INTRODUCTION
Agriculture occupies a very important place in India’s national economy. It contributes about 32 percent to the national income. It has a share of 26 percent in the gross domestic product (GDP) of the country and account for about 15 to 20 percent to the total value of the country’s export. Agriculture provides a source of livelihood for over 70 percent of the population and fodder to the cattle and a substantial amount of raw materials to agro-based industries. It’s importance may be judged from the fact that in a country like India the socio economic development of any region is possible only if efforts are made to develop agriculture. Agricultural output in India determines not only the per capita income of the farm sector but also influences the standard of living of rural population and the nutriational standard of the poor masses, so agriculture is very important sector for the overall development in India.

Increasing agricultural production will support and sustain industrial development in several ways. Firstly, it permits agriculture to release a part of its labour force for industrial development while meeting the food needs of the non-farm sector. Secondly, it raises
agricultural incomes thereby creating the rural purchasing power needed to buy the new industrial goods and rural savings which may then be mobilised by direct and indirect means to finance industrial development. Finally, it enables agriculture to supply the major wage good of industrial workers.

Importance of agriculture in the context of economic development has been debated since long time. Agriculture forms the only part of economy that produce a surplus above the current requirements of labour and capital employed. Agriculture sector, besides being a prime source of food, is also a source of raw materials for expanding industries. Agriculture development would lead to an increase in the purchasing power of the rural poor and the growth of non-agricultural sector by providing a marked increase in production from industries. Agricultural sector carries a double obligation to increase production, and to provide capital for other sectors in order to promote economic growth, while at the same time, it must provide for the welfare of the farmers and their families.

If we compare the agriculture productivity between Uttar Pradesh and the study area, it has been found
17.01 quintals in case of the study area, whereas 15.98 quintals per hectare in Uttar Pradesh which clearly indicates that the productivity of the study area is higher than the state's average. However, it is lower than that of other important rice growing regions of the country.

A comparison of productivity of cereals specially rice, wheat and maize grown in India, Uttar Pradesh and the Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh highlights that productivity of rice in India is 18.41 quintals while that of wheat 25.59 quintals and maize 14.45 quintals. In Uttar Pradesh there are 18.58, 25.08, and 13.35 quintals per hectare respectively.

In case of the Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh, yield figures are 19.19, 19.11 and 10.96 qnts. per hectare of rice, wheat and maize respectively. Thus, a comparative analysis of the productivity of major cereal crops grown in the Tarai, the state of Uttar Pradesh and the national average reflects that the productivity of rice is marginally higher than the average of the country, but the yield of wheat and maize are lower than the average yields in both Uttar Pradesh and the country.

It was also noticed, that there are variations in the
agricultural productivity at district level in the study area. There are only few eastern districts where agriculture has a sound base large part of the region are suffers from backwardness. Still in eastern parts of the Tarai region cultivation of crops has a traditional base and crops receive low doses of inputs of chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides.

Literacy which is considered as one of the indicators of socio-cultural development is also as low as 22.88 percent whereas it is 41.39 percent in Uttar Pradesh and 52.11 percent in India. Similarly the degree of Urbanisation which is a reflection of development and modernisation in the area is also very low (19.70) percent in Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh. On the contrary the percentage of urbanisation in Uttar Pradesh and India has been 21.32 percent and 25.72 percent respectively.

Other sectors like industry, power supply and health facilities are also very poor in large part of the region, specially in eastern Tarai.

As many as the economist, sociologist, geographers, politicians and agricultural planner's hold the view that success of economic development programmes depends
ultimately on agricultural development. The level of economic development achieved in various political cum-administrative sub-division finally determines the economic development in the country. Keeping in view the magnitude of population and vastness of area, the economic development of Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh has an important role to play in the economic development in the country.

It is well known fact that there is high potentials of agricultural growth in Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh. The questions arise as to why this part of country is not agriculturally viable and economically well-off, what are the bottle necks ? What are the inefficiencies in the production processes. How and what factor of production be induced for achieving rapid growth in agricultural productivity to raise the level of socio-economic position of the study region.

**Objectives of the Study:**

i) To give a brief geographical outline of the study area.

ii) To study the technological factors affecting agricultural productivity and to establish relationships between the inputs and the
productivity.

iii) To examine the trends in Agricultural development and social development.

iv) To measure the regional patterns of the levels of agricultural development.

v) To measure the regional patterns of socio-economic development.

vi) To assess the impact of agricultural development on socio-economic development.

vii) To suggest remedial measures for overall development of the region.

**Database and Methodology:**

The present study is carried out at two points of time i.e. 1985-86 and 1995-96, based on secondary source of data, obtained from different sources such as Statistical Abstract, Economics & Statistics Division State Planning Institute Uttar Pradesh Lucknow, Directorate of Agriculture Statistics and Crop Insurance, Krishi Bhawan Lucknow Uttar Pradesh, census of India, District statistical hand book etc.

The following technique have been used for the analysis of present work.
The indices of crop productivity have been calculated on the basis of Yang's yield index method for two periods i.e. 1985-86 and 1995-96.

But the levels of agricultural development and the levels of socio-economic development have been measured with the help of composite Z-score statistical technique.

For examining impact of agriculture on socio-economic development the statistical technique of regression equation \( y = a - bx \) and scatter diagram has been used. To find out correlation between agricultural development and socio-economic development Pearson's correlation method has also been used.

**Hypothesis:**

i) The Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh is one of the backward regions of India where marked regional disparities exist in terms of social and economic development.

ii) The agricultural development of the region to a greater extent depends on use of modern inputs as well as institutional factors.

iii) Social and economic development of the study area is positively related with its agricultural development.
iv) As agricultural development increases, socio-economic disparities are reduced.

**Plan of the work:**

For the better assessment, the present work is divided into six chapters, which are as follows:

Chapter first deals with a brief geographical outline including relief, drainage, climate, soil and population density of Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh. Chapter second presents reviews of work done in the field of agricultural development, productivity and socio-economic development. Chapter third highlights spatial distribution of institutional and technological factors affecting agricultural productivity and agricultural development. Chapter fourth describes the levels of agricultural development. Chapter fifth deals with levels of socio-economic development. Chapter sixth is devoted to measure impact of agriculture on socio-economic development in Tarai districts of Uttar Pradesh. The last chapter deals with the findings of the study and suggestion of remedial measures for minimisation of disparities and development of the region.
REFERENCE:

