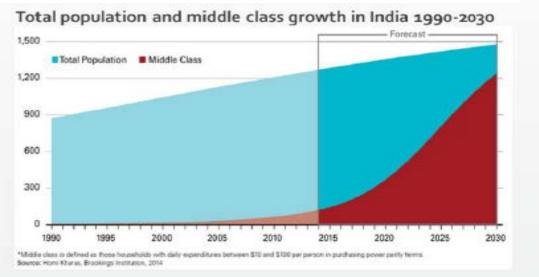
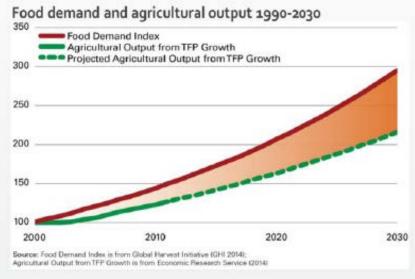
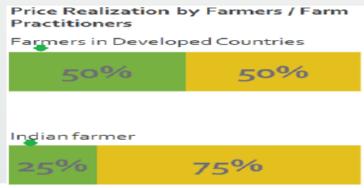
Market-led extension





Poor price realization by Indian Farmers demands growth and consistency in quality and quantity of Agricultural outputs



Reason: Poor value realization of farm produce due to

Inconsistency in yield
Inconsistency in product quality
Inconsistency in forward supply chain usage.

Result: Low bargaining power of farmers, making farming practice/business unattractive.

Social Impact:

Exodus to cities
Poor Amenities

Underprivileged Exploited/Suicide With globalization of the market, farmers need to transform themselves from mere producers-sellers in the domestic market to producers cum sellers in a wider market sense to best realize the returns on their investments, risks and efforts

The issues in marketing of agricultural produce include

- •Adequate, quality, timely and cost effective delivery supply of inputs is still a dream
- •Sale of marketable surplus is not remunerative
- Plenty of distress sales among farmers

Need

- Conversion of P-L-E into M-L-E
- Orientation of extension system with knowledge and skills related to the market
- Minimization of production cost
- Introduction of export oriented product
- Modernization of wholesale markets or new markets with new Agricultural policy

Objective

- 1. Conversion of agricultural sector into profit oriented business
- 2. Strengthening R-E-F linkages between various department at various levels
- 3. Strengthening market linkages to farmers IT application in Agricultural marketing.
- 4. Wider use of electronic mass media for Agricultural Extension

Required information to extension system and farmers

- Present scenario and land use pattern
- Suitability of land to crops / enterprises
- Crops in demand in near future
- Market prices of crops
- Availability of inputs
- Usage of inputs
- Credit facilities
- Price differences in various markets
- Network of storage and warehouse facilities
- **Transport facilities**
- Regular update of market intelligence

- Production technologies viz., improved varieties, organic farming, bio-fertilizers and biopesticides, IPM, INM, methods of harvesting etc.
- Post-harvest management like processing, grading, value addition, packaging, storage, certification, etc.
- Contract farming
- Private modern terminal markets
- Food retail chains
- Food safety and quality standard
- Certification
- WTO regulations

Roles of Agricultural Extension in Light of Market Led Extension

- SWOT analysis of the market
- Organization of Farmers' Interest Groups (FIGs)
- Capacity building of local groups
- Enhancing communication skills of the farmers
- Establishing marketing and agro-processing linkages between farmers' groups, markets and private processors
- Advice on product planning
- Direct marketing
- Regular usage of internet facility

Problems

1. Production related

- ✓ Seasonality of production
- ✓ Perishability of produce
- ✓ Bulkiness of production

2. Market related

- ✓ Non availability of Market Intelligence
- ✓ Existence of many middleman
- ✓ Inferior quality of produce

3. Extension related

- ✓ Lack of communication skills
- ✓ Lack of credibility
- ✓ Insufficient information related with market and many more....

Production-led extension Market-led extension Aspects Purpose/objec | Transfer of Optimum returns tive technologies Expected end Adoption of package of | High returns

"Rupee to Rupee"

Baskets of package of

practices to different

farming systems

Paradigm Shift from Production-led Extension to Market Led Extension

results practices Farmers seen Progressive farmers Entrepreneur: "Agripreneur"

"Seed to seed"

Fixed package for an

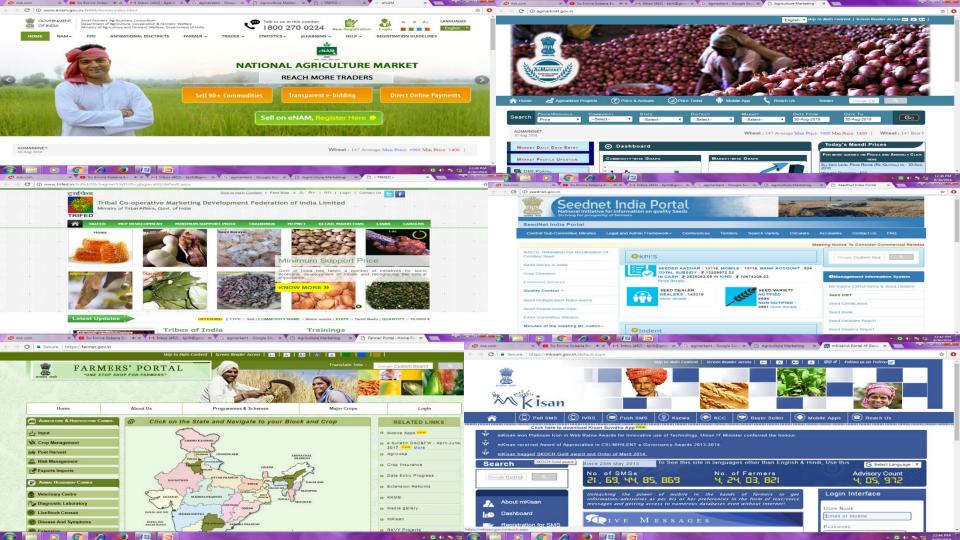
agro-climatic zone

as

Focus

Technology

Aspects	Production-led extension	Market-led extension
Extensionists' interactions	Training \ Motivation	Joint analysis of the problems
Linkages/ liaison	Research-Extension- Farmer	Research-Extension-Market- Farmer
Extensionists' role	Delivery mode and feedback to research system	Establishment of marketing and agro processing linkages
Maintenance of Records	Not much important	Very important to understand the CB ratio
I T support	Emphasis on production technologies	MI – price trends, demand position, current prices, market practices



MLE – Challenges

- 1. Rapid changes in the information tech and need for collection of relevant information
- 2. Generation of data on Market intelligence interlinking of marketing and Agricultural line departments
- 3. Reorganization of extension system
- 4. Strong communication skills with credibility

Conclusion

The focus of the extension functionaries need to be extended beyond production. Farmers sensitization on various aspects on quality, consumer's preference, market intelligence, processing and value addition and other marketing information.