

GS-3 Agriculture

2. For sustainable agriculture, rain-fed areas in the country will be a good place to take up natural farming.
comment.

production of agricultural products ~~is~~
within confines of ecology. that is with natural
inputs are called natural farming

Suitable place for natural farming

Natural farming must be started, in places keeping
in mind, it must not affect productivity and affect
food security.

Rainfed tribal areas - still are less agri-input
intensive are source of many nutriceals, natural
foods etc.; These sites are ideal habitats since
55% of areas are Rainfed in India and 60%
farmers lives here.

Challenges - natural farming

1. past history → Indian agri ^{changed by} British to commercial
↓ subsistence & sustainable ^{-100%}
system of sustenance faded away there after
eg: Indigo.

2. 1943 Bengal famine $\rightarrow$ 4mn out of 60mn population wiped away; created psyche in Indian minds

3. After world war 2 $\rightarrow$ Ammunition companies, started repurposing technologies of Terraviva valley corporation - chemical fertilizers. $\rightarrow$ similar lines - Danavda valley corporation was also involved

4. Green revolution - 1960s - focused - High yield varieties, inputs like - chemical fertilizers etc.
India become from 'ship to mouth' $\rightarrow$ net food exporting nation (PL-480)

Thus it is time to reimagine our past history

1. post covid - demand for natural products to boost immunity increasing. where people ready to pay high prices

2. Successful examples - Agriculture & Animal husbandry

3. Subsidy cut - recently Government proposed to cut fertilizers & food subsidy by 26% in 2023-24

4. Strong political will for natural farming eg: Prime Minister Increasing demand for
call for zero budget natural farming.

To satisfy growing demand, it is ideal for natural farming to start with ^{best} possible sites of Raiged areas