

In what way state government can give boost to Agri-tourism in the country. Discuss.

Agri-tourism is the cross road of agriculture & tourism, where commercial entity with the cooperation of tourism sector develops agro based tourism network.

Significance

- (i) Eco friendly tourism
- (ii) Multifold benefit to farmers
- (iii) Employment generation
- (iv) Revenue Increase

Status in India

India accounts for the growth of agri-tourism by 20% annual rate. Maharashtra is the first state to come up with regional based policy framework. In addition Kerala and Karnataka have acknowledge the significance for regional approach.

ways to further boost

- (i) Guideline by state: state govt. should form committee to come up with specific guideline which will boost it.
- (ii) Licence for Agri tourism: Specific licence to be issued for tax benefit and obtaining loan. cooperative banks can also be involved.
- (iii) Rural Youth: Involvement of rural youth can lead to employment generation.
- (iv) Awareness: Planning festivals in ~~var~~ villages to raise awareness related to Agri tourism.
- (v) Local Administration: Inclusion of parichay at will enhance utilization of expertise.

Agri-tourism ~~sector~~ is considered as

"low investment - low risk" sector of the economy.

But countries like Italy and Spain with appropriate regional framework and investment enhanced the sector to enrich its economy. ^{likewise} Indian states should also focus on regional development to further boost 'agri-tourism' in the country.