

### **Explanation on the Contribution of Agriculture towards National Economy**

In India, agriculture contributes to about 17 per cent of gross GDP and provides employment to about 60 per cent of the population. Thus, India is still an agricultural country. Agriculture is a primary activity which produces most of the food that we consume. Besides foodgrains agriculture also provides raw materials for industries, such as cotton, sugarcane, rubber etc'. Many agricultural products like tea, coffee, spices, etc. are also exported. Role of agriculture in Indian economy includes:

- Share in national income
- Largest employment providing sector
- Contribution to Capital formation
- Providing raw material to industries
- Providing market for industrial products
- Significant for trade and transport
- Providing foreign exchange as export earnings

In India, Agriculture is a subject mentioned in the State List and so it is the state's responsibility to develop the agriculture sector. The Government takes several steps in increasing investment in the agriculture sector such as enhanced institutional credits to the farmers, procurement of latest scientific advancements in agriculture for increasing shelf life of agricultural produce. The PM-Kisan Yojna aims at helping small and marginal farmers with a minimum income support. Two-thirds of India's population is engaged in agricultural

activities. Green Revolution resulted in significant increase in agricultural productivity resulting from the introduction of HYV seeds and use of chemical fertilizers. In India, Green Revolution was first introduced in Punjab in the 1960s. India's Green Revolution increased the foodgrain production from 70 million tons to more than 200 million tons today.

