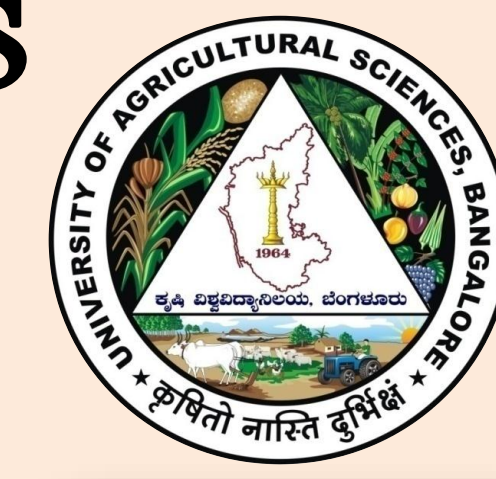
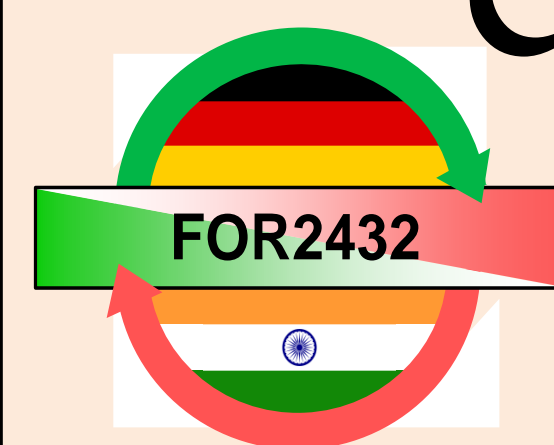


Crop Diversification and Participation of Farm Households in Different Marketing Chains of Finger Millet and Maize Crops vis-à-vis Food Security Status in Rural-Urban Interface of Bengaluru



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INTRODUCTION

Diversification of agriculture in favour of more competitive and high-value enterprises is considered as an important strategy to augment farm income, generate employment, alleviate poverty and conserve precious soil and water resources (von Braun, 1995).

In the recent past, diversification in agriculture has occurred largely through crop substitution. In this context, the study has examined the crop diversity, assessment of marketing chains and food security status of the farm households

METHODOLOGY

- The required data was collected through pre-tested structured survey schedule through personal interview.
- The distinction of the areas is made based on the Survey Stratification Index (SSI) considering percentage of built-up area and its linear distance from the city center.
- The study has used primary data collected from 1275 households from rural urban interface of Bangalore consisting of both south and north transects (659 and 616) respectively.

Analytical tools employed

1. Herfindahl Index
2. Descriptive Statistics

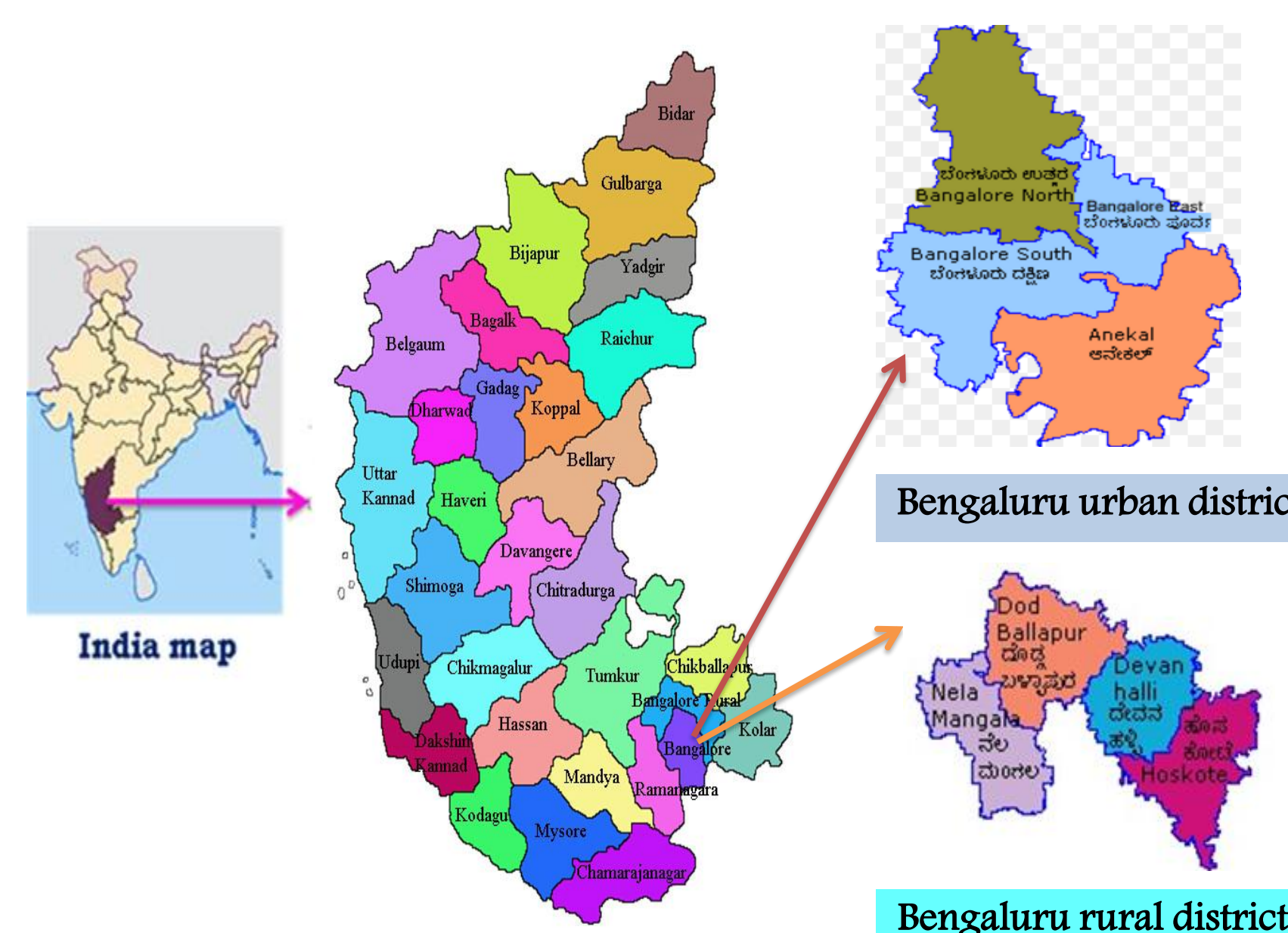


Fig. 1. Map showing the study area

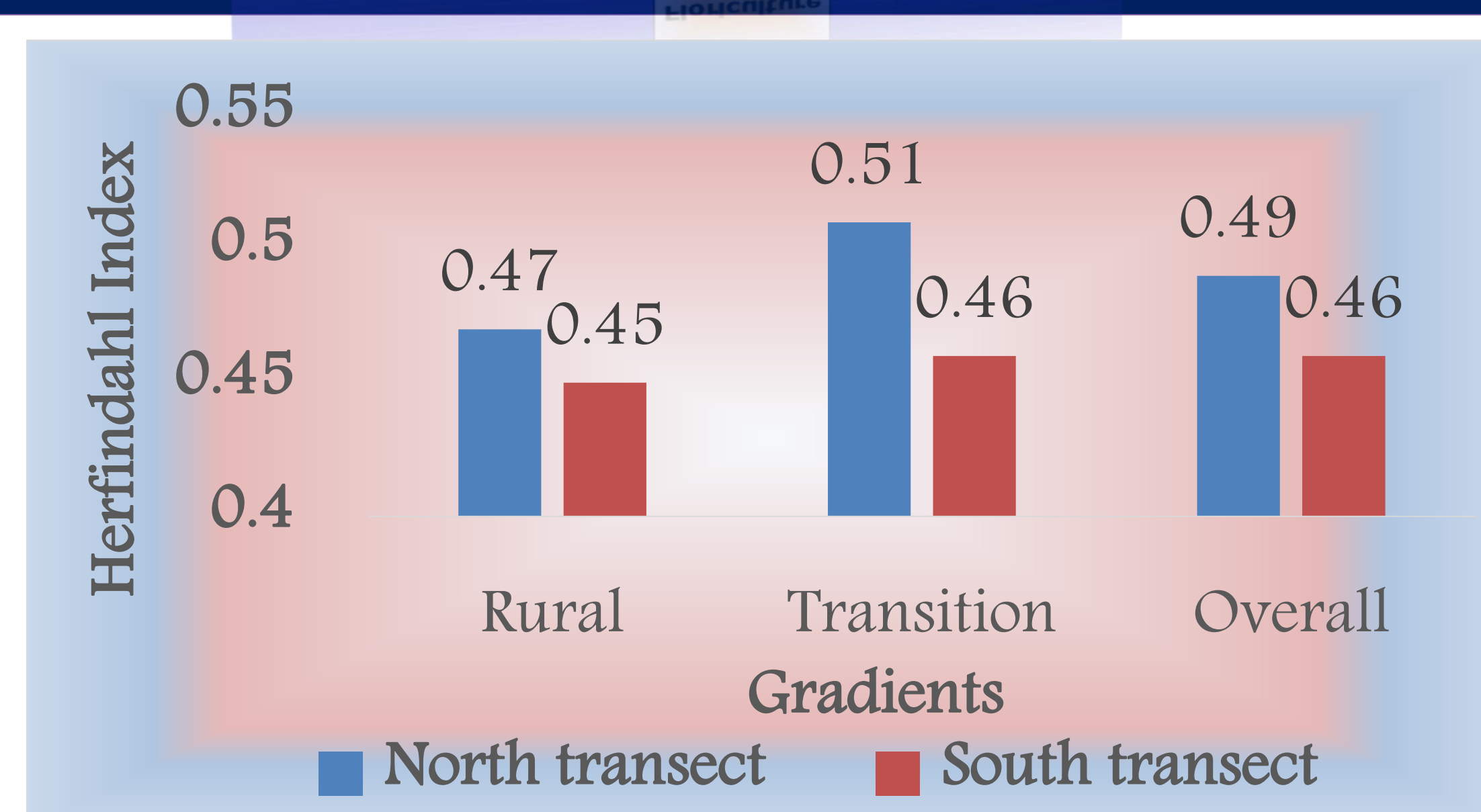
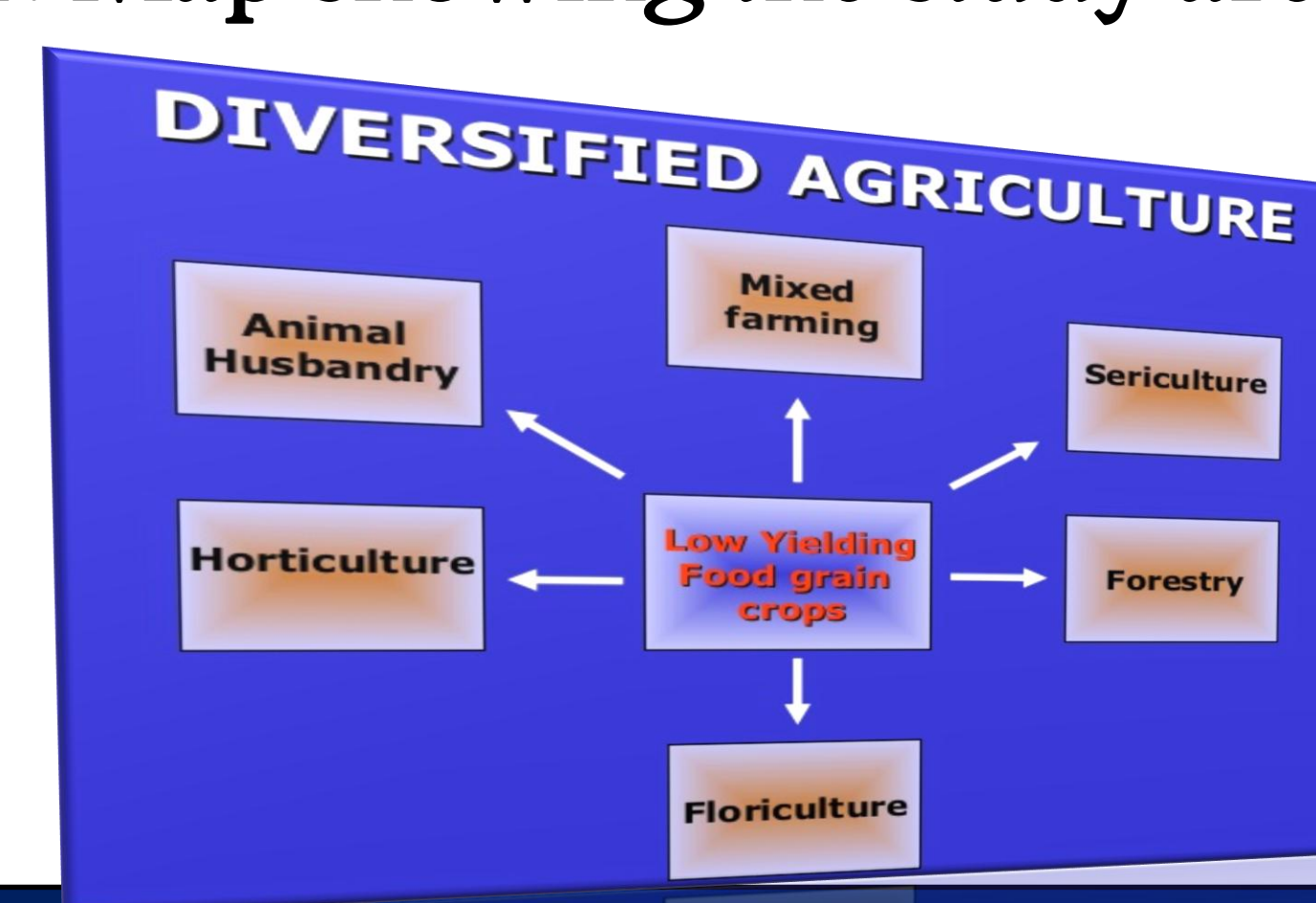


Fig. 3. Crop diversification by farmers across rural-urban interface of Bengaluru

Note: HI= "0" total diversification,
HI= "1" total specialization

DISCUSSION

- ✓ The crop diversity was relatively higher in north transect (0.46) compared to south transect (0.49) and within the transition, we could see more crop specialization.
- ✓ Participation of HHs in marketing chains of finger millet and maize revealed that finger millet is mainly grown for family consumption rather than for market sale.
- ✓ Producers realized a higher millet price on farmers' markets than through other marketing channels and food security status was also higher in HHs using this channel. In case of maize, HHs selling to the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) realized higher prices.

SUMMARY

- ✓ The massive fertilizer subsidies as well as government procurement programmes are limited the production to a few crops, therefore there is a need to provide little incentives for farmers to diversity their production portfolio.
- ✓ Finger millet is a staple food in the study area and grown mainly for family consumption as well as there is a larger scope for finger millet production in Karnataka as a rainfed crop.



Fig. 2. Marketing chains in the study area

Marketing chains for Finger millet and maize

- Chain I: Producer – Neighbours, Chain II: Producer – Middlemen
- Chain III: Producer – Street vendor,
- Chain IV: Producer – Consumers (Farmers market)
- Chain V: Producer – Wholesale market, Chain VI: Producer – APMC
- Chain VII: Producer – Contract, Chain VIII: Producer – Cooperatives
- Chain IX: Producer – Retailer

Table 1. Participation of farm households in different marketing chains of ragi on food security across rural-urban interface of Bengaluru (in per cent)

Marketing chains	price realized (Rs./quintal)	Farmers		Food security	
		North	South	North	South
I	2100	20.8	21.1	55.0	60.0
II	2000	17.7	16.9	58.82	66.7
IV	2350	15.6	15.5	66.6	72.7
V	1800	9.4	11.3	55.5	75.0
VI	2300	22.9	22.5	59.0	62.5
IX	2150	13.5	12.7	61.5	55.5
Total		100.0	100.0	59.4	64.8

Table 2. Participation of farm households in different marketing chains of maize on food security across rural-urban interface of Bengaluru (in per cent)

Marketing chains	price realized (Rs./quintal)	Farmers		Food security	
		North	South	North	South
I	1250	10.8	7.4	55.6	57.1
II	1200	19.3	19.1	68.8	72.2
III	1250	6.0	7.4	60.0	71.4
IV	1350	9.6	11.7	62.5	72.7
V	1400	9.6	9.6	75.0	55.5
VI	1550	25.3	25.5	76.2	75.0
VII	1250	8.4	7.4	71.4	71.4
IX	1200	10.8	11.7	66.7	72.7
Total		100.0	100.0	68.7	70.2

Acknowledgment: The abstract is part of Indo-German Collaborative Research project titled "The Rural-Urban Interface of Bangalore – A space of Transition in Agriculture, Economics and Society"– Sub project "Food Insecurity at different stages of Urbanization". Department of Biotechnology (DBT), GOI (BT/IN/German/DFG/14/BVCR/2016 dated November 2016 of MST, DBT, GoI, New Delhi) is duly acknowledged for the financial support for this project.