

India's performance in Agriculture Orientation Index necessitates the need to attain a higher agricultural growth. Discuss

Indian Agriculture:

According to the survey by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's welfare 86% of the Indian farmers were small & marginal i.e., < 1.2 ha of land holding with 60% of the agricultural land used under agricultural dry land

AGRICULTURAL ORIENTATION INDEX (AOI)

Agricultural Orientation Index = $\frac{\text{Amount of Govt. spending in Agriculture}}{\text{Yield from agriculture contributed to GDP}}$

Why (AOI) is a matter of concern?

* Productivity: Though India is a leading producer of cereals & millets,

	Productivity
Eg: China (per capita land) - 0.6 ha	6296 kg/ha
India (per capita land) - 1.2 ha	3282 kg/ha

* Reduced spending to increase the productivity than low income countries

Eg: Malawi > Mali > Bhutan > India
 18% 12.4 18% 7.3%

Impacts Faced:

* It marches towards the (Zero Hunger) of 2030 Agenda for SDG; As

most of the farmers income in the rural household are not more than ₹ 9,000/month (MOAFW report) 2019

* Lack of Resource management skills:

Government should encourage the precision farming with optimal use of 4:2:1 fertilizers and promote the sustainable use of water resource.

Eg: China Vs India

1kg of Rice
< 30,000 lit

1kg of Rice - > 30,000
lit of water

- * Reduced MSP for farmers and Market Infrastructure Schemes i.e., less than 62% of previous Budget.
- * Reduced enrollments in ~~PM. Fasal Bima Yojana~~ PM. Fasal Bima Yojana from year to year 33.3% from 34.8 (2016-17) (2017-18)

* under utilized funds of P.M. Kisan Mithi

* Discouraging the MSP for cash crops leads to farmer's suicide in Maharashtra Belt by the recent 2020-21 survey.

Way forward:

* Low performance of India with rank of 38 having agrarian background is quite unsuccessful. Functioning and overlapping of government schemes and policies should be regulated.

* Farmer friendly logistic support is needed for diversification of crop and rural infrastructure must be strengthened.