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“Comparative study between the functioning of NHB (National Horticulture Board) of India and EMBRAPA (Brazilian Agency for Agriculture Research and Animal Husbandry) of Brazil, the nodal apex bodies controlling horticulture industry”

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Abstract

Regulating/controlling/facilitating nodal bodies (Governmental/private/semi governmental/NGO/ Institutional) play a crucial role in the growth of respective sectors in a given economy. Effective and efficient functioning of these nodal bodies is a prerequisite to achieve the desired growth of a given sector in an economy.

As the title very clearly explains, attempt has been made in this research article to compare the functioning of NHB (National Horticulture Board) of India and EMBRAPA (Brazilian Agency for Agriculture Research and Animal Husbandry) of Brazil, the nodal apex bodies controlling horticulture industry in their respective countries.

Lack of integration of all the activities starting from farm gate till final consumers because of ill functioning of the NHB in collaboration/association with the related Governmental departments/institutions, with no clear direction and goals prohibit the horticulture industry of India from attaining the desired growth.

There lies a most promising scope to import the '**Brazilian model**' where in a single nodal agency '**EMBRAPA**' takes complete care of horticulture industry (both farming community and processing industry) by having a fool proof mechanism/system in place to address all their concerns/problems and working in an integrated fashion, with more clearer objectives, strategies and policies, to sort out the contemporary upcoming issues. This is the secret of the success of Brazilian horticulture industry.

Key words

Comparative study, NHB, EMBRAPA, Horticulture Industry, India, Brazil

Introduction

India and Brazil are both developing countries with open market economies share the common history. Both had been the colonies of Portuguese. Brazil became independent in 1822, where as India got its independence in 1947. After independence both countries opted to have democratic rule in their nations, resulted in India becoming the biggest democracy in the world with the population of 1110 million and Brazil, the democracy with the population of 189 million as on 2008¹.

Economic condition of the two countries is also comparable. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of India was US\$ 911.8 billion for the year 2008 where as the GDP of Brazil was US\$ 1067.5 billion during the same year. Total Indian exports were worth US\$ 99.45 billion during year 2005 where as the total Brazilian exports were worth US\$ 118.3 billion during the same year. India imported goods and services worth US\$ 138.09 billion during year 2005 where as Brazilian imports were worth US\$ 77.62 billion during the same year. Exports and imports structure, both region wise and commodity wise, of both nations are comparable. Inflation, unemployment rate, GDP growth rate, and poverty rate are also comparable¹.

Both countries enjoy almost the similar climatic conditions, i.e., both are tropical with vast agro climatic variations leading to enormous bio diversity. Hence they share the long history of crop husbandry. As shown in table-I, both countries lead the world in the production of fruits. In 2003, India produced 46 million metric tons (mmt) of fruits where as Brazil produced 34 mmt of fruits, contributing to 9.55% and 7.09% of global production, respectively² (Refer tableI).

In spite of the above commonalties and