

Importance and need of Organic farming in India: Problems and Prospects

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ABSTRACT

Population explosion of 1980's in India and resultant increase in, food grain demand, pressurized Indian Agriculture to increase the supply and production of food grains. Green Revolution in Indian agriculture increased food grain production in quantitative terms. Chemical fertilizers, pesticides, germicides, HYVs and heavy Irrigation were used at large level. Food grain production increased from 50.8 million tons in 1951 to 315.6 million tons in 2021- 22. This achievement fulfilled the need of food grain in the Country, but the excessive use of chemical fertilizer, pesticides, germicides and heavy irrigation affected the environment, deteriorated the soil health, polluted the ground level water increase' the toxic materials in human body and other living things. So now there is need of disaster management by introducing organic agriculture.

INTRODUCTION

Organic agriculture is an environment friendly system. It helps in maintaining the health of soil. Good health of soil is a national property. Like human Capital or other natural capital, good soil is capital of any Country. Organic agriculture keeps the quality of soil intact. Organic agriculture prevents the deterioration of health of people by not using any chemical or toxic materials in cultivation. Chemical and toxic material used in agriculture creates various diseases in human body and other living things. It causes cancer, hypertension, Skin diseases and other serious problems. People spend a lot of money, in treatment of these diseases. Government expenditure also increases on medicine and hospitals. It is important to calculate the Cost of chemical based agriculture in Society and country The introduction of organic agriculture and its expansion or we may say that a continuous conversion of organic agriculture may save a lot of money of the nation which may create Capital formation and it can be used in agriculture itself or in other stream of economic sectors. Unfortunately, in India the pace of conversion of organic agriculture is very low. The percentage areas used under organic agriculture is less than one percent. Thus the organic agriculture is the only way to fulfil the need of people and simultaneously the good health of human and other living things.

Need for Research

Organic forming is no doubt important in respect of ecology and environment. But generally, it has been observed that the yield rate declines in the initial stage of organic farming. But on the other hand the future of agricultural development is associated with organic forming because various countries and the international institution in banning export of chemical based agricultural produces, so there is need of an encouragement to organic agriculture and draw the attention of government to make a concrete plan to increase the pace of Conversion of organic farming.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Howards (1920) advocates organic farming on the ground of soil health. Bernwed Cueter (1999) supports organic farming on the basis of its eco- friendly nature and potential of fulfilling the need of the people if farmers prepare themselves for it. Sanghavi (1991) explains organic farming positive in respect of profitability. Recent report from Bhopal (MP) and Rajasthan also encourages organic farming.

Objective of Paper

- (i) to explain the importance and need organic farming
- (ii) Positive factors in country which may help in organic farming.
- (iii) Social political problems in organic farming.

METHODOLOGY

This paper is based on Secondary data. Some reports and news and data available will be used.

Main chapters of Papers

- (1) Comparison of organic farming in India with other Countries
- (2) Progress of organic farming in India
- (3) problem and prospect of organic farming in India.

Comparison of Organic Farming in India with other countries.

China: According to the data of the United States Department of agriculture (USDA) the area of organic farming is 1,900,000 hectares while India’s same is 500,000 hectares.

Organic Agricultural Land: Leading worldwide 2021 published by M shahbandeh, organic farming areas of different countries are following:

Countries	Organic Agricultural Land Area in Million Hectares
Australia	35.69
Argentina	4.07
France	2.75
Uruguay	2.74
India	2.66
Spain	2.64
US	2.33
Italy	2.19
Germany	1.8

Source: “ Organic Agriculture Land: leading worldwide 2021, published by M Shahbaneh.

“ The world of Organic Agriculture Statistics and Emirgiry Trends 2021” book edited by Helga Willer for FiBL and IFOAM releases following Organic Agriculture Indicators:

Organic Agriculture Key Indicators and Top Countries

Indicator	World	Top Countries
Countries with organic activities	2019 187 countries	
Organic Agricultural Land	2019: 72.3 m.h 1991 1.1 m.h	Australia 35.7 mh Argentina 3.7 mh Spain 2.4 mh
Organic Market	2019 : 106.4 billi. Euro 2000: 15.1 bill. Euro	
Percapita consumption	2019:14.0 euro	Denmark – 344 euro Switzerland- 3.38 euro Luxemburg 265 euro
Number of affiliates of IFOAM organic International	2020 719 affiliates	Germany – 79 affiliates India -52 affiliates USA – 48 affiliates Italy- 46 affiliates

Source: FBIL Survey 2021, based on national data source, data from certifiers and IFOAM – organize international.
Progress of Organic Farming in India

Area under Organic Cultivation in India

Year	Area (M.hac)
2016-17	4.4
2017-18	3.5
2018-19	3.5
2019-20	4.1
2020-2021	4.3

Production of Organic products in India

Year	Production (M.MT)
2016-17	.72
2017-18	1.73
2018-19	2.64
2019-20	2.98
2020-2021	3.40

State wise organic production in India in 2020-21

State	Production in M.T
Madhya Pradesh	1392095.93
Maharashtra	775774.99
Karnataka	355718.73
Rajasthan	256386.15
Uttar Pradesh	183409.04
Total	3468991.9

III Problems and Prospects of organic Farming in in India

There are following problems of Organic farming in India:

(i) Lack of awareness among farmers

farmers are unaware about the Compost and Its making process. Farmers lacks the understanding of national interest linkage with organic farming.

(ii) Marketing Problems

Most of the Indian farmers are ignorant. They cannot sell their organic produce at higher prices. In the whole world the organic produce is sold at higher prices comparatively.

(iv) Shortage of Supporting Infrastructure:

The number of Certification agencies are very small. Without such agencies farmers cannot sell their good or products at higher price in markets

(v) Higher input Cost:

Cost of organic inputs like neem cake, Cow dung Verme compost, are comparatively higher than the chemical-based Inputs.

(Vi) Absence of appropriate Agricultural Policy:

India lacks a Solid and appropriate Agricultural policy which can push the organic farming at the road of progress

CONCLUSION

Observing the all three Chapters of the paper that in Comparison of the American, European and the country like china in Asia are far ahead than the Country India in the field of organic farming. The Progress of organic farming in India is stagnant. There is a need to make a strong policy and to aware the farmers to accept this way of farming. The Prospect of organic farming, is bright in India. If this farming is expanded in the whole country, the income of the farmers will increase besides the ecological and environmental up gradation in the country.

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