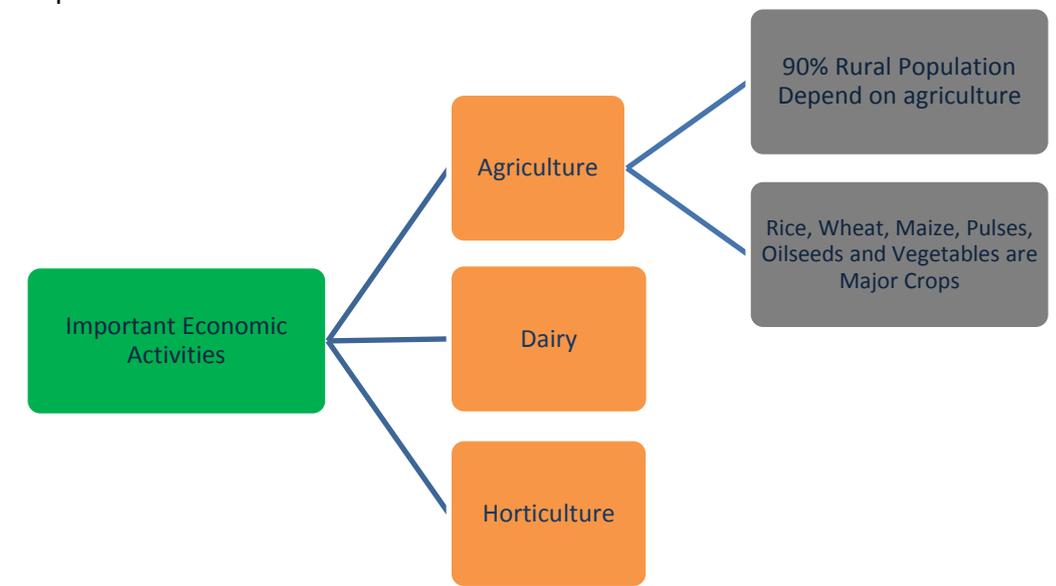


g. Agriculture in Buxar:

Buxar district comes under South Bihar Old Alluvial Plains which is broadly categorized as Sub-Humid. The soil type is heavy to sandy clay. The net cultivable area is 1,40,030 ha. and 4562 ha of land for aquatic purpose.

Agriculture is the predominant economic activity in the district. Other important economic activities are dairy, horticulture. The district is characterized by 90% rural population and basically dependant on agriculture. Rice, Wheat, Maize, Pulses, Oilseeds and vegetables are the major crops. The land is fertile. Almost 53% of the cultivable area is irrigated through various sources. Around 70% of the cultivable land is cultivated more than once. The productivity of Rice and Maize are of more than National average. However the use of technology and other major inputs are low as 77% of the land holding and 56% of the cultivable land of the district are held by Marginal / Small farmers who are generally resource poor.<sup>9</sup>



Buxar is considered as rice-bowl in the State and Rice mill is a traditional industry. Being suitable for wide range of crops and horticulture crops and farmers being progressive, the district has wide range of possibilities. There are developed vegetable clusters. Dairy infrastructure is quite developed. The level of farm mechanization in the district is better than most of the districts in the state. The crop coverage varies significantly with the variation in the rainfall. The cultivation of potato and green vegetables is significant. The agriculture of the district is still based on rice-wheat cycle. Cultivation of sugarcane is still negligible but agronomic conditions are suitable for its cultivation. The use of HYV Seeds and seed rotation is very limited, which makes it necessary to promote seed production. The use of fertilizers is low as well as imbalanced.<sup>9</sup>

Buxar district is also drought prone district where annual rainfall is gradually decreasing. The district has good canal network but the availability of the water at tail end is matter of concern. Around 53% of the area under kharif and 47% in Rabi season cultivable area of the district is irrigated.<sup>9</sup>

Among allied agricultural activity dairy with a good network of Shahabad Milk Union Federation, is an important activity. Revering fisheries are also practiced on a significant scale.

The district has certain location advantage as it borders with UP and the Delhi-Howrah mainline passes through it. It has good trade links with eastern UP.

3. Source: Strategic Research and Extension Plan of Buxar District Under the Guidance of Bihar Agricultural Management Extension Training Institute (Bameti) Patna 2008-09, Mr. S.K. Ojha, Project Director, ATMA Buxar



**View of irrigated field**