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INDIAN AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN INDIA

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Abstract:

The share of agriculture in the aggregate economy of India has declined rapidly during the planned development of the country. India is still the country with the poorest people on our globe: of India's 742 million these live in rural areas. Most people in rural areas of India depend directly or indirectly on farming for their livelihood.

KEYWORDS:

Agriculture , Economic Growth , Methodology , Geographical.

INTRODUCTION

Despite this not enough attention has been given to agriculture to overcome poverty. The report on the State of Indian Agriculture place by the government to the Rajya sabha on 13th March 2012 calls for wide-ranging reforms in agriculture sector to enable it to meet the growing demands and meet the challenges posed by various human and 4nvironmental factors. Agriculture is an important sector of the Indian Economy. Though its contribution to the overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country has fallen from about 30% in 1990-91 to less than 145% in 2011-12. Thereafter the attempt has been made to highlight the performance of Indian Agriculture in the performance of Indian Agriculture in present economic growth in this research article.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The objectives of the present study are as follows:

- 1.To study the agriculture contribution to Economic growth.
- 2.To present all India average annual growth rates of main crops.
- 3.To suggest the growth in Agriculture.

METHODOLOGY:

This study is based on secondary data. The required secondary data were collected from various journals, book, reports, websites, internet etc. The data considered for analysis are relating to the selected main crops in India.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:

Agriculture continues to be the primary employment providing sector. As per the National Sample Survey Organization's report on the "Employment and Unemployment situation in India", 2009-10, for every 1000 people employed, 679 and 75 people are employed in agriculture sector in rural and urban areas respectively. India has a geographical area of 328.73 million hectores of which reported area for

land use is 306.04 million hectares. The net area cultivated is about 142.60 million hectares i.e. about 46.6% of the total reported area. Since nearly 50 million hectares of area is sown more than once, the cropping intensity works out to 135%. Forests account for about 68.97 million hectares i.e. 22.5% of the total reported land area. Also nearly 13097 million hectares are cultivable wastelands and 9.91 million hectares are fallow land. Only about 30% of the total cropped area is irrigated and the remaining area is rain fed. The available statistics further shows that only about 66% of the gross cropped area is under food crops and nearly 34% area under non-food crops. About 52% of the total workforce is still employed by the farm sector which makes more than half of the India population dependent on agriculture for sustenance.

AGRICULTURE CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

The agriculture sector in India has undergone significant structured changes in the form of decrease in agriculture production from 30% in 1990-91 to 14.5% in 2010-11, State of Indian Agriculture indicating a shift from the traditional agrarian economy towards a service dominated one. Following table shows economic growth of India.

Table No. 1

Sr.No.	period	Economic Growth in %
1	1992-97	4.8
2	1997-02	2.5
3	2002-07	2.4
4	2007-12	3.5

The table 1 shows that the economic growth performance through the agriculture sector has been fluctuating across the periods. It shows that the economic growth rate 4.8% was in 1992-97. Whereas in 1997-02 was 2.5%. In 2002-07 the economic growth was 2.4% and the period 2007-12 shows that 3.5%.
Main crops in India:

Main crops are as follows:

- 1.Cash Crops
- 2.Kharif Crops
- 3.Rabbi Crops
- 4.Plantation Crops

Crop wise growth in India:

This report on the state of agriculture highlights the records achieved in the production and yield of major crops are shown in the following table (%)

Table No.:2

Sr. No	Crops	1990-91 to 199-2000			222-01 to 2010-11		
		Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield
1	Rice	0.70	2.09	1.36	-0.39	1.32	1.47
2	Wheat	1.63	4.52	2.87	0.57	1.39	0.73
3	Corn	0.85	2.24	1.36	2.68	7.12	4.13
4	Tur	-0.45	1.89	2.03	2.58	1.89	-0.65
5	Total Pulses	-0.91	1.06	1.82	2.30	4.02	1.21
6	Groundnuts	-2.25	-2.40	-0.30	-1.08	13.13	12.76
7	Soybean	11.01	16.37	4.67	4.15	8.31	4.17
8	Sugarcane	2.25	3.16	0.91	1.95	2.12	0.03
9	Cotton	1.42	0.93	-0.54	2.66	12.12	9.15

All India average annual growth rates of area, production and yield of principal crops (%) presented in table No. 2

DRIVERS OF GROWTH IN AGRICULTURE:

The present position of India agriculture is not so satisfied as compared to global scenario. Therefore there is great requirement of drivers of growth in agriculture which are suggested below.

1. There is need for substantial increase in public investment in agriculture for bringing in reforms in the incentives structure.
2. The current efficiency levels of public surface irrigation schemes can be substantially improved through appropriate institutional reforms, better management and incentive environment.
3. Provide high yielding seeds to the farmer only through the public institutions at a proper rate and at a proper time.
4. Fertilizer farms another important input in agriculture growth. It is apparent that an integrated nutrient management approach is required to enable a balanced use of fertilizers for optimum results. Also, the setting up of adequate capacity for soil testing needs to be continued.
5. Credit to buy modern inputs for farming operations. The nominal rate of interest should be charged on credit.
6. The agriculture production basket is still not fully aligned to emerging demand patterns. There should be balance in emerging demand and supply.
7. Bringing in reforms to streamline domestic markets and expanding the infrastructure and institutions to connect local markets with national and global markets, will go a long way in improving India's competitiveness and the benefits from trade liberalization.
8. The private sector involvement in Indian agriculture is a recent development. Future breakthrough technologies in agriculture will come increasingly from the private sector and it has capacity to reach millions of farmers in the fastest possible way.
9. The price policy of agriculture product must be based on production cost.
10. Appropriate changes in the agriculture produce market committee (APMC) acts can boost private sector investment in developing regularized markets, warehouse facilities for imports & exports.
11. The Government should strengthen the movement of conservation of land, water and natural resources.

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