

Reasons for low productivity in Indian agriculture

Indian economy is mainly based on agriculture. But in comparison with the developed countries productivity in India is very poor. The causes behind this low productivity are

General Cause

1. Pressure of Population in Agricultural Sector

The rapidly increased population of the country cannot be absorbed in non- agricultural sector and so the pressure of population in the agricultural sector goes on increasing. Consequently, per head cultivable agricultural land goes on decreasing and so per hectore production also declined

2. Underdeveloped rural environment

The farmers depend on luck and so they are not interested in the development of agriculture. Moreover, due to the lack of proper education they do not have faith on the advanced technology which is useful to increase the production

3. Lack of skills of agricultural workers

Indian agricultural workers lack skills due to low wages, lack of proper housing facilities, low standard of living, lack of social consciousness, lack of proper education etc.

4. Financial Problem

Most of the farmers in India are poor and do not have enough money for land development. There are very few institutions in rural areas to provide agricultural loans. Moreover, the rich farmers get benefit from the loans given by these institutions. The poor farmers depend on rural money lenders who charge high rate of interest. So, under this heavy burden of interest rate the poor farmers cannot spend money to improve agriculture. They are also forced to sell their produce at a very low price as soon as they harvest to repay the loan.

Institutional Cause

1. Non-economic Holding

Due to the joint family system, the existence of inheritance laws, the destruction of small scale and cottage industries, etc., India's agricultural land has become smaller and smaller. It is becoming non-economic holdings. They are also scattered in different places and so modern technology cannot be adopted to cultivate them. So, production cannot be increased.

2. Zamindari system

In India, farmers cultivate the land but the land is owned by the zamindars. So, the farmers are always afraid of being evicted from the land at any moment. So, they are reluctant to increase production.

3. Poor Infrastructure

Due to lack of availability of loan in low interest rate, poor arrangement of warehouse for the produced goods, lack of the facility for the marketing of the agricultural products, lack of government investment in agricultural sector etc. the Indian agriculture suffers from low productivity.

4. Individual owned farming

Indian agriculture is run on family basis and privately owned system. They never preferred to cultivate collectively and so it was not possible to avail the facility of cooperative farming

Technical or Technological Reason

1. Inadequate irrigation system

Indian agriculture is mainly dependent on uncertain monsoon and so the farmers do not have interest to increase the productivity of the land.

2. Neglect in agricultural research

In India a negligible portion is spent for agricultural research. Moreover, there is a poor link between this research laboratories with the farmers. So, the farmers are ignorant of the valuable result of the agricultural researches.

3. Age old Production System

Due to ignorance, lack of capital and lack of chemical fertilizers, Indian farmers are relying on conventional methods instead of adopting modern methods of production. Recently the use of chemical fertilizer, pesticides, high yielding seeds became popular but it was limited only in Punjab and Haryana.