

Agriculture in Pakistan

Agriculture in Pakistan

- Agriculture is a vital sector of Pakistan's economy.
- It accounts 21 % of total GDP in Pakistan.
- It employs 41 % of the labor force of Pakistan.
- About 25 % of Pakistan's total land area is under cultivation.
- Large contribution to foreign exchange earnings.
- Dates back to 4500 BC in Indus Civilization

Agriculture in Pakistan

Crops



- The main agricultural products are cotton, wheat, rice, sugarcane, fruits, and vegetables, in addition to milk, beef, mutton, and eggs.
- There are two principal seasons , Kharif and Rabi.
- Pakistan is one of the world's largest producers of raw cotton.
- Tobacco is grown mainly in the NWFP and Punjab and is an important cash crop.

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Food Exports

● Pakistan is one of the world's largest producers and suppliers of the following according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of The United Nations and given here with ranking:

- Chickpea (2nd)
- Apricot (4th)
- Cotton (4th)
- Sugarcane (4th)
- Milk (5th)
- Onion (5th)
- Date Palm (6th)
- Mango (7th)
- Rice (8th)
- Wheat (9th)
- Oranges (10th)



Pakistan ranks twentieth worldwide in farm output.

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Irrigation



- Pakistan's has one of the largest irrigation systems in the world.
- Pakistan irrigates three times more acres than Russia
- Indus River and its tributaries are capable of watering over 16 million hectares.
- Includes dams, barrages, headwork, canals, and distribution channels.
- Indus Waters Treaty of 1960.

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Production of Major Crops (000 Tonnes)

Crops	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Wheat	19,500	21,612	20,486	23,295	21,749
Rice	4,848	5,025	5,547	5,438	5,563
Maize	1,897	2,797	3,562	3,088	3,317
Sugarcane	53,419	47,244	44,665	54,742	63,920
Cotton					
(000 Tonnes)	1,709	2,426	2,107	2,187	1,982
(000 Bales)	10,048	14,265	12,388	12,858	11,655

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Agriculture have Increased Substantially in Recent Years

1999-2000	Rs. 200.6
2000-01	Rs.248.3
2001-02	Rs. 614.2
2002-03	Rs. 797.0
2003-04	Rs. 1500.1
2004-05	Rs. 7289.8
2005-06	Rs. 9135.9
2006-07	Rs. 13629.1

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Comparative Growth Rates of Agriculture

	<u>1980-2004</u>
China	5.0
India	3.0
Indonesia	2.6
Malaysia	3.1
Pakistan	4.6
Thailand	2.7

Source: World Development Indicator 2003, The World Bank
World Development Indicator 2006, The World Bank

Pakistan's record of agricultural growth for last two decades have been quite impressive. In comparison to six countries noted only China does better than Pakistan

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Recommendations

- Pakistan is still far from realizing the large potential yield.
- Well-irrigated and fertile soil from the Indus irrigation system could produce more than present yield.
- The key to a much-needed improvement of productivity lies in a more efficient use of resources, principally land and water.

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Recommendations

- Increase investments in research and technology development
- Accelerate development of high yielding/disease resistant varieties.
- Training Centers should be made for the farmers
- Micro financing should be introduced at a bigger scale in Pakistan for enhancement of rural areas.