

JHARKHAND

1. General Scenario & Current Trend: Jharkhand is categorized as plateau region having red laterite soil. Total cultivable area of the state is 38 lakh ha out of which Net Sown Area is only 22.38 lakh ha. Current fallow, other fallow and cultivable wasteland is 18.35 lakh ha. The state has varied climatic regions: up land, low land and plain land. 1/3rd of the total geographical area is forest and mines of industrial importance. Paddy, maize, pulses, sunflower, groundnut and fruits are main agriculture produce. There is opportunity to bring more land under agriculture in the state as current fallow, other fallow and cultivable wasteland constitutes 18.35 lakh hectares.

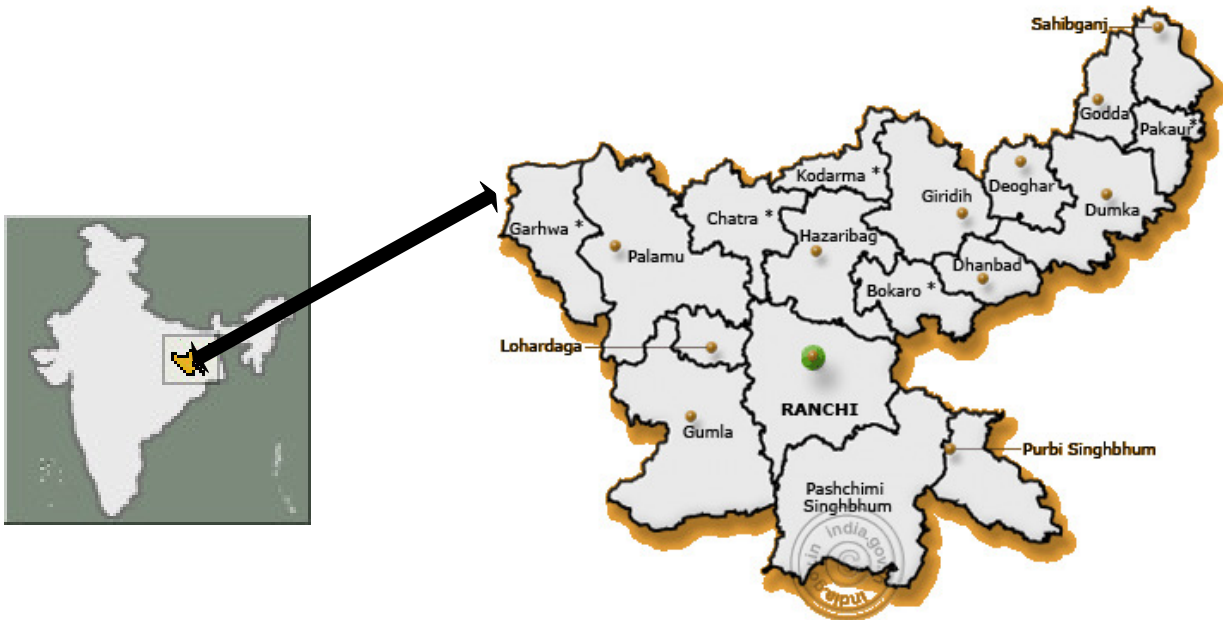
Average annual rainfall in Jharkhand is 1400 mm and only 12% of the cultivable area is irrigated. Most of the rain water is lost as run off losses. Since the state receives a reasonable amount of rainfall and has undulating topography, there are opportunities to arrest run off losses by creating water retention structures. This will not only check erosion of surface soil leading to siltation of the dams/water reservoirs but will also increase irrigation potential and increase sub-surface moisture, which is essential for good agriculture in the state.

Soil structure is poor with low fertility. Almost 90% of the soils are acidic and deficiencies of zinc, molybdenum and boron are prevalent.

In 2008-09, SRR under rice is 16%, maize 12% and Pulses 13%. State has established 21 seed villages and 22 KVKs. Current trend shows below national level production and SRR.

Productivity of rice is 1950 kg/ha and that for food grain it is 43.10 lakh MT.

37000 ha area is under fruit cultivation and 2.38 lakh ha area is under vegetable cultivation. 3% of total vegetable production of the country comes from the state. Agriculture and allied sector contributes 14% to the GSDP.



2. Strength: Varied climatic regions, rich in mines, adequate rains.

3. Limitation: Poor soil condition, low SRR and VRR, inadequate irrigation facility, rain water run off losses, huge fallow and waste land, poor extension and farm mechanization set up, mono cropping, low farm credit and insurance, vacancy of 2/3rd existing posts in agriculture and allied sector departments, low utilizations of funds, inadequate distribution of farm land and poor infrastructure are a few illustrative limitations which are affecting the production, productivity and development of agriculture and allied sector of the State.

4. Public Investment: The state has tried to make a few interventions through Centrally Sponsored Schemes as well as through satisfactory allocation under Agricultural Sector from the State Plan for increasing production and productivity. In 2005-06, out of Rs.4079.13 cr State Plan, agricultural sector allocation was Rs.203.34 cr. (4.98%). Out of Rs.3808.87 cr State Plan in 2006-07, agricultural sector received Rs.119.70 cr. (3.14%). A sum of Rs.336.29 cr. (5.89%) was allocated in 2007-08 out of Rs.5706.35 cr. State Plan and in 2008-09 agriculture sector received Rs.381.97 cr. (4.87%) out of Rs.7843.75 cr. State Plan of Jharkhand.

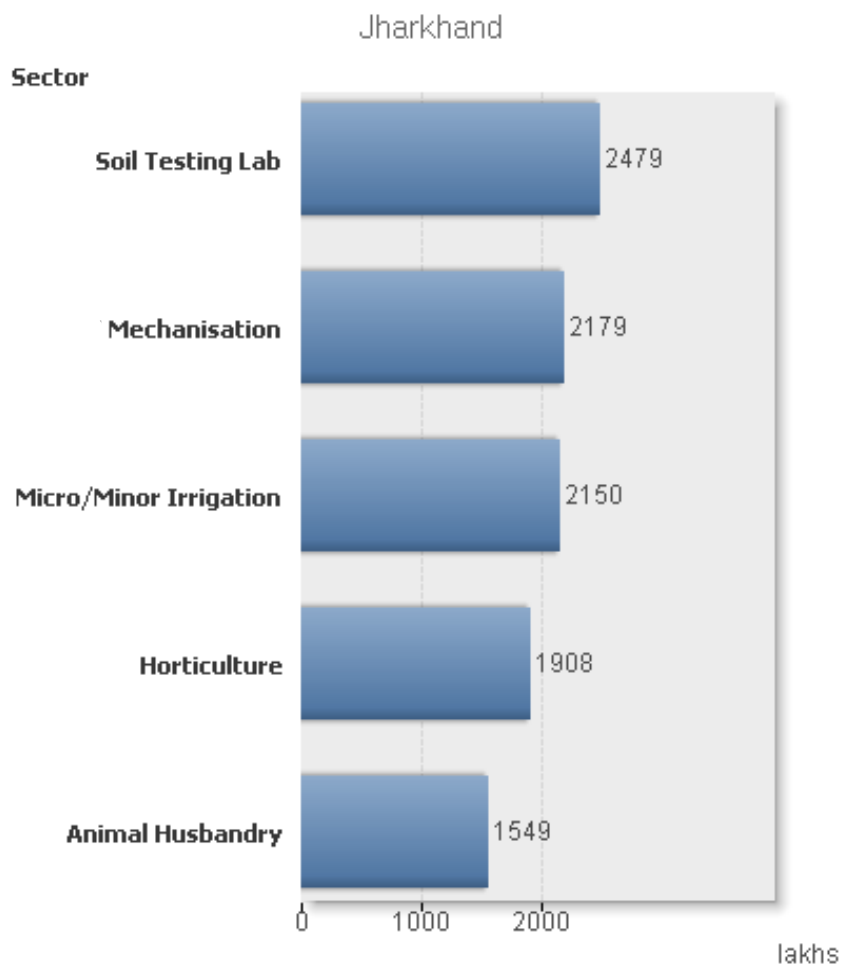
During 2007-08, Government of India provided Rs.61.66 cr. under RKVY, Rs.25.54 cr under MMA, Rs.5.57 cr under Extension Reforms and Rs.7.81 cr under NHM and during 2008-09, Rs.58.62 cr was allocated to Jharkhand under RKVY, Rs.98.72 cr under NHM and Rs.10.65 cr under MMA.

During 2008-09, state could not get the full allocated amount due to low utilization of funds.

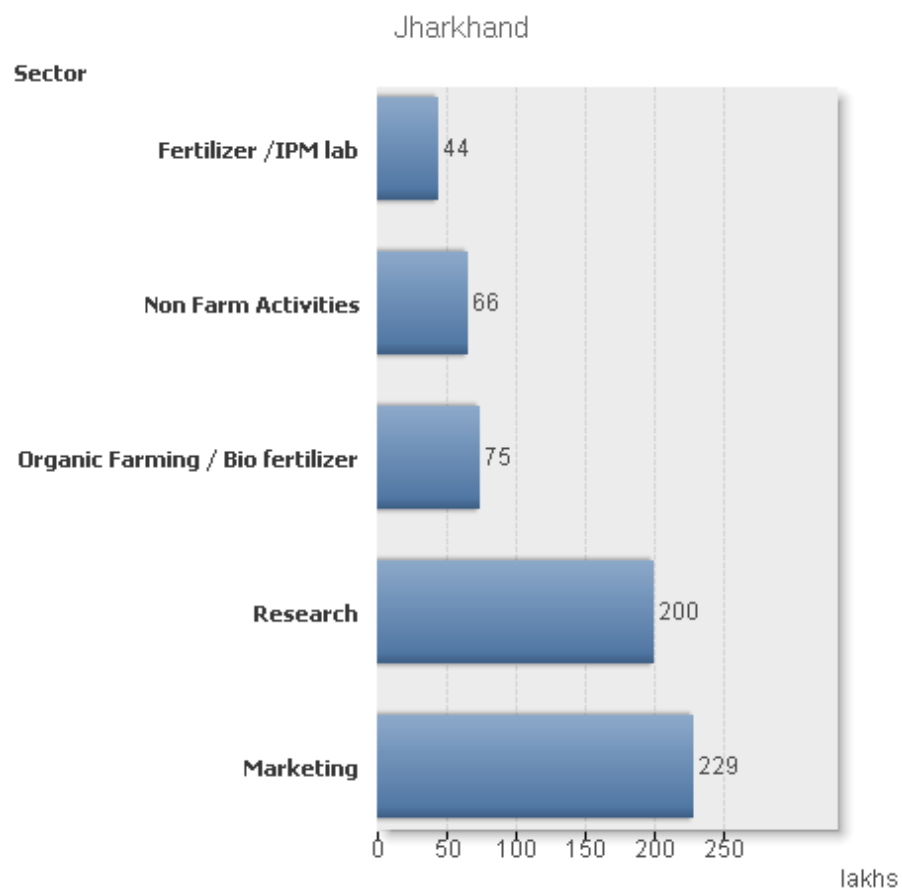
Thus, in first two years of the 11th Plan Period, Rs.900 cr has been spent in the agriculture and allied sector in the state.

State Priority under RKVY 2007-09

Top 5 priority sectors under RKVY



Bottom 5 priority sectors under RKVY



Future Strategy and Intervention as identified by the state:

- *Improvement in SRR*
- *Increase in the productivity of major crops*
- *Enhancing irrigation capabilities*
- *Area expansion for cultivation*
- *Increasing number of KVKs and seed villages*
- *Establishment of horticulture nurseries, terminal market, cold chains*
- *Farm mechanization*
- *Training-cum-workshop*
- *Strengthening of soil testing capabilities.*

Recommendations:

- *The State should have time bound targets for Soil Health Land Use mapping to assess suitability of the soil with regard to crops and cropping pattern and take up such agricultural practices, which naturally suits the State's soil and agro-climatic conditions*
- *SRR of 33% needs to be achieved in next three years for all the major crops by making farmers aware of the advantages of appropriate variety and technology through demonstrations*
- *Increasing seed production by improving the infrastructure of the state agricultural farms for seed production. Water retention capacity of the State farms may be enhanced by creating water retention structures. State should endeavor to be self sufficient in its seed requirement and not depend on outside sources*
- *Strengthening and improving its existing irrigation infrastructure*
- *Optimum harvesting of rain water and other water resources by convergence of various CSS like NREGA, NWDPRA, RKVY, IWDP, NFSM, NHM etc.*
- *Filling up vacant posts in agriculture and allied departments expeditiously*
- *Strengthening of extension services and bringing most of the fallow and cultivable wasteland under cultivation.*
- *The agro-climatic and topographic condition of the State is suitable for seed production in large scale.*
- *Availability of quality planting and seedling through nurseries*
- *Adequate PHM & marketing facilities for horticulture products*
- *Optimization of fish production*
- *Genetic improvement of livestock*
- *Milk procurement and dairy products marketing*