

**President** Dr. MJ Khan  
**Editor** Anjana Nair  
**Managing Editor** Fariha Ahmed  
**Business Editor** Rashmi Singh  
**Deputy Editor** Joyshree Nath  
**Assistant Editor** Swasti Malik  
**Sub Editor** Sanjay Kumar

### REGIONAL BUREAUS

Tirupati	V Rajagopal
Kerala	KR Sreeni
Jamshedpur	Shireen Tabassum
Gorakhpur	Jitendra Dwivedi
Himachal Pradesh	Rakesh Ahuja
Jammu & Kashmir	MH Shah
Hyderabad	Murli Krishna
Bangalore	HS Gangadhar
Lucknow	Alok Vashishth
Punjab	SS Virdi
Bihar	Gautam Kumar

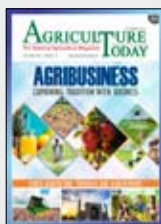
**Circulation Incharge** Rajkumar

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

**Graphic Designer** A. Rehman

Publisher & Printer – Dr. MJ Khan on behalf of M/s Concept Agrotech Consultants Limited, Published from 306 Rohit house Tolstoy Road New Delhi-110001 and printed by Everest Press E-49/8, Okhla Industrial Area-II New Delhi-110020 Phone No. 011-23731129 Fax No.011- 23731130

**E-mail:** [editor@agriculturetoday.in](mailto:editor@agriculturetoday.in)  
[business@agriculturetoday.in](mailto:business@agriculturetoday.in)



**Any issues?  
 contact us at  
 the above  
 addresses!**

No part of this magazine can be reproduced, imitated or transmitted in any form, including electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or any information stage retrieval system or extracted in any way without permission from the publishers. Views expressed in the magazine need not necessarily be those of the Editor / Publisher.

[www.agriculturetoday.in](http://www.agriculturetoday.in)

Pages in the magazine: 60

## From the Editor's Desk

# FARM MECHANIZATION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

**F**arm mechanization makes optimal utilization of resources and helps farmers save valuable time and to reduce drudgery. This judicious use of time, labour and resources facilitates sustainable intensification (multicropping) and timely planting of crops, leading to an increase in productivity. Farm mechanisation has the potential to raise farmers' income and hence can play a significant role in realising the government's vision of doubling farmers' income.



However, India's current level of farm mechanization stands merely at about 40-45%. The level of mechanization is skewed across the country with states like UP, Haryana and Punjab leading with very high level and north-eastern states having negligible mechanization. India's strength in agriculture has been due to the large area under cultivation and due to cheap and easily available farm labour; the availability of both of which will be constrained in the future.

Farm mechanization has demonstrated successfully that it can increase agriculture yields. However, there are some inherent challenges that interfere with large scale adoption of farm mechanization across India. More than eighty per cent of the landholdings in India is less than 2 hectares, making not only the farms smaller in size for successful operation of farm machines but also reducing the investment potential of such farmers. Considering the preponderance of small & marginal holdings in the country, R & D should aim at developing and designing scale-neutral machinery. Further, machinery that can suit different terrain of the geography deserves priority attention.

Finance must be made easier. Ease of financing like KCC and procedures to avail term loan may be simplified with minimum documentation. Agriculture Machineries can become part of 'Farming as a Service' (FaaS) as recommended by Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income, which means, that farmers should have easy access to mechanization and related services on rent in preference to owning the same. The youth can be specifically trained and financially supported (credit linked back-end subsidy) to set up CHCs. In order to make such enterprises viable, other agricultural services can also be integrated to offer 'One Stop Shop'.

Aggregation platforms can be tried in farm mechanization. Uberization is feasible in agricultural mechanization. This can be made possible by networking of individual owners, CHCs, AMBs and Regional/State Service Centres by onboarding a common platform and meeting the demand in real time, cost effectively. It is also important to ensure availability of repair and service facilities in close proximity, so that operation & maintenance issues are addressed. Mobile service centres can also be promoted to cater to minor repair demands.

Farm mechanization has also been found to impart many social benefits. They can help in the conversion of uncultivable land to agricultural land through advanced tilling techniques. Besides reduced drudgery and shortening times of farm operation can attract more youth to join farming and attract more people to work and live in rural areas.

*Anjana*  
**Anjana Nair**