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AN OVERVIEW ON THE ISSUES AND PRIORITIES FOR AGRICULTURE IN INDIA

Prof. Anurag Jain[1], Dr. Trupti Dandekar[2], Roopashree Rangaswamy[3]

JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bengaluru, India

[1]anuragjain@cms.ac.in, [2]dr.truptidandekar@cms.ac.in, [3]r.roopashree@jainuniversity.ac.in

Abstract

In present time one of the major issues facing in agriculture sector is losing land due to the large population. The agriculture land converted into the industry areas which becomes the major problem in future because of loss of land also affect the productivity of the agriculture product. There are several problems which are faced by the farmer such as water supply uncertainty, lack income of remuneration, land holding fragmentation and allied infrastructure. In this review paper, the author discussed the issues and priorities for agriculture and what are the major challenges faced by the farmers during the harvesting. Indeed, the farmer's dilemma had become a big issue by the end of the century of greatest agricultural growth. Soil depletion, natural whims, overproduction of the staple crops, and decline the self-adequacy, and a lack of satisfactory legislative security. In the future there are several solutions to overcome these challenges in order to resolve major agriculture issues slowly.

Key words: Agriculture, Challenges, Food, Issues, Priorities

Introduction

Though agriculture's share of Indian economy has gradually deteriorated to a smaller amount than 15 percent because of the high growing amounts of the industries & service sector, in the service sector significance in the country's economy and the social fabric verves well yonder this indicators. To begin with, nearly 3 quarters of Indian families based on income from the countryside. Second, rural India is home to the majority of Indian poor people[1]. Third, India's food security is dependent on making cereal crop and increasing manufacture of fruits, milk and vegetables to see the demand of the increasing population with growing incomes.

India has the major agricultural powerhouse in the all over the world. It produces large amount of milk, spices and pulses in the world, as well as having the world's major cattle crowd (buffaloes) and the world's largest region under cotton, wheat and rice. The wheat, rice, cotton, farmed the fish sugarcane, sheeps and goat meat, vegetables, tea and fruit are among the country's top exports. There are 195 million hectares under cultivation in the region, with 63 percent being rained (roughly 125 million) and 37% being irrigated (70m). So, forests occupy 65 million hectares of land in India[2].

1. Challenges:

The 3 agriculture related challenges would be crucial to India's complete improved and development rural welfare:

1.1. Raising Agricultural Productivity Per Unit of Land:

Since virtually entirely cultivable lands is farmed, increasing productivity per unit of lands will be main driver of the agricultural development[3]. Water supplies are also scarce, and irrigation water must compete with growing industrial and urban demands. Increased yields, change to high-value crops, & the growth of value chain to minimize marketing cost are all steps that must be exploited to improve productivity.

1.2. Reducing Rural Poverty:

Rural poverty mention the *scarcity* in *rural* regions, including features of *rural* economy, *rural* society and the political organizations that given increase the *poverty* establish there. Rural poverty is sometimes addressed in connection with spatial inequality, which relates to the disparity between urban and rural areas in this context. Furthermore, there are significant regional differences: in India majority of the poor people are concentrated in the rain-fed regions or the Eastern Indo-Gangetic plain. It is not so easy to reach out to such parties. Although improvement that made the proportion of rural population identified as meager fell from closely 40 percent in the previous 1990s to under 30 percent by the middle-2000s (roughly 1 percent per year). So there is strong need for a faster reduction of the rural poverty.

1.3. Agricultural Growth Responds to the Food Security Needs:

A sharp increase in food throughout India's Green Revolution in the 1970s allowed the country to accomplish food-grain self-sufficiency & escape famine. Farming practices in the late 1970s and early 1980s increased the usage for rural labour, which combined with lower food prices, boosted rural incomes and reduced rural poverty[4]. The slowing growth of agriculture has the major source of concerns. India's rices yield are a 3rd of China's & nearby partial in Indonesia and Vietnam. The bulk of other agricultural products are in the same boat.

2. Priority Areas for Support:

2.1. Extension and Reforming Agricultural Research and Promoting New Technologies:

Significant strengthening and reorganization of the India's agricultural support system is the most important requirement for agricultural development. As a result of continued underfunding of infrastructure and activities, inability to replace ageing scholars, and a lack of universal access to cutting-edge technology. These programmes have degraded over time and research currently has slight to sell beyond the tried-and-true bundles of the previous[5]. Farmers aren't receiving any new insights from the government's failed extension programmes. The link between extension and research, as well as between the services sector, is inadequate.

2.2. Improving Water Resources and Irrigation/Drainage Management:

Agriculture uses a large amount of water in India. However, rising water rivalry among domestic usage, agriculture and industry has illustrated a needs to plans and managed the water on the river basin & multi-sectorial basis. The urban demand rise, irrigation water is expected to become scarce. There must be ways to dramatically increase irrigation efficiency (“more crop per drop”). Among the measures that could be taken the transportation, which is better on the farm water management, and the use of better supplies, such as drip irrigation. There is also a need to control rather than exploit groundwater use[6]. Enticements to propel less water, like imposing electricity custodies and community control of water use, that have only had sporadic success.

2.3. Facilitating Agricultural Diversification To Higher Value Commodities:

Diversifying farmers' crops to higher values products will be the key factor in boosting agricultural development, particularly downpour areas where the poverty is higher. Further, there is significant potential to expand agro-processing from manufacturers to urban centers, export markets and create competitive value chains. The government may in particular release restrictions on advertising, transport, transfer and processing while long term growth interventions should be left to farmers. It’s play the small regulatory role and be careful in agriculture diversification.

2.4. Promoting the High Growth Commodities:

Many agricultural sectors, like dairy, have an especially high expansion capacity. The livestock production, mainly due to dairy, accounts for more than a quartier of agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) & provides income to 70 percent of the Indian rural area families. The majority of whom are the poor and regulated by the women. The milk output has grown at a rapid rate of about 4% per year, but the future domestic request is projected to rise at least 5 percent per year. However, low genetic superiority of cows, inaccessible

veterinary treatment, insufficient nutrients and other factor limit milk production. A focused programme to address these restrictions could increase productions while also reducing poverty.

Figure 1: This Flow Diagram Shows The Sustainable Sourcing Strategy Which Is Used In Priorities Area of Agriculture.

2.5. Developing Markets, Public Expenditures and Agricultural Credit:

The legacy of India comprehensive government intervention in the agricultural advertising that has resulted in external and internal trades restrictions, making agricultural commodity marketing and transportation cumbersome and expensive. Despite this, private investment in the field of marketing, the values chain & the agro-dispensation is rising, but at a slower pace than it should be. While few constraints are being removed, much more must be done to allow for diversification and lower commodity prices[7]. Another need is to increase entree to rural financing for farmers, as credit is still difficult to come by for them. Furthermore, government subsidies for electricity, fertilizers, and irrigation have grown to be four times greater than investment disbursements in the sector, crowding out upper priorities like agricultural extension and researches. The Figure 1 shows the sustainable sourcing strategy which help in agriculture for the priorities area. In sustainable sourcing strategy used different steps such as:

i) How to communicate?
ii) What raw material is used?
iii) What type of sustainability required?
iv) How it can be implement on supply chain?
v) What are the internal organization which help in agriculture?

3. Community Actions and Poverty Alleviation :

Although agricultural develop would supply the basis growing incomes and there are some additional steps which are needed to makes this develop inclusive for the 170 million rural people living in poverty. A rural livelihoods programme, for example, that empower groups to becoming self-sufficient, has originate to be

especially successful and compatible for the scaling up. So this initiative facilitates the creation of a self-help organizations, enhances community saving, and supports local efforts that improve income and jobs[8]. By amalgamating to form larger bodies, poor-institutions people's gain the political leverage to demand better technological and social services from local governments, as well as better rates & market entree for their goods. Women and poor families are particularly well-served by these self-help groups.

4. Sustaining the Environment and Future Agricultural Productivity:

Over all of water for agricultural use is causing groundwater levels to fall in parts of India. Waterlogging, on the other hand, is causing salt to build up in the soil of few irrigated regions. Agricultural practises in rain-fed regions, on the other hand, the mainstream of rural population lives, must be changed to minimize soil erosion and increase rainfall absorption. Mitigation steps are required for overexploited and degraded forest land. Almost every one of these issues has a proven solution.

Watershed management systems, in which communities participate in lands planning and implement agricultural practises that conserve soils, growth water absorption, increase production through higher yield and crop diversifications, are the most extensive. However, the question is how to expand such creativities to cover more of the world. Climate transformation must also be taken into consideration[9]. Droughts, floods, and irregular rains are expected to become more frequent, with the greatest effect in rain-fed regions. The watershed programme, when combined with agricultural extension and research programmes, can be the best agricultural programme for encouraging new crop varieties & better farming practises. However, other initiatives, such as the livelihoods programme and the growth of off-farm jobs, may be critical.

Issues In Agriculture

1. Small and Fragmented Land-Holdings:

Small and scattered land holdings apply to a small plot of land that is uneconomical. An agricultural farm must have a certain amount of land in order to be cost-effective in terms of purchasing and utilizing inputs, as well as harvesting.

2. Seeds:

The seed is a vital and essential inputs for the crops yields and maintaining agricultural production growth. The delivery of high-quality seeds is just as important as its processing. Unfortunately, good superiority seed are outs of reach for the majority of the farmers, marginal farmers and particularly small, due to exorbitant seed rates.

3. Manures, Fertilizers and Biocides:

For hundreds of years, Indian soil were used to produce crops with no regard for replenishment. As a result, soils have been depleted and exhausted, leading to low productivity. Almost all of the crop have among the lowermost average yields in the world. It is a critical concern that can be resolved by increasing the use of fertilizers and manures.

4. Irrigation:

Despite the fact that India is a world's 2nd -largest moistened country after the China, only one-3rd of the crop production is irrigated. In a rainy climate country like India, where rainfall is unpredictable, unreliable, and erratic, irrigation is the most significant agricultural input. India will not be able to make sustainable development in agriculture until and unless much than half of the collected area is irrigated.

5. Lack of Mechanization:

Despite the large-scales mechanization of the agriculture in few part of the world, most agricultural operation are still carried out by hand in the majority of the country, using basic and traditional tools and implements such as the wooden plough and sickle[10]. Irrigating, sowing, thinning, ploughing and pruning, harvesting threshing, weeding, and transporting the crops all make little or no use of machines. This is particularly true for small and marginal farmers. It leads to significant waste of low labour and human labour yields per capita.

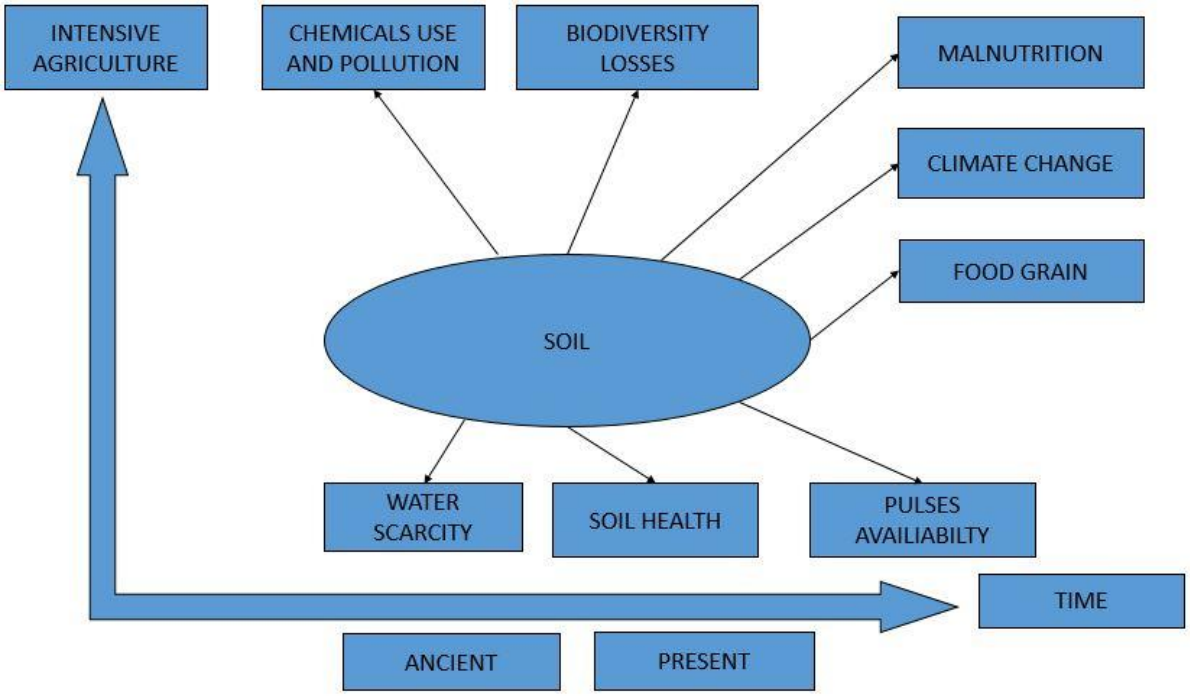

Figure 2: This Diagram Shows the Global Issues Faced In Agriculture and Help to Understand the Issues in Agriculture.

Figure 2 shows the global issues in agriculture and what the main reasons behind it. In this author recognize the relevance of multi-functionality of agriculture and its intersection with other local to global issues, such as biodiversity and ecosystem resources degradation, climate change, and water availability, under the auspices of International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD).

Discussion

Human Beings, or simply humans, are a race that stands apart from all other living beings in this universe of unparalleled diversity. It is not only our advanced physiology as humans that gives us a special social character and also gives our culture knowledge. Human cultures have been evolving since the dawn of time, and the majority of their progress has been centered on food collection and consumption, making agricultural activities an important part of their foundation. We've come a long way from a society of nomadic food gatherers and hunters to the modern model of systematic agriculture[11].

After go for further, let's define agriculture. Agriculture is a science, an art, and a career that involves cultivating land for the purpose of growing crops as well as breeding and raising livestock. It is the reduction of nature's diverse food chains and the redirection of resources for human and animal consumption. Agriculture has become more of a way of life than a company in India. Agriculture has always played an important role in the Indian economy, and it always becoming the backbone of the Indian economy. It is not an exaggeration to say that agriculture is the Indian economy's backbone.

Problems Faced In Agriculture

1. Inequality in Land Distribution:

In India, the distribution of agricultural land is not is not normal because the land distribution is the major problem because of inequality of land distribution. Rather, there is a significant concentration of lands ownership among wealthy farmers, money lenders and landlords across the region. However, the large majority of the small farmers having a small, unprofitable holdings and that resulting in high cost per unit. Furthermore, a large numbers of the landless cultivators have been cultivating on lands owned by the absentee landlord, resulting in a lack of motivation on their parts.

2. Land Tenure System:

The land tenure scheme in India is riddled with flaws. Tenant insecurity was a major issue for the landlords, especially during the time leading up to independence. Despite the fact that the land tenure system has improved in the post-independence period as a result of several land reform, the issue of tenancy eviction and insecurity persists to few extent due to malingerer landlords and became land transfers in several states of the nation.

3. Fragmentation of the Holdings and Sub-Division:

The average holding size in India is projected to drop from 1.5 hectares in 1990-91 to 1.3 warehouses in 2000-01. As a result, agricultural holdings are limited and scattered, making them uneconomic. Owing to the demographic pressures and the collapse of the joint family structure, as well as forced land sales to fulfil debt repayment obligations, agricultural land continues to be subdivided and fragmented. As a result, the size of land holding has been shrinking year after year, resulting in an intensification in the numbers of small and marginal holdings while the numbers of large and medium holdings has decreased.

4. Cropping Patterns:

Cropping patterns, which display the area of land under several crops at a given point in time, are a significant indicators of the sector's growth and diversification. The agricultural sector of the country produces two types of crops: food crops, cash crops and non-food. As the prices of cash crop have become more appealing, more lands has been diverted away from the cultivation of the food crop and into commercial or cash crop. As a result, the world is currently facing a food crisis. As a result of the country's failure to develop a balanced cropping pattern after 50 years of preparation, flawed agricultural planning and execution have resulted.

5. Fluctuations and Instability:

Indian agriculture is constantly subjected to insecurity as a result of weather variability and the risk of the monsoon. The manufacture of food grain & other crops varies greatly, causing agricultural crop prices to fluctuate constantly. This has generated an aspect of insecurity in the country's agricultural operations.

6. Conditions of Agricultural Labourers:

Agricultural laborers are the more neglected disorganized group in the country's rural population. Zamindars and Landlords have oppressed these workers since the beginning, turning few of them into slaves/bonded laborers and pushing them to perpetuate the systems generation. All of this resulted in deplorable conditions and complete deprivation for the rural masses. The situation has changed somewhat after 50 years of democracy. However, since they are unorganized, these workers continue to be exploited economically. The rate of wages, the levels of income, and the quality of living all remained abnormally poor.

7. Agricultural Practices and Bad Farming Techniques:

The Farmers in India have been using inefficient and orthodox farming methods and techniques. Steel ploughs, seed drills, barrows, hoes, and other improved equipment have only recently begun to be adopted by Indian farmers to a small extent. The majority of the farmers relied on centuries old techniques. Orthodox farming practices are blame for the country's poor agricultural productivity.

8. Inadequate Use of Inputs:

Inputs such as fertilizers and High-yielding variety (HYV) seeds are used insufficiently in Indian agriculture. Farmers in India do not apply enough fertilizer to their fields, and farmyard dung manure is also not applied in appropriate amounts. Farmers in India continue to use seeds of varying quality. They lack the financial means to buy high-yielding, high-quality seeds. Furthermore, there is a scarcity of HYV seeds in the world.

9. Inadequate Irrigation Facilities:

The lack of presumed and regulated water distribution through the artificial irrigation conveniences continues to be a problem in Indian agriculture. As a result, Indian farmers must rely heavily on rainfall, which is neither consistent nor even. Whatsoever irrigation capacity has been established in country, only a small percentage of farmers have access to it.

10. Absence of Crop Rotation:

Crop rotations is important for efficacious agricultural operations because it assists in the conservation of the soil fertility. Continuous cereal manufacture on the common plot of land depletes soil fertility, in which it can be restored by planting pulses, vegetables, and other crops. Since the farmers are largely illiterate, they are unaware of the advantages of crop rotation. As a result, land loses a large amount of its fertility.

11. Lack of Organized Agricultural Marketing:

In the absenteeism of properly organized market and sufficient transportations facilities, Indian farmers face a problem of the low incomes from their vendible surplus crops. Scattered and sub-divided portfolios are also posing significant marketing challenges. Agricultural advertising in India also facing difficulties in marketing farmer's produces due to a lack of sufficient transportation and communication infrastructure. As a result, farmers have fallen prey to distributers for the fast discarding of their crop at the lower price and uneconomic.

12. Instability in Agricultural Prices:

Price fluctuations in agricultural product that are significant threat in Indian agriculture. For the sake of farmer's interests, the government should announce an agricultural price support policy to maintain a fair incomes from agricultural practises while also offering incentives for their expansion. Price stability is important not only for farmers, but also for buyers, exporters, and agro-based industry. The price movements of the agricultural product in India are neither the smooth nor the uniform, resulting in a fluctuating pattern. Prices of agricultural products must fall below the acceptable limit in the absence of adequate price and marketing help, wreaking havoc on farmers' financial circumstances. Consumers are once again threatened by the exorbitant prices paid by distributors on the agricultural crops. As a result, price fluctuations can leads to disaster, as both rising and falling agricultural crop rates have a negative impact on society and the economy of the country.

13. Agricultural Indebtedness:

The rising indebtedness of Indian agriculture is one of the country's most serious issues. Rural people borrow a large amount of money on a regular basis to meet their needs for development, consumption, and also to meet their social obligations. As a result, the debt is passed on over the generations. Crop failure, low income due to low crop prices, exorbitantly high interest paid by moneylenders, exploitation and use of loan accounts by moneylenders, and use of loan for various unproductive social purposes all lead to Indian farmers falling into debt traps.

Conclusion

Agriculture is the most important part of India's economy, which employs the large number of people. The other sector of an economy, it is experiencing a transformation to the market economy, with the significant changes in

the legal, social, productive structural and supply structure. Most countries' agricultural production has decreased as a result of these reforms, which has also impacted the region's national seed supply sectors. Food insecurity has been a problem in the region, and few countries have required food service for refugees and Institutional Development Plan (IDPs). Due to the comparatively low demographic pressure expected in the future, the existence of some favorable types of climate, and other (+ve) factors, containing a very large formal seeds supply market, it should be possible to solve problem of foods insecurity in the area as a whole, as well as use this area to supply food to the different food deficient areas. As a consequence, resources must be developed in order to achieve these goals.

In this paper, author discussed the issues and priorities for agriculture what are the factor that agriculture affects by them. In this review paper also discussed about the different types of challenges faced by the farmer's, problems faced by agriculture in India and also discussed the priorities factor of agriculture. Farm rate will be miserable and the primary growth that will not be sustainable if agriculture rises at its target rate and the surplus is not fascinated by different productive activities. The whole economy must expand at a pace that allows the surplus of output to be utilized. This necessitates the expansion of other sectors, especially the agro-industries sector. If people do not find a solution in the future, it will become a major problem in the future, affecting food quality and quantity.

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