



AAO Draft 102: You are a field officer in the Department of Agriculture. You are assigned to do a field survey and examine various problems faced by the small farmers in cultivating summer crops. Draft a report of your field survey and its findings to place it before the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture. (APSE Inspector of Crops Statistics 2023 Question)

Respected Secretary,

I am submitting this report summarizing the findings from the recent field survey conducted to assess the various challenges faced by small farmers in cultivating summer crops.

1. Objective of the Survey: The primary objective of this field survey was to identify and understand the difficulties encountered by small farmers during summer crop cultivation, with a focus on resource availability, climate-related issues, and institutional support.
2. Survey Methodology: The survey was conducted across multiple villages within the assigned region. Data was gathered through structured interviews with farmers, focus group discussions, and on-ground inspections of crop fields.
3. Key Findings:
 - a) **Water Scarcity:**
 - A significant number of farmers reported inadequate irrigation facilities.
 - Dependency on erratic monsoons exacerbated the situation, leading to poor crop yields.
 - b) **Input Shortages:**
 - Shortage of quality seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides was a recurring issue.
 - Farmers highlighted delays in the distribution of subsidized agricultural inputs.
 - c) **Financial Constraints:**
 - Limited access to institutional credit forced many farmers to rely on informal loans with high interest rates.
 - Awareness about government schemes like Kisan Credit Card (KCC) was found to be minimal.
 - d) **Climate Change Impact:**



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- Unpredictable weather patterns, including sudden heat waves and unseasonal rains, adversely affected crop growth. (APSC Inspector of Statistics 2023 Question)
- Farmers lacked the technical knowledge to adopt climate-resilient agricultural practices.

e) **Market Access:**

- Farmers expressed concerns about inadequate storage facilities and poor transportation infrastructure.
- Lack of direct market linkages resulted in dependency on middlemen, reducing their profit margins.

4. Recommendations: a) Strengthen irrigation infrastructure and promote water-efficient techniques such as drip and sprinkler irrigation. b) Ensure timely distribution of quality seeds and fertilizers through an improved supply chain mechanism. c) Increase awareness about government credit schemes and simplify the loan application process. d) Introduce capacity-building programs on climate-resilient farming methods. e) Establish rural storage units and enhance transportation networks to facilitate better market access.

The findings of this survey highlight the urgent need for targeted interventions to support small farmers and enhance their productivity. I request your kind consideration of these observations and recommendations for further policy deliberation.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]

Field Officer



Department of Agriculture

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