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GHAMEED KHAN.

"AGRICULTURAL DECLINE IN PAKISTAN AND HOW TO COUNTER IT"

=> OUTLINE.

A. INTRODUCTION.

Thesis : Lack of modernization, poor water distribution, and poor administration has resulted in Pakistan's agricultural decline which can be solved by bringing modernization, better water distribution, and better administration.

B- Pakistan's Age as An Agricultural Beast.

↳ Big exporter of wheat and cotton.

↳ state of the art irrigation system.

C- What are The Reasons of Pakistan's Agricultural Decline?

1- Lack of Modernization.

↳ Archaic Tools.

example: Tractors

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↳ Outdated Farming Methods.

• Example: Harvesting
by Hand.

2- Poor Water Distribution.

↳ By Administration.

• poor irrigation system.

↳ By Farmers.

• Flood irrigation.

3- Poor Administration.

↳ Poor Seed Distribution

↳ Poor Product Distribution

↳ Extreme tax system.

↳ Poor export/import of
agricultural goods.

D - How to Counter This

Agricultural Decline?

1- Bring world-class Modernization.

2- Better Irrigation System.

3- Better Administration.

E - CONCLUSION

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19th century canal system, built by the British around the Indus, brought great benefits to agricultural areas of modern-day Pakistan. Since then Pakistan has not done any significant modernization around the agricultural areas. Many agricultural regions have become arid. From great exporter of agricultural products to scarcity of fruit and vegetables, Pakistan's agriculture has seen a great fall. Lack of modernization, poor water distribution, and poor administration has resulted in Pakistan's agricultural decline which can be solved by bringing modernization, better water distribution, and better administration.

Pakistan started as an agricultural country. Its economy rested mainly on agriculture. It was one of the largest

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exporter of cotton, wheat, and rice. Cotton produce of Pakistan pushed its large textile industry as well. Its wheat produce became part of large imports of Afghanistan, Central Asia, and Russia. Rice produce, however not as large, still met requirements of Pakistan's own population. Today, Pakistani population has to rely on wheat, and rice imports as it is not able to produce enough.

Pakistan's rich agricultural history was fueled by state of the art ~~irrig~~ canal system. This system was built by the British raj around Indus. It was a model for many western irrigation systems. However, later Pakistan failed to follow up on this state of the art system. It did not expand on this system and even failed to maintain

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the existing one.

Slowly and gradually Pakistan lost its great agricultural status. One of the main reasons of this fall is the lack to modernizing agriculture. The use of archaic and outdated tools in agricultural processes is one such example. The world uses state of the art tractors and harvesters whereas Pakistan is stuck with old Messifergosun tractors. Some regions even use cows and hand ploughing. Such outdated devices results in unsatisfactory results. Modern devices and tools tills land according to land's needs. Lack of this feature results in inconsistent crop harvest.

Another aspect of agriculture that requires modernization is farming methods, farmers harvest

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crops by hand ~~and~~ instead of heavy machines. This is very time consuming and sometimes results in some sort of damage to crops as they become overripe. Oranges, plums, and apples in west are harvested using harvesters which do the task in mere hours. whereas Pakistani farmers use handpicking to harvest each fruit seperatly which results in very long harvesting periods (several days to several months).

Apart from lack of modernization, poor water distribution is another big reason for Pakistan's agricultural decline. The existing canal system, however state of the art it is, fails to satisfy the needs of a growing agricultural economy. Pakistan's later administration failed to find satisfactory solutions to such agricultural

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growth. Only two major dams are constructed since the inception of Pakistan. Later projects of ~~a~~ dams and canals were have been halted either by politics or other territorial issues.

Another mishap is by farmers. They use outdated irrigation methods. flood irrigation is technique is used in most of the areas instead of sprinklers. This results in a huge loss of water.

Today's modern age and scarcity of water require farmers to use the least required amount of water for irrigation. Pakistani farmers have not yet realized this and perhaps it is a little too late to even realize this as Pakistan is already facing water shortage.

Lack of administrative

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Proveess is one more reason of Pakistan's agricultural decline. An agricultural economy such as Pakistan requires a meticulous seed distribution system. Sadly, Pakistan has failed to create such a system. Most farmers take care of their seed needs themselves. This results uneven distribution, which can inturn exhaust the soil resources.

Apart from seed distribution, product distribution is another administrative failure. Like seed distribution, the product is also distributed by farmers apart & from some major crops such as cotton & wheat. Uneven distribution of produce results in uneven distribution of wealth. This results in uneven progress, which halts major agricultural progress.

Taxation by government is also a hinderence in Pakistan's agricultural development. Small

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scale cannot afford to pay any sort of taxation let alone heavy taxes. Wheat, cotton, and rice are bought mostly by the state at a fixed rate. This rate is not relative to inflation rate. This results in disheartened farmers who then shift from agriculture to more quick methods of earning.

This huge Agricultural decline of Pakistan can be countered by three simple systems. Bringing world-class modernization, better irrigation systems, and better administration. Firstly, a complete revolution is required in agricultural technology. The world already uses heavy machinery to take care of their agricultural needs. If Pakistan wishes to stay or become again an agricultural beast it must shift its reliance from

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manual labour to machines. This will result in more efficient and ripe produce. Outdated tractors and ploughing tools will only further the process of decline. Hence, ~~a~~ a more modernized agricultural environment is required for Pakistan's agricultural revival.

Better irrigation system ~~could~~^{can} become another step in agricultural revival of Pakistan. First of all, all new dams and canals shall be constructed and a consensus must be reached on this. The unity of all provinces is required in this respect. Secondly, a reimagination of the irrigation system is required. Old canals, which are functional, should be maintained ~~at~~ efficiently. Damaged canals results in huge loss of water resources especially during

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flooding seasons. Lastly, farmers' reliance on flood-irrigation should be abolished. Instead modern sprinklers system should be used. This will effect in maintainance of water resources without any loss.

Lastly, a great many changes are needed to create a better administrative system for agriculture. A functional and up-to-date seed distribution system should be made. A seed reservoir is also required. One can be built following the model used in Finland's ¹⁰⁶⁰¹ seed reservoir. Taxes should also be revisited. A more soft form of taxation should be used to facilitate small scale farmers. Furthermore, agricultural produce should be move and distributed accurately and efficiently. For this a produce distribution

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system is suggested (similar to seed distribution system). Lastly, to counter administrative hindrances imports and exports of agricultural goods and produce shall be watched and a balance ~~shall~~ should be created between these. Exporting or importing more than required amount will result in either scarcity or too much accumulation of the said agricultural item. Hence, ~~an~~ overall administrative reforms are required to stop Pakistan's agricultural decline.

The above discussion concludes that lack of modernization, poor irrigation system, and poor administration has led to the decline Pakistan's agriculture. The use of outdated technology, over-use of water resource, and overlooking of these problems by the administration have hindered Pakistan's agricultural growth greatly. To counter all these

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issues a complete modernization
of agricultural equipments
is required. Alongwith this, a
better water managment and
better governance will also
help in revival of Pakistan
as an agricultural beast:

THE END.