

Need of Organic Farming and Organic Firms Business Development in India

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Need for Organic Farming in India

The Indian agriculture switched over to the conventional system of production on the advent of the green revolution in the 1970s. The change was in the national interest which suffered set backs because of the country's over dependence on the foreign food sources. The national determination was so intense that all the attention was focused on the increase in agriculture production. The agriculture and allied sectors in India provide employment to 65 per cent of the workers and accounts for 30 per cent of the national income. The growth of population and the increase in income will lead to a rise in demand for food grains as also for the agricultural raw materials for industry in the future. The area under cultivation, obviously, cannot be increased and the present 140 million hectares will have to meet the future increases in such demands. There is a strong reason for even a decline in the cultivated area because of the urbanization and industrialization, which in turn will exert much pressure on the existing, cropped area. Science and technology have helped man to increase agricultural production from the natural resources like land. But the realization that this has been achieved at the cost of the nature and environment, which support the human life itself, is becoming clear. It has been fully evident that the present pattern of economic development, which ignores the ecology and environment, cannot sustain the achievement of man without substantial erosion of the factors that support the life system of all living things on the Earth. The evidence of the ill effects of development is well documented. As said earlier, we in India have to be concerned much more than any other nation of the world as agriculture is the source of livelihood of more than 6-7 million of our people and it is the foundation of the economic development of the country. There were times when people lived close to nature with access to flora and fauna in healthier and cleaner surroundings. One has to look back at our present metropolitan cities or other large towns before the past fifty years as recorded in history/memories of the present elder generation to see the striking differences in the surroundings in which the people lived there. Land, water and air, the most fundamental resources supporting the human life, have degraded into such an extent that they now constitute a threat to the livelihood of millions of people in the country. Ecological and environmental effects have been highly publicized all over the world. Many times, these analyses have taken the shape of doomsday forecasts. Powerful interests in the developed western countries have also politicized these issues to take advantage of the poor nations of the world. Efforts to impose trade restrictions on the plea of environment protection are a direct result of these campaigns. But we have to recognize that the abysmal level, to which we have degraded our resources, requires immediate remedial measures without terming the demand for them as the ploys of the rich nations to exploit the poor. Another turn of the events has been the blame game for ecological problems stated at the Earth Summit and other international conferences. The developed countries, it is true, are to a great extent instrumental to degrade the environment. However, the poorer countries of the world including India cannot delay or ignore the need for remedial measures, which are to be effectively implemented. We cannot gloss over the fact that we have also contributed to the degradation of ecology; look at the droughts and floods, disappearance of forests, high noise

level and air pollution in the cities which are our own creations. Organically cultivated soils are relatively better attuned to withstand water stress and nutrient loss. Their potential to counter soil degradation is high and several experiments in arid areas reveal that organic farming may help to combat desertification (Alam and Wani, 2003). It is reported that about 70 hectares of desert in Egypt could be converted into fertile soil supporting livestock through organic and biodynamic practices. India, which has some areas of semi-arid and arid nature, can benefit from the experiment. The organic agriculture movement in India received inspiration and assistance from IFOAM which has about 600 organizational members from 120 countries. All India Federation of Organic Farming (AIFO) is a member of IFOAM and consists of a number of NGOs, farmers' organizations, promotional bodies and institutions. The national productivity of many of the cereal crops, millets, oilseeds, pulses and horticultural crops continues to be one of the lowest in the world in spite of the green revolution. The fertilizer and pesticide consumption has increased manifold; but this trend has not been reflected in the crop productivity to that extent. The Country's farming sector has started showing indications of reversing the rising productivity as against the increasing trend of input use. The unsustainability of Indian agriculture is caused by the modern farming methods which have badly affected/damaged production resources and the environment.

Why Organic Agriculture:

Term "Organic" itself defined its meaning i.e. production of crops plants without artificial chemicals such as sprays and fertilizers and bacteria's etc. Hence we can able to define term organic agriculture in suitable words as

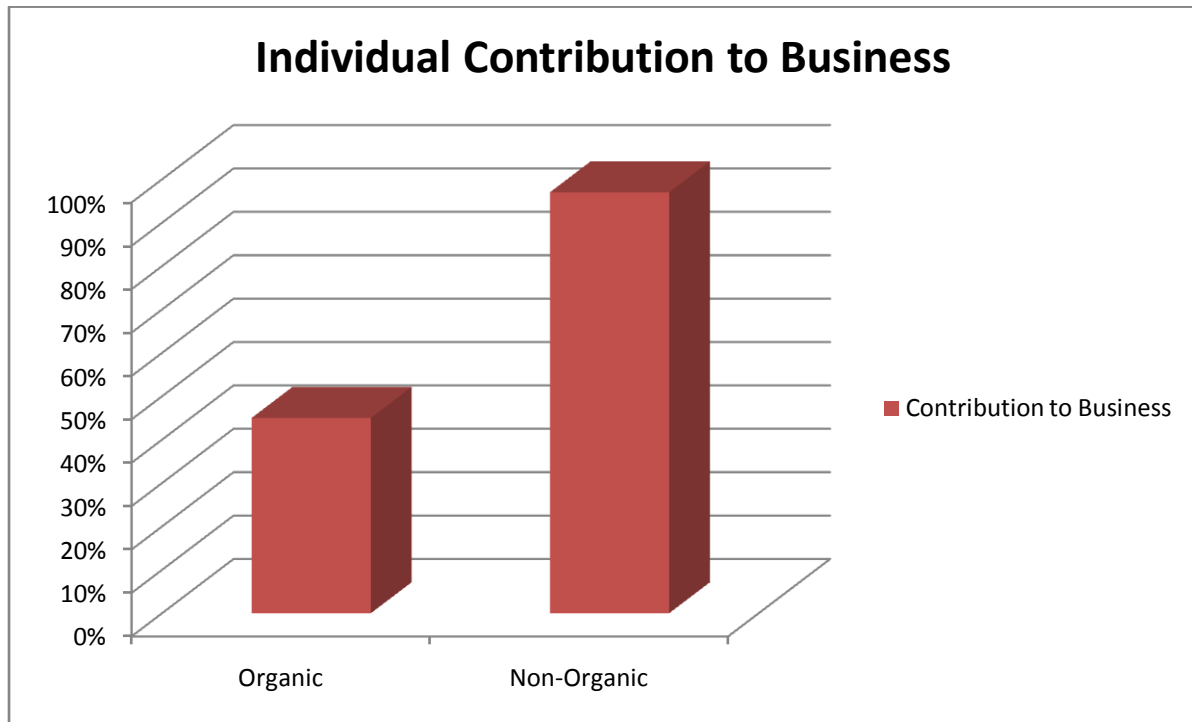
"Organic Agriculture" is a holistic production management system which enhances agro-ecosystem health, utilizing both traditional and scientific knowledge. Organic Agriculture System rely on ecosystem management rather than internal agriculture inputs.

Means is monocultures using large quantities of chemicals, chemical fertilizers and pesticides provoke desertification, salinization and contamination of land and water, resulting loss of productive lands, ecosystem, biodiversity and the extension of species. Hence to get out from these problems "Organic Agriculture" is demonstrating with real life example how to protect land, water, air, and electricity, how to enhance economical, social and environmental "Sustainability". Not only rural population enjoys the fruits of Organic Agriculture, but also urban citizen as well, with completely enviro-eco-friendly grains/crops production system.

Business domains in Organic Firms

Organic farming allows lot of verities of organic business/firms those have potential abilities for smart and monopolistic business ideas implementation with handsome profit and high degree of sustainability, which gives pleasure of doing businesses without creating any harmful effect in nature, for earth and societies, organic firms we can consider good business strategy based on principles of green revolution and ecological and economical win-win business balanced condition called "environmental economics" that is doing business without creating environmental degradations ecology and economy balancing with high profit and economical development of the countries. Organic firms is the new business demand to keep safe nature, living organism, non living organism without damaging, polluting environment, nature as well as to get out from food scarcity and crises. Organic firms have business

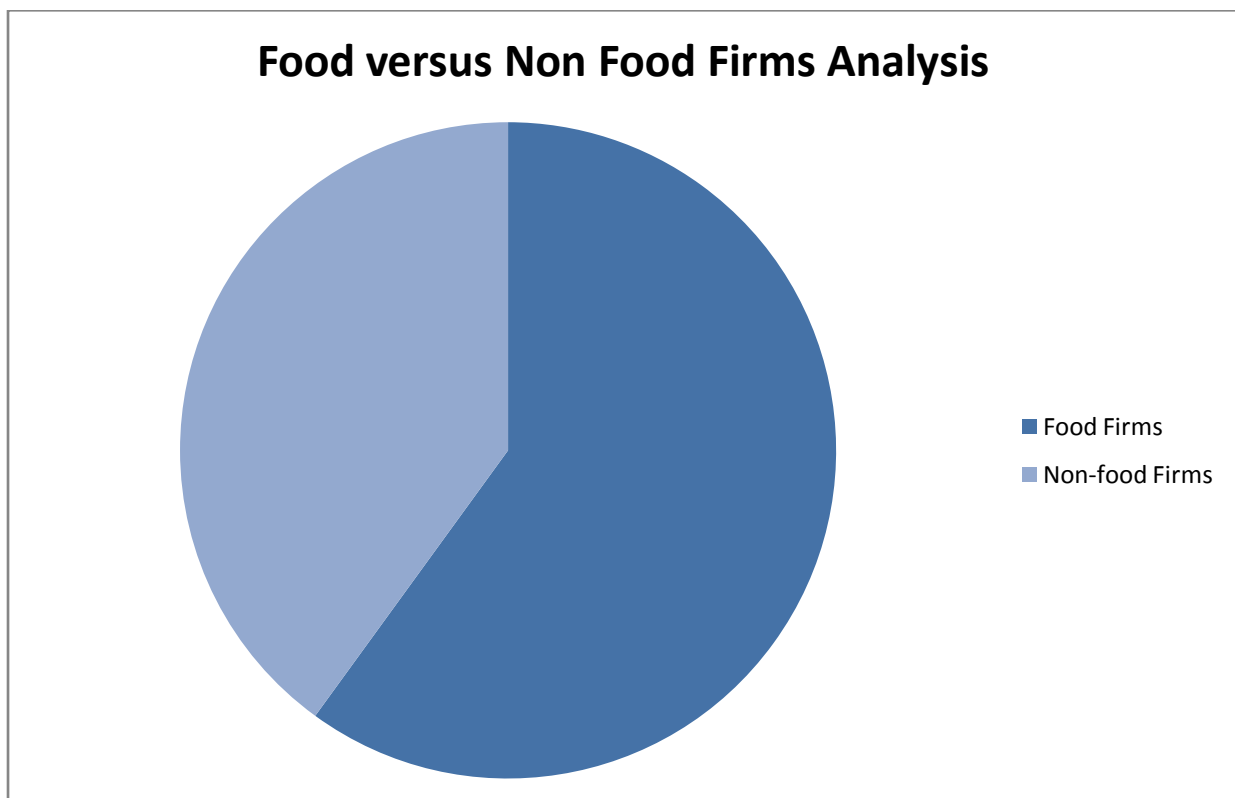
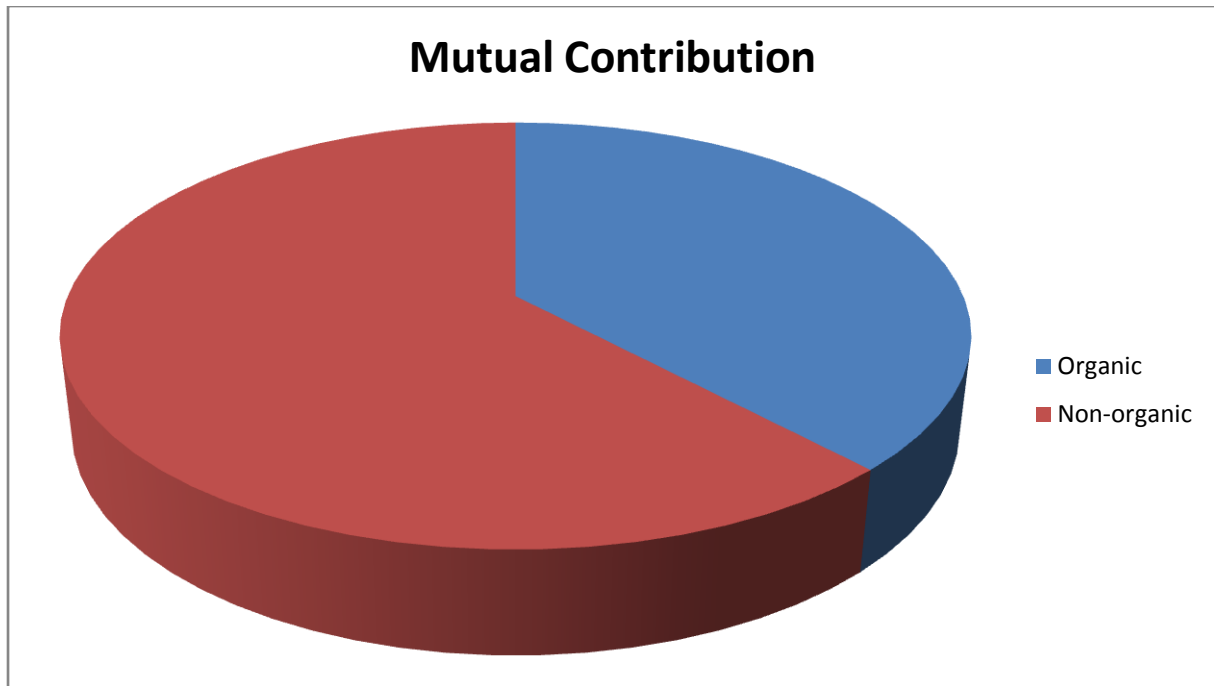
opportunities in both domain that is “**food**” like grains, fruits, nuts, vegetables, beans, spices , as well as “**non-food**” like medicinal plants, ayurvedic medicines, herbs, vitamins, petro/energy crops, flowers, milk, dairy-agri-products, colors, polymers/fibers for materials etc. but unfortunately people heavily engaged in non organic business instead of organic business basically computer, IT enabled and electronics products and gadgets. Some findings also support to same statements as exhibit below.



The above plot provides information about individual analysis of contribution of Organic versus Non-organic business to GDP of economical development of the nation. It is reported after individual analysis from 100% , 97% for Computer, IT, Electronics and related products and services which are completely saturated, have strong competition and completely oligopolistic market structure with creating lot of harmful effect on earth, nature and environment where these businesses again not coverable under basic needs and demand of human beings that is food and in nature these businesses completely un sustained. Similarly look at towards the organic business from 100% individually it is only up to 45% , which are basic needs of human lives, sustainable, have lot of business opportunities and monopolistic in nature. Now mutual contribution of Organic versus Non-organic business firms for economics GDP as display in below chart.

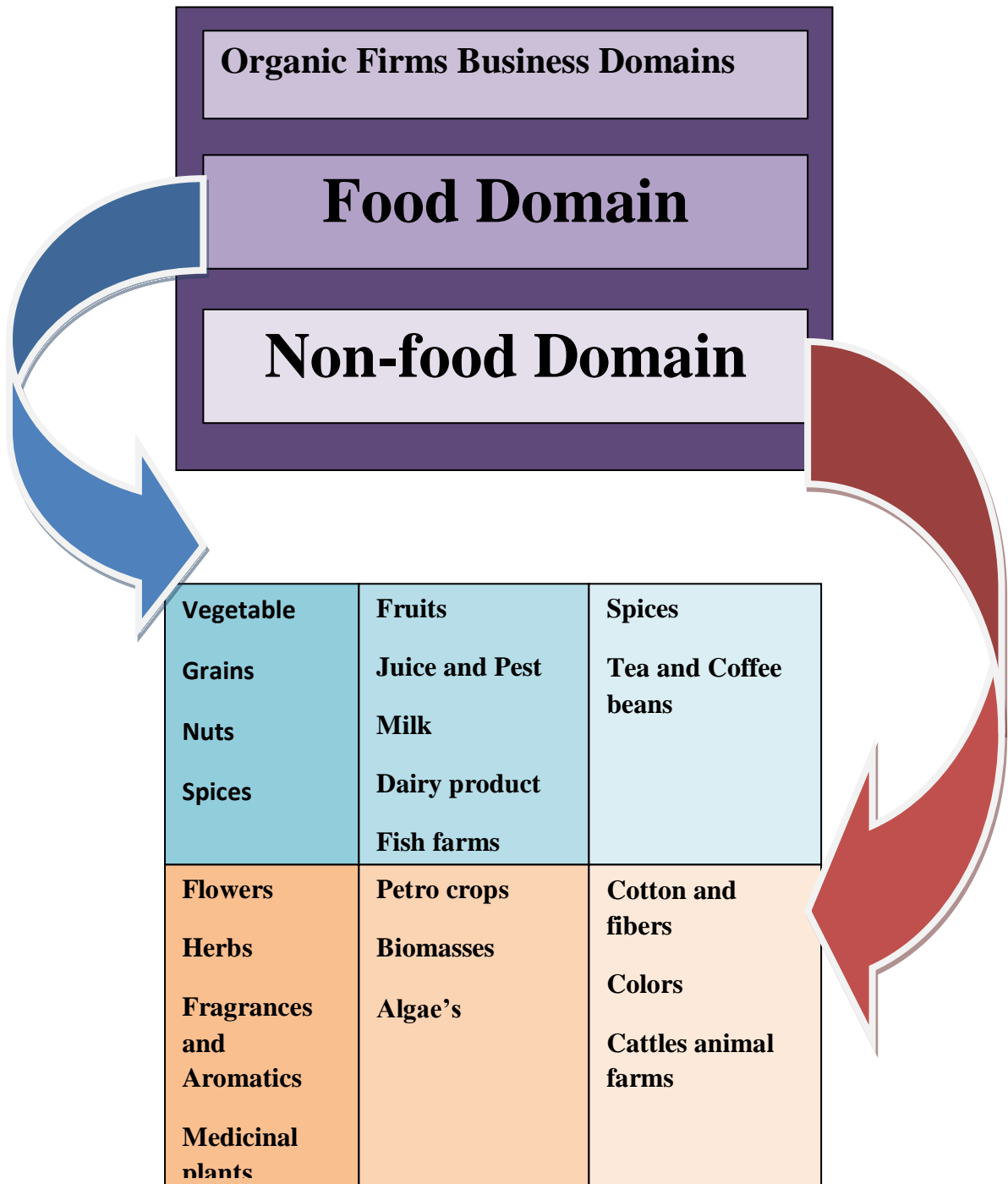
The first chart showcase the analysis point of Organic versus Non-organic firms with mutual comparatively studied, where ration found 38% goes to Organic and rest of the 62% goes to Non-organic firms from 100% hence again result is not satisfactory. The next pie chart is only with getting organic firms. In organic business again to equal opportunities exist that is Organic Food Firms and Organic Non Food Firms, where “**Food Firms**” like farming of grains, fruits, nuts, vegetables, beans, spices , and “**Non-Food Firms**” like farming of medicinal plants, ayurvedic medicines, herbs, vitamins, petro/energy crops, cotton flowers, milk, dairy-agri-products, animal farms, cattle’s, colors, polymers/fibers for materials etc my analysis shows in Organic business sector people again generally interested in food farming because they think large imitative, finance, effort need to take in non food domain and high risk factor involved in it. But true is equally non food things high demand exist in the world

and people ready to pay happily to purchase these non food products for example high demand of cotton, biomass for energy , petro crops and algae's for biodiesel production, high demand of flowers for happy as well as sorrow events. But analysis gives clue ration of Food versus Non-food Organic Firms is 40% to 60% respectively.



Business Domain of Organic firms:

In below I have developed one model for better and quick understanding with the above mentioned analysis along with possible grouping of Food versus Non food organic products for organic firms may some left for you for further inclusion.



Organic Firms Business Domain Model, developed by Prof. Md. Sadique Shaikh

Source: Md. Sadique Shaikh Book: Organic Firms, LAMBERT International Publishing, Germany.

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