



Evaluating the Socio-Economic Elements Affecting Farmers' Debt in Haryana

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Abstract

Farmer indebtedness has become a critical socio-economic issue in Haryana despite the state's strong agricultural performance and contribution to national food security. This study evaluates the socio-economic elements influencing farmers' debt, including landholding patterns, rising cost of cultivation, access to institutional and non-institutional credit, market instability, social obligations, demographic pressures, and climate-related risks. The research is based on secondary data from academic studies, policy reports, and agricultural analyses. The findings reveal that indebtedness is driven by structural inequalities, high input dependency, limited income diversification, and vulnerability to environmental and market fluctuations. Small and marginal farmers are particularly affected due to limited assets and financial access. The study concludes that farmer debt in Haryana is multidimensional and requires integrated policy interventions, including financial inclusion, crop diversification, improved market systems, climate-resilient agriculture, and strengthened institutional support. Addressing these factors is essential for enhancing farm income, reducing financial stress, and ensuring sustainable rural development.

Farmer indebtedness has emerged as one of the most pressing socio-economic challenges in India, particularly in agriculturally advanced states like Haryana. Despite significant agricultural productivity and contribution to national food security, farmers in Haryana continue to face mounting debt due to structural, economic, social, and environmental factors. This research paper evaluates the socio-economic elements affecting farmers' debt in Haryana, including landholding patterns, credit access, cost of cultivation, market risks, climate change, institutional policies, and social obligations. Using secondary data, policy analysis, and thematic interpretation, the study explores how these factors interact to create persistent financial vulnerability. The paper concludes that indebtedness is not solely an economic issue but a multidimensional problem rooted in systemic inequalities and structural constraints. Policy recommendations focus on institutional reforms, diversification of rural income, improved financial literacy, risk management, and sustainable agricultural practices.