



FARMERS' ISSUES IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT;

The assessment of the state of India's agricultural issues and policies of the government to enhance and enumerates the problems of the agriculture sector of India. It discusses and analyses growth trends, movements of agricultural prices, the economics of cultivation, employment and wages in rural areas, and selected legal reforms and policies of the Government. Transforming farming into a viable livelihood requires deep structural reforms: building climate-resilient irrigation infrastructure, reforming agricultural markets, ensuring fair crop pricing based on comprehensive costs, and expanding institutional credit to the most vulnerable smallholders. The agriculture sector is the one of the highest employment providers as well as the backbone to our nation to enjoy the international competition in all aspects, but even though we are neglecting agriculture. It needs major concern but we failed to do so. May be of it need needs physical effort to carry the activist. Now days all are transforming towards essay way of earning money. Better delivery of irrigation water: World Bank support for the better delivery of irrigation water ranges from projects covering large irrigation infrastructure to local tanks and ponds. Projects also support the strengthening of water institutions in several states,

KEY WORDS; Indian agriculture, agrarian distress, farmers' movements, rural unemployment.

INTRODUCTION

2014–15 marked the beginning of a highly turbulent phase for Indian agriculture, evolving into a deep agrarian crisis. A combination of extreme weather events, shifts in macroeconomic policies, and structural bottlenecks severely strained the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers across the country; India's agricultural system remains highly vulnerable as a "gamble of the monsoon". The 2014–15 periods was severely impacted by an El Niño-induced weather pattern, resulting in back-to-back droughts

The critical issues that plague Indian agriculture at present are the knowledge deficit and infrastructure deficit, especially in the rural areas. Problems related to irrigation infrastructure, market infrastructure and transport infrastructure add significant cost to farmers' operations. Another issue is lack of delivery mechanisms. There are a number of schemes aimed to bring development in agriculture. We do not have effective delivery mechanisms that can translate into effective facilitation in terms of increasing productivity or decreasing cost or increasing price realization at the ground level. Moreover, inadequate government support exacerbates these issues. Thus, corporate farming could be a solution to Indian agrarian sector, but it needs a deep thinking and innovating better policies so that neither the corporates nor the farmers be at loss. Also, the role of central government and state governments needs to be defined clearly as because of being a joint subject, it creates lot of confusion. Eminent experts

should do research in this aspect and governments must take a proactive action. Indian agrarian sector in fact requires very innovative ideas for uplifting of this sector. Also, without mechanization, farming is hard and back-breaking work. This has resulted in most farmers' children quitting farming and going for other vocations. Farmers get more money in selling their land to builders, malls and factories. This has put more pressure on farmland, thereby requiring technologies to increase the productivity so that shrinking farmland can feed billion plus people of India in the future. India, though one of the biggest producers of agricultural products, has very low farm productivity, with the average only 33 percent of the best farm's world over. This needs to be increased so that farmers can get more remuneration from the same piece of land with less labour. like the big fish eat small fish, big businesses will eat us up now, taken together, the contentious reforms will loosen rules around the sale, pricing and storage of farm produce - rules that have protected India's farmers from an unfettered free market for decades.

METHODOLOGY

The present study focuses on the issues of the Indian farmers in their life activities, in words everyone says they are the back bone of our Indian economic system but their problems and issues were growing like mountain range. The present study is on the basis of the both primary and secondary sources, the books journals, articles, published thesis and unpublished thesis and M.Phil. dissertations. The data is collected on CD rom, collected materials were examined with the problem of research, it made to know that the major problems in agriculture and how farmers suffer do to these problems has been known in this paper. Many of the policies makers and the reformers know the problem and prospective of the agriculture sector. And its need of the society, even though it is most neglected by the policy makers and politicians.

Issues of Indian Agriculture

The government of India made efforts to enhance the economic sector of India, they have brought the five years plans adopted by the then the ruling congress government. But in its first five year plans the agriculture got the step motherly approach by the government, since from it has been neglected but later five year plans some of the measures have been given to the agriculture sector by the government of India. while making the policies and programmes then government would have given many opportunities for the farmers and farming community to enhance the field of agriculture and which will make them become self-sufficient in their way of life and to enhance the Indian economic system,

Lack of seeds and insufficient supply

Seeds are the basic input or raw material for the farmers to grow crops. But there is a lack of availability of the good quality of seeds in the market. And if the good quality seeds are available, they are so expensive that the poor and marginal farmers are not able to afford. Due to this, farmers are bound to use the traditional seeds which less productive and yields fewer crops. Most of the certified seeds manufacturers in India are private companies. The government should either tie-up with these companies or provide direct subsidies to the farmers so that they can afford the best quality of seeds for production.

Traditional equipment's

Even in 2014, the majority of Indian farmers use traditional tools for agriculture such as plough, sickle, etc. This leads to the wastage of energy and manpower and less yield per capita labour force. Only

little use of the machine is seen in irrigation, harvesting and transportation. There are two reasons why farmers are not using modern equipment. First, they are not aware, and second, they can't afford such equipment. The second problem is, even if a farmer can afford the equipment but there is the unavailability of electricity 24*7 in the village areas. There is an urgent need to modernise the agricultural operations of the country. Many state governments have started a scheme from which farmers can take modern equipment for rent at a low price. This way they don't have to pay the full sum of amount and they will also get the machines. This is just the start of mechanising agriculture in India. In recent years there was a huge increase in sales of tractors, power tillers, etc. But India cannot achieve its full agricultural productivity until the whole agriculture system is mechanised.

Irregular price of agricultural production

One of the most important issues of the Indian farmers is the low price for their commodities. On the other hand, there are well-founded questions about food security and the impact of farming on the environment. Farmers in Punjab, Haryana and Maharashtra states, for example, need to be weaned away from producing an excess of subsidised, water-guzzling crops such as wheat, paddy and sugarcane that deplete groundwater. A glut of these crops has led to overflowing stocks and paltry gains to farmers. Then there's the challenge of moving people out of un-remunerative farming to factory jobs. But where are the jobs, ask some experts, who say such sweeping change cannot stem from isolated reforms, especially in a country that is still so dependent on agriculture. Despite low productivity, land remains the only security for many Indians. "Freedom is about actual, viable choices. Choices that you can realise. The point is to expand opportunities and you need to do that by investment in agriculture and the creation of livelihoods off the field,"

Insufficient irrigation facilities

Irrigation is one of the essential steps for a crop to grow perfectly. But do you know that only one-third area of the total land in India has proper irrigation facility available? India has the second-largest irrigated land in the world, but still, India faces this problem. Punjab has the highest percentage area of irrigated land in the country of about 98% irrigated land availability, followed by Haryana. The reason for good irrigation facilities is the availability of water throughout the year from the rivers and dam. This helps the farmers to conduct agricultural operations timely. But scenario all over the country is not the same. In central India, rivers don't carry water throughout the year. Due to this, farmers have to depend on the monsoon water for irrigation which is very.

Small and Fragmented Holdings of Land

This is one of the major reason why Indian farmers are not competent. Because, most of the poor farmers have a very small amount of land and that too in a fragmented manner. And according to data, the average size of holding of land per farmers is decreasing every year. It means the situation is getting even worse. This problem becomes more serious in densely populated states with less farming land. Only 1.6% of total land holdings belong to the category of large holding that too by the rich farmers. It becomes difficult for a farmer to irrigate and harvest in fragmented lands because a lot of time is wasted in moving the resources from one field to another. The main reason for this kind of system is the inheritance law of India. When a person dies, the land belonging to him is distributed among his sons, but this distribution does not insure entailment of a consolidated land. And due to this, most of the farmers in India have fragmented land.

Dealing with local traders and middleman

It is a problem a farmer faces at the end of all agricultural activity. This is why we have also mentioned it in the end. But don't judge the importance of this problem by its position. We often see in the news that farmers throw their crops on roads just because no one purchased it. Due to the absence of mandi houses and proper market places, farmers are not able to sell their crops and get a reasonable price. In this situation, they have to look for a middleman and local traders for business. These middlemen don't provide a reasonable price for their crops, and hence farmers are bound to either sell crops at a lower price or just throw at the road.

Lack of warehouses

In the absence of market place, the local traders dominate the market and exploitation of farmers takes place. These middlemen are not only creating a problem for farmers but also for consumers because they ultimately sell the crops at a very high price after purchasing it from farmers. The situation of poor farmers is even worse. They are forced to sell their crops at whatever price is offered to them. Going through these entire problems, how can we expect from our farmers to produce good crops. Instead, we should ask our government to provide the facilities that they deserve.

No Effective Policies

Another major problem of the agriculture is of the lack of effective policies to improve the agriculture. Despite several efforts done by the governments in order to solve the problems related to agriculture in India, India has no coherent agriculture policy in place. There is also a broad agreement on the need for a coherent farm policy that addresses issues of sustainability and productivity growth in Indian agriculture. There are both political and economic reasons for the neglect of broad-based farm interventions by the Indian state over the past decades. Like India, most of the developing countries after they gained independence in the second half of the past century have ignored the structural development of their agriculture sector. India has focused more on its industrial development than it has thought about its agricultural development.

Inefficiency of Farmer Producer Organizations

Indian farmers face multiple challenges, primary among these are excessive stress on land, water and soil health, lack of knowledge/information about high value/growth products, limited exposure to high productivity practices, weak market linkages, inefficient supply chains with high levels of food wastage, and an acute dependence on rainfall. In order to create an income revolution in the agricultural sector we need to capture the entire value chain right from research to the stage where farmers are able to realise money in their pockets. India's farm resources like land, water, and soil health are hugely stressed. More than half the country faces water stress with withdrawals at 40 to 80 percent of available supply. The labour supply is stressed too; India's labour market is making a natural structural transition from farm to non-farm jobs — agricultural jobs declined by 25 million between 2011 and 2015, while non-farm jobs rose by 33 million. The rising wages for farm labor make it imperative to improve farm productivity through mechanisation and other measures. Indian crop yields are still significantly lower than other country averages.

CONCLUSION

The agriculture is the most important sector, without the sufficient help and support of it, nothing can be achieved on the surface of earth. The agriculture plays very important role for the all-

round development of nation. Each and everything depends on the agriculture country like India. The year 2014 brought a new administration to the center, leading to an overhaul of agricultural policy infrastructure. While the government introduced modern digital and resource-focused initiatives during the 2014–15 budget cycle—such as the Soil Health Card Scheme, the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for micro-irrigation, and structural warehouse funds—the immediate ground-level execution suffered from bureaucratic lags. Crop insurance mechanisms remained poorly commercialized at the time, leaving farmers exposed without an active safety net. Ultimately, the events of 2014–15 proved that sustainable agricultural growth cannot be achieved through short-term relief packages or debt waivers alone. Transforming farming into a viable livelihood requires deep structural reforms: building climate-resilient irrigation infrastructure, reforming agricultural markets, ensuring fair crop pricing based on comprehensive costs, and expanding institutional credit to the most vulnerable smallholders. The agriculture sector is the one of the highest employment providers as well as the backbone to our nation to enjoy the international competition in all aspects, but even though we are neglecting agriculture. It needs major concern but we failed to do so. May be of it need needs physical effort to carry the activist. Now days all are transforming towards essay way of earning money. Better delivery of irrigation water: World Bank support for the better delivery of irrigation water ranges from projects covering large irrigation infrastructure to local tanks and ponds. Projects also support the strengthening of water institutions in several states.

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