

Drones have the potential to be the tech. led transformation of Indian agriculture. Critically analyse

The goal of doubling the farmers income by 2022 is crucial and the use of drones in agriculture can greatly improve the revenue of farmers.

Benefits of drones in agriculture

① The Kisan drones can be used for spraying pesticides that are harmful to humans and can spray one acre in 15 minutes.

② Data collection can be done by using resource estimation, crop production forecast which can lead to evidence based planning.

③ Help crop insurance in loss estimation since the drones are equipped with geographical information system and google earth photos

④ Help implement schemes such as the Pm Fasal Bima Yojana for insurance and Krishi Sinchai Yojana for precision agriculture

Include agriculture market as worth \$600 billion drones can reduce the cost of agriculture by 20%.

Giving more lift to farmers

① Cost Drones cost 1-10 lakh and 85% of small and marginal farmers cannot afford. Farmer Producer organisations can procure drones and rent it out to farmers. The recent Production linked incentive for drones has been launched.

② Dedicated research fund and sandbox should be provided to private players along with AgriStack data for larger drone adoption.

③ Increasing number of drones and a cross ministerial support from agriculture and civil aviation ministries is crucial.

As the World Economic Forum members drone have the potential to be the harbinger of technology led development of Indian agriculture is possible with holistic actions.