

CROP-AGRIBUSINESS: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS AMONG TIV SMALL SCALE FARMERS IN BENUE STATE, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

Agriculture has played significant role in Nigeria such as revenue and income generation, job creation, raw materials and food nutrition. In spite of government efforts to boost productivity and income of farmers, grassroots farming has remained subsistent. Thus, the Tiv people who are the majority in Benue state are subsistent farmers because the state has an estimated 75% population engaged in rain-fed subsistence agriculture driven by low incomes. This evoked the desire for commercial farming. It is against this background that this paper examined crop-agribusiness in Tivland with specific focus on challenges and prospects and the way forward. The study was guided by Rostow's theory of stages of economic development and considered its proposition in respect of peculiarities of agricultural societies. Utilizing secondary data, the study revealed challenges faced by farmers to include high level of illiteracy, insufficient financial support, poor access to farm inputs and markets; patriarchal and land tenure systems, poor storage facilities, herdsmen invasion, jealousy and witchcraft practices. Prospects identified include increased farmers' income, input supply, establishment of processing industries, improved infrastructural facilities, and production of farm machinery and equipment. The paper concluded that although farming is the mainstay of the Tiv economy, crop production as practiced was a mere extension of the traditional mode of subsistent farming

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which did not guarantee secured income and food security. The study recommended education of farmers, improved market access and information, storage facilities, better farm inputs, credit facilities; farmers' sensitization, cultural re-orientation and improved government policy among others.

Keywords: Crop-agribusiness, challenges, prospects, subsistence, Tiv ethnic group.

Introduction

The role of agriculture in every economy is very significant and cannot be over emphasized. Agriculture plays a key role in food security, economic development and employment generation. According to Udemezue and Osegbue (2018), most of the world's population living in rural areas directly or indirectly depends on agriculture for their livelihoods. Cardno (2017) as cited in Udemezue and Osegbue (2018) noted that as rural-urban migration intensifies globally, the proportion of people not producing food will grow. This suggests that the category of those migrating into towns and cities are largely the young and this will affect food production as the elderly left behind have little strength to invest into farming to provide adequate food for the teeming global population.

Nigeria as a country had sought to become a leading economy in Africa and a major player in the world economic and political affairs as outlined in her vision 20-20 (Udemezue & Osegbue, 2018). These authors argued that to become a developed nation, Nigeria needs to speed up her economic growth by focusing on vital economic sectors like agriculture, education, energy and manufacturing. Omorogbe, Jelena and Fatima (2014) suggested that the best approach for Nigeria is to focus on agricultural development which can act as a catalyst for her economic growth in the next decade. This implies that growth will be achieved only when the agricultural sector can supply sufficient raw materials to agro-allied industries.

Although Nigeria has the largest economy in Africa, FAO (2008) as cited in Igbokuwe, Essien and Agunnanah (2015:8) reported that agriculture is the major sector of the production economy which provides employment for 70 percent of over 150 million people who are small scale

subsistent farmers. This shows that significant proportion of Nigerians have shrinking and depleted farms and incomes which have adverse effect on the standard of living of farmers, food security and community-oriented development projects. This situation is worrisome. Farmers need to treat farming as an economic enterprise where agribusiness is seen as the catalyst for transforming peasant, traditional farming to modern, commercial farming. Such a shift from small scale, manual operation of farms to large scale mechanized operation of farms leads to a rise in sale of food products (Igbokwuwe, et al. 2015). This implies that commercialization of crop farming will attract local investors which in turn will influence market access, better prices, increased household incomes and improved living condition of farmers.

Benue State as the 'food basket' of Nigeria produces a lot of food crops which include, yams, cassava, sweet potato, soya beans, sesame, barbara nuts, rice and groundnuts. Other crops include tomatoes, citrus, mango, pears, cashew and pineapples among others. The production of these crops is largely on subsistent basis. The Tiv people being the most populous in the state and whose livelihood depends largely on farming contributes the greatest share of the food production. However, the desired environment for commercial farming is less obtainable in rural areas of Benue State, especially in Tiv land where farmers operate under constrained conditions that subject them to poverty situations. This point to challenges such as low level of education and illiteracy of small scale farmers, poor access to land due to culture and land tenure system, patriarchal system, poor access to better fertilizers, and poor market access, poor storage facilities, poor transportation system, poor financial base, invasion by herders, among others. Most of these challenges have been acknowledged (FAO, 2018; Egute, et al., 2004; Olakunle, 2013; Mgbenka, et al, 2015; Babagana, 2019).

Among the Tiv ethnic group, every rural household is a farming family which produces food for the household consumption and upkeep. What remains worrisome is the fact that Tiv people consider agriculture as a way of life and not a business or an investment to make profit. Generally, what is produced is for subsistence. It is only the surplus realized that is sold to raise incomes which are often very meager. Several studies conducted on small scale farmers in Tiv land reported small annual incomes of farmers (Biam &

Tavershima, 2020; Dam, 2012). Similarly, Odoh, Nwibo, Eze and Igwe (2020) conducted a study on farmers income and savings pattern in Benue state and found that due to the small incomes realized by smallholder farmers from their farms which could not meet their basic needs, most of them resorted to non-farm activities to raise more income to augment them.

There is more to life than just having enough food to feed on. Beyond food, there are many other needs that farmers have to pursue. There are the housing, clothing, education and health needs as well as other community projects that can make life more meaningful which farmers will invest in if given the opportunity. Subsistent farming over time has failed to guarantee all these. Similarly, the quest for money to meet basic needs compels most farmers to sell out food meant for household consumption thereby creating food shortage, hunger and poverty in the land. The more small scale farmers persist in subsistent farming to create wealth, the more endemic poverty seems to persist in rural areas of Tivland. In order to overcome this predicament, the constraints impeding commercialization of crop production among Tiv farmers need to be addressed. It is against this backdrop that the paper examines challenges and prospects of crop-agribusiness among Tivsmall scale farmers with specific focus on how the high rate of illiteracy, Tiv culture and land tenure system, the patriarchal system, poor farmers' access to better farm inputs, poor transportation system, poor storage facilities, insufficient financial support to farmers, invasion of farmlands by herdsmen, and jealousy/witchcraft respectively affect crop commercialization; as well as the prospects with a view to suggesting appropriate measures to reverse the trend.

Research methodology

The paper utilized secondary data obtained from textbooks, journal articles, research reports, data bases, conference proceedings, internet sources and personal observations as an adult member of the Tiv ethnic group being studied. The analysis of the data is qualitative.

Conceptualization of crop-agribusiness

Agribusiness refers to a set of farm business and management activities that involve input supply, production of food, processing/manufacturing and

transportation and marketing of agricultural products. According to Yusuff (2017), agribusiness refers to the various businesses that are connected with producing, preparing and selling farm products. Davis (1956) as cited in Pawa (2014:29) defined agribusiness as “the sum total of all the operations involved in the manufacture and distribution of farm supplies, production operations on the farm and the storage-processing-distribution of off farm commodities and other items made from them”. Adesina (2016) maintained that agriculture is neither a way of life nor a social sector, but a business venture aimed at creating wealth. What then is crop-agribusiness? Crop production is a component of the production sector of agribusiness. Considered within the context of commercial farming, crop-agribusiness refers to the production of agricultural crops with proper linkages to farm inputs supply, processing, transportation and the marketing sectors. It is a private sector approach aimed at engaging small scale farmers economically by increasing their technical capacity and allowing them greater market engagement.

Contextual composition of agribusiness

Agribusiness is a complex system that comprises of the input supply sector, production sector, processing sector and the transportation and marketing sector. There is supposed to be an inter-dependent relationship among these sectors to succeed. Chandrasekan, et al. (2010) cited in Yusuff (2017) maintained that agribusiness is directly related to industry, commerce and trade. This implies that agribusiness involves all the actors in the value chain and they include the farmer, agriculture extension workers, institutions and firms that provide inputs and manufacture food products, logistics services to the markets and final consumers. According to Yusuff (2017:273), “it is important to visualize these sectors as interrelated parts of a system in which the success of each part depends heavily on the functioning of the other.” The emphasis in this paper is on crop production which is a component of the extractive industry referred to in this paper as 'crop-agribusiness'. Crop-agribusiness cannot thrive without adequate linkages to inputs, extension services, processing industries, transportation and marketing.

Rostow's theory of economic development

The study is anchored on the theory of stages of economic development propounded by the American economist, Walt Whitman Rostow. The theory is a strand of the modernization theory which asserts that all human societies follow the same direction of growth from simple to complex, pre-industrial to industrial, tradition to modernity (Idyorough, 2008). Following this line of argument, Rostow outlined five stages that every traditional society passes through into modernity. These stages termed by Rostow as 'a universal path' include, the backward or pre-industrial societies, pre-conditions for take-off stage, the take-off stage, the drive to maturity stage and the stage of high mass consumption.

Rostow believed that contemporary African countries are yet to evolve to higher stages of economic development because they lack certain characteristics such as investment skills and delayed gratifications that are essential for them to take-off (Idyorough, 2008). The low state of agricultural and rural development among the Tiv ethnic group in Benue State could be as a result of the primitive, unproductive and change resistant values, institutions and technologies associated with agricultural societies. This implies that farmers have limited or inadequate access to improved varieties of crops, other farm inputs, markets and extension services that affect value addition. For instance, food crops produced in the study area such as cassava, yam, sweet potato, tomatoes, cashew, pineapples and oranges, among other vegetables have suffered wastages due to lack or poor infrastructures and technological inefficiency. Based on the foregoing, the Tiv ethnic group can best be placed in the first stage of development as outlined by Rostow's theory which is the traditional or pre-industrial stage. This is a stage of underdevelopment in which a society's farming system is traditionally subsistent and practiced as a social activity rather than an investment to create wealth.

Subsistent nature of crop production among Tiv people of Benue State

Subsistence farming is a form of farming in which the food crops produced are used to maintain the farmer and his household with the little surplus, if any, sold to raise income to exchange for other goods he cannot produce. The term subsistent farming is used interchangeably with 'smallholder farming',

'small-scale farming', 'resource poor farming' and 'peasant farming'. The Directorate Cooperative and Enterprise Development (DCED) (2012:1) in a framework for the development of smallholder farmer through cooperative development defined smallholder farmers "as those farmers owing small-based plots of land on which they grow subsistence crops and one or two cash crops relying almost exclusively on family labour." This implies that subsistence farming does not extend beyond few hectares of land where primitive implements such as hoes and cutlasses are used and the yield is very low. Biam and Tavershima (2020) examined food security status of rural farming households and argued that Benue state is predominantly rural with an estimated 75% of the population engaged in rain-fed subsistence farming that have low incomes and poor standard of living. This suggests that the Tiv people being the major ethnic group in the state are engaged in subsistence farming. A study conducted by Kakwagh, Aderonmu and Ikwuba (2011) on land fragmentation and agricultural development in Tivland observed that due to the small nature of farm sizes, farmers only engaged in subsistence farming with little surplus to raise income. This is in accord with the earlier position of Ajir (2006) on land segmentation among the Tiv people. The subsistent nature of crop production among the Tiv ethnic group has also been acknowledged by other scholars (Akaakohol & Aye, 2014; Odoh, Nwibo, Eze&Igwe, 2020; Abu, Odoemenen & Ocholi, 2011; Abu, Alumunku&Tsue, 2011).

Challenges affecting Crop-agribusiness among Tiv Small Scale Farmers in Benue State

This section highlights the challenges farmers encounter in the study area as discussed below.

I. High rate of illiteracy

One of the major constraints militating against the paradigm shift in agriculture in Tiv land is the high level of illiteracy among small scale farmers. Due to illiteracy, farmers do not keep records of their farming transactions. The Tiv people consider agriculture as a way of life. In this context reliance on local practices prescribed by culture is overwhelming where success or failure is attributed to fate because they are resistant to change. In a study conducted by Abu, Alumunku and Tsue (2011) on small

scale tomato farmers in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue state, findings showed that farmers' educational status negatively and significantly affected technical efficiency. Similarly, other studies conducted among Tiv farmers also revealed high level of illiteracy (Dam, 2012; Nda, 2018; Akaakohol& Aye, 2014; Odoh, et al, 2020).Kemi (2017) observed that low level of education could act as barrier to adoption of improved technology and modern ways of agricultural production.

ii. The Tiv culture and land tenure system

Another major challenge faced by small scale farmers in Tiv land is the inadequacy of land for use in agricultural development. A study conducted by Abu, et al (2011) to determine optimum farm credit need of small scale farmers in Benue state identified poor access to farm land as one of the major constraints to credit use faced by smallholder farmers to commercialize their production. The customary land tenure system among the Tiv ethnic group requires the segmentation of family land into plots for use by family members. As noted by Ajir (2006) “the Tiv cultural orientation towards communalism ensured that land was equitably distributed.”However, these plots of land are small and scattered across the land space and this poses a serious obstacle to mechanization and commercialization of agriculture.

iii. The patriarchal system among the Tiv ethnic group

Patriarchy is a social system that expresses male dominance in a social or cultural system. In such societies, men control everything including land and their women. According to Egute, Ode and Ku (2004),“under the Tiv law and custom, the women are forbidden from inheriting landed property of any nature and are considered as chattels”. In this context, the Tiv people ignore their women in decisions relating to matters of land and inheritance even though they carry out most of the farming activities. Among the Tiv ethnic group, women do not own land, they work mostly along side with their husbands on the farm and the men control everything. Even when women have their separate farms, the sizes are usually small (Nda, 2018).

iv. Lack of accessibility to better farm inputs

Agricultural lands in Tivland are becoming infertile and less

productive due to deforestation, bush burning and other poor agricultural practices. Besides, the rise in the cost of farming land leaves most poor-small scale farmers without alternative than to farm on the same piece of land continuously without fallowing. This practice results to land degradation where fertile lands lose most of their nutrients and become unproductive. This type of agricultural land cannot support large scale investment in farming. Dam (2012) examined dry season vegetable farming in the flood plains of River Katsina-Ala town of Benue state and findings revealed challenges faced by farmers to include lack of modern farm inputs such as fertilizer, pumping machines, tractors and herbicides. This indicates that small scale farmers do not usually apply fertilizer on their farms; use recycled seeds and local implements.

v. **Poor access to markets**

Marketing involves creating a link between the producer and the consumers of the product. It is equally the process of getting the agricultural products from the farmers to the end users. Poor access to markets constitutes one of the major challenges faced by small scale farmers in Tiv land which affects directly their productivity, incomes and standard of living. Otene, Adiel and Vihi (2018) made an assessment of vegetable farmers' satisfaction with received market information in Benue state and found that non-availability of desired market information channel, lack of credibility of accessed market information and high cost of accessing market information were some of the major challenges faced by vegetable farmers in the study area which prevented large scale farming. Jato and Terungwa (2020) also argued that rural markets are very difficult to access because they are not linked with good access roads.

vi. **Poor transportation system**

Transportation challenge is another critical constraint faced by farmers in Tivland and Benue State in general. Most agricultural products are produced in remote areas far removed from urban centers where they are needed. Some of these products are highly perishable and need to be sold as soon as they are harvested because these poor farmers do not have the required storage facilities to preserve them from spoilage. Due to the poor

and inaccessible roads in these remote rural areas, farmers find it difficult to transport these products to the urban areas where they are needed most. As noted by Olakunle (2013), poor road network results to post harvest losses and does not encourage entrepreneurship among farmers.

vii. Poor storage facilities

Storage facilities are essentials to farmers because they need to store their farm produce to be consumed when needed and also to be sold in the future when prices of food items improve. This poses a serious challenge for expansion of farm size when what is produced cannot be adequately and properly stored for future use. Nda (2018) worked on post harvest losses of cassava in Vandeikya Local Government Area and found that lack of adequate storage facilities is a major problem affecting small scale farmers. Lack of storage facilities leads to massive post harvest losses and food wastages which discourages investment into the sector (Mada, Hussaini, Medugu & Adams, 2014; Imonikebe, 2013; Atanda, et al., 2011). In situations of huge post harvest losses of farm produce, farmers are highly discouraged as they wallow in abject poverty.

viii. Insufficient financial support to farmers

Every business endeavour thrives on financing. Small scale farmers need money to be able to invest in commercial farming for maximum productivity. Agricultural credit according to Mgbenka and Agwu (2011) cited in Mgbenka, et al (2015) “encompasses all loans and advances granted to borrowers to finance and service production activities relating to agriculture.....and also for processing, marketing, storage and distribution of products resulting from those activities.” It is disheartening that small scale farmers in Tiv land and Benue State in general are hampered in their productivity and growth by lack of access to agricultural credit facilities. In a study conducted by Abu, et al. (2011) to determine the optimum farm credit need of small scale farmers in Benue state found that what farmers received as loans from financial institutions was below the optimum farm credit need of farmers.

Besides, there is dearth of agricultural and cooperative banks in Benue State. For instance, in the North-east Senatorial district of Benue state

comprising of seven Tiv local government areas (Katsina-Ala, Konshisha, Kwande, Logo, Ukum, Ushongo and Vandeikya), there was only one Agricultural and Cooperative Rural Development Bank which was formerly located at Vandeikya town in Vandeikya Local Government Area but was later relocated to Zaki-Biam in Ukum LGA. Most Tiv farmers lack access to these credit facilities, and because they are poor, they have no better option than to remain subsistent.

ix. Invasion of Tiv land by herdsmen

Another serious challenge faced by farmers is the invasion of Tiv land by the herdsmen. Invasion of farms takes different dimensions. When invasion takes place during planting periods, the animals are grazed on the crops planted; and when it occurs during harvesting, the animals feed on the crops harvested or yet to be harvested. This creates untold hardship to farmers. The negative effect of herdsmen invasion include loss of crops, reduced productivity, increase in prices of agricultural products, loss of lives, displacement, distrust and destruction of properties and increased poverty. Several studies conducted on Benue state have shown that the Tiv ethnic group has been under invasion by the herdsmen for more than a decade (Godwin & Aondonenge, 2016; Ijirshar, Ker & Terlumun, 2015; Ishor, Iorkosu & Apavigba, 2018). It is a known fact that most of the farmers displaced by herdsmen in Tiv land are still in Internally Displaced Camps (IDCs) across Benue State; and are yet to return to their ancestral lands. It is not possible for such a people to embark on large scale farming.

x. Jealousy/envy and witchcraft practices among the Tiv people

The Tiv people are predominantly farmers. Most of them put in concerted efforts to excel in their farming endeavour. However, farming is largely subsistent due to lack of agricultural transformation in the Tiv locality. According to Timin (2019), there is lack of development in the Tiv land due to some peculiar factors inherent in the life of a Tiv man. Prominent among these factors as identified by Shirshima (2015) are jealousy/envy and fear of witchcraft. According to Shirshima, the problem of the Tiv nation is not external to the people but internal; and it is commonly associated with the behavioural pattern they have adopted over the years.

A Tiv man believes that the only way to become a great person in the society is to plot the failure of other persons; an act which Timin (2019) succinctly described as “Pull Him Down” (PHD) syndrome. Such envy often culminates into witchcraft practices by demonically destroying other people's farms or afflicting them with deadly diseases that will render them helpless or sometimes causing mysterious deaths of reputable farmers as noted by Shirshima (2015). An environment dominated by what Wegh (2017) described as serrated or white witchcraft (a dangerous kind of witchcraft) scares people from embarking on modern, large scale commercial agriculture for fear of being the target of witches and wizards and subsequently losing invested resources. This is corroborated by what Justice Utsaha was quoted to have said in Shirshima (2015) that the Tiv man of contemporary times has turned to employing subversive tactics, including the use of supernatural powers to thwart the efforts of his brother who aspired to excel among his neighbours.

Prospects of Crop-agribusiness among Tiv Small Scale Farmers

This section highlights the envisaged opportunities that accrue to commercial farming as discussed below.

i. Generation of income and poverty reduction

Commercialization of crop-production will enhance increased food production and income generation for farmers. The ban on the importation of rice and other cereals by the Buhari's administration was a deliberate attempt to boost the income of rural farmers, alleviate poverty and encourage private sector participation. However, the hike in prices of food crops across markets in Tiv land and by extension, Benue state is an indication that the production of cereals and other food crops is highly inadequate. By moving away from subsistent farming to commercial farming where available resources can be utilized, small scale farmers will be able to produce enough food for household consumption and to feed the teeming local industries to generate more income which can also be directed towards rural development.

ii. Processing of food produce for domestic and export purposes

There is dearth of processing facilities for commodities such as yam,

cassava, potato, groundnut, cashew, sesame, maize, corn, oranges and other vegetables for local consumption and export in Tiv land. The commercialization of the above mentioned agricultural crops will provide enough raw materials for processing industries and enhance investment opportunities for the private sector to utilize. According to Odekunle (2013), the subsisting ban on the importation of fruit juices has created favourable grounds for the private sector to thrive. Private sector participation in establishing cottage industries in Tiv land will utilize the abundant oranges and other crops produced in the area to minimize the post-harvest losses often incurred in the crop sector production.

iii. Input supply

Commercial farming relies heavily on inputs such as improved seeds and seedlings, fertilizers and other agro-chemicals like pesticides and herbicides. Among the Tiv, rural farmers minimally use these agricultural inputs due to poverty and the small size of their farms. Commercialization of crop production requires intensive use of these inputs. As observed by Olukunle (2013:42), “the demand for agro-chemicals is rising and provides viable opportunities for the local manufacturers of agro-chemicals.....and the market for improved seeds has remained largely untapped.” The production, distribution and supply of agricultural inputs to meet this demand will provide ample opportunities for viable private sector initiatives in Tiv land. Input production and supply is a viable enterprise for investment.

iv. Provision of infrastructural facilities

Establishment of agro-processing industries in strategic areas of Tiv land will attract basic infrastructural facilities such as good roads, water and electricity. Besides government efforts in this regard, corporate bodies also have corporate social responsibilities to impact meaningfully on the lives of the host communities. This will set the pace for rural transformation in Tiv land.

v. Production of farm machinery and equipment

Crop farmers in Tiv land largely make use of primitive farm tools like

hoes and cutlasses for farming operations. Migrating to commercial farming requires the use of modern agricultural machinery. However, these modern implements are not readily accessible; even when they are available; the prices are too exorbitant for the rural farmers to afford. As observed by Olukunle (2013), a greater proportion of the agricultural machinery used in Nigeria is imported. This will pave way for locally fabricated portable and low cost farm equipment that can ease farming activities as it is obtainable in China and other Asian countries. This is an avenue for young graduates in Tiv land and Benue state at large with the appropriate skills to explore.

vi. Provision of employment opportunities for the youth

Prohibition of open grazing will compel herders to ranch their cattle. The demand for forage will provide opportunities for the youth to engage into agriculture. In this regard, forage-crops or hay farming as practiced in other countries will be encouraged. In this type of farming, forage crops are mowed, dried and stored as hay; or chopped and stored wet as silage or fed directly to cattle as pasture or as freshly chopped forage. This will not only provide employment for the youths but also the potential to produce enough forage for domestic consumption and export.

vii. Peace building and development

Jealousy/envy and witchcraft practices prevalent among the Tiv people have tremendously underdeveloped the Tiv nation to a large extent. Punishing bad behaviour and rewarding good conduct will encourage attitudinal change among Tiv sons and daughters towards each other's prosperity. As observed by Timin (2019), this attitudinal change can be encouraged by celebrating those who take giant strides towards development and those who plot evil against developmental strides should be repudiated and discouraged. This is capable of fostering peace, unity and development in the study area.

Conclusion

Although farming is the mainstay of the Tiv economy, the mode of farming practiced is subsistent in nature. What is even being obtainable today as commercial farming among the Tiv people is a mere extension of the traditional mode of subsistent farming that relies heavily on the meager

surplus to raise income. This mode of farming has failed to guarantee the desired food security and poverty reduction in the study area. Overcoming these challenges will mean a brighter atmosphere for farmers. This is a stage which Rostow described as 'pre-conditions for take-off'. This phase will open room for foreign and local investors and subsequently expunge poverty among Tivsmall scale farmers and pave way for rural transformation.

Recommendations

1. Agricultural extension workers should avail farmers the opportunity to access the desired information concerning farming best practices; and farmers should be taught how to read and write by invigorating the Local Government Council adult literacy programme using appropriate language and formats and sensitize rural farmers to participate.
2. Encouraged farmers to form family-based cooperative societies where they can access better farm inputs at subsidized rates and also pool together their fragmented plots of family land for commercial and mechanized farming.
3. Traditions and attitudes, as well as discriminatory legislations and policies against women should be discouraged to allow them sufficient access to farmland.
4. State and local governments should setup model markets strategically in rural areas of the state where farmers can sell their agricultural produce..
5. Government should provide solar cold chain equipment for preservation of tomato and other vegetables at affordable rates and equally revive the moribund silos lying waste in some parts of Tiv land as well as provide new ones and encourage farmers to use them.
6. Government should put in place efficient machinery for effective enforcement of the anti-grazing law operative in the state to prevent subsequent invasions; and ensure the return of the displaced farmers to their ancestral homes.

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