

# ISSUES AND SOLUTION OF FARMERS IN MEGHALAYA

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## Abstract

In the agriculture sector vast population of horticultural specialists (landless and little peripheral farmers) — target gathering of study-other than working as laborers in the agrarian fields (huge) farmers, does farming as the rancher for improving their family unit income This expansive population being dependent on agriculture is caught in poverty. These farming communities (landless and little farmers) had not sufficiently profited by the Green revolution and both the agriculture sector and its dependents were facing a few issues and difficulties caused by the Green revolution. In the agriculture sector, huge population of horticultural specialists (landless and little ne ligible farmers) — target gathering of study-other than working as laborers in the agrarian fields of (huge) farmers, does farming as the rancher for improving their family unit income. This expansive population dependent on agriculture is caught in poverty. These farming communities (landless and little farmers) had not enough profited by the Green revolution and both the agriculture sector and its dependents were facing a few issues and difficulties caused by the Green revolution.

**Keywords:** Agriculture, Farmers, Poverty, Problems, Challenges.

## INTRODUCTION

Meghalaya is a little hilly state with a ‘fascinating scene, one of a kind culture, neighborhood customs and conventions. At the point when India accomplished freedom from the British guideline on the fifteenth August 1947, the territory of Meghalaya was a piece of the province of Assam and initially involved the two locale viz. Joined Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills. On 21st January 1972, Meghalaya, the ‘Dwelling place Clouds’, turned into the 21<sup>st</sup> State of India. It is fundamentally a tribal State. Indeed, even after completion of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan (2007-2012) of the nation, the state is suffering from a moderate pace of advancement. The economic advancement of a territory

depends mainly on its geographical characteristics, resource base, financial and political-cultural factors which normally shift after some time these factors decide the initial dimension of economic advancement, this section analyze the financial characteristics of the improvement of the state.

### **SUBSISTENCE VS MARKET ORIENTED FARMING**

The fundamental factor affecting decisions by subsistence farmers is family unit needs, especially sustenance for home consumption. Multi-cropping frameworks have served this capacity in the greenery enclosures in good country New Guinea (Rappaport 1971), in Java (Terra 1954), in Thailand (Pendleton 1943, Zimmerman 1937) in Ethiopia (Simoons 1965), and the Yucatan of Mexico (Smith and Cameron 1977), yet their commitment to family unit diet differs from society to society. Rappaport (1971) found that the Tsembaga, one of a few tribal gatherings in the focal good countries of New Guinea, get up to 99 percent of their every day diet from cultivation. Mixed gardens likewise contribute a high level of the nourishment (especially nutrients and minerals) for home consumption in Javanese towns.

Market-arranged farming patterns can be influenced by business sectors at neighborhood, provincial, national, or universal dimensions. Money and noncash economies, separation to business sectors types or varieties of harvests developed, and population thickness are real determinants for business exchanges. Decision making with respect to harvests and the executives of ranch frameworks is influenced extraordinarily by how much farmers work in barter, semi money, or money economy. The volume of trade changes from family unit to family; a few families sell their surplus items, while others are compelled to sell subsistence items due to their more noteworthy requirement for money. A few examinations demonstrate the solid connection between rustic production and market requests.

The alteration of farming frameworks from customary and small..scale mixed cropping to plantation or mono-cropping seems to have been the principle focus of research as of not long ago. At the point when agribusiness was acquainted with provincial territories, land use, landholdings, and homestead frameworks were changed in numerous regards.

Subsequently, mixed patio nurseries have been replaced with money crops that require escalated contributions to development. Agricultural employment, ranch the executives, and entire farming frameworks have balanced in like manner.

Agriculture created in Southeast Asia as ahead of schedule as 9,000 years back (Solheim 1972). Other than the staple yield of rice, farmers develop coconuts, bananas, sugarcane, beans, vegetables, bamboo, sweet potatoes, and organic product trees- These yields give not exclusively to home consumption and money, yet responsibility for is connected near the social framework. Land is the property of the female's family in Northern and Northeast Thailand and is inherited through little girls (Mizuno 1968, Keyes 1975, Demaine and Dixon 1972}. In Java the Wet and low gardens are claimed by a female's ancestry, though cows possessions are possessed by the male's genealogy (Terra 1953a, 1953b). The pattern of land possession has a few implications concerning who is probably going to settle on decisions about which crops are developed. The board of a homestead framework and the division of work are in like manner identified with patterns of legacy, responsibility, and authority over the land.

## **Culture**

In conventional social orders where agriculture is the prevalent occupation, culture is shaped to a great extent through relations to plants, gardens, and agricultural fields. The real capacity of culture is to join social relations among individuals from a similar society who share comparative convictions, qualities, and patterns of conduct. For example, a faction gathering can be built up around a plant totem; individuals trust their precursors began from this plant and keep on living inside it. Much of the time, fantasies and old stories about how a town was established have direct associations with agriculture. David (1974), for example, inspected a complex of calendrical ceremonies in a town in Northern Thailand and the folklore related with agrarian rituals. He found that taboos are related with the utilization of normal resources: "It is khyt (a type of fiendishness which results in a debacle for the culprit), for instance, to fill in a stream, lake, well, channel, or wild ox flounder, or to level a meadow, city divider, or termite hill" (David 1974). Agricultural exercises have a cozy association with celebrations and ceremonial functions amid the

date-book year; rice, bananas, coconuts, sugarcane, organic products, and different sustenance's regularly establish contributions on these events. Social frameworks and agro-biological systems are identified with the progressions of vitality, material, and data between them (Rambo 1982). From a sociological just as an ecological point of view, such streams lead to a reasonable society if inputs and yields are equivalent. Inside a little community, for instance, when a central requests tribute from his subjects, he is very much aware of the

constraints that exist in the normal framework and alters his requests likewise. The makers must be likewise aware of such cutoff points, and legends, convictions, and qualities frequently are based on laws of nature. '

### **Landholding**

Farm land is a noteworthy unit of property, status, socialization, and welfare for a family in a rural society. Every family endeavors to have something like one bit of arable land regardless of whether it needs to emigrate from its natal town to look for it. Keyes (1976) and Johnston (1976) contemplated a way people discovered land through opening up boondocks in Northeast and Central Thailand. Keyes stated: "As a custom, in territories of new settlement, an estate seems to have built individual and his family to a specific bit of property. Almost certainly, this privilege more likely than not been confirmed by successive cultivation of the land over the initial couple of years. When land had been claimed and developed it turned into a regional expression of a particular kinfolk gathering." The geographical territory of the State is 22,429 square kilometers. The all out cropped zone in the State has expanded throughout the years. From 1,81,689 hectares in 1972-1973, the absolute cropped zone has expanded to 3,37,394 hectares in 2008-2009, that is, a 85.70 percent expansion. Amid a similar period, the net sown zone shows an expansion of about 73.80 percent, from 1,63,495 hectares to 2,254,149 hectares. Be that as it may, territory sown more than once has expanded from 46,649 hectares in 2001-2002 to 53,245 hectares in 2008-2009 (Table 2.3). Development of population prompts devastation of backwoods for construction of houses, streets, fuel wood and so on. In any case, adaptation of different projects of afforestation by the

Government has given significant protection to the woods land. The timberland spread out of the all out revealing region was 7,40,000 hectares (30.64 percent) in 2007-2008 which has extensively expanded by more than 28 percent to 9,423,133 hectars in the year 2018-2019.

**TABLE 1.**

**LAND UTILISATION STATISTICS OF MEGHALAYA (HECTARES)**

Particulars		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Reporting Area for Land Utilisation Statistics		2227100	2227100	2227100	2227100	2227100
1	Forest	95053	947033	9472195	941786	943133
2	Not Available for cultivation	225412	225321	225320	227945	225921
3	Other Uncultivated land excluding fallow land	606393	600824	599589	607717	553444
4	Fallow land	234294	238392	135683	230760	215453
5	Net Area Sown	210462	215575	219224	218892	284149
6	Area sown more than one	46649	46597	46650	46689	53245
7	Total cropped area	257111	262122	265874	2655721	337394

**The conditions for adoption of an agricultural innovation**

Recognize that a farming framework based on mimicry of characteristic environments would be another innovation from the perspective of farmers. They are probably going to come to it with distrust, vulnerability, numbness, partialities and assumptions and with a current farming framework that could conceivably be operating as they would wish, however is at any rate operating. Except if they are new to farming, they will have trialed different innovations previously and reasoned that probably some of them missed the mark concerning the cases made for them. They will be especially careful about a framework that is fundamentally not quite the same as that with which they are recognizable and agreeable. They will more likely than not hold a frame of mind that the researchers upholding such an extreme framework don't comprehend the realities of farming, or if nothing else of their farm. In moving beyond this initial arrangement of attitudes and convictions, there are a few explicit hurdles which must be overcome. The

accompanying sub-areas portray the states of farmer mindfulness or knowledge which must be achieved.

### **Problems of agriculture**

Agriculture is sloppy movement today: Indian agriculture is to a great extent a chaotic sector. No systematic institutional and organizational arranging is associated with cultivation, water system, reaping and so forth. Institutional funds are not sufficiently accessible and least price tag fixed by the legislature don't achieve the most unfortunate farmer.

Most farms are little and economically unfeasible: The ground reality is that majority of the farmers in India possess as meager as two sections of land of land. By and large, the farmers are not by any means the proprietors of the land, which makes profitable cultivation impossible on the grounds that significant portion of the income go towards the installment of rent for the land.

Mediators and economic exploitation of farmers: Exploitation by the go between is the reason advanced for not getting the best cost for the produce of the agriculturists. The legislature' ought to advance the arrangement called "ulavar santhai" (Farmers Market), where the farmers can legitimately pitch their items at sensible cost to the shoppers.

Government program don't achieve little farmers: Government has implemented agricultural obligation. Waiver and obligation alleviation conspire in 2008 to profit more than 36 million farmers. Direct agricultural advance to focus on farmers under purported Kisan Mastercard were likewise secured under this plan. In any case, a large portion of the subsidies and welfare schemes announced by the Central and State governments don't achieve the poor farmers. Unexpectedly, just enormous land rulers are benefited by those schemes.

### **Solutions to the problem**

Multiple crops: Cultivation of multi crops, for example, coconut, turmeric, pine apple, banana, apple, papaya, ginger will yield profitable outcomes to the farmers.

Unique agricultural zone: Just like modern zone, there is an earnest need to establish uncommon agricultural zones, where just farming and agriculture related movement ought to be permitted. By presenting farm methods which ensure a positive achievement, an expansion in youth participation on agricultural fields is economically conceivable. This can be accomplished just by actualizing new innovations. Research endeavors should proceed for the production of crops with higher yield potential and better resistance to bugs.

Educate the farmers: Many farmers in India don't know about crop rotation. Despite the fact that training in urban territories has improved a great deal, the legislature has ignored the equivalent in rural zones by and large and in agriculture sector specifically. This is the motivation behind Why farmers are not sufficiently mindful of the different schemes given by the administration.

Clubbing of little fields may help: Several farmers who possess little land parcel can consolidate and join every little field into one vast piece. This may help in variety of ways.

Requirement for important crop insurance approaches: Traditional crop insurance depends on the immediate measurement of the harm endured by a farmer to decide his/her payout. Nonetheless, field misfortune appraisal is frequently not feasible or expensive, since a large portion of our farmers are little holders. List based insurance, then again, reacts to characterized parameter. List based insurance has the focal points that it is straightforward and every one of the insurers inside the characterized geographical region are dealt with equally. It has low operational and transnational expenses, while additionally guaranteeing speedy payouts.

## Conclusion

Based on the perceptions (counting Meghalaya), against agricultural improvement of the agricultural Workers of all the four economic districts policies had compelled to farmers to surrender its conventional in the State of Meghalaya, it was uncovered that out of business source and become the landless Workers. 333 respondent agricultural workers, 172 (56%) The committal of suicide by the farmers was an incredible respondent agricultural workers (hereinafter agricultural proof of the exacerbate situation of the

agriculture and workers) had agricultural terrains from various sources. In farmers It is additionally noticeable that however green revolution all Meghalaya, majority of agricultural workers (74%) had benefitted Meghalaya to progressed toward becoming nourishment crate yet had obtained the agricultural land from their ancestors all the while, it had made these problems mainly and Land Sharing System. The little region of the before the agricultural workers. The green revolution had agricultural land was found with the agricultural workers benefitted just the enormous farmers and that irrefutably the Few agricultural workers had likewise had land number of rural poor was to be pretty much dormant over obtained from different sources. By and large, normal Zone of the most recent four decades. The information examination of the last agricultural land in every one of the locales was around 1 section of land. Out two decades demonstrates that behind proceeded and of all out 1?2 agricultural workers in Meghalaya, 90% exacerbated farming related problems and difficulties of agricultural workers were developing the agricultural land the agricultural workers, the poor performance of the State and two third of these agricultural workers were Economy as compared to other Indian States pursued by attempted the crops in two agricultural seasons while the State's focus on non-agriculture sectors, agricultural just 6% agricultural workers (with greatest offer of 43% development and advancement was antagonistiflly influenced, in the western locale) were embraced crops in every one the three

Consequently, the employability and gainfully of the seasons though 18% agricultural workers were agriculture sector in the State had declined. In the endeavor crop just in one agricultural season. The nonappearance of economic security alternatives, these problems agricultural workers were not ready to develop and had caused the agricultural workers to obtain nourishment by attempt the crops in all the agricultural seasons drawing in themselves as the farmers in light of the fact that the sustenance was a direct result of deficient water system office (water emergency) and one of the real requirements for their survival or search for the flood and dry season event, land in question, land infringed by stream and channel, and so forth. In the farming, they were required. Thinking about the confinement of little land, agricultural workers were facing the problems like establishment of agro-based ventures and cabin lacking water system office, credit emergency, declining crop businesses in the neighborhood agricultural

improvement efficiency, deficient accessibility of value manure and economic prosperity of the farmers were the major and seeds, exorbitant agricultural inputs, non-continuation of required choices. India had required possess improvement arrive on Sharing and Hunda Systems, deficient cost of model focusing on the de-brought together advancement nourishment grain, absence of market available to be purchased of their produces, need adding to the inside and out advancement and diminishing of aptitudes and knowledge of current agricultural practice, the hole between rural-urban and rich-poor gap. Along these lines, catastrophe and environmental change and different problems. Among there was a need of comprehensive methodology for advancement of these problems, the insufficient water system offices the agriculture and landless and little land holding declining crop efficiency, deficient accessibility of farmers in the State. The improvement of agriculture cornposts, exorbitant agricultural inputs, absence of abilities and sector was in excess of a need to dependably act naturally dependent in knowledge about the cutting edge agricultural practices, the sustenance and securing the life of the huge piece of the fiasco and atmosphere changes had been looked by the population. Majority of the agricultural Workers of all Meghalaya. One thing is noticeable that insufficient cost of the Limitations of the Study and Scope for Further Research: delivered grain, just a single third of the agricultural workers Like different investigations, the present examination had its very own had considered an issue since majority of the restrictions: agricultural workers were not selling the agricultural As the examination has secured one locale from each produce in light of their deficiency to meet the economic district, hereafter, it may not prone to finish nourishment necessity. For the most part, the created grain speak to the entire image of the economic locale was being kept for the self-consumption.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1.3 Its suggested that government active to promote the agricultural position of the south west Khasi Hills district in Meghalaya and respondents suggested to increase the agricultural productivity in Mawkyrwat area.

For ameliorating the conditions of agricultural workers, there is the need to adopt various simultaneously. Such a strategy is called for because the miserable state in which workers find themselves today is the outcome of various varied economics social and institutional

factors. Respondents will be considering here the various suggestion put forward and the measures adopted by the government in this region. In order to suitable changes in the conditions of farmers, the several recommendations have been given by respondents. It can be grouped under two broad types. One type is concerned under the improvement in their working conditions and the second pertains to the raising of the level of their standard of living.

### **Improving Working Conditions**

For effecting improvement in their working conditions, the following measures should be adapted

1. Working hours of this laboures should be fixed so that they work for a definite period of time only. Besides, female labour should be engaged as per their physical Capacity.
2. Minimum wages for these labourers should be fixed by law and adequate provisions be made for their enforcement. The Poor Labourers, because of their large supply , are not in a position to bargain for reasonable rewards for their hard work. They are scattered and very weak. It is therefore, necessary that the government not only for minimum wages but also provides for its enforcement.
3. Unionization of agricultural labourers is also essential for bringing about an improvement in the condition of these people. In many cases, particularly in respect of casual labourers, do not have any permanent work status with any particular employer throughout the year. Moreover , these workers do not see their jobs as a lifetime occupation because the field work is looked down upon by all engaged in agriculture.

### **Raising Standard of Living**

I) In order to raise standard of living respondents recommended that to provide them proper social security services like those connected with hospitals, drinking water, necessary consumer goods at cheaper rates, etc.

II) Lack of road Communication within district a prime – constraint. And for this, to overcome it, road and communication within the district has to be improved. The road

way East West is very essential to transship the supplies in one district to other district. Transport facilities in the rural areas will enable the farmer to take their produce to the markets which will bring them better price and increase their aggregate incomes.

III) Non agricultural industries should be developed so as to absorb surplus labours. For this purpose help in the form of credit, technical training etc, should be provided by the government organization of cooperated is also needed to further the objective of promoting such industries in the rural areas.

IV) Special Technology for Cultivation is lacking in geographically isolated state. During rainy season alluvial top soil drains down to plus and due to this rate is not satisfactory. Thus, there must some Technological improvement to contain soil erosion in the state and provide irrigation during the season. Irrigation facilities are absolutely essential for stabilizing the rural agriculture. Canal irrigation should be spread all over the district, in order to improve agriculture, it is also essential to popularize the use of new Technology. The advantages of new Technology should be explained to the farmers and they should be made available to them.

V) Housing facilities near their place of work should also be provided. They should be allotted land for houses and supplied with materials for house building. This will also help raise their economic and social status.

VI) In order to improve agriculture, it is essential that the health of the farmers should be improved. There should be suitable medical facilities in each village. The water logged land should be drained properly. These measures will improve the health of the farmers and consequently increase their productive capacity.

VII) Agricultural co-operative Credit Societies should be setup in rural areas to give advance loans to the farmers at a lower rate of interest. As a result the farmer will be saved from falling in to the clutches of the village Mahajan and they will be in a position to increase agricultural output.

VIII) Agricultural Expert, are of the view that farm output can be increased substantially by use of better seeds. The Agricultural Research Institute should discover seeds of high

genetic quality and Agricultural Development should make proper arrangement for their distribution among the farmers. Organic farming product is now a day's having better market value. So, Training Should be provided those who are interested for organic farming.

IX) Respondents express their view that adult education programs should be started in every village to spread literacy in the rural areas and among the farmers. Literacy will help the farmers to give up the old- tradition and practices and develop new and progressive ideas that are urgently required for agricultural progress.

X) It is very essential to improve the marketing system of agricultural produce. Co-operative Marketing societies should be set up and the villages should be linked with the cities by developing roads more adequately regulated markets should be developed in future.

### **Measure of Government Credit**

The basic need of the farmers is cheap credit which should be available in adequate quality and at the right time Farmers need finance for various purposes and for different time periods. Finance is needed mostly for production purposes. A farmer has to buy seeds, fertilizers, implement, etc. The farmers need agricultural credit. The loans need for these purposes are productive in financial help to farmers both directly and indirectly. Indirectly, this help is provided through cooperative Societies. The government should supply raw materials to the small farmers at free cost. Further the supply should be regular and should be of good quality.

The government should establish some branches of bank in this area which will provide financial assistance to the farmers. The government should be provided the mew scheme which would be available to all the farmers' loan non- loan irrespective of the size of their holdings. The new scheme would operate on the basis of area approach and on individual basis.