



Land Reforms

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Objectives of Land Reforms

- Providing security to tenancy rights to the tenants
- Protecting tenants from undue and wanton exploitation by land owner.
- Establishment of a direct nexus between the tenants and the Government
- Fixation of ceiling on land holdings etc.



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Principles of Land Reforms in Assam

- ▶ The agrarian economy should develop the farmer's personality
- ▶ There should be no scope for class exploitation
- ▶ There must be maximum efficiency of production: and
- ▶ The scheme of reforms should be practicable

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These principles involve the following major changes

- Abolition of Zamindari
- Reform of the condition of tenants through legislation
- An increase in the unit of cultivation
- Consolidation of holdings
- Adoption of mechanized cultivation where provision of water, electricity and finances are needed for the improvement of agriculture.

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Land Reform measures introduced in Assam

- Abolition of intermediary tenures
- Protection of Adhiaris
- Preparation of tenants and adhiaris Records of Rights
- Protection to tribal people
- Consolidation of holdings
- Land ceiling

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Basic Problems in effective implementation of Land Reforms in Assam

- Faults in Legislation
- Lack of Political Will
- Bureaucratic Obstacles
- Lack of peoples' co-operation

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Cropping Pattern in Assam

- It is an important indicator which shows the proportion of area under different crops at a definite point of time.
- Cropping pattern in a region or state may change with the changes in proportion of area under different crops.



Change in Cropping Pattern

- ▶ At the beginning of the present century about 90% of the total cultivable land of Assam was put under food crops and the remaining 10% was put under non-food crops.
- ▶ But in 1958-59, there was a change in the cropping pattern of Assam and area under food crops came down to 84% and the area under non-food crops slightly increased to 16%.
- ▶ Then changes mainly occurred due to increase in the prices of non-food grains or cash crops.
- ▶ On the basis of average areas under different crops during 1947-48 to 1949-50, the relative importance of the principal crops in Assam were Rice (64.8%), Tea (6.2%), Rape and Mustard (5%), Jute (3.7%), Sugarcane (1%), Others (19.3%).

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Crops	1960-61	1990-91	2004-05
Total Foodgrains	4,572 (84.9%)	2,755 (83.5%)	2,583 (80%)
Total non-foodgrains	813 (15.1%)	545 (16.5%)	647 (20%)

- The proportion of area under cultivation between food crops and non-food crops has recorded a little change from 85:15 in 1960-61 to 83.5:16.5 in 1990-91 and then to 80:20 in 2004-05.
- Thus in recent years, the area under non-food crops has slightly increased.

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Factors determining cropping pattern

- Physical factors such as soil content, weather, climate, rainfall etc.
- Technical factors such as nature and capacity of irrigation facilities, fertilisers etc.
- Economic factors influencing cropping pattern includes remuneration and steady price of crops and income maximization aspect i.e., relative profitability per acre, farm size, availability of farm inputs viz, seeds, fertilizer, assured irrigation water etc.
- Govt. action undertaken in the form of administrative and legislative measures.



Thanking you