



## AGRICULTURE

- Doubling India's Farm Income
- From Plate to Plough: The farm-factory connect



## EMPLOYMENT

- Manufacturing Sector's 'missing middle'

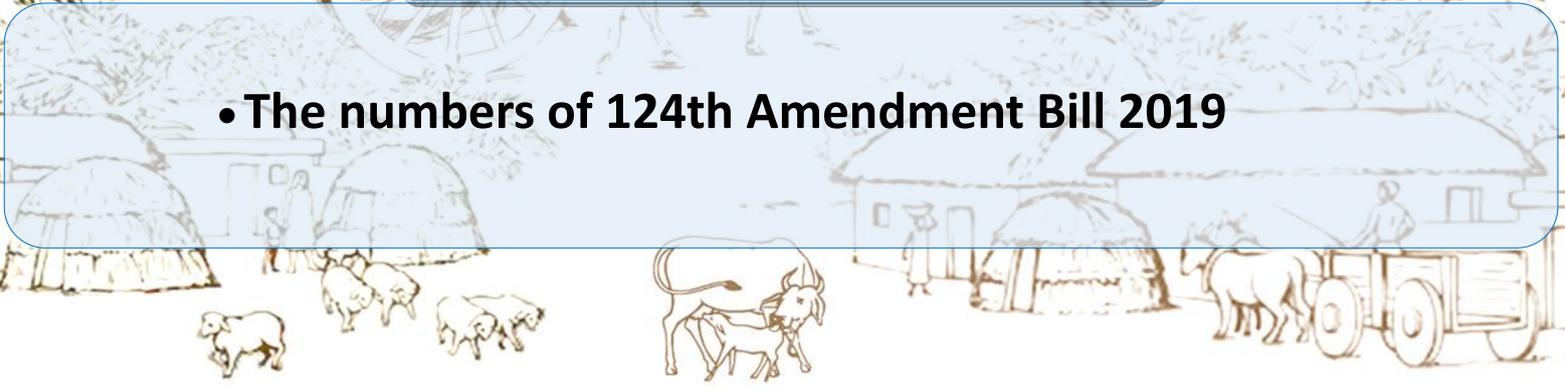


## TECHNOLOGY

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## Doubling India's Farm Income

With the Government aiming to double the farm incomes by 2022. For which government should provide financial incentive to encourage the farmers and ensure their sustainability for their non-market agroecosystem services they extend. A strategic approach is needed for the existing Payment for ecosystem services (PES) within the fiscal ability of the government and utilizing the existing allocation for agriculture. Thus, proper implement the existing institutional framework of PES could persuade Indian farmers to adopt ecologically sensitive agricultural practices which, in turn, could double farm income.

For Further Reading:

[https://www.epw.in/system/files/pdf/2019\\_54/23/SA\\_IV\\_23\\_080619\\_Lalit%20Kumar\\_etal.pdf](https://www.epw.in/system/files/pdf/2019_54/23/SA_IV_23_080619_Lalit%20Kumar_etal.pdf)

## From Plate to Plough: The farm-factory connect

Owing to the advantages of stronger forward and backward linkages considering the primary sector of the nation, Agriculture on one side. Much agreements on the Agri-GDP growth rate of the nation to not cross 3% per annum on the other. It was highlighted that the nations like China have with credibility attained 4.5% per annum growth rate between 1978-2016. In the wake of this example the need for working extensively on garnering better global advantage for the farm products through strong recommendation of side-lined mandi system, investing in agri R&D, replica models, infrastructure for water efficiency and agri-export value chains & building export markets were recommended over artificially propped up higher MSPs in the country, which trails in terms of uniform reachability. All in all, to attain doubled income for farmers, the prestigious agenda of the current government.

For Further Reading:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/farm-income-farm-loan-national-statistical-office-nso-data-agriculture-crisis-5772425/>

## Manufacturing Sector's 'missing middle'

If India has to reduce poverty and sustain growth then it isn't possible without having a manufacturing-driven economic growth. As the manufacturing sector has never been the leading sector in the economy and contributing about only 16 percent in India's total GDP so to bring it on the track an Industrial policy is required. India's manufacturing sector has been characterized by the missing middle: a concentration of small/micro firms at one end of the spectrum, and some large firms in each sector at the other. One purpose of an industrial policy is for the government to encourage scale economies, by encouraging the growth of small firms into bigger ones — to fill the missing middle. India needs a very serious policy modern industry clusters to create manufacturing jobs, very few in capital intensive large sectors and most of them in MSMEs. Technology upgradation, skill development, market information facilitation, and design improvement must be the basic actions for better cluster programs. To promote cluster associations, an effective cluster stimulation cell is required at central, state and district level. Cluster-based industrial development has been very important in the rapid industrial growth of China. So for the growth of modern industry clusters, much greater access to institutional credits, funds via convergence, unbiased nature of ministries towards medium-size enterprises can help in enhancing the growth. Along with this, skill development through new vocational and training centers is also required to train and educate youth at the cluster level to get jobs at cluster level near to their homes which especially will help women who are not allowed to go away from their home for the job. Technology can enable clusters of businesses to form in under-developed and rural areas for example by online trade as Smartphone and internet users are rapidly increasing, so e-commerce can be a good platform for MSMEs to get a larger market. And finally, apart from Central interventions, States with an Industrial Policy should focus on job creation through cluster development.

For Further Reading:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/manufacturing-sectors-missing-middle/article27704812.ece>

## Giving Solar-Power a leg-up

In recent years India worked very hard for increasing renewable energies capacity. Today, wind and solar account for about 20 % (70 GW) of the total installed capacity of about 350 GW, of which solar's share is 27 GW (it was just 3 GW in 2014). Utility solar space and rooftop have contributed towards the creation of solar capacity. Utility solar has contributed more as compare to rooftop solar. Rooftop solar is decentralized, it empowers ordinary people and communities also it provides smaller units with in particular with a cheap, reliable source of electricity. Discoms and the power regulator merely need to ensure that installation standards are met. Indias renewables transition need to be driven by rooftop solar, with the help of policy incentive it can be achieved

For Further Reading:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/editorial/solar-capacity-has-increased-sharply-in-recent-years-but-rooftop-solar-needs-a-policy-boost/article27765840.ece>

## The numbers of 124th Amendment Bill 2019

Is the figure "10%" reservation for Economically Weaker Section (EPW) with new limits fixed at 8 lakhs per annum and norms on assets: in rural (households owning agricultural land below five acres) and urban areas (a house above 1,000 square feet or a 100-yard plot or below in a notified municipal area or a plot of 200 square yards or below in a non-notified municipal area) impactful ? According the new ceiling 80% of the household from the general category is economically weak despite of their social advantage. With the data submitted by 445 higher education institution of the country revealed that EBC students of general category has 28% share in NIRF ranked higher education that too the considering Rs.5.5 lakh per annum as the ceiling for eligibility which is more nearly 3 time more than proposed 10% of the new reservation policy with lower income limit. Thus, this may result in wrong inclusion and wrong exclusion

For Further Reading:

[https://www.epw.in/system/files/pdf/2019\\_54/23/CM\\_LIV\\_23\\_080619\\_Bheemeshwar\\_Reddy\\_A.pdf](https://www.epw.in/system/files/pdf/2019_54/23/CM_LIV_23_080619_Bheemeshwar_Reddy_A.pdf)