	7 (8.75)	13 (16.25)	15 (18.75)	56 (17.50)
		Service with agriculture	1 (1.25)	0 (0.00)	2 (2.50)	5 (6.25)	8 (2.50)
		Labor	4 (5.00)	1 (1.25)	2 (2.50)	1 (1.25)	8 (2.50)
9	Transport facility	Bullock cart	6 (7.50)	6 (7.50)	9 (11.25)	14 (17.50)	35 (10.94)
		Cycle	3 (3.75)	8 (10.00)	9 (11.25)	4 (5.00)	24 (7.50)
		Motorcycle / Scooty / Scooter	34 (42.50)	39 (48.75)	37 (46.25)	27 (33.75)	137 (42.81)
		Tractor trolley	21 (26.25)	18 (22.50)	20 (25.00)	23 (28.75)	82 (25.63)
		Car / Jeep / Taxi	16 (20.00)	9 (11.25)	5 (6.25)	12 (15.00)	42 (13.13)
10	Income	Rupee. less than 50,000	29 (36.25)	24 (30.00)	35 (43.75)	26 (32.50)	114 (35.63)
		Rupee. 50,000 - Rs. 100000	31 (38.75)	30 (37.50)	32 (40.00)	34 (42.50)	127 (36.69)
		Rs.1,00000 - Rs. 20000	13 (16.25)	16 (20.00)	10 (12.50)	16 (20.00)	55 (17.19)
		Rupee. more than 2,000,000	7 (8.75)	10 (12.50)	3 (3.75)	4 (5.00)	24 (7.50)

3.8 Transport Facility

The maximum percentage of transport facilities with the respondents was motor cycle/scooty/scooter 42.21 percent, tractor trolley 25.63 percent, bullock cart 10.94 percent and minimum percentage of cycle was 7.50 percent.

3.9 Income

In Hadoti region, the highest percentage of respondents in the income categories of 50 thousand to 1 lakh rupees is 36.69 percent, followed by 35.63 percent of those with less than 50 thousand, 17.19 percent of those with income of 1 lakh to 2 lakh and the lowest percentage of 2 lakh. higher income respondents (Fig. 7).

The study found that most of the farmers in the Hadoti region were small and marginal farmers, with an average landholding of 1-2 hectares. The majority of the farmers were engaged in traditional agriculture practices, such as using bullock carts for ploughing, sowing seeds manually, and using organic fertilizers. The study also revealed that the farming community faced various challenges, including low productivity, inadequate irrigation facilities, and lack of access to credit and market information. The farmers also reported that they faced problems due to the high cost of inputs and the low prices of their produce.

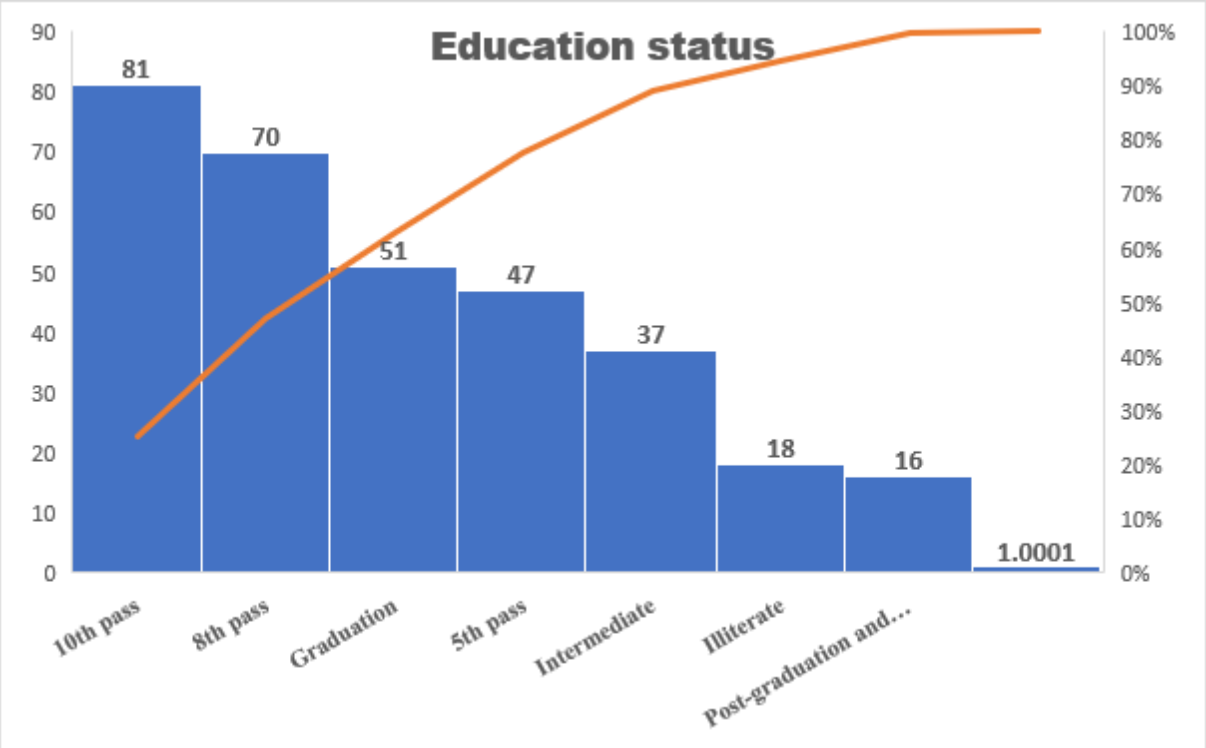

Fig. 3. Education status

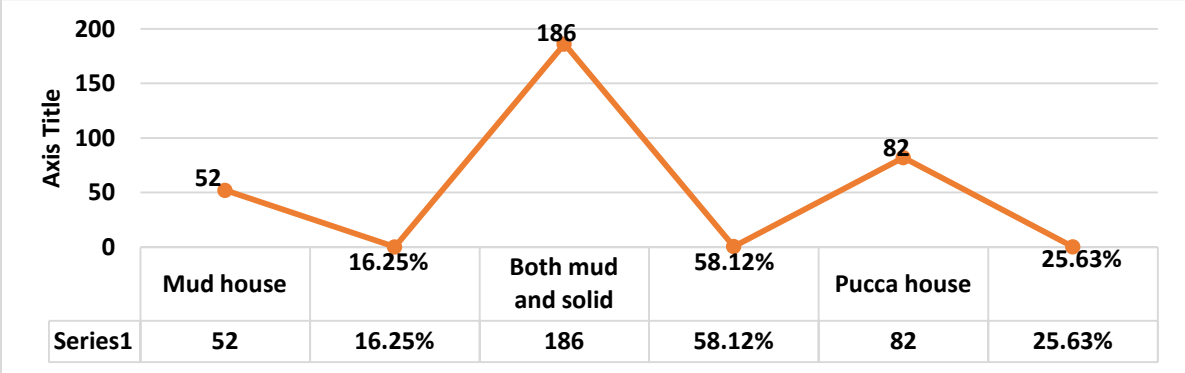

Fig. 4. House types

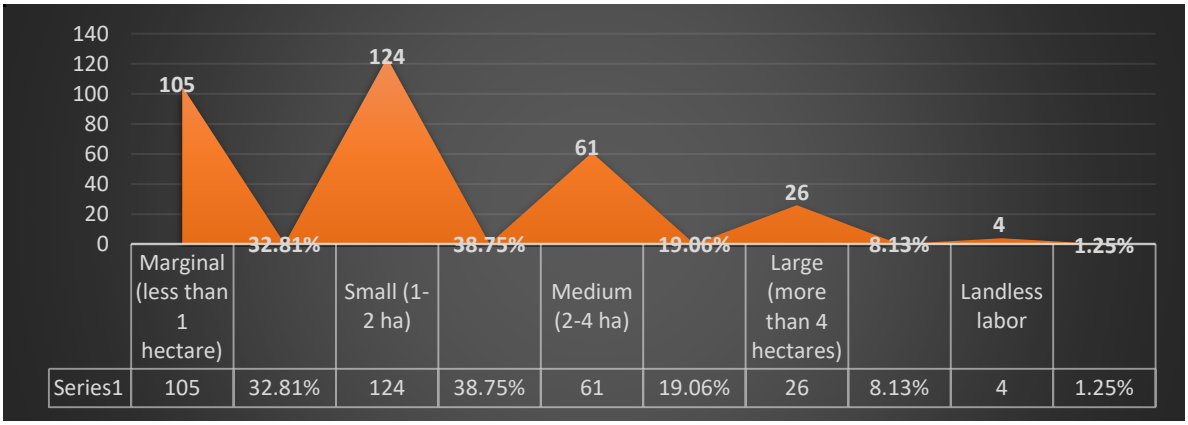

Fig. 5. Land holding status

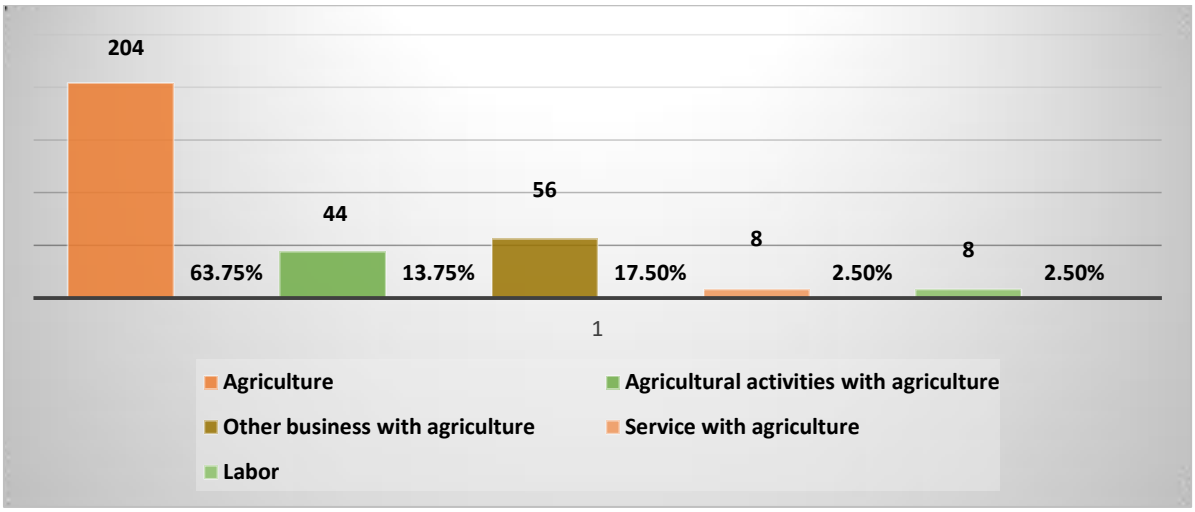

Fig. 6. Occupation of respondents

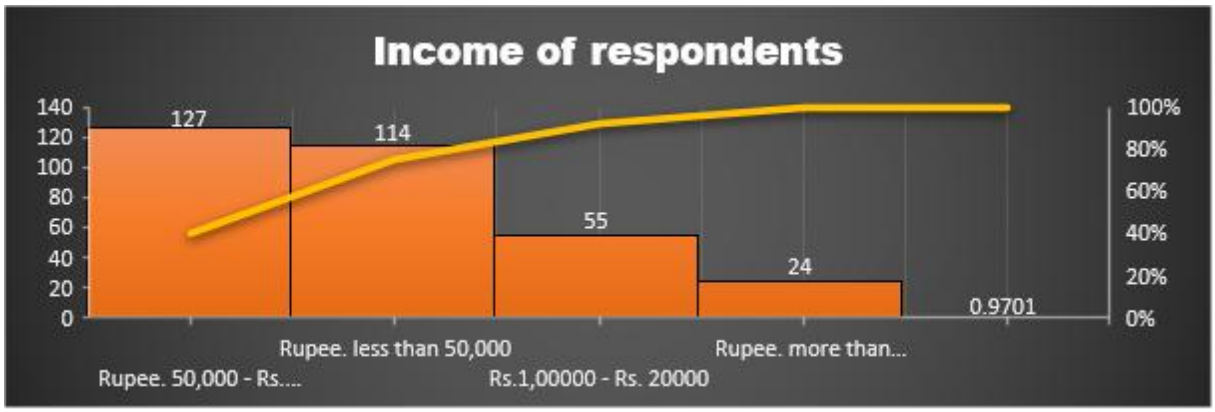

FIG. 7. Income of respondents

The study also found that the level of education among the farming community was low, with most of the farmers having only primary education. The study suggests that there is a need for education and training programs to improve the knowledge and skills of the farming community. The study also suggests that there is a need for policy interventions to improve irrigation facilities, provide credit facilities, and ensure timely and accurate market information to the farmers. The study recommends that the government should provide subsidies for inputs and machinery to reduce the cost of cultivation.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the present study highlights the socio-economic profile of the farming community in the Hadoti region of Rajasthan, India. The study found that most of the farmers were small and marginal farmers engaged in traditional agriculture practices. The study found that majority of farmers were youth in the age group of 31-45 years and in caste analysis, majority of farmers belonged to Scheduled Castes. Based on the study, most of the farmers being of age group, their working capacity was more and efficient. The study also found that the percentage of illiterates among the villagers was very low. The level of education in the villagers directly and indirectly affects their socio-economic aspects and their ability to think and understand. Along with this, the houses of the farmers were more kutcha and pucca (both types). Mostly the size of cultivable land of the farmers was small (1 to 2 hectare) and most of the respondents were engaged in agricultural work, due to which their income was low due to the limited source of annual income of the farmers.

The study recommends policy interventions such as improving irrigation facilities, providing credit

facilities, and ensuring timely and accurate market information to the farmers. The study also suggests the need for education and training programs to improve the knowledge and skills of the farming community. The government should provide subsidies for inputs and machinery to reduce the cost of cultivation. Overall, the study emphasizes the need for sustained efforts to improve the socio-economic conditions of the farming community in the Hadoti region of Rajasthan.

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COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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