Government Initiatives

Some of the recent major Government initiatives in the sector are as follows:

- From 2014–15 to 2025–26, a total of **25,689** Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) have been established under the **Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM)** scheme, including 558 CHCs during 2025–26 (as of 30 October 2025).
- The Government has approved the allocation of **52 lakh metric tonnes** (LMT) of surplus rice from the **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** for ethanol production, 26 LMT each for the Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2024-25 (November 1, 2024, to October 31, 2025).
- The Union Government has approved an additional 2.8 million tonnes of rice from the **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** for ethanol production in 2024–25, increasing the total allocation to **5.2 million tonnes**, despite continued concerns about the use of food grains for fuel production instead of food security purposes.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PMKMY)** provides pension schemes for farmers. Over 11 crore farmers have benefited from PM-KISAN, while 23.61 lakh farmers had enrolled in PMKMY as of 31 October 2024.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of the **Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)**, to be executed under the Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF), with a total allocation of **Rs. 29,610.25 crore (US$ 3.77 billion)** over three years until 2025-26. In 2024, the AHIDF has generated significant impact by establishing an additional 141.04 lakh litres per day (LLPD) of milk processing capacity.
- The government has entered into agreements with 26 overseas and domestic companies at the '**World Food India**' summit, securing investments worth **Rs 1.02 lakh crore (US$ 11.80 billion)** for India's food processing sector.
- The **National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)** is anticipated to support **2 million farmers**, with organic exports projected to surpass US$ 1 billion by 2025-26.
- The Uttar Pradesh government is promoting farmers' economic prosperity via procurement and direct payments. It is facilitating comprehensive support by establishing **4,645 procurement centres** to enable paddy sales at the minimum support price.
- The Government has launched the '**Bharat VISTAAR**' AI initiative to empower Indian farmers. This artificial intelligence-based scheme offers a single-window platform delivering instant, technology-driven agricultural advisory services. Farmers can access real-time mandi prices, technical advice, and scheme integration through the system.
- The Government of India has detailed significant progress in revolutionising agriculture from 'field to farm' via strategic infrastructure investments exceeding **Rs. 1 lakh crore (US$ 11.37 billion)** under the **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)**.
- The Government of India has allocated an outlay of **Rs. 1,600 crore (US$ 185.04 million)** for 2025–26 under the **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana**. One of its key objectives is to enhance water delivery infrastructure from existing canals and other sources to designated clusters.
- A credit-linked subsidy scheme, alongside support for scaling up livestock enterprises (dairy, poultry, and small ruminants), to develop integrated value chains and livestock-focused Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). This forms part of a wider array of allied-sector initiatives outlined in the FY26-27 roadmap, with provisions incorporated into FY26 planning and budgeting.
- Between 31 October 2021 and 8 December 2025, the **National Cooperative Development Corporation** NCDC disbursed a total of **Rs 186.48 crore (US$ 21.57 million)** in financial assistance to 19,938 dairy cooperatives across nine states.
- The Central government allocated **Rs 12,200 crore (US$ 1.39 billion)** towards **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** in the Union Budget 2026.

TRUTY

- As of 22 July 2025, the Department of Fisheries has approved fisheries development projects worth **Rs. 21,274.16 crore (US$ 2.46 billion)** under the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana**. PMMSY continues to be the central pillar of fisheries development, with an allocation of Rs 2,500 crore in 2026–27. As of 05 March 2026, approved activities under the PMMSY include 23,285 hectares of pond area for inland aquaculture, 52,058 reservoir cages, 27,189 fish transportation and handling units, 634 value-added enterprise units (including ice plants and cold storages), and 6,896 fish retail markets and kiosks.
- As of May 2025, Under the **Soil Health Management**, 97.53 lakh soil samples were collected and 92.87 lakh tested in 2025-26, while 25.79 crore Soil Health Card have been generated since 2015 to guide balanced nutrient management.
- As of September 2025, **Rs. 73,155 crore (US$ 8.46 billion)** has been sanctioned under the AIF for 1.27 lakh projects, encompassing thousands of warehouses and cold stores. The total project cost for these sanctioned initiatives amounts to Rs. 1.17 lakh crore (US$ 13.53 billion).
- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched its new initiative **BHARATI**, Bharat's Hub for Agritech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement, during the "Food & Beverages Sector Stakeholders Meeting".
- Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi highlighted India's rapid transformation in the food processing sector, noting that it has expanded 20 times over the past decade, driven by Central government initiatives such as the **Production-Linked Incentive (PLI)** scheme and mega food parks. These measures have strengthened India's role in global food security.
- The Government of India announced a significant reduction in GST on tracto**rs,** farm machinery, fertilizers, and other essential agricultural inputs. This GST cut also extends to allied sectors like dairy, aquaculture, and solar-powered equipment. The reform aims to lower cultivation costs, promote mechanization, and enhance rural livelihoods, making agriculture more competitive and sustainable.
- The Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi highlighted that under the **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** scheme alone, farmers have received assistance exceeding **Rs. 10 lakh crore (US$ 112.78 billion)** this year. The scheme has also been extended to livestock and fisheries sectors, benefiting those engaged in these allied activities extensively. Reduction in GST on bio-fertilizers further aided farmers.
- Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi highlighted India's openness to global investment in food processing, citing the neo-middle class as a key driver of food trends and consumption. Further, GST reforms favour the sector by reducing taxes on most processed food items and biodegradable packaging, supporting healthier and sustainable product markets.
- In July 2025, The **Coastal States Fisheries Meet 2025** under PM Matsya Sampada Yojana allocated **Rs. 255 crore (US$ 29.1 million)** for infrastructure and Rs. 364 crore (US$ 41.6 million) to equip 1,00,000 vessels with transponders, while launching Regional Fisheries Management Councils and the Marine Fisheries Census 2025 to enhance safety and governance.
- The Union Cabinet approved the **Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY)** worth **Rs. 24,000 crore (US$ 2.79 billion)** from FY26 to boost farm productivity, irrigation, credit access, and post-harvest infrastructure for 1.7 crore farmers across 100 districts.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)** is strengthening India's food processing sector, benefiting **34.15 lakh farmers** and creating over 4.33 lakh jobs through 1,601 projects.
- The government has approved an Action Plan for constructing steel silos under a **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** model to modernize storage facilities, with a total capacity of 24.25 Lakh metric tonnes (LMT) under development.
- The budget for Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare increased from **Rs. 21,933.50 crore (US$ 2.53 billion)** in 2013-14 to Rs. 1,27,290.16 crore (US$ 14.89 billion) in 2025-26, reflecting the government's commitment to agricultural development.
- In the Union Budget 2024-25, a provision of **Rs. 1.52 lakh crore (US$ 18.26 billion)** has been made for agriculture and allied sector.

TRUTH

- As per the Economic Survey 2024-25, for 2026-2027, the MSP for arhar and bajra has been increased by 54% and 56% over the weighted average cost of production, respectively. Moreover, the MSP for Masur has risen by 89%, while rapeseed has seen an impressive increase of 98%.
- As per the Economic Survey 2024-25, since FY16, the government has implemented the Per Drop More Crop initiative under PMKSY, covering **95.58 lakh hectares** by December 2024 with Rs. 21,968.75 crore (US$ 2.57 billion) released to states for micro-irrigation, offering 55% subsidy to small/marginal farmers and 45% to others. From 2018 to 2024, loans worth Rs. 4,709 crore (US$ 551 million) were approved under the **Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF)**, with Rs. 3,640 crore (US$ 426.5 million) disbursed, supported by a 2% interest subvention to states.
- In January 2024, The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has approved the following under the corresponding component schemes of PMKSY: 41 Mega Food Parks, 399 Cold Chain projects, 76 Agro-processing Cluste**rs,** 588 Food Processing Units, 61 Creation of Backward & Forward Linkages Projects, and 52 Operation Green projects.
- Through several Digital Initiatives, such as the **National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGP-A)**, the construction of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), digital registries, etc., the government has taken a number of steps to ensure access to IT across the nation.
- The **Soil Health Card** site has been updated and connected with a Geographic Information System (GIS) system, allowing all test results to be captured and shown on a map. Samples are now being gathered using a mobile application as of April 2023 under the new system.
- The **Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme** has been implemented in 704 districts across 28 states and 5 UTs to educate farme**rs.** Grants-in-aid are released to the State Government under the scheme with the goal of supporting State Governments' efforts to make available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in various thematic areas of agriculture and allied sector.
- Since its inception, i.e. from 01.04.2001 to 31.12.2022, a total of **42,164 storage infrastructure projects** (Godowns) with a capacity of 740.43 Lakh MT have been assisted in the country under the **Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI)** sub-scheme of the Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM).
- The Centre has granted permission to 5 private companies to conduct cluster farming of specified horticulture crops on approximately 50,000 hectares on a trial basis, with a total investment of **Rs. 750 crore (US$ 91.75 million)**. The 5 companies chosen through a bidding process for the pilot cluster farming program are Prasad Seeds, FIL Industries, Sahyadri Farms, Meghalaya Basin Management Agency.
- **27,003 Loans** have been sanctioned in the country under credit linked subsidy component of the **PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME)**.
- The Indian government is planning to launch **Kisan Drones** for crop assessment, digitization of land records, and spraying of insecticides and nutrients.
- **NABARD** will assist in the creation of a blended capital fund with a focus on the agricultural start-up ecosystem which will be used to fund agriculture and rural enterprise startups that are related to the farm product value chain.
- A network of 729 **Krishi Vigyan Kendras** has been established at the district level across the country to ensure that newer technologies such as improved variety seeds of crops, new breeds/ strains of livestock and fish, and improved production and protection technologies reach farme**rs.**
- In October 2021, the Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation launched the '**Dairy Sahakar**' scheme in Anand, Gujarat.
- Ministry of Civil Aviation launched the **Krishi UDAN 2.0** scheme in October 2021. The scheme proposes assistance and incentive for the movement of agri-produce by air transport. The Krishi UDAN 2.0 will be implemented at 53 airports across the country, largely focusing on Northeast and tribal regions, and is expected to benefit farme**rs,** freight forwarders, and airlines.

TRINITY

- The **Agriculture Export Policy, 2018** was approved by the Government of India in December 2018. The new policy aimed to increase India's agricultural export to **US$ 60 billion** by 2022 and US$ 100 billion in the next few years with a stable trade policy regime.
- The Government of India is going to provide **Rs. 2,000 crore (US$ 306.29 million)** for the computerisation of the **Primary Agricultural Credit Society (PACS)** to ensure cooperatives are benefitted through digital technology.
- The Government of India launched the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) with an investment of **Rs. 50,000 crore (US$ 7.7 billion)** aimed at the development of irrigation sources for providing a permanent solution to drought.
- Government plans to triple the capacity of the food processing sector in India from the current 10% of agricultural produce and has also committed **Rs. 6,000 crore (US$ 729 million)** as investments for mega food parks in the country, as a part of the **Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters (SAMPADA)**.
- The Government of India has allowed **100% FDI** in the marketing of food products and in food product E-commerce under the automatic route.
- To enhance the income of farmers, the government has taken initiatives across several focus areas. Income support is provided to farmers through PM KISAN Scheme, crop insurance is assured through the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, and irrigation facilities are ensured under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana.
- Access to institutional credit is being provided through Kisan Credit Card and other channels.
- Under the e-NAM initiative, markets across the length and breadth of the nation are now open to farmers, to enable them to get more remunerative prices for their produce. Online, Competitive, Transparent Bidding System with 1.74 crore farmers and 2.39 lakh traders put in place under the **National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)** Scheme.
- The umbrella scheme **Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)** ensures Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers for various Kharif and Rabi crops while also keeping a robust procurement mechanism in place.
- In order to increase the level of food- processing industry and encouraging rural entrepreneurship across the country including rural areas, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), **Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI)** and centrally sponsored PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme.
- The PMFME Scheme provides financial, technical, and business support for setting up/upgradation of **2 Lakh micro food processing enterprises** through credit-linked subsidy during 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore (US$ 1.27 billion).
- Under component schemes of PMKSY, MoFPI mostly provides financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid to entrepreneurs for the creation of modern infrastructure and setting up of food processing/preservation industries including Cold Chains with associated infrastructure like primary processing facilities, collection centres, pre-conditioning, pre-cooling, ripening, packing, etc.
- As per the Union Budget 2023-24, A new sub-scheme of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana with the targeted investment of **Rs. 6,000 crore (US$ 729 million)** to be launched to further enable activities of fishermen, fish vendors, and micro & small enterprises, improve value chain efficiencies, and expand the market.
- **Digital Public Infrastructure for Agriculture**: agriculture will be built as an open source, open standard, and interoperable public good. this will enable inclusive, farmer-centric solutions through relevant information services for crop planning and health, improved access to farm inputs, credit, and insurance, help for crop estimation, market intelligence, and support for the growth of the agri-tech industry and start-ups.
- To enhance the productivity of extra-long staple cotton, Government will adopt a cluster-based and value chain approach through Public Private Partnerships (PPP). This will mean collaboration between farmers, the state and industry for input supplies, extension services, and market linkages.

TRINITY

- Computerisation of **63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies** (PACS) with an investment of Rs. 2,516 crore (US$ 305.9 million) initiated.
- **Rs. 20 lakh crore (US$ 24.41 billion)** agricultural credit targeted at animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries.
- To make India a global hub for 'Shree Anna', the **Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad** will be supported as the Centre of Excellence for sharing best practices, research, and technologies at the international level.

TRINITY