Ever since Pakistan achieved independence, she has been striving hard to become self-sufficient in matters of food. She has learned lessons from her unhappy past when she was visited by famines more often than not. The food position was precarious. She produced just enough for her home requirements and sometimes had to depend upon other countries. Even after the achievement of independence, she imported quite a large amount of foodgrains to meet her requirements. So after independence, our national leaders mobilized all their resources to promote the cause of agriculture and thereby the larger cause of the welfare of the people. Our efforts did bear some fruit and we have reached in the vicinity of the solution of the food problem and the Green Revolution of the agricultural revolution is around the corner.

As a matter of fact, Pakistan cannot afford to ignore such a vital sector of her economy as agriculture. Agriculture is the staple profession of the country. About two-thirds of the population is engaged in agriculture. It provides raw material to a number of industries, which in turn provide employment to a wide mass of people. Naturally in the absence
of adequate agricultural production, all our efforts to bring Indian economy to a
developed stage and get it running. would have founded on the rock of failure. Bringing
the agricultural of Green Revolution was indeed a far cry calling for urgent attention
and strenuous efforts.

Our national Government has taken many steps to bring about Green Revolution. A
sizable portion of the outlay in different plans was devoted to the development of
agriculture. Incentives have been given to farmers for mechanizing agriculture. They
were helped to purchase scientific implements of agriculture at subsidized rates. The
use of artificial chemical fertilizers has been and is being encouraged. A number of
fertilizer plants have been set up in the public sector in different parts of the country.
Agricultural Research Institutes have been set up in order to develop a high yielding
variety of seeds. Loans are advanced to farmers at low rate of interest payable in easy
installments. Besides, the State Governments have established Development Blocks in
centralized blocks of villages with a view to providing field guidance to the farmers. The government have
paid serious attention to the development of irrigation facilities. Scores of river valley
projects have already been completed and scores of them are underway. In order to
provide further incentive, farmers are assured of a fair return for their produce by fixing
purchase prices. Expert guidance in agriculture has been secured from foreign countries
under F.A.O. programmes. These measures taken by the government have cut much ice
in bringing about the Green Revolution.

The breakthrough in the production has been facilitated by improved seeds as well as
by hybrid seeds. Much scientific research has gone into the making of better seeds.
Availability of high yielding varieties of seeds alone is not the spectrum of the green
revolution. The supporting factors of this revolution have increased the availability of
fertilizers, increased irrigation facilities and effective price support given by the
government.

The greatest advantage of the green revolution is our self-sufficiency in foodgrains. Our
foodgrains production, which was only about 50 million tonnes in 1950-51, is now over
120 million tonnes. This has ended the import of foodgrains under PL 480, which earlier
bad caused a number of irritants in the political and diplomatic field, problems in
internal money field and loss of face.
Despite all sincere efforts on the part of Government, serious analogs have been noticed in what we have achieved. In the first place, the benefits of the Green Revolution have largely reached the well to do or big farmers. The small farmers are still roaming in utter indigence. This has resulted in the division of agriculture class into two groups—the rich and the poor. Further, cash crop has largely been neglected with detriment to the cause of industries based on them. Apart from this prosperity resulting from our achievements in the agricultural field has not been evenly distributed throughout the country. Steep variations in local prosperity are a threat to the unity of the country.

These snags are to be analyzed and cured in order to enable the fruits every member of the national society to benefit from of Green Revolution. Our policies should carry a socialistic bias. Also measures have to be taken to continue and step up the tempo of growth by tackling the problem of floods, droughts and other national calamities. This is the prime need of the hour, “as the only alternative to Green Revolution is Red Revolution:”