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**ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE :
A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY**



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ABSTRACT

Agriculture is a critical sector of Indian economy in India, around 70 % of the population earns its livelihood from agriculture. It plays a very important role in the development of India. India is a country with many diversified economic activities. One of the important economic activities is agriculture. However, agriculture is a broad term which includes different economic activities. This is a sincere effort, through the review of literature, to understand the history and characteristics of the Indian agriculture sector, its transition from traditional to commercial agriculture and the problem it faces. Modern agriculture practices conjointly the relationship with environmental depletion which has also been assessed. The article discusses some of the developmental challenges faced by the

Indian agriculture sector in particular and developing nations in general-illiteracy, poor socio-economic conditions, lack of technical knowledge and awareness, small land holdings, modernization leading to barren land and disasters leading to rural poverty, weather-dependent farming systems, low per capita income, underdeveloped physical infrastructures and inefficient bureaucratic procedures associated with the relatively high value of agricultural production. Natural disasters and human evoked environmental degradation area unit closely related to improved farming systems.

KEYWORDS

Indian agricultural sector, Corporate farming, Economic Development, Contract Farming, Challenges and perspectives, Group farming

RESEARCH PAPER

Introduction:

Agriculture is the dominant use of land all over the countries. The use of land for this purpose will have an effect on the environmental property of the natural resources base that successively has implication for the economic viability of farming. Together, these concerns raise vital questions about the property of agriculture and therefore the implementation of policy prescriptions together with fund reforms for each environmental protection and economic development. Agriculture uses a few third of the land on the world, occupies the land on the world, and occupies the lives regarding 2 and 0.5 billion folks. Today, regarding forty-five % of the world's population makes their living through agriculture. The proportion of the population concerned in agriculture ranges from regarding a pair of % within same components of Asia and continent.

Around 10 to 12 thousand years past, human began to domesticate plants and animals for food. Before this initial agricultural revolution, folks relived on searching and gathering to get food provides. Whereas there are still cluster of hunters and gatherers within the world, most societies have switched to agriculture. Agriculture is vital sector of Indian economy. In Asian nation, around seventy you look after the population earns its sustenance from agriculture sector. Agriculture plays an important role in the development of Asian nation. Asian nation may be a country with several heterogeneous economic activities. One vital economic activity is agriculture. However, agriculture is a broad term which includes very different economic activities.

Objectives of the Research Study:

The present research study was carried out with following objectives in view:

- 1) To study the challenges in Indian agriculture sector.
- 2) To study the role of agriculture in development of India.

Research Methodology:

The present analysis study uses the foremost recently offered and revealed secondary information. To attain the higher than explicit objectives, the secondary information was used. The secondary information that is primarily used is revealed in annual reports of assorted banks and survey reposts of leading business magazines. The secondary information was additionally used from numerous reference books associated with agriculture, agricultural sector, Indian

economy, E-Commerce, E-Banking, data technology, marketing, banking, finance, management etc. for the aforesaid analysis study, the secondary information is additionally collected from the assorted National and International analysis journals that are associated with Commerce, Management, promoting and finance. The Secondary information is additionally collected from numerous websites.

Hypothesis of the Research Study:

The said research study is carried out with the following hypothesis in view:

Recent years, the nature of agricultural sector and the challenges Indian agriculture sector are increasing day- by – day.

Challenges of Indian Agriculture Sector:

Major challenges faced by the agricultural sector in India relate to the following aspects:

1) Disasters leading to Rural Poverty:

Rural poverty has two characteristics, the poverty of rural human beings and the poverty of weather prone rural areas. The degradation of natural resource may be caused by drought or flood because of global warming or by modern farming methods that affect the land negatively, ultimately making rural people poor. The first one leaves the land barren and the second on though costly, leads to large-scale economies. Because of high returns, farmers are tempted without giving thought to its ill effects. The poor who cannot afford it fall further into the trap of poverty because they cannot compete with rich farmers while casual laborers lose their jobs with the introduction of mechanization.

2) The average size of Land Holdings is small:

The average size of land holdings is a smaller amount than 20000 M² and subject to fragmentation because of land ceiling acts and in some cases family disputes. Such smallholdings are usually overmanned, leading to disguised state and low productivity of labour.

3) Use of Technology is Inadequate:

Adoption of contemporary agricultural practices and use of techno energy is insufficient, hampered by cognitive content, high prices and unusualness within the case of little land holdings. In India, farming practices are too haphazard and non-scientific and wish some forethought before implementing any new technology.

4) No correct Management of Irrigation:

Irrigation in Republic of India are often broadly speaking classified into two components, it has totally different problems. There are some major issues with surface irrigation. Irrigation facilities are inadequate and there's no effective system management for a way. Abundant water is hold on, what proportion is employed for irrigation or what prices are often another to the current water.

5) Dependence of Agriculture on Weather:

Agriculture in India and plenty of different developing countries depends on the monsoon because irrigation facilities do not seem to be totally developed. If the monsoon fails or it rains heavily or untimely, it ruins agricultural production. Agriculture is additionally of venture with temperature. Too high temperature negatively affects the productivity of a crop. Tiny farmers UN agency have taken loans to lift crops which comprise significant debt in such things and if this continues, the poor farmer could starve and generally even commits suicide as reportable in geographical region and province.

6) Inadequate Infrastructure and Low Investment:

India has inadequate infrastructure and services, thanks to low investment. Farming instrumentation and infrastructure are scarce outside the provinces of Punjab and Haryana. As results of several of the farms are tiny, the farmers cannot afford irrigation systems that might increase productivity. Most huge farms are family-owned and run and don't benefit of economies of scale- the construct that the value per unit falls as output quantities increase, as a result of the matter of land absence in huge farms that hinders the event of land to extend productivity because the tenant UN agency cultivates the land has a very little look after its development or productivity.

7) Policies result in slow Agricultural Growth:

Slow agricultural growth is matter of concern as most of India's population relies on rural employment for a living. Current agricultural practices are neither economic nor environmental, are property and India's yields for several agricultural commodities low. Poorly maintained irrigation systems and lack of excellent extension services are among the factors accountable.

8) Poor Socio-financial condition of Farmers:

Illiteracy, the basis reason for farmer's poor socioeconomic condition, ought to be tackled smartly. Although the government is taking the initiative by adopting polices like universal

education, extremely centralized forms with low responsibility and inefficient use of public funds limits their impact on economic condition. Lack of technical information and awareness also are accountable for low productivity, adding to the matter of economic condition among farmers.

Conclusion:

Recent years, the character of agricultural sector and therefore the challenges featured by the Indian agriculture sector are increasing day-by-day. Agriculture sector may be an essential sector of the Indian economy. In India, around seventieth of the population earns its resource from agriculture sector. This is often a trial, through the review of literature to know the history and characteristics of the Indian agriculture sector, its transition from ancient to industrial agriculture and therefore the issues it faces. In India, the agriculture sector is the backbone of Indian economy. Within the agricultural sector, we have studied physiographic climate and natural vegetation in India. In India, the agriculture sector is the spine of Indian Economy.

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