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Correlates of profile of the farmers with their optimism of in distress prone district

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Abstract
The present study entitled "Assessment of Optimism of farmers in distress prone area of Vidarbha" was undertaken in Buldhana district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state and the exploratory research design was used for the study. A total sample comprising 120 respondents were selected from ten villages by using random sampling method. The data was collected with the help of pre-tested interview schedule by personally interviewing the respondents and data were subjected to appropriate statistical analysis. In this investigation it is found that, out of 120 respondents, majority of the respondents (70.83%) were observed in medium level of optimism.

1. Introduction
In the modern era no one is fully satisfied in his or her life because of changing lifestyle of the people and their needs. Farmers are no exception to this. Farming is one of the most stressful occupations which deteriorating the quality of life of the farmers and committing suicide. Hence, by knowing the psychological variables of the farmers such as optimism this study will help to improve the quality of life and lessen the farmer's suicides by framing the suitable policy framework.

According to Oxford dictionary optimism is defined as hopefulness and confidence about the future or the success of something. One has optimism play an important role because of its significance as keep our blood pressure down, make our life less painful, help us to take care of our self, help us to stay youthful, heart-healthy and help us to perform better. How we think about our health and life affects our neurology. Negative thoughts can interfere with the communication in our mind-body connection, compromising our overall health and wellbeing. In other hand positive thinking will nurture our body, helping to remove the interference and restore our body's natural ability to heal itself.

2. Methodology
Present study was carried out in the year 2017-18 with the jurisdiction of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola (Maharashtra State). The present investigation was undertaken in Buldhana district of the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state. Amongst selected district, consecutive two tahsils where the more farmer suicidal cases were happened was selected purposively. Amongst selected tahsils five (05) villages, where the maximum number of the farmers committed suicides were selected purposively. Thus, from two tahsils 10 villages were selected. From the previous research studies, it is cleared that farmers are committing suicides due to dry land farming, indebtedness and crop failure and suicidal farmers were marginal, small and semi-medium.

Thus, the list of dry land farmers who are marginal, small and semi-medium having debt and continuous crop failure was obtained from Department of Agriculture/ Bank officers/Talathi from Collector office. From each selected village the 4 marginal, 4 small farmers and 4 semi-medium farmers who are in debt and crop failure during consecutive three years was selected purposively. Thus, from each selected village, 120 farmers were selected to constitute the sample size of 120 respondents from ten villages.

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3. Results and Discussion
1. Education
Education generally empowers the human beings not only to understand the situation but to aware the problems and solutions to get out of the deprived situation.

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their education

Sl. No.	Education (Standard)	Respondents (n=120)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Illiterate	07	5.83
2	Primary school	24	20.00
3	Middle school	22	18.33
4	High school	24	20.00
5	Higher secondary school	31	25.84
6	College	12	10.00
	Total	120	100.00

The education of the respondents was studied and the results obtained have been presented in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 it is observed that, little more than one fourth (25.84%) of the respondents were educated up to higher secondary school level followed by equal proportion (20.00%)of respondents were educated up to primary school and high school level. Whereas, 18.33 per cent of the respondents were educated up to middle school level and the respondents who were educated up to college level and illiterate were 10.00 per cent and 5.83 per cent respectively.

It can be concluded from the above finding that little more than one fourth (25.84%) of the respondents were educated up to higher secondary school level.

2. Land holding

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to their land holding

Sl. No	Land holding	Respondents(120)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Marginal	40	33.33
2	Small	40	33.33
3	Semi-medium	40	33.34
	Total	120	100

The distribution of respondent in Table 2 revealed that, on the basis of selection criteria equal proportion of respondents (33.33%) were categorized in three categories i.e. marginal, small and semi-medium.

3. Annual income

Table 3: Distribution of the respondents according to their annual income

Sl. No.	Annual income (Rs.)	Respondents (n=120)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1	Up to 50,000/-	45	37.50
2	50,001/- to 1,00,000/-	47	39.16
3	1,00,001/- to 1,50,000/-	14	11.66
4	1,50,001/- to 2,00,000/-	09	7.52
5	Above 2,00,000/-	05	4.16
	Total	120	100.00

The bird eye view of Table 3 revealed that, relatively higher proportion (39.16%) of respondents comes under the annual income ranging between Rs.50,001/- to Rs.1,00,000/- followed by 37.50 per cent of them had annual income up to Rs.50,000/-. Whereas, 11.66 per cent of the respondents had annual income between Rs.1,00,001/- to Rs.1,50,000/- followed by 7.52 per cent of respondents comes under annual income ranging from Rs.1,50,001/- to Rs.2,00,000/-. Very meager of (4.16%) of respondents were observed in having annual income above Rs.2,00,000/-.

Thus, it is concluded from above findings that relatively higher proportion (39.16%) of respondents comes under the annual income ranging between Rs.50,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/-.

4. Economic motivation
In order to understand the level of economic motivation, pertinent data were collected and the details are presented below in Table 4.

Table 4: Distribution of the respondents according to their level of economic motivation

Sl. No.	Economic motivationlevel	Respondents (n=120)	
		Frequency	Per cent
1.	Low (Up to 20)	24	20.00
2.	Medium (21 to 25)	71	59.17
3.	High (Above 25)	25	20.83
	Total	120	100.00

It can be clearly observed from Table 4 that, relatively higher proportion (59.17%) of the respondents had medium economic motivation followed by little more than one fifth (20.83%) and one fifth (20.00%) respondents who had high and low level of economic motivation respectively.

It is concluded that relatively higher proportion of respondents belonged to medium economic motivation.

5. Achievement Motivation
Achievement motivation is a psychological variable. It differs from individual to individual and it forces the individual towards reaching same goal.

Achievement motivation is the desire for excellence to establish the personal accomplishment. It is the desire of doing difficult things which gives them a satisfaction.

Table 5: Distribution of the respondents according to their level of achievement motivation

Sl. No.	Achievement motivation level	Respondents (n=120)	
		Frequency	Per cent
1.	Low (Up to 17)	26	21.67
2.	Medium (18 to 24)	76	63.33
3.	High (Above 24)	18	15.00
	Total	120	100.00

It can be clearly observed from Table 5 that, relatively higher proportion (63.33%) of the respondents had medium achievement motivation followed by 21.67 per cent and 15.00 per cent respondents who had low and high level of achievement motivation respectively.

It is concluded that relatively higher proportion of respondents belonged to medium achievement motivation.

6. Indebtedness

Table 6: Distribution of the respondents according to their indebtedness

Sr. No.	Indebtedness (Rs)	Respondents (n=120)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Up to 50,000/-	16	13.33
2.	50,001/- to 1,00,000/-	29	24.17
3.	1,00,001/- to 1,50,000/-	36	30.00
4.	1,50,001/- to 2,00,000/-	19	15.83
5	Above 2,00,000/-	20	16.67
	Total	120	100

Data depicted in Table 6 revealed that, little less than one third (30.00%) of the respondents had debt between Rs.1,00,001/- to RS. 1,50,000/- followed by little less than one fourth (24.17%) of the respondents had debt between RS.50,001/- to RS.1,00,000/-. Whereas, 16.67 per cent of the respondents had debt above RS. 2,00,000/- while 15.83 per cent of the respondents had debt between RS.1,50,001/- to RS. 2,00,000/- and only 13.33 per cent of the respondents had debt up to RS. 50,000/-.

It could be concluded from the findings that little less than one third (30.00%) of the respondents had debt between RS.1,00,001/- to RS.1,50,000/-.

7. Crop failure

Table 7: Distribution of the respondents according to their crop failure

| Sl. No. | Major crop failed | Number of times | | | | | |
| | | 3 or more | | 2 | | 1 | |
		Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1.	Soybean	61	50.88	39	32.49	26	21.67
2.	Cotton	55	45.83	45	37.50	20	16.67
3.	Wheat	31	25.83	49	40.83	40	33.34
4.	Gram	42	35.00	55	45.84	17	14.17
5.	Green gram / Black gram	35	21.17	58	48.33	27	22.50

The data from the Table 7 clearly indicates that, slightly more than half (50.88%) of the respondents experienced crop failure 3 times in soybean crop followed by 45.83 per cent experienced crop failure up to 3 times in cotton followed by 35.00 per cent, 25.83 per cent and 21.17 per cent were experienced crop failure 3 times in gram, wheat, and green gram/black gram crop respectively. While 48.33 per cent, 45.84 per cent and 40.83 per cent of the respondents experienced crop failure 2 times in black gram/green gram, gram and wheat crop respectively. Whereas, 37.50 per cent and 32.49 per cent of the respondents experienced crop failure in cotton and soybean crop respectively while 33.34 per cent, 22.50 per cent, 21.67 per cent, 16.17 per cent and 14.17 per cent of the respondents experienced crop failure only 1 time in wheat, green gram/black gram, soybean, and cotton and gram crop respectively.

From the above findings it can be concluded that soybean and cotton are the major crops grown in Buldhana district in which both crop got failure in more times may be due to fluctuation in weather conditions.

8. Optimism

To measure the optimism, 10 statements were selected and Table 6 revealed that, In uncertain times, usually expect the best, majority of the respondents (80.34%) were disagree followed by one tenth (10.00%)were said cannot say and only 9.16 per cent were agree to this statement. The respondents 63.34 per cent were disagree to the statement as it's easy for me to relax followed by 26.66 per cent and 10.00 per cent of them who were agree and cannot say in opinion respectively. If something can go wrong for me, it will, relatively higher proportion of the respondents (60.00%) and 40.00 per cent were agree and disagree opinion respectively and none of them were in cannot say opinion.

Table 8: Distribution of the respondents according their opinion about optimism

| Sl. No. | Statements | Agree | | Cannot say | | Disagree | |
		Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1	In uncertain times, I usually expect the best	11	9.16	12	10.00	97	80.84
2	It's easy for me to relax	32	26.66	12	10.00	76	63.34
3	If something can go wrong for me, it will.	72	60.00	00	00.00	48	40.00
4	I'm always optimistic about my future	54	45.00	00	00.00	66	55.00
5	I enjoy my friends a lot	74	61.66	00	00.00	46	38.34
6	I hardly ever expect things to go my way.	32	26.66	36	30.00	52	43.34
7	I don't get upset too easily.	36	30.00	69	57.50	15	12.50
8	I rarely count on good things happening to me.	95	79.16	04	3.34	21	17.50
9	Overall, I expect more good things to happen to me than bad	115	95.83	05	4.17	00	00.00
10	It's important for me to keep busy	102	85.00	00	00.00	18	15.00

I'm always optimistic about my future, 45.00 per cent and 55.00 per cent of the respondents were agree and disagree in opinion respectively and none of them were can not say in opinion to this statement. I enjoy my friends a lot, 61.66 per cent and 38.34 per cent of the respondents were agree and disagree in opinion to this statement while none of them were can not say in opinion to this statements. I hardly ever expect things to go my way, 43.34 per cent, 30.00 per cent and 26.66 per cent of the respondents were disagree, cannot say and agree in opinion to this statement respectively. I don't get upset too easily, 57.50 per cent, 30.00 per cent and 12.50 per cent of the respondents were in opinion that cannot say, agree and disagree respectively.

I rarely count on good things happening to me, Majority (79.16%), 17.50 per cent and 3.34 per cent of the respondents were agree, disagree and cannot say in opinion to this statement. With regards to the statement as overall, I expect more good things to happen to me than bad, large majority (95.83%) and 4.17 per cent were agree and cannot say opinion while none of them were disagree in opinion to this statements. It's important for me to keep busy, majority of the respondents (85.00%) and 15.00 per cent were agree and disagree opinion respectively while none of them were can not say in opinion.

Table 9: Distribution of respondents according to their level of optimism

Sl. No.	Optimism level	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low (Up to 58.07)	18	15.00
2	Medium (58.07 to 82.34)	85	70.83
3	High (Above 82.34)	16	13.33
	Total	120	100

Table 9 indicated that, majority of the respondents (70.83%) were observed in medium level of optimism followed by less than one fifth (15.00%) and 13.33 per cent who were observed in low and high level of optimism level respectively. Correlation analysis was carried out to know any association with optimism of respondents. The coefficients of correlation of the selected profile with optimism have been furnished in Table 10.

Table 10: Correlation Coefficients of optimism with independent variables

SI. No.	Independent variables	'r' value
1	Education	0.246*
2	Land Holding	0.215*
3	Annual Income	0.198*
4	Economic Motivation	0.306**
5	Achievement Motivation	0.217*
6	Indebtedness	-0.293**
7	Crop Failure	-0.212*

** = Significant at 1 per cent level of significance
* = Significant at 5 per cent level of significance
NS =Non-Significant

It can be inferred from table 10 that, the calculated co-relation co-efficient between optimism of respondents and selected profile result clearly indicated that out of total variables, economic motivation showed positive and significant correlation with optimism at 0.01 level of probability whereas education, land holding, annual income, achievement motivation showed positive and significant correlation with optimism at 0.05 level of probability. Whereas indebtedness showed negative and significant correlation with optimism at 0.01 level of probability whereas, crop failure found negative and significant correlation with optimism at 0.05 level of probability.

4. Conclusion
Majority of the respondents (70.83%) were observed in medium level of optimism followed by less than one fifth (15.00%) and 13.33 per cent who were observed in low and high level of optimism level respectively. Therefore, it is implicated that, there is urgent need to improve optimism level of the farmers in distress prone area by awaring Government schemes for their employment, organizing regular training and counseling

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