4th National Seminar 2017
on
Doubling Indian Farmers' Income by 2022: Opportunities and Challenges

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PAPER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Research papers accompanied by an Abstract of the paper, not more than 100 words may be sent to the Organising Secretary, 4th National Seminar 2017 through e-mail at seminarsoed2017@gmail.com. The length of the paper should be restricted to 10 pages including tables, figures, annexures, etc. Each contributor is requested to send only one paper as a lead author. The papers will be reviewed by a panel of experts and the selected papers will be published in the Special Issue of the Indian Journal of Economics and Development.

Last Date of Paper Submission: December 31, 2016.

Date of Seminar: April 2017 (Date will be notified later).

REGISTRATION

The duly filled-in registration form along with the proof of payment of registration fee (which includes registration kit and working lunch) may be sent to Organizing Secretary, Society of Economics and Development, Department of Economics and Sociology, PAU, Ludhiana-141004. No TA/DA will be paid for the participation in the Seminar.

Registration Fee
Delegates: Members: ₹2000, Non-Members: ₹3000.00
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Venue
Punjab Agricultural University
Ludhiana

Organised by

Society of Economics and Development

Secretarial Office
Department of Economics and Sociology
Punjab Agricultural University
Ludhiana-141 004 (India)

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

The Society of Economics and Development, a non-profit association, founded in 2004 as the Indian Institute of Industrial Economics and Development Society was renamed as the *Society of Economics and Development* in 2012. As a scientific society of individuals and institutions interested in the field of Economics and related disciplines, the Society's principal aim is to promote the research efforts in the field of Economics, Sociology and Business Studies. The membership of the society is open to professionals actively involved in the betterment of society and their work addresses a broad range of disciplines such as economics, applied economics, rural development, resources and environment, food and consumer issues, and agribusiness. The Society of Economics and Development brings together researchers and other professionals from around the world interested in solving the socio-economic problems of the society and to exchange the knowledge and understanding in areas relating to Economics, Agricultural Economics, Business Management, Consumer Behaviour and Sociology. Indian Journal of Economics and Development (NAAS Score: 4.01) is the official organ of the society and is regularly published, widely circulated and read. Due to its high impact the journal attracts quality papers from Indian and foreign authors. The annual Conference/ Seminar provides an excellent forum for interacting and deliberating on identified themes based on their pertinence.

PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

The Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) is located in Ludhiana city of the prosperous agricultural state, Punjab. Ludhiana is well connected by road and rail with the national capital, New Delhi situated about 316 km. Situated on the Ludhiana-Ferozepur highway, the University covers an area of 1510 acres on its main campus and 4615 acres at the regional research stations. Modelled on the pattern of Land Grant Colleges in U.S.A., the PAU performs the integrated functions of teaching, research and extension in agriculture, agricultural engineering, basic sciences, home science and allied disciplines.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEMINAR
Doubling Indian Farmers' Income by 2022: Opportunities and Challenges

While presenting Union Budget 2016–17, the Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley set the goal of the Government to double the income of farmers by 2022. This announcement was probably driven in light of evidence of agrarian distress. The noted economists have highlighted that growth in farm income after 2011-12 has plummeted to around one per cent, and this is an important reason for the sudden rise in agrarian distress in recent years.

The most tragic face of India's agrarian crisis is seen in the increasing number of farmer suicides, not just in the hotspot areas of Maharashtra, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, but even in more prosperous agricultural zones of Karnataka as well. Manifestations of agrarian distress in contemporary India is not confined to the pockets of backwardness; even the regions having a high degree of commercial agriculture, using relatively better technology and having a relatively diversified cropping pattern have reported high indebtedness and distress of many kinds.

Given a series of measures and initiatives it would have come as a surprise if the real incomes of agricultural households had not increased in real terms over the period 2003-13. Barring Bihar and West Bengal, in rest of the States we do see an increase in average income in real terms. We believe that focusing only on income from cultivation for doubling of income will prove to be inadequate. Policy measures aimed at increasing net income of households from animal farming will be the key driver of incomes in agricultural households. We also need to improve our understanding of what constrains income growth from non-farm business at the household level.

A seminar on *Doubling Indian Farmers' Income by 2022: Opportunities and Challenges* is being planned to generate inputs from academicians, researchers and policy makers with a focus on opportunities and challenges for sustainable development of agriculture so as to double farm income by 2022. The researchers from all over India are invited to contribute on the subject. The theme of the seminar is further divided into following sub-themes:

- Shifting farm policies: From production oriented policy to income based farm policy.
- Identification of potential areas to enhance farm income through appropriate investment in irrigation, quality seeds, soil health, cold-chain, warehousing, value addition, food processing, branding of farm products, development of agri-export zones, geographical indications of crops like Basmati of Punjab, post-harvest loss management, integrated national markets for farm produce among others.
- Diversification of farming to mitigate risks and uncertainties against the vagaries of weather, price fluctuations through crop insurance.
- Unleashing the full potential of livestock sector for enhancing farmer income.
- Focus on increasing crop yields and strategies to reduce costs of cultivation to boost farm income.
- Assessment of the potential of group marketing/ cooperative farming in income enhancement.
- Facilitating role of marketing and export promotion agencies.
- Role of non-farm employment to reduce population pressure on agricultural land.
- Overcoming financing challenges through banking and non banking financial institutions, micro-finance, Self Help Groups to enhance investment by farmers to increase profitability.
- Development of new marketing paradigms to enhance realisation by farmers.
- Implications of GST on the farm economy.
- Analysis of emerging rural social problems and their impact on farm sector.