

Agriculture Sector Development

4.1: Introduction:-

The present aim of the state is to achieve the target of productivity of crops to be equivalent of state's average yield of those districts, which have low productivity. As evident from the data, more than 50% of the area lies in the Kandi area. The topography of this area is undulant. The slope is 16 meters in a kilometer. The nutrients of these soils erode away every year. At the same time, to enable the state to play a significant role in global agriculture market by increasing food production and focusing on demand and need oriented marketing technology rather than supply oriented. Hoshiarpur is predominantly an agriculture oriented district and majority of the population depend on agriculture for their live hood. The soils of the district are suitable for growing different types of food crops, oil seed, sugarcane and fruits and vegetables etc. There is ample scope for increasing the production and productivity of food grains and oil seed by adopting new technologies and package of practices. In this area, there are some natural growing areas for different crops, such as upper Kandi is suitable for growing medicinal plants etc. and for adopting bee keeping for increasing income of the farmers. In this area some natural fruits and medicine plants are growing, such as amla, behera, harar, galgal, nimbu, aloe, harb, jablota (jatropa). So the need is to process and preserve these products etc.. So in this area the scope to grow medicinal plants and other plants and then to process & preserve them. It will help to increase the agriculture growth and income of the farmers.

To achieve the agriculture growth to 4% the Department of Agriculture is sincere to help the farmers.

4.2: Land use of the district:-

The land use of this district is as under:-

Sr. No.	Item	Area in sq.Km.
1	Total geographical Area	3390
2	Forests	1090
3	Barren land	10
4	Land use other than cultivation	240
5	Permanent pastures	10
6	Present waste land	10
7	Area under cultivation	2030
8	Irrigated area	1540
9	Un-irrigated area	490
10	Area sown more than once	1450
11	Selenium effected villages	03
12	Selenium effected area	02
13	Gross cropped area	3480
14	Cropping intensity	171%

Hoshiarpur lies in the North East of Punjab and is bounded by Gurdaspur, Nawan Shahar, Ropar, Jalandher, Kapurthala Districts of Punjab and the Una Distt.of Himachal Pradesh . This District comprises of three physiographic divisions VIZ. Shivalik hills, intermediate composite belt characterized by Hill forest line and foot Hills longitude $75^{\circ} 32'$ and $76^{\circ}-31'$. It is bounded by river Bias in the North West. The total area of the District is 339267 hectares, out of which 60 percent is under cultivation.

4.3 Soil Health :-

Deteriorating soil health is a major concern facing the district. At present 8 nutrients are deficient in soils i.e. Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Zinc, Potash, Ferrous, Sulphur, Manganese and Copper. The organic matter in soil is 0.02% to 0.25%. The minimum requirement of O.M. to act the Microbes is 0.45%.

The second major problem is the degrading of the district soil by erosion.

Major crops & varieties in the district:-

The Major crops of the Kharif of the district as mentioned below:-

S. No	Name of the crop	Average area sown in 000 hectare	Variety
01	Paddy	56	Pusa -47, Super basmati, pr-108, pusa-1121,
02	Maize	70	Pioneer-30V92, pioneer-30R11, Kohinoor- NK21, NK6240, Kanchan-25, K-99,
03	Sugarcane	22	COJ-85, 83, Coh-919, Cos-81, Cos- 8436, Coj-9489
04	Ground nut	3	Sg-99, sg-84, m-522
In Rabi season			
01	Wheat	150	PBW-343, 522, 550, 373, 504, 711, 509
02	Pulses	01	Gram c-235, LL-556
03	Oil seed	03	GSL-01, 02, RLM-619,
Spring crops			
01	Maize	10	Pioneer-31Y45,
02	Sunflower	05	PHFH-118, SH-88, SH-3822, JKFH-2002, Jawala mukhi, Pioneer-6460

4.8-q: Staff Position:-

Staff position in Department of Agriculture is highly inadequate.

The table shows as under:-

S. No.	Name of Post	Sanctioned post	filled
1	Chief Agriculture Officer	01	01
2	District Training Officer	01	--
3	Agriculture Officer	15	09
4	Agriculture Development Officer	77	20
5	Agri. Sub Inspector	31	08