

Summary

The growth rate analysis shows that the initial years of were somewhat favourable for agricultural growth, but the post-WTO period witnessed a sharp decline in the growth rate of almost all sub-sectors and commodity groups in the agricultural sector. Another disquieting aspect of the recent growth process is that the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors on a distinct growth rate.

The relative contribution of agriculture to the GDP has been declining over time, whereas there is not much decline in the percentage of people depending on this, it could be inferred that the performance of the sector is depressing. In general, the poor performance of agricultural production and food production is not a healthy sign for the economy.

As agriculture is already overcrowded, a major proportion of the increasing labour force needs to find alternate employment opportunities in other non-farm sectors. Expansion into other sectors is essential to provide supplementary gainful employment and in realising higher levels of income for rural people to overcome poverty and other tribulations.