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STRUCTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Dr. Harmilap Singh*

Email id: harmilap_barring@yahoo.co.in **DOI:** 10.5958/2249-7137.2025.00043.3

ABSTRACT

Agriculture forms the backbone of Punjab's economy, making an efficient and well-coordinated administrative system essential for sustainable growth, innovation, and farmer welfare. This paper aims to examine the institutional framework and functional dynamics of Punjab's agricultural administration, focusing on the Department of Agriculture and Punjab Agricultural University (PAU). The objectives are to analyze the organizational structure and governance mechanisms of both institutions, assess their respective roles in policy formulation, research, extension services, and farmer support, and evaluate the extent of their collaboration in addressing the state's agricultural challenges. The study finds that the Department of Agriculture plays a central role in implementing agricultural policies, providing inputs, regulating markets, and delivering welfare schemes, while PAU contributes significantly to research, technological innovations, and farmer training programs. The interaction between these institutions has led to notable achievements in productivity enhancement, modernization of farming practices, and capacity building among farmers. However, the findings also reveal challenges such as limited resource optimization, gaps in policy implementation, and the need for greater integration of environmental sustainability in agricultural planning. The paper concludes with recommendations for strengthening institutional coordination, adopting climatesmart approaches, and enhancing participatory decision-making to ensure the long-term resilience of Punjab's agricultural sector.

KEYWORDS: Agriculture, Administration, Policy Implementation, Farmer Welfare, Extension, Agricultural Modernization, Climate-Smart Agriculture.

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