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## REVIEW OF CHANGES IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN PUNJAB

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### ABSTRACT

Agriculture sector was central hub for the progressive of Punjab. In the central food-grain pool it was the highest share. Around 82% of its geographical area under agriculture & 36% of population (census 2011) working in this sector. 99% of agriculture area under irrigation. After the green revolution, although, Punjab has given its best in national food security, but now, agriculture sector has so many challenges like as stagnation in production rate, no profit & exploitation of natural resources. Agriculture sector contribution into Gross State Domestic Product as well as net state income is decreasing. Through This paper, we will try to find the changes (since 1981) in various factors which are related with agriculture sector.

### KEYWORDS

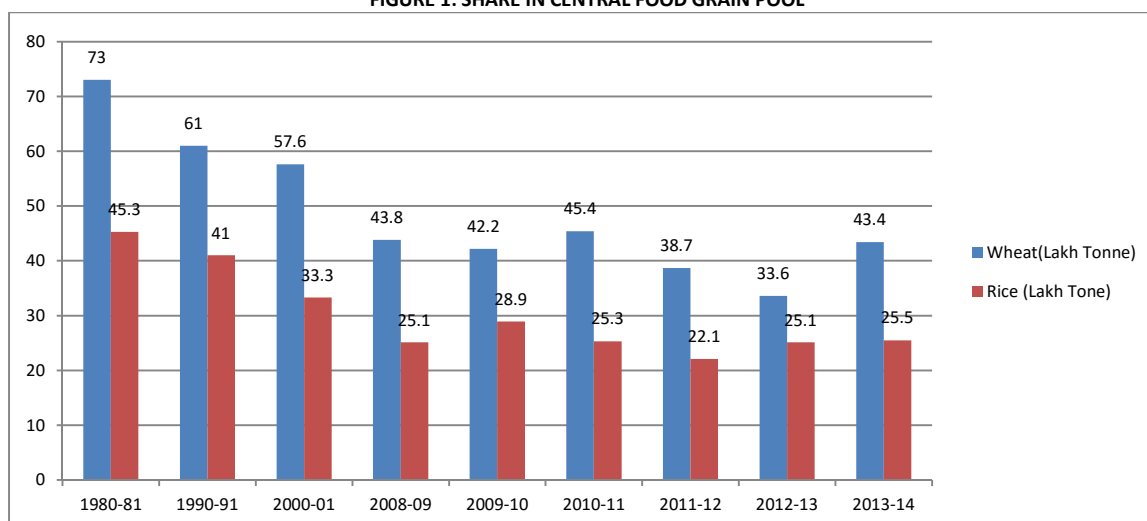
agriculture growth rate, crop pattern, growth factor, GSDP, productivity.

### INTRODUCTION



Punjab has 2.29 of Indian population & 1.54% area of the country. Punjab state has its own outstanding sharing in national food security after green revolution. Well irrigation system, high quality seeds, chemical fertilizers & establishments of local agriculture market centres lead to rapid growth. It contributes around 35-40 % of rice & 40-70 % of wheat to the central pool.

**FIGURE 1: SHARE IN CENTRAL FOOD GRAIN POOL**



Source: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Govt. Of India & Statistical Abstract of Punjab 2012, Publication no. 938.

After the green revolution, around 1980s, stagnation in growth rate of crop production has become more serious problem. Share in central pool which was 73 % of wheat & 45.3 of rice in 1980-81 decreased to 43.4 % of wheat & 25.5% of rice. Farmers are committing suicide due to stagnation in growth & gap between inputs & output, factor responsible for committing suicide is loan, although it was taken from CO-operative Society or Bank, Financial Institutions & other Money lenders (Arthias). To repay the old loan, small –marginal farmers are taking new loans for requirements like as arrangement of new techniques for example submersible pumps, zero tilling instruments & other agro inputs & to fulfil social responsibilities like as education for children & amount for marriage of daughters. On another side due to failure of crop which was attacked by whitefly or other insects, leads to losses. Return on investments was very low. Farmers are not in position to pay the lease of land to the land owners. This widening gap between inputs costs & income lead to worst conditions of the farmers. This cycle of financially burden never came to an end. In the clutches of all these socio-economic reasons put the pressure on the farmers to commit the suicide. Now, we want to discuss the changes with the help of data from various issues of Statistical Abstracts of Punjab Govt.

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

H.S. Sidhu in his paper, "Productions Conditions in Contemporary Punjab Agriculture" points that small operational holdings are not economically viable. In wheat-paddy cycle, there is stagnation in growth rate. Agriculture sector contribution is not good for state income.

Accordingly, Sucha S. Gill in "Economic Distress and Farmers Suicides in Rural Punjab" one point is clear that the widening gap between the cost of production lead to high cost risk & another is crop failure. It questioned the viability of small & marginal farmers. Although small farmers want to leave this sector but trapped in agriculture.

In 1960s "Green Revolution" lead to high productivity with effort of central Indian govt & earned the name of "Bread Basket" for Punjab. After three decades "Bread Basket" turned into "Suicide Site". Wheat –paddy cycle affected the mindset & life styles of the peoples. But with technological advancement, like as new techniques of harvesting, lead to reduction in employment generation. Some farmers try to adopt crop diversification but they did not get supportive facility like as proper seeds, market & MSP. Lack of this supportive facility & more input cost lead to high credit. With this, problems of small & marginal farmers have become broader. Relationships between Arthias & farmers have come to an end due to charging of high interest rate.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### (I) SOURCE OF DATA

Secondary data is used for the analysis. Secondary data was collected from various govt. Reports. Main source for data is "Statistical Abstract, 2014, Punjab."



## (II) STATISTICAL TOOLS FOR ANALYSIS

Percentage methods were used to measure the change & linear trend was used to know the trend & further estimations.

Formula used to calculate decadal wise growth rate:

$$\text{Growth Rate (\%)} = \frac{\text{Units at end of Period} - \text{Units at starting of Period}}{\text{Units at starting of Period}} \times 100$$

## INTERPRETATIONS &amp; EXPLANATIONS

## 1. POPULATION DEMOGRAPHY

TABLE 1: TOTAL POPULATION DECADAL WISE

P U N J A B		1971			1981			1991			2001			2011		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
A B	RURAL	10334885	5533475	4801406	12141158	6444464	5696694	14288744	7569423	6719321	16096488	8516596	7579892	17344192	9093476	8250716
	URBAN	3216175	1733040	1483139	4647757	2492746	2155011	5993225	3208611	2784614	8262511	4468499	3794062	10399146	5545989	4853157
	TOTAL	13551060	7266515	6285454	16788915	8937210	7851705	20281969	10778034	9503935	24358999	12985045	11373954	27743338	14639465	13103873

Source: 1. Economic & Statistical Organization, Punjab; & 2. Director, Census Operation, Punjab

TABLE 2: TOTAL WORKERS DECADAL

P U N J A B		1971			1981			1991			2001			2011		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
A B	TOTAL	3912592	3838517	74075	4927759	4749646	178113	6098374	5832852	265522	9127474	6960213	2167261	9897362	8074157	1823205
	RURAL	3008697	2974147	34550	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6360351	4589049	1771302	6179199	4995819	1183380
	URBAN	903895	864370	39525	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2767123	2371164	395959	3718163	3078338	639825

Source: 1. Economic & Statistical Organization, Punjab; & 2. Director, Census Operation, Punjab

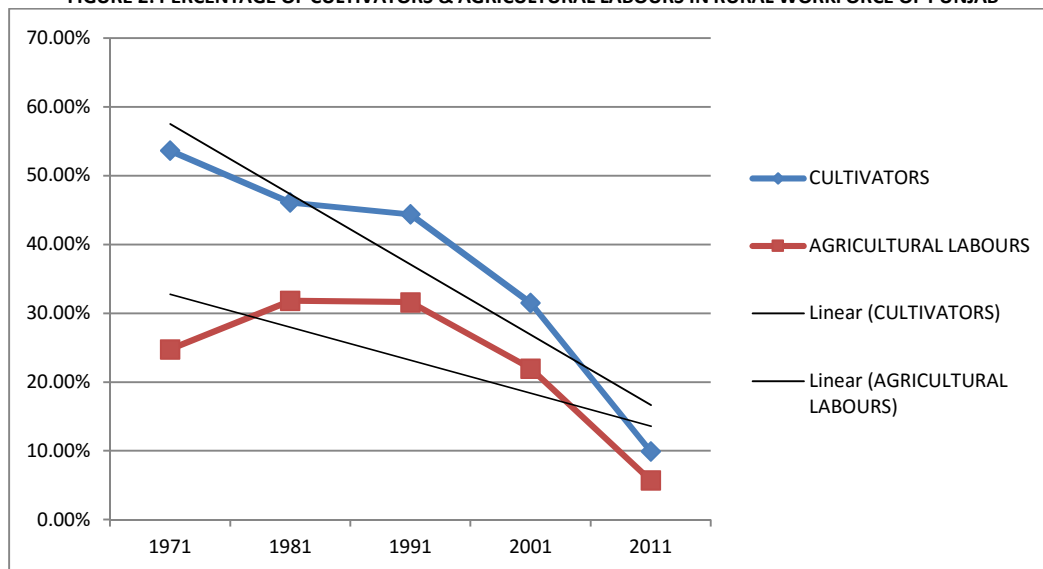
From the analysis of table 1, population has doubled as compare to 1971; in 2011 it is 104% of 1971 population & increased 13.89% from 2001 population. In table 2. During various decadal growths of total workers in 1991- 2001 is highest growth in but 2011 there is only 8.43 % growth & it has become 152.96% of 1971's total workers. One anxious point is that during 2001-11 rural population increased 7.75% but total workers growth in that period in rural a reduced by 2.84%. In urban area, in 2001-11 workers growth rate is 34.36%.

TABLE 3: TOTAL CULTIVATORS DECADAL WISE (1971-2011)

P U N J A B		1971			1981			1991			2001			2011		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
A B	TOTAL	3912592	3838517	74075	4927759	4749646	178113	6098374	5832852	265522	9127474	6960213	2167261	9897362	8074157	1823205
	RURAL	3008697	2974147	34550	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6360351	4589049	1771302	6179199	4995819	1183380
	URBAN	903895	864370	39525	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2767123	2371164	395959	3718163	3078338	639825

Source: 1. Economic & Statistical Organization, Punjab; & 2. Director, Census Operation, Punjab

FIGURE 2: PERCENTAGE OF CULTIVATORS &amp; AGRICULTURAL LABOURS IN RURAL WORKFORCE OF PUNJAB



Source: 1. Census 2001 & 2011; & 2. Statistical Abstract of Punjab 2014.

In the rural areas of Punjab, agriculture is the sole source of income. In 1971, 76.26% of the population was rural population & 53.64% peoples among this rural workforce were cultivators & 24.79% were agricultural labours, every decadal, no. of cultivators is decreasing. In 2001 it was 31.5 % of the rural workforce (total rural population 66.08%) & in 2011 no. of cultivators 9.91% in rural areas & 4.9% in urban areas. through the trend lines of both, we can make estimate that every decadal, agricultural labours & cultivators is decreasing. Due to no more profit, labour prefers to go on daily basis wages in market to earn their livelihoods.

## 2. SIZE OF HOLDINGS

TABLE 4: SIZE OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS IN PUNJAB

Year	Marginal Less than 1 hect.	Small 1-2 hect.	Semi-medium 2-4 hect.	Medium 4-10 hect.	Large Above 10 hect.	All holdings
1970-71	5,17,568 (37.63)	2,60,083 (18.91)	2,81,103 (20.44)	2,47,755 (18.01)	68,883 (5.01)	13,75,392 (100.00)
1980-81	1,98,060 (19.42)	1,99,368 (19.54)	2,87,423 (28.18)	2,61,201 (25.61)	73,940 (7.25)	10,19,992 (100.00)
1990-91	2,95,668 (26.47)	2,03,842 (18.25)	2,88,788 (25.86)	2,61,481 (23.41)	67,172 (6.01)	11,16,951 (100.00)
1995-96	2,03,876 (18.65)	1,83,453 (16.78)	3,20,340 (29.31)	3,05,794 (27.98)	79,610 (7.28)	10,93,073 (100.00)
2000-01	1,22,760 (12.31)	1,73,071 (17.53)	3,28,231 (32.91)	3,00,954 (30.18)	72,356 (7.25)	9,97,372 (100.00)
2005-06	1,34,762 (13.42)	1,83,062 (18.22)	3,19,933 (31.85)	2,95,749 (29.45)	70,960 (7.06)	10,04,466 (100.00)
2010-11(P)*	1,64,431 (15.62)	1,95,439 (18.57)	3,24,515 (30.83)	2,98,451 (28.36)	69,718 (6.62)	10,52,554 (100.00)

Note: figures in brackets are percentage.

\* shows that year data is prepared on the basis of 20% survey by concerned department.

Source: 1. Statistical Abstract 2014 of Punjab; & 2. Director Agriculture, Agriculture Census, Punjab 2010-11

FIGURE 3: TRENDS IN SMALL &amp; MARGINAL OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS

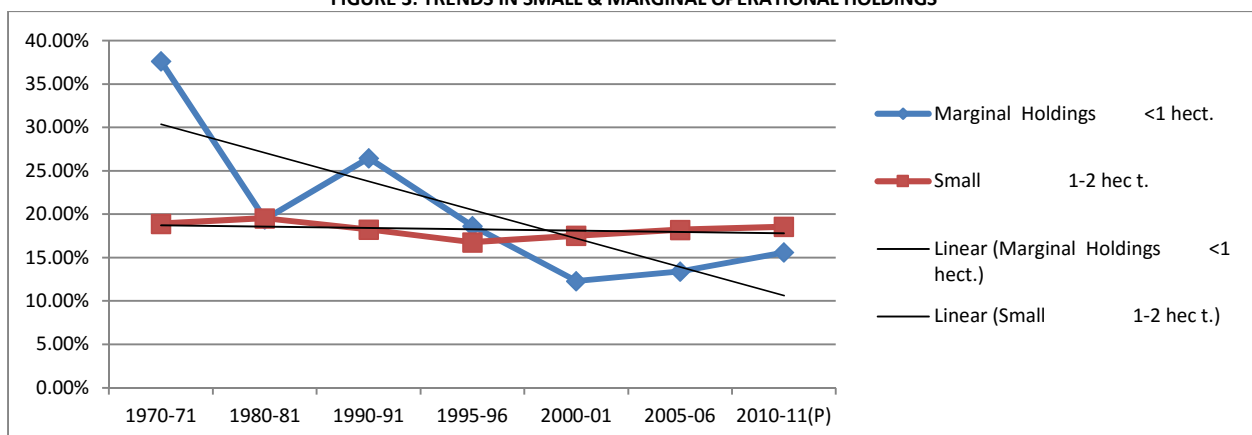
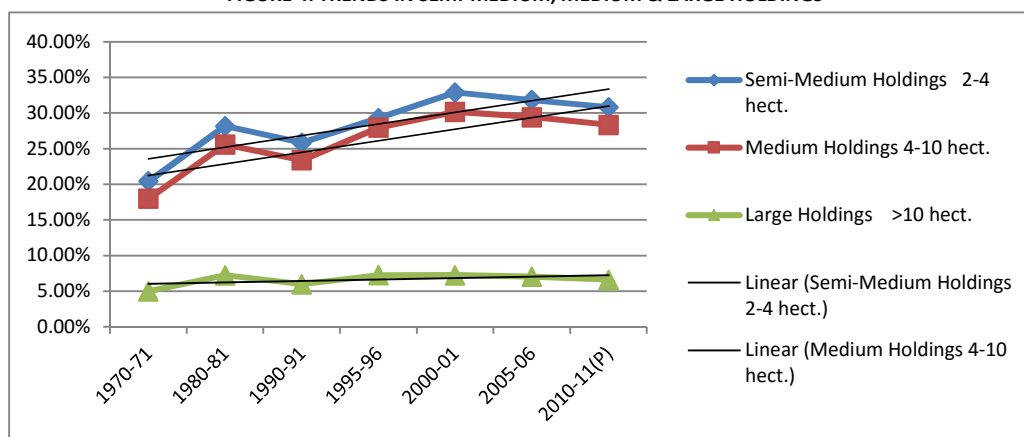


FIGURE 4: TRENDS IN SEMI-MEDIUM, MEDIUM &amp; LARGE HOLDINGS



From above data regarding operational holdings, one point is clear that is declination in small & marginal holdings. Due to wide gap between input costs & return, marginal & small farmers can't face this losses. Theirs holdings are purchased or leased by medium or large farmers. Trend line in figure three indicates that marginal holdings are decreasing. But trend line in semi-medium indicators the growth of these holdings.

### 3. NET SOWN AREA & CROPPING PATTERN

Punjab has 5036000 hectare land. In 1961, only 74% of land was shown, after 1980s, it was 83-84% area under shown area. There is only 1% up & down till the 2012-13. but total cropped year is increasing due to crops more than once are grown in one year. Area under forest is 262000 hectares.

TABLE 5: NET AREA SOWN

Year	Net Area Sown (Thousands Hect.)	Percentage of total area	Area Sown more than once (Thousands Hect.)	Total (net area sown + area sown more than once) (Thousands Hect.)
1960-61	3757	74	NA	NA
1970-71	4053	80	NA	NA
1980-81	4191	83	2572	6763
1990-91	4218	84	3284	7502
2000-01	4250	84	3691	7941
2010-11	4158	83	3724	7882
2011-12	4134	82	3767	7902
2012-13	4150	82	3720	7870

Source: Statistical Abstract of Punjab, various issues

TABLE 6: AREA UNDER MAIN CROPS (in thousands hectare)

Year	Kharif Cereals				Rabi Cereals			Total area under cereals (VIII)	Pulses			Total food-grains (VIII+XI)
	Rice (I)	Jowar (II)	Maize (III)	Ba-jra (IV)	Wheat (V)	Barly (VI)	Other cereals (VII)		Gram (IX)	Other Pulses (X)	Total Pulses (XI)	
1980-81	1183	1	382	69	2812	65	1	4513	258	83	341	4854
1990-91	2015	(a)	188	12	3273	37	(a)	5525	60	83	143	5668
2000-01	2612	(a)	165	5	3408	32		6223	8	46	54	6277
2008-09	2735	.1	151	6	3526	16		6433	3	19	22	6455
2009-10	2802	.1	139	3	3522	14		6480	3	15	18	6498
2010-11	2826	-	133	3	3510	12		6484	3	17	20	6504
2011-12	2814	--	130	3	3527	13		6487	2	18	20	6507
2012-13 (R)	2849	-	131	3	3517	13		6513	2	18	20	6533
2013-14 (P)	2851	-	130	1	3512	12		6506	2	10	12	6518

Source: 1. Statistical Abstract of Punjab, Various Issues; & 2. Directorate of Land Records/Agriculture Punjab

P means provisional

R means revised (a) Means below 500 hectare

TABLE 7: AREA UNDER OIL-SEEDS &amp; OTHER CROPS

Year	Ground-nut	Seas mum	Sunflower	Rapeseed & Mustard	Linseed	Total oil seeds	Cotton	Sugarcane	Potatoes
1980-81	83	17	-	136	2	238	649	71	40
1990-91	11	18	5	69	1	104	701	101	23
2000-01	4	19	7	55	1	86	474	121	60
2008-09	3	8	20	29	(a)	60	527	81	82
2009-10	3	6	22	31	---	62	511	60	74
2010-11	2	7	15	32	----	56	483	70	64
2011-12	2	6	14	30	----	52	515	80	70
2012-13 (R)	2	5	15	29	----	51	481	82	80
2013-14 (P)	1	4	11	32	----	48	446	89	87

P means provisional Source: 1. Statistical Abstract of Punjab, Various Issues

R means revised 2. Directorate of Land Records/Agriculture Punjab

(a) Means below 500 hectare

## 3. TRENDS ANALYSIS IN TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECTARE (CROP WISE)

FIGURE 5: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF RICE

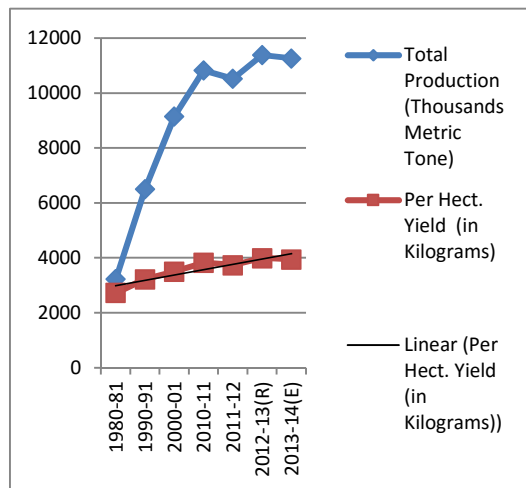


FIGURE 6: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF BAJRA

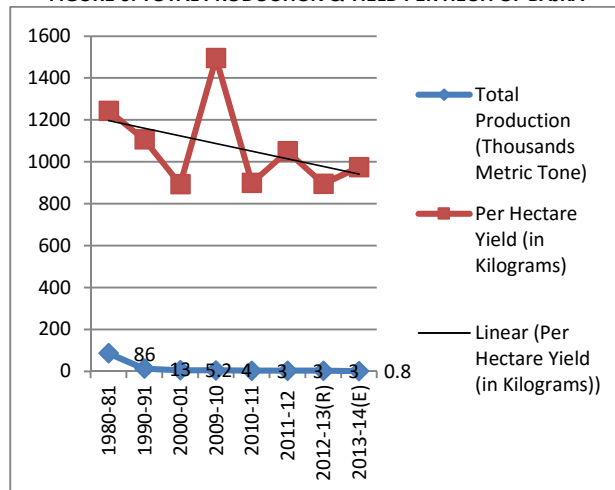


FIGURE 7: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF MAIZE

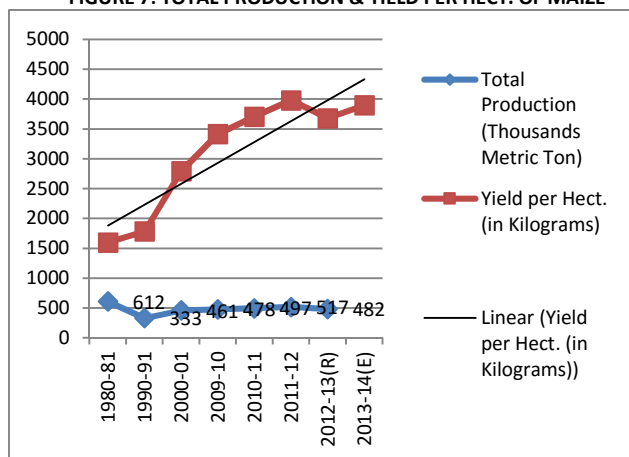


FIGURE 8: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF WHEAT

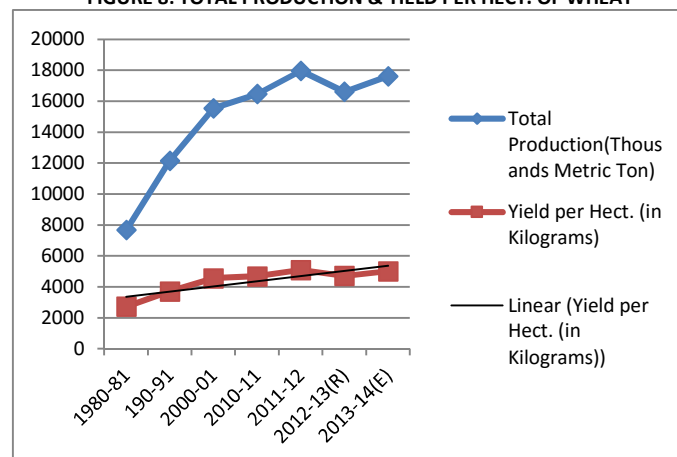


FIGURE 9: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF BARLEY

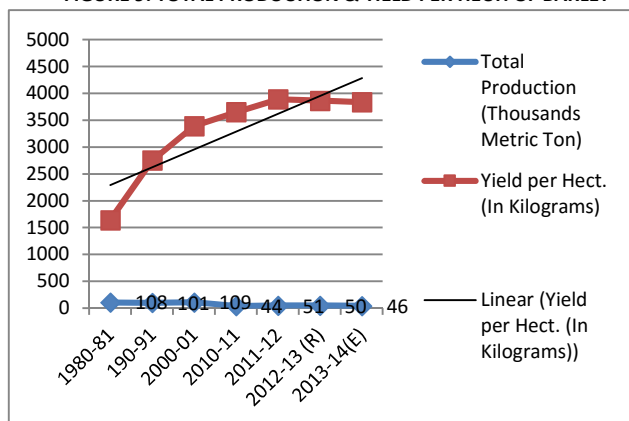


FIGURE 10: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF SUGARCANE

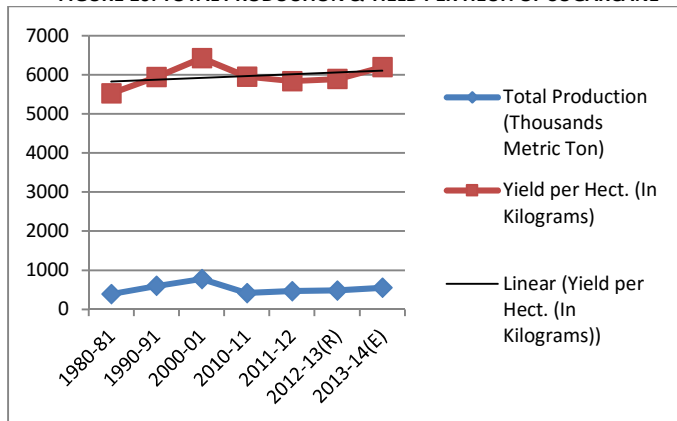


FIGURE 11: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF POTATO

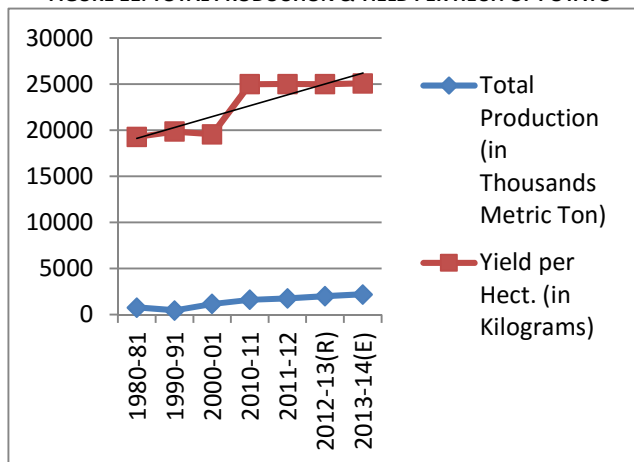


FIGURE 12: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF COTTON AMERICAN

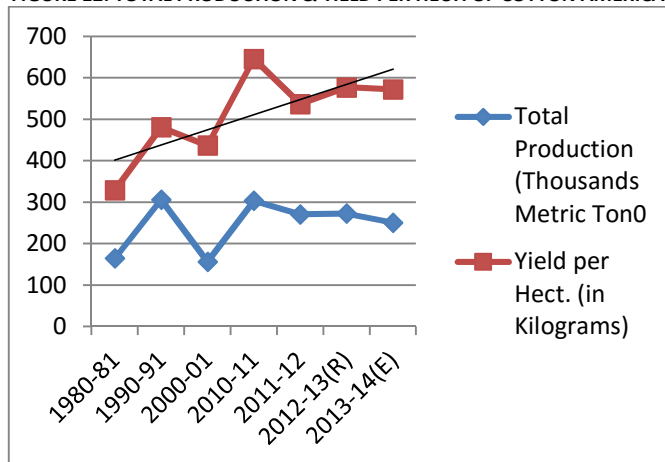
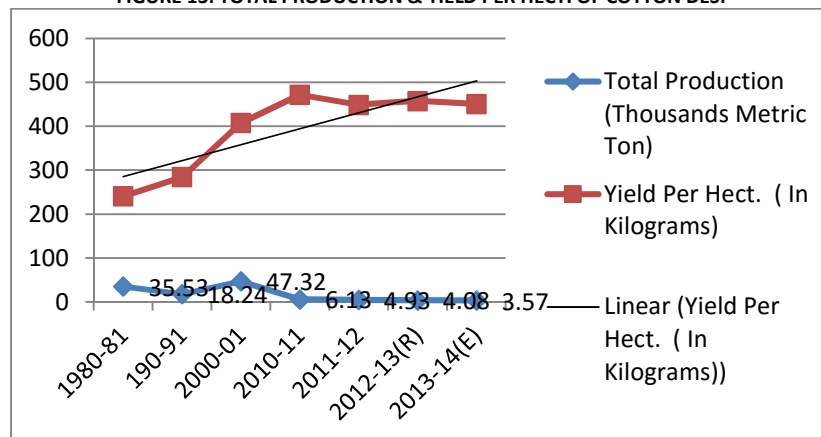


FIGURE 13: TOTAL PRODUCTION &amp; YIELD PER HECT. OF COTTON DESI



Source: Figures 5-13 is Statistical Abstract of Punjab 2014

R means Revised, P means Provisional, E means Final Estimates of Agriculture Department of Punjab.

Analysis of table 6 shows that around 82% area is sown which was 74% in 190-91 in Punjab. During 2013-14(P) are under the crop production which is sown more than once in a year is 7870thousands hectare. During 2013-14(P) kharif sessions, 68.69% of net sown area was under rice crop & 15.63% under cotton & 3.13% under maize and remaining area was under other cereals and pulses & other agriculture crop production. In 1991, during same Kharif session 4218 thousands hectare was net sown area & 47.77%, 4.45% & 16.61% area was under rice, maize & cotton respectively. During the 190-91 to 2013-14(P), major increases in the area under the rice crop. During rabi crop session in 2013-14(P), 84.62%, 28%, 0.04% area of net sown area under wheat, barley & gram. During that period a drastically change under the area of gram crop which was 258 thousand hectare in 1980s, in 2013-14(P) it was only 2000 hectare. Total food grain increased 14.99% as compare to 190-91. But from last three-four years, there is a little bit change which is indicator of stagnation in production rate.

From table7 it is clear point that there is reduction under the area of oilseeds. it is 1.15% (2013-14(P)) of net sown area which was 2.46% of net sown area in 1991 & double of its in 1980s. Are under production has increased & sugarcane also. Yield per hectare has increased, but from last three year there are a little bit changes. Yield per hectare of maize has increased by 118% as compare to 1991. Production of Bajra is decreasing every year. In wheat, per hectare yield production increased by 35%, but from 2010-11 yields per hectare growth rate is stagnating. Similarly from 2011-12 in case of barley & sugarcane. If we analysis from figures 5 to 13, one point is clear that is stagnation in production from last five years as compare to input changes. That is the major challenge before the farmers of Punjab & other agriculture related research institutions.

TABLE 8: GROWTH ANALYSIS OF RICE WHEAT CROP ROTATION

Year	Rice			Wheat		
	Thousand hectare	Production (000 metric ton)	Yield per Hectare (in Kilograms)	Thousand hectare	Production (000 metric ton)	Yield per Hectare (in Kilograms)
1980-81	1183	3233	2733	2812	7677	2730
1990-91	2015	6506	3229	3273	12159	3715
2000-01	2612	9157	3506	3408	15551	4563
2010-11	2830	10833	3828	3510	16472	4693
2011-12	2814	10527	3741	3527	17977	5097
2012-13(R)	2849	11390	3998	3517	16614	4724
2013-14(E)	2851	11267	3952	3512	17620	5017
Growth rate (in %age)						
1990-91 over 1980-81	70.32	101.23	18.1	16.39	58.33	36.08
2000-01 over 1990-91	29.62	40.74	8.37	4.12	27.89	22.82
2010-11 over 2000-01	8.34	18.30	9.18	2.99	5.92	2.84
2011-12 over 2010-11	0.56	-2.82	-2.27	.48	9.13	8.60
2012-13 over 2011-12	1.24	8.19	6.86	- 0.28	- 7.58	- 7.31
2013-14 over 12-13	0.07	-1.07	-1.15	- 0.14	6.05	6.20

Production of fruits is important factor in agriculture to earn profits. To reap these profits, a set of efforts is required. During the decade 1990-91, area under fruit was increased by 138.72% over 1980s. In 2000-01 growth rate decreased -50.30% over 1990-91. Then once again it was increased by 104.07% during the decade 2000-01 to 2010-11 & 9.71% in 2013-14 as compare to 2010-11. Production fruits also increased 12.23% as compare to 2010-11.

Contract farming is also working in Punjab to produce different crops, but the scope of contract farming is not so much. We examine the data supplied by Punjab Agro Food grains Corporation Ltd., there are great fluctuations in the total area. In 2002-3, only 22312 acre land was under contract farming & in 2009-10 it was only 189175 acre which reduced to 84747 acre in 2010-11. Declining in the area under contract farming still continuous. Main crops of hyola, sunflower, durum wheat, malting barley, moong, basmati pur, maize, guar, castor, mantha, green pea & potato seed.

#### 4. IRRIGATION

Around 99% area of net sown area is under the proper irrigation system. The main source of irrigation is govt. Canals & tube wells. In 1981; it was only around 81% area. From the year 1980, there is no major change in the area which is irrigated by canals, but through tube wells around 55% area has increased. It happened due to supply of electricity. No. of electric operated tube wells increased by 55% as compare to 2000-01. On the other hand, no. of diesel operated tube wells has decreased.

**TABLE 9: IRRIGATION AREA UNDER DIFFERENT SOURCES (000 hectare)**

Year	Govt. Canals	Private Canal	Tube wells & Wells	Other Sources	Total	Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown
1980-81	1430	-	1939	13	3382	81
1990-91	1660	9	2233	7	3909	93
2000-01	962	<500 hect.	3074	2	4038	95
2010-11	1113	3	2954	-	4070	97.9
2012-13	1133	-	2982	-	4115	99.2

Source: 1) Director of Land Records, Punjab; & 2. Statistical abstract of Punjab

**TABLE 10: NO. OF TUBE WELLS (Lakh)**

Year	Diesel Operated	Electric Operated	Total
1980-81	3.20	2.80	6.00
1990-91	2.00	6.00	8.00
2000-01	2.85	7.88	10.73
2010-11	2.40	11.42	13.82
2013-14 (Provisional)	1.79	12.26	14.05

Source: Director Agriculture, Punjab

#### 5. CONSUMPTION OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS

Rapid growth in production between the 1960s to 1990s but later it came on the stage of stagnation. In earliest, maximum yield happened due to High yield variety of seeds. But to maintain this level of production, Punjab farmers used chemical fertilizers at large scale. Mainly used chemical Fertilizers are Nitrogenous, Phosphate, Potassic. Total consumption of NPK, which was 762 nutrients tonne in 1980-81, increased 72.30% in 2000-01 as compare to 1980s. Consumption of nitrogen & phosphate increased by 91.63% & 36.23% over the 1980s. During decade of 2000-01 to 2010-11, total consumption of fertilizers once again increased at high level of 45.54% & 2010-13 this change was 3%. 39.18% and 54.25% consumption of nitrogen & phosphatic respectively increased. Now, high consumption of these fertilizers at high level has become threat for sustainable growth.

#### 6. WAGES PAID IN AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is a labour extensive sector. From ploughing to harvesting there is need of labour. But in these days, nobody is ready to do work in this sector. Wage rate are increasing. In 1980s, wage rate for ploughing was Rs. 10-11 & in 2000 it was Rs. 81-82 & in present days it has reached to Rs. 300-350. With a little variation, same rates are for sowing, weeding, harvesting, picking of cotton & other agricultural operations. In case of skilled labour, in 1980s, wages of black smith was Rs. 23.23 but in these days it has crossed Rs. 400 & same case in the wages of car painter.

#### 7. AGRICULTURE CREDIT

Sources of loan for farmers are mainly co-operative societies, agriculture credit societies & Punjab Agriculture Development Bank & Other financial Institutions. According data (Source: Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab), no. of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies are decreasing from 2001. In 1990-91, 4,633 was total societies, in 2000-01 these were only 4,084 which reduced to 3656 in 2012-13. Among these 3656 societies 1082 societies are under loss. Amount of loss is increasing every year. In 2000-01 it was only 1,197.33 lak (Rs.). in 2012-13 it crossed double. It crossed 4767.16 Lakh Rs. In 2012-13, total no. of membership was 24.11 thousand. Punjab Agricultural Development Bank has some good indicators of growth. According to survey by a team of researchers of Punjabi University Patiala, more than 50% loan is given by Commercial banks to Farmers.

#### 8. DURING FIVE YEAR PLANS INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE

In each five year plan, percentage of investment to total expenditure is decreasing. In 4<sup>th</sup> five year plan in 1969-74 it was 10.29% for agriculture & now during 12<sup>th</sup> five year plan (2012-17) it is only 2.82% of total expenditure. This is indicator of worst conditions for improvements in agriculture sector.

**TABLE 11: PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON AGRICULTURE DURING FIVE YEAR PLANS**

Planning Year	Percentage of Total Expenditure
4 <sup>th</sup> plan (1969-74)	10.29
5 <sup>th</sup> plan (1974-78)	11.73
6 <sup>th</sup> plan (1980-85)	10.69
7 <sup>th</sup> plan (1985-90)	7.91
8 <sup>th</sup> plan (1992-97)	5.40
9 <sup>th</sup> plan (1997-2002)	4.62
10 <sup>th</sup> plan (2002-07)	2.98
11 <sup>th</sup> plan (2007-12)	3.21
12 <sup>th</sup> plan (2012-17)	2.82

Source: Statistical Abstract of Punjab, various issues

#### 9. AGRICULTURE SECTOR CONTRIBUTION TO STATE INCOME

Every year share of Agriculture in GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product) is decreasing. It happened due to stagnating in productions & large scale cost in this sector.

TABLE 12: PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURE TO TOTAL STATE INCOME IN PUNJAB

Year	Net State Income		Gross State Income	
	At Current Prices	At constant (2004-05) Prices	At current Prices	At Constant (2004-05) Prices
2004-05	21.81	21.81	21.19	21.19
2005-6	21.35	20.21	20.63	19.58
2006-07	20.94	18.62	20.31	18.19
2007-08	21.78	17.91	21.05	17.51
2008-09	22.31	17.42	21.49	16.99
2009-10	21.19	16.15	20.58	15.93
2010-11	20.17	15.19	19.70	15.09
2011-12(Revised)	19.75	14.54	19.27	14.42
2012-13(Provisional)	18.85	13.59	18.53	13.64
2013-14(Quick)	18.21	13.05	17.86	13.20

Source: Economic and Statistical Organisation, Punjab

**CONCLUSION**

Punjab occupies 1.53% of country's geographical area & contributes 25-26% of rice & 43% of wheat production to central food grain pool. After the Green Revolution, stagnation in production rate has become major threat. Peoples are leaving this sector, it comprises only 10% of workforce which was the major source of employment on once time. Farmers are committing suicides due to burden of loans. There is negative trend in growths of small-marginal farmers & same in small-marginal operational holdings. Farmers are dependent of wheat-paddy crop cycle but growth rate of both crops is decreasing ever year. To maintain the same level of output, more dose of chemical fertilizers applied, it exploited the fertility of soil, threat for sustainable growth & leads to more input cost. This widening gap between inputs & profit puts pressure on farmers to end their life. Wage rate of agricultural labour has reached doubled & tripled as compare to wage rate in the year 2000. It happened due to non-interest of present generation in agriculture & no much profit. Govt. Expenditures in every five year planning is decreasing. Main sources for agriculture credit are co-operative societies, commercial banks & other sources. Contribution of agriculture sector to state income is decreasing every year.

State & central govt. Talks about Marginal Support Price, but in actual it is not applied. During the year 2014-15 & 2015-16, farmers sold their crop production on below rates at compare to MSP, although it was Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Cotton, and Sugarcane & Potato. Paddy with A grade quality was sold at Rs. 700-800 per quintal. Then question arises "WHAT IS THE MEANING OF MSP & ITS APPLICABILITY?" No answer due to monopoly of Arthias & joining hands of Govt.

There is need of study at ground level to develop the strategy to improve the agriculture sector; otherwise it is a passed stage.

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