

## ➤ Green Revolution in India

Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, the second Prime Minister of India, started the Green Revolution in India with the slogan 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan'. His vision was that the soldiers bear the responsibility of making the country powerful from security point of view while farmers bear the responsibility to make the country self-sufficient in terms of food and other agricultural produce.

### Eight Main achievements of the Green Revolution are:

- **Increase in Crop Yield per Hectare:** Use of modern agricultural implements increased the yield or production of crops per hectare.
- **Increase in Overall Crop Production:** The new implements and agricultural methods not only increased the production of food grains but also of commercial crops such as jute, cotton, oilseeds etc. Due to Green revolution, the country has become less-dependent on imports for food and its exports have increased which means that our country is more self-sufficient now.
- **Commercialization of Agriculture:** The status of agriculture increased from being just a means of livelihood to a profit-making enterprise. This led to rapid development in this field.
- **Increased Use of Fertilizers and Insecticides:** The scientific knowledge about new agricultural practices helped farmers adopt use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides which increased the quantity and quality of their crops.
- **Increase in Irrigation Facilities:** Emphasis was laid on making irrigation accessible to everyone and hence, India has a total irrigated crop area of 82.6 million hectares which is largest in the world.
- **Less dependence on Monsoons:** Earlier, farmers used to depend on monsoons to be able to produce a good crop. Natural calamities, pests, diseases, and hails and storm used to damage crops easily. Now, more and more farmers are using new scientific methods to produce a healthy crop and keeping it safe.
- **Multiple Crop Program:** Since 1967-68, the multiple crop program has been introduced which ensures that farmers can produce more than one crop every year increasing their income considerably.
- **Rural Electrification:** Under Green Revolution, more than 70% of rural India has already been electrified. The Rural Electrification Corporation was established to make sure that electricity is provided to farmers for agricultural purposes and the quality of rural life improves in general.

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