

ECONOMICS (CLASS—12)

INDIAN ECONOMY

1950–1990

Topic----- THE GOALS OF FIVE YEAR PLANS

Features of the Green Revolution

- The *introduction of the HYV seeds* for the first time in Indian agriculture. These seeds had more success with the wheat crop and were highly effective in regions that had proper irrigation. So the first stage of the Green Revolution was focused on states with better infra – like Punjab and Tamil Nadu.
- During the second phase, the HYV seeds were given to several other states. And other crops than wheat were also included into the plan

- One basic requirement for the HYV seeds is *proper irrigation*. Crops from HYV seeds need alternating amounts of water supply during its growth. So the farms cannot depend on monsoons. The Green Revolution vastly improved the inland irrigation systems around farms in India.
- The *emphasis of the plan was mostly on food grains* such as wheat and rice. Cash crops and commercial crops like cotton, jute, oilseeds etc. were not a part of the plan
- Increased availability and use of *fertilizers* to enhance the productivity of the farms
- Use of *pesticides and weedicides* to reduce any loss or damage to the crops
- And finally the introduction of *technology and machinery* like tractors, harvesters, drills etc. This helped immensely to promote commercial farming in the country.

Impact of the Green Revolution

- ***Increase in Agricultural Production:*** Food grains in India saw a great rise in output. It was a remarkable increase. The biggest beneficiary of the plan was the Wheat Grain. The production of wheat increased to 55 million tonnes in 1990 from just 11 million tonnes in 1960.
- ***Increase in per Acre Yield:*** Not only did the Green Revolution increase the total agricultural output, it also increased the per hectare yield. In case of wheat, the per hectare yield increased from 850 kg/hectare to an incredible 2281 kg/hectare by 1990.
- ***Less Dependence on Imports:*** After the green revolution, India was finally on its way to self-sufficiency. There was now enough production for the population and to build a stock in case of emergencies. We did not need to import grains or depend on other

countries for our food supply. In fact, India was able to start exporting its agricultural produce.

- . *Employment:* It was feared that commercial farming would leave a lot of the labour force jobless. But on the other hand, we saw a rise in rural employment. This is because the supporting industries created employment opportunities. Irrigation, transportation, food processing, marketing all created new jobs for the workforce.**
- . *A Benefit to the Farmers:* The Green Revolution majorly benefited the farmers. Their income saw a significant raise. Not only were they surviving, they were prospering. It enabled them to shift to commercial farming from only sustenance farming.**

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