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'Transformation of Agriculture Sector to agri-business in Maharashtra State'

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Abstract:

Maharashtra state is one of the most significant states of the country and developed sector according to agriculture sector. Agriculture is producing the agricultural production, food production along with agribusiness doing the business of agricultural production. The government should start various programmes to motivate farmers towards to do agribusiness with becoming them effective and agribusiness is supportive to economic growth. The SMART project give a range of technical services to agri-enterprise like product development & quality, food security & traceability, aids for rising business plans & commercial loan applications, acceptance of new technologies & skill training. This study mainly focus on agriculture sector and its possibility into agribusiness in Maharashtra state with made some conclusion. Also this study helpful to understand the term of agribusiness, make awareness and persuade farmers/peoples towards to do agribusiness for their overall development and for growth of national income.

Keywords: Maharashtra state, Agriculture Sector, Agri-business, SMART Project.

Introduction:

'Agriculture' word derived from latin word 'ager' or 'agri' it means soil and culture it means cultivation of the soil. India is an agricultural country and agriculture sector is the backbone of the Indian economy as well as of Maharashtra state. Agriculture is the core of Maharashtra state. Agriculture is the major resource, main occupation of the people from lots of years for living, it fulfill the basic needs of the society because rural economy is mainly depend on agriculture sector. Agriculture sector contribute 18% of GDP in India & afford 50% employment opportunities of the total workforce of nation. India largely produces pulses, wheat, rice, spices & spice products in comparison of other countries. Agriculture sector is in process of progress but also it has some limitations of environmental condition and climate change condition. Individually many farmers are progressive, doing recordable production but there is need of reach the innovative agricultural instrument to farmers to increase economic condition and overall improvement of the nation.

Survey of Literature:

The review of literature is helps to researcher to understand the area of research topic that studied till yet and also understand to which point should be covered and recovered in our research study. That helpful to all over development of research topic and give the next options for next research study regarding this research topic.

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Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (Director of Indian Agriculture Research Institute in 1961-72) says that, if the farm ecology and economics will go wrong then there will no chances to go right in agriculture. That right ecology and economics is the good remunerative worth & secure marketplace in favor of the farmers. Amir Haiman, Jon Miranowski, David Zilberman and Jennifer Alix (2002) overlook on increasing role of agribusiness in agricultural economics. In one side the demand is reducing for conventional agricultural economics and on another side here is a necessity for the economics & managing of the food sector & the surroundings. For the transformation of agriculture to agribusiness, there is a need of agribusiness education and its management education for generate employment opportunities and farmer's development and also support to reduce & fight against hunger, poverty, unemployment, etc. It is a chance to students to do agribusiness and make the agricultural industry that will stop to peoples who go and will going to the city for jobs. Shoji Lal Bairwa, Abhishek Kaliya, L.K. Meena, Kerobin Lakra & Sanket Kushwaha (2014) conclude that the agribusiness is generating the employability and entrepreneurs which is supportive to economic growth. Therefore the education and management of agribusiness and manpower is requires to rural youth and students, which will reduce poverty, malnutrition, unemployment, etc. Agribusiness will really change the face of agriculture sector and rural area. Satish S. Uploankar, Sharanagound S. Biradar (2015) conclude in their study that, there has great scope for entrepreneurship in the agriculture sector and its want update knowledge about agriculture and market. It provides employment opportunities to the society and that helps to its development and contributes in national income of the country. Agribusiness is mandatory for employment opportunities, enhancing agricultural production and profitability. Shoji Lal Bairwa & Uday Prasad Singh (2015) disclose the results in their study that, the agribusiness industry has the lots of potential to enhance the agriculture income and can generate the employment opportunities for rural society, rural youth and this thing can solve the agricultural problems of them and also create the agripreneurs. The agribusiness sector should become developed and that will strength for future employment and enhancing standard of living for rural society. Robert P. King, Michael Boehlje, Michael Lee Cook & Steven T. Sonka (2010) traces that agribusiness scholarship stress on an incorporated observation of the food system that tends from research and input supply through the production, processing and distribution to retail outlets & the consumers. Agricultural economics scholarship has conversant business approach configuration by monitoring, interpreting & anticipating the shifting agricultural business surroundings. Ujang Maman & Yuvi Sugiarti (2016) conclude that there is a requirement for agribusiness e-commerce to build up agricultural product in rural society to progress management method in the post-harvest management to initiate the manufactured goods/products to all consumers & also to manage the information of the consumer, order and diversity of the goods/product.

Objectives of the Study:

- 1) To study the agriculture sector in Maharashtra state.
- 2) To know the transformation of Agriculture Sector to agri-business in Maharashtra State.
- 3) To know the role of agri-business in farmers development.

Hypothesis of the study:

- 1) Agri-business is supportive for farmer's development.
- 2) Agri-business creates the employment opportunities.

Research Methodology:

The researcher used only secondary data for this research study which is collected through books, articles, magazines, thesis, government websites, research paper, etc.

Need of the Study:

India is an agricultural country and agriculture sector is the backbone of the Indian economy as well as of Maharashtra state. Agriculture is living source of rural society and for development of agriculture sector & its transformation to agribusiness, to change the face of agriculture sector, there is a need of this research study to understand the term of agribusiness, its education and management skills, that will generate employment opportunities and farmer's development/improving standard of living of rural society, reducing poverty, fight against hunger, poverty, unemployment, etc. It is a great step to change the face of agriculture sector. It is a chance to do agribusiness and make the agricultural industry that will stop to peoples who goes and will go to the city for jobs.

Significance of the Study:

The important of this study is to understand the term of agribusiness, make awareness and persuade farmers/peoples towards to do agribusiness for their overall development and for growth of national income.

Scope of the study:

This study is only related to agriculture in Maharashtra state & its transformation into agribusiness. It has bright scope to overall development of rural society through employment opportunities and increasing their income.

Agriculture Sector in Maharashtra State:

Maharashtra state is one of the most significant states of the country and developed sector according to agriculture sector which has large size and makes contribution in the national income. Maharashtra state is holding total 308 lakh hectares land. Total 2/3 means near around 225.6 lakh hectares of land is use or under in farming. During the 50 years lots of changes happened in agriculture sector. The traditional farming is converting into modern farming and the irrigation farming is also enhanced in Maharashtra state. Now, enlarge the agriculture process industry and enhance the scope of agriculture education research. The farmers in Maharashtra state achieve the victory on adverse condition of agriculture through the using of developed instrument, technology, hard work and support of government.

The government started various programmes to motivate to farmers with becoming them effective. When the challenge of globalization is stand front of agriculture sector then agriculture department was taken better step to face it. Ex chief minister Hon. Vasantao Naik was got a best leader and who knows the farming. He constructed and developed the base of agriculture sector.

During his period, we got the speed to work of water management and origin of 'Green Evolution'. Earlier, Mahatma Gandhi, Mahatma Phule, etc. leaders/social workers contributes in the given right direction of development of agriculture sector.

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Agriculture Sector to agri-business in Maharashtra State:-

Agribusiness word firstly used in 1971 by the Davis & Goldberg in his paper presented in the Boston Conference. Agriculture is produce the agricultural production, food production and agribusiness doing the business of agricultural production.

Agribusiness denotes the collective business activities that are performed from farm to fork. It is an important factor of the economy. Agribusiness includes agrichemicals, crop production farming and contract farming, reproduction, vegetable farming, fruit growing, livestock feed manufacturing, nursery operation, farm equipment, processing, seed supply, agri-tourism, supply & distribution, marketing and selling means do transformation of agricultural products & their distribution to final consumers. Farmers have to doing agribusiness and sell these products in market that become more profitable, because there is need of raw material purchase from outside. For development of rural society agri-tourism is the best option and it is require becoming mentally satisfied to rural and urban peoples, because in today's era stress/ tension is increased. Our Indian culture is agri culture and it is a backbone of Indian economy. We can't go to the urban places but we can attract urban people towards our rural area through agri-tourism to see our farming, farm production, our villages, our homes, crop/tries/well/ tamarind/sugar cane/rose apple/birds in the farm, etc. also they can experience nature, our culture, our lifestyle, our agri market, our traditions, our languages, our festivals, rural sports, rural foods, our genetic food, our handicraft, our aayurveda, etc. Though these all factors urban peoples, tourists get satisfaction and that it important in today's stress condition. Three factors are essential for the success of agri-tourism and these are 1. Farmer 2. Village 3. Farm. Farmers have knowledge of agriculture and that knowledge boost-up to generate employment opportunities in agri-tourism and that helps to create sanitation and coordinative environment. By this farmers can do different experiment in their farm.

Our Maharashtra government target to implement **SMART project** to restore agricultural value chains with particular focus on small & marginal farmers across the state allied with the Indian government efforts towards doublings of farmer's income by 2020. The SMART project objective is "To support the development of inclusive & competitive agriculture value chain, focusing on small holder farmers & agri-entrepreneurs in Maharashtra." Also it facilitates agribusiness investments throughout the inclusive business models that offer opportunities to small farmers. This objective will be achieved by growing access to new & organized markets for producers & enterprises with balancing investments in technical services & risk management capabilities. The SMART project is predictable to advantage near about 2000 FPOs of the state through the development of the productive partnerships between them & private entities, MSMEs, start-ups, etc. This project give a range of technical services to agri-enterprise like product development & quality, food security & traceability, aids for rising business plans & commercial loan applications, acceptance of new technologies & skill training.

One major thing is that, at present the union government, Maharashtra government & the world bank signed a loan agreement of 210 million dollar to support small farmers for participate in competitive agriculture value chain, facilitate agri-business investments, enlarge market access & productivity & construct the flexibility of crops to recurring floods or droughts in Maharashtra state. This steps will help for sustainable agriculture

development and farmer's empowerment by linking them directly to markets and make double agriculture export from our Maharashtra state.

Agri-business is playing a significant role in Maharashtra state by creating employment opportunities, entrepreneurs and also doing the farmer's development. It is supportive to economic growth. For improve this, we require education and management of agribusiness and manpower to rural youth and students, which will reduce poverty, malnutrition, unemployment, etc.

Conclusion:

Agri-business is playing a significant role in Maharashtra state by creating employment opportunities and also doing the farmer's development as well as supportive to economic growth.

For the transformation of agriculture to agribusiness, there is a need of agribusiness education and its management education for generate employment opportunities and enhancing farmer's development and also support to reduce & fight against hunger, poverty, unemployment, etc. For agribusiness the SMART project is working and helpful. It is a chance to students to do agribusiness and make the agricultural industry that will stop to peoples who go and will going to the city for jobs.

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