

The agrarian country is taken a bold step in terms of producing the food; and the way how it is going to reach consumers. There are different versions on recently passed farmer bills regarding how it will impact entire food ecosystem in the country. Neither, we completely support the free market in the unorganized sector nor over dependence Market committees for farmer & consumer relation. here, we have some policy level recommendations while considering the farmer welfare.

1. Pricing assistance for farmers

Through the currently passed farmer bills, we pulled millions of farmers in the unorganized sector into free trade economy. The fundamental objective of the market is all about liberty of seller to decide the price. Well, the cost of production, profit margin and market conditions are key factors for deciding the price of the produce. Due to several reasons, farmers in India are not in a stage to compete with market experts in business. Here, we recommend on behalf of farmers' government should step in; and should have control over the decision on pricing of the commodities based on real time data. And, a real time advisory system should develop to empower farmers about market forecast; and selection of crop patterns accordingly.

2. Real time food data monitoring system

National level & state level food data monitoring system should be established to have control over flow of commodity regarding storage, transport; and how it is moving across different levels of value chain. Such real time monitoring system will definitely prevent the intentional food blockage and artificial food pandemics. It should be an open source data system where farmers can access and take decisions accordingly.

3. Strengthening the public ration distribution system

According global nutrition reports 2020, India is facing three forms of nutritional challenges in the form of stunting, anaemia and overweight; and we are not prepared enough to meet global targets by 2025. So, strengthening the public ration distribution system with more number foods adding to public ration will be a strategical step towards enabling competitive market between private; and government for procurement process. And It will also impact the decentralizing food network, nutritional goals and precision crop patterns.

4. Building farmer institutions

Above 85 percentage of farmers in India are in small scale and marginal; and as per the study by Nabard 52.5 percentage of agricultural households are in debts. Pulling farmers into free market without strengthening farmers institutions will further increase the economic inequalities in India; and it may result as rapid land transfer among small to big farmers. So, we recommend to invest more; and strengthening farmers institutions will only catalyse collective actions; and improvements of socio-economic conditions.

5. Crisis management plan

Food is such a powerful medium to achieve socio-economic and ecological goals. And the same time if states don't have a proper crisis management plan, it may influence the geo political equations in a

country like India with diversified climate and food conditions. As a result, we may have to compromise nutritional and ecological foot prints. So, we recommend that states should have adequate powers to monetize the commodity trading time to time by considering self-sufficiency.

Dear friends, waiting is not over yet; pandemic is still negatively impacting millions of lives; and their livelihood options across the world. Everyone wants to resume their work once the pandemic is over. We trust this newsletter finds you all well. Stay safe; and have a healthy food. It is time for the second Quarterly Newsletter of tharunam for the year 2020. Here, we are happy to share the activities of tharunam from past three months.

National Food Literacy Mission

National Food Literacy Mission has been initiated with the vision to empower at least every school in India to Adopt Food Literacy skills as part of their schooling curriculum by 2030.

**NATIONAL
FOOD
LITERACY
MISSION**

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACTS OF FOOD
CHOICES ON HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND
ECONOMY.
#food literacy

NFLM.IN

In the total three phases of the mission, the first phase of the project is to spread the idea of Food Literacy through various operational strategies which includes encouraging food literacy ambassadors in the communities; literature development; developing digital outreach content; conducting training program for students & partnerships etc. Due to corona lockdown, the training programs in schools. And Pandemic made us to think about strategies how virtual platforms could help us to spread the concept of food literacy where anyone can learn from anywhere. We are looking for volunteers; and supporters to realize the dream of virtual platform for National Food Literacy Mission. We already owned a domain for website; and seeking support for completing further steps of platform development. Show us some support by considering donations. <https://tharunam.org/make-a-donation/>

Field visits to Ameya Krishi Vikasa Kendram for guidance on upcoming Agro forestry project

Ten years ago, as a school going kid, I (Naresh) used to watch a tv program where one person was pitching for scientific organic methods in farming. And barely very few used believe in natural farming practices in those days. He is such people's language facilitator who can make any individual to understand the ecological feasibility and economic viability of farming practices. Long due to visit @ameyakrishivikasakendram; and today we made it. I recommend you guys to please visit their centre where you will be amazed with his plant collection.

For our upcoming agro forestry farming project, we will be planning to collect the plants from Ameya Krishi Vikasa Kendram, Bhonigiri, Telangana, India.



Interaction with student from Erasmus university, Netherlands on Contemporary agrarian situation in India

It was a great interaction with student from Erasmus University, Netherlands. She is working on her masters' thesis on relationship between financial indebtedness and ecological degradation specially in the agrarian sector. We are glad to share our grassroot field experiences in the agricultural sector from what we observed in last three years.

Virtual Interactions with students from Christ deemed to be University, Bengaluru



On September 4, team of three students from Christ deemed to be University were interacted with us. And it was a resourceful interaction on contemporary agricultural issues; and scope of social entrepreneurship while addressing those issues.

Please watch part of our Interaction.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7iWI3QADzWM>

News Coverage:

Inspolife.in is a dedicated online platform who publishes inspirational stories across the domains. We got an opportunity to interact with their team regarding challenges and milestones of journey of tharunam so far. Please find the promo of the video here. Hopefully full interview video will be available by coming up newsletter.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQPzoPGLGVg>

Dear Friends, well-wishers and Supporters

The tharunam activities would not be possible without your support and contributions. Therefore, on behalf of all, we say thank you very much for your ongoing support. Thank you also by sharing this Newsletter in your circle.

Stay safe! Stay healthy! Have a healthy food!

With Green Regards,

Team 'tharunam'

If you wish reach/support tharunam activities,

<https://www.tharunam.org/> Email- founder@tharunam.org