



e - Bulletin

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Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India

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New Ministers of State (MOS) joined Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, MOS(Agriculture & Farmers Welfare), Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, MOS (Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Parshottam Rupala, MOS(Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) and Panchayati Raj, took over the charge in Krishi Bhawan on 8th July 2016. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, welcomed the ministers.

Shri S. S. Ahluwalia, MOS(Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) and Parliamentary Affairs emphasized on accelerating the development of agriculture sector for the welfare of farmers. Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, MOS(Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) stressed on increasing the production of foodgrains and dairy products to enhance farmers' income. Shri Parshottam Rupala, MOS(Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) and Panchayati Raj also felt need of enhancing in agriculture production by motivating the farmers to adopt innovative technologies in agriculture and allied sector for doubling the farmers' income by the year 2022.



Kisan Call Centre No. 1800-180 1551 (Toll Free)

Conference on Agricultural Mechanization

A two-day Conference on “*Innovations in Agricultural Mechanization and Development of linkage among R&D Institutes - Industry - Farmers*” was organized by Mechanization & Technology Division of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare from 7-8 July, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

The main objective of the conference was to establish linkages between the R & D institutions, manufacturers of agricultural machinery, agricultural extension functionaries and the farmers so that the latest innovations in the field of agricultural mechanization could be percolated to the farmers through commercialization of the innovations. The conference was inaugurated by Shri Radha Mohan Singh, the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

A book on “**Farm Mechanization in India: The Custom Hiring Perspective**” was also released during this occasion. More than 800 delegates participated in the conference which includes senior officers from the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers

Welfare, manufacturers of agricultural machinery, scientists and researchers from the Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutions, Officers from the State Agriculture & Development Departments, Officers from other Central Ministries/ Departments and farmers as well.



Hon'ble AM congratulated the Agricultural Engineers/ Scientists of the country for their contribution in increasing the farm productivity through mechanization. Agricultural mechanization is essential for agricultural modernization and accordingly its benefits need to be extended to all categories of farmers in each agro-climatic zones of the country. He further reiterated that the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has clear road map and vision for agricultural development and welfare of farmers. Shri Singh also emphasized the need to transfer the latest technology to the farmers so that their income may be doubled by way of reducing the cost of cultivation and increasing farm production. He requested to all the manufacturers to come forward for

the commercialization of technology so that the appropriate technology can reach the farmers.

Future India Triangular Training Programme by MANAGE (Hyderabad)

“*The Future India Triangular Training program*” was launched on 25th July, 2016 at New Delhi by Shri Shobhana K. Pattanayak, Secretary(AC&FW). Keynote address was delivered by His Excellency Richard R. Verma, United States Ambassador to India, US-India-Africa Triangular Training Programme experiences were shared by Her Excellency Mrs. Florence Imisa Weche, High Commissioner, Kenya High Commission in India. The dignitaries and delegates were welcomed by Mrs. V. Usha Rani, Director General(MANAGE) and vote of thanks was proposed by His Excellency Jonathan S. Addleton, Mission Director, USAID-India. The program was also attended by Ambassadors and Embassy Officials of 17 partner countries, officials from Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare & Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India along with partner institutes of USAID and MANAGE.

The main objective of this programme is to address human and institutional capacity gap in food and nutritional security in the selected 17 African and Asian countries. The partners of this programme are United State Agency for International Development (USAID) representing US Government and National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) representing Indian Government. The Program will be implemented during October, 2016 to September, 2020. The program consists of 32 in-country training and 12 training programs in the country viz. Kenya, Malawi, Liberia, Afghanistan, Botswana, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Lao-PDR, Myanmar, Mongolia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam. Through this program, MANAGE will impart training to a minimum of 1400 professionals over a period of four years.



Directorate of Extension, DAC & FW participated in SANGAM-2016

SANGAM, an exhibition cum seminar was organized at Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Dham, Farah, Mathura (UP) during September 25-29, 2016. The schemes, programmes and achievements of various departments of ministry were showcased for benefit of the farming community. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare inaugurated the event. The entire exhibition was ocean of knowledge and information. The attractive display of stalls was major attraction to the farmers of Uttar Pradesh and neighboring states. The farmers shared their experiences and gathered the valuable information related to crop production, animal husbandry, fisheries etc. from the scientists and experts in 'Kisan Gosthi' organized everyday during exhibition hours.

This farmer centric event was not less than a festival for farming community of Uttar Pradesh and neighboring states. The active participation by state agriculture and allied departments, government undertakings and private organizations was a true witness for the relevance of such mega exhibitions.



Bilateral Collaboration in Agriculture with Indonesia

Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare welcomed 15 MPs delegation of Indonesia led by Shri H. Ahmed Mujhani on 28th August, 2016. On this occasion, Shri Radha Mohan Singh said that India and Indonesia are working together in Agriculture sector and both countries believe that there are enough possibilities to work together. He further added that economy of India and Indonesia is largely based on Agriculture and the bilateral relations between the two countries have a bright future. During the discussions both the countries stressed on promotion of bilateral financial and political relations.



Workshop on Transformational Change in Policy and Practices for Sustainable Agriculture

Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare inaugurated a National Workshop on "Indian Green Agricultural Project" on 11 August, 2016 at New Delhi. This workshop was jointly organised by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO). A sum of 37 million dollars would be incurred on this project. This workshop had been organized to have a substantial discussion on the subject. This project will be finalized for implementation throughout the country for sustainable agriculture based on the negotiations of this workshop.

On this occasion Shri Radha Mohan Singh informed that Indian agriculture has been facing a number of challenges like climate change, limited availability of natural resources etc. Union Minister further added that the Government of India has chalked out a number of schemes viz. climate smart agriculture, sustainable land use and management, bio-production, use of local and traditional knowledge along with the agriculture bio diversification conservation to overcome the challenges.



Rabi Conference-2016 organised

The National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign, 2016-2017 was convened from 15-16th September, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Conference was inaugurated by Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare. The two-day Conference was attended by Agriculture Production Commissioners/ Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Marketing, Credit & Cooperation from State Governments and Union Territories along with Senior Scientists from ICAR and Officials from DAC&FW and PSUs/Autonomous Bodies under this Ministry.

During the Conference, focused group discussions with State Agriculture Departments, Scientists and experts were held on important subjects like Implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer to beneficiaries, agricultural development in North-Eastern States, Geographic Information System based inventory mapping of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana assets, road map for augmenting pulses production, effective mechanism for quality control of pesticides; Issues of crop insurance and use of technology, implementation of Soil Health Card Scheme and roll out of e-National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) in regulated mandis across the country.

Important Recommendations:

1. States to prepare seed rolling plans, create marketing linkages, ensure timely procurement of pulses and make concerted efforts for protective life-saving irrigation at critical growth stages of crop. The major pulse producing states are committed to produce 21 million tones of pulses during 2016-17.

2. To promote inter-state trading on e-NAM, the participating states agreed to appoint a nodal officer in each state who will identify the commodities to be traded with other states, set-up a national level regulatory body for dispute redressal under e-NAM and confer PM's award to Mandi Board/ State Agriculture Department instead of individual agriculture market committees. For rapid coverage, States need to register farmers along with land records, AADHAR and bank details in a campaign mode.

3. North Eastern States are well poised to develop as a hub for horticulture and organic commodities for which development of infrastructure and e-marketing should be prioritised,

4. For crop insurance and crop loan there should be seamless integration of all stakeholders including farmers, banks, insurance companies, States and Central Government on one integrated e-platform with real time capturing of relevant data, close monitoring and supervision, AADHAR and digitized land records for providing access to banks. Govt. of India should empanel agency for conduct of crop cutting experiments by States.

5. States were urged to make all out efforts to create/upgrade the soil testing infrastructure in terms of mobile laboratories and portable mini labs and avail the assistance provided by the Central Government.

While concluding the conference, Shri Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble MOS(Agriculture & Farmers Welfare), advised States to firm-up their Rabi strategy and make all efforts to take advantage of the residual soil moisture in achieving record production during the ensuing rabi season.



New Scheme/Programme of DAC&FW

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has launched four scheme/programme for increasing the production of pulses, oilseed and honeybee and for amelioration of problematic soils. The purpose of these programme is to enhance the foodgrains production, income and employment for farmers. Four schemes/programmes initiated under the sub-scheme of RKVY :

1. Reclamation of Problem Soils (RPS)-An RKVY Sub-Scheme

On the recommendation of Committee constituted by the National Development Council (NDC) and also with a view of reclamation and development of problem soils (alkali, saline, and acid) to meet the demands of foodgrain of ever-increasing population, “**Scheme for Reclamation of Problem Soils**” has been introduced as sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) with the following objectives:

- (a) To reclaim and develop problem soils (lands affected by alkalinity, salinity & acidity)
- (b) To adopt need based site specific on farm development, bio-engineering measures and application of soil amendments.
- (c) To improve soil fertility and productivity by application of soil test based judicious use of fertilizers and application of macro & micro nutrients, etc.
- (d) to enhance crop yields by adoption of salt tolerant crop/ tree farming systems to ensure food security of the country; and
- (e) to create awareness amongst farmers & stakeholders for continuous cultivation to prevent re-occurrence of problem of alkalinity, salinity and acidity in conjunction with other ongoing missions.

Cost Norms: Upper limit of unit cost will be Rs.60,000 per hectare for alkaline/saline soils and Rs. 15,000 per hectare in case of acid soil for reclamation. Funding pattern will be in the ratio of 60:40 between centre and state governments for all the states except eight north-eastern and three Himalayan states for which funding share will be 90:10. The sub-scheme will be implemented across the country.

2. Integrated Development of Scientific Beekeeping for Enhancing Productivity of Crops through Pollination.

DAC&FW has proposed Rs. 36 crores project for integrated development of scientific beekeeping under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) scheme by adopting cluster area approach and by creating awareness about scientific beekeeping.

The scheme will be implemented on pilot basis in 16 districts of 8 States viz. Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, HP, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and U.P. 40-50 villages in each district will be selected for implementation of the project. The priority in selection will be given to the women, weaker section/ deprived section of the society, marginal & small farmers and landless labourers. The project will be of 24 months duration with estimated cost of Rs. 3599.64 lakh.



3. Targeting Rice Fallow Areas in Eastern India for Pulses and Oilseeds

Rice is the major crop grown over an area of more than 18 million hectare in Eastern States comprising of Assam, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal. In this area more than 8 million hectare of land remain fallow after harvest of paddy during rabi season due to various socio-economic reasons. Area expansion is difficult in traditional pulses and oil seeds growing states due to pressure of other competitive crops. So considering the scope of pulses and oilseeds cultivation in rice fallow areas of eastern India, DAC&FW has initiated a sub scheme on “Targeting Rice Fallow Areas in Eastern India for Pulses and Oilseeds” under RKVY.

The scheme will be implemented during Rabi/Summer 2016-17 as per the approved funding pattern of NMOOP/ NFSM in identified 1500 villages of 15 district of six states with the following objective:

- (i) To bring one million hectare area of rice fallow land under oilseeds and pulses cultivation with an estimated additional production of 2.50 lakh tones of pulses and 3.5 lakh tones of oilseeds by the end of 2018-19
- (ii) To target 100 villages each in 15 districts of the region to achieve tangible results.
- (iii) Capacity building of extension functionaries and farmers for sustainable cultivation of oilseeds and pulses in rice fallows areas by adopting latest crop production technologies. (iv) To create need based irrigation, mechanization, post-harvest and marketing infrastructure in the project areas for sustainable cultivation of oilseeds and pulses.

Area of operation and funding pattern: Fifteen districts in the States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal with large areas of rice fallow will be covered under this scheme. The funds would be released to the States as per norms of RKVY. The expenditure will be shared between Central and State Government in the ratio of 90:10 for Assam and 60:40 for remaining States.

4. Sub Mission on Agro-forestry (SMAF)

DAC&FW brought out the National Agro-forestry Policy in 2014 to give specific focus on development of agro-forestry and to bring about coordination, convergence and synergy among various elements of agro-forestry scattered in various missions, programmes, schemes and agencies. Hon'ble Prime Minister in various forums has advised that farmers should plant trees on farm bund. Growing trees in farm land will not only improve the soil fertility but also creates opportunity for additional income.



Therefore, a Sub-Mission on Agro-forestry under the framework of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been approved by Govt. of India with an outlay of Rs. 935 crore (Central share) for a period of 4 years starting from 2016-17. A budget provisions of Rs. 75 crore has been made for implementation of the programme during 2016-17.

Bihar

Agriculture & Dairy Development Centre inaugurated



Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare inaugurated Agriculture & Dairy Development Centre at Piparakothi, Motihari, Bihar on 10th July 2016. While addressing the farmers on the occasion, Hon'ble AM emphasised over the importance of this centre in increasing the farmer's income. Such type of initiation will not only generate additional income of farmers but also will be helpful in the mission of Govt. of India to double the farmer's income by 2022.

Nagaland

Accreditation & Certification of Horticultural Nurseries

The availability of quality planting material is crucial for success of commercial horticulture and it necessitates having a network of horticulture nurseries which conform to Model Nursery Standards in terms of infrastructure, quality of seed & planting material and adoption of nursery management practices. Central Institute of Horticulture, Medziphema, Nagaland with the support from state horticulture depts. in NE states, is tirelessly working for recognition of horticulture nurseries in the region. Out of thirteen (13) nurseries from Meghalaya state one nursery was rated as 2 star, nine nurseries as 1 star, three nurseries as unsatisfactory, whereas in Arunachal Pradesh one nursery was rated as 2 star. Fruit crops like Kiwi, Apple, Peach, Pear, Plum, Citrus & Strawberry production were accredited by accreditation committee.



Nagaland

Certificate course on Organic Farming Initiated

Three months duration Certificate course on “Organic Farming & Certification of Horticulture Crops” commenced on 7th June 2016 at Central Institute of Horticulture, (CIH), Nagaland for 15 participants. The course was designed to empower the less educated & unemployed youth of the region with the technical skills to take up horticulture in a more professional and organized manner and to create avenues for entrepreneurship and self employment development.



(Class and practical sessions being conducted)

Sikkim

Organic Retail Store and Cafeteria at Krishi Bhawan

Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, inaugurated the Organic Retail Store and Cafeteria managed by Sikkim State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. (SIMFED) in Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi on 11th August, 2016.



Gujarat**Agri Asia - 2016**

Shri Vijaybhai R. Rupani, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat along with Shri Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble Union Minister of State Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Panchayati Raj; Shri Chimanbhai Dharamshibhai Sapariya, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Energy; Shri Babubhai Bokhiriya, Honorable Cabinet Minister of Animal Husbandry, Cow Breeding & Fisheries; Shri Vallabhbhai Waghasiya Hon'ble Minister of State Agriculture and Urban Housing inaugurated Agri Asia - 2016 on 2nd September, 2016 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar.

Agri Asia 2016 witnessed more than 1,50,000 visitors from across India and abroad. This event on agriculture was designed for farmers, agriculture extension personnel, agronomists, biotechnologists, officials and for everyone who were willing to take the Next Giant Leap in Agriculture.



Scientific Cultivation of Gram increased Farmer's Income

Shri Ravi Kumar from Tal area of Mokama block of Patna District, the place famous for pulses production and often known as bowl of pulses. He is a marginal farmers with multiple problems related to inputs, technologies and logistics plagued the place. However, he realized that nature blessed him with suitable climate, fertile land and water for making progress in agriculture.

Shri Ravi used to grow pulses in traditional manner and were getting poor crop yield. Due to low return he began to actively look out the new alternatives to augment his income. He learnt about scientific cultivation of gram during special production programme organized by KVK, Barh and started growing pulses in new mode, such as; seed treatment, soil testing, application of recommended dose of fertilizer, practice of zero tillage and proper plant protection measures etc.

These package of practices adopted by him changed his sole motive and started earning about Rs. 4 lakh annually from pulses. In traditional cultivation the gram yield was only 18 quintal/hectare but due to scientific cultivation it has multiplied upto 24 quintal/hectare.

His success on adoption of package of practices motivated other farmers of the area to adopt these practices for better income and livelihood. He may be contacted at; **8051676989**.



Organic Vegetable Production Model by Shri Rajesh Kumar



Shri Rajesh Kumar, S/o Chandu Ram, a small farmer of Kheri Sikandar village, Pundri block, Kaithal district, Haryana. He has been cultivating organic vegetables since 2012 and participated in various training programmes conducted by KVK- Kaithal, ICAR Institutes and ATMA. He adopted a model of mixed-farming. The seasonal vegetables like green lettuce, red lettuce, chinese cabbage, red cabbage, celery, popchoy and broccoli were grown seasonally and spinach, cauliflower, reddish and beet root were grown round the year. Rajesh Kumar was using **Jeev-Amrit** as an organic supplement which was prepared by him at his own farm with the following formula: Mollases(3kg), gram flour(3kg),

organic soil(1kg), cow urine(20 litres), Cow dung(20kg) and water (100 litres). All the ingredients were mixed in water and formulation got ready in 7 days.

Vermi-wash prepared by him from earth worms and is used for promotion of plant growth.

Herbal organic formulation also prepared and applied for pest and diseases management.

Haryana State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited (HAFED) has certified organic farming of Rajesh Kumar as per ICS-194. He was awarded Haldar Organic Award 2015 by ICAR.

Recently, he has organised a group of 15 farmers for producing organic vegetables and did direct marketing in Mall at Okhla, Phase-II, New Delhi. He has also initiated bee-keeping and mushroom cultivation. Rajesh is famous as innovative farmer for organic cultivation and a good model of direct marketing for farmers. He may be contacted at; **9254444442**.