

# Summary Of The Gokhale Institute Studies

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**Title :** *Role of Agricultural Extension in the Management of Drought and Impact of Extension Messages on the Farmers by Dr. S.W. Muranjan, Mimeograph Series No. 32, October 1991, pp. IV + 34, Rs. 35/-.*

Present study was planned as an extension of our earlier study on the 1987-88 drought submitted to the Directorate in April 1990, under the caption "Impact of 1987-88 drought on the economic conditions of rural people in Maharashtra". The same households sampled for the earlier study were approached with additional question to meet the requirements of the present study. The study is based on a sample of 177 households of cultivating families in five talukas from three selected districts, and it examines the provisions existing in a district to meet a drought situation, the extension measures taken up to meet the drought of 1987-88, the manner in which the farmer responded to these majors and the outcome of the response from the farmers.

A scarcity branch was in existence in every collectorate in the state to deal with the problems arising on accounts of the drought but it became functional only when scarcity arose in a district. The Collector being the administrative head of a district, all notifications pertaining to a drought were being issued through him. All major decisions regarding measures to minimise the impact of the drought were being taken up by Scarcity Committee formed by the Collector and represented by the MPs, MLAs, Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samitis and various departments in the district.

The Training and Visit programme headed by the Principles Agricultural Officers in a district was the main agencies for the extension of agricultural knowledge in the district. The Agricultural Department in the Zilla Parishad was responsible only for the supply of inputs. The T and V section was also responsible for preparing the Annual Agricultural Production plan for a