

Regional Disparity in Agricultural Growth of Uttar Pradesh: A District-Level Analysis

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Abstract

UP is mainly an agrarian economy with considerable percentage (over thirty percent) of state domestic product emanating from agriculture and allied activities. Majority of the workforce is employed in this sector. At the same time as agriculture is the principal source of earnings, a bad harvest year in the state (or in any region), poses a risk to the food security of the general public. This study investigates whether the regional disparity in agriculture has risen or decreased in the State. We have taken the data from 1980-81 to 2001-02, and our data source is directorate of agricultural statistics, ministry of Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh, The present study finds that the growth of agricultural production was massive across all the areas of UP during our period of analysis.

Keywords: Agricultural growth, regional disparity, Uttar Pradesh

JEL Classification: Q10, Q11

1. Introduction

Agriculture dominates the economy of Uttar Pradesh. In this paper we examine the inter-regional disparities in productivity and the intertemporal changes in yield levels at the disaggregated district level. The objective is to comprehend the spatial pattern of variation, and to recognise the main elements of variations in productivity levels by using districts as units of analysis. Hypothesis of this study is that the regional disparity in crop output has weakened during the last two decades.

The study covers the period from 1980-81 to 2001-02. Our analysis has taken into deliberation the 48 erstwhile undivided districts as the unit of study because the study of the year commences from 1980-81, at that time the number of districts in UP were 48. The present study

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