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Original article**Shifting from primary agriculture to secondary agriculture: prospects for enhancing farm productivity and entrepreneurship development****Amit A. Shahane***Assistant professor, College of Agriculture (CAU-I), Kyrdemkulai, Meghalaya 793105***Corresponding author: shahaneamit3@gmail.com**Received: 10/10/2025**Published: 14/10/2025***ABSTRACT**

Indian agriculture is moulding third time starting from commodity based revolution including green (wheat) revolution in 60s and 70s followed by agricultural development in area and commodities neglected during green revolution along with concept of evergreen revolution in 80 and 90s. At present, the Indian agriculture is in another moulding for generating various non-conventional options for enhancing the farmers' income. This searching additional avenues was fasten day by due to fact that, increasing income through improvement in productivity per unit area is constrained (sometimes obstructed) due to two main groups of factors. Among them first group of factors related with imbalance between monitory investment on inputs and net returns from agriculture which aggravate the situation such as indebtedness of marginal, small holder and resource poor farmers. Another group of factors are related with the negative impact of increased frequency and intensity of weather variations exacerbated by climate change. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India considering that, value addition of primary product and building of agricultural enterprises in rural area is one important avenue for doubling farmers' income. The building of entrepreneurships in preparation and marketing agri-inputs (with special reference to organic agriculture) and enhance the entrepreneurships as service provider of agricultural requirements also stand an additional option for the same. In this article, various avenues available and policy initiative for enhancing the farmers' income for the same are discussed.

The agriculture in India gets recognition with establishment of department of agriculture, revenue and commerce in 1971 and separate department in 1981 at government floor/ policy front; while establishment of Indian Agriculture Research Institute 1905 and Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 1929 will be first improvement on research and development front in Indian Agriculture. The agricultural development after independence India was mainly dominated by development of irrigation potential (Biswas and Bhattacharyya, 2019), increasing the use of purchased inputs, use of hybrid and high yielding varieties for enhancing the food grain production. This was followed by commodity based increase in production starting with wheat (green revolution) during 1965-66 followed by almost all allied agricultural sectors such as milk, meat and meat product, egg, flowers,

fruits, onion, marine products, fertilizers, etc. During this, the finite potential natural resource and their conservation for future generation as well as footprint of intensified agricultural activities on the natural resources got less attention. This can be seen from several publications discussing the second generation problems of green revolution, lack of attention to dryland area which is more vulnerable and resource poor, stagnating productivity improvement, reduced resource use efficiency and lack of nutritional security of large population and low farmers income in major part of India. At the same time, the major attentions was driven by arable crops and production and productivity improvement with less improvement in sectors such as floriculture, vegetables and fruit production and processing, commodity diversification with value addition, etc. The imbalance use of externally applied resources and their inequitable distribution creates paradox situation for their use in India. The avenues such as export potential of traditional agricultural product, organic produce and processed products are not get place in farmer's income.

Along with this situation, less attention is given to natural resource causing their degradation and ultimately reducing their productive potential (Bhattacharyya et al., 2015). With this degraded resource base, the need of provisional services of increasing human and cattle population need to fulfil in days to come. Another thrust area need attention is wastage of agricultural produce due to different natural and human intervention and perishable nature of agricultural commodities (Kumar and Kalita, 2017). This all need to be addressed through searching alternative options for the enhancing farmers' income along build up of entrepreneurship among farmers. In this context the concept of secondary agriculture will be stand as one possible alternative.

The secondary agriculture is defined as processing and adding value to the basic agricultural commodity (Yadav et al., 2020); while the definition given by Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' welfare, Government of India is quit elaborative (Anonymous, 2018). They define secondary agriculture as a productive activity at enterprise level that, 1) utilises as raw material the primary product and by-products of agriculture and other biological resources available locally in its rural agrarian neighbourhood; and/or 2) deploys locally available skills or a high level of rural manpower, to operate/manage/maintain the production of goods and services and 3) Can be categorised appropriately under the micro, small or medium enterprises development (MSMED) Act 2006. It has scope in India considering its present level of production from agriculture and allied sectors workforce involved in agriculture and domestic market for raw and processed products. The secondary agriculture is equipped capacity to enhance utilization of agricultural production with less wastage and entrepreneurship development in input production and value addition and diversification of farm product. The another term used by Yadav et al. (2020) is tertiary agriculture which involve preparation of the ready to use product like biscuits, cloths, breads, etc.

S.N.	Avenues for secondary agriculture and entrepreneurship development	Suitable niche
1	Establishment of seed and seedling (planting material) supply firms	All area (the selection of plant species differ with area)
2	Production of organic sources of crop nutrition	Area with organic farming such as all states of north east India, state from north western Himalayan region (Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, etc.)
3	Bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticide production unit	All area with special preference to area with organic farming
4	Establishing agro-clinic and soil testing laboratory	Area with special agricultural zones such as grape zone, apple zone, coconut zone, agro-industrial area (such as sugarcane factories, tomato ketchup factories, etc.); Area with cultivation of high value crops
5	Production of animal feed	All area with animal component as an integral part of farming system
6	Pre-conditioning of produce for markets	Peri-urban area dominated by vegetable cultivation; in town and small cities with agricultural produce market committee
7	Custom hiring services for implements for tillage, logistics, etc.	Area with commercial farm and agro-processing industries
8	Rural Tourism/Agri Tourism	All area in North East India; hilly area, coastal area;
9	Bee keeping	Area near forest, flower cultivation area; intensively cultivated area with round the year availability nector
10	Coir extraction and preparation of products from coir	Coconut producing area (coastal area)
11	Small scale processing industry such as pickles, turmeric powder preparation, readymade grinded mixture of spices, etc.	Area with availability of produce and labourers at low price
12	Kitchen gardening and terrace vegetable cultivation	In villages on empty space around the house; In town and cities at terrace to fulfil the household needs
13	Bamboo cultivation and preparation of different products from bamboo	Hilly tract; eastern Himalayan region, warm humid region

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