

## **Agriculture Sector in India and Impacts**

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### **Abstract:**

*Agricultural techniques in the past were environmentally friendly, but they did not yield as much crop as they do now. That should suffice for those folks, given the lower population. Those farmers were once regarded as gods, but this is no longer the case. Only governments respect farmers, and only for those who are citizens of their state or country. Even farmer's families do not appreciate farmers if they have a low income or if their occupation is disrespectful to farmers, but they do not realise that without farmers, survival in this planet is unimaginable. If we look closely, we can see that farmers are being discouraged by this compelled community on a daily basis, and we can see that their viewpoint is based on their experience as well as their emphasis. Indian agriculture is generally small-scale, with limited land holdings and cow stock holdings. A large portion of India's rural population, more than 60%, is "landless" or has a relatively small holding of less than a hectare and is assumed to be "farming." Agriculture development is one of the most talked-about concerns because agriculture still employs a large section of our people. Agriculture is the most important industry of Indian finance, and the most important element of agriculture is curtail production. The agricultural sector was mostly disregarded during colonial control, but soon after independence, food became the national government's top concern, and it became critical to prioritise expanding food production in order to feed the country's ever-growing population.*

**Keyword: Agricultural, Farmer, Indian, Lack land, Population**

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### **I. Introduction:**

Rural farmers or farmers are people who live in rural areas and rely on agriculture and related activities for their livelihood. However, in a country like India, where 85 percent of the population lives in rural areas, the case of rural farmers is a general hindrance to economic development and rural financing. As a result, developing country governments have a broad responsibility to ensure that rural development is adequate in their various communities, as well as to lead an impressive and efficient agriculture system that not only provides food and animal protein, but also promotes the sustainable use of natural resources.

Now a days, many farmers left their farming work and went to some nearby industries. Also, some entrusted suicide and the causes is that their crops are failed due to not available of water sources. There is another problem also that few farmers who have some acres do some discovery on their own and finding new techniques so that they can obtain maximum crop produce. These farmers systematize private water sources and also gain more. These farmers are selfless as they also release about their work with no charge. Any way some are environment friendly and some not.

If we focus deeply day by day farmers are discouraging by this compelled community and we can understand that farmer's positions are based on their experience. However, its shyness to see that states of our country function as envy countries for landing their water sources for agriculture. In India, we are following many modern techniques to increase crop's production. Either it is environment friendly or not, we continue giving consequence to improve the crop' product as to withstand to the increasing population. Therefore, we lost the exclusiveness of olden day's agriculture as these techniques reduce the strength of crops and also reduce land's fertility.

### **Importance of agriculture in Indian Economy:**

Agriculture plays a vital role in the Indian economy. Over 70% of the rural households depend on agriculture. Agriculture is an important sector of Indian economy as it contributes about 17% to the total GDP and provides employment over 60% population

- **Contribution in national income:** there has been a big share of agriculture in the national income of India though this share has declined with the rapid industrial development. Still the share of agriculture is larger than the other economic activities in India.

- **Agriculture plays important role in generating employment:** In India at least two-thirds of the working population earn their living through agricultural works. In India other sectors have failed generate much of employment opportunity the growing working populations
- **Contribution to international trade:** we export and import different agricultural products. Agricultural foods exported from India are tea, coffee, rice, tobacco, fruits and vegetables, sugar, meat, etc. it is approx. 12.5% of the total export from agriculture and its allied activities.
- **Contribution to capital formation:** there is a general agreement on the necessity capital formation. Since agriculture happens be the largest industry in developing country like India, it can and must play an important role in pushing up the rate of capital formation
- **Contribution to revenue:** state government of India receive income from land revenue annually.
- **Supply of raw material to industries:** agriculture supply raw material to various industries like sugar, jute, cotton, textile and vanaspati industries. Food processing industries are similarly dependent on agriculture.
- **Contribution to poverty alleviation:** agriculture plays a great role in eliminating poverty from the country by generating income, providing employment etc.
- **Greater competitive advantages:** Indian agriculture has a cost advantage in several agricultural commodities in the export sector because of low men power cost and self sufficiency in input supply

#### **Major reasons which have been causing severe problems in Indian agriculture**

- ❖ Rural- Urban Divide
- ❖ Lack of Investment in Agriculture
- ❖ Lack of Effective policies
- ❖ Negligible of Natural resources
- ❖ Impact of Demonetization
- ❖ Excessive Interventions on Prices
- ❖ Irrigation Facilities
- ❖ Sluggish Fertilizer Industry
- ❖ Dependency on Monsoon
- ❖ Inefficiency of Farmer Producer Organizations

#### **Agriculture problems of India**

1. **Heavy pressure of population:** the Indian agriculture is characterized by heavy pressure of population. About 70% of total population of the country is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture. At present, the per capita agriculture land is only about 0.10 hectare as against 0.30 hectare in 1951. The world average of per head availability of agriculture land is about 4.5 hectares. The fast of growth of population industrialization and urbanization are putting enormous pressure on arable land.
2. **Inadequate transport:** one of the main handclaps with Indian agriculture is the lack of cheap and efficient means of transportation. Even at present, there are lakhs of villages which are not well connected with main roads or with market centers.
3. **Small and fragmented Land-holdings:** the seemingly abundance of net sown area of 141.2 million hectares and total cropped area of 189.7 million hectares pales into insignificance when we see that it is divided into economically unviable small and scattered holdings.
4. **Mother nature:** one of the biggest factors in whether it's a successful year in the agricultural industry is the weather. It is also the one factor farmers have the least control over. If it's too dry, crops won't grow. If the season is too wet, crops can rot and suffer from mold or simply down in the standing water. Weather that's too hot for the crops planted can also lead to withered and less then profitable harvest. A late or early frost can leave an entire field worthless
5. **Seeds:** seed is a critical and basic input for attaining higher crop yields and sustained growth in agricultural production. Distribution of assured quality seeds is as critical as the production of such seeds. Unfortunately, good quality seeds are out of reach of the majority of farmers, especially small and marginal farmers mainly because of exorbitant prices of better seeds.
6. **Mixed cropping:** in the rain-fed areas of the country, mixed cropping is a common practice. The farmers mix millets, maize and pulses in the kharif season and wheat, gram are barley in the rabi season. In the areas of Jhuming (shifting cultivation), ten to sixteen crops are mixed and sown in the same field. The rationale behind mixing of crops is to get good agricultural return. In case the monsoon is good, the rice crop will give

better production and in case of failure of monsoon, the less water requiring crops like maize, millets, bajra and pulses will give good harvest. Mixed cropping is a characteristic of subsistent agriculture.

**7. Environmental issues:** many environmental issues affect whether farmers have a good year or not. Soil quality, climate, and terrain are just a few of the environmental issues that may impact profits and productivity for farmers in any given growing season. If a farmer doesn't have the right terrain and good quality soil, they are not going to be able to yield the best quality crops, no matter how hard they try. Drought or lack of moisture in the soil can't just be fixed by dumping a bunch of water onto it. Proper irrigation is critical to provide the exact right amount of water

**8. Soil erosion:** large tracts of fertile land suffer from soil erosion by wind and water. This area must be properly treated and restored to its original fertility.

**9. Scarcity of capital:** agriculture is an important industry and like all other industries it also requires capital. The role of capital input is becoming more and more important with the advancement of farm technology. Since the agriculturists' capital is locked up in his land and stocks, he is obliged to borrow money for stimulating the tempo of agricultural production.

**10. Cropping pattern:** The crops that are grown in India are divided into two broad categories: foodcrops and non-food crops. While the former comprises food-grains, sugarcane and other beverages, the latter includes different kinds of fibres and oilseeds.

**11. Poor Farming Techniques and Agricultural Practices:** The farmers in India have been adopting orthodox and inefficient method and technique of cultivation. It is only in recent years that the Indian farmers have started to adopt improved implements like steel ploughs, seed drills, barrows, hoes etc. to a limited extent only. Most of the farmers were relying on centuries old. Wooden plough and other implements. Such adoption of traditional methods is responsible for low agricultural productivity in the country.

**12. Land Ownership:** Although the ownership of agricultural land in India is fairly widely distributed, there is some degree of concentration of land holding. Inequality in land distribution is also due to the fact that there are frequent changes in land ownership in India. It is believed that large parcels of land in India are owned by a relatively small section of the rich farmers, landlords and money-lenders, while the vast majority of farmers own very little amount of land, or no land at all. Moreover, most holdings are small and uneconomic. So, the advantages of large-scale farming cannot be derived and cost per unit with 'uneconomic' holdings is high, output per hectare is hectare is low. As a result, peasants cannot generate sufficient marketable surplus. So, they are not only poor but are often in debt.

**13. Absence of Crop Rotation:** Proper rotation of crops is very much essential for successful agricultural operations as it helps to regain the fertility of the soil. Continuous production of cereals on the same plot of land reduces the fertility of the soil which may be restored if other crops like pulses, vegetables etc. are grown there. As the farmers are mostly illiterate, they are not very much conscious about the benefit of crop rotation. Therefore, land loses its fertility to a considerable extent.

**14. Land Tenure:** The land tenure system of India is also far from perfect. In the pre-independence period, most tenants suffered from insecurity of tenancy. They could be evicted any time. However, various steps have been taken after Independence to

**15. Instability in agricultural Prices:** Fluctuation in the prices of agricultural products poses a big threat to Indian agriculture. For the interest of the farmers, the Government should announce the policy of agricultural price support so as to contain a reasonable income from agricultural practices along with providing incentives for its expansion. Stabilization of prices is not only important for the growers but also for the consumers, exporters, agro-based industries etc. In India, the movements of prices of agricultural products are neither smooth nor uniform, leading a fluctuating trend. In the absence of proper price support and marketing support, prices of agricultural products have to go down beyond the reasonable limit so as to create a havoc on the financial conditions of the farmers.

**16. Conditions of Agricultural Labourers:** The conditions of most agricultural labourers in India are far from satisfactory. There is also the problem of surplus labourers or disguised unemployment. This pushes the wage rates below the subsistence levels.

17. **Inadequate storage facilities:** storage facilities in the rural areas are either totally absent or grossly inadequate. Under such conditions the farmers are compelled to sell their produce immediately after the harvest at the prevailing market prices which are bound to be low. Such distress sale deprives the farmers of their legitimate income.

18. **Dependence of monsoon:** agriculture in India mainly depends on monsoon. If monsoon is good, the production will be more and if monsoon is less than average then the crops fail. Sometimes flood play havoc with our crops. As irrigation facilities are quite inadequate, the agriculture depends on monsoon.

#### **Solutions to the problems**

1. **Pension facility**
2. **Processing industries and cold storage facility**
3. **Irrigation facilities**
4. **Need to modernize agriculture**
5. **Provide loan facility**
6. **Special agriculture zone**
7. **Education to farmers**
8. **Clubbing of small fields**
9. **Need for better water management**
10. **Provide best quality seeds**
11. **Provide manures, fertilizers and biocides**
12. **Enhance agriculture marketing**
13. **Providing good storage facilities**
14. **Raising of profitable schemes by government**

#### **Some important govt schemes in agriculture sector**

- ❖ **Launch of PM Fasal Bima Yojana**
- ❖ **Launch of PM E-NAM**
- ❖ **National mission for sustainable agriculture**
- ❖ **PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana**
- ❖ **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana**
- ❖ **Gramin Bhandaran Yojana**
- ❖ **Livestock insurance scheme**
- ❖ **Micro Irrigation fund**

## **II. Conclusion:**

small farmer is an important factor in the society now it is time to focus on social economical problems of these farmers and try to find the solution to the problem. Problems related to the irrigation infrastructure, market infrastructure and transport infrastructure add significant cost to farmers operation. There are a number of schemes aimed to bring in agriculture. At the same time, they do not want subsidies on seeds, fertilizers package on drought or any natural calamity expiatory possible efforts from government agencies regarding water harvesting, irrigation system and loan facility etc. India though one of the biggest producers of agriculture product, has very low farm productivity, with the average only 33% of the best farms' world over. This need to be increased so that farmers can get more remuneration from the same piece of land with less labour

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