

**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF MADRAS PRESIDENCY  
(1937 – 1967 A.D) WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO  
GREEN REVOLUTION**

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**PSGR KRISHNAMMAL COLLEGE FOR WOMEN**

**College of Excellence – Awarded by UGC**

**(An Autonomous Institution – Affiliated to Bharathiar University)**

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*Conclusion*

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## CONCLUSION

Many traditional methods of agriculture were used in India, including the use of natural equipment such as the hand sickle, hand-held agricultural tools with a variety of curved blades, and a reliance on rainfall dependent on seasons. Rainfall can also influence how quickly a crop grows from seed, as well as when it is ready to harvest. A good rain balance is essential for proper irrigation. Rain frequently comes quickly as a boon to crops and fields. However, the ideal amount of rainfall is not available. So, if we look at Indian agriculture, we can see that it has gone through various stages. India is mostly an agricultural country. Prior to independence, agriculture was the primary source of income for many people.

The revival of this traditional agriculture was the vision of Gandhi because traditional the vision was based on the existence of Village Republics. Gandhi always maintained that there is enough in India to meet everybody's needs but not their greeds. J.C.Kumarappa, the ardent disciple of Gandhi, went beyond Gandhian Vision and formulated the utopian model called the Economy of Permanence in which everybody should survive. Only with the proper use of available resources in his village and they should forces. No wonder there was no famine in the traditional India, in which social capital dominated rather than the economic capital. In the traditional India, operating through autonomous village republics there was no incidence of any serious case of famine, was sustained.

After the arrival of British Indian agriculture, everything changed. Agrarian crises resulted from the implementation of land revenue regimes. Agriculture came to be governed by economic considerations under the British Raj. (for example, certain specialty crops began to be grown for sale in national and international markets rather than for consumption in villages). As a result, the farmers grew food for the market rather than for their personal consumption. Commercial crop production climbed by 85 percent from 1893 to 1994, whereas food crop production decreased automatically. Zamindars received a portion of the colonial government's agriculture profit rather than the cultivators. Madras state put in more effort to overcome food scarcity and put additional measures in place to control overpopulation and famine. It was this greed -

dictated, agricultural policy that caused several agricultural policy that caused several cases of famine, reported in the British Raj.

The British introduced certain land reforms, which also disturbed the traditional arrangement of land holdings. Land was generally held by the village community and hence the welfare of the farmers became the collective responsibility of the villages. But this social arrangement was replaced by private ownership in the British Raj. When the permanent settlement was imposed on the British Raj, the Zamindars were vested with the ownership and they collected the land tax on behalf of the British Government. In addition to this policy decision, the newly industrialized Britain needed both raw materials and a captive market. Hence the intensive cultivation of cotton, a cash crop, in the place of food crops and it triggered famines in many places, directly under the control of the colonial power. For example, Calcutta was worst affected by famines and it was the capital of the British Raj until the year 1911. Famines were a regular feature of the British Raj due to its wrong agricultural policy was also properly explained.

The State Government of Madras had introduced a slew of irrigation projects. The "Grow More Food" campaign began in 1943 with the goal of increasing food production by planning and implementing short- and long-term agricultural improvement programmes. Initially, the formation and implementation of state governments reached the people. Despite its initial success, this campaign had to be redesigned due to a number of factors, including the partition of India and Pakistan, the Second World War, the impact of Burma's decision to stop exporting rice to India, and the unplanned policies of the newly formed Indian government after independence. Growing additional food was clearly not the only component of the wartime food system. During the War, the government implemented food procurement measures such as procurement controls, market price controls, and rationing. These measures were designed to acquire food, move it around the country, and ensure that the poorer sections of the population had access to the harvest and that each province's needs were met.

Even in provinces with large food-related bureaucracy, the government did not control the entire food economy; rationing was limited to food grains and focused on the most densely populated urban regions. Even though India had introduced one of

the world's largest rationing systems, it only covered around a fifth of the population. There was the open market or the black market for the rest. The black market flourished throughout the War because the government purchased food grains at below-market prices.

As a result, the Grow More Food Campaign was reintroduced as a push for self-sufficiency. However, the programme consisted of two campaigns rather than one. One used the tools of so-called scientific development and operated through the bureaucracy, while the other operated on a grassroots level and believed in the people's collective strength. Despite the government's best efforts, the Grow More Food Campaign was unable to enhance agricultural output due to the growers' apathy. To address this, the Government of India established the 'Grow More Food Enquiry Committee' in 1952, to assess the campaign's effectiveness and prepare a report on ground realities. The Committee finally delivered its report to the Government after a thorough examination. The Committee concluded that the Campaign was a failure because it only resulted in a marginal improvement in rural life's standards, and that in order to make it fuller and richer, the rural masses could be encouraged to take an interest in agricultural production through monetary incentives and subsidies. Despite agreeing with the fact-finding Committee, the Government was confronted with the problem that the available funds were insufficient.

The results of the Grow More Food Campaign were assessed in a variety of ways. There was a need to make food available to the people at the lowest feasible cost and to reduce the tax burden, which was unquestionably high. The Grow More Food Campaign's failure can be attributed to two key issues. Many individuals were homeless and landless as a result of the huge exodus between the two newly constituted nations of India and Pakistan, as well as the ensuing warfare between various religious factions. This meant that the relatively young states had to concentrate not just on agriculture, but also on developing policies to aid the development of nations torn apart by religious and racial divisions. Rebuilding a shattered nation required not just dedicated efforts, but also a large sum of money, which the Indian government lacked. As a result, due to a serious lack of funding, farmer participation, and distrust in the government, as well as a lack of cooperation from the planters, the Grow More Food Campaign could not be sustained. Norman

Borlaug, an American scientist with an interest in agriculture, is frequently credited with starting the Green Revolution. Increased planting intensity, more cash crops, food security, and increased production – particularly of wheat and rice constituted the Green Revolution.

The introduction of High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, as well as increased fertilizer and irrigation practices, is referred to as the Green Revolution. Green Revolution is a word that refers to the agricultural breakthrough that had occurred in many places of the world. The use of this word can only be justified when there is a quick, consistent growth in yield over a period of several years. For emerging countries like India and Pakistan, the Green Revolution was crucial. The Green Revolution in India was a period of technological and industrial change, with new methods and practices such as the use of HYV seeds, modern equipment such as tractors and mechanised ploughs, that replaced traditional the plough and hoe, and improved crop protection by using pesticides, insecticides, and fertilisers being used. The Green Revolution in India was primarily a wheat revolution. The government's new agriculture strategy aided in maximising the high grain yield potential of modern seed and technologies. India was on the verge of achieving self-sufficiency, and would have done so. If rice output had increased more quickly. Rice was being replaced by a significant proportion of wheat due to a chronic shortage.

The Green Revolution's success was dependent on the well-organized manufacturing programme, as well as the skilled expansion of experienced scientific leaders. There were long-standing and obvious benefits for farmers and planters as a result of the new practices that were used as part of the Green Revolution. In 1965, under the reign of Indira Gandhi, the Indian government decided to take a big leap forward, by improving the conditions of India's agriculturists. From 1967 through 1978, the next phase of the Green Revolution was executed. As a result of these new procedures, the yield was higher than before, resulting in a solution to the growing food scarcity problem. Agriculture production increased, making it feasible to feed the world's rising population. The Green Revolution was helpful because it made it possible to grow more crops on roughly the same amount of land, with the same amount of labour. This resulted in lower food prices on the market as well as lower production expenses. During its early stages in India, the Green Revolution brought

about two main changes poverty relief and increased agricultural output. The HYV seeds were used in conjunction with new technology farming methods and irrigation systems. In addition to all of this, farmers' enthusiasm fueled the idea of an agricultural revolution. One of the aspects that contributed to the Green Revolution was improved irrigation facilities. Irrigation via tube wells had become increasingly popular. Chemical fertilisers have significantly enhanced the output of food grains.

The introduction of HYV seeds was significant in the development of agriculture. Agriculture and agro-based companies had benefited from the Green Revolution, with agricultural implements such as tractors, diesel engines, combines, threshers, and pumping sets being developed. Another significant beneficial consequence was an increase in agricultural earnings, resulting in long-term investments in land improvement and agricultural implements. The Green Revolution had a significant impact on the development of capitalist agriculture. The Green Revolution, on the other hand also suffered significant drawbacks, from the growth of disparities in rural life. It was applicable only to restricted number of crops. One of the biggest problems with the introduction of newpest management methods was the loss of soil fertility owing to greater usage of chemical fertilisers. The water table below the earth decreased due to the continued use of ground water for tube well irrigation. Despite the fact that the Green Revolution saved over a billion people across India, it is widely believed that the Government could have implemented a rainwater collection system to raise ground water levels sooner. India overcame famine and poverty to a considerable extent by implementing the Green Revolution.

In general, the Green Revolution was a tremendous accomplishment for many developing countries, providing them with unparalleled national food security. It signified the successful adaptation and transfer of the same agricultural scientific revolution that the industrial countries had already appropriated. The Green Revolution also assisted many nonpoor individuals to avoid the poverty and hunger that they would have faced if the revolution had not occurred. Lower food prices, increased migration prospects, and higher employment in the rural nonfarm economy were the most significant direct benefits to the poor. In other words, though the Green Revolution had raised a number of severe environmental issues, that have yet to be

adequately addressed, the Green Revolution did save India from the curse of famines, associated with the British Raj.

In order to feed the millions, the government of India introduced the 'Grow More Food Campaign'. But when it failed to deliver the goods, they introduced the Green Revolution, which was characterized by the adoption of High Yielding Variety Seeds (HYVS). Though it was fraught with certain disadvantages, the Green Revolution did save India to emerge from the recurrence of British engineered famines and feed the ever expanding population of India. 'The Green Revolution saved India from the famines of British Period and assured the teeming millions food security', was also sustained.

#### **Suggestion for Further Research**

- Minor Irrigation and Agriculture in modern era.
- Latest Inventions and Minor Irrigation
- Changing the Crop Cultivation
- Marketing management on the Food Grains
- Promotion on the Millets Cultivation on the basis of Nutrition