

ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP (WG) ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS

(As on 06.09.2021)

Sl. No.	Terms of References	Recommendations	Action Plan	Action Taken/Comments of Concerned Departments
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	<p><u>Increasing efficiency of distribution channels from farm to consumers.</u></p>	<p>a) Increasing competition in Agriculture Produce markets APMCs dominate agriculture markets. This is a monopoly situation. Private and other agriculture markets should be encouraged for better price discovery and competition. This will multiply number of distribution channels and help farmers realize better prices of their produce.</p>	<p>a.1 Private sector, Corporates, and Joint Ventures need to be encouraged to set up markets for free and competitive trade. All the State governments should amend the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulations Act to provide inter-alia for (a) enabling the private and cooperative sectors to establish and operate marketing services. (b) allowing direct marketing; (c) permitting contract farming; (d) rationalization of market fee; and (e) attracting agencies to take up marketing infrastructure development projects.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & FW (DAC&FW) formulated and circulated Model APMC Act to all States/ UTs in 2003 for its adoption, which, inter alia, provides for development of private wholesale market, direct marketing, contract farming, etc. By and large most of the States have adopted the major provisions of Model APMC Act, 2003.</p> <p>Further, in order to develop transparent, competitive, efficient and barrier free marketing with focus to provide more accessible, assured and robust markets to offer better net income to the farmers, DAC&FW has released in April, 2017 a progressive and holistic version of Model Act” The State/UT Agricultural Produce, Livestock Marketing (Promotional & Facilitation) Act, 2017, popularly called Model APLM Act, 2017, for adoption by the States/UTs. DAC &FW is actively pursuing with the States to adopt its key provisions. Arunachal Pradesh has adopted the model APLM Act, 2017 in entirety and States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Chhattisgarh have adopted it excepting few major provisions. Other States are at varied stages in the process of adoption.</p> <p>Furthermore, DAC&FW has released a new Model “Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming & Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018” to integrate farmers with agro-industries to mitigate market and price uncertainties, reduce post-harvest losses. Tamil Nadu has legislated and notified “The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2019” and Punjab has already enacted a separate contract farming Act. The Government is pursuing with States/Union Territories to adopt the same. However, 19 States have made provisions of contract farming in their State APMC Acts. (Action Completed)</p>

				<p>ICAR- ICAR-NIAP has contributed in developing Framework for ‘Ease of Doing Agriculture’ Index to assess implementation of reforms undertaken by the states. The Index will help fostering agriculture development among various states.</p>
			<p>a.2 Empowered Group of Agriculture Ministers’ must be set up to monitor the progress with all the State governments and if needed, may consider providing Technical Support for facilitating amendments in respective State APMC Acts. All state governments should accomplish this objective within an year. Ministers of Agricultural Marketing of States may also be included in the Empowered Group.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- DAC&FW had set up a Committee of State Ministers incharge of Agricultural Marketing to promote market reform in 2010. The Committee comprised of State Ministers In-charge of Agriculture Marketing from 10 States. After two years of deliberation, the Report was presented to Ministry of Agriculture in July, 2013. It was thereafter shared with all States/UTs for its adoption. The key recommendations made in the report have been considered by the Committee constituted to formulate the Model APLM Act, 2017 and incorporated therein as legal framework to develop the efficient market for marketing of agricultural produce. DAC &FW is actively pursuing with the States to adopt its key provisions.</p> <p>ICAR- A proposal to create Agricultural Market information and price forecasting system has been submitted to DAC&FW for funding and the approval is awaited</p>
			<p>a.3.1 Appropriate scheme be formulated to provide credit linked assistance for development of general and commodity specific agricultural markets and for strengthening existing markets including wholesale and rural periodic markets.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- DAC&FW is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) scheme which provides credit linked assistance for development of agri marketing infrastructure including general and commodity specific markets and strengthening the existing markets, both wholesale and rural periodic markets.</p> <p>Further, in Union Budget Announcement, 2018-19, Government has announced to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 Graminhaats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) to work as centers of aggregation and for direct purchase of agricultural commodities from the farmers. The Government has approved an Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund (AMIF) with a corpus of Rs. 2000 crore for developing and upgrading agricultural marketing infrastructure in the GraminHaats and Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) Markets.</p>

			<p>In addition to above, under National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), the Government is providing financial assistance to States/UTs for IT and quality assaying related infrastructure, creation of cleaning, grading and packing facilities and installation of compost unit in wholesale regulated markets integrated with e-NAM platform. (Action Completed)</p>
			<p>a.3.2 Also include agricultural marketing under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme of GOI and 20% of the project cost should also be provided as VGF.</p>
		<p>b) Need for Single Agricultural Market A single unified market does not exist within India and there are significant inter-state barriers to trade. These barriers can be broadly categorized into taxation related barriers and physical barriers that should be reduced / eliminated.</p>	<p>b.1 VAT rates can be kept at low level and if possible exemption can be given to the agriculture produce.</p> <p>b.2.1 APMC Cess should be collected at a single point to avoid cascading impact on prices. However, the service charges could be allowed to be collected</p>
			<p>DAC&FW-DEA has vide their notification No. 3C/1/2012-PPP dated 24.5.2012 included Terminal Markets in the list of sectors eligible for support (VGF) to Public Private Partnership (PPP) in infrastructure.</p> <p>Under MIDH, Terminal Market Complex (TMC) component is to be implemented in PPP mode with project cost of Rs. 150.00 crore for which assistance of Rs. 50.00 crore is available which includes 25% floor subsidy and 15% on bidding. The TMC guidelines are under revision. This is an infrastructure component and needs to be covered under viability gap funding scheme. (Action Completed)</p> <p>DAC&FW-There is no VAT post-GST implementation. As per the definition of agricultural produce in the GST Act, primary agricultural produce are in exemption list of GST. (Action Completed)</p> <p>ICMR- ICAR-NIAP has undertaken a study on implications of GST on agriculture sector and compared pre-and post-GST rates on different agricultural inputs and services. The GST is a significant logical step towards a comprehensive indirect tax reform in India. The study recommends lower GST rate for food processing, R&D services and farm machinery.</p> <p>ICAR-NIAP has developed appropriate price forecasting models and applied them for about 40 food commodities in 13 major states with forecast accuracy up to 90 per cent.</p> <p>DAC&FW-On pursuance by DAC & FW, 21 States have adopted the provision of single point levy of market fee and Department is pursuing with rest of the States to adopt the provisions. (Action Ongoing)</p>

			<p>by all those APMCs wherever the goods are traded after the first sale and these charges should be commensurate with the services provided by the respective APMCs.</p>	
			<p>b.2.2 Details should be worked out by the permanent standing mechanism for regional/ national co-ordination.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- Department has launched National Agricultural Market (eNAM) for e-trading of agriculture produce. 1000 markets have been linked to e-NAM portal, within the targeted schedule of integration. (Action Completed)</p>
		<p>c) Addressing information asymmetry: Market place is the best mechanism of price discovery Information asymmetry among various stake holders should be minimized. Present government (decentralized) system of data collection for preparing crop sowing/production estimates is not so reliable or timely. On the other hand, intermediaries/traders in agriculture produce have much better network of information gathering. They can also serve as a useful but indirect source of reliable crop production estimates</p>	<p>c.1 GOI should establish a mechanism, if necessary by creating a dedicated agency for this purpose, to collect and widely disseminate to all stakeholders timely information on production, import, stocks and overall availability of essential commodities. Appropriate information technology based tools should be used for this purpose to minimize the time taken to collect and distribute the data to all stakeholders.</p>	<p>DAC&FW-DAC under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is also disseminating information on market arrival and price of horticulture commodity by sourcing data from Agmarknet on MIDH website www.midh.gov.in</p> <p>DAC & FW supports this recommendation. Such an initiative will help all stakeholders in getting the relevant information at one place and enables them to take informed decisions. A dedicated agency may be created." (Action Completed)</p> <p>ICAR- ICAR-NIAP has conducted a study on information asymmetry in case of wholesale prices of mustard oilseeds and oil. The findings revealed that a 10 per cent decrease in wholesale price of mustard oil leads to 4 per cent decrease in prices of oilseeds, but increase in oil prices increases oilseed prices only by 1.7 per cent.</p> <p>DoCA- D/o Consumer Affairs disseminates daily retail and wholesale prices of 22 essential commodities from 101 Centres across the country. This information is available on the website of D/o Consumer Affairs. The website of PMC already stands hyperlinked to other sites of related Departments/Organisations. (Action Completed)</p> <p>D/o Pharmaceutical- The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals has taken a number of steps for the benefit of consumers of drugs</p>

	<p>if there is a centralized system of information on trade transaction/storage from traders, dealers and water houses/cold storages.</p>		<p>(medicines and medical devices)_, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pharma Jan Samadhan(PJS)- PJS is a web enabled system that serves as a robust e-governance tool for protection of consumer interest through effective implementation of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013. Complaints can be registered under PJS link available at the NPPA website, i.e., www.nppaindia.nic.in. NPPA can also be reached at toll free number 1800111255 on all working days between 9.30 A.M. to 6 P.M. and by e-mail at monitoring-nppa@gov.in. 2. PharmaSahiDaam (PSD)- PSD is mobile app that can be downloaded from Google play store free of cost for Android based mobile phones and from AppStore for iOS based mobile phone (iPhone). It helps to search the brand name, composition, ceiling price and MRP of the formulations. 3. Search Medicine Price (SMP)- Ceiling Price of scheduled formulations may be obtained by using the tool SMP available in the website NPPA. SMP facilitates consumers to verify whether medicines are being sold within the approved price range and also to detect any case of overpricing by pharmaceutical company/chemist. 4. Consumer Awareness and Publicity and price Monitoring (CAPP) – National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is implementing a central section scheme, Consumer Awareness and Publicity and Price Monitoring (CAPP) at the Central level and at the State level by th registered societies of Price Monitoring and Resource Units (PMRUs). The objectives of the scheme is to create general awareness to the consumers about availability of medicines at reasonable prices, care to be taken while purchasing the medicines and the role and functions of NPPA through print, electronic and other media. There are two component of CAPP Scheme viz. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Price Monitoring and Resource Units (PMRUs):</u> Under this component of the scheme the Government sets up Price Monitoring and Resource Unit’ (PMRU) in the State with the objective to create public awareness so that benefits of the DPCO(revised from time to time) trickle down to the grassroots levels. Their activities of PMRUs will include
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				<p>‘Reduction in the prices of Anti-Cancer drugs’ with the theme ‘HarEkKamdeshkeNaam’.</p> <p>5. <u>NPPA Control Room-a</u>. NPPA has set-up a Control Room with Helpline No. 1800111255 and e-mail monitoring-nppa@gov.in on 20th March 2020 to respond to queries and complaints relating to COVID-19. The issues raised are addressed and resolved, solutions are provided or forwarded to concerned authorities for redressal and followed up with them for final resolution.</p> <p>b. During Covid-19, approx 1900 calls from 28 States/UTs were received in the Control room. Issues relating to shortage/overpricing of Masks, Sanitizers, medicines (general drugs, drugs required in Covid-19 management and life saving drugs), issuances of permission of running of Pharma Units, movement of raw material/packing materials/ medicines/manpower etc. were address to and resolved by NPPA ad also in co-ordination with concerned State/ central Government authorities. In certain specific cases the medicines were arranged to be delivered to the door steps of the patents/ hospitals when these were not available in the vicinity.</p> <p>c. State Drug Controllers have been identified as Nodal Officers for NPPA and have been directed to liaise with the District/ State authorities for ensuring at ground level the resolution of the complaints referred to them by NPPA.</p> <p>6. <u>NPPA Dash Board</u>: To help the common people and ensure the availability of general drugs, drugs required in Covid-19 management and lifesaving drugs, Masks, Hand Sanitizers, Gloves, PPE Kits, oxygen, Ventilators and other related issues, NPPA has created a Dash Board for providing the information, inter alia, the Helpline Numbers of the State/UTs and the list of manufacturers.</p>
			<p>c.2 Information so available on IT based Trading & Stock Holding platform should be used to</p>	<p>DAC&FW-Provision also exists within MIDH to support and promote modern markets, including terminal, wholesale and retail markets.</p>

		<p>provide market- led extension services to farmers and other market functionaries. E.g. by providing ticker boards at APMC and other commodity markets.</p>	<p>DAC & FW is implementing Marketing Research & Information Network (MRIN) sub- scheme of ISAM. In association with SEBI (erstwhile FMC), price ticker boards have been provided to different APMCs for dissemination of SPOT prices.</p> <p>DAC&FW has also developed KissanSuvridha and Agrimarket, e-NAM mobile application to provide market led extension services to farmers and other market functionaries. Market price information is also disseminated through DD Kissan channel and Kissan Call centre.</p> <p>(Action completed)</p>
		<p>c.3 The gap as well as lag in availability of agricultural marketing information and statistics should be reduced by (a) strengthening statistical cells at the centre as well as state level (b) Satellite Imagery Technology should be used for ascertaining crop production estimates. Crop estimation through crop cutting experiments should be supported by satellite data for smaller areas.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- DAC&FW is implementing Market Research & Information Network (MRIN) scheme for collection and dissemination of market information (arrivals and prices) through AGMRKNET portal for the benefit of farmers. NIC is maintaining the portal and server centrally.</p> <p>Satellite imagery for crop production :-Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) was established in 2012, as an attached office of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' welfare, M/o Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare to use satellite data for providing operational crop production forecasting. MNCFC operationally provides pre-harvest District-State-National level crop production estimates for 8 major crops (jute, Kharif Rice ,Sugarcane, Cotton, Rapeseed & Mustard, Rabi Sorghum, Wheat and Rabi Rice) under FASAL (Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agrometeorology and Land based observations) project, using satellite data and agro-meteorological models. MNCFC has also developed methodology for Crop Cutting Experiment (CCE) planning using satellite data to get more accurate yield estimates. This methodology has been recommended under PMFBY and MNCFC has supported states of Odisha and Karnataka to generate CCE plans using satellite data.</p> <p>In addition, under the CHAMAN (Coordinated Horticulture Assessment using Management using geoinformatics) project, MNCFC is carrying out studies to provide area and production estimates of 7 major horticultural crops (Potato, Onion, Tomato,</p>

				<p>Mango, Banana, Citrus and Chilli) in selected 185 districts of 12 major states, growing those crops. (Action completed)</p> <p>DAC&FW-A 24 hour “Kisan TV” Channel on Doordarshan has been started as a national channel.(Action completed)</p> <p>ICAR- ICAR-NIAP has assessed the performance of agricultural extension and advisory system (EAS). India’s extension system is characterized by its pluralistic nature. The study revealed presence of linkages among all the government organizations and service providers. However, more synergy can be brought among EAS providers for effective delivery and use of EAS to the farmers.</p>
		<p>d) Improving Agri-Infrastructure of backward and forward linkages for Agriculture Production and Marketing.</p>	<p>d.1 Carry out gap analysis in respect of following infrastructure needs and formulate appropriate schemes for mobilization of resources for creation and expansion of agri- production-marketing infrastructure over next 10 years.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- Department is implementing a scheme viz Integrated scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM), which has a sub-scheme called Agriculture marketing infrastructure (AMI). For development of agri-market infrastructure, assistance is provided under AMI, RKVY and MIDH schemes of the department.</p> <p>As regards dry storage requirements for reducing post harvest losses, estimates of the National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NCAP), storage capacity of around 196 million MT has been projected. The requirement of storage capacity of 196 million MT by 2020-21 is also mentioned in report of parliamentary standing committee on Agriculture.</p> <p>The draft report of the Committee on Doubling Farmers’ Income, volume –IV of DAC&FW, August 2017 has examined the status of dry storage capacity available in the country. As per the report, the total storage capacity of 165.74 Million MT is available within the country with different organizations viz. 35.92 million MT with Food Corporation of India, 11.72 Million MT with Central</p>

				<p>warehousing Corporation, 45.28 million MT with State Warehousing Corporation and State Agencies, 15.07 with Cooperative Sectors and 57.75 with Private sector under ISAM-Rural Godown Scheme. It is also pertinent to mention here that under Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) (erstwhile Rural Godown Scheme) of ISAM scheme, 65.2 million MT of storage capacity has been sanctioned.</p> <p>As regards further creation of storage facility under AMI scheme of ISAM is concerned, proposal is under process for approval of 10.5 million MT by March, 2020. Department of Food and Public Distribution creates additional storage through procurement agencies such as FCI and data may be taken from them.</p> <p><u>(Action completed)</u></p> <p>ICAR- For increasing efficiency of distribution channels from farm to consumers, ICAR-NIAP has undertaken research studies on value chains of selected crops. A study on value chain of apple in Jammu and Kashmir mapped various actors across the value chains and document their functions. Similarly, value chain of tomato in Karnataka has been mapped. The results show 16.63 per cent post-harvest losses in tomato during handling at different segments. Such estimates would help to assess the situation and take necessary action.</p>
			<p>d.1.1 Agri-Infrastructure (Pre sowing linkages):</p> <p>d.1.1.ii) Farm Technology,</p> <p>d.1.1.v) Water shed development / land development and integrated natural resource management (forest etc.)</p>	<p>DAC&FW-The Watershed Development Programmes, namely, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Project & Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) have been discontinued w.e.f. 1-4-2013. All Watershed Development Programme have been converged under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) from XII Plan, which is implemented by Department of Land Resources (DoLR), Ministry of Rural Development. With a view to accord priority for water conservation and its management, Govt. of India has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) with objectives of "HarKhetKoPani" and "More Crop Per Drop" in a focussed manner with end to end solution on source creation,</p>

				<p>distribution, management and extension activities. The PMKSY has been formulated amalgamating ongoing schemes viz. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) of Department of Land Resources and On Farm Water Management (OFWM) of DAC&FW with an outlay of Rs.50,000 crore in five years starting from 2015-16. Watershed development and management of natural resources are addressed under the Watershed Component of PMKSY administered by DoLR . DAC&FW is implementing PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) which has two major segments i.e. ‘Micro-irrigation’ including efficient water application systems such as drip and sprinkler irrigation systems, and ‘Other Interventions’ which include micro-water storage structures, drought proofing and ground water replenishment measures, restoration potential of existing water bodies, conveyance and distribution of water are being promoted. During 2017-18, Rs. 3400 cr are allocated under PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop and a target of 12 lakh ha under Micro-irrigation and 1 lakh ha under protective irrigation has been set during current year. An amount of Rs. 2094.90 crore has been released so far against the allocation of 3000.00 crore (RE).</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmer Welfare (DAC&FW) has also launched ‘Reclamation of Problem Soils’ (Alkali/Saline & Acid) as a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) on pilot basis during 2016-17 in selected 15 states having higher extent of problem soils. The scheme envisages reclamation of Alkali/Saline soils at overall unit cost of Rs. 60,000/ha and Rs. 15,000/ha for Acid soils. During current year (2017-18) an amount of Rs. 30.00 crore has been allocated under RKVY and with this amount about 9000 ha area would be covered. Out of this 30.00crore , an amount of Rs. 11.00crore has been released so far to ten states who have submitted AAP duly approved by SLSC under RPS.Provision exists under MIDH for creation of water resources through community tanks as well as individual water harvesting systems. Over 38,696 community water harvesting systems have been established under MIDH scheme under XII Plan. The programme is being continued under MIDH during Fourteenth Finance</p>
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			<p>d.1.1.i) Irrigation infrastructure,</p>	<p>MoWRRD&GR- (A) An irrigation potential (IP) of about 113.92 million hectare (Mha) has been created up to March, 2015 against the assessed are periodically made by State Governments. Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) provides technical and financial assistance to the States which formulate and implement the irrigation projects. Final assistance is provided through various schemes/Programmes. After launch of Pradhan mantra Krishi SinchaiYojana (PMKSY) in 2015-16, its two components-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and HarKhetkoPani (HKKP) are being implemented by MoJS, and have been playing key role in augmenting IP in irrigation sector across various States. Ongoing schemes of Surface Minor Irrigation(SMI) and Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies are parts of HKKP.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under PMKSY-AIBP, Ninety-Nine (99) ongoing Major/Medium Irrigation projects spread over 18 States were identified during 2016-17 to be completed in phases. Out of these 99 projects and 7 phases (Total-106), 44 projects have been reported by States to be completed so far. Ultimate Irrigation Potential of these 99 projects in 76.03 Lakh Ha, out of which 41.39 Lakh Ha had been created upto 31.03.2016. During 2016-2020, additional potential of 21.45 Lakh ha has been created through these projects. 2. Under the surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) scheme, since Fy 2015-16 onwards, 1754 schemes have been included, of which 224 schemes have been reported to be completed upto March, 2020 creating IP of 0.45 Lakh Ha till March, 2020. 3. Under the Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies scheme, since Fy 2015-16 onwords, 1181 schemes have been included. Of these, 474 water bodies have been reported to be completed upto March, 2020 with creation of IP of 0.22 Lakh Ha upto March, 2020. <p>(B) Implementation of Shahpurkandi Dam (National Project) on</p>

				<p>River Ravi in Punjab State, approved on 06.12.2018, would create an Irrigation Potential of 32173 ha in UT of J&K and 5000 ha in Punjab on its completion.</p> <p>(C) Relining of Sirhind Feeder and relining of Rajasthan Feeder was approved on 26.09..2018. Relining of Sirhind Feeder envisages to save 256 cusec of water leading to stabilization/improvement of irrigation in 69,096 ha of area (20740 ha. in Rajasthan and 48356 ha. in Punjab). Relining of Rajasthan Feeder envisages saving 560 cusec of water leading to stabilization/improvement of irrigation in 98,739 ha of area in Rajasthan.</p> <p>(D) Additionally, Special Package has also approved on 18.07.2018 to complete 83 Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) projects and 8 Major/Medium Irrigation Projects in drought prone districts in Vidarbha and Marathwada and rest of Maharastra in phases upto 2023-24. Balance potential of 3.77 Lakh Ha, as on 01.04.2018, would be created on completion of these schemes. Total 86160 ha. of potential has been created through all these projects during 2018-19 to 2019-20.</p> <p>(E) Polavaram Irrigation Project has been declared as a National Project under Section 90 of AP Reorganization Act, 2014. Project is envisaged to irrigate 2.91 lakh ha area in the State of Andhra Pradesh after completion.</p> <p>(F) Further, long pending incomplete parts of the North Koel Project has also been approved by the Central Government, and on completion, it will and IP of around 0.40 lakh ha.</p>
			d.1.1.iii) Rural electrification	<p>MoP-Government of India launched the scheme namely “DeendayalUpadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana” (DDUGJY) with the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To separate agriculture and non-agriculture feeders to facilitate DISCOMs in the judicious rostering of supply to agricultural & non-agricultural consumer’ in rural areas. • Strengthening and Augmentation of Sub Transmission & Distribution infrastructure in rural areas and metering at

				<p>Distribution Transformers, Feeder and consumers end in rural areas.</p> <p>The erstwhile rural electrification scheme was subsumed in DDUGJY as a separate rural electrification component and the approved outlay of the erstwhile scheme has been carried forward to DDUGJY.</p> <p>Scheme Outlay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DDUGJY- Outlay :Rs.43.033 Crore, Subsidy: Rs.33,453 Crore • RE Component – Outlay : Rs.32,860 Crore, Subsidy :Rs. 29,574 Crore • Total Outlay- Outlay : Rs.75893 Crore, Subsidy : Rs.63,027 Crore <p>Funding Pattern – GOI Grant: Special Category States-85%, Other States-60%,</p> <p>State Contribution; Special Category States-5%, Other States-10%</p> <p>Loan: Special Category States-10% Other States-30%</p> <p>Additional GOI Grant: Special Category States-5% Other States-15% on achievement of (i) timely completion of projects (ii) AT&C loss rreduction as per trajectory (iii) Upfront release of subsidy by State Govt. based on metered consumption.</p> <p>Expected Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity to all villages and households • Viable and reliable electricity services in rural areas • Increased productivity in agriculture • Improvement in delivery of health & education services • Improvement in access to communications (radio, telephone, television, mobile) • Improvement in public safety through lighting.
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				<p>Status of Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects with total cost of Rs. 44,416 Crore have been sanctioned in 33 States/UTs. • GoI Grant of Rs. 51,457.25 Crore has been released since 2014-15. <p>(including RE component subsumed from erstwhile scheme) Besides above, an additional amount of Rs. 14,179 crore has been sanctioned for creation of additional infrastructure to support household electrification under SAUBHAGYA.</p> <p>Village Electrification: All inhabited census villages in the country as per Census, 2011 stand electrified as on 28th April, 2018.</p>
			<p>d.1.1.iv) Rural roads and transport</p>	<p>MoRD- Rural Road is a State subject and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is as a one-time special intervention to provide rural connectivity, by way of an all-weather road with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures, which is operable throughout the year, to eligible unconnected habitations of designated population size (500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-Eastern States, Himalayan States and Himalayan Union Territories, Deserts and Tribal Areas as per 2001 census) in the core network for uplifting the socio-economic condition of the rural population. In the critical Left Wing Extremism affected blocks (as identified by Ministry of Home Affairs), additional relaxation has been given to connect habitations with population 100 persons and above (2001 census).</p> <p>The scheme is executed by States/UTs through State Rural roads Development Agency (SRRDA) at State level and Programme Implementation Units (PIUs) at district level. The economic impact of rural roads include increase in volume of agricultural production, increase in productivity of land, changes in cropping pattern, better prices for agricultural produce, reduction in transport costs, creation of new employment opportunities in farm and off-farm sectors, lower prices for essential commodities to rural consumers, better conditions for setting up cottage and agro-industries, increase in production of dairy products, etc.</p>

				<p>The mandate of the scheme have been subsequently widened to include new interventions namely PMGSY-II with a target to upgrade 50,000 Kms of the existing rural road network to improve its overall efficiency as a provider of transportation services for people, goods and services, Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA) for construction/upgradation of strategically important roads, and PMGSY-III for consolidation of 1,25,000 Km Through Routes and Major Rural Links connecting habitations, inter-alia, to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals.</p> <p>Against 1,78,184 eligible habitations of 250+ and 500+ population size identified for coverage under the scheme, 16,086 habitations have been provided connectivity by the States out of their own resources and 4,689 habitations have either been dropped or have not been found feasible. Out of the balance 1,57,409 habitations sanctioned for providing connectivity under the PMGSY, 1,54,180 have already been covered and 3,229 habitations remain to be provided connectivity.</p> <p>Under 100-249 population category (LWE areas), 6,286 habitations have been sanctioned for providing all-weather road connectivity, out of which 5,500 habitations have been saturated till 13.02.2021.</p> <p>Phase-III of PMGSY was launched for consolidation of 1,25,000 Km Through Routes and Major Rural Links connecting habitations, inter-alia, to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals at an estimated cost of Rs. 80,250 crore. A total of 46,949 Km road length has already been sanctioned to 14 states and 4,185 km road length completed. Overall, a total of 6,47,483 km road length has been constructed under various interventions/verticals of PMGSY, viz. PMGSY-I, II, III and RCPLWEA.</p> <p>(Ongoing)</p>
			<p>d.1.1.vi) Agriculture R&D, training, extension services infrastructure for continuous expansion in productivity potential.</p>	

d.1.2 During crop period infrastructure linkages:

- (i) Agri- inputs such as (1) pesticides etc. (2) Fertilizers depots.
- (ii) Crop loans and crop insurance through Rural Financial Institutions (RFI).

DAC&FW- d.1.2.(i).(1)- The State Governments have been requested to ensure timely availability of quality pesticide to the Farmers; Furthermore, the states have also been impressed upon to exhort their extension functionaries to sensitise/ educate farmers on IPM approach and to use chemical pesticides as a last resort as per approved label claims”.

ii) Agriculture Credit:

Effective and hassle-free agriculture credit drives agricultural production. While the short term agriculture credit is required to ensure desired level of crop production leading to food security, the long-term agriculture credit is crucial for capital formation and asset creation leading to sustainability and viability of both production and productivity. With the objective of ensuring hassle-free credit to farmers, the Government fixes targets for flow of credit to agriculture by the banking sector every year. The targets and achievements made in respect of agriculture credit flow for the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Target	Achievement
2014-15	8,00,000	8,45,328.23
2015-16	8,50,000	9,15,509.92#
2016-17	9,00,000	10,65,755.67 #

Provisional

Source: NABARD

Short-term crop loans are provided to farmers at concessional rate of interest through Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Scheduled Commercial Banks, Cooperatives Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to facilitate their efforts to purchase various agricultural inputs.

Year	Target (Rs. in Crore)	Achievements (Rs. in crore)
2014-15	5,75,000	6,35,412
2015-16	5,95,000	6,65,313
2016-17	6,15,000	6,89,457
2017-18	6,80,000	NA

Under Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS), Short Term Crop loans upto Rs.3 lakh are provided at a concessional rate of 7% per annum with a further prompt repayment incentive of 3% per annum for repayment within a year.

Crop Insurance:

Keeping in view the risks involved in agriculture and to insure the farming community against various risks, Ministry of Agriculture has implemented various crop insurance programmes since 1985. In 2016 the new scheme of Pradhan MantriFasalBimaYojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) were launched from Kharif 2016. Other Scheme being implemented are Pilot Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS).

The PMFBY scheme provides comprehensive coverage against non-preventable natural calamities from pre-sowing to post-harvest losses. The farmers are charged one flat premium rate for the season i.e. maximum 2% for kharif crops, 1.5 % for Rabi crops and 5% for annual commercial/ horticultural crops, the balance of the bidden premium being paid by the Central and State Governments on the equal basis. Loanee farmers who are obtaining Seasonal Agricultural Operations loans/ Kisan Credit Card from Rural Financial Institutions including Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperatives Banks /PACS and compulsorily covered under the Scheme and the coverage of non-loanee farmers is being done on voluntary basis through these financial institutions or agents/intermediaries of insurance companies, online on crop insurance portal and through Common Service Centre (CSCs).

During 2016-17, 575 lakh beneficiaries (437 lakh loanee and 138 lakh non-loanee) were covered and an area of 555 lakh ha. Insured for a sum amounting to Rs. 201077 crore. Total claims amounting to Rs. 14483 crore have been approved for 124.96 lakh farmers for the year. **In 2017-18**, for **Kharif 2017** 327.08 lakh farmers applications (236.59 lakh loanee and 90.48 lakh non-loanee) were covered and an area of 332.16 lakh ha. Insured for sum amounting to Rs. 127653 crore. Total estimated claims amounted to Rs.

				<p>13934 crore and of which 458 crore have been paid. Rabi coverage , included total farmers applications 152.04 lakh (loanee 124.80 lakh and 27.23 lakh non loanee) over an area of 143.07 lakh ha for sum insured of Rs. 63981 crore.</p> <p>(Action completed)</p> <p>d.1.3 Agri - infrastructure (Post harvesting linkages):</p> <p>(i) Marketing network including yard development,</p> <p>(ii) Fruits and vegetable market infrastructure,</p> <p>(iii) Cleaning, storage, packaging and grading infrastructure in villages including farmers' training,</p> <p>(iv) Storage and cold storage infrastructure facilities,</p> <p>(v) Processing and value addition infrastructure in villages,</p> <p>(vi) Market information network,</p> <p>(vii) Research infrastructure for improving post harvest handling of farm produce.</p> <p>DACF&W- AMI sub-scheme of ISAM scheme provides subsidy for development of various types of marketing infrastructure including primary value addition through cleaning, grading, etc and for storage. The schemes also provide assistance to the state agencies including Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) for developing a network of marketing yards.</p> <p>Under MRIN scheme, mandis are provided with hardware, software and internet connectivity for linking the AGMARKNET portal for dissemination of market related information to farmers. The nationwide market information network has been created to disseminate arrivals and prices information through AGMRKNET portal. So far, 3289 markets have been connected with the portal and more than 2800 markets are reporting data daily to the AGMARKNET portal for more than 300 agricultural commodities.</p> <p>(Action completed)</p> <p>MoFPI- The Ministry of FPI is implementing Mega Food Park scheme to create modern infrastructure for food processing industries in the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total 42 Mega Food Parks (MFPs) were envisaged by the Government. • As on date, Ministry has accorded final Approval to 37 MFPs. Out of this, 22 MFPs have become operational. • All these 37 MFPs will create Processing capacity of 14.2 MT & Preservation capacity of 24.4 Lakh MT. <p>MT Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure from farm gate to consumers; • To enhance value addition of agricultural produce; • Projects approved: 325
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects completed: 214 • Under implementation: 111 • Will create of a cold chain capacity of about 9.43 lakh MT of Cold Storage/Controlled Atmosphere/Deep Freezer Storage, 305.55 MT/Hr of Individual Quick Freeze, 147.29 lakh LitrePer Day of Milk Processing/Storage and 1678 nos. of Reefer Vehicles. <p>Scheme for Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To plug gaps in supply chain of perishables agri-horti produce • To connect farmers directly with processing and market • Support for facilities like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary processing centres/collection centres at farm gate, ▪ Distribution hub and retail outlets at the front end, ▪ Reefer transport etc. • 50 projects proposed in the country • 61 projects have been approved <p>Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing & preservation Capacities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote food processing/preservation units in Mega Food Parks, Agro Processing Clusters and designated Food Parks. • 400 new units proposed in the country • 290 food processing units approved, 44 made operational. <p>PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme for providing financial, technical and business support for upgradation of existing micro food processing enterprises is under implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme has an outlay of rs. 10,000 cr. • Rs. 103.83 crore have been released to 35 States/UTs. • Out of 31 Project Implementation Plans (PIPs) shared by States/UTs, 13 have been approved by the Hon'ble Minister. <p>ICAR- ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana with its 02 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) viz. Post-Harvest Engineering</p>
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				<p>&Technology (PHET) with 30 Centres and Plasti-culture Engineering & Technology (PET) with 14 Centres has established 171 Agro-processing centres (APC) in different parts of the country including ICAR institutes and State Agricultural Universities.</p> <p>Consortia Research Platforms (CRP) on Secondary Agriculture (SA) is in processes of establishment of 05 APCs are under establishment i.e. 01 APC at CIAE, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, 02 APCs in Punjab (PAU, Ludhiana and ICAR-CIPHET, Abohar) 01 APC at ICAR-IISR, Calicut and 01 APC at AAU, Anand, Gujarat. Out of 14 centres of AICRP on PET, 4 centres have been started during XII plan. In addition, 01 Food testing Laboratory, 01 Agri Business Incubator Centre and 01 National Testing Centre for Post-Harvest Equipment and Machinery have also been established at ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana.</p> <p>A new KVK has been established on 25th December 2016 in Fazilka, Punjab under ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana.</p> <p>A patent was filed on "Live Fish Carrier System and Method of Transportation of Live Fish Therein", Application No. 201611032728.</p> <p>Research consultancy project 'Trial on storage losses in the newly constructed warehouse and conventional warehouse' funded by Central Warehousing Corporation was completed.</p> <p>ICAR-CIRCOT has provided Technical knowhow and DPR for establishment of 25 briquetting and 10 pelleting plants in and around Nagpur district.</p> <p>Established linkage with pelleting units for the logistics of cotton stalk.</p> <p>Provided cotton stalk chipping facility to the villages Parsodi (Vakil), Kalmeshwar (tal), Nagpur (Dist), Telgaon, Telkamtee, and Kuhi (Tal), Nagpur (Dist).</p> <p>ICAR-National Institute for Researchon Jute and Allied Fibre Technology, Kolkata during 2017 developed 07 new products, 09 equipments fabricated for supply of stake holders, 268 breeder and commercial samples (Fibre, yarn, fabric etc.) were evaluated for quality, 13 Entrepreneurship development & training programs conducted and 11 Technology demonstration for upliftment of farmers and rural youth were carried out.</p> <p>Mango handling and grading plant of 1ton/hr capacity designed,</p>
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				<p>fabricated, installed and pilot tested under the TSP programmed at Raigarh District, Odisha.</p> <p>Six Soy nut processing units have been established in India at different locations of Dharwad, Gurgaon, Barapani, Indore, Imphal, Tura.</p> <p>Different trainings in the field of Post-harvest management of horticultural produce for fresh market and processing and value addition of cereals and pulses have been organized.</p> <p>Under the MeraGoanMera Gaurav (MGMG) Programme, technology for value addition in fish products was transferred to the fisher women at Kadamakkudy Village in Vypin, Kochi.</p> <p>Infrastructure for fish processing and product development was installed and Sixteen fisher families have been benefitted.</p> <p>Thirty-five fisher families of Andhakaranazhi at Alappuzha were given technology of hygienic handling of fish that has facilitated better revenue due to quality improvement in the fish products.</p> <p>The referral laboratory at ICAR-CIFT, Kochi has been strengthened by the installation of Ion Chromatography-Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (IC-ICP-MS) at a cost of Rs. 1.58 crores. This is a highly sophisticated equipment for determination of heavy metals in fish and fishery products.</p> <p>The referral laboratory at the Veraval Regional Centre of the ICAR-CIFT, Kochi was upgraded by installation of Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry-Mass Spectrometry (GCMSMS) which is used for detection of pesticide residues in fish and fish products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ICAR-NRC on Camel Imparted training on clean milk production to camel farmers under ATMA. ✓ ICAR-NRC on Pig provided technical guidance for setting up of a commercial pig slaughter house cum processing unit at Sonapur village, near Guwahati, under Public-Private-Partnership. M/s Arohan Foods Pvt. Ltd, the private partner, has constructed the unit, which can process about 30 pigs in a day and has all the facilities required for production of value added pork products, including cold storage facilities. ✓ ICAR-CIRG has developed facilities of processing and value addition of goat milk and meat product and state of art testing laboratory for pesticide and heavy metals residue in meat samples. Special Training programme can be organized on
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			<p>d.2.1 The private sector should be encouraged to bridge the gap in agri- infrastructure for which public assistance should be provided in PPP mode. Successful small farm mechanization models of China and Japan can be studied and adopted after suitable modifications.</p> <p>d.2.2 In addition, the Co-operatives should be motivated to take up these activities and they should be given 70% subsidy.</p> <p>d.2.3 In times of plenty, lack of storage space poses a problem. It is imperative that both the State and centre make efforts in shoring up the storage space through its own sources and by encouraging the public private partnerships so as to create a huge cushion in lean</p>	<p>value addition in milk and meat.</p> <p>DAC&FW- As far as post-harvest and marketing infrastructure is concerned, DAC&FW is promoting developments of wholesale markets, direct marketing and contract farming through infrastructural developments by private sector participation.</p> <p>The components of PHM and market infrastructure under MIDH are entrepreneur driven through commercial ventures for which Government assistance is credit linked and back ended. The project cost of these components does not exceed Rs. 8.00 crore and are taken up by entrepreneur / individuals by bringing their equity and mobilizing investments from commercial banks. The land for these projects is either owned by the entrepreneur or taken on lease. The component of Terminal Market Complex (TMC) is to be implemented in PPP mode with project cost of Rs. 150.00 crore for which assistance of Rs. 50.00 crore is available which includes 25% floor subsidy and 15% on bidding. (Action completed)</p> <p>MoFPI- Nil</p> <p>DAC&FW-For Development of Cooperatives, a Central Sector Integrated Scheme on Agricultural Cooperation (ISAC) is being implemented through NCDC. Under the scheme among others, assistance @ 15%, 20% and 25% for the projects/schemes by cooperatives including projects on marketing, processing, etc. is given for cooperatively developed, under developed and least developed States respectively. The loan part is being given by NCDC and subsidy is given by Government of India under the Scheme.(Action completed)</p> <p>DAC&FW- There are sufficient storage capacities for central pool stocks. Against total stocks of 529.59 LMT (as on 01.01.2021), the total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and the State Agencies (both owned and hired capacity), was 819.19 LMT (as on 31.12.2020) comprising 669.10 LMT in covered godowns and 150.09 LMT in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage.</p>
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		years and minimize distress sale and purchase in times of crisis.	
		d.2.4 Creation of Cold chain infrastructure is also an important aspect to provide better return to the farmers and bring down the costs for the end consumers. In addition GOI should promote research in bio- based/ solar powered cold chains in tune with the need of Green Development.	DAC&FW-MIDH also promotes use of solar and other alternate energy resources for cold chain projects like staging cold room, pack houses, ripening chambers, cold storage etc. Assistance for development of cold chain infrastructure is being provided under MIDH. (Action completed)
		d.3.1 Up – to –date information on prices and other market factors enables farmers to negotiate with the traders and also facilitates spatial distribution of products from rural to urban and between markets.	DAC&FW is implementing Market Research & Information Network (MRIN) scheme since March 2000. The objective of the scheme is to create a nationwide network to disseminate arrivals and prices information through AGMRKNET portal for the benefit of farmers. So far, 3289 markets have been connected with the portal and more than 2800 markets are reporting data to the AGMARKNET portal for more than 300 agricultural commodities. (Action completed)
		d.3.2 Govt. of India should promote the scheme of “Live Dissemination Programme” to install ticker boards in Mandis.	DAC&FW- DAC & FW is implementing Marketing Research & Information Network (MRIN) sub- scheme of ISAM. In association with SEBI (erstwhile FMC), price ticker boards have been provided to different APMCs for dissemination of SPOT prices. DAC FW has also developed Kissansuvidha and Agrimarket, eNAM mobile application to provide market led extension services to farmers and other market functionaries. Market price information is also disseminated through DD Kissan channel and Kissan Call centre. (Action completed)
		d.4 Agricultural marketing should be included in GOI scheme for PPP with 20% VGF.	DAC&FW-DEA has vide their notification No. 3C/1/2012-PPP dated 24.5.2012 included Terminal Markets in the list of sectors eligible for support (VGF) to Public Private Partnership (PPP) in infrastructure. Assistance is also provided under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for terminal markets. Further, response on implementation of Viability Gap Funding in market infrastructure in Terminal Markets for fruits and vegetables can be given by MIDH Division.

			<p>Under MIDH, Terminal Market Complex (TMC) component is to be implemented in PPP mode with project cost of Rs. 150.00 crore for which assistance of Rs. 50.00 crore is available which includes 25% floor subsidy and 15% on bidding.</p> <p>The component had very poor response in the country. So far, 5 projects have been sanctioned but not a single project could be taken up by the entrepreneur. There is requirement for change of guidelines or introduction of some new component in place of TMC.</p>
		<p>d.5 Though the Warehousing Regulatory Authority has been set up, steps should be taken to create awareness among stakeholders particularly the farmers so that they benefit from such arrangement.</p>	<p>DF&PD- The WDRA was constituted on 26.10.2010 under the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act.2007. It regularly conducts awareness programmes for farmers and training programmes for warehousemen of registered warehouses. These programmes are focused on the Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) and management of warehouses, respectively. The programs are being organized through reputed institutions / organizations and since inception 885 awareness programmes involving 44250 farmers/traders/millers have been organized till 21.01.2021. A total of 79 training programmes for 2565 warehousemen have also been organized upto 21.01.2021.</p>
	<p>e) Strengthen Spot & Future markets.</p>	<p>e.1 Reform Spot markets by amending APMC Act as per proposed Model APMC Act as mentioned in para a.1 and a.2.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- As already mentioned, Department has circulated the Model APLM Act, 2017 to all the States for implementing the same. With the objective to strengthen the spot markets to enable farmers to get better value of their produce. (Action completed)</p>
<p>e.2 Spot markets should be strengthened to enable farmers to get better value for their produce.</p>		<p>DAC&FW- Assistance for market infrastructure is available under RKVY and MIDH schemes. Department has circulated the Model APLM Act, 2017 to all the States for implementing the same. This is with the objective to strengthen the spot markets to enable farmers to get better value of their produce. (Action completed)</p>	
<p>e.3.1 Food security being the utmost concern, for the time being there should be a ban on the trading of essential commodities in the future market.</p>		<p>DEA- The merger of Forward Market Commission with Securities and Exchanges Board of India (SEBI), the repeal of the Forward Contracts Regulation Act, 1952 and the inclusion of commodity derivatives within the purview of the Securities Contracts Regulation Act has brought the commodity derivatives markets</p>	

			<p>within the regulatory purview of an autonomous regulator, in line with long-term suggestions made by the Maharashtra government.</p> <p>Further, for prudent regulation of futures trading in agricultural commodities, including essential commodities, SEBI has come out with the guidelines for classification of agricultural commodities, under which agricultural commodities are classified as ‘Broad’, ‘Narrow’ and ‘Sensitive’. An agricultural commodity is classified as a ‘Sensitive’ commodity if it is prone to frequent policy interventions like Stock Limits, Export/Import Restrictions etc. In case of ‘Sensitive’ commodities, position limits have been kept lower than non-sensitive commodities. Additionally, ‘Broad’ and ‘Narrow’ commodities are non-sensitive agricultural commodities, differentiated on the basis of Production and Imports in past five years, with higher position limits allowed for <i>broad</i> agricultural commodities. Banning of contracts is found to be less effective in achieving the objectives for which it is imposed.(Complete on part of DEA and e.3.1. is N.A. as Recommendation pertains for 2010)</p>	
			<p>e.3.2 However, with regard to the long run, Maharashtra government has made a few other suggestions as per Annexure -V.</p>	<p>Suggestions have been considered by the concerned Departments.</p>
			<p>e.4 Trading in futures of other agricultural commodities can be permitted.</p>	<p>DEA- As on March 12, 2020, out of 91(67=agricultural) goods notified for derivatives trading, futures trading is ongoing in 27 agricultural goods. Of these, 5 belongs to spices category, 7 belongs to cereal and pulses category, 7 belongs to oilseeds, oilcakes and oils category, 3 belongs to fibres category, 1 belong to plantation category and 4 belongs to others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among cereals and pulses category Bajra, Barley, Chana, Maize, Moong, Paddy Basmati and Wheat are available for derivatives trading. • Among fibres category Cotton, Kapas and Raw Jute are available for derivatives trading. • Among oilseeds, oilcakes and oils category Castor Seed, Cottonseed Oil Cake, Crude Palm Oil, RBD Palmolein, RMSeed, Soybean and Soybean Oil are available for derivatives trading.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among plantation category Rubber is available for derivatives trading. • Among spices category Cardamom, Coriander, Jeera, Pepper and Turmeric are available for derivatives trading. • Among others Guar Gum, Guar Seed, Isabgul Seed and Mentha Oil are available for derivatives trading. <p>In order to limit excessive speculation in futures trading of agricultural commodities, various provisions exist for imposing Special Margins and Additional Margins on the trading clients in addition to other regulatory tools at the disposal of SEBI.</p> <p>(Completed)</p>
		<p>f) Integrate warehousing / cold chain infrastructure with spot and futures markets in the form of negotiable warehouse receipts.</p>	<p>f.1 Forward Markets Commission, RBI along with Spot / Future Exchanges should work out appropriate mechanism for integration of spot market with future market that are backed by physical stocks.</p>	<p>DEA- All derivatives contracts proposed by Exchanges are designed in such a way that they are linked to underlying physical markets and the needs of the physical players are addressed by such derivatives contracts. In Agricultural Commodity Derivatives segment, contracts are compulsory deliverable contracts which mean that the Seller with an open interest at the expiry of the contract has to arrange for delivery and the allocated buyer has to accept the same in accordance with the contract specification. Further, there is high correlation between spot and futures prices.</p> <p>The warehouses accredited by Exchanges for delivery against derivatives contracts are required to be registered with WDRA, for agricultural commodities as WDRA presently registers only agri and horticultural commodity warehouses.</p> <p>In October 2019, Ministry of Finance (Dept. of Economic Affairs) notified “option in commodities” as a derivative under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956. With this enablement, the plain vanilla options, structured directly on commodities would become tradable on exchange platforms. These commodity derivatives are much simpler and hedger-centric than the “options on commodity futures” which are being traded at present and can be used to avail price risk insurance in the commodity derivatives market. Trading has commenced on option in goods on both agricultural and non-agricultural commodities.</p>

				<p>In case of gold, it has been decided that SEBI the regulator for gold derivatives will also look into the spot trading in Gold including its assaying, vaulting, logistics etc. Further, WDR Act is proposed to be amended to strengthen WDRA to undertaking logistics and assaying in addition to warehousing and to grant them enforcement powers like SEBI. An announcement to this effect has been made in the Union Budget 2021 (para 71).Once the same is done, e-NWR based trading could commence on the commodity exchange platform. (Ongoing)</p>
			<p>f.2 A system of certified warehouses and negotiable warehouse receipts should be introduced to improve credit delivery for marketing functions. Similarly, pledge financing should be encouraged.</p>	<p>DEA- e-NWRs issued against agri-commodities stored in warehouses registered with WDRA are now acceptable as delivery instrument to settle the delivery obligations on derivatives platform.(Completed)</p> <p>DoF&PD- The Government of India had enacted the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 to establish a Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (NWR) System in the country.</p> <p>WDRA was set up on 26.10.2010 to implement the provisions of the W(D&R) Act, 2007. The Authority is mandated to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses which inter alia includes compulsory registration of warehouses issuing or intending to issue NWRs, promotion of scientific warehousing, improving fiduciary trust of depositors and banks and enhancing liquidity in rural areas.</p> <p>Therefore a system of registering and regulating warehouses issuing Negotiable Warehouse Receipts has been set up. The following steps have been taken to improve this system and encourage pledge financing against NWRs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. WDRA implemented a Transformation Plan, which, inter alia envisaged creation of IT based eco-system for management of NWRs in electronic form (e-NWR), online registration of warehouses and surveillance & monitoring. To make its regulatory system more

				<p>transparent and user friendly to gain the trust and confidence of different stakeholders, rules, regulations and guidelines have been amended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ii. The Authority has implemented an online system of warehouse registration from November 1, 2017. The WDRA has mandated that from August 1, 2019 onwards the NWRs shall be issued only in electronic form i.e. e-NWR.iii. WDRA has empanelled seven Inspection Agencies for pre-registration inspection of warehouses to verify the requirements of warehouse registration as per the allotment by WDRA. The post-inspection stock inspection & general inspection are also taken up to confirm the management of warehouses as per laid down standards.iv. A system of electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System was implemented by way of setting up two repositories namely, National E-Repository Limited (NERL) and CDSL Commodity Repository Limited (CCRL) on September 26, 2017 for creation and management of e-NWRs.v. The e-NWRs issued by warehouses registered and regulated by WDRA for the approved commodities are eligible for pledge financing. Some of Financial Institutions and Banks have been on boarded on repositories for online pledge financing against e-NWRs. WDRA has requested all Banks individually to make pledge finance against e-NWR being instrument backed by the Law enacted by the Government and regulated by WDRA.vi. Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) and WDRA have written to Department of Financial Services (DFS) / Reserve Bank of India to advise banks to give preference to e-NWRs in pledge finance.vii. RBI has been requested by DFPD & Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) to modify their Master circular on Priority Sector Finance to include Negotiable Warehouse Receipt instead of Warehouse Receipt.viii. Banks continue to finance against the pledge of paper
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				<p>based Warehouse Receipts issued by unregulated warehouses as the Master Directions issued by Reserve Bank of India allows them to account for those pledge loans under Priority Sector advances.</p> <p>ix. WDRA already requested Reserve Bank of India to make appropriate changes in their Master Directions in this regard giving preference to regulated instrument and also to extend lower credit risk weightage for Capital charge for the advances sanctioned against pledge of Electronic Negotiable warehouse Receipts (eNWR) as an incentive as the said regulated instrument has better risk management mechanism.</p> <p>x. Recognized Stock Exchanges of Commodities like National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX), Multi-Commodity Exchange (MCX), Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), National Multi-Commodity Exchange (NMCE/ICEX) have start using e-NWR for settlement of derivative contracts.</p> <p>xi. An integration of e-NWR with spot market electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) has been completed. The eNWRs issued by the WDRA registered warehouses which are declared as market yards (Mandi) by respective State Governments are eligible to be traded on the e-NAM platform.</p> <p>So far 1884 warehouses belonging public sector, private organizations and cooperatives are having active registration with WDRA as on 21.01.2021 and are eligible to issue electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipts. Since inception of WDRA, a total of 375358 NWRs (101619-paper based NWRs and 273739- e-NWRs) have been issued by these registered warehouses and loans to the extent of Rs. 2521.65 crores have been released by banks to the farmers/depositors against these NWRs/e-NWRs.</p>
		<p>g) Testing and grading of farm produce for better price realization-framework for</p>	<p>g.1 By an amendment in Agriculture Produce Markets Act, the utilization of funds by the AMPCs and SAMBs for support services like grading,</p>	<p>DAC&FW- In order to provide the support services like grading, standardisation and pledge financing, the Model APLM Act, 2017 clearly demarcates the functions of MD of Board from that of Director of Agriculture (Marketing). Director of Agriculture Marketing shall promote such support services including pledge</p>

		<p>setting up accredited agencies</p>	<p>standardization, storage and pledge finance should be made mandatory.</p>	<p>financing and shall adequately finance these support services. For this a revolving marketing development fund has been proposed in the model Act. DAC&FW is pursuing with the States to adopt the provision. (Action Completed)</p>
			<p>g.2 Facilities for extension education and training of farmers in post- harvest value addition and quality specifications should be strengthened. Training and teaching aids in regional languages should be developed.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- Farmers’ training is an eligible cafeteria activity under “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms”. Over 5.57 crore farmers have been benefited under the scheme through different extension activities like farmers’ training, exposure visits, demonstrations, farmers-scientists-interactions, kisangoshties, kisanmelas and farm schools, etc. Good agricultural practices are disseminated among farmers in different thematic areas including post–harvest management and value addition under the scheme. The agri-preneurs who have established their agri-ventures, are involved in the capacity building of farmers through their training on innovative areas in agriculture and allied sectors such as soil testing, nursery raising, organic farming, farm mechanization, animal husbandry, dairying & fisheries etc.</p> <p>ICAR- Skill development training programs on post-harvest technology for farmers/rural youth/women have been conducted by KVKs. KVKs have established Post Harvest and Value Addition units and farmers are also initiating to develop such types of units. Hands on training Courses on Value Addition and Post-Harvest Technology are offered by KVKs. Value addition as a part of minimizing post-harvest losses is given adequate importance by the KVKs particularly in fruits and vegetables. KVKs undertake regular skill oriented training programs to rural youth, school drop outs and farm women on value addition of fruits (pickles, jams, juices, concentrates etc.), vegetables (pickles, dehydrated vegetables, dry tomato powder etc.) and millets (malts, snacks, sweets, biscuits and nutrition drinks etc.). The training material during skill development programs is invariably developed in vernacular languages and circulated to the trainees for reference.</p> <p>ICAR- CIPHET, Ludhiana: Institute organised following programmes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) on Tomato processing (05 Participants), Anola processing and value addition (06 Participants), Production, packaging and value

				<p>addition of Mushroom,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Industry Interface meet at CCS HAU Hisar for entrepreneurs, farmers and manufacturers (110 Participants). ✓ A Model Training Course (MTC) on "Processing, Value Addition and Entrepreneurship Development in Food Agri-Business" was attended by 22 participants from all over India. ✓ A Model Training Course on "Post-Harvest Supply Chain/Cold Chain Management of Vegetables" in which 7 extension officers from all over India participated. ✓ A three days Farmers' Training on 'PostHarvest Management' for farmers from Nashik District, Maharashtra, ✓ A five days Farmers' Training on 'Post-Harvest Management' for farmers from Wardha District Maharashtra. <p>ICAR- NIRJFT, Kolkata: Institute organised following programmes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Training program on "Jute Handicrafts" at KVK, Mayrubhanj-1, Odisha forTwenty-two (22) female trainees associated with agro-based crafts work, ✓ Training program on "Bleaching and dyeing of jute" for twelve (12) participants. ✓ Training programme on "Jute Bag" for twenty-two (12 Men & 10 Women) participants. ✓ Training programme on "Natural Dyeing and Bleaching ofJute& Allied Fibres" was organised at Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Sargachi, Murshidabad, West Bengal for19 Women & 02 Men participants. ✓ Exposure Visit - Cum — Training Programme on "Innovative Agricultural Practices for & Processing ofJute& Allied Fibres" for Raghunathganj Block-I, Murshidabad, West Bengal at ICAR-NIRJAFT, Kolkata for 20 Women & 16 Men participants. ✓ National Level Training programmes (three) on "Production and retting technology of Jute/Mesta/Ramie/Sunnhemp including other related aspect" sponsored by National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Commercial Crops, Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture &Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India (75
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				<p>participants).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Training programme on "Jute Handicraft & Jute Jewellery" for Twenty-four (24) participants. ✓ Training programmes on "Jute Hand Bag/Shopping Bag" for Twenty-seven (27) participants. ✓ Training programmes on "Bleaching & Dyeing" for 12 trainee participants. ✓ Training programme on "Manufacture of Jute Handicrafts" at Raigunj, Uttar Dinajpur, 02 male & 18 female participants attended. <p><u>Demonstration:</u> carried out by the Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Under MGMG program on accelerated retting of jute plant & grading of jute fibre for the farmers in KVK Hooghly, Trial on jute based Agro-textile & Geo-textile were conducted at KVK, Hooghly. Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav Programme at Shasya Shyamala KVK, Sonarpur. Jute Grading workshop at KVK, Chinsura under MGMG programme. ✓ Exposure Visit - Cum -Training Programme on "Innovative Agricultural Practices for Production & Processing of Jute & Allied Fibres" for progressive farmers from Raghunathganj Block I of Murshidabad District. ✓ Skill development programme on "Bleaching and natural dyeing of jute" by ICAR NIRJAFT, Kolkata at Ramakrisna Mission, Sargachi, Murshidabad, West Bengal (24 participants). ✓ Conducted Brainstorming workshop on "Sisal fibre grading and instrumentation" at Sisal Research Station, ICAR•CRIJAF, Bamra, Odisha. ✓ Organized five Front Line Demonstrations (FID) on Accelerated Retting of Jute at Tamaghata and Dhamas at Purbasthali Block, Burdwan at Bhabanipur and Ramchandrapur at Lalgola Block, Murshidabad and at Chinsurah in collaboration with KVK, Hooghly. ✓ Front line demonstration on jute-blended geo-textile for road construction at Hooghly KVK, Hooghly. <p>The fisheries research institutes under the ICAR are regularly</p>
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				<p>organizing training and extension programmes for capacity building and skill upgradation in all the aspects of fisheries and aquaculture and other related subject areas for the benefit of fishers & fish farmers, state fishery officials, private entrepreneurs, NGOs, and other stakeholders. Further, training programmes are also being regularly organized under the TSP/NEH Component, exclusively for the SC/ST/Women folk from fisher & fish farming community leading to their economic empowerment and establishment of self-help groups. The institutes are also providing need based technical, training, advisory and analytical support to the stakeholders and the industry.</p> <p>ICAR-NRC on Pighas set up an FSSAI licensed, state-of-the-art R&D Pork Processing Plant. The unit has facilities for undertaking hygienic pig slaughter, processing of value added products, cold storage, quality checking of pork and pork products, effluent treatment system and incinerator facility. Currently the institute is in the process of setting up of an NABL accredited Quality Control Laboratory for testing and certification of pork and pork products.</p> <p>ICAR-NRC on Pig conducts regular training programmes on Skill up-gradation of meat personnel/ entrepreneurs for clean pork production and value addition of pork. In order to impart quality training to the stakeholders, the Institute has already setup training facilities with required amenities. Also, a farmers' hostel with 25 bed capacity has been created recently for comfortable accommodation of trainees.</p> <p>ICAR-NDRI organized three training programmes on Milk and Milk Product Processing were organized at Lalukheri Centre of NDRI for 52 farmers, entrepreneurs and rural unemployed youth. The training was imparted for testing of milk quality, basic unit operations related to milk processing and manufacturing of value added dairy products.</p> <p>ICAR-CIRB organized farmers training on value addition of milk and clean milk production. Total of 91 farmers trainings were organized during 2012-17 covering 4806 farmers.</p>
			<p>g.3 PRIs, SHGs and NGOs should be effectively involved in creation</p>	<p>DAC&FW-Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms” provides for involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions</p>

of awareness about post- harvest handling and creation of infrastructure in rural periodic markets. Likewise, Primary Agriculture Credit Cooperative societies and Marketing cooperatives may be involved in a big way.

(PRIs) in various activities such as selection of beneficiaries for farmers oriented activities, selection of Farmer Friend etc. The CIGs/ FIGs are extensively involved for delivery of extension services to the farmers. The scheme also supports capacity building of CIG members and provision of seed money to selected CIGs. Further in order to ensure promotion of multi- agency extension strategies, and to implement scheme activities in Public –Private Partnership (PPP) Mode, at least 10% of scheme allocation on recurring activities at district level is to be incurred through Non-Governmental Sector viz. NGOs, FOs, PRIs, Cooperatives, Para-Extension Workers, Agri-preneurs, Input Suppliers, Corporate Sector etc. The Non-Government implementing agencies are eligible for service charge with a ceiling of 10% of the cost of extension activities (but no staff cost) implemented through them. 17 States reported PPP in extension services under ATMA.(Action completed)

ICAR- Training programs on formation of SHGs have been conducted by KVKs for farmers. SHGs formed by KVKs or by other organizations like NABARD are effectively utilized by the KVKs for creating large scale awareness on post-harvest handling followed by marketing of produce in the local markets. KVKs have been facilitating formation of SHGs of rural women to start enterprises based on value addition and post-harvest handling of farm produce in convergence with NGOs operating in the respective districts. KVKs are also working with FPOs within their district to create awareness on market awareness related value addition. NGO KVKs also organized Courses on Value Addition and Post-Harvest Technology benefiting farmers.

ICAR-CIPHET is regularly imparting trainings for farmer cum entrepreneurs from SHG and /or sponsored by NGOs at Ludhiana and Abohar campuses.

ICAR-CIRCOT is operating Awareness programs on post-harvest handling to the farmers are provided in collaboration with ATMA and NGOs such as Agro Plus Foundation and Indo-Israel,

ICAR-NRC on Camel is creating awareness in Camel farmers about milk processing & marketing in Collaboration with NGOs like LokhitPashupalakSamiti, Sadri, Peoples for Animal (PFA).

			<p>ICAR-NDRI is strengthening village level small scale milk processing units by the establishment of quality testing and milk processing facility by procuring the processing equipments. The unit has now facility of bulk milk cooler (BMC), khoa making machine, steam jacketed kettles, paneer press, curd incubator, deep freezers and milk testing equipments. The women collect about 250 L of milk daily and process into value added products. The average income of these women SHG member is about Rs. 10000/- per month/per member. The intervention has also enabled minimization of stakeholders in milk value chain and milk producers are getting remunerative price (Rs. 34-40/L).</p>
		<p>g.4 Quality testing laboratories for inputs as well as agri- produce should be established in rural areas.</p>	<p>Under component “Soil Health Management Scheme” of National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture financial assistance is provided for setting up of new Fertilizer Quality control Laboratories (CQCLs) and strengthening of existing assistance is provided for setting up/strengthening of Bio-fertilizer & Organic Fertilizer Quality Control Labs.</p> <p>MoFPI- Scheme for setting up of Food Testing Laboratories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Facilitate industry to comply with domestic/ international standards ➤ Make available modern commercial testing facilities for industry. <p>Present status: Projects Approved- 171, Projects completed- 113, Projects on-going-58.</p>
	<p>h) Development of Human Resources in the field of Agriculture Marketing: In our country, strengthening of agriculture would be critical for facing the challenges of rural</p>	<p>h.1 SAUs and centres of ICAR should be given a mandate for applied research in agricultural marketing. Marketing organizations should be asked to set apart some funds for marketing research.</p>	<p>DAC&FW-No such provision exists for funding to State Agricultural universities (SAUs) in the schemes of DAC&FW, NIAM, Jaipur is imparting training on different aspects of agri-marketing and also running the Agri-business Post Graduate Diploma courses. (Action completed)</p> <p>ICAR- ICAR-IARI is offering Master and Doctoral programme in Agriculture Economics, where the aspects of Agriculture Marketing, Finance and Business management are being taken care.</p>

		<p>poverty, food insecurity, unemployment and sustainability of natural resources. But, there is need to redefine agriculture as the science and practice of activities relating to production, processing, marketing, distribution, utilization and trade of food, feed and fibre, which implies that Agricultural development strategy must address not only farmers but also those in marketing, trade, processing and agri-business.</p>		<p>ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (ICAR-CIFE), Mumbai does not have programme/Course in ‘Agri-Business Management’, however, under the on-going Post-Graduate/Doctoral Degree/PG Diploma programmes/Certificate Courses in Fisheries and Aquaculture, aspects on entrepreneurship development/fisheries business management and marketing are also being covered.</p> <p>ICAR-IVRI is offering Post graduate degree programme (MVSc) in Livestock Economics, aspects related to livestock marketing, economic analysis, agriculture/livestock finance, inter alia, are covered. Apart from the above Post graduate degree programme, a separate 3 credit hours course on Livestock Business Management is offered to PG/Ph.D. students of Livestock Products Management from of the Institute.</p> <p>(h.1&h.2)</p> <p>DAC&FW-National Institute for Agriculture Extension Management (MANAGE) conducts a two year Post Graduate Diploma in Agri- Business Management with 60 seats per year. As Agricultural Education and Research is in the domain of DARE/ ICAR, it may ask the State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) / Open Universities to introduce Post –Graduate degree and Diploma courses in Agri- Business Management. However, many SAUs like TNAU, Coimbatore, CSKHPKV, Palampur and OUATA, Bhubaneswar, etc. Have already introduced PG degree in Agri – Business Management. Besides, senior and middle level functionaries are also trained through MANAGE, EEI and SAMETIs for onward training of farmer. (Action completed)</p> <p>DAC&FW-“Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms- ATMA” provides for training facilities in agriculture and allied area including agricultural marketing for all the stake holders viz. NGOS, FOS, PRIs, Cooperatives, Para- Extension Workers, Agri-preneurs, Input Suppliers, Corporate Sector etc.</p> <p>NIAM, Jaipur, under DAC&FW is also imparting training on different aspects of agri-marketing and also running the Agri-</p>
			<p>h.2 Post- graduate degree and diploma courses in agri- business management should be introduced in all the SAUs/ open universities.</p>	
			<p>h.3 Training facilities in agricultural marketing for all the stakeholders and database for marketing should be strengthened. The services of the Agriculture University and the Agriculture Departments could be fully utilized in this regard.</p>	

				business Post Graduate Diploma courses. (Action completed)
2.	<u>Reducing intermediation costs and for reducing gap between farm gate and retail prices.</u>	<p>a) Promoting Farmer's Market: Ideally farmers could directly sell their produce to the consumers. However, given the fragmented nature of agriculture of production and spatial distribution of consumers, presence of intermediaries is a must for smooth functioning of the agri-commodity market. To improve the efficiency of the distribution channels and reduce the market intermediation Government should promote direct or near direct Marketing of those agri-produce which do not involve processing.</p>	<p>a.1 In a few cases such as vegetable and fruits, efficiency of distribution channel can be increased by providing direct access of markets to the farmers. Farmer's Market can be promoted for the direct marketing of products like perishables from the farmers directly to the consumers in the towns and in semi urban areas.</p> <p>a.2 Direct marketing by farmers, cooperatives or through Self Help Groups (SHGs) should be promoted. Some common code of conduct and modalities for ownership, and operation should be prescribed.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- In order to squeeze the existing long supply chain of Fruits and Vegetables prone to high post-harvest losses, department is promoting development of farmer-consumer markets. Presently, there are 685 farmer-consumer markets in the country. (Action completed)</p> <p>DAC&FW-In order to squeeze the existing long supply chain of Fruits and Vegetables prone to high post-harvest losses, department is promoting development of farmer-consumer markets. Presently, there are 685 farmer-consumer markets in the country.</p> <p>In Budget Announcement, 2018-19, it has been decided to upgrade and develop 22,000 existing Village Haats to Gramin Agriculture Markets (GrAMs) with convergence of various Government schemes such as MGNREGA and PMGSY etc. This will help farmers to sell their produce directly to consumers.</p>
		<p>b) Reduction in Farmer's Marketing Risk will help improve farmers' income and thus the Agriculture production.</p>	<p>b.1 Advance declaration of MSP: Until markets become sufficiently competitive, there is a case for intervention by the government. In order to achieve self sufficiency in food production. Government of India may continue the policy of declaring minimum support price (MSP) of various crops well before the start of sowing season</p>	<p>DAC&FW-Government of India (GOI) continues the policy of declaring Minimum Support Price (MSP) of various crops in advance of the sowing season in order to augment food production. The MSP is a pricing and incentive tool to incentivize the farmers to go into the production of those crops which are in line with overall agricultural strategy of the Government. If markets are competitive, the farmers could sell their produce at higher prices. MSP will come into play to protect the farmer whenever prices crash. MSP is not a cost plus pricing – other factors such as, overall demand-supply, domestic and international prices, inter-crop parity in return, balance in terms of trade between agriculture</p>

			<p>Further, MSP could be linked to inflation and farmers can get some idea as to how much revision would occur in the MSP. Moreover, MSP so announced should be reviewed where necessary. This will help in encouraging farmers to produce crops such as oilseeds and pulses where India has become a net importer.</p>	<p>and non-agriculture sector, and their likely impact on the overall prices in the economy, apart from the cost of production of the commodity are taken into account. Hence, it cannot be linked to inflation alone. In recent years, there have been higher increases in MSP for pulses and oilseeds relative to that of cereals. The aim is to provide a boost to production of more pulses and oilseeds. Based on the recommendation of the Report of the Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP) after obtaining the views of State Govts. and central ministries, the DAC prepares the Cabinet Note for the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). After the approval of CCEA the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) are announced by the Government. Recently the Government has announced increase in MSP to one and half times of the cost of cultivation.(Action completed)</p>
			<p>b.2 The market intervention for perishable products could also be introduced on cost sharing basis by GOI with the States.</p>	<p>DAC&FW-This Division implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and for which no MSP is fixed by the Govt. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. For implementation of MIS there should be either at least a 10 percent increase in production or a 10 percent decrease in the ruling market prices over the previous normal year. The Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is implemented at the request of a state / UT government which is ready to bear 50 percent of the loss (25 percent in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. The extent of total amount of loss to be shared on a 50:50 basis between the central government and the state government is restricted to 25 percent of the total procurement value which includes cost of the commodity procured plus permitted overhead expenses. Under the Scheme, in accordance with MIS guidelines, a pre-determined quantity (normally 20% of total estimated production) at the fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) (based on Cost of production) are procured by NAFED as the Central agency or the agencies designated by the state government for a fixed period or till the prices are stabilized above the MIP whichever is earlier. The area of operation is restricted to the concerned state only.</p>

	<p>b.3 Enforce MSP: Since intermediaries play a vital role in the functioning of the market and at times they have advance contract with farmers. In respect of all essential commodities, we should protect farmer's interests by mandating through statutory provisions that no farmer- trader transaction should be below MSP, wherever prescribed.</p>	<p>DAC&FW-MSP is enforced through major procurement exercise undertaken by FCI, NAFED, JCI& CCI for paddy/wheat, pulses and oilseeds, jute and cotton respectively. New schemes like MAS/PDPS, PPSS etc. are being initiated for strengthening of procurement mechanisms.</p>
	<p>b.4.1 Promote contract farming which are in a way future contracts on prices. A Model Contract has also been formulated and circulated to states. However, several complementary measures are needed for contract farming to expand on a large scale. It will need (a) organization of farmers/ producers groups (b) legislation and effective implementation of the contract law; (c) improvement in the quality of input delivery and research & extension services; (d) training of farmers in maintenance of quality standards; (e) provision of complementary infrastructure including IT kiosks (like e- Choupals) in rural areas; and (f) development of an effective land administration system.</p>	<p>DAC&FW- Government has released a new Model "Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming & Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018" to integrate farmers with agro-industries to mitigate market and price uncertainties, reduce post-harvest losses. Tamil Nadu has legislated "The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2019" and Punjab has already enacted a separate contract farming Act. The Government is pursuing with States/Union Territories to adopt the same.</p> <p>Further, the Govt. of India has now circulated "The Farmers (Empowerment & Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020" as a Central Act to promote contract farming as assured Market Linkage for farmers with better protection to farmers. The Act is a Central Act to provide for a national framework on farming agreements that protects and empowers farmers to engage with agri-business firms, processors, wholesalers, exporters or large retailers for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.</p> <p>(Action Ongoing)</p>
	<p>b.4.2 This will also require identification of a group of village for each niche commodity and</p>	<p>DAC&FW-The contract farming initiatives between sponsors and farmers could facilitate such arrangements.</p>

		provision of credit and incentives to farmers to shift to the identified commodity.	
c) Promote setting up of agro-processing infrastructure.	c.1.1	The price difference in the case of items like pulses which involves processing and passing through various hands is very high. The main reason for such high price difference is due to erratic supply. It would be better to promote the development of processing facilities which is cost efficient and create competitiveness.	<p>DAC&FW-Revamped National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has been approved for continuation during XII Plan and the same has been continued during 2017-18. A major thrust has been given to ‘focus on pulses production through utilization of rice fallow, rice bunds and intercropping of pulses with coarse cereals, oilseeds and commercial crops’. In addition, for promoting the production of pulses, it is proposed that marketing support would be provided to growers in the form of insurance cover, dal mills to individuals/communities, incentives to processing agencies, etc. under the revamped NFSM.</p> <p>Currently, NFSM-Pulses is being implemented in 638 districts of 29 States of the country to increase the production and productivity of pulses. The focus has been given for enhancing production and productivity of crops. Besides, several steps have been taken up for increasing production and productivity of pulses are as under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seed production of certified HYVs Seeds of Pulses was introduced under NFSM-Pulses. ✓ Enhancing breeder seed production by ICAR/SAUs. ✓ Creation of seed hubs by ICAR/SAUs/KVKs. ✓ Supplying of seed minikits of pulses varieties not older than 10 years free of cost to the farmers. <p>In addition to State Governments, the KVK’s also conduct cluster frontline demonstrations on pulses crop on improved package of practices. (Action completed)</p>
	c.1.2	Private entrepreneurs should be motivated to setup more processing units which will be cost efficient and there by create competitiveness. Likewise, decentralized processing units may be promoted at the village level with public assistance.	
	c.2	Setup Technology Upgradation Fund for modernization of agro-processing facilities.	<p>MoFPI- Scheme for Creation of Infrastructure for Agro Processing Clusters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assistance for creating common facilities and enabling

			<p>infrastructure closer to production areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Envisages a cluster of minimum 5 processing units with an investment of Rs 25 Cr ✓ 100 clusters proposed in the country ✓ 56 proposals already approved
	<p>d) Role of Monetary Policy: Priority sector credit should be made available for Agri-Marketing activities as well. Also the government should strictly monitor the extent of flow of priority sector credit by banks to the farmers. Ratio of priority sector credit to agriculture sector should be raised further from the current level of 18%.</p>	<p>d.1 Agri- marketing activities should be made eligible by RBI for priority sector lending by banks and financial institutions.</p>	<p>DoFS/RBI- The Priority Sector Lending (PSL) guidelines have since been revised by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide its master direction dated 4th September 2020. As per revised guidelines the following Agri marketing activities are eligible for lending under Priority Sector:</p> <p>(i) Loans for Food and Agro-processing, storage facilities (warehouse, market yards, godowns and silos) including cold storage units/cold storage chains designed to store agriculture produce/products, irrespective for their location.</p> <p>(ii) loans to farmers for post and pre-harvest activities viz. spraying, weeding, harvesting, sorting, grading and transporting of their own farm produce.</p>
		<p>d.2.1 Each farmer, either individually or as member of cooperative/ SHG, should be provided with farm credit duly linked with an appropriate crop insurance scheme.</p>	<p>DoFS/RBI- The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was introduced in 1998 for issue of KCC to farmers. The scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system which enables farmers to meet the short term credit requirements for cultivation of crops; Post-harvest expenses; Produce marketing loan; Consumption requirements of farmer household; Working capital for maintenance of farm assets and activities allied to agriculture; and Investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities. The scheme is implemented by Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Small Finance Banks and Cooperative Banks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The eligible beneficiaries include all Farmers – Individuals / Joint borrowers who are owner cultivators; Tenant Farmers, Oral Lessees & Share Croppers; Self Help Groups (SHGs) or Joint Liability Groups of Farmers including tenant farmers, share croppers etc. • The KCC scheme provides for mandatory coverage of eligible farmers under the insurance schemes for the relevant crops notified by the State Governments.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government under AtmaNrbhar Bharat Abhyan has launched a special drive with an objective to provide concessional credit through KCC to farmers, including PM Kisan beneficiaries, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry farmers. • As on 18.12.2020 175.12 lakh KCC with a KCC limit of about Rs. 1.60 lakh crore has been provided to farmers under this drive. 															
			<p>d.2.2 The responsibility of providing farm credit should be shared proportionately between the nationalized banks and cooperatives. The recovery mechanism should be tuned up because of the risky nature of this activity. In this regard, the Maharashtra Government has made certain specific suggestions as per Annexure- V.</p>	<p>DoFS/RBI- Farmers are free to take credit from Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks or Cooperative Banks. The breakup of agriculture credit disbursed in FY 2019-20 by the various types of Banks is tabulated below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1157 505 1976 695"> <thead> <tr> <th>Agency</th> <th>Amount Disbursed</th> <th>% Share</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Commercial Banks</td> <td>1,061,215.07</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Regional Rural Banks</td> <td>162,856.89</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cooperative Banks</td> <td>149,694.41</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1,373,766.37</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ KCC guidelines issued by RBI have laid down the following norms for repayment of agriculture loans availed by the farmers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The repayment period may be fixed by banks as per the anticipated harvesting and marketing period for the crops for which the loan has been granted. • The term loan component will be normally repayable within a period of 5 years depending on the type of activity/investment as per the existing guidelines applicable for investment credit. • Financing banks may, at their discretion, provide longer repayment period for term loan depending on the type of investment. ➤ Further, KCC scheme provides for mandatory coverage of eligible farmers under the insurance schemes for the relevant crops notified by the State Governments. 	Agency	Amount Disbursed	% Share	Commercial Banks	1,061,215.07	77	Regional Rural Banks	162,856.89	12	Cooperative Banks	149,694.41	11	Total	1,373,766.37	100
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			<p>d.3 Currently, about 50% of the farming households receive agriculture credit under priority</p>	<p>DoFS/RBI- The Government under AtmaNrbhar Bharat Abhyan has launched a special drive with an objective to provide concessional credit through KCC to farmers, including PM</p>															

		<p>sector lending scheme. There should be a time bound action plan of say 3 years to provide coverage under KCC scheme to all remaining farming households. As the coverage of farming households under Kisan Credit Card Scheme expands, ratio of priority sector lending to the agriculture should be increased.</p>	<p>Kisanbeneficiaries, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry farmers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ As on 18.12.2020 175.12 lakh KCC with a KCC limit of about Rs. 1.60 lakh crore has been provided to farmers under this drive. ➤ With the objective of making the Priority Sector Lending norms more broad-based, the PSL guidelines are reviewed from time to time to align them with the emerging national priorities. As a part of this process, the PSL guidelines have been revised in September 2020, while the target of 18% has been retained for agriculture. In the revised guidelines, the sub-target for small and marginal farmers has been revised from 8% to 10% to be implemented in a phased manner from 2021-2024 for all commercial banks and RRBs.
	<p>e) Promote retailing by organized sector/ cooperatives: While direct marketing by farmers establishes direct link between producers and consumers, organised retail sector because of scale of operations and access to financial resources, has the potential to minimize the marketing channel between farmers and consumers.</p>	<p>e.1 Organised retail should be incentivized to make direct purchase from farmers but ensure that for essential commodities (i) they obtain trading/dealers license under EC Act wherever required (ii) do their purchase transactions in a transparent manner.</p> <p>e.2 Cooperative may be given higher subsidy of upto 70% for setting up/ augmenting marketing infrastructure.</p>	<p>DAC&FW-Vegetable Initiatives for Urban Cluster (VIUC) has been introduced in all the States. FPOs / FPCs have been formed. Provisions exist under MIDH for setting up of retail markets for horticulture crops.</p> <p>Under MIDH there is a provision for setting up of retail outlets for horticulture crops. The retail outlets having facilities for environmental control can be setup with project cost of Rs. 15 lakh/unit for which credit linked back ended subsidy of 35% - 50% is available per beneficiary under MIDH. (Action completed)</p> <p>DAC&FW- For setting up/ augmenting marketing infrastructure also under SCISAC implemented through NCDC, among others, assistance @ 15%, 20% and 25% is given for cooperatively developed Under Developed and Least Developed states respectively. The loan component is being given by NCDC and subsidy is given by Government of India under the scheme.</p> <p>AMI Sub-Scheme of ISAM was sanctioned for the XII plan Period (2012-17) had provision for credit linked back ended subsidy to cooperatives through NCDC at the rate 25% of the capital cost of the project for making infrastructure. The scheme is stopped since 5.08.2014. EFC has approved for restart of sub-scheme AMI which is proposed to be implemented during the period coterminous with 14th Finance Commission (from 2017-18 to 2019-20). The new</p>

				<p>role of NCDC in the revised proposed scheme will be defined at the time of finalizing the guidelines of the new scheme. This percentage of subsidy is considered appropriate at present.</p> <p>(Action completed)</p>
			<p>e.3 Where there are end to end projects involving farmers through backward integration and consumers through forward integration no restrictions should be placed.</p>	
3.	<p><u>State interventions for retailing essential commodities at reasonable prices prices</u></p>	<p>a) Maintain adequate stock of essential commodities across the country</p>	<p>a.1.1 A few States are surplus in foodgrain production while most of the states have net deficit of foodgrains. Depending upon the annual foodgrain consumption of that region, certain level of stocks of foodgrains should always be maintained in food deficit States at all times in FCI warehouses especially in the food crop deficit areas/ regions using rail transport in the lean period. This will help in curbing expectation of food shortages.</p>	<p>DoF&PD- FCI is maintaining buffer stock of foodgrains in each region keeping the requirement of distribution in concerned States into consideration. Services of railways are utilized to the maximum possible extent for augmenting stock in deficit areas on a regular basis. Foodgrains shortages have not been felt in any region of the country during last few years.</p>
			<p>a.1.2-GOI should provide financial assistance for construction of godowns. This should also be done at village level using godowns with PACS.</p>	<p>DoF&PD- The responsibility for constructing Panchayat Level godown is with the State Governments. Hence, Central Sector Scheme for construction of godowns is limited to release of funds to FCI and State Governments of North Eastern Region. However, State Governments can construct Panchayat level godowns using funds under MGNREGA for which the Act was amended in 2013. In addition, there is a scheme for giving credit linked subsidy for construction of rural godowns by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare. Construction of godowns can also be done by State Governments in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode on the lines of FCI's Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) Scheme.</p> <p>However, the DFPD has taken the initiative through its PSU, the Central Railside Warehousing Company (CRWC) to construct solar powered farmgate cold storage (10MT) with reefer van</p>

				<p>@Rs.50 lakhs per project in 3 districts of Arunachal Pradesh for which an MoU is going to be signed soon with the State Government</p>
			<p>a.1.3 Moreover, looking to the food security needs of the country, augmentation of storage capacity by FCI should be treated as a long term infrastructure and it should not be limited to 10 years period.</p>	<p>DoF&PD- However, warehouses and silos are also being constructed mostly in PPP mode to augment and modernize the storage facilities depending upon requirement in specific areas.</p> <p>Storage capacities of 144.06 LMT (as on 31.12.2020) have been created through PPP based initiatives since year 2010 under PEG scheme. This scheme provides for hiring godowns constructed through PPP investment on a 10 years guarantee basis.</p> <p>Plan funds are being used to augment storage capacities in the North Eastern States where private investors response may not be forthcoming. From 01.04.2012 till 31.12.2020, 1.83 LMT capacity has been created by FCI.</p> <p>Construction of Silos has been taken up from year 2016-17. The latest position as on 12.01.2021 is as follows:</p> <p>Silos constructed: 8.25 LMT* (16 locations) Under Construction: 10.50 LMT (21 locations) Further awarded: 11 LMT (at 22 locations) Awarded to State Govt. on nomination: 1.00 LMT (1 location) Locations approved by High Level Committee (HLC) for Hub & Spoke: 35.875 LMT (100 locations) Locations to be identified: 18.275 LMT Rice Silos to be implemented in future: 15.10 LMT Total: 100 LMT</p> <p>*Operationalization of 0.5 LMT capacity at Patiala and 1 LMT capacity at Sangrur has commenced without railway siding.</p> <p>Further, construction of rice silos is being undertaken by FCI at Buxar and Kaimur (Bihar) for which work is underway.</p>

				<p>A major bottleneck in speedy construction of silos has been acquisition of land by private parties. The earlier approved model for construction of silos made it mandatory for those to be constructed along rail sidings. This used to make it difficult to find and acquire suitable land along rail tracks, also because most of the land along rail tracks is owned by the Railways. Hence, in order to fast track the progress of construction of steel silos, a professional study was conducted by FCI through M/s RITES for examining the feasibility of road-side silos with containerized movement. After examination of the aforesaid report, DFPD has accorded “in-principle approval” for construction of silos under the Hub and Spoke model as proposed by FCI which allows for construction of silos along roadside. Land for roadside silos is relatively easily available, as compared to land along rail side tracks. The locations have been identified and the modified bid documents are in the process of approval.</p>
			<p>a.1.4 Improvement in FCI's operational efficiencies can also help reduce prices. For instance, FCI's procurement and storage/ transportation functions are distinct functions and those could be unbundled. Therefore, it is suggested to carry out Third Party evaluation of FCI's operations.</p>	<p>DoF&PD- The Government of India had set-up a High Level Committee (HLC) of experienced persons and experts under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Shanta Kumar, to recommend for unbundling / restructuring of Food Corporation of India. The latest position on Action Plan for revamping the activities of Food Corporation of India (FCI) concerning FCI is enclosed as Annexure.</p>
			<p>a.2 Government of India should develop a system for constant monitoring of the availability and prices of essential commodities in an appropriate price band and in the event of such price band being exceeded; Government of India could start maintaining minimum stocks of such essential commodities for their release through public distribution system at affordable prices. The private sector should also be involved in the process of storage of</p>	<p>DoF&PD- Through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS (D)], a total quantity of 7.10 Lakh MT of wheat and 11.02 Lakh MT of rice have been sold in the open market through e-auction till 2nd week of December 2020, during Fiscal Year 2020-21.</p>

such stocks for release at the appropriate time. Such releases to the deficit States should be at the price and rates fixed for TPDS rather than the economic cost which is usually the case.

a.3 Government of India should be liberal and timely in releasing OMSS allotment of rice, wheat & sugar to States to be sold through PDS in times of need and sharp rise in prices. OMSS prices need to be made more reasonable and affordable to ensure a good response.

DoF&PD FCI, on instructions from Govt. of India, sells wheat and rice at predetermined prices in the open market from time to time under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) through e-tender to enhance the supply of wheat and rice especially during the lean season and thereby to liquidate excess stock in the central pool and moderate the open market prices especially in the deficit regions.

Target for sale of wheat and rice under OMSS (D) 2020-21 is 150 LMT and 50 LMT, respectively.

Reserve Price of wheat:

- I. Current Reserve price for wheat under OMSS (D) 2020-21, is as under:
 - a. URS Wheat (of RMS 2019-20) ex-Punjab and Haryana only Rs. 1840/- per quintal.
 - b. URS Wheat (of RMS 2020-21) ex-Punjab, Haryana and MP- Rs. 2080/- per quintal.
 - c. FAQ Wheat ex- Punjab, Haryana and MP- Rs. 2135/- per quintal.

For b and c above, for the rest of the States other than Punjab, Haryana and MP, rail freight ex-Ludhiana/Bhopal (as the case may be) to the nearest Railhead to the Depot is added to arrive at the reserve price of that Depot.

- II. The above reserve price included loading and handling charges for all types of sales including dedicated movement, FCI to give delivery at depot point.

Rice:

OMSS (D) policy 2021-22 has been revised by reducing reserve price of rice to Rs. 2000/- per qtl. for State Government and Central Government scheme for ethanol under bio-fuel policy to increase sale under the schemes. For private parties, the reserve price of rice would continue to be as Rs. 2250/- per quintal except for those who participate in OMC tenders (MoPNG) for production of ethanol for whom price of Rs.- 2000/- per quintal would be applicable.

The quantity of food grains sold under this scheme during the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 are shown below:

Year	Wheat (in LMT)	Rice (in LMT)
2015-16	70.77	1.11
2016-17	45.67	1.78
2017-18	14.22	4.90
2018-19	81.84	8.46
2019-20	36.36	16.12

a.4 During shortage of a particular commodity, State Government agency(s) be authorized to import essential commodities directly from the international market and the subsidy payable to the central procuring agency should also be paid to the State Government agency at the same rates.

DoF&PD- No shortage experienced for wheat, rice or sugar. Scheme for providing subsidy for import of edible oil has been discontinued, as this will encourage domestic production.

a.5- Sale of commodities in short supply through PDS/private outlets at pre-determined MRP may also be

DoF&PD- Under National Food Security Act 2013, this Department allocates foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) to States/UTs for distribution to eligible households through the

			<p>explored.</p>	<p>network of Fair Price Shops (FPSs). Essential commodities, their price regulation and matters related to their supply at the time of shortage in the market etc., other than the foodgrains distributed under NFSA, come under the purview of Department of Consumer Affairs and pertain to the Department of Consumer Affairs. Also, in order to improve the viability of the FPSs through increased turnover, this Department has advised States/UT Govts. that FPS owners should be encouraged to enlarge the basket of commodities by adding non-PDS items for sale through these outlets. Some States/UTs have reported distribution of non-PDS items like pulses, edible oils, iodized salts, Spices etc. through FPSs. It may also be added that foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) under NFSA are distributed to eligible beneficiaries at highly subsidized rates on monthly basis. Other essential commodities do not come under the purview of this Department. <i>So there is no action pending concerning this Department.</i></p>
			<p>a.6 Government of India should strengthen Public distribution System by supplying sufficient quantities of subsidized Pulses, Oil to State governments. GOI should procure and supply the pulses/oil and the subsidy should also be adequate. Present subsidy on pulses at the rate of Rs10 per kg should be raised to Rs20 per kg.</p>	<p>DoF&PD- Subsidy Scheme on imported edible oil has been discontinued.</p>
		<p>b) Set up Price Stabilization Fund</p>	<p>b.1A market price stabilization Fund should be established by Central Government and financial institutions to support procurement/ distribution of essential commodities in short supply or surplus production for protecting consumers and farmers respectively through Government</p>	<p>DoCA- In 2014-15, Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) was set up with an initial corpus of Rs. 500.00 Crore to tackle inflationary trends of important agri-horticultural commodities like onion, potatoes and pulses to protect the interest of consumers. Till 2017-18 Budgetary Input to PSF had increased to Rs. 11,110 Crore. In 2018-19, Budget Estimate for PSF is Rs. 1,500 Crore. The PSF is used for procurement and distribution of agri-horticultural commodities viz. pulses, potato and onion to stabilize market prices for consumers.</p>

		agencies/cooperatives. In this regard, the State Governments should also be consulted through the permanent standing mechanism for regional/national co-ordination.	Government has created a buffer stock of pulses upto 20 LMT. State Governments are also being advised to set up State Level PSFs in accordance with the operational guidelines issued by Government of India. Grants for State PSF have already been given to Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and West Bengal. (Action Completed)
	c) In case of crops having minimum support price (MSP), set up credible procurement system	c.1.1 In addition to MSP, there should be a credible institutional setup for procurement in each part of the country. For instance, if the reach of central organizations such as FCI is limited, State Civil Supplies Corporations and Cooperative institutions should be incentivized and encouraged to assist in procurement operations.	DoF&PD- Majority of procurement operations is taken by State Agencies. FCI is procuring around 1% of Paddy and 10% wheat out of total procurement done in central pool. GoI has been encouraging all the States to adopt DCP mode of system. Under DCP mode, procurement and distribution is carried out by State Govt. through its agencies and DFPD provides subsidy directly to State Agencies. In Non-DCP States FCI takes over only surplus stocks. In almost all the States, State civil supplies corporation and co-operative institution are already engaged in procurement operations.
		c.1.2 FCI should play an equal, if not greater role, in undertaking procurement operations within the states.	DoF&PD- Constant and persistent efforts are being made towards helping the States especially in the Eastern and North Eastern part of the Country to extend the benefit of MSP to the farmers. Paddy is the main crop in the Eastern States.
		c.2 Funding for procurement could come from Price Stabilization Fund.	DoF&PD- Procurement of foodgrains requires huge working capital and PSF cannot take care of it. PSF may be used for other minor commodities to check inflation.
	d) Set up Global Food / Crop production monitoring system for providing advisories to the farmers regarding crop sowing decisions; and inputs to the govt. for import / export of essential food crops.	d.1 In respect of essential food crops, there should be a system for monitoring of crop sowing and production as different crops have different maturity periods in major producing areas around the globe. Based on demand and supply projections, advisories should be issued to the farmers as to what should be sown and this could also become the guiding system for import and export of essential food crops.	DAC&FW- DAC & FW regularly monitors rainfall and crop sowing situation for the country. Advisories are also issued from time to time, if necessary.

	<p>e) In the short term encourage substitution of pulses while implement policies to achieve self sufficiency in the production of pulses.</p>	<p>e.1.1India has deficits in edible oil and pulse production. While GOI may initiate policies for incentivizing farmers' to increase production of these crops, for the time being product substitution could be a viable alternative to keep prices under check. In case of edible oil, imported Palmoleinoil has been a widely acceptable cheaper alternative. Similar alternative could be worked out and promoted in case of pulses but India needs to be self sufficient to meet the domestic demand. For instance, imported yellow peas Dal, red lentils could be made available at reasonable prices to consumers fora period until these are widely accepted in the society. To find alternatives, the yellow peas Dal and the red lentils may be distributed on pilot basisinafew districts and after taking into consideration the results thereof, it would be better to think of implementing all over the country.</p>	<p>DAC&FW-The National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), approved for 12th Plan period, has been launched from the financial year 2014-15. The Mission envisages increase in production of vegetable oils sourced from oilseeds, oil palm and Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) from 7.06 million tons (average of 2007-08 to 2011-12) to 9.51 million tons by the end of 12th Plan. The Mission comprises of three Mini Missions i.e MM-I (Oilseeds), MM-II (Oil Palm) and MM-III (Tree Borne Oilseeds). MM-I aims at increasing production and productivity of Oilseeds. The targets for oilseeds production and productivity to be achieve by 2016-17 are 35.51 million tons and 1328 kg/ha respectively. MM-II on Oil Palm has the target of bringing additional 1.25 lakh hectare area under oil palm cultivation through area expansion approach in the States including utilization of wastelands. MM-II is being implemented in 14 States. The various interventions of this Mission are implemented through the State Department of Agriculture/Horticulture and the assistance under the NMOOP scheme between Central Share (CS) and State share (SS) is in the ratio of 60 (CS): 40 (SS) for general states and for Hilly & North East states in the ratio of 90:10. NFSM Pulses is being implemented in 638 districts of 29 states for increasing production and productivity. Besides to boost the production of pulses further programmes of additional area coverage under Pulses during Rabi and Summer and targets rice fallow areas in Eastern India also has been implemented. Due to implementation of the programme production of pulses has increased substantially to meet the country demand. (Action completed)</p> <p>ICAR- ICAR-NIAP is developing commodity outlook model which will generate advance information on key policy variables, and the model shall play a key role in agricultural and trade policies.</p>
		<p>e.1.2Imported varieties of pulses should be considered only solongast here is shortfall in domestic supply of pulses. In the long run, substitutes available in country</p>	<p>DAC&FW-Government has given priority to pulses production and NFSM-Pulses has been extended to cover 638 districts of 29 States of the country with additional allocation for pulses production. The budget allocation for 2016-17, an amount of Rs. 1100 crore out of total Rs. 1700.00 crore was allocated for pulses</p>

			should be promoted and used.	as central share to increase the production of pulses in the country. The budget allocation for 2017-18 for NFSM Pulses is Rs. 1313.93 crore and Rs. 735.59 crore was released. The MSP of various pulses has been considerably enhanced to ensure remunerative prices to pulses farmers and promotion of production. As per final estimates during 2016-17, the production of total Pulses also increased from 14.20 million tonnes during 2006-07 to 23.13 million tonnes during 2016-17 with an increase of 8.93 million tonnes. Further, the total pulses production has been estimated to the 23.95 million tonnes during 2017-18. In the present scenario, there is no need to import pulses varieties from elsewhere. (Action completed)
4.	<u>Enforcement of statutory provisions to improve availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices</u>	a) To strengthen Essential Commodities (EC) Act & Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities (PBMMSEC) Act:	<p>a.1The E.C. Act should be amended to put non perishable essential commodities under licensing/registration order. There should be centralized authority for issuing registration. Like VAT registration, all dealers/traders need to seek license for turnover in excess of the prescribed quantity.</p> <p>a.2Special courts should beset up for speedy trial of offences under the EC Act. The EC Act should be amended, if necessary, to give states the flexibility to set up such special courts if required.</p> <p>a.3The offences under Section 10-A of the Essential Commodities Act should be made non-bailable.</p> <p>a.4 Section 6B(2) of the EC Act which provides that no order of confiscation shall be made if the owner of the vehicle, vessel etc. proves that he or his agent etc. has no knowledge of the use of the vehicle involved in the offence</p>	<p>DoCA- a.1) to a.9) The amendments were drafted and circulated to all the line departments, States & UTs. The draft was also uploaded on the website of the Department of Consumer Affairs. The draft amendments were discussed in PMO. It was agreed that the purpose of recommendations can be achieved by exercising powers under the existing provisions of the EC Act by way of issuing orders.</p> <p>On the advice of PMO, the amendment process was dropped.</p> <p>Further in 2020, Government has amended the Essential Commodities Act of 1955 and inserted a new sub-section (1A) in Section 3 of the Essential Commodities (EC) Act, 1955.</p> <p>Section 3(IA) (a) now provides that foodstuffs, including cereals, pulses, potato, onions, edible oil seeds and oils shall only be regulated under extra ordinary circumstances which may include war, famine, extra ordinary price rise and natural calamity of grave nature.</p> <p>EC (amendment) Act, 2020 has since been repealed by the Farm Laws Repeal Act, 2021.</p>

			<p>may be amended, if necessary, to provide that the owners of the vehicles involved in offences are given due punishment.</p>	
			<p>a.5 The word “foodstuffs” may be defined in the EC Act as “any substance which is used as a final food product by human beings and will also include raw food articles which may after processing be used as food by human beings.”</p>	<p>promote</p>
			<p>a.6 Section 2A(3) of the EC Act should be deleted.</p>	
			<p>a.7 PBMMSEC Act should be amended to provide that the time period within which the report is to be sent by the State Governments to the Central Governments regarding each detention case should be increased from seven days to fifteen days. Similarly, the time limit for approval of the detention order by the State Governments should be increased from twelve days to fifteen days.</p>	
			<p>a.8 PBMMSEC Act should be amended to include Sec.8(3) as under: “Representation, if any, either from the detainee or from any person including a relative, a friend or an advocate on behalf of the detainee may be preferred to the Central Government only after the State Government confirms the said detention order under Sec.12 (1)”.</p>	

			<p>a.9Section 13 of PBMMSEC Act should be amended to provide for a maximum period of detention of 12 months instead of the existing period of 6 months.</p>	
		<p>b) Need for enabling provisions to improve transparency in Trading / storage of Essential Commodities:</p>	<p>b.1Need suitable statutory provisions so as to facilitate protection of farmer's interests such that all farmer-trader transactions would be reported online. Similarly, all transactions between traders would be through spot exchanges only. For this purpose, a trader, as specified (i.e. the trader having annual turnover in excess of the prescribed limit), should obtain license/registration under the Essential Commodities Act as well as under relevant commodity exchange. However, the Maharashtra Government has expressed its disagreement with this suggestion (Annexure-V).</p>	<p>DEA- Currently, the spot platforms like e-NAM are enabling registration and reporting of transactions. The same falls under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Agriculture. Various states such as Karnataka have also developed spot platforms (Rashtriya e- Market Services (ReMS)) to facilitate online trading of agricultural produce by farmers. The Ramesh Chand Committee on Integration of Commodity Spot and Derivatives Markets, constituted in DEA in its report submitted in March 2018 has also recommended creation of regulated pan-India electronic spot exchange for commodities, which is being examined in DEA.</p> <p>The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Ltd. through its wholly owned subsidiary, BSE investments limited has incorporated BSE e-agricultural markets (BEAM) limited on 1st December 2020 as an agricultural e-spot market. This was subsequent to the freedom granted under Section 5(1) of The Farmers' Produce Trade And Commerce (Promotion And Facilitation) Act, 2020 to any person to set up electronic trading and transaction platform for facilitating inter-State or intra-State trade and commerce of scheduled farmers' produce in a trade area/non-APMC area. Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 does not envisage any regulation for such platform other than specifying through Rules certain code of conduct etc. Since the Supreme Court has stayed the implementation of the aforesaid Act until further orders, BEAM may have to operate as a private market after taking licences from all state governments under their respective APMC Acts (Ongoing)</p>
			<p>b.2Under normal circumstances there could be no stock ceilings but online stock declaration and godown/ warehouse declaration by traders should be must. Government should use</p>	<p>In pursuance of the request from DEA, the Department of Consumer Affairs has issued an order on 16 December 2019, exempting stocks of commodities hedged on commodity exchanges from stock limits prescribed under Essential Commodities Act, 1955. This would encourage hedgers to participate in the commodity exchanges.</p>

			<p>provisions of the EC Act for imposing stock limits on commodities in short supply.</p>	<p>(Action Completed)</p>
			<p>b.3Orders imposing stock limits/licensing requirements issued by State Governments should be sent to the Government of India only for information and not for concurrence.</p>	<p>DoCA- To check arbitrariness of the State Governments, Central Government made it mandatory for State Governments to take prior concurrence of the Central Government before making any order for regulating storage etc. of any commodities specified in clause 3 of the Removal of (Licensing requirements, Stock limits and Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs Order, 2002 consolidated vide Central Order No. GSR 929(E) dated 29.09.2016.</p> <p>However, keeping in view of the exigencies, Central Government relaxed the above provision on several occasions and allowed State Governments to notify their Order without taking prior concurrence subject to that they will provide a notified copy immediately.</p> <p>(Action Completed)</p>