CHALLENGES IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE SECTOR: NEED FOR MISSION 2022-DOUBLING OF FARMER'S INCOME

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Abstract

India is one of the oldest agrarian economies in the world. While 70 per cent of the population depends on agriculture, it offers employment to nearly half of the working population. Farmers are suffering from acute problems like technical, economical and natural problems. The doubling of the income of the farmers with measures to step up irrigation, availability of high-quality seeds and warehousing, leads to development of agriculture sector. It is a great challenge to the government. The government implemented various touchstones for attaining the mission 2022. The present article penetrates into the various measures taken by Mission 2022. The seven strategies are (1)Focus on irrigation with the aim of 'per drop, more crop', (2) Provision of quality seeds and enrichment of soil health, (3) Large investments in warehousing (4) Creation of a national farm market, (5) Introduction of a new crop insurance scheme, (6) Promotion of value addition, (7) Promotion of ancillary activities. A four-point action plan has been put forwarded to double the income of farmers. They are: (1) Remunerative prices for farmers (2) Raising productivity (3) Reforming agricultural land policy and (4) Relief measures.

Keywords: Green Revolution, Farmer's Income, High Value Crops, Mission 2022 and high quality seeds

Introduction

Agriculture is the only sector, in which more than half of the population in India depends for their livelihood. 51 per cent of geographical area are under agricultural cultivation. Indian agricultural sector acquired significant achievements in the food industry, increased contribution to the world production, export of agricultural commodities, marketing of agriculture produce surplus and so on. India is the seventh largest country and one of the fastest growing country in the world. India places first in the production of milk, pulses and jute and ranks second in the production of rice, wheat, sugarcane, vegetables, fruit, ground nut and cotton. India contributes significantly to the world production of fish, poultry, spices and plantation crops. India achieved such as a result of the introduction of High Yielding Variety Seeds (HYV Seeds). Introduction of HYV Seeds along with increased use of fertilizer and proper irrigation facilities are referred as Green Revolution. It uplifted India to be a food self-sufficient country from food-deficient country. It had its positive effect on Indian Economy and they are as follows.

- · Increased agricultural output, especially in the production of rice, wheat and com
- Commercialization of agriculture
- Increased production sugarcane, cotton etc....are the raw materials of industries, created more employment opportunities

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