

Indian Agriculture Perspectives

- *Deepali Pant Joshi*

Agriculture is the most crucial sector of the Indian economy. The three main objectives of economic policy, viz. output growth, price stability and poverty alleviation are best subserved by the agriculture sector. Critical to the growth strategy are appropriate changes in policy and institutional changes which take due cognizance of the need for a structural shift. However, before these can be instituted the imperative need is to identify the main challenges that confront the agriculture sector. There is thus a need to step up credit flows, raise productivity of land and enhance water resources for agricultural development. The critical importance of revival of Public Investment in agriculture leads to the increased role of irrigation, better water management, research and development (R&D), product diversification and a shift from subsidy driven minimum support price structures (which create repressed financial markets) to free trade. The goals for a more dynamic agriculture sector may be ambitious but not infeasible. The initiatives for the ongoing institutional and structural reforms in the agriculture sector need further strengthening to unleash growth impulses in the economy. Growth ensures household and food security at the national level, while sub-serving the imperatives of poverty reduction and employment growth and brings about equity in the distribution of income and wealth. This paper stresses the critical issues confronting the agriculture sector and sets out the challenges for policy formulators.

Brief Articles, Notes and Comments

Stock Market Anomalies : Evidence from India

- *Madhusudan Karmakar & Madhumita Chakraborty*

Book Review Article

Book Review

Telegraphic Reviews

Booknotes