



THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN ENSURING A GREENER AND HEALTHIER FUTURE

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Abstract :

The new technologies of the Green Revolution met our food needs by increasing the productivity of staple food grains. But while doing this, it had many dangerous far-reaching consequences. In the future, we need a revolution in productivity growth as we have to increase the productivity of agricultural production to meet the ever-increasing demand. For that, the side effects of the first green revolution have to be avoided. There should be an 'evergreen revolution' that preserves biodiversity without degrading soil quality while increasing productivity i.e. sustainable agriculture.

Key Words: Sustainable Agriculture, Green Revolution, Eco-Friendly Farming, Adverse Effects

Introduction:

A committee of experts sponsored by the Ford Foundation was invited by the Government of India to increase production and productivity in Indian agriculture during the Second Five Year Plan (1956-1961). This committee submitted its report titled 'Food Problem of India and its Solutions' in April 1960. As suggested by this committee, the Government of India started an intensive development program in seven districts in 1960. Later the same program was extended to one district in each state. In 1965, this program was introduced across the country and was named the 'Intensive Farming Program'. A program of high-yielding seed varieties was then launched, a program known as the New Agricultural Policy. This program was undertaken in order to create a green revolution in the country. Emphasis was placed on the use of improved seeds, more production with less water and in less time, chemical fertilizers, irrigation facilities, pesticides, and modern and new machinery. "The process of bringing about fundamental changes in agriculture is called the Green Revolution. "A new variety of wheat was discovered in 1965 by agricultural researchers. As a result of the start of the Green Revolution since then, wheat production increased by 10 percent in 1968. In short 'Green Revolution is the new technology applied for the development of agriculture'.

The average yield of food grains increased from 719 kg per hectare in 1960-61 to 2017 kg per hectare in 2014-15 while wheat increased from 950 kg per hectare to 2872 kg and rice from 1000 kg per hectare to 2390 kg per hectare.

OBJECTIVES

- (1) Studying Green Revolution.
- (2) To study the importance of sustainable agriculture.

BENEFITS DUE TO THE GREEN REVOLUTION

Due to Green Revolution, India became truly self-sufficient in food grain production, all possible due to the use of chemical fertilizers, water supply facilities, high-yielding seeds, modern machinery, agricultural research, financing facilities, crop protection, price incentives, warehousing system, sales system, publicity media, etc. done We can see that green revolution had both good and bad effects. The green revolution accelerated the economic development of the country, inspired educational development, encouraged industrial development, increased investment in agriculture, increased employment, changed the attitude of farmers, increased the production of commercial crops, and improved irrigation facilities. increased, fertilizer use increased, and food products made great strides. These were good benefits.

SOME ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE GREEN REVOLUTION

At the same time, some adverse effects of the green revolution were also seen in which unemployment increased, capitalist tendencies increased in agriculture, farmer suicides increased, the wrong policy was decided on prices, income disparity increased, the green revolution benefited only big farmers, regional inequality increased, and this green revolution did not produce any crops. It appears to have been successful. Overall considering the advantages and disadvantages of Green Revolution In the current situation Green Revolution has increased production but while taking this production it is seen that qualitative production has been neglected and at the same time it can be seen that the life span of the land (maintenance of productivity) has been neglected due to overproduction and chemical fertilizers and additional irrigation. Pollution in nature increased, the seasonal cycle changed, floods increased, drought conditions, and adverse effects on human health began to appear. To overcome this, the use of organic methods instead of chemical elements in agriculture will help to reduce the side effects. Therefore, sustainable agriculture can complement the prevailing farming techniques. It is necessary to study the importance of sustainable agriculture as the country needs to focus on sustainable agriculture development along with the green revolution.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The existence of plants, insects, animals, and humans depends on land and its fertile soil as a precious gift of nature. This gift is utilized in agriculture, agricultural development is an important part of our overall development efforts. Hence our way of farming. It should be sustainable agriculture. Sustainable agriculture is a method of agriculture that is conscious of not allowing the quality of the land and the environment to deteriorate while meeting the needs of the current generation for food and other needs, as well as keeping the life cycle of the life associated with the land intact and preserving this natural resource for future generations. In the context of economic development, sustainability is considered a dynamic concept. "A system in which the change in output is always positive is called a sustainable system".

A NEW APPROACH TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT

A new approach to rural development is expected in the concept of sustainable agriculture. Human needs change over time. Sustainable agriculture is a form of sustainable agriculture in which economic, environmental, and social costs are taken into account while meeting the growing demand for agricultural production along with increasing farm income. Due to this scheme, the balance of the environment is maintained and for this purpose, the crop pattern is prepared with the view that the quality of the land is not degraded while using it.

IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The importance and objective of sustainable agriculture and rural development are to increase food production in a sustainable manner and create food security. For this, education, development of appropriate and new technology, and financial motivation. etc. There is a need. Employment generation and income generation through sustainable agricultural practices are aimed at eradicating poverty in

rural areas. While preparing this strategy, land conservation, proper cultivation of fallow land, implementation of watershed development programs, use of biological fertilizers and biological pesticides, water management, conservation of agricultural biodiversity, livestock health, and productivity. Sustainable agriculture does not mean rejecting the traditional methods of farming, but rather a proper combination of modern technology innovation and practical experience. Sustainable agriculture is a learning and improvement process.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Sustainable agriculture is not an option but a necessity. The impact on the environment caused by the use of modern technology will be reduced by sustainable agriculture, and farmers will be able to control their own fate rather than the hands of multinational companies in the field. Sustainable agriculture may result in less crop productivity today, but the cost of production will be reduced and the farmer will be in control of the overall situation, which is an important benefit. Looking to the future, the most important benefit of sustainable agriculture is that it will preserve the quality of the land and the environment.

CONCLUSION

1. Environmental impact assessment and risk assessment tools need to be used to minimize the adverse impact of industrial activities on agriculture.
2. It is necessary to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and increase the use of biological fertilizers and pesticides.
3. Consideration of farmers' goals, building a foundation for socio-economic equity, and consideration of people's lifestyles are important for sustainable agriculture.
4. Efficient use of resources and maximum use of natural renewable resources.
1. 5 Land type, climate, and people's preferences should be considered while choosing the place for farming, and the type of crops.
5. Instead of monotonous farming, it is important to have diversified farming, which will help in maintaining the balance of the environment.

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