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Venue: Dr. Dwarkinath hall
Time: 9:30 AM
Date: 28/01/2023

Seminar-I
Synopsis

EXODUS OF YOUTH FROM AGRICULTURE-BOON OR BANE

Introduction:

Agriculture in India has been the base of Indian economy and its contribution to GDP is 18.8 Per cent. FAO reported that though 68 per cent of Indian population is dependent of agriculture however the economically active population in agriculture is 57.00 percent. The trend of rural population and cultivators is decreasing from 82.7 per cent (1951) to 72.2 % (2001) and 71.9 (1951) to 54.4 (2001), respectively. India is losing more than 2,000 farmers every single day and that since 1991, the overall number of farmers has dropped by 15 million (Sainath, 2013). There are several implications for the future of Indian agriculture and India's food security. Over the past few years, rural youth have been staying away from agriculture (IFAD, 2012; Paisley, 2013). Young farmers can play an important role in ensuring food security if they are encouraged to involve in farming and the challenges they face are addressed. With this background the present seminar is conceptualized with the following objectives.

1. To understand the concept of exodus of youth from agriculture
2. Advantages and Disadvantages of exodus of youth from agriculture
3. To review related case studies

Concept and Meaning of Exodus and Migration:

The term Exodus was from Greek, which means “the road out”. **Exodus:** A going out, departure or migration, usually of a large number of people or a mass departure of people. **Migration:** Movement of people from one place to another temporarily, seasonally or permanently, for a host of voluntary or involuntary reasons. (According to the United Nation's 2008). Migration is mostly influenced by social structure and pattern of development. Uneven development is the main reasons for migration and this can be grouped has a push and pull factors. **IMPORTANT PUSH FACTORS:** Low Agricultural Productivity, Unemployment, Landlessness, Poverty, Depleting Rural Employment Opportunities, Seasonality of Agriculture, Medical Treatment, Children's Education, Natural Calamities and Lack of Basic Infrastructural Facilities like Health Care and Education. **IMPORTANT PULL FACTORS:** Rapid urbanization, Industrialization, Expanding transport sector, Employment Opportunities, Higher wages, Better opportunities for education, Better health facilities and Sources of entertainment.

CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION: Economic Consequences, Demographic consequences, Social consequences, Environmental consequences.

ADVANTAGES: Poverty reduction, Increasing share of household income, Improvement in social status
Skill development, Empowerment of women, Improvement in the standard of living.

DISADVANTAGES: Reduced use of potential in one's own native area, Reduced agricultural production,
Scarcity of labour Split in rural joint families, Development of prejudices about a section of people, Loss of
harmony.

CASE STUDIES:

Kiran et al., (2016) examined major reasons of rural-urban migration of youths were, (76%) respondents migrated to improve their standard of living, (72%) for availability of more remunerative employment in urban areas, (72%) for modernization and industrialization in urban areas, (54%) for higher education of youth in rural areas, (54%) for encroachment of farming areas by real estate with attractive prices, (52%) due to lack of remunerative price for the agricultural output/produce, (52%) due to lack of proper educational facilities in the villages and (50%) due to division/partition of family type from joint to nuclear.

Amrutha (2023) study was conducted in Turvekere taluk of Tumkur district, from the results it was observed that (88%) of the respondents denied to the statement that it is better to stay idle than to opt farming, (52%) of the respondents expressed that educated youth should opt for better secured opportunities than agriculture, majority (84%) of the respondents agreed that low price for agriculture produce along with high production cost has made farming uneconomical in present age, (64%) of the respondents expressed that no female will want a farmer as her groom, (52%) agreed that peer pressure moves the youth out of agriculture, (72%) responded that there is no quick returns from agriculture.

CONCLUSION:

The rate of migration of youths is alarming in recent years. Unless the government provides the basic necessities of life to the rural areas and provide the productive youth in the rural areas with employment opportunities people will continuously drift in to the urban areas from the rural areas in search for better life and employment. In view of the negative consequences, Government should strive to provide social amenities and facilities in the rural areas and also provide jobs for the youths in the rural areas.

REFERENCES:

KIRAN, M., MUTTURAJ YADAV, E. AND NAMRATHA, K.B., 2016, Case Studies on Reasons for Migration of Rural Youth to Urban Areas, *Int. J. Sci. Envir and Technol.* **5**(5): 2849 – 2854.