

DEVELOPING INDIA:

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF AGRICULTURAL GROWTH

By Avinash Dongare

Abstract

Agriculture field is the most important field in India. It is world most important industry. It plays powerful role in Indian economy due to its contribution to income, forex earnings, production of foods & industrial growth. We are modifying land to obtain food & other materials from many years. It results unprecedented changes in ecosystem & environmental processes at global levels. Therefore Indian agriculture is facing several challenges like climate change , variation in prices & production , undeveloped markets etc . these changes creates the environmental concerns of biodiversity loss , pollution , climate change & population etc.

Introduction

In Indian economy due to contribution to income, forex earnings, industrial growth etc Agriculture plays an important role . As per 2014 statistics India is world largest producer of fresh fruits like banana , mango , lemon ... etc. India is third in world to produce several dry fruits, textile , raw materials, roots crops, farmed fish, eggs, coconut, etc . after independence India has made great progress in agriculture. An urgent need of agricultural and food gain production to provide food security to a raising population brought reforms namely liberalization in 1991 . India's agriculture growth in the January to March quarter of 2017-18 dipped to 4.5 per cent as compared to 7.1 per cent in the same period last year despite a bumper production largely because of higher base.

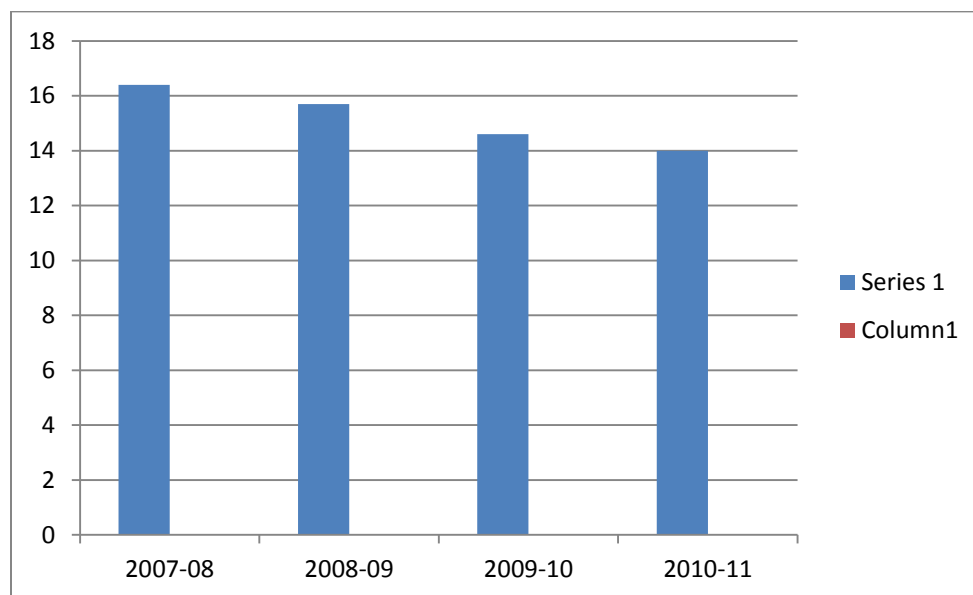
Objectives

- To assess whether there is any change in output and factors of production due to liberalization
- To study the land use , land cover & agricultural pattern
- To collect the information for all the objective using village base level

Opportunities

According to latest statistics , agriculture field contributes more than 15 % share in GDP . Agriculture & allied sectors have garnered much attention in the past few years . the government is also paying special attention by bringing about some policy level changes to further accelerate the growth of this sector .

Share of agriculture in GDP of India



The NDDB (national dairy development board) announced 52 dairy projects to boost milk output . the financial expense of the project was 221 crore . telangana gov. also unveiled its plant to spend 80000 crore over the next 3 years to compute ongoing irrigation projects.

Subsectors

- 1) Irrigation : there are various types of irrigation like surface irrigation , micro irrigation , sprinkler irrigation . irrigation water can come from groundwater .
- 2) Seeds : there is strong growth in the use of hybrid seeds . production of certified seeds increased to 3.5 million tonnes from 1.27 million tonnes . the gov. is very active in promoting use of hybrid seeds.
- 3) Farm mechanism : India ranks among the top countries in the world in production including rice , wheat , sugarcane , fruits & vegetables.

In India the progress of mechanization of farm has received a boost during the post green revolution period .

Major Agriculture Problems of India and their Possible Solutions

1) Small and Fragmented land-holdings

In 1970-71 the average size of holdings was 2.28 hectares . In 1980-81 it reduced to 1.82 hectares & 1.50 hectares in 1995-96 . the size of the holdings will decrease with the infinite subdivision of the land holdings.

The problem of fragmented holdings is more serious in populated and cultivated states like kerala , west Bengal , bihar & eastern part of uttar Pradesh where the average size of land holdings is less than one hectare .

The solution for this problem is the grouping of holdings means the reallocation of holdings which are fragmented.

- 1) Seeds : seed is basic input for higher crop and sustained growth in agricultural production . distribution of good quality seed is as critical as the production of such seeds.
- 2) Manures , Fertilizers & biocides : India soils have been used for growing crops over thousands of years without caring much for replenishing. Manures and fertilizers play the same role in relation to body .
- 3) Agricultural marketing : agricultural marketing is bad in rural India . farmers have to depend upon local traders for the disposal of their farm produce . According to an estimate 85 % of wheat and 75 % of oil seeds in UP , 90 % jute in west Bengal , 70 % oilseeds & 35 % cotton in Punjab is sold by farmers in village.
- 4) Lack of mechanization : there is urgent need to mechanise the agricultural operations so that wastage of labour force is avoided . agricultural implements and machinery are a crucial input for efficient and timely agricultural operations.

Conclusion

Agricultural field of India is suffering from many old traditions which are limiting the growth of this sector . few decades ago India was dependent on food to feed our population. After several development India became more than self –sufficient . Due to industrial growth Indian agricultural has been decreased.

Three main categories of Indian agriculture

- 1) Traditional agri.
- 2) Horticulture
- 3) Processed food.

There are certain categories which are fully modernized & effective in their production.

Reference

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Bio

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