

YOJANA MAGAZINE ANALYSIS

(August 2023) (Part 2/3)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- ATAL INNOVATION MISSION
- AGRICULTURE: FROM SHORTAGE TO SURPLUS



ATAL INNOVATION MISSION

Innovation is the process of creating value by applying novel solutions to meaningful problems.

ON AGENDA:

Building a holistic innovation ecosystem in India to foster innovation and entrepreneurship, solve societal challenges, and contribute to the country's economic growth.

INNOVATION'S ROLE IN ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Pre Industrial era: Early GDP growth was tied to consumption due to population increase, with limited real growth (0.1% annually) until 1700 AD.
- **GDP after the industrial revolution:** Post-1750s, the industrial revolution triggered exponential GDP growth through technology and innovation-driven changes.
- **Technology-led innovation:** Technological innovation fueled economic progress by enhancing productivity, and efficiency, and creating opportunities in various sectors.
- Total Factor Productivity's significance in GDP growth: Total Factor Productivity
 (TFP) significantly impacts GDP growth by improving output efficiency through innovation and technological advancement.



What is Total Factor Productivity?

Total factor productivity is a measure of productive efficiency in that it measures how much output can be produced from a certain amount of inputs.

 Leading nations' focus on technological innovation: Technologically advanced nations e.g., USA, UK, Germany, Japan have driven GDP growth through substantial investments in research and innovation.

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

- State-sponsored initiatives have contributed to the development of new technologies and industries. For example, Israel and the USA showcase effective government-led innovation initiatives that have yielded significant results.
- National Innovation Foundation (NIF): India established NIF to empower grassroots technological innovations and preserve traditional knowledge.
- Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy: This policy aims to position India as a global scientific leader and establish a robust Science, Research, and Innovation system (SRISHTI).
- **Supporting Innovation Culture:** In a diverse country like India, government support is pivotal in cultivating an innovation culture.



 Atal Innovation Mission (AIM): AIM was initiated by the Government of India in 2016. AIM's primary objective is to cultivate innovation and entrepreneurship and it aims to create an environment conducive to generating and implementing innovative ideas.

PROGRAMS UNDER AIM

Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs):

Establishes tinkering labs in schools to encourage innovative thinking among students.

Nurtures creativity, problem-solving, and hands-on learning from an early age.

Atal Incubation Centres (AICs):

Focuses on supporting innovators during the transition from idea to prototype to market. Provides necessary infrastructure, mentoring, and resources to foster start-up growth.

Atal Community Innovation Centres (ACICs):

Aims to expand innovation beyond major cities to tier-2 & tier-3 locations. Promotes innovation within local communities by providing resources and guidance.

Atal New India Challenge (ANIC):

Offers a platform for startups to solve pressing national challenges through innovation.

Provides funding, mentorship, and resources for the development and implementation of solutions.

AGRICULTURE: A JOURNEY FROM SHORTAGE TO SURPLUS

From time immemorial, the Indian society has been characterised as an Agrarian society.

Major portion of our workforce, today also, is employed in agriculture & related activities.

When the Britishers left us, they **left the agri sector in dire straits** as they seldom invested on agricultural land development. We had to resort to **foreign food aid.** (Despite being a 'krishi pradhan desh')

In the past 75 years, we have done phenomenal progress. **Green Revolution** can be called as the defining factor among other factors & has enabled India not only to be **self sufficient**, but also an **exporter of food grains** to the global market.

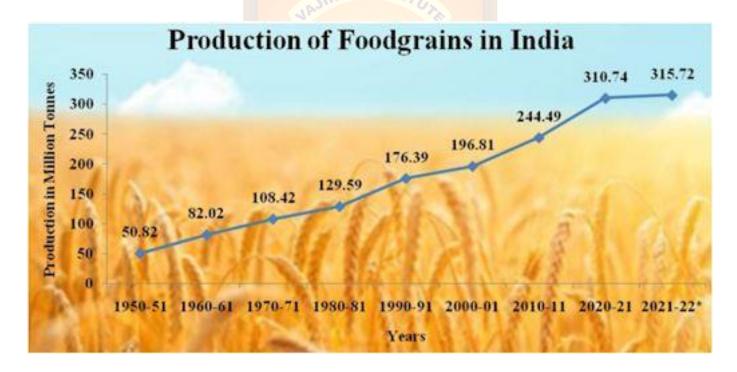
GREEN REVOLUTION: FROM SCARCITY TO SURPLUS

- Green Revolution, catalyzed by the introduction of high-yielding and diseaseresistant crop varieties.
- The government also focussed on procuring the food grains at a predetermined price from the farmers & thus introduced MSP in 1967. (recommended by LK Jha Food grain price committee)

Who was the brain behind Green Revolution?

 Scientist Dr. Norman Borlaug's innovations in wheat varieties boosted yields, and coupled with government support under the leadership of doctor MS Swaminathan, led to record-breaking harvests.

This surge in productivity not only ensured food security but also paved the way for self-sufficiency and agricultural exports.



ACHIEVEMENTS OF INDIA

- India leads in sugar.
- Leading producer of millets.
- Ranks 2nd in rice (after China).

- Holds 14.14% global wheat production share in 2020.
- India leads in Milk Production.
- India is the second largest fish producer in the world.
- India is the 3rd highest Egg Producer in the world.

MILLETS: A NUTRITIONAL RESURGENCE

Recognizing the significance of millets, India celebrated the International Year of Millets in 2023, rebranding them as 'Shree Anna'.

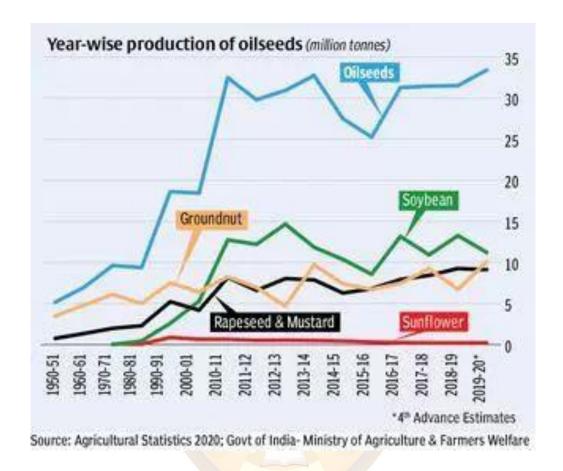
With targeted strategies and government support, millet production has surged, aiding nutritional security.

The cultivation of millets has soared, setting the stage for **India to become a global hub** for these nutrient-rich grains.

OILSEEDS PRODUCTION: YELLOW REVOLUTION

The Yellow Revolution marked a breakthrough in oilseed production. Innovative cultivation practices and the introduction of advanced crop production technologies led to a dramatic increase in oilseeds output.

India's oilseed production grew from 108.30 lakh metric tons in 1985-86 to an impressive 400,000 million tons in 2022-23, establishing self-reliance in this crucial sector.

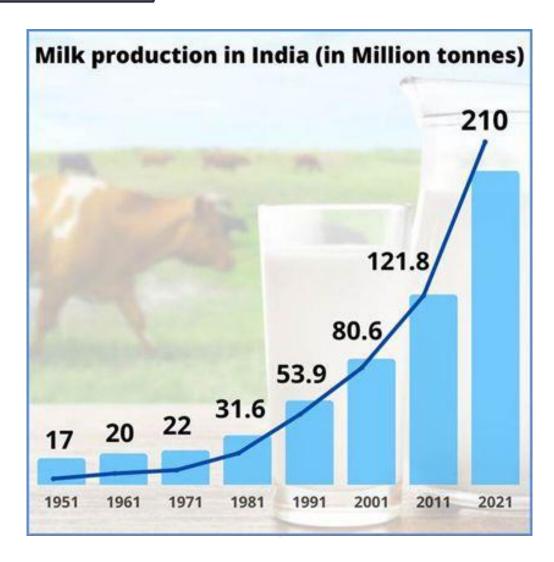


MILK PRODUCTION: WHITE REVOLUTION

In a similar vein, the **White Revolution** addressed India's milk crisis. With per capita milk availability dwindling, the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)** chaired by **Verghese Kurien** launched **Operation Flood in the 1970s.**

This initiative established a network of village-level milk cooperatives, modern processing plants, and a seamless supply chain.

India has been a global leader in milk production for over a decade, with a total production of around 222 million tonnes in the year 2022-23.

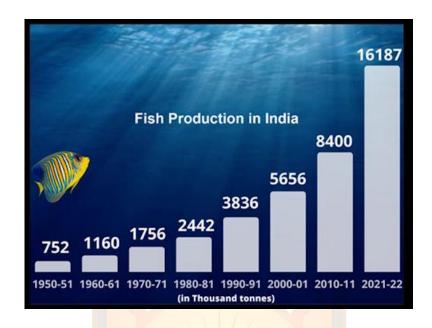


FISHERIES PRODUCTION: BLUE REVOLUTION

Post-independence efforts in the fisheries sector resulted in the **Blue Revolution**. India transformed into the **second-largest fish-producing country globally**, with policies promoting both marine and inland fisheries.

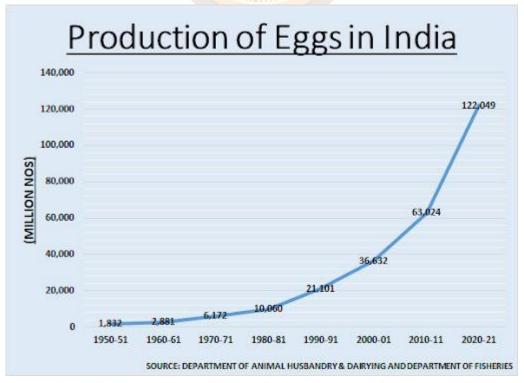
The **Blue Revolution** not only boosted fish production but also elevated India's status as a leading seafood exporter.





POULTRY PRODUCTION: SILVER REVOLUTION

Rising to become the **third-largest egg producer globally**, India's poultry industry has added another feather to its agricultural cap.



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WAY FORWARD

- Challenges such as climate change, resource depletion, and productivity constraints must be addressed.
- Initiatives like the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture and Agri-Tech
 Infrastructure Fund focus on sustainable practices and technology integration.
- Digital tools, precision agriculture, and market linkages are redefining modern farming.
- From financial support to crop insurance and institutional credit, these initiatives empower farmers.
- The National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is revolutionizing agricultural marketing, ensuring fair prices and market access.

India's agricultural journey is a testament to scientific innovation, political will, and the unwavering toil of farmers.