



## LEADING FROM THE FRONT- INDIAN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

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### INTRODUCTION

India is known for agriculture and it plays a vital role in Indian Economy, since more than 58% of the Rural households depend on agriculture as the primary source of livelihood. In GDP, agriculture and fisheries and forestry contributes to 16.1 % as reported in Central Statistics Office(CSO) in the Gross Added Value(GVA) during 2014-15. India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices and spice products and ranks third in farm and agriculture products and Agricultural export constitutes 10% of the country's export and ranks fourth in exported principal commodity. The agro industry constitutes several sub-segments such as Canned, Dairy, Processed, Frozen Food, Fisheries, meat, poultry and food grains. Ministry of Agriculture is responsible of the development of agriculture sector in India, managing several other bodies such as National Dairy Development for the development of allied agricultural sectors.

### MARKET SIZE OF AGRICULTURE

In the past and recent times several factors have contributed for the growth of agriculture in India, which include growth of household income and consumption, expansion in the food processing sector and increase in agricultural exports apart from rising private participation in Indian agriculture, growing organic farming and using information technology are some of the key trends in the agriculture industry.

India is the largest producer and importer of pulses at 19.0 MT and 3.4 MT, respectively. India, the second-largest producer of sugar, accounts for 14 per cent of the global output. It is the sixth-largest exporter of sugar, accounting for 2.76 per cent of the global exports.

Spice exports from India are expected to reach US\$ 3 billion by 2016–17 due to creative marketing strategies, innovative packaging, strength in quality and strong distribution networks. The spices market in India is valued at Rs 40,000 crore (US\$ 6.42 billion) annually, of which the branded segment accounts for 15 per cent.

### INVESTMENTS

Several players have invested in the agricultural sector in India, mainly driven by the government's initiatives and schemes. According to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), the Indian agricultural services and agricultural machinery sectors have cumulatively attracted foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflow of about US\$ 2,182 million from April 2000 to May 2015.

Identifying the need of the hour and the importance of the agriculture sector, the Government of India, in its Budget 2015–16, planned several steps for the sustainable development of agriculture. The government has already taken steps to resolve two major factors (soil and water), which are critical to improve agriculture production and 'Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana', 'Pradhanmantri Gram Sinchai Yojana', are those programmes towards achieving this.

No doubt the governments are trying to do best to the farmers, even by loan waiver schemes and other insurance schemes, but still the Farmers are remaining poor and farmers suicides are now a days common and governments, even after spending so much of people's money on Farmers are getting blamed for the same and this problems in coming from years.

### ACTUAL PROBLEM OF AGRICULTURE.

The Demand for Food will be there for ever and one has to produce it to meet the growing demands of the people. Farmers, from ages trying to produce the food products, may be it paddy, pulses or other product. If one looks at the whole procedure, it is clear that whatever farmers wants he is doing on his own and also taking assistance from the governments in the form of subsidies, prices etc, but he is the main driver for the whole process. In India most of the Farmers are either illiterates or not having enough knowledge to manage the agriculture on their own, thus he himself is responsible for whatever he does, leading to unpredictable results, which may be due to weather or due to lack of knowledge. Government is also supporting Farmers by giving guidance, assistance both monetary and non-monetary, which is indirect and never participated directly. Government which is giving monetary assistance to the Farmers is the money of the nation. This action of the government is not permanent solution to the problems of Farmers and need to be solved for ever.



## PERMANENT SOLUTION

Instead of government indirectly participating in the production of agriculture, it should take up the agriculture as one of the public sectors and should take up all the agricultural activities by itself on its own. For this purpose, it should employ human resources either from the same Farmers or any person, wants to work in this sector, through the same procedure followed in the appointment of other public sectors. Whatever the subsidies it is now giving has to be diverted to the same self managed agriculture. This will serve many purposes, firstly Farmers become salaried persons, earning good amount to run their families, avoiding debts. Secondly, since the government managed agriculture is now under the expert's guidance, headed by the Ministry of Agriculture, all the actions are transparent and are directed properly for the best result. Since it is now managed by the highly qualified personalities, a scientific approach will be followed in all the steps involved right from the sowing of the seed to the final product being marketed properly at a proper price in a proper market. People will be attracted to this profession, since they will be getting secured amount and demand for food is for ever. If one looks at other public sectors, all the participants in this sectors are well placed and are happy, with the tag government employee and also with the timing of their work. The funds of the governments are used properly, which in term accountable for people's money. Now the government employed farmers can be trained to perform better in the changed, secured environment, without any fear of loss in their own investment. Government owned Farmers can be utilized for production of agriculture products, marketing and other related activities, paving way for individual growth not only in monetary but over all development, on par with other professionals. With the government's direct role in agriculture, more and more people will be encouraged to join this public sector for service, removing unemployment in India. All the monies that the government currently spending in the form of subsidies, loan waiver etc, can be properly used for the economy growth of the country. Prices can also be controlled, since the product is home made and made in India, concept is also fulfilled, to give the real meaning of Jai Kisan. Nothing is impossible if governments determined, for instance the recent formation of NITI AYOJ in place of Planning Commission is the best example to quote. There is a need a major reforms in this sector, both legally and in the mind set of the people and government to achieve the same.

## CONCLUSIONS

Even though agriculture form majority part share in GDP, still Farmers, associated with this sector are committing suicides. Governments are trying to do best and allocating a share for this sector in the Budgets every year, this sector is not progressing, mainly because there is no direct participation of the government in this sector, even while giving subsidies and other benefits to the Farmers, from peoples fund. Therefore government must consider this sector as public sector, by direct participation, employing government salaried farmers, increasing production as well as quality of food products and also this help in controlling of the prices, which is the main concern of governments. With food produce as the main source of income, supported by Information Technology India can lead the world.

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