Indian Economy · GS - III

The transition from the Green Revolution to the Evergreen Revolution requires a shift from input-intensive agriculture to resource-efficient and ecologically sustainable farming. Discuss.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 18/11/2026	GS - III	Indian Economy

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Green Revolution, Evergreen Revolution, M.S. Swaminathan, agricultural productivity, soil degradation, groundwater depletion, monocropping, crop diversification, micro-irrigation, integrated nutrient management, climate-resilient agriculture, subsidy reforms, sustainable food security.

Model Answer

Introduction

The Green Revolution transformed India's food security through high-yielding varieties, irrigation and chemical inputs. However, its resource-intensive practices also contributed to soil degradation, groundwater depletion and ecological stress. The Evergreen Revolution, advocated by M.S. Swaminathan, seeks to sustain productivity without environmental harm.

Need for the Transition

1. **Soil Health:** Excessive chemical fertiliser use and monocropping have contributed to nutrient imbalance and declining soil quality.

2. **Water Security:** Water-intensive cultivation and inefficient irrigation have intensified groundwater stress, particularly in north-western India.

3. **Climate Change:** Rising temperatures, erratic rainfall and extreme weather threaten agricultural productivity.

4. **Biodiversity:** Excessive dependence on a limited number of crops reduces agricultural diversity and ecosystem resilience.

Key Elements of the Evergreen Revolution

- **Crop Diversification:** Encourage pulses, millets, oilseeds and regionally suitable crops.
- **Water Efficiency:** Expand micro-irrigation, rainwater harvesting and precision water management.
- **Sustainable Nutrient Management:** Promote bio-fertilisers, organic inputs and balanced fertiliser application.
- **Climate Resilience:** Develop climate-resilient seeds and strengthen agricultural research.
- **Policy Reforms:** Realign subsidies and procurement incentives to encourage sustainable cropping patterns.

Conclusion

India's agricultural transformation must move beyond production maximisation towards sustainable productivity. The Evergreen Revolution can strengthen long-term food security by integrating farmer welfare, technological innovation and ecological conservation.

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