

India's Approach toward Sustainable Agriculture: Review of Government's Initiatives

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Abstract: *There are two major challenges before Indian Agriculture-ecological and economical. Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy as well as society because of its high share in employment generation and livelihood creation. About 43% India's geographical areas are used for agricultural activities. The sector is a supplier of food, fodder and raw material for a vast segment of industry. Recognizing these facts Government of India has taken various initiatives at national and regional levels for healthy growth of agriculture. Despite of this agriculture's share in GDP has declined rapidly in the recent past. Indian farmers are suffering from multiple issues such as high input cost, low profitability, land degradation, depleting water table and risks related to climate change*

Sustainable agriculture has the potential to tackle most of the socio-economic and environmental problems originated out of unsustainable farm practices. The concept of sustainable agriculture revolves around three main goals-environmental health, economic profitability and socio-economic equity. Aware of this, Government of India has launched numerous policies and schemes which cater the needs for key inputs in a sustainable manner. The present paper aims to enlist and assess major initiatives of India such as National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojna, PM Krishi Sinchayi Yojna, PM Fasal Bima Yojna, Soil Health Card scheme etc. The objective of the study is to analyze the efforts and approach of India for the development of sustainable agriculture

Keywords: Sustainable Agriculture, Environment, Ecological balance, Food security, Initiatives, Degradation, Economy, Farmers' welfare, Strategy