

Q. Why should Indian agriculture be liberalised when in most countries subsidise it? Examine.

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Answer:-

In India Agriculture sector (Primary sector), is one of the basic pillar of Indian Economy.

In US, the agriculture sector is expected to receive \$46 billion in federal subsidies this year. This accounts for about 40% of total farm income, if not for those subsidies, the US farm income was poised to decline in 2020. Similarly, the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy spending has averaged €54 billion annually since 2006.

→ Without some support from the state, the smallest of Indian Peasants would be even more vulnerable. "According to 10th Provi Agriculture census 2015-16", in India "Small holder & marginal farmers account for 86.2% of all cultivators" i.e. almost (126 million) people".

→ For them it is inconceivable to carry their produce to other states or far-off places to sell.

→ They will not easily resist the deals proposed by agribusiness firms.

→ Also tertiary sector has not been able to create enough jobs. Already, the gap betⁿ urban & rural India in terms of per capita income (resources) is widening.

→ Why should Indian Agriculture be liberalised?

- ① Technological transfer from developed countries could brought revolutionary changes in milk production, food processing, drip irrigations and other allied activities, which impact is long lasting & sustainable.
- ② Free flow of technology, capital & High Yield Variety of seeds's impacts proved in Green revolution (Rice, wheat, cotton, jid).
- ③ Public investment in agriculture in terms of infrastructure in the form of income support schemes like 'Rythu Bandhu' in Telangana, 'KALIYA' in Odisha, 'Jalyukta Shivar' in Maharashtra, would, helps to farmers income.

→ But money is not the only solution. For making farming sustainable, the govt. should draw inspiration from Andhra Pradesh's Community managed farming model. Govt. should look in to more biodiverse nature & provides a safety net to farmers.