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## STRATEGIES FOR DOUBLING FARMER'S INCOME BY 2022: A REVIEW

**Prof. Bhalchandra Balkrishna Bite, Dr. Vishal W. Wagh, Prof. Pournima Nagne**

Asst. Prof. AISSMS IOM, Pune-01

### ABSTRACT:

*For the program of doubling farmer's income by 2022, the base year is 2015-16 and target year is 2022-23 (i.e. six years). The main objective of this program is to double the real income of farmers as compared to non-farm workers income. The overall income will include income from farm and farm allied activities. The level of farmer's income and year to year fluctuations in it is a major source of agrarian distress. To secure income of farmers, we also need to improve livelihood, need to pay attention towards welfare of farmers. If we pay more attention towards agricultural development in India, this sector will attract youths towards farming profession.*

**Keywords:** Doubling Income, Agrarian distress, non-farm income, strategies.

### Introduction:

Agriculture is the mainstay of Indian Agricultural sector; it contributes 17.35% (2016-17) of Indian GDP. To achieve the target of doubling the farmer's income by 2022, the department has constituted a committee to examine and resolve the issues related to it. The average monthly income per capita from farming increased from Rs. 1,060 in 2003 to Rs. 3,844 in 2013, according to the report Situational Assessment of Agricultural Households by the NSSO, a compounded annual income growth rate of 13.7%. To double the income of farmers by 2022, in nominal (numerical) terms—which do not take inflation into account—would require a 15%

compounded income growth rate, which is a marginal increase over the achieved increase from 2003 to 2013. However to increase the income in real terms would imply restructuring agriculture processes & policy interventions.

### **Why double farmer's income?**

Initially after post-independence it was focused on development of Agricultural sector in India. It was included increasing productivity, remunerative prices, investment in agricultural sector, subsidies to Agricultural sector improving institutional infrastructure. This strategy need not mentioned the need to raise farmer's income. Even earlier, it was not mentioned to measure and promote farmers welfare. It was also found that the growth in output but there is no growth in income of farmer. The result shows that the farmer's income remained low which created poverty to the former. It was also found that the people working in farm allied sectors also having low income there was a big disparity among income of cultivator to the income of non-agricultural workers. Hence it is suggested that to reduce agrarian distress and promote farmers welfare and bring parity between income of farmers and those working in non-agricultural.

### **Strategies for Doubling Farmer's Income by 2022:**

1. Increasing incomes by improving productivity
2. Water and Agri-Input policies
3. Integrated Farming System
4. Better market price realization
5. Special Policy Measures

### **Objectives:**

- i) To study the current income level of farmers.
- ii) To study the strategies for doubling farmers income.

### **Strategies for improving farmer's income**

#### **1. Development initiatives**

1. In this regards, emphasis is given on increasing productivity of the farm by improving biotechnology in the crop production this is considered by making bio safety measures.

2. In this strategy, it is considered that agricultural productivity and should be increased by micro irrigation to save water in rainfed area of India
3. It is also suggested that by accessing the present situation of crops which is taken in the area with potential field of other crops in that area.

## **2. Technological development**

In this strategy emphasis is given on fertilizer subsidy and rationalizing the NPK pricing. This strategy will be considered under the soil health card to increase in yield of the crops.

## **2. Integrated farming system**

1. In this strategy emphasis is given on promotion of integrated farming system by promotion of benefits to integrated farming. Integrated farming is a blend of poultry, animal husbandry etc.
2. It is also concentrated on high yielding animals, biogas etc.
3. Promotion of intensive vegetable production: Organic farming, variety of vegetables, drip irrigation etc. Effective planning of suitability of crops with land etc.

## **4. Better market realization:**

1. In this strategy, revision of APMC act is recommended, direct marketing, contract farming is highly recommended by National Agricultural Market (NAM).
2. It is also considered making easy process of licensing farm products should be free of movement in the country. Taxation system should be made easy.
3. Electronic auction system should be encouraged, for this grading and standardization of the product should be made.
4. To improve agricultural infrastructure and storage system, online marketing system should be improved to bring the transparency. Foreign direct investment (FDI) policy should be revised.
5. It is also concentrated on, to reduce post-harvest losses by strengthening cold storages for perishable produce. It is also considered post-harvest processing should be increased.

## **Major sources of growth**

1. Improvement in productivity
2. Reduction in cost of production

3. Effective use of available resources
4. Diversification of crops towards cash crop or high value crops
5. Increasing income from farm allied activities
6. Increase in minimum support prices
7. To bring more commodities under minimum support prices like vegetables and fruits.

### **Challenges in increasing farmer's income:**

1. Remunerative prices: In this regard NITI Aayog suggested that to make reforms in minimum support prices and marketing reforms.
  - a. Under minimum support prices: Under this category the subsidy will be provided to the targeted produce even if the prices are falling under minimum support prices.
  - b. Raising productivity: 67% of Indian farmers are marginal farmers that is below (1 hectare) followed by small farmers (1-2 hectare) 17.19 1% (reference agricultural census 2010-11). NITI Aayog also called investment in micro irrigation, adoption of new technology etc. Gross capital formation in the agricultural sector has gone up by 13.9% during the tenth plan and 19% during the 11th plan.

### **Conclusion:**

The income level of farmers is low and fluctuating year to year of agrarian distress. Doubling real income of farmers till 2022-23 over the base year of 2015-16, requires annual growth of 10.41 per cent in farmer's income. To secure future of Indian agricultural sector it is necessary to improve livelihood of farmers and attention to be given to improve farmer's welfare and increase in income from agriculture. This will reduce the disparity between farm income and non-farm income respectful income. Respectful income from agricultural will attract it's toward farming profession. Doubling farmer's income by 2022 is quite challengeable too. Attention should be given to development initiatives, Technology initiatives and policy reforms in agricultural.

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