



Policy Milestones in Agriculture and Allied Sector

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The Government of India has introduced several flagship programmes to enhance agricultural productivity, improve farmers' income, strengthen agricultural infrastructure, promote sustainable resource management, and ensure food and nutritional security in over the last decade. These initiatives have significantly transformed the agricultural landscape by integrating technology, improving institutional support, expanding market access, and strengthening allied sectors such as dairy, fisheries, and livestock. The major policy milestones and their measurable achievements are discussed below.

1. Rashtriya Gokul Mission (2014)

The Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) was launched in December 2014 with the objective of conserving and genetically improving indigenous bovine breeds while enhancing milk productivity. The mission promotes scientific breeding through artificial insemination, embryo transfer technology, establishment of Gokul Grams, and strengthening of semen stations. Indigenous breeds such as Gir, Sahiwal, Rathi, Tharparkar, and Red Sindhi have been prioritized due to their adaptability to Indian climatic conditions and disease resistance.

Achievements: Under the mission, more than 22 Gokul Grams have been sanctioned, over 8,000 high genetic merit bulls have been inducted, and over 8 crore artificial inseminations using indigenous germplasm have been carried out. India's milk production increased from 146.3 million tonnes in 2014–15 to about 254.9 million tonnes in 2024–25, maintaining India's position as the world's largest milk producer.

2. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) (2015)

Launched in 2015, PMKSY aims to provide irrigation facilities to every farm through the principles of "Har Khet Ko Pani" and "Per Drop More Crop." The scheme promotes efficient water management through drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, watershed development, and creation of irrigation infrastructure.

Achievements: More than 95 lakh hectares have been brought under micro-irrigation with central assistance. Around 2.1 million hectares of irrigation potential has been created under AIBP projects, resulting in substantial water savings, improved cropping intensity, and increased agricultural productivity in water-scarce regions.

3. Soil Health Card Scheme (2015)

The Soil Health Card Scheme was launched in 2015 to promote balanced fertilizer use based on scientific soil testing. Farmers receive soil health cards every two years indicating nutrient deficiencies and fertilizer recommendations.

Achievements: More than 23 crore Soil Health Cards have been distributed across two cycles, involving testing of nearly 70 crore soil samples. Studies by the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that balanced nutrient management has reduced fertilizer consumption by 8–10% while increasing crop productivity by 5–6% in several states.

4. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) (2016)

PMFBY provides affordable crop insurance against natural calamities, pests, and diseases with low premium rates for farmers.

Achievements: Since its launch, over 63 crore farmer applications have been insured, covering approximately 31 crore hectares of cropped area. Farmers have paid around ₹32,000 crore as premium, while insurance claims exceeding ₹1.75 lakh crore have been settled, benefiting more than 19 crore farmers affected by crop losses.

5. National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) (2016)

The e-NAM platform integrates Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) across India into a unified online trading platform, ensuring transparent price discovery and wider market access.

Achievements: More than 1,410 mandis across 23 States and 4 Union Territories have been integrated. The platform has registered over 1.78 crore farmers, 2.6 lakh traders, and facilitated trade worth more than ₹3 lakh crore, significantly improving market transparency and digital agricultural marketing.

6. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (2017)

The scheme focuses on strengthening food processing infrastructure, reducing post-harvest losses, promoting value addition, and improving agricultural exports.

Achievements: More than 1,000 food processing projects have been approved, including 42 Mega Food Parks, 399 Cold Chain Projects, and 76 Agro-Processing Clusters, attracting investments exceeding ₹30,000 crore and generating employment for nearly 9 lakh persons.

7. Minimum Support Price (MSP) Reform (2018)

In 2018, the Government decided to fix MSP at **1.5 times the cost of production (A2+FL)** for all major Kharif and Rabi crops to ensure remunerative prices.

Achievements: Procurement under MSP has expanded considerably. Between 2014–15 and 2024–25, procurement of wheat and paddy consistently exceeded 1,000 lakh metric tonnes annually in peak years, while procurement of pulses and oilseeds also increased substantially. Payments to farmers through MSP procurement exceeded ₹18 lakh crore during this period.

8. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) (2019)

PM-KISAN provides direct income support of ₹6000 annually to eligible farmer families through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). In Rajasthan the income support is ₹ 6000 + 3000 from central and state government respectively.

Achievements: More than 11 crore farmers have been registered under the scheme. Since inception, over ₹3.7 lakh crore has been transferred directly into farmers' bank accounts through 19+ instalments, making it one of the world's largest DBT programmes.

9. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (2019)

The establishment of a separate ministry provided focused policy attention to livestock, fisheries, and dairy development.

Achievements: India's fish production increased to nearly 19.2 million tonnes, while milk production reached 254.9 million tonnes in 2024–25. Marine exports crossed ₹60,000 crore annually, and nationwide vaccination programmes under the Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme vaccinated over 100 crore animals against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD).

10. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (2019)

The scheme provides social security to small and marginal farmers by offering a monthly pension after the age of 60 years.

Achievements: More than 24 lakh farmers have enrolled under the pension scheme, ensuring long-term income security during old age through a contributory pension model.

11. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (2020)

The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund was launched with a financing facility of ₹1 lakh crore to support post-harvest management infrastructure.

Achievements: More than 88,000 projects have been sanctioned with approved loans exceeding ₹65,000 crore, supporting warehouses, cold storage facilities, pack houses,

primary processing units, and custom hiring centres, thereby reducing post-harvest losses and improving market efficiency.

12. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) (2020)

PMMSY promotes sustainable fisheries development from production to marketing.

Achievements: The scheme has mobilized investments exceeding ₹20,000 crore, increased fish production to nearly 19.2 million tonnes, and generated employment opportunities for over 55 lakh people across fisheries and aquaculture value chains.

13. Ministry of Cooperation (2021)

The Ministry was created to strengthen India's cooperative movement by improving governance, digitalization, and financial sustainability.

Achievements: More than 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) have been targeted for computerization, and thousands of new multipurpose PACS have been approved to improve rural credit delivery and cooperative services.

14. National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) (2021)

The mission seeks to expand oil palm cultivation and reduce India's dependence on imported edible oils.

Achievements: The programme targets expansion of oil palm cultivation to 10 lakh hectares by 2025–26 with an estimated investment of ₹11,040 crore. Several northeastern and southern states have significantly expanded oil palm plantations under the scheme.

15. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Kendras (PMKSK) (2022)

PMKSK converts fertilizer retail outlets into integrated agricultural service centres providing inputs, advisory services, soil testing, and information on government schemes.

Achievements: More than 2.5 lakh fertilizer retail shops have been converted into PMKSKs, creating India's largest farmer service network for agricultural extension and input delivery.

16. International Year of Millets (Shree Anna) (2023)

India successfully proposed 2023 as the International Year of Millets to the United Nations, highlighting millets as climate-resilient and nutritious crops.

Achievements: Millet exports increased significantly, more than 500 national and international events were organized, and millet cultivation expanded to approximately 15–16 million hectares, strengthening India's position as the world's largest millet producer.

17. National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (2024)

The mission aims to enhance domestic production of oilseeds such as mustard, soybean, groundnut, sunflower, and sesame through improved seed technology, mechanization, and extension support.

Achievements: The mission targets raising oilseed production from around 39 million tonnes to over 69 million tonnes by 2030–31, substantially reducing edible oil imports and improving farmers' income.

18. Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PM-DDKY) and Mission for Atmanirbharta in Pulses (2025)

The PM-DDKY focuses on transforming low-performing agricultural districts through targeted investments, while the Mission for Atmanirbharta in Pulses aims to achieve self-sufficiency in pulse production by promoting improved varieties, assured procurement, and technology dissemination.

Achievements

During the initial implementation phase, 100 low-performing districts have been identified for focused intervention under PM-DDKY. The pulses mission targets reducing India's annual pulse imports by significantly increasing domestic production through enhanced procurement, improved seed distribution, and productivity enhancement programmes.

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