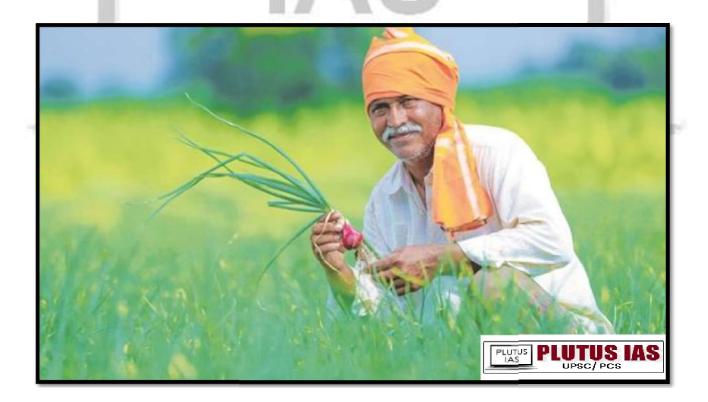


Date –08- January 2025

PRELIMS BITS: AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION: ACHIEVEMENTS OF MINISTRY'S SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS

WHY IN THE NEWS?

The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) has been making concerted efforts to enhance the production and productivity of crops aiming to enhance the income of farmers. The MoA&FW is committed to taking several initiatives to empower the farmers through their capacity building on thrust areas such as crop diversification and production aspects in terms of qualitative inputs and judicious use of farm resources.



GOVT INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR: Achievements Scheme Name Objective Provides ₹6,000/year to land-₹3.46 lakh crore disbursed to 11 crore holding farmers in three farmers. One of the largest DBT schemes **PM-KISAN** instalments. globally. Agriculture Provides debt financing for ₹51,364 crores sanctioned for 84,159 **Infrastructure Fund** projects (warehouses, cold storage, post-harvest management and farming infrastructure projects. (AIF) processing centres). Promotes 10,000 FPOs to empower farmers through ₹6,865 crore allocated for 2020-2028. 9,180 **Farmer Producer** collective action. **Organizations (FPOs)** FPOs registered. Ensures fair returns by setting MSP increased for crops like paddy MSP at 1.5 times the cost of (₹2,300/quintal) and wheat Minimum Support (₹2,425/quintal). Price (MSP) production. 500 drones distributed in 2023-24; the Provides drones to 15,000 remaining 14,500 drones to be distributed over 2024-25 and 2025-26. SHGs to earn ₹1 Namo Drone Didi Women SHGs for agricultural Scheme tasks. lakh annually. 95 lakh hectares covered with micro-Enhances water use efficiency **Per Drop More Crop** through micro-irrigation irrigation systems. 30%-70% increase in (PDMC) (drip/sprinkler systems). water use efficiency. ₹1.70 lakh crore claims paid. DigiClaim Pradhan Mantri Fasal Provides crop insurance ensures transparent payments through the Bima Yojana (PMFBY) against natural calamities. National Crop Insurance Portal. Integrates mandis digitally for 1,410 mandis integrated; ₹4.01 lakh crore improved trading and market worth of trade recorded on e-NAM e-NAM Platform access. platform. ₹2,817 crore allocated. Digital IDs for 11 **Develops Digital Public Digital Agriculture** Infrastructure (DPI) for datacrore farmers and a nationwide Digital Crop Mission driven decision-making. Survey. Improves soil health through 75 lakh soil samples collected; 53 lakh Soil Soil Health & Fertility Soil Health Cards and Health Cards generated. 31 lakh farmers Scheme received soil health advisories. management programs. **National Mission on** ₹2,481 crore allocated. Supports organic **Natural Farming** Promotes natural farming for farming and reduces dependency on (NMNF) sustainability. chemicals. **Agroforestry under** Promotes tree plantation on 1.21 lakh hectares planted with 532.3 lakh RKVY farmland for additional farmer trees; 899 nurseries established.

Scheme Name	Objective	Achievements
	income.	
National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)	Promotes scientific beekeeping to enhance honey production.	₹500 crore allocated (extended to 2025). 8 Honey Testing Labs, 33 processing units established.
Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)	Provides financial assistance for agricultural machinery and CHCs.	₹8,565 crore allocated. 1.91 million machines distributed; 26,637 CHCs established.
Crop Residue Management (CRM)	Subsidizes machinery to manage crop residue and reduce stubble burning.	₹4,391 crore allocated. 319,103 CRM machines distributed; 57% reduction in stubble burning in key states.
Climate Resilient Varieties	Develops crop varieties tolerant to extreme weather conditions.	109 climate-resilient varieties released for adoption by farmers.
Extension Reforms (ATMA)	Decentralizes agricultural extension services to make them farmer-friendly.	Implemented in 739 districts. Supports training, demonstrations, exposure visits, and farmer groups.

CONCLUSIONS:

The government has been implementing various initiatives aimed at boosting the agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of farmers. Programs such as PM-KISAN, which provides direct income support, ensure financial stability for farmers, while the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) focus on improving post-harvest management and farming practices through infrastructure development. Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and digital platforms like e-NAM empower farmers by promoting collective action and better market access. Additionally, schemes like Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) enhance water use efficiency, and the Soil Health & Fertility Scheme promotes sustainable soil management. Innovative programs like Namo Drone Didi are also encouraging the use of technology, particularly in empowering women in farming.

PRELIMS QUESTION:

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. PM-KISAN provides direct income support of ₹6,000 per year to land-holding farmers.

2. The Namo Drone Didi Scheme distributes drones to 10,000 women SHGs for agricultural tasks.

3. The Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme focuses on increasing the area of irrigated land without improving water use efficiency.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None
- Answer: B

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