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### Horticulture development in India: An overview

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#### Abstract

Horticulture is recognized as a sunrise industry. Horticulture plays unique role in promoting the economy. This sector is labour intensive and hence much more volume of employment part of total agriculture products comprising of fruits, vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants, aromatic and medicinal crops. In the previous chapter focus has been given on review of literature objectives. Methodology and plan of the work. In India horticulture offers an complementary source of income, allowing cultivators to diversify their livelihoods and reduce their efforts in traditional crop yields and therefore it creates livelihood for diversification. From human nutrition point of view horticulture is important to our daily living. Many of the horticulture crops and their products find place in meals and diet. Human body requires vitamins, proteins, for health. All these are supplied by horticultural crops. Fruits and vegetables are the chief sources of vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, fats and proteins. Fruits and vegetables are recognized as protective foods and they are necessary for the maintenance of human health.

**Keywords:** Fruits, minerals, potato, rice, vegetables

#### Introduction

India is the second biggest producer of horticulture product world wide. The government has implemented various schemes for the promotion and development of horticulture. Horticulture is the science and arts of growing plants fruits, vegetables and flowers. It also includes plant landscape restoration, soil management and garden design, construction and maintenance. In opposite to agriculture. Horticulture mainly focuses on farming and maintaining plants for food, medicine for various purposes. It is cultivation of gardens using scientific methods to produce more and more fruits, vegetables, and flowers. In various regions of the world, horticulture is considered to one of the best agricultural industries. The horticulture sector has become important to maintain overall economic growth of the country over time. A healthy lifestyle are enhanced by the wide variety of fruits and vegetables produced through horticulture system. Actually foods are valuable source of nutrients. Which is used for better health and well-binges of the people. Again the demand for flowers for gifts and decoration has expanded as a result of rising wealth and contemporary lifestyles of the people. The major portion of horticulture production comprises of fruits and vegetables. India has a very good and favorable climate for agro-production like production of fruits, vegetables, aromatic plants and spices. In India the horticulture industry produces near about 325MT of products and contri9butes about 35 percent of the gross value addition.

#### Horticulture Production in India

In India horticulture has emerged as a sun rise, indispensable sector of agriculture, providing large range of choice to the farmers relating to crop diversification and nutrition to the huge population. Horticulture sector also offers large opportunities for sustaining a good number of agro industries for generating proper employment opportunities. Changing attitude of Indian people for improving standard of living has promoted the demand of horticulture products. A great potential in horticulture products. A great potential in horticulture products has attracted the attention of business houses for developing good and proper model.

The various aspects of horticulture sector are as follows.

- Horticulture as growth driver of agriculture.
- India and Global horticulture.

- Indian government opportunities.
- Various schemes.
- Opportunities.

India has been bestowed with range of climatic conditions and most suitable for growing various kinds of horticultural crops like fruits, vegetables, flowers, nuts, spices and plantation crops. Its horticulture production has increased by 40% in the last years. This has placed India among the foremost nations in horticulture production. Total production of fruits devising yester year was 710 million tonnes while that of vegetables was 14-16 million tonnes. India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices through out the globe. India is also the largest producer of mango, banana papaya, like coconut, areca nut and cashew nut at global level.

In India horticulture production has been 35 million tonnes (14 percent) of total production. Dewing 2012-14. West Bengal led the horticulture production followed by A.P. 11 percent, UP 12% and Tamil Nadu 9%. The production of Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Tamil Nadu has increased by 5, 3, 4 million tonnes. Deriving yester years west Bengal has been accountable for more than 34 percent of total flower production during 2020-21 in India During this period Tamil Nadu has produced 9 Million tonnes, 30 percent banana. Where as UP 4.2 million tonnes. 28 percent and Andhra 24% contributed in production of mango. Further Maharastra led in onion production and produced 6 million tonnes and accountable for 34 percent of total onion produced. Further there is a need to promote organic farming in production of various horticulture products for improving return. Hence it is need to generate and develop technology for organic farming. Therefore it is important to develop guideline to promote horticulture.

Further fruits and vegetables are highly perishable. Proper post-harvest management became the demand of the time. In India Horticulture encompasses a proper rage of technologies, which allow landless vegetable gardeners to enrich their food and income to the automated efficiency of controlled greenhouses. Horticulture, offers employment and advancement opportunities at all educational levels, finds itself in a time of transformation. Horticulturists apply their knowledge, skills, and technologies used to grow intensively produced plants for human food and non-food uses and for personal or social needs.

### **Status of horticulture**

In 2023 total horticulture produce is 357.6 million tonnes and total agriculture produce is 327.6 million tonnes. Fruits and vegetables production alone account for almost 92 percent of the total horticulture production in the country. As per FAO 2022 India leads in the production of ganger and okra, and fruits mangoes, banana and guava. Again cultivation of flowers are more than 55 percent of the floriculture products are produced in Karnataka, Kerala Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. Further areas of cultivation of fruits and vegetables are mainly in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Naddu, west Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Bihar. Horticulture contributes 33.62 percent of the agriculture gross domestic product using only 14.2 percent of gross cropped area. The country India is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in vegetable and 22<sup>nd</sup> in fruits production. The economy of India centers on agriculture, it is agriculture based economy. The main

agriculture crops of the India are paddy, wheat, jute, message, and seeds potato sugarcane etc. the marketing of agriculture products India. Are facing image problem due to lack of proper technology, transportation, warehousing, grading, packaging and so many other facilities. The size and activities of middle man in the state is very alarming causing serious problem before marketing of agriculture products in the state. Horticulture makes agriculture customers aware about agriculture products. The economy of India is an agro based economy, largely depend on agriculture sector. The condition of agriculture sector in the state has been traditional. Globalization and technological advancement have changed the feet and the future of various sector of the world, but the technology have not much impact on economics of the country. Agriculture sector of India is still facing the situation of image problem having negative impact on the producers of agriculture. the marketing of agriculture products in India is still in poor condition having not positive impact on farmers of the state. The agriculture marketing is a process which involves grading, processing, standardization, transportation and restoring of various agriculture products. Small farmers have opinion that lack of processing unit and storage are the main issue having negative effect of the economic condition of farmers on the other hand large farmers have view that absence of proper transportation and entry of big number off middle men have been the main cause of poor performance of agriculture marketing in the country.

Systematic and properly managed horticulture system can increase the sum total of revenue generation in the Agri value chain. Properly managed marketing method main give focus on persuading more generation of revenue among various stockholders of the agriculture value chain. Marketing system promotes the enlargement of market range of producer and customers for expansion of market and also domestic agriculture trade more vibrant. It creates uniformity in the market structure by developing more connectivity across network of demand and supply. Agricultural marketing highlight resource optimization and make cost effective and also increased competitiveness. It is therefore clear that the drawbacks in the marketing of agricultural products in India must be removed for improving the situation.

### **Horticulture Development in India**

Horticulture has a profound impact on the social conditions of India. It contribute to improve livelihoods, empowerment of women good nutrition and overall community development. Horticulture has great influent on social condition.

#### **1. Empowerment of Women**

- In India horticulture provides opportunities for women to participate in agricultural activities. Women in India play a important role in activities like vegetable cultivation, fruit harvesting and post harvesting system.
- By horticulture, women can generate income contributing to their economic independence and decision-making power in the society.

#### **2. Poverty Alleviation**

- Horticulture mainly production value crops such as fruits and vegetables, offers farmers to earn higher incomes. This helps helps in improving their standard of living.
- Horticulture creates employment opportunities for

populations by reducing unemployment.

### 3. Improved Nutrition and Health

- The availability of fruits and vegetables improves the nutritional intake of society. This is important for removing malnutrition and locating deficiencies of vitamins and minerals.
- Fresh fruits and vegetables has long term health benefits by reducing the risk of diseases like diabetes, heart diseases, cancers and Blood Pressure.

### 4. Environmental conservation

- Horticulture encourages the adoption of sustainable farming practices like agroforestry, organic farming and water conservation measures. It helps in preserving the environment for coming sessions.
- Cultivation of diverse crops promotes biodiversity which is essential for ecological balance and climate change.

### 5. Community Development

- The development of the horticulture industry leads to the development of infrastructure like roads, cold chain. And processing units. This benefits the society
- Farmers normally come from farmers group for marketing, sharing of resources, and knowledge. This fosters a sense of cooperation among farmers.

### 6. Education and Awareness

- Farmers mainly women and marginalized sections must be provided training on latest horticultural practices, pest management and post harvest which can enhance skills and knowledge.
- Education and awareness programs should be conducted on the importance of balance diets, hygiene and food safety. This is important for overall betterment of the society. Horticulture has a multifaceted impact on social conditions, ranging from economic empowerment and poverty reduction to improve nutrition, health, and community development. by empowering women, providing income improving access to nutritious food, horticulture plays a vital role in enhancing the overall quality of life for the people of India.
- Initiatives by the government In India horticulture contributes near about 30.5 percent of the agriculture gross domestic product (GDP) and using only 13.4 percent of gross cropped area. Same has not been translated in comparable increases in the incomes of the farmers. In India horticulture is a prime and major source of income generation for farmer. This sector provides farmer with an opportunity to diversify their incomes. Further it is important source of raw material for the food processing industry. In our country large part of the raw materials used for processing food products Donets from horticulture. The government of India has initiated two main initiatives namely MIDH and COD with regard to horticulture sectors.

### The Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)

- This has been implemented in the year 2014.
- This is a centrally sponsored initiatives scheme which a focus on plans for processing horticulture and its production smoothly.
- Further the government sponsors 60 percent of the total developmental expenditure incurred by various states and 40 percent is contributed by state governments.

- Further it is important to know that for north-Indian states the contribution of government has been 92 percent.
- In this regard it is significant to understand that the main motto of government is to assure overall promotion of horticulture sector.
- This mission gives focus on storage processing transportation and marketing of horticulture products and activities. The
- The main emphasis has been given by the mission is to enhancing productivity by using high quality planting material and cutting edge irrigation methods. This program promotes involvement of people by promoting their skill and knowledge for horticulture production.
- Further the focus of this mission has been around cost and quality production.

### As far as schemes relating to horticulture is concerned. We should consider below ones:

- NHM (National Horticulture Mission).
- HMNEH (Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States).
- NHB (National Horticulture Board).
- CIH (Central Institute of Horticulture).
- This programme is of central government which objective is to develop horticulture cluster for making them globally competitive.
- Further horticulture cluster is a geographical concentration of horticulture produces.
- The NHB National Horticulture Board of Agriculture and farmer welfare is accountable for welfare.
- For increasing the competitiveness of cluster produces, CDP want to enhance export of horticulture product by 20 percent for the development of cluster trade mark.
- Its objectives is to provide detail information related to horticulture changes like production, pre and post-harvest management branding and marketing.

It plan to encourage horticulture cluster and aim to co-ordinate with various government programme. As far as horticulture is concerned India leads in the cultivation of fruits and vegetables like potato, Onion brinjal and ginger. It is important to understand that the country India has been the largest exporter of cotton yards and 2<sup>nd</sup> largest agriculture producing nation of the world. India horticulture sector in contributes near about 34 percent to the agriculture gross value added making contribution to the economy. Apart from ensuring nutritional security further it provides alternate employment opportunities, and enhanced income to cultivators and enhanced income to frames. India is producing about 325MT of horticulture products which is more than the food grain production. Production of horticulture crops is much more than productivity of food grains. India has emerged as global leader in the productivity of various types of fruits such as mango, guava, banana, papaya, sapato, pomegranate and Lime and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest producer of fruits and vegetables. Apart from this India has maintained its dominance in the cultivation of coconut spices, and cashewnut. Further other crops, gherkins, kinow, kiwi date palm and oil palm have been introduced for commercial farming in India. Introduction of NHM has increased the productivity of horticultural crops. Production of horticulture crops has increased by near about 40 percent between 2005-06 and 2022-23. With the increase

in demand for horticultural products due to more health awareness, rising income and enhancing population poses the challenge for increasing the productivity of horticultural crops. In India horticulture as a practice is as when humans were hunter. Actually it is the science and arts of producing fruits and vegetables. Further, ministry of agriculture has issued the II advance estimates of the production of different horticultural crops for 2022-23. As per this estimate, total horticulture production in India is expected to be 352MT in the year 2022-23. It has been said that along with food grains, horticulture is continuously maintaining record production in the country. In India agriculture remains the largest livelihoods. Near about 41% of countries total workforce is employed in agriculture and allied industries which are accounting for near by 21% of the national gross domestic product, as per data from the economic survey 2020-21. Of this, horticulture is accountable a third of the total agricultural (GVA). Despite horticulture. Which occupying a fraction of the area in agriculture (about 21 percent of the total area under food grain in 2019-20). Its productivity has been 12.4 tonnes per hectare than 2.3 tonnes per hectare of agriculture. A positive picture of the area dedicated to horticulture is rising year by year, India presently stands as the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables at global level. At the outset it is clear that big volume of fruits like mangoes, grapes, oranges and spices like ginger. Turmeric is produced by India for consumption.

- Future of Horticulture in India
- Below stated targets are important to promote horticulture industry in the country.
- Advancement of technology and introduction of Hi-tech machines have changed the fate and future of business. Hence important of advance technology is urgent need of this sector. So that it can be introduced for skill development and quality productivity.
- The focus should be given on practice of organic farming for getting environment friendly horticulture produce of good quality and quantity.
- There must be practice of standardized horticulture products. Which can develop farmers ability, knowledge and production.
- Various private companies, doing horticulture activities can open new market for export and can increase productivity.
- Further the government should promote farms, farmers and organic farming pattern.
- Further the certificates can be issued for the farmers and good incentives can be provided to the farmers.
- These ways can add more vegetables and fruits of high quality. Further this will increase more demand of the product in different nations.

### Conclusion

Horticulture is recognized as a sunrise sector. It plays unique role in economic development. In India horticulture production is estimated 351.93 million tonnes in 2022-23. Horticulture in India offers an alternative sources of income by allowing cultivators to diversify their livelihood and negate their efforts in traditional pattern of cropping. From human nutrition point of view horticulture industry is important for our live. Human body requires vitamins minerals proteins. Which can be supplied by growing horticulture crops. In India this horticulture sector contributes near about 34percent to the agriculture GVA.

Apart from ensuring nutritional security horticulture provides alternate employment opportunities and increase the income of farmers. India has emerged as global leader in the productivity of different types of fruits and vegetables with the increase in the demand for horticulture products. This sector faces many challenges. Government of India giving much more focus on promoting the development of horticulture sector. Apart from government policies and schemes MIOH offer stimulus to ensure the development of horticulture industry in India. Horticultural commodities pass through various stages. From the farmer to the consumer. There is hence need to strengthen the supply chain with appropriate value addition. There is also need to strengthen the horticulture extension system with adequate manpower and build their capacity on integrated value chain approach for better price realization for increasing income of farmers of this industry.

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