

The Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) can play a catalytic roll in recently introduced farm laws in order to double Farmers income by 2022.

FPO's are collective organisation of farmers similar to cooperatives in many ways but different in registration, no elections and market orientation.

Need of FPO's

(i) Lack of scaling in Indian agriculture with 86% small & marginal farmers holding 45% of cultivable land. (swaminathan, 2009)

(ii) failure of cooperatives created a structural gap and middle man exploit farmers.

Benefits of FPO's

(i) cost reduction → when large number of small farmer agregate

they

- a) Buy inputs directly from wholesale
- b) sell produce with great bargaining power.
- c) get easy access to financial schemes like loans and insurance.
- d) cheap and Bulk transportation

(ii) Ease of Agriculture - As FPOs enhance their social capital they

- a) share machinery among them.
- b) easy information dissemination

(iii) Governance - government can easily target them and supply policies like

- a) credit guarantee scheme
- b) linking with ENAM & APMC and ease of monitoring
- c) supply chain linkage via kisan sampada scheme or operation greens

currently according to NABARD there are around 5000 FPOs across the

country and are mostly at nascent stage with shining examples like

① kashi viswanath FPO - which make papad in OP.

② shri kuraon FPO - which sell produce despite drought in OP.

— shows that FPO can also protect farmers from fluctuations.

way forward

(i) management - There is a need to keep management trained & skilled away from local politics.

(ii) universal inclusion of government scheme against current sealing of 500 members by SFAC.

(iii) convergence :- of govt. schemes of social sector and entrepreneurship with FPO - moving away from silo approach.

(iv) Finance - Banks should treat FPO's as startups & reduce high interest while govt. should allow venture or angel funding.

(v) Apart from it → infrastructure, awareness
single window clearances & digital monitoring
should be adopted.

Thus FPO's can fill the vacuum left
by cooperatives, by providing scalability
affordability to farmers.