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SELF-RELIANT INDIA CAMPAIGN : INDIAN AGRICULTURE AND PRIMARY SECTOR



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ABSTRACT

In order to properly combat the Covid-19 pandemic, the central government has released an incentive package of Rs 20 lakh crore, which seems to be 10 per cent of GDP. The government will provide Rs 1 lakh for other schemes, Rs 10,000 crore for food and Rs 20,000 crore for fisheries and animal husbandry, according to Finance

Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The present package emphasizes on doubling the income of farmers and making them self-reliant, as well as announcing amendments to the Essential Commodities Act, which came into force in 1955.

KEYWORDS

Covid-19, Finance, Income, Act, Government

Introduction

While the country's economy paused during the Covid-19 pandemic, agriculture and the primary sector played a major role. Although the role of primary sector in GDP seems to be low but today, the dependence on this sector is high. Therefore, realizing that this sector cannot be ignored, with this, the central government has announced a historic economic package which includes a provision of Rs 1 lakh crore to strengthen the infrastructure for the agricultural sector. At the same time, the exclusion of food items in the Essential Commodities Act shows that the government is making all efforts to increase the income of farmers to make them self-reliant. There is a need for the proper implementation of this package. Will this scheme help in enriching agriculture and primary sector? Is the scheme capable of doubling the income of farmers? Will the agricultural sector be liberated in the true sense and transform the rural areas through this scheme? Attempts have been made to explore these and many other questions.

The primary sector of the economy

India is an agricultural country. The core of the Indian economy is agriculture and the primary sector. The primary sectors of the economy are agriculture, fisheries, animal husbandry and agriculture. In the post-independence period, the role of primary sector in GDP has been declining but the dependence on primary sector is still high. The country's economic growth and the on-going economic transition have led to a decline in the role of the primary sector in the economy and an increase in the role of industry and services. However, the proportion of the population dependent on the sector is also expected to change as development and events change. However, that does not seem to have happened in India. The role of the primary sector in the economy has come down to 13 to 14 per cent but the population dependent on this sector is found to be 50 to 52 per cent. Therefore, it should be understood that the development of agriculture and primary sector depends on the development of the people.

In the post-independence period, emphasis was laid on the primary sector through five-year plans. Monopoly scheme Green Revolution Agricultural Universities Modern technology Seeds Chemical fertilizers Pesticides etc. Increased agricultural production and productivity despite this, what is the reason for the huge problem of agriculture and farmers in this country? One important thing to keep in mind is that not only productivity increases but also distribution

and proper management are essential. Because it is also important, the central government has decided to implement the trio of product distribution management in this scheme and the policy is to liberate the agriculture sector from this.

Table No. 1

Self-Reliance Package Agriculture and Primary Sector

	Component	Provision in crores
1	Agricultural infrastructure	1 lakh crore
2	Micro food culture	10,000 crores
3	Fishing.	200,000 crore
4	National Animal Disease Control Program	13343 crore
5	Animal Husbandry business	15,000 crores
6	Organic farming Herbal farming	4000 crores
7	Bee keeping	500 crores
8	Operation Green Scheme	500 crore

Reference: [https:// www.bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com)

Provision of self-reliant package for agriculture and primary sector

Table 1 shows the provision made in the Self Reliant Scheme for Agriculture and Primary Sector. From the farmer's bund to the customer's house means In order to implement the Farm to.get concept, The government has announced an IFA Structure Fund of Rs. 1 lakh crore in this package to create a chain of well-organized and well-equipped infrastructure such as production, distribution and management and to enable existing infrastructure. This fund shows that the government has a tendency to build cold storage warehouses. At the same time, the Krishi Startup Scheme has provisioned Rs 10,000 crore for micro food culture using modern technology in the micro agri-organized sector.

It is seen that Rs 20,000 crore has been provisioned in this package for Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. It has a provision of Rs 11,000 crore for fish seed production sector and Rs 9,000 crore for infrastructure development in the sector.

This shows that the government has a tendency to increase the income of the people in this business. In rural areas is the provision of subsidies to interest two per cent annually supporting the government scheme to boost agriculture milk teams that complement the business of animal husbandry and dairy and dairy business. Under the National Animal Digit Control Program, a provision of Rs. 13343 crore has been made for animal husbandry with a view to 100% vaccination of goats, sheep and livestock.

It seems that the scheme provisions Rs 15,000 crore for Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund. It is also found that Rs 4,000 crore has been provisioned for the development of organic farming with a target of 10 lakh hectares of organic farming. At the same time, it is seen that emphasis has been laid in this scheme for the farmers to experiment with medicinal plant farming. It seems to have set a target of benefiting more than two lakh business people by allocating Rs 500 crore for Beekeeping business. This problem was mainly seen in the lockdown as it was difficult for the farmers to sell their produce in the market due to the jammed distribution system. To find a way out of this the government expanded the scope of Operation Green Skin to include tomatoes, potatoes, onions, vegetables and fruits. A separate provision of Rs 500 crore has been made for this.

Conclusion:

Provision made by Central Government for Agriculture and Primary Sector in Self Reliance Package seems to be important. Along with increasing the production and productivity of agri-businesses in rural areas, the development of the triad of production distribution and management through infrastructure development efforts will help increase the income of rural people. The production and productivity of the agricultural sector will increase and raising capital in rural areas will help change the face of the rural economy.

However, the next major challenge for the central government is to ensure proper implementation of the scheme to prevent population migration in rural areas and to raise funds for the scheme to involve the state government in the scheme. Regular supply of agricultural inputs by keeping the agricultural production process smooth it is necessary to remove barriers to food sales and provide direct financing to minority farmers and restrict trade.

In order to enrich the agriculture and primary sector as well as to uplift the living standards of the farmers, it is necessary to double their income and free the agricultural sector in

the true sense. For this, it is necessary to repeal the essential law of 1955. The standard of living of the population dependent on agriculture and the primary sector related to agriculture and to change living standards to stand firm in agriculture and farmers in the face of global epidemics and other natural disasters and which is the structure of the rural economy. Its original appearance should be changed. This country will survive only if the rural system survives and the words "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas" will gain meaning therefore, it is hoped that it will be more profitable to focus on actual cost and implementation than paper provision.

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