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Agricultural Production and **Market Outlook**

The Rising Agriculture....

Cabinet Approval Financing Facility under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund



Cabinet has given its approval to a new pan India Central Sector Scheme- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. The scheme shall provide a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support. Under the scheme, Rs. One Lakh Crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Marketing Cooperative Societies, Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Group (SHG), Farmers, Joint Liability Groups (JLG), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups, Aggregation Infrastructure Providers and Central/State agency or Local Body sponsored Public Private Partnership Project. Loans will be disbursed in four years starting with sanction of Rs. 10,000 crore in the current year and Rs. 30,000 crore each in next three

financial years. All loans under this financing facility will have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of Rs. 2 crore. This subvention will be available for a maximum period of seven years. Further, credit guarantee coverage will be available for eligible borrowers from this financing facility under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme for a loan up to Rs. 2 crore. The fee for this coverage will be paid by the Government. In case of FPOs the credit guarantee may be availed from the facility created under FPO promotion scheme of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DACFW). The total outflow as budgetary support from Government of India (GoI) will be Rs.10,736 crore. Moratorium for repayment under this financing facility may vary subject to minimum of 6 months and maximum of 2 years.

The Project by way of facilitating formal credit to farm and farm processing-based activities is expected to create numerous job opportunities in rural areas. Agri Infra fund will be managed and monitored through an online Management Information System (MIS) platform. It will enable all the qualified entities to apply for loan under the fund. The online platform will also provide benefits such as transparency of interest rates offered by multiple banks, scheme details including interest subvention and credit guarantee offered, minimum documentation, faster approval process as also integration with other scheme benefits. The duration of the Scheme shall be from FY2020 to FY2029 (10 years).

Production and consumption of Fertilisers comfortable



Despite the spread Covid 19 pandemic, Production and movement of fertilizers comfortable across the country. 2019-20 record high urea production of 244.55 LMT as compared to 240 LMT during 2018-19. While sales of Urea have reached 336.97 LMT as compared to 320.20 LMT of the previous year i.e. 2018-19. There will be no scarcity of fertilizers this year also. During April to June 2020, total fertilizers production touched 101.15 LMT which is 2.79% higher than the corresponding period of last year. Urea production during the same period touch 60.38 LMT which is 8.40% higher than the corresponding period of last year.

Substantially increased sales / consumption of different fertilizers

Particulars	During 2019-20 as compared to 2018-19.	During Kharif 2020 as compared to Kharif 2019.	During Rabi 2019-20 as compared to Rabi 2018-19.
Urea	5.29 %	63.07 %	10.64 %
DAP	15.67 %	108.72 %	31.65 %
MOP	3.45 %	62.78 %	25.41 %
NPKS	9.95 %	124.71 %	28.81 %

Pulses sowing area more than 2.5 times in comparison to last year under kharif crops



The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India is taking

several measures to facilitate the farmers and farming activities at field level during COVID 19 pandemic.

There has been satisfactory progress of **sowing area coverage under Kharif crops**, the status of which is given as under:

Sowing Area Coverage

Rice: About 120.77 lakh ha area coverage under summer rice as compared to 95.73 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Pulses: About 64.25 lakh ha area coverage under pulses as compared to 24.49 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Coarse Cereals: About 93.24 lakh ha area coverage under coarse cereals as compared to 71.96 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Oilseeds: About 139.37 lakh ha area coverage under oilseeds as compared to 75.27 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Sugarcane: About 50.89 lakh ha area coverage under sugarcane as compared to 50.59 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Jute & Mesta: About 6.87 lakh ha area coverage under jute & mesta as compared to 6.82 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Cotton: About 104.82 lakh ha area coverage under cotton as compared to 77.71 lakh ha. during the corresponding period of last year.

Locust control operations carried out



Last week of July swarms of immature pink locusts, adult yellow locusts and/or hoppers are active in Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Churu, Nagaur, Sriganganagar, Jhunjhunu, Hanumangarh and Sriganganagar of Rajasthan and 01 place in Kutch district of Gujarat. Locust control operations were carried out at 36 places in 09 districts viz. Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Churu, Nagaur, Jhunjhunu, Hanumangarh and Sriganganagar of Rajasthan and 01 place in Kutch district of Gujarat against swarms and hoppers by Locust Circle Offices (LCOs).

Starting from 11th April 2020 till 26th July 2020, control operations have been done in 2,14,642 hectares area in States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana by LCOs. Till 26th July 2020, control operations have been done in 2,14,130 hectares area in States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Bihar by State Governments. No significant crop losses have been reported in the States of Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Haryana. However, some minor crop losses have been reported in some districts of Rajasthan. Presently, 104 central control teams with spray vehicles are deployed in the States of Rajasthan, and Gujarat, and more than 200 Central Government personnel are engaged in locust control operations. Further, 5 companies with 15 drones are deployed at Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Nagaur and Phalodi in Rajasthan for effective control of locusts on tall trees and in inaccessible areas through spraying of pesticides. A Bell helicopter has been deployed in Rajasthan for use in Scheduled Desert Area as per the need. Indian Air Force also is conducting trials in anti-locust operation by using Mi-17 helicopter. Food and Agriculture Organization's Locust Status Update of 21.07.2020 indicates that the risk of swarm migration from Horn of Africa prevails in

coming weeks. In Somalia, the swarms are moving eastwards across the north and a limited number of swarms could migrate across the Indian Ocean to the Indo-Pakistan border area; during the remainder of this month.

Ministry of Agriculture is funding start-ups under the innovation and agripreneurship



The Union Government accords very high priority to the agriculture sector. In order to contribute directly and indirectly to enhancing the income of farmers by providing opportunities to them and to provide employment to youth, start-ups are being encouraged. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare emphasised new technology in the field of agriculture and allied sectors through start-ups and agripreneurship should be promoted. Therefore, under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, the innovation and agripreneurship component has been promoted. For the year 2020-21, in the first phase, 112 startups in the area of agro processing, food technology and value addition will be funded for a sum of Rs. 1185.90 lakhs which will contribute to enhancing the income of farmers. This fund will be released in instalments.

The start-ups and agri-entrepreneurs need to be promoted to ensure innovation and use of technology in agriculture and allied sectors. The traditional knowledge of Indian communities should be coupled with technology and skill sets of youth and agriculture graduates to translate the full potential of Indian agriculture in transforming rural areas. In keeping with these initiatives of the Government of India to boost agriculture and allied activities and give an impetus to the rural economy, the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) which aims at strengthening infrastructure in agriculture and allied areas, has been revamped. Under the revamped scheme, a component Innovation and Agri-entrepreneurship Development programme has been launched in order to promote innovation and agripreneurship & startups by providing financial support and nurturing the incubation ecosystem. DAC&FW has selected 5 Knowledge Partners (KPs) as Centres of Excellence and 24 RKVY-RAFTAAR Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs) from across the country after a nation-wide advertisement and a rigorous selection process. 112 Startups selected by different knowledge partners and agribusiness incubators in the area of Agro-processing, Food Technology and Value addition will be funded in the first phase for a sum of Rs. 1185.90 lakh. This fund will be released in instalments. These start-ups were trained for two months at 29 agribusiness incubation centres (KPs & RABIs) spread across India. These start-ups will lead to employment to youth. Besides, they, directly and indirectly, will contribute to enhancing the income of farmers by providing opportunities to them. For more details on Agri-entrepreneurship, RKVY website: <https://rkvy.nic.in> may be visited.

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