

Restoring agricultural growth

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India's agricultural sector is not doing too well and given the importance of the rural economy in the overall scheme of things, that is worrisome. In this context, the government may need to remove constraints on where and to whom farmers can sell their produce. If India is to become a \$ 5 trillion economy by 2024,

export-led growth is not optional. A reformed and enlightened policy for agriculture and MSMEs, which account for almost half of total exports, will help. Our farmers and small entrepreneurs have a lot of hidden potential in them, and that needs to be suitably unleashed by creating the right environment. In this regard, policymakers need to look beyond the bigger players and focus on smaller and marginalized farmers. Ultimately, the revival of rural household savings and investments is the acid test of whether our agricultural sector and allied activities are on the road to recovery.

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