

Transport: A Crucial Factor for Farmers Success and Agriculture Development

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Introduction

Transport plays a very important role in agriculture and economic development of any country. Farmers require a variety of resources in order to produce food, including seed, fertilizer, insecticides, packaging materials, and many more. Since this, transportation is an important part of crop production because it allows agricultural supplies to be delivered to farmers. Furthermore, transportation is an important aspect of post-harvest crop management. After all, every produced commodity requires transportation, either from the field to the market or to the packing plant and storage.

Transport in agriculture development & Farmers success:

Transport allows farmers to invest more, increase production and reach the international ranges. There is no way to grow a firm without transportation, as everything must be delivered, shipped, or carried to the client. Furthermore, substantial volumes may be squandered due to quality degradation in the absence of effective transportation. In reality, transportation is critical to the farmer's reputation and company. The quality of both the items and the transportation are critical to the buyer's satisfaction. What matters is that farm products vary from industrial goods. The vast majority of agricultural products are edible; they are also big and perishable. The packing and shipping must ensure that the items are not bruised while in transit. Harvesting includes the stages of harvesting, threshing, winnowing, bagging, processing, and storing. They differ in quality, making transportation quality as important as transit availability.

Some things may be less expensive to create, but they must be delivered from the outskirts or from another nation, which adds to the product price in retailers. Keeping transportation costs low allows farmers to profit while also making it more accessible to consumers. Even if the harvest is sufficient, the farmer may be worried if the items cannot be

shipped overseas or reach clients elsewhere. Items must be delivered to the client on time and at a fair cost. Transport is a farm practice common to every farmer. However, regarding its purpose, it can be classified into two categories:

1. **Traditional; manual method of transport**, used on every farm, usually includes very short distances (for instance, the transition from the field to the storage that is located on the farm).
2. **Mechanized and advanced transport**; includes longer distances that require the use of certain means of transport.

Few aspects to be considered in choosing optimal mode of transport:

- The distance of the destination.
- Type of good that are transported: for instance, there are different requirements for transition of perishable crops and packing material; i.e., fruits and vegetables are highly perishable and need to be immediately transported after the harvest while cereals don't need to be transported immediately.
- The laws and international regulations.
- Adequate means of transport i.e., Airways, waterways & Railways
- The size and quantity of goods that need to be transported.
- Price of the product to be delivered and it should be fair.

Choosing the Right path for farm transition

Farm transition can be managed regarding different modes of transport. Each transition mode has its advantages and disadvantages:

Mode of transport	Advantages	Disadvantages
Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideal for short distances; in this case it is relatively cheap and fast enough • Loading and unloading is possible in almost all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expensive and less efficient for longer distances • Problems in traffic jams • Significantly contributes to air pollution

	destinations.	
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively cheap and efficient way of transportation of large quantity of goods and to large distance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cargo can be loaded and unloaded in place with a suitable port. • Relatively slow and takes time for delivery
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fastest mode of transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most expensive and not suitable for short distances
Railways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for a large quantity of goods that need to be transported on a long distance. • Less dependent on weather conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The infrastructure is not set everywhere; unloading and loading can only be practiced where it is allowed.

Traditional and simple, or mechanized and advanced, transport is an essential component in every crop production. Properly managed transport is efficient in delivering farm resources and harvested crops as fast as possible. When considered as the final practice of delivering the crops to the market, transport is responsible for the preservation of crop yield and quality. Besides that, when it's economically managed, transport will give plenty of space for reducing total production cost.



Water Transport



Air Transport

**Railways****Road Transport****Importance of Transport in Agriculture Sector:**

Transport enables agriculture and emboldens the farmer to invest more and increase production and without this transport system, large quantities of painstakingly farmed produce would be laid to waste. On the contrary, if transport costs are high, then not only domestic marketing, but the potential for agricultural exports will also decrease as compared to countries with more efficient transport. Transport creates a market for agricultural produce, enhances interaction among geographical and economic regions, and opens up new areas to economic focus. Poor transportation in rural areas will result in low productivity, low income, and a fall in the standard of living.

Steps Taken to Improve Transportation:

1.	<p>Kisan rails are the first-ever multi-commodity trains</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These trains with refrigerated coaches will help in bringing perishable agricultural products like vegetables, fruits to the market in a short period of time. ▪ These will ensure that agro-products reach from one corner to another corner of the country.
2.	Krishi Udan scheme to transport agricultural goods by air
3.	Kisan Rath mobile application (app) to facilitate transportation of foodgrains and perishable during the lockdown.
4.	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana: It is a nationwide plan in India to provide good all-weather road connectivity to unconnected villages.

5.	Transport and Marketing Assistance aims to provide assistance for the international component of freight and marketing of agricultural produce which is likely to mitigate the disadvantage of the higher cost of transportation of export of specified agriculture products due to trans-shipment and to promote brand recognition for Indian agricultural products in the specified overseas markets.
6.	The government has granted relaxation in the nationwide lockdown for activities related to agriculture-farming and allied activities with a view to addressing problems being faced by the farming community.

Conclusion

For the distribution of agriculture items, road transport has crucial role to play as it is the chief means of transporting the agricultural goods from the farms to local markets and also to several urban locations. Road transport is the only means by which edibles grown on the farm are transported to various houses as well as local marketplaces. Transport actually forms up a market for agricultural products, boosts interaction among the geographical and profitable regions together with opening up new areas to economic focus. There are intricate relationships that vary both spatially and over time between transport and development. On the other hand, for any kind of progress to take place, transport plays an important role.