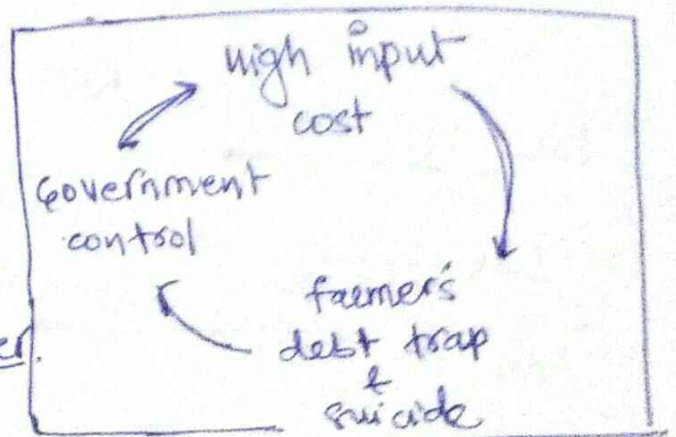


Private sector in agriculture

The unnecessary government control over private sector ~~too~~ is a roadblock in the development of agriculture. Government needs to ease these regulations.

Indian farmer is subjected through various vulnerabilities, one of them is high input cost. This high input cost creates debt trap and also suicides, which is directly influenced by rigid state control over private sector.

This can be examined in three most important inputs in agriculture — machine, seeds, fertiliser.



(B) seeds — quality seeds are prerequisite for good harvest. India ~~has~~ become one of the largest producer and exporter of these HYV seeds. However recent years witnessed a downward trend specially in HT cotton seeds and India became net importer of cotton (2019-20).

Government also disallow many Bt seeds for example — Bt brinjal and oilseeds. Though there are

environmental and health concerns but import of grains made up of BT seeds nullifies government regulations. It not only hurts domestic seed producers but farmers also.

(ii) Fertilisers - India is net importer of fertiliser (\$6.7 Bn - 2019-20). Since ^{India lacks} Potassium and phosphorus as raw material. Urea can be produced in the country. Similarly India imports gas (hydrogen) for the production of Urea, making ~~the~~ the sector expensive and hurt BOT.

(iii) machines - India is largest producer of tractors, stand around ~~900~~ 9 lakh units/year and giants like Mahindra (Pvt.) has achieved great success in India. making India next exporter in Africa & South Asia (40,000 units).

But small farmers found tractors uneconomical. Government needs to encourage small entrepreneurs to develop small farm machinery in a customise way.

This is a way to achieve Atmanirbhar Bharat and self reliance in Agriculture by doubling farmers income (by 2022), private sector has a huge roll to play.