

AGRICULTURAL GROWTH OF INDIA

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Abstract:

Agriculture is a fundamental sector of Indian economy. The agricultural sector forms the mainstay of the country's development. Food is an essential requirement of every individual, and an average Indian spends half of his total expenditure on food. The main purpose of this research paper is to understand the agricultural growth in India and also discusses the trends and patterns in agricultural growth at the national and sub-national levels in India. There is a marked shift from the cultivation of food grains to commercial crops. The use of technological inventions in the cultivation of other crops was also not so conspicuous in pulses. However, technological and institutional support for a few crops like rice and wheat brought significant changes in crop area and output composition in some regions. The use of technological inventions in the cultivation of other crops was also not the case. Data analysis shows that the crop pattern in India has undergone significant changes over time. There is a marked shift from food grain cultivation to commercial crops. The use of technological inventions in the cultivation of other crops was also not the case.

Keywords: Agricultural Sector, Economy, Changes, Programs, Capital Formation, fertiliser.

Introduction:

The Indian economy has undergone structural changes over time with the anticipated decline in the share of agriculture in the GDP.[1] The importance of agriculture has not diminished for two major reasons.[2] First, the country achieved self-sufficiency in food production at the macro level, but still is a food deficit country facing massive challenges of high prevalence of malnourished children and high incidence of rural poverty. The pressure on agriculture to produce more and raise farmers' income is high. Second, the dependence of the rural workforce on agriculture for employment has not declined in proportion to the sectoral contribution to GDP. This has resulted in widening the income disparity between the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. The experiences of developed countries show that transfer of labour force from agriculture to non-agriculture, in particular the manufacturing sector took place. This had brought enhanced productivity growth in agriculture and hence higher income[3]. However, India's manufacturing sector witnessed volatile growth and its share in GDP has almost remained constant at 15 per cent for the last three decades. Further, given the fact that the current economic growth [4] pattern is driven by the service sector, labour absorption outside agriculture will be slow until rural education improves dramatically in the near future. Under these circumstances, higher growth in agriculture assumes great importance and is a matter of concern for policy planners and research scholars in recent times.

Significance of agriculture:

Around 2/3 of the people in India reside in rural areas, agriculture is the main occupation of the people in rural areas. In these areas, people are mainly residing in remote and backward regions, they are backward in terms of literacy and reside in the conditions of poverty. Higher priority given to the agricultural sector will contribute in achieving the goals and objectives of causing a reduction in poverty and malnutrition. Attaining an eight to nine percent rate of [5] in overall gross domestic product may not distribute much in terms of poverty lessening without the agricultural growth increases at a rapid rate. [6] At the same time growth with inclusiveness can be attained only when agriculture growth hastens and is also generally common amongst people and regions of the country. All these factors point to just one thing, that agriculture has to be kept at the centre of any re-organisation program or planning process, in order to make a substantial impression on poverty and malnutrition, and to make sure the achievement of long-term food security for the people. Data analysis shows that the crop pattern in India has undergone significant changes over time. There is a marked shift from food grain cultivation to commercial crops.



Figure: Agricultural GDP of India

The use of technological inventions in the cultivation of other crops was also not the case. Increasing urbanization and economic growth has led to an increase in the demand for these products.

- Changing agrarian economy since independence
- Land use pattern
- Changing agricultural structure
- Changes in cropping pattern

- Input use pattern
- Major programs implemented in agriculture and allied sectors
- National food security mission:
 - Rashtriya krishi vikas yojana.
 - Macro management of agriculture
- National mission for sustainable agriculture:
 - Performance of essential factors required for agricultural production
 - Integrated scheme of oilseeds, pulses, oil palm and maize.
- Irrigation:
 - Fertilisers
 - Agricultural credit
- Technology:
 - Seeds:

Conclusion:

There has been substantial progression in the agricultural sector, ever since the country achieved its independence. The main areas in the field of agriculture that have witnessed progression include, growth in the output, yields and most other crops and food grains. The allied sectors include, fisheries, crop and livestock sub-sectors. The important factors that are required for agricultural production are, technology, seeds, irrigation, fertilisers and agricultural credit. [7]Data analysis shows that the crop pattern in India has undergone significant changes over time. There is a marked shift from food grain cultivation to commercial crops. The use of technological inventions in the cultivation of other crops was also not the case.

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