Implement crop rotation

This can to a large extent ease Punjab’s agrarian crisis

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Farmers’ protests have been in the news since December 2020. While they have ebbed now because of the new agricultural laws, the underlying issues persist. The crop available with the farmer is wheat, rice, and cotton. Of these, cotton is the most remunerative, but it requires a lot of labor, fertilizer, and water. The other two crops also require a lot of water, but they are less profitable. The government has proposed crop diversification, which means growing crops other than rice and wheat. This will help in reducing the dependency on these two crops and make the farmer more resilient to price fluctuations.

Crop diversification is important for several reasons. Firstly, it will help in reducing the dependence on government subsidies. Secondly, it will help in reducing the soil degradation caused by continuous cropping of the same crop. Thirdly, it will help in reducing the risk of crop failure caused by pests and diseases.

The government has proposed to provide financial assistance to farmers who want to grow crops other than rice and wheat. The assistance will be provided in the form of loans and subsidies. The loans will be provided at a lower interest rate, and the subsidies will be provided to offset the cost of input and marketing.

The government has also proposed to provide technical support to farmers who want to grow crops other than rice and wheat. The technical support will be provided by the agricultural university and other agricultural research institutions. The technical support will include training, advisory, and extension services.

The government has also proposed to provide market support to farmers who want to grow crops other than rice and wheat. The market support will be provided in the form of assured procurement. The assured procurement will ensure that the farmer gets a fair price for his produce, and he is not at the mercy of the market.

In conclusion, crop diversification is an important step towards making the farmer more resilient to price fluctuations. The government has proposed to provide financial, technical, and market support to farmers who want to grow crops other than rice and wheat. The government has also proposed to provide water conservation and soil conservation measures to help in reducing the soil degradation caused by continuous cropping of the same crop.