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# Agrarian Distress in India

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## ABSTRACT

*India is taken into account as one of the biggest growing economies in the world. It is the world fifth largest country in the world, Agriculture is the primary occupation of nearly half the population. The agriculture sector employs nearly half of the workforce in the country. However, its contribution is only 19.9% of the GDP (at current prices in 2020-2021).*

*Over the past few decades, the manufacturing and services sectors have increasingly contributed to the growth of the economy, while the agriculture sector's contribution has decreased from more than 50% of GDP in the 1950s to 19.9% in 2020-2021 (at constant prices).*

*The unprecedented agrarian crisis in India has now been affecting farmers across the country for nearly a decade. The Indian government is trying to fill the gap in many ways like giving direct transfers of a certain amount in Farmer's bank accounts, Ration on Low prices, fixing MSP, and Making an online market for easy access but Is this the right approach to handle India's agriculture issues as we know that most of the families are not well educated and farmers often lack ways to get the maximum benefit of these initiatives and stay trapped in the vicious cycle.*

*In this paper, we will see how Indian agriculture is facing setbacks, what is the present situation of Indian agriculture and where we as a Nation are slipping, and why the farmer suicide rate is increasing at an alarming rate. In India, more than half of the population is engaged in farming, yet the contribution of agriculture to Indian GDP is alarmingly low.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the most general word used to denote numerous ways in which crops, shops and domestic creatures sustain the global mortal population by furnishing food and other products. The English word husbandry derives from the Latin ager (field) and colo (cultivate) means field or land tillage, but the word has come to embrace a veritably wide diapason of conditioning that are integral to agriculture and have their descriptive terms, similar to civilisation, domestication, horticulture, arboriculture and verge culture as well as forms of beast operation similar as a mixed crop- beast husbandry, pastoralism and transhumance. Agriculture is also constantly qualified by words similar as nascent, proto, shifting, expansive and ferocious and the precise meaning of which isn't tone-apparent. thus the term husbandry means civilisation of land i.e.

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the wisdom and art of producing crops and beasts for profitable purposes. It's also appertained to as the wisdom of producing crops and beasts from the natural coffers of the earth. The primary end of husbandry is to use the land to produce further abundantly and at the same time to cover it from deterioration and misutilisation. It's synonymous with husbandry and the product of food, fodder and other artificial accoutrements.

## **II. KEY ISSUES AFFECTING AGRARIAN PRODUCTIVITY**

1. Dwindling sizes of agrarian landholdings, the viscosity of small and borderline growers and the shrinking size of the holding
2. Continued dependence on the thunderstorm, high share of rain-fed areas in the country facing vagrancies of a thunderstorm.
3. Less access to irrigation.
4. Imbalanced use of soil nutrients performing in loss of fertility of the soil.
5. Uneven access to ultramodern technology in the different corridors of the country.
6. Lack of access to formal agrarian credit.
7. Limited procurement of food grains by government agencies.
8. Failure to give lucrative prices to growers.
9. High viscosity of agrarian workers (borderline growers and agrarian labourers) with a little log rolling power.
10. Transfer of labour from husbandry to non-agricultural sectors (Lewisian process) is relatively slow and wherever similar transfer is taking place the weal of the migrating labour has been in a pitfall,
11. Imperfect land market (lease and sale) goes against the interest of the peasants.

All of these constitute a pre-condition of torture in the sector. Currently, the Indian economy is pegged at \$3.1 trillion, being the sixth-largest economy after the US, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom. Investment and savings rates are relatively high. Smallholdings Agriculture which is the focus of this exploration is important for raising Agriculture growth, food security and livelihoods in India. It may be noted that Indian Agriculture is the home of small and borderline growers (80%). thus, the future of sustainable Agriculture growth and food security in India depends on the performance of small and borderline growers. The part of small granges in development and poverty reduction is well recognized (Lipton, 2006).

### **III. FACTORS BEHIND LOW OUTPUT IN AGRICULTURE**

India can contribute to feeding not just itself but the world. still, the agrarian affair of India lags far behind its factual eventuality. The low productivity is a result of several factors. The downfall is largely unreliable and oscillating- both in time and space. In India, about 60 per cent of the net sown area comes under rain-fed lands. Farmer inflows are low also because of a lack of food storehouse and distribution structure. A third of India's Agriculture yield is lost due to corruption.

The low productivity in India is due to-

- Land fragmentation
- Technology fatigue
- Short-sighted programs
- Ignorance among growers
- Socio-profitable backwardness and exploitative social structure and practices
- Lack of irrigation installations and Inefficient force chains

### **IV. REASONS CONTRIBUTING TO INCREASED SUICIDE RATES**

Currently, the problem of growers' suicide is one of the vital concerns that need to be addressed by the Government. Considering the consummate significance of this issue, the NCRB, for the first time, has collected detailed data on growing suicide rates in India. Failure in Agriculture happens due to internal factors similar as extreme poverty, lack of structure, lack of storage etc as well as external factors similar as the reliance on rain, failure, lack of help from policymakers etc. let's see what led Farmer to took their own life-

#### **Geographical Dimension**

- Rainfall- Plays an important part in Indian Farmer life as we know that in numerous regions growers are heavily dependent on thunderstorms. A significant quantum of loss occurs due to less or heavy rains.
- WATER-We know that India is a veritably different country. The lack of proper irrigation installations cost heavy losses to the growers. As government programs perpetration are weak which results in a poor product which leads to an increase in debt.
- NATURAL DISASTER- cataracts, Hurricane, and Tsunami destroys crop product on a veritably large scale. Lack of government help results in the suicide of these farmers.

**Financial Reasons**

1. 80% of the Indian growers are borderline land possessors and they're economically poor. Nationalise banks aren't willing to advance finances to growers as there's no surety to return it.
2. Small and borderline growers have a small area of land which compels them to take debt from small plutocrat lenders on high-interest rates and if for any reason when the product of crop declines, it increases debt.
3. The government always declares colourful packages in Crores of rupees to growers for relief but due to corruption in distribution, wrong criteria of assigning aid, reluctance about growers' problems indigent growers don't get benefits of government help
4. Indian Agriculture is largely a part of the unorganised sector. There's no methodical planning in the process.
5. growers work on lands of provident size
6. Institutional finances aren't fluently available
7. Lack of storehouse installations due to which lots of food decomposed before it reaches to request and it also imposes a redundant burden on growers, Government schemes perpetration are veritably poor
8. Operation of old styles in Agriculture results in a poor product.

**Lack Of Consciousness**

1. We know that the maturity of the Indian population still lives in towns and uses the old method of cropping.
2. There's a lack of social- awareness of the programs the government applies from time to time.
3. Lack of technology, lack of knowledge of government programs, no knowledge of scientific husbandry styles
4. Activists and scholars have offered several clashing reasons for planters' suicide but suicide is a result of deep confirmed agricultural torture rather than a temporary miracle.

## **V. WAY FORWARD**

What then needs to be done to help this sad state of affairs? There can not be one single solution to end the straits of Farmers. Giving financial relief isn't an effective result. The results should aim at the entire structure. Then are some results that could help in perfecting the state-:

1. The reliance of Agriculture on nature should be reduced.
2. Institutional finances should be available to every Framers, especially small and Marginal ones.
3. Farmers need to be advised and guided on the advanced methods of technologies.
4. Small Framers should be encouraged to develop an indispensable source of income.

Professor M.S. Swaminathan's National Commission on Farmers constituted on November 18, 2004, underscored the need to address the Farmer's suicide on a precedence basis. Some of the measures suggested include-:

1. Give affordable health insurance and revitalise primary healthcare centres.
2. The National Rural Health Mission should be extended to self-murder hotspot locales on a precedence base.
3. Set up State position Farmers Commission with the representation of growers for icing dynamic government response to growers problems.
4. Restructure micro-finance programs to serve as Livelihood Finance, i.e. credit coupled with support services in the areas of technology, operation and requests.
5. Cover all crops with crop insurance with the village and not block as the unit for assessment.
6. Give for a Social Security net with provision for old age support and health insurance.
7. Promote aquifer recharge and rainwater conservation. Decentralise water use planning and every vill should aim at Jal Swaraj with Gram Sabha's serving as Pani Panchayats.
8. Insure vacuity of quality seed and other inputs at affordable costs and at the right time and place.
9. Recommend low Threat and low-cost technologies which can help to give maximum income to growers because they can not manage the shock of crop failure, particularly those associated with high-cost technologies like BT cotton

10. Need for focused request Intervention Schemes (MIS) in the case of life-saving crops similar to cumin in thirsty areas. Have a Price Stabilisation Fund in place to cover the growers from price oscillations.
11. Need immediate action on import duties to cover growers from transnational price.
12. Have a Price Stabilisation Fund in place to cover the growers from price oscillations.
13. Set up Village Knowledge Centres (VCs) or Gyan- Chaupals. These can give dynamic and demand-driven information on all aspects of agrarian livelihoods and also serve as guidance centres.
14. Time to time counselling to people.

### **NEED OF AN HOUR**

Being primarily agrarian, high growth in the Agriculture sector is a pre- needful for attaining advanced growth in the overall frugality of the state, as also for a reduction in the prevalence of poverty. Since independence, we've been doing incremental policing when it comes to the agrarian sector. We never showed the spine to have capacity structure till we faced a food deficit which forced us into the green revolution. The following can be done-

1. One policy that fits each is a misnomer. The proper force of data to the policymakers is the need of the hour.
2. Agriculture practices like cash crops, water-ferocious cropping, and mono-cropping need a behavioural change among growers.
3. Original requests are in shambles they need a capacity structure with ultramodern technology like force chain operation, cold storehouse and artificial intelligence.
4. Soil health and nutrient requires agri- profitable experts.
5. Use of information and communication technology in addressing the issues

### **VI. CONCLUSION**

Analysis and interpretation of the below data show that the Government of India and concerned state governments have neglected the agrarian sector and its confederated conditioning. It also fails to take effective measures and its effective perpetration, which is redounded in Farmer's suicide, which is continuously increased in the last 15 years. Hence, it can be concluded that unless all these causes are contemporaneously dealt with the situation can not ameliorate. It requires large public investment in irrigation and pastoral structure, revivification of the

collaborative credit, marketing and processing system, strengthening of the agrarian extension services and sympathetic administration working nearly with the husbandry community.

There is a saying that

" Give a man a fish, he'll eat for a day but educate him how to fish, he'll eat for the rest of his life", so goes the popular byword, the case of our Indian growers is analogous to this, what they need is a means to sustain throughout their lives without having to face the despair that adversity drives them to. However, it's these farmers that need to be empowered, If India has to shine.

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