



Impact of Globalization on Indian Agriculture

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Globalization refers to the increasing integration of economies through trade, investment, technology, and labor mobility. In India, globalization became prominent after the 1991 economic reforms (LPG policy), which opened agriculture to global markets, competition, and technology flows. Indian agriculture, which supports a large population and contributes significantly to GDP, has experienced both positive and negative transformations due to globalization.

Growth of Agricultural Trade and Exports

Globalization expanded India's participation in international agricultural markets. Farmers gained access to export opportunities in crops like rice, cotton, and spices.

Increased integration with WTO (1995) enhanced global trade participation.

Export-oriented agriculture led to commercialization. Given by Sharma, Priya (2015). *Impact of Globalisation on Indian Agriculture: An Analysis*, Amar Journal, p. 192–195.

Rani, Nirmala. *Impact of Globalization on Indian Agriculture*, IJARESM.

Technological Advancement

Globalization facilitated access to advanced agricultural technologies such as:

High-yielding variety (HYV) seeds

Mechanization

Irrigation systems

These improved productivity but increased dependence on costly inputs. Stated by Kalirajan, K.P., Mythili, G., & Sankar, U. (2001). *Accelerating Growth Through Globalization of Indian Agriculture*, Macmillan India, pp. 69–120.

Das, Shaktiranjan (2023). *Globalization and its Impact on Agriculture*, pp. 325–330.

Increase in Farmers' Income Inequality

While large farmers benefited from global markets, small and marginal farmers faced challenges:

High input costs

Market risks

Lack of access to technology

This widened income inequality. Stated by Pandey, S., & Jangir, R. (2025). *Indian Agriculture: Challenges, Priorities and Solutions*, Springer, pp. 33–53.

Yasmin, Nilufar (2025). *Impact of Globalization on Indian Agriculture*, IJNRD, pp. b853–b858.

Price Volatility and Market Risks

Globalization exposed Indian agriculture to:

International price fluctuations

Dumping of subsidized foreign products

Unstable demand

Farmers became vulnerable to global market shocks. Stated by Kumar, Pravesh (2022). *Globalization and its Impact on Indian Agriculture*, RRIJM Journal. Das, Shaktiranjan (2023), pp. 325–330.

Crop Diversification

Globalization encouraged farmers to shift from traditional crops to:

Cash crops (cotton, sugarcane)

Horticulture and floriculture

This increased income potential but also increased risk.

Kalirajan et al. (2001), pp. 150–200.

Environmental Impact

Globalization-led intensive agriculture caused:

Soil degradation

Overuse of fertilizers and pesticides

Water depletion given by John, Jobby (2011). *Globalization and Sustainable Agriculture*, ISPCK, pp. 45–80.

Bedi, G. & Shiva, V. (2002). *Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security*, SAGE Publications, pp. 1–50.

Policy Changes and Institutional Reforms

Globalization led to:

Reduction in subsidies

Privatization of agricultural inputs

Shift toward market-driven policies given by Bhalla, G.S. (2004). *Globalisation and Indian Agriculture*, Academic Foundation, pp. 41–80.

Sharma, Priya (2015), pp. 192–200.

Impact on Rural Employment

Mechanization reduced labor demand

Migration to urban areas increased

Non-farm employment expanded given by Yasmin, Nilufar (2025), pp. b853–b858.

Pandey & Jangir (2025), pp. 33–53.

Conclusion

Globalization has transformed Indian agriculture by integrating it into the global economy. It has brought technological progress, export growth, and diversification, but also inequality, environmental degradation, and market vulnerability.

A balanced policy approach focusing on:

Farmer protection

Sustainable practices

Inclusive growth

is essential to maximize benefits and minimize adverse effects.

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