Report comparing circumstances of Pakistan with those of Japan

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1. Regarding agricultural instruction targeted at agricultural workers (based on your observations of Agricultural Improvement Centers and Agricultural Cooperatives)

(1) What kind of impression did you have when you observed the agricultural training systems for agricultural workers in Japan? (Please write your impressions from the perspective of both superior aspects and areas you thought to be problems.)

(Superior aspects)

The most important thing, I saw is greater linkage and cooperation between the irrigation and agriculture at policy level, close interaction between the farmers and researchers, who support farmers, give advise regarding management and cultivation techniques, and because of that, the water, which is precious, is used efficiently without any wastage. Further to this good understanding between national Government and District Government regarding training of the farmers, which shows good, mechanized training system. Moreover another important thing in Japan is awareness in farmers regarding techniques for dry root and disease control in the products by conducting the workshops.

(Areas thought to be problems)

During the discussion, I felt that agricultural knowledge particularly in the youth is declining. Another thing is aging of farmers and transfer of technology to new farmers.

(2) Are there organizations or agencies in your country that carry out agricultural training for agricultural workers? If so, please indicate in the space below the name of said organization, its positioning (in other words, whether it is a national or regional government organization, or a public foundation, etc.), comparing the work its carries out with the situation in Japan. If there is no such organization in your country, please indicate your own opinions about whether such on organization is necessary in your country, and whether it is possible for such a system to be introduced, and so on.

Yes, at the Federal level Ministry of water and power, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and livestock, Planning and Development Division, and Ministry of Environment, and at provincial level, local government and rural Development department and Irrigation and Power department are dealing with water, agricultural and training issues.

Agriculture is the single largest sector of Pakistan economy about 68% of the rural population depend upon the agriculture.

With the recent Devolution plan, recently announced by the Government, Districts Administrators will takeover the responsibilities for assistance in developing and managing water resources facilities. While there is no general concern over the organizational structure of water institution in Pakistan. Nobody at federal level available to oversee the water sector as a whole. it is very difficult in Pakistan to motivate the farmers to use modern technologies, however Government has initiated a , National water policy under National Drainage Programme which is currently under implementation.

At gross-root level agriculture extension personnel provide door-to-door training and information to farmers on agriculture practices, efficient water usage, fertilizer usage, as well as timing and phasing of various farming activities. But due to inadequate staff and poor access to farms, this service is limited. Training of users and beneficiaries through agricultural extension and

projects has not been very effective due to various factors such as low level of literacy and lack of resources.

Development projects employing a participatory approach providing training to representatives of community based organizations. The Water User Associations (WAUs) organized under the On Farm Water Management projects, were provided the training in organization and management, land leveling and cropping practices through demonstration plots. But it is not a regular practice to inform the public about water related problems or involve them in decision making unless it is required as a part of donor funded project

Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission also conducts research in major crops through Nuclear Institute of Biology. There are also numerous research institutes at the provincial level in the areas of crops, soils, insects, diseases, livestock, forestry, and irrigation. In addition the major agricultural universities in Punjab, sindh, and NWFP conduct research in agricultural.

3. Are there matters that you would like to know more about in terms of the agricultural training system in Japan? If so, please indicate in the space below.

Due to inefficient use of water, too much water is lost by the farmers, as such I want learn the different methods of water use for agricultural including crop rationalization substitution, improved agriculture technology and management land leveling, expanding the use of saline water for agriculture and rain water harvesting.

2. Regarding the Technology Support Association in the Land Improvement Program (based on observation of the Land Improvement Program Association Federation)

(1) What kind of impression did you have when you observed the Land Improvement Program Association Federation, an organization that carries out technological support for the Land Improvement Program in Japan? (Please write your impressions from the perspective of both superior aspects and areas you thought to be problems.)

(Superior aspects)

I was really impressed to notice a good interaction between the local farmers and the organizations. Organizations here in Japan take care of the life of their farmer's community so that farmers can live satisfactorily. Beneficiary participation, which plays an important role in successful implementation of every project, is common here.

System of agriculture committee in Municipality for permission of selling and buying, is a good, all the farmers always remain in contact.

Involvement of farmers decision-making process at initial stages is another good step, because farmers are the only who knows the basic needs.

The most important thing is that operation and the local community does maintenance, as such the irrigation system in Japan is well managed, because for any type of projects, maintenance is necessary. I f any project is not maintained properly, money invested are not useful.

(Areas thought to be problems)

During the discussions, it was informed that demand for rice in Japan is decreasing day-by-day, and here in Tattori prefecture I have noticed that more than 80% production is of paddy rice and it is said here that Japanese culture is the culture of rice. To overcome this problem, what necessary steps, are being taken by the Japan.

(2) Are there organizations or agencies in your country that carry out technological support for land improvement programs? If so, please indicate in the space below the name of said organization, its positioning (in other words, whether it is a national or regional government organization, or a public foundation, etc.), comparing the work its carries out with the situation in Japan. If there is no such organization in your country, please indicate your own opinions about whether such on organization is necessary in your country, and whether it is possible for such a system to be introduced, and so on.

Yes, Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC) consisting of Crops Research Institute, Rangeland Research Institute, Land Resource Research Institute and Water Resource Research Institute

Arid zone research center Quetta, Balochistan with institution at Umerkot, Sindh, Bahawalpur, Punjab and D.I.Khan, NWFP. Pakistan Council for Research in water Resources (PCRWR) and Agricultural Universities.

It is also informed that most of the land in Pakistan is privately owned and the ownership rights are protected under the constitution. There are very few corporate farms, though in May 2001 Government announced a new policy to encourage corporate farming in the country. Land record exists and land transaction is registered according to law. Regarding training and research, Pakistan Agriculture Research Council coordinates national research, PARC provides funds and monitors and research in National Agriculture Research Council.. The areas of research includes Crops, natural resources, machinery, water resources

Various departments in Pakistan are approaching the problem of water management through different ways like creating additional storages, raising the crest level of Mangla dam to increase storage capacity, construction Greater thal canal, lining of channels, and watercourses, institutional improvement, increasing ground water exploitation, introducing high efficiency irrigation system, improved farm layouts, water harvesting

.Are there matters that you would like to know more about in terms of the technological support association in the Land Improvement Program? If so, please indicate in the space below.

In Pakistan awareness in local farmers regarding agricultural techniques and understanding of water issues is lacking and needs to be addressed in order to garner public support for the changes in water management for improving the system, as such I want to know that how small scale formers (uneducated) be motivated to such things,

3. Regarding plans and implementation of the Land Improvement Program (based on observation of the Oide and Hojo Dune District of Land Improvement)

(1) What impressions did you have when you observed the Land Improvement Program plans and methods of implementation in Japan? (Please write your impressions from the perspective of both superior aspects and areas you thought to be problems.)

(Superior aspects)

Looking to the history of Hojo Dunes, it is admired that Government of Japan has done contiguous efforts, in spite of facing the difficulties for several years, to develop the Hojo Sand Dune. Motivating the farmers for their participation and share. No restriction on farmers, they are free to take decision.

No financial problem to the farmers, soft loans are available on easy installments.

Centralized supervisory and control system is carried out for the water supply facility dispersed throughout the district.

Mutual co-operation between the farmers of different lands.

With the construction of Oide Irrigation channel production of crops have sufficiently increased, furthermore there is no problem of water supply for the land, good care has been taken. .

The main benefit from the channel is that it is not only used for agricultural but also for the every day life.

(Areas thought to be problems)

NO

(2) What impressions did you have when you observed the organization and management systems of the land improvement zones that carried out the planning and implementation of the Land Improvement Program in Japan? (Please write your impressions from the

perspective of both superior aspects and areas you thought to be problems.)

(Superior aspects)

In Japan, organizations have done a good job for the farmers and for the development of the country; every possible help to farmers for improving their lands is provided. It is therefore clear that Government of Japan Government is diverted agriculture, which plays an important role in the economy of the country. Because of Land Improvement law a good management system is working. Land improvement Districts are playing important role for infrastructure development for agricultural production, water use, coordination facility, management, and operation and maintenance.

In addition, implementing different programmes for agriculture improvement and rural development increasing agricultural productivity confirming with trends in demands, training and recruiting people who are willing to work in agriculture.

Good recovery system in land improvement Districts.

Areas thought to be problems)

NO

(3) Are there organizations or agencies in your country that carry out planning and implementation of land improvement programs? If so, please indicate in the space below the name of said organization, its positioning (in other words, whether it is a national or regional government organization, or a public foundation, etc.), comparing the work its carries out with the situation in Japan. If there is no such organization in your country, please indicate your own opinions about whether such on organization is necessary in your country, and whether it is possible for such a system to be introduced, and so on.

No specific organization, but Pakistan Agricultural Research Center (PARC) Crops Research Institute, Rangeland Research Institute, Land resource institute, Arid Zone Research center and water and power development authority are the organizations who look into the issues.

As compared to Japan, lack of stakeholder participation is main issue in Pakistan. The legal framework is in place for the participation of farmers in the agriculture and irrigation sector. Many farmers organizations and water user associations have also been formed and some are functioning but even that those are not empowered because the system is not working as envisaged. The process of implementing Institutional Reforms has been extremely slow for the participation of farmers in management of Operation and Management activities, whereas in Japan, system of stakeholder participation is well managed and is working efficiently.

As already clarified that most of the land in Pakistan is privately owned and ownership rights are protected under the constitution. Land is cultivated under three broad institutional arrangements namely, owner-cum-tenant cultivated, owner cultivated and tenant cultivated. Tenancy arrangements are of two types, lease fix rent and sharing value crops

Pakistan is also in the process of evolving of a policy of stakeholder participation in planning and design, operation and maintenance of irrigation and drainage projects. The function of the Farmers Organizations include managing, operating, maintaining and improving irrigation and drainage infrastructures. Secondly supply the water, equitability and efficiently to all users, assess and collect water rates from the beneficiaries and pay the same to area water boards/authority.

(4) Are there matters that you would like to know more about in terms of the planning and implementation of the Land Improvement Program? If so, please indicate in the space below.

How to solve the issues like, satisfactorily transfer of technology to farmers, difficulty faced and their solution.

4. Regarding UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa)

(1) Has your country joined the convention? If so, when did your country join?

YES, Pakistan signed United Nation Convention to combat desertification, in October 1994, which was rectified in February 1997.

(2) Is your present agency working concerning the convention? If so, what work is your present agency doing?

Yes. Second National Report of Pakistan containing National Action Programme to Combat Desertification and Drought has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines provided by UNCCD and in consultation with national and international organizations and stakeholders. The factors pertaining to desertification in different regions of Pakistan were also analyzed meticulously. It recommends the strategy to intensify efforts at national, provincial, and district level to adopt such measures and steps with the active involvement of all stakeholders. National action programme has chosen approaches to fight desertification keeping in view the phyiographic peculiarity.

The main purpose of this 2nd national report is to inform the parties of the convention about the measures taken for the implementation of UNCCD at the national level. National Report has already been submitted.

(3) Regarding the prevention of desertification, what do you expect of Japan? The report of Japan can be read with the following URL.
(http://www.unccd.int/cop/reports/developed/2000/japan-eng.pdf)

As Government of Japan is aware that Pakistan with an area of over 88 million hectares and about 8o% of the country is Arid and Semi-arid, nearly 12% is sub-humid and the balance 8% is humid. Aridity is rightly seen as a major limitation to agriculture development. Pakistan is one of the more than hundred countries of the world being affected by the desertification which is resulting environment degradation, loss of soil fertility, biodiversity and reduction in land productivity. Moreover about 68 million hectares land of the the country lies in the regions receiving less than 300 mm rainfall annually which makes it suspectible to periodic drought

Government of Japan has already been involved in implementing the ODA projects with their financial contribution to Combat Desertification in the areas such as conservation of water resources, reforestation, forest conservation and agricultural development.

I n view of the foregoing, I expect that Government of Japan would contribute Pakistan through Grant-in-Aid assistance to impliment the projects of conservation of water resources, reforestation, and agricultural development etc.

5. If you have other opinions or impressions based on site observation, please indicate them in the space below.

At this stage I would like to say that agriculture system in Japan (from Tottori prefecture point of view) is well maintained , not a single piece of land is seems to be wasted. Good coordination with the farmers at every stage, that is why every agriculture project is initiated and implemented successfully.