

Agricultural Development in Rural Economy in India

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture needs continuous infusion of innovation and technology in ensuring global food security, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011, released in 2015 also indicates that out of 24.39 crore households in the country, 17.91 crore lived in villages and among these, 10.69 crore were considered as deprived households. Agriculture is still the back bone of rural India as the data SECC indicates that 31.26 % of the total rural households are still broadly identified as poor where the main earner has an insecure and uncertain source of income. Increasing urbanization, globalization and demand for high value products have dramatically changed the global context for agriculture. Agriculture is critical for those who live below the poverty line, as there is an uncertainty from the harvesting point of view.

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the World Bank, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth originating in agriculture raises the incomes of the poorest households by at least 2.5 times as much as growth in other sectors does. Over the years, one of the issues in Indian agriculture is the declining profitability of most of the agricultural crops and an enterprise which is the main cause of alienation of the people from this crucial sector. There are number of factors responsible for the gloom on the faces of the farming community. The real prices of agricultural commodities are not increasing in tune with the increasing costs of critical inputs such as labour, fertilizers etc. That has been mainly responsible for the declining profitability in agriculture. The next challenge is the shortage of quality seeds to achieve the yield potential in different crops. In India, average national yields of most agricultural commodities are about 40 to 50% of the corresponding world averages. The yield gaps in different crops should be seen as an opportunity for future growth and simultaneously our approach should be consistent with agro-ecological, environmental, socio-economic, political and technological settings in the major production regimes.

2. OBJECTIVES OF VILLAGE ADOPTION PROGRAMME

- To increase productivity of crops with the availability of water through lift irrigation scheme.
- To bring about overall development of farm families through integrated rural development programme with special emphasis on agricultural development.
- To increase the standard farmers those who covered through this programme.
- To make awareness among the people to use the advanced technology

OPERATING SYSTEM OF VILLAGE ADOPTION PROGRAMME

FARMERS MEETING

Farmers are imparted knowledge about improved crop production practices and also educated about the role of plant nutrients and other aspects of crop production through charts, slides and films etc. since inception of village adoption about 8 farmers meeting were organized.

SOIL TESTING

Soil testing is one of the important tools to learn about nutrients requirements in a crop/cropping sequence. This helps economize on fertilizer costs and increase fertilizer use efficiency. Farmers were advised to apply fertilizer according soil test report thus conserving from excessive use of fertilizers and promoting balance fertilizer practices.

GREEN MANURING

Green manuring crops were promoted on farmer's field. This is one of the most effective and environmentally sound method of organic manuring that limits excessive use of chemical fertilizers like urea.

CROP DEMONSTRATIONS

Conducting crop demonstrations on farmer's fields is the most effective method of convincing farmers for adoption of improved agricultural technology for higher crop yield and better Fertilizer Use Efficiency (FUE). Demonstration on various crops like local paddy/maize vs HYV paddy/maize, farmers' practices and recommended practice of fertilizer use were undertaken on farmers' field. Critical Package Package (CIP) demonstration kits comprising seed, chemical fertilizer, water soluble fertilizer, micro-nutrients and agrochemicals were provided for farmers for raising good and healthy crops.

FIELD DAY

Field day programme was organized on demonstration plots to showcase difference in productivity in improved practice over farmer practice so that farmer adopts the improved package and practices of crop cultivation.

AGRICULTURAL AND SOCIAL CAMPAIGN

Besides organizing field programmes on crop production, various campaigns i.e seed treatment, plant protection, rodent control, tree plantation, bio fertilizer, manure pit, vermicomposting, medical and veterinary checkup etc were organized. This has increased awareness and further led to adoption of good cultivation and environment friendly practices.

IMPACT AND INNOVATION ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Due to this kind of programmes, the income level of the beneficiaries, small and marginal farmers have also increased which is evident from the field reports. The pace of implementation of various programmes has been increased. The innovations like village adoption programme which emerged from the field, it would be able to create productive assets of prescribed quality and durability, strengthen the livelihood resource base of the poor, proactively ensuring social inclusion and deepening panchayati raj institutions. To review of this programme which have been put into practice in the implementation of the programmes helped to increase the effectiveness of the programmes in rural areas.

2. CONCLUSION

Village adoption is one of the most effective ways of showcasing the benefit of improved crop practices through effective transfer of technology within the stipulated period of adoption. With the concerted efforts of farmers, scientists and input agencies, all-round development of our villages is possible provided it is further replicated for ensuring sustainability of rural economy with the involvement of all the stakeholders.

3. REFERENCES

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