



Special Economic Zones : Present Problems and Future Projects of Farmers in Nanded Sub- Division, Dist-Nanded (Maharashtra)

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Research Paper

Historical background of SEZ:-

The concept of having a separate zone demarcated for economic activity alone first emerged in Puerto Rico in 1947. It was a milestone in country's economic and political history. It was originated in China in 1983 and established under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping. In China SEZ was established first in a small village senzen. Due to successful experiments senzen becomes the world's biggest economic centre. Exportation in India is done on large extent from senzen only. Due to SEZ economic and industrial development take a speed and thus China becomes the worlds super power. In the basin of youngetse river of China through SEZ project near about 22% production is take over out of total national income of China. SEZ can be explained from two aspects. In a broder sense, it refers a zone which economic activities handled with special policies of government.

These might include free port, free trade zones, export originated processing zone, traffic free zone and scientific industrial park etc. at a narrow sense, it only refers to economic zones with special policies, which are established to attract foreign capital and technology with the objective of increasing export. The success of this undertaking led many countries to set up Export Promotion Zones (EPZs). The first EPZ was set up near Shannon Airport in Ireland to encourage the duty free production of consumer goods and thereby give an impetus to exports. After independence ie period from 1991-92 the mixed economic policy was continued but the extent and speed of development was felt limited. Most of the countries economic policies across the world was seen in a developed state due to acceptance of capitalistic economic policy. Like other developing nations India has also supported the capitalistic economic policy and thus planning and implementation for the new eco-

nomical policy has been started. After that in the year 1995 world trade organization came into existence. It has boosted the privatization, liberalization and globalization. Thus thought of promoting less participation of Govt. in economic system and encouraging private sector was forwarded and thereby search for new and courageous policy was started India's commerce minister Shri. Murasole Maron in the year 2000 went to China and get impressed by the development scope and speed and they came to know that such development was possible only because of special economic zone thus they realized that implementation of such policy may brought out changes in India.

Idea of establishing industrial zones for enforcing all purposes and calling them as special economic zones (SEZ) was recognized. This concept was easily get accepted at all levels. India's first EPZ was established at Kandla Gujarat in 1965; this was followed by SEEPZ in Mumbai in 1972 and such zones were latter set up in Chennai, Surat, Falta, Koshi, Noida and Vizag. However it was not until the 1980's that the concept of SEZs in then present form emerged. Since then the idea of SEZs has been implemented in different ways around the world and with different objectives. In 2000, India's special economic zone policy was announced with the objective of providing infrastructure facilities and economic regulations necessary to create an internationally competitive environment for the promotion of exports and attraction of larger foreign investments. Thus the special Economic Zones Act was passed by parliament in May 2005. At present Indian Govt. has already formally approved 404SEZ's of which 172 SEZs have been notified across India and 232 have been given formal approval and are awaiting notification. About 60 of these have already generated direct employment of about 52,000 and indirect employment of 1,60,000 with growth likely to be exponential, these numbers could shoot up to

150,000 by March 2008 and to 600,000 by the end of 2009.

Total Investment (Month of June 2008)
Investment of workout projects

State	Total Project	Investment (In Crore)	Percentage of investment
Maharashtra	2498	182,191	12.49
Andhrapradesh	927	122,071	8.37
Gujarat	533	112,901	8.37
Karnataka	824	91,199	6.25
Tamilnadu	811	80,770	5.54
India	10955	1,458,988	100

The debate therefore is not whether SEZs are beneficial, but who will benefit and who stands to lose. It is estimated that since independence about 20 million people have been displaced by development projects.

It is likely that this figure will continue to increase as SEZs are established across the country. Farmers started organizing, themselves and protest against Govt. decision about SEZ by hunger strike, rallies. Leaders such as Medha Patkar, former P.M. Vihwanath Pratapsingh are supporting protestors. The land acquisition (Amendment) bill 2007 and the rehabilitation and resettlement bill 2007 were introduced in the loksabha and are now before parliamentary standing committee on rural development headed by Kalyan singh in response to popular apposition in different parts of the country to the takeover of land for creation of special economic zone. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan singh has strongly supported SEZ and said that "SEZ are here to stay" they are engines of growth. Industries in India like Ambani, Kalyani, Essar, Hindalko Mahindra, Tata, Wipro looks towards SEZ's an opportunity for the economic development of India by industrial development.

Foreign companies like google, dale posco, Timken, salim etc. came forward to establish SEZ in India. Nevertheless SEZs cannot be rejected outright, they certainly have their benefits and a rapidly industrializing country like India needs to be open to experimentation. While implementing any such scheme, however the perspectives of all the affected parties should be considered. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) and IL and FS, which are jointly developing four special economic zones (SEZs) in Maharashtra, have appealed to the pharmaceutical entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh to set up units at the Nanded Pharmaceuticals SEZ coming up at Krushnoor Industrial Estate in Nanded district. This would come up over 150 hectares at an investment of Rs. 300 crore and offer several incentives to entrepreneurs. Thus present research study focused attention on perspectives of farmers in Nanded district whose land has been acquainted under SEZ. Present study is an attempt to study the present socio-economic conditions of farmers and impact of SEZ on it and thereby assess the overall future prospect and development of farmers.

Objectives:-

The main objectives of the study are – To study the present social and economic conditions of farmers. To study the perspectives of farmers about the impact of SEZ on them. To study the development of farmers thereby.

Methodology :-

Present Research Study has been conducted in Nanded Sub-Division. In Nanded district there are total 16 Talukas for administrative purpose. Nanded district has been divided into sub-divisions such as Nanded, Degloor and Kinwat. Using simple random method by using lottery technique 04 villages from Nanded sub-division has been selected. From each village 05 samples (households) total 20 samples have been selected by using the same method. Data will be collected by using interview schedule and conducting direct interview of the Head of the house holds of farmers who have been issued orders by the Govt. for land acquisition under special economic zone (SEZ).

Discussion and observation method will also be used. Secondary data will be collected from the Tahsil office, books, Internet etc. Descriptive versus analytical research design will be used to analyse the impact of SEZ on farmer's socio-economic conditions and analyse advantages and disadvantages of it with farmer's perspective. Findings, conclusions and suggestions of the present research paper will be drawn at the end of the study.

Results-

Regarding age of the farmers 15% of farmers whose land is going to be acquaisited under SEZ falls under the age group of 20 to 30 yrs., 15% falls under 31 to 40 yrs age group, 40% farmers falls under 41 to 50 yrs and 30% of farmer's falls under the age group of above 51 yrs. As for as educational background is concerned 40% of farmer's whose land is going to be acquaisited under SEZ are illiterate, 20% of them have taken education up to primary level (I to VII std.), 15% of farmers taken education up to secondary level (VIII to X), 20% of them taken education up to higher secondary level and 5% of farmers have been taken education up to graduate level. Besides this no one of them has taken education up to post graduate level. It is clear from the above table that out of total respondents 85% of farmer's basic occupation is farming no one is in service 10% are doing business such as tractor, provision shop and 5% doing other occupation ie driving, Auto Rickshaw. Thus majority of farmer's livelihood depend upon farming. Family status of respondents show that is clear from the above all of them 100% farmers are living in a joint family. Regarding educational status of respondents family members is concerned 41% members of farmers are illiterate, 22% (I to VII) have taken education up to primary level, 18% up to secondary level (VIII to X), 14% up to higher secondary level (XI to XII) and 15% have taken education up to graduate

level. No body have taken education up to post graduate level. Land process by farmers in acres indicate that out of total farmers 40% farmers possess 1 to 5 acre land, 55% possess to 6 to 10 acre of land and 5% farmer has above 15 acre land. Regarding type of land is concerned out of total farmers majority ie (80%) of farmers have total fertile type of land and remaining 20% of farmers have land barren to some extent. Opinion on valuation of land states that 100% are of the opinion that present private valuation of land is above Rs.1,25,000/- and similarly 35% are also having the same opinion about the valuation of land according to Govt. valuation. Regarding annual income is concerned out of total farmers 5% farmers gets annul income of Rs.15001/- to 20,000/-, 20% of them gets Rs.20,001/- to 25,000/- and 75% of them gets Rs.25,001/- and above through farming. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers majority of farmers ie 55% are not getting proper market value for their crops and remaining 45% of farmers are getting proper market value for their crops. Regarding secondary occupation is concerned out of total farmers 60% of farmers are doing dairy as secondary occupation besides farming remaining 5% are doing poultry farming, 30% are doing secondary occupations such as Auto driving, Provisionary shop running small hotel and 5% of them do not involved in any other secondary occupation.

Land It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers 15% of farmers gets annual in come up to Rs.5,000/- from secondary occupations, 25% gets up to 5001/- to 10,000/-, 30% gets up to 10,001/- to 15,000/- 20% gets 15001/- to 20,000/- and 10% of farmers gets annual income above 20,000/- Rs. From secondary occupations. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers 55% of them said that out of their total land 1 to 5 acre land will be acquainted under SEZ project, 35% opines that 6 to 10 acre land will be acquainted 10% of them said that 11 to 15 acre of land will be acquainted under SEZ project. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers 20% of farmers opines that only 1 to 2 acre land will be left for them after land acquainted under SEZ, 30% said 3 to 4 acre land will be left, 5% said more than 7 acre land will be left and 45% of farmers said that no land will be left for them after land acquainted under SEZ projects.

Total farmers all of them 100% farers are not ready to give their own agricultural land for SEZ project. Because out of which 25% of them said that they are not getting appropriate price of their agri land, 5% of them said employment guarantee to only one member, 30% said they are not ready to give their land because of above two (both) reasons and 40% said that because of above two reasons along with the reason of chances of displacement they are not ready to give their land under SEZ project. It is clear from the out of total farmers 15% of farmers opines that

they will lead a movement against Govt. decision of SEZ project 5% of farmers said that they will lead a movement and delegation to Govt. against SEZ, 20% of farmers opines they will go on hunger strike against SEZ, 15% of farmers opines that they will file care in court against Govt. 20% of farmers said they will give delegation to Govt. against it and will go on strike, 5% of farmers opines that he will lead a movement, delegation to Govt. and hunger strike, 10% of farmers said that they will take a step of suicide against SEZ and 10% of farmers opines that they will take all the above actions it needed against Govt. decision of SEZ. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers all of them 100% opines that agricultural land will get polluted and become barren due to SEZ projects. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmer's majority ie 95% of farmers opines that they will have to face problem of air pollution due to SEZ and remaining 5% of them said that they will not face problem of air pollution due to SEZ projects. It is clear from the above table that all of them i.e. 100% farmers opines that they will have to face problem of shortage of water in future due to SEZ project. It is clear from the above table that all of them 100% farmers opines that winter will get polluted due to SEZ projects and they have to face the problem of water pollution.

It is clear from the above table that all of them 100% farmers opines that they would have to face problem of shortage of food products due to SEZ. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers majority ie 85% of farmers opines that they would have to face problem of displacement due to SEZ and remaining 15% of farmers said that they would not face the problem of displacement. Out of which 5% said they would stays there only by cultivating crops on remaining land, 10% of farmers said that they will stays there by cultivating crops on remaining land as well as by purchasing new land there only. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers 90% of farmers opines that the owner of the factory which is going to be start on farmers land will be benefited more than them and remaining 10% of farmers said that owner of the factory will not be benefited more then them. It is clear from the above table that all of them i.e. 100% of farmers opines that their land ownership right will be in danger due to SEZ. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers 60% of farmers opines that land acquainted under SEZ should be in hilly areas 5% of farmers said that it should be acquainted in hilly and urban area and 35% of farmers opines that land should be acquainted in hilly and tribal area. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers 15% of farmers opines that land under SEZ should be acquainted in hilly and tribal area because employment opportunities will be available, 50% of farmers told that land in hilly and tribal area's is barren which is not useful for agricultural purposes, 5% of

formers told that environment to the above mentioned areas is not suitable for farming, 30% of farmers said that land should be acquainted to the above mentioned areas due to above all reasons. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers majority i.e. 95% of farmers opines that their children will not get employment guarantee due to SEZ and remaining 5% told that his children will get employment guarantee due to SEZ. It is clear from the above table that out of total farmers majority i.e. 85% of farmers opines that development of village will not be possible due to SEZ and remaining 15% of farmers opines that development of village is possible due to SEZ.

Conclusion:-

Present research study has been conducted in Nanded sub division selecting total 04 villages named Gopalchawdi, Babhulgaon, Tuppa and Kakandi and 05 samples from each village total 20 samples whose land has been acquired under SEZ project. Conducting direct interviews of the farmers, discussing and observing the present situations tabulating the collected data and interpreting it researcher has tried to draw the conclusions at the end of the present research study. The study brings to fore some of the most important perspectives of farmers about SEZ and its impact on their life and throw light on their present socio-economic conditions.

Thereby put forth the unwillingness of farmers to give their land for SEZ projects Govt. that seek the attention of policy makers, researchers and civil society. Farmers are old aged between the age-group of 41-50 years and are illiterate their basic occupation is farming on which livelihood needs are depended and fulfilled. No one is in service. For generations they are attached with farming. They are living in their owned house made-up of brick and tin having a permanent dwelling nearby their farm. They are living in a joint family having more than 8 members which is helpful for their occupation i.e. farming. Most of their family members are illiterate. Thus there are no chances of getting employment opportunities to them in future under SEZ projects on the basis of education and tech skills. Farmers possess 6 to 10 acre of land which is fertile useful for agri-

cultural purposes having Govt. / Private valuation of above Rs. 1,25,000/- on farming they are generating an annual income more than Rs.25,000/- per acre and simultaneously engage themselves in other secondary occupations such as daily, poultry farming, Auto driving, provision shop, small Hotel and incurred an annual income of Rs.10,000 to 20,000. They have canal as well as bore well as a water resource in their farms. Thus, the farmer's socio-economic condition is well and good and agricultural land helps them to maintain it and land is an important asset to them. In an emergency situation they get loan from bank on land for various purposes such as for purchasing seeds, to dig river, well and for marriage purposes. Most of the farmers are not totally aware about SEZ projects, their major portion of land i.e. 1 to 05 acre, 6 to 10 acre and 11 to 15 acre is going to be acquired under SEZ and most of them are becoming landless. Farmers are not ready to give their land for SEZ projects as they are not getting appropriate price for their land, no employment guarantee to family member and they have to face problems of displacement.

They are also perspetivising the problems they would have to face in future because of SEZ such as shortage of water, water pollution, air pollution shortage of food products, land pollution and becoming fertile land barren, increase of dependent persons in family, displacement etc. problems of rehabilitation they are against SEZ projects stating that the owners of the factory which would be going to start on their land will be benefited more than them however they are worried about their land ownership right which is in danger. Thus the findings of the study indicates that land for SEZ projects should not be acquired in rural areas which is useful for agricultural instead of it. It should be acquired in hilly and tribal areas where land is barren as well as environment there is not suitable for farming. They are also of opinion that development of village is not possible due to SEZ projects. They are against the SEZ and Govt. decision and are ready to take actions against it and protest it by using various strategies such as delegations, movement, hunger strike, filling case in court and also take steps of suicide.

R E F E R E N C E

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