

Farmers' Plight and Government's Role to aid the Plight- A study in Longding District of Arunachal Pradesh

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Abstract:

This study tries to examine the various measures taken by the government to the improvement of the farming and farmer's satisfaction level with different types of government schemes and funds. It also tries to analyze the problems faced by the farmers to avail of those schemes provided by both state and central government. For this, the researcher had approached the farmers and government officers along with semi-structured questionnaire interview to collect the data. The study area is of Longding district of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The Government of India is trying its best to improve the farming system by introducing various schemes and doubling the income of Indian farmers by 2022, launching Krishi Kalyan Cess, a soil health card, and introduction of radio and television for giving awareness and information to the farmers and to improved techniques of cultivation, an announcement of minimum support price for various crops which remove the elements of uncertainty, provide loans and credit to farmers at a low-interest rate, etc. But the deep concern is the serious issue of management of those sanction funds and schemes and whether it is being implemented and utilized up to expectation. For this, Farm to Fork management system needs to be improved. Here the main objective of the study is to examine the benefits and problems of farmers while availing of government schemes and funding.

Keywords: Farmers, Government schemes, Agriculture farming

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1.Introduction:

In India, agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for more than 58% population and has a significant contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country³ And because of this major contribution to the economy of a nation, the government has implemented various measures, schemes, programs, and steps to promote the agricultural sector with their specific requirements. Some of the already initiated schemes are such as Paramaragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) which was launched in the year 2015 to promote organic farming in the country and to cover the certification cost of organic farming through the use of traditional available resources. Another example of measures taken by the government for the benefit of rural farmers includes enhancement in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) to eliminate distress sale of agricultural produce by farmers, support to the farmers from time to time like debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.(Desk, 2019)These schemes are implemented in a decentralized manner between the central and state governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirement. By adopting the central government's policy measure, the government of Arunachal Pradesh also has launched recently two major schemes for the rural farmers of the state, namely 'Atma Nirbhar Krishi Yojna' for the agriculture sector and the other called 'Atma Nirbhar Bagwani Yojna' for horticulture sector⁴. The schemes are part of the Atma Nirbhar program which was announced by the Government of India on 13th May 2020 to make India self-reliant. The purpose of the schemes is to benefit farmers and Self Help groups (SHGs) across the state. The components of the schemes will be 45% government subsidy, 45% bank loan and only 10% to be borne by the beneficiaries. A Strategy, named High-Yielding Varieties Programme (HYVP), known as Green Revolution, for the agricultural system was also introduced in Kharif, in the year 1966 with the motive of attaining self-sufficiency in food. The objective of programme was to increase the productivity of food grains by adopting the varieties of good quality seeds and inputs for crops such as adequate irrigation facilities, the use of fertilizers, insecticides, and pesticides were some among them. The HYV programme was a package that apart from better quality seeds included regular and adequate irrigation facilities, the use of fertilizers, pesticides, and insecticides. Some of the major outcomes of the programme were-

- It was a major step forward and a turning point for India in the agriculture sector
- The programme was successful in some zones of the country for the production of wheat and rice with the achievement of other crops as well.
- There was an increase of high yielding varieties of seeds
- Farmers were also given financial assistance by the Reserve Bank of India through Central Cooperative Banks.
- Through the adoption of this programme, India attained self-reliance in the production of food grains. In contrast to the benefits gained, there were also enormous problems led by this new technology adaptation were such as-

³ *Agriculture in India: Industry overview, market size, role in the development...: IBEF.*

⁴ *Arunachal Pradesh Govt launches two schemes for development of ...).*

- Due to the heavy use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the fertility of the soil has lost its nutrients.
- For enlargement of cultivated land, some parts of forest land were cut down, rotation of crops was stopped and agriculture products were limited to a few.
- Before the implementation of the green revolution, farming was done manually. It was labor-intensive without much use of technology. But the heavy use of equipment with a mechanized system destroyed the physiochemical leading to less productivity of the soil.
- When compared with the traditional products, the high yielding crops are generally unhealthy and susceptible to diseases easily⁵. After the revolution called 'Green Revolution' the agricultural system of the country has changed to a great extent and many parts of the rural areas also have been affected. However, some hilly region of North East India was not much affected by this revolution. Because 70% of the region is covered by hills and mountains (Lh. Seitinthang 2014) and the physiographic condition is very much varied in terms of topography, types of soil, uneven distribution of temperature, and rainfall. Based on these physical features the region practices two types of agriculture (i) Shifting cultivation (Jhum cultivation), and (ii) Settled or plain agriculture. Shifting cultivation is mostly practiced by tribal farmers in hilly areas and the plain or settled agriculture is commonly practiced in plain areas of Assam and some parts of Nagaland. In the shifting cultivation land generally, red soils are found and in the plain area, fertile alluvial soils are found. Since the entire state of Arunachal Pradesh is comprised of the hilly area completely dominated by tribal, all the districts of the state are practicing shifting cultivation. But then slowly many farmers, especially of plain areas, have started using the High Yielding Variety Seeds (HYVs), modern tools and techniques and, even begin to use chemical fertilizers and biocides as they need surplus products for commercial activities to meet the demand of the consumer. People also learned the easy method of less work and high volume of production of the latest farming technology and started opting for the same who were once fully dependent only on manual family labor.

2. Objectives of the study:

The present research enquiry has been undertaken with the following objectives:

1. To examine the various measures provided by the Government under different schemes for farmers engaged in agricultural activities.
2. To examine the problem faced by farmers in availing those schemes with special reference to Longding District of Arunachal Pradesh.

- ⁵ <https://www.economicdiscussion.net/essays/green-revolution-effects-and-limitations-of-the-green-revolution/2096>

3. Review of literature:

(Lh. Seitinthang, 2014) in their article on cropping pattern of north east India stated that the region is observing the increase of agriculture farming in different seasons but needs the strong infrastructure development support from the government sector to boost up the spirit of farming activities. (Mahajan, 2018) in his paper 'Policy-makers responsible for plight of farmers', pointed that in the past, around 30,0000 farmers have committed suicide due to deteriorating condition of the farmers. Reasons for suicide of farmers (Chahal, 2017) Non-availability of institutionalized credit facilities, heavy debts on farmers, disproportionate increase in the cost of agriculture inputs, high rates of interests etc. Author also commented that nature of the policy maker is to blame the low productivity of the farmers despite knowing the plight of the farmers and their capacity. Chahal, 2017 also said that 80% of Indian farmers are small and marginal whose survival is dependent on the land of five acres or less for their livelihood. (Quzi, 2017) stated that most of the Indian farmers are still dependent on local financing sources for carrying out the farming activities beginning from cultivation to selling the products which de-motivated them for trading on large scale. And author has added that, fixations of product pricing are perceived by the middlemen.

4. Research Gap:

Very few study has been conducted in the study area and from the few literature review, it has been found that not much studies has focussed on the satisfaction level of farmers while availing the government sanctioned schemes. Though many studies have attempted to showcase the plight of farmers and government's effort to help the farmers but none of them had tried to examine the opinions of farmers regarding the implemented policies and schemes for agricultural development.

5. Research Methodology:

The following research methodology has been adopted to achieve the mentioned objectives.

- i. Population of the study:** Here the population refers to the group of individuals, organizations, geographical areas, objects, or anything that we consider to have similar characteristics and to draw the conclusion about its nature. In this study, the researcher has considered all the farmers of Longding district of Arunachal Pradesh as a population.
- ii. Sources of information:** To carry out the research, a researcher has collected the data from both primary and secondary sources. Primary data were collected from the farmers with the help of a semi-structured questionnaire and interview method. And secondary data has been collected from different sources such as agriculture office, horticulture office, and many other government offices such as the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) office, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) office, a government website, articles, etc and from other related programme of agriculture activities of the entire Longding district.

- iii. Sampling method:** For the present study, the purposive sampling method has been used.
- iv. Sampling design:** For this study, respondents are grouped into two categories i.e. first group of respondents consist of the entire Agri-Horti-related department and various government-funded scheme officer in charge of the district and the second group of respondent consist of agriculture farmers.

Here, the sampling method to be applied for the first group will be of purposive sampling method and for the second group of respondents, the stratified sampling method is adopted. Firstly, the researcher has adopted the administrative division procedure, where the district was distinctly divided into seven circles. Then a brief survey was conducted for the selection of the villages. This division will help the researcher to minimize the size of the sampling. Thereafter, the researcher has chosen a few villages from each circle, where a total of 40 farmers are selected as the main sample for future study.

- v. Method of data collection:** Questionnaires were framed along with a semi-structured interview to get the initial data from various departmental offices in charge and farmers. After a detailed discussion with each farmer, only 40 farmers were considered for further study. The farmers who have not yet availed any benefit from government schemes and have less experience in agriculture farming were not taken into consideration for the study.
- vi. Geographical Area:** The geographical area for the present study is Longding district of Arunachal Pradesh, India.

6. Findings and Discussions:

This section is divided into two parts to discuss and outline the findings of both of the objectives undertaken for the present study. Firstly the researchers have outlined the role of the Government and then in the second part have discussed the plights of the farmers in the study area.

A. Roles of government bodies:

Both central and state governments have taken various initiatives to boost the rural agricultural practices of the nation. In this regard, the central government has introduced numerous schemes for the development of agricultural sectors and provided agricultural materials such as farming tools, stationeries, seeds, seedlings, saplings etc freely and on subsidies basis. Followings are some of the schemes and departments actively involved in the district for the welfare of the farmers.

a. Krishi Vigyan Kenrdas (KVK):

Is it an agricultural extension center in India, which means "farm science center". It is associated with the local agricultural institute/ university and Indian Council of Agricultural Research and farmers. The first KVK was established in 1974 in Pondichery which now has expanded all over the country. Similarly, there are 18 KVK offices in Arunachal Pradesh. One among them is in Longding that had established its office in the year 2017 at

Kanubari. Since then, they are accomplishing their objectives by performing and providing various types of agricultural support tools for the benefit of farmers.

➤ **Objectives:**

- i. To organize on and off the field training programmes for farmers government
- ii. To organize training programmes for the agriculture Department Officer in charge to make the farmers aware of the latest technologies for agriculture farming
- iii. To conduct short-term and long-term vocational training courses on organic cultivation such as vegetables, dairying, mushroom, beekeeping, etc.
- iv. To arrange front-line demonstration training and on-farm trials at the field with the presence of farmers.

➤ **Activities:**

- i. They test the farm to identify the soil for the use of technologies for the agriculture farming systems.
- ii. They provide training for skill development on modern technology and to update their knowledge regarding the use of new technologies in farming
- iii. They also conduct a practical demonstration in the field of handling and use of technology for production.
- iv. Impart training programmes to extension personnel such as agriculture department officer in charge, learned person, village authorities, head of the various organizations, unions, Self Help Group members, etc. to orient the farmers in every nook and corner of the districts.
- v. They also organized a training programme on mushroom cultivation for the farmers of the district for the improvement of the economy and livelihood of the people. Types of mushrooms they suggest cultivating as per the suitability of the soil are Oyster and Button mushrooms. During the training programme, inputs like spawn, and hand demonstration were given to the participants related to the cultivation of mushrooms. And cultivation is purely organic.

➤ **Roles of KVK in Longding District.**

Since its establishment in 2017, KVK has carried out tremendous activities for the welfare of the farmers in the district. They have started registering the farmers of every village. According to their registration record up to date, 1789 farmers have enrolled themselves. And this is only because of the efforts put up by the concerns in charge to reach out to every farmer in the district. It is learned through the discussion that many farmers have been given training on the use of new technology for organic farming. Especially the farmers of Kanubari block have benefited a lot from KVK as their office is in that Block. They have also provided varieties of healthy crop seeds to the farmers according to the suitability of the land.

b. MGNREGA:

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (NREGA No 42) which was later renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is Indian labour law and social security scheme that aims to guarantee the 'right to work'. The main objective of the Act is to provide at least a hundred days of guaranteed wage to

employment in every financial year to every rural household adult member who is willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work. The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), Govt of India is monitoring the entire implementation of the scheme in association with state governments. The act was notified in the district-wise system under different phases and now it covers the entire country with the exceptions of the districts that have fully developed as urban populations.⁶

➤ **Roles of MGNREGA in Longding district:**

Various types of Agri-Horti seedlings are being provided to the villagers depending on the requirement of the villagers. But here they don't provide the materials to individual farmers rather it is based on the selection of the schemes by the village Gram Panchayat and released the scheme for a common purpose. Under this scheme, financial assistance as a 100 days wage is provided after the completion of the particular approved scheme. According to the report of the department, per day wages of the last financial year i.e. for 2020-21 was Rs. 212. If the village gram panchayat selects the scheme related to agriculture activities, they give pieces of training to the concerned panchayat at the time meeting. Under this scheme, the approved fund is released only after the examination of real work in the field by taking a picture with a GEO tag. At the same time, the Limitation of the scheme in regards to farming is that they don't directly deal with individual farmers but work through village panchayat which ignores the real conditions of the farmers.

Table 1. Agriculture seedlings/ materials provided by MGNREGA for the year 2021-22

SL NO	Name of village	Name of Block/ Circle	Materials/ Seedling	Total No
1	Channu	Longding	Litchi Sapling Spade Shovel Areca nut sapling Spade	5000 50 63 6000 340
2	Chatting	Longding	Litchi Saplings Spade Shovel Ginger Spade shovel	99000 500 613 7000 Qnty 105 400
3	Longphong	Longding	Litchi sapling Areca nut sapling Spade shovel	2900 8000 54 100
4	Longshom	Longding	Areca nut sapling	7200

⁶ <https://megsres.nic.in/objective-nrega>.

			Spade shovel	100 200
5	Maihua	Longding	Areca nut saplings Spade shovel	7200 100 200
6	Mingtong	Longding	Orange Spade Areca nut sapling Spade shovel	3200 43 7200 100 200
7	Niaunu	Longding	Areca nut Spade shovel	7200 100 200
8	Niausa	Longding	Areca nut Spade Shovel Orange saplings Banana Spade shovel	7200 100 200 9000 100000 600 700
9	Ozakho	Longding	Litchi	5800
10	Pumao	Longding	Litchi sapling spade	7600 197
11	Senua	Longding	Kiwi sapling Litchi spade	934 5800 800
12	Zedua	Longding	Pineapple Sucker	9300
13	K. Noknu	Pongchau	Large Cardamom saplings Spade shovel	6667 pics 30 pics 30 pics
14	Jagan	Pongchau	Large Cardamom saplings Spade shovel	6667pics 24 24
15	Konsa	Pongchau	Ginger Spade shovel	1000 kg 35 35
16	Bonia	Pongchau	Ginger Spade shovel	1000 kg 35 35
17	Pongchau	Pongchau	Ginger Spade shovel	1000 kg 35 35

Sources: MGNREGA Office, Longding

The data in the above table is collected from the concerned MGNREGA office of the district Longding. The data shown in the table is just a record of the office but not from the beneficiaries because the same numbers or quantities of the above-given data were not received by the farmers. On inquiry, it was learned that some saplings were destroyed during the transportation, and quantities were reduced due to damage while handling. During 2020-21 only the above-mentioned village availed the agricultural materials according to the needs of the village and the rest villages opted for the other schemes. As said by the village panchayat, the selection of the items of the scheme depends on the favorable climatic conditions of the areas and the suitability of the land of the village.

c. Department of Agriculture

Nowadays the farmer is also known as "ANNADATA" which means giver of food. It is called a giver of food because agriculture is the profession that feeds the world. The department of Agriculture is the government agency responsible for the promotion of agricultural development by providing support to the farmers of the districts through centrally sponsored schemes as well as schemes of the State Annual Development Agenda. Under this scheme, various types of agricultural inputs such as HYV Seeds, Organic fertilizer, Agro-Chemical, tools and implement farm types of machinery which are necessary for the farmers are provided at a subsidized rate. They also impart the technical know-how from time to time to the farmers by the agricultural experts and experienced people. The primary functions of the department are to assist the farmers as the stigma of producing food grains lies with the farmers.

➤ Roles of Agriculture department towards the farmers of Longding district:

The Department of agriculture performs their responsibilities to their best. They provide various facilities for the farmers ranging from seeds to agriculture tools with subsidies basis on the guidelines of government sanction allotment. They conduct the training programme and demonstration of technical know-how from time to time for agriculture farmers as and when required. For giving an awareness training programme to the farmers, they hired agriculture scientists and experts from outside and carried out the demonstration in the field.

Another important role played by the department of agriculture is the testing of soil. Soil tests are calibrated by correlating them with crop response and the results form the basis for making fertilizer recommendations. These activities are carried out to promote best farming practices and enhance agricultural income.

This is done every year under the Soil Health Card and Soil Health Management as per the allocation by the Government. According to their report, 80 Nos of a soil sample has been collected from a different village and sent to agriculture laboratories in Itanagar for testing for the year 2021-22.

Table 2. Block wise testing of Soil Sample:

SI No	Name of village/ Block	No of soil sample
1	Longphong village (Longding Block	10
2	Khasa village (Pongchau)	10
3	Jagan village (Pongchau block)	10
4	Chongkhau village (Wakka block)	10
5	Chop Village (Wakka block)	10
6	KamkuRusa (Kanubari block)	10
7	Dassatong Village (Chubam block)	10
8	Longsom villages (Chubam block)	10
Total		80

Source: Self- construct by the researchers.

After getting the report of the soil testing, they provide the seeds to the farmers with the recommendation of the type of soil favorable for different crops to be grown. At the same time, it is very difficult to suggest to the farmers what to cultivate and what not, because most of the farmers are practicing the shifting cultivation so they preferred to grow the seasonal types of crops.

And the concerned department also has distributed 159 Soil Health Card in the year 2021 to the farmers of the district.

They have also distributed various types of agriculture seeds to every block of the district based on government allotment. But these facilities can be availed only by the small and marginalized farmers with a farming interest. There are a number of agricultural tools provided to farmers such as Machinery, Tractors, Rice mill, Spades, Garden rakes, Shovel, and Hand Trowel.

d. Horticulture Department:

Horticulture is the science and art of production, marketing, and use of high-value, and covers various ranges of tools and technologies for scientific methods of cultivation of plants. It includes a wide range of crops such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, tuber crops, medicinal and aromatic plants, spices, mushrooms plantation, etc. Major products grown under the department of horticulture in the Longding district are such as areca nut, large cardamom, orange, litchi pears, ginger, etc. The department of horticulture also recommends the production of horticulture products as per the climatic condition of the area. Such as they suggest the Longding, Pumao, and Chubam block for the production of Litchi, orange and lime lemon for Kanubari block tea, and areca nut are mostly recommended likewise for Pongchau and Wakka block, large cardamom, and kiwi are advised to grow. The department also facilitates the farmers under various schemes of the government as a subsidies rate. Some products are provided 100% subsidies, some at the rate of 45% and 55% as per the guidelines of the government. Sometimes it is very difficult to make the farmers understand the rate of subsidies because of the percentage fluctuation of each product. The department also provides the planting materials, power tiller, manual tool kit, fencing for agriculture

fields, etc under the scheme of ATMA NIRBHAR BAGWANI YOJANA. This is an umbrella scheme launched by the government of Arunachal Pradesh on 3rd September 2021 under the department of horticulture which aims to cover the target group of youth, farmers, and Self Help Groups (SHG).

Table 3. Area and production of fruits in respect of Longding District for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21

SL NO.	Fruits	Year			
		2019-20(Estimated)		2020-21(Estimated)	
		Area (Ha)	Production (MT)	Area (Ha)	Production (MT)
1	Kiwi	0.5	Nil	10.0	0.6
2	Orange(Mandarin)	46.5	242.5	48.20	236.00
3	Pineapple	15.5	19.94	15.50	22.30
4	Banana	32.0	135.85	26.00	97.6
5	Walnut	0.3	0.07	0.30	0.05
6	Litchi	3.5	23.5	4.00	25.20
7	Pear	2.0	10.6	2.0	10.30
8	Mango	0.5	1.2	0.5	0.80
9	Lemon(Lime)	0.5	2.4	0.5	2.00
Total		101.3	236.06	107	394.85

Sources: Compiled by the researchers

The above table shows the production of fruits and the area covered for cultivation during the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 in the study area. While comparing the production of fruits from two particular years it can be observed that there is an increase in production in maximum fruits except for banana and mango which shows the decrease in production with the decrease of the area covered for cultivation. Though there is a decrease in the production, still the highest production from both the year is a mandarin type of orange and banana. But the overall total production has increased from 236.06 metric tons in 2019-20 to 394.85 metric tons in 2020-21 with the increase of cultivation land from 101.3 hectares in 2019-20 to 107 hectares in 2020-21. Some fruits like kiwi which have zero production till 2019-20 have started to produce up to 0.6 metric tons during 2020-21 which is an encouragement for the farmers.

Table 4. Area and production of vegetables in respect of Longding District for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21

SL NO.	Vegetables	Year			
		2019-20(Estimated)		2020-21(Estimated)	
		Area (Ha)	Production (MT)	Area (Ha)	Production (MT)
1	Cabbage	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

2	Potato	Ni	Nil	3.50	4.90
3	Ginger	20	18.0	22.8	23.50
Total		20.0	18.	26.3	28.4

Sources: Compiled by researchers

The above table showcases the production of vegetables in the study area during the year 2019-20 and 2020-21. From the table, it can be seen that the production of vegetables in the district is not encouraging. Though little incremental growth could be seen in the case of ginger production from 2019-20 to 2020-21 that is from 18 MT to 23 MT but some vegetables like cabbage and others have not yet started cultivation in metric tons. But here also the overall of production has increased.

Table 5. Area and production of spices in respect of Longding District for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21

SL NO.	Spices	Year			
		2019-20(Estimated)		2020-21(Estimated)	
		Area (Ha)	Production (MT)	Area (Ha)	Production (MT)
1	Large Cardamom	640	228.5	638.00	215.20
2	Black Pepper	0.3	0.4	2.20	0.50
Total		64.3	228.9	640.2	215.70

Source: Compiled by the researchers

The above table represents spices cultivation of the district and it showcases that the highest production is that of large cardamom. But when we compared the production of both the year it is found that it decreased from 228.5 MT in 2019-20 to 215.20 MT in 2020-21 and in terms of black pepper also though there is increment but very little which resulted in the decreased in overall production that is from 228.9 MT to 215.70 MT.

Table 5. Area and production of plantation in respect of Longding District for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21

SL NO.	Plantation Crops	Year			
		2019-20(Estimated)		2020-21(Estimated)	
		Area (Ha)	Production (MT)	Area (Ha)	Production (MT)
1	Arecanut	165.4	1611.15	172.60	1624.00
2	Betel Vine (betel leaves)	425.5	176.8	426.00	189.50
Total		590.90	1786.95	598.6	1813.50

Sources: Compiled by the researchers

The above table clearly shows that among all the other crops, the plantation crop is one of the major produce in the district. It can be seen that betel leave is the highest producing crop

among all the other crops and followed by areca nut. In both, the case of areca nut and betel leaves there is an increment from 2019-20 to 2020-21 and overall total production is also increased from 1786.95 MT to 1813.50 MT.

B. Problems faced by the farmers in availing the government assistance:

a. Lack of knowledge: Most of the farmers are either illiterate or secondary passed and they do not have the knowledge regarding the facilities being provided by the state and central government for their welfare even if they heard about it, still they do not know how to avail it. Even after obtaining the benefits like agricultural tools and materials, they do not know how to use and operate them for the purpose due to lack of training.

b. Complication process of claiming and availing: Many farmers gave up the opportunity due to its long process and requirement of too much documentation for availing the schemes which are very complicated for the farmers to run from office to office along with the person who knows about it.

c. Geographical distances: As the topography of the district is full of hills and mountains which makes the movement for farmers difficult to reach the location of sanction at a time when they are called to receive the benefits issued against the selected farmers.

d. Transportation issues: Transportation is one of the major issues for the people of the entire district. Many parts of the district don't have proper communication and they are bound to carry the products on foot to a nearby market. So it becomes very difficult for the farmers to carry the government sanction schemes if it is related to crops or other materials.

e. Delay in disbursement of claims: Delay in disbursement of resources might be from both sides either from the part of the department office or due to delay of farmers to collect the items on time. Especially in the case of resources like crops and agricultural saplings/seedlings related schemes, if it is not utilized or planted on time, it goes into waste.

f. High premium amount: High amount of premium prices on some items have made many farmers unaffordable to pay the required amount. The expectation of farmers when it comes to government schemes and sponsor is either free or very less premium price but when certain materials or cash crops have a high premium price they either ignore or could not avail sanction.

g. Damage from wild animals and thieves not covered: Due to lack proper fencing and protection wall, crops are eaten or destroyed by wild animals and thieves. Because of this, they are hesitant to apply for such resources as is just a waste of time and energy they said.

8. Brief outline of findings of the study:

❖ Farmers are unaware of how to sell and export the products outside the district. And none of the government department has taken such type of initiative training for export of product.

- ❖ Farmers have responded that they are satisfied with some central schemes such as KVK and MGNREGA for providing the necessary materials for farming and encouraging them to go for large agriculture activities.
- ❖ Some farmers are not satisfied with the state government department such as the agriculture department, horticulture department, etc. the reason is that they don't provide enough facilities and materials as the main aim of the departments is for agriculture farmers.
- ❖ Farmers are ready to change their farming methods if they are provided with the necessary support and assistance from the government with new technology to adopt the latest cultivation method.
- ❖ The highest cultivation of cash crops in the district is tea and large cardamom. But due to lack of market for sale, tea is sold to nearby states that are to Assam by anyhow, and similarly, because of the unavailability of a drying machine for cardamom, the farmers are bound to dry in the fire flame which loses its value in the market and they are required to sell it to the middleman in much lower price.
- ❖ If we look at the year-wise production, there are many increments in all types of crops such as the production of fruits 236.06 MT in 2019-20 to 394.85 in 2020-21, similarly vegetables from 18 MT in 2019-20 to 28.4 MT in 2020-21 and plantation crops 1786.95 MT in 2019-20 to 1812.50 MT in 2020-21 except in case of spice where the production volume has decreased from 228.9 MT in 2019-20 to 215.70 MT in 2020-21.
- ❖ One of the major issues for the farmers to avail the benefits provided by the government is lack of knowledge and transportation problems.
- ❖ It was found that many government departments failed to inspect the field after releasing the sanction schemes for agricultural products and tools. Farmers responded that they were never enquired by the department once they handover the materials to the farmers.
- ❖ It was also learned that there is a mismatch between the total numbers of materials issued by the government and the amount/quantities received by the farmers on inquiry. But the reasons given by the government are either misused by the concerned tender partner or sometimes due to handling and transportation from sources to the village.
- ❖ Overall there is much improvement in the agriculture system in the area because of the encouragement and guidelines given by the government and learner individuals.

9. Suggestions:

The Researchers intends to put forward the following suggestions in light of the various findings after going through the study:

- The Government bodies should inspect the field after releasing the sanctions to examine the progress and its utilization because some farmers don't implement the schemes as suggested by the department and sometimes it is misused by the village authorities and in charge panchayat leaders.
- Fencing materials also should be provided for certain items because it is necessary to protect them from animals and other unexpected events.
- Government should appoint skilled farmers as panchayat level workers to train other farmers and those workers should be trained by agricultural engineering and scientific team with modern procedures.
- The government should work under the ministry of agriculture and support logistics so that these logistics companies will allow the production of farmers to reach up to the consumer of different parts of the country and outside.
- The Government also should focus on the direct supply of products by avoiding the number of mediators who buy the products of the farmers at a very low cost and immediately sell it in the market at a high rate thereby making more money than the farmer who produced
- Though the majority of the farmers practice the traditional method of farming, many farmers practiced integrated farming and organic farming system in the study area, so government should encourage and help them to register their farms as 'organic farming' or 'integrated farming' which would motivate the other farmers of the district too.
- As many farmers inferred that they could not sell the produces outside the district other than in nearby districts in Assam because they don't obtain the license of the farm. And to get register for a license is a very long process which is very difficult for them to get done. The problem should be solved with due diligence by the appropriate bodies.

10. Conclusion:

After going through the few literature review and primary research of the area it is unfortunate to comment that the nation as a whole has failed to appropriately strengthen the agricultural sector to boost up the farming method instead of the various policies and schemes which are merely being implemented. Through this study it has been learned that the farmers never availed the accurate sanctioned amount released by the government. The major reason of the differences could be the transportation from the source to assigned farmers. Therefore, the government needs to look at the (Chahal, 2017) holistic picture and adopt policies that are in the long term interest of farmers, for example, interlinking of rivers for irrigation and mitigating flood disasters, conducting the programmes like skill development of the workforce, adopting the better and proper marketing channels system and introduction of new technology to boost the output and make the Indian agriculture sector globally competitive.

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