

A comparative study of agricultural importance between India and Sri Lanka since 1991

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Previously India and Sri Lanka Economies were called as a developing economies. Presently, they are called '**emerging economies**' since both countries have achieved success in various socio-economic indicators as well as emerging in new sectors particularly information technology. Still the agriculture is a backbone of both economies. It is said "**Both economies are not a tiger economies but an elephant economies that might not have speed but have strength**".

In this paper efforts are made to study the importance of agriculture in terms of employment, share in national income, transportation, demand for finished goods and services, savings, investment in both countries. A comparative study has been done and tried to observe the trends in various indicators.

Sri Lanka is a developing economy based largely on agriculture, services, and small industries. Agriculture accounts for approximately 21 percent of the **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** and employs 38 percent of the workforce. Agricultural output is divided between cash crops from plantation agriculture and food crops from subsistence agriculture.

During the planning period Indian agriculture passed through three prime stages. At the beginning government made all out efforts to increase agricultural production and to achieve the objectives of '**Green Revolution**'. For the said purposes, integrated package programmes and integrated rural development programmes were implemented. Due to integrated package programmes economy achieved objectives of 'Green Revolution'. At present focus has been changed from '**Quantitative**' to '**Qualitative**' aspects.

The focus is shifted from traditional crops to 'commercial crops' as well as traditional agriculture to high-tech agriculture. In the second stage of economic development Qualitative measures matters a lot. In India, government has scheduled plan to achieve the objectives of "**Second Green Revolution**" in near future.

These important aspects have been studied in this paper and comparison is done with Sri Lankan policy issues, high yield variety seeds, production, employment, exports, share in national income etc.

I have also focused on to study the trends in extension and use of information technology in agricultural in both countries. Mass media is used in creating general awareness among farmers regarding use of high yielding seeds, fertilizers, cropping patterns in general and marketing practices in particular after 1991. These all issue have studied in detailed.

Key words: Emerging economics, Second green revolution, Planning period, Subsistence agriculture, Socio-economic indicators

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