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Concise India 2014

A large, stylized yellow number '2014' is the central focus. Inside the '0', there is a collage of Indian symbols: the Taj Mahal, a tiger, a woman in a sari, and a geodesic dome. The word 'India' is written in red, and 'Concise' is written in blue above it.

for Civil Services Preliminary (CSAT) & Main Examinations

Chapterwise MCQs

Compiled by SN Jha



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INTRODUCTION

- The Republic is governed in terms of the Constitution, which was adopted by Constituent Assembly on **26 November 1949** and came into force on 26 January 1950.
- **The President of India is constitutional head of executive of the Union.**
- Article 74(1) of the Constitution provides that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as head to aid and advise President who shall in exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice.
- Power to amend the Constitution also vests in Parliament. The Constitution has provision for independence of judiciary, Comptroller and Auditor-General, Public Service Commissions and Chief Election Commissioner.

THE UNION AND ITS TERRITORY

- India comprises **28 States** and **seven** Union Territories.

CITIZENSHIP

- Every person who was at the commencement of the Constitution (26 January 1950) domiciled in the territory of India and: (a) who was born in India; or (b) either of whose parents was born in India; or (c) who has been ordinarily resident in India for not less than five years became a citizen of India. The Citizenship Act, 1955, deals with matters relating to acquisition, determination and termination of Indian citizenship after the commencement of the Constitution.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

- These are guaranteed in the Constitution in the form of six broad categories of Fundamental Rights

which are justiciable.

- **Article 12 to 35** contained in **Part III** of the Constitution deal with Fundamental Rights. These are : (i) **right to equality** including equality before law, prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth and equality of opportunity in matters of employment; (ii) **right to freedom** of speech and expression; assembly; association or union; movement; residence; and right to practice any profession or occupation (some of these rights are subject to security of the State, friendly relations with foreign countries, public order, decency or morality); (iii) **right against exploitation**, prohibiting all forms of forced labour, child labour and traffic in human beings; (iv) **right to freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion**; (v) **right of any section of citizens to conserve their culture, language or script and right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions** of their choice; and (vi) **right to constitutional remedies for enforcement of Fundamental Rights**.

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

- By the **42nd** Amendment of the Constitution, adopted in **1976**, Fundamental Duties of the citizens have also been enumerated.
- **Article 51 'A'** contained in **Part IV A** of the Constitution deals with Fundamental Duties. These enjoin upon a citizen among other things, to abide by the Constitution, to cherish and follow noble ideals, which inspired India's struggle for freedom, to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so and to promote harmony and spirit of common brotherhood transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities.

DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

- The Constitution lays down certain Directive Principles of State Policy, which though not justiciable, are 'fundamental in governance of the country' and it is the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws.
- These lay down that the State shall strive to promote the welfare of people by securing and

protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice—social, economic and political—shall form in all institutions of national life.

THE UNION

Executive

The Union executive consists of the President, the Vice-President and the council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as the head to aid and advise the President.

PRESIDENT

- The President is elected by members of an electoral college consisting of **elected members of both Houses of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of the states** in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.
- To secure uniformity among states inter se as well as parity between the states, as a whole, and the Union, suitable weightage is given to each vote.
- His removal from office is to be in accordance with procedure prescribed in Article 61 of the Constitution. He may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Vice-President, resign his office.

VICE-PRESIDENT

- The Vice-President is **elected by members of an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament** in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.
- His removal from office is to be in accordance with procedure prescribed in **Article 67 b**.
- The Vice-President is **ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha** and acts as President when the latter is unable to discharge his functions due to absence, illness or any other cause or till the election of a new President (to be held within six months when a vacancy is caused by death, resignation or removal or otherwise of President).

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

- The Council of **Ministers comprises Ministers who are members of Cabinet, Ministers of State** (independent charge), **Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers**.

LEGISLATURE

- Legislature of the Union which is called **Parliament**, consists of **President** and two Houses, known as **Council of States** (Rajya Sabha) and **House of the People** (Lok Sabha).

RAJYA SABHA

- The Constitution provides that the Rajya Sabha shall consist of **12 members to be nominated by the President** from amongst persons having special knowledge or practical experience in respect of such matters as literature, science, art and social service; and not more than 238 representatives of the States and of the Union Territories.
- The Rajya Sabha is not subject to dissolution; one-third of its members retire every second year.
- Rajya Sabha, at present, has 245 seats. Of these, 233 members represent the States and the Union Territories and 12 members are nominated by the President.

LOK SABHA

- The maximum strength of the House envisaged by the Constitution is now 552 (530 members to represent the States, 20 members to represent the Union Territories and not more than two members of the Anglo-Indian community to be nominated by the President, if, in his opinion, that community is not adequately represented in the House).
- The Lok Sabha at present consists of 545 members. Of these, 530 members are directly elected from the States and 13 from Union Territories while two are nominated by the President to represent the Anglo-Indian community.
- Following the Constitution 84th Amendment Act, 2001 the total number of existing seats as allocated to various States in the Lok Sabha on the basis of the 1971 census shall remain unaltered till the first census to be taken after the year 2026.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF PARLIAMENT

In order to be chosen a member of Parliament, a person must be a citizen of India and not less than 30 years of age in the case of Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age

in the case of Lok Sabha. Additional qualifications may be prescribed by Parliament by law.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

- Their appointment, terms of office, functions and procedure of conducting business are also more or less similar and are regulated as per rules made by the two Houses under Article 118(1) of the Constitution.
- Broadly, Parliamentary Committees are of two kinds—Standing Committees and ad hoc Committees.
- Standing Committees:** Among the Standing Committees, the three Financial Committees—Committees on Estimates, Public Accounts and Public Undertakings—constitute a distinct group as they keep an unremitting vigil over Government expenditure and performance.
- While members of the Rajya Sabha are associated with Committees on Public Accounts and Public Undertakings, the members of the Committee on Estimates are drawn entirely from the Lok Sabha.
- Besides these three Financial Committees, the Rules Committee of the Lok Sabha recommended setting-up of 17 Department Related Standing Committees (DRSCs). Accordingly, 17 Department Related Standing Committees were set up on 8 April 1993. In July 2004, rules were amended to provide for the constitution of seven more such committees, thus raising the number of DRSCs from 17 to 24.
- Other Standing Committees in each House, divided in terms of their functions, are (i) Committees to Inquire, (ii) Committees to Scrutinise, (iii) Committees relating to the day-to-day business of the House, (a) Business Advisory Committee, (iv) Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, (v) Committees concerned with the provision of facilities to members, (vi) Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament, constituted under the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, apart from framing rules for regulating payment of salary, allowances and pension to Members of Parliament, also frames rules in respect of amenities like medical, housing, telephone, postal, constituency and secretarial facility; (vii) Joint Committee on Offices of Profit, (viii) The Library Committee consisting of members from both Houses, considers matters

concerning the Library of Parliament, (ix) On 29 April 1997, a Committee on Empowerment of Women with members from both the Houses was constituted with a view to securing, among other things, status, dignity and equality for women in all fields; (x) On 4 March 1997, the Ethics Committee of the Rajya Sabha was constituted. The Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha was constituted on 16 May 2000.

- **Ad hoc Committees:** Such Committees may be broadly classified under two heads : (a) committees which are constituted from time to time, either by the two Houses on a motion adopted in that behalf or by Speaker/Chairman to inquire into and report on specific subjects, and (b) Select or Joint Committees on Bills which are appointed to consider and report on a particular Bill.

LEADERS OF OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT

- In keeping with their important role, the Leaders

of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha are accorded statutory recognition.

- Salary and other suitable facilities are extended to them through a separate legislation brought into force on 1 November 1977.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

- Functioning of Consultative Committees of Members of Parliament for various Ministries is one of the functions allocated to the Ministry of Parliamentary affairs under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.
- The Minister/Minister of State in-charge of the Ministry concerned acts as the Chairman of the Consultative Committee attached to that Ministry.
- The minimum membership of a Consultative Committee is 10 and the maximum membership is 30.
- The Consultative Committee stand dissolved upon dissolution of every Lok Sabha and re-constituted upon constitution of each Lok Sabha.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT

(a) Constitution, composition and term

		Lok Sabha		
S. No.	Name of the Committee	Whether Elected/ Nominated	No. of Members	Term
1.	Business Advisory Committee	Nominated	15	Till reconstituted
2.	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	Nominated	15	One year
3.	Committee on Petitions	Nominated	15	Till Reconstituted
4.	Committee on Estimates	Elected	30	One year
5.	Committee of Privileges	Nominated	15	Till reconstituted
6.	Committee of Subordinate Legislation	Nominated	15	One year
7.	Committee on Government Assurances	Nominated	15	One year
8.	Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitzings of the House	Nominated	15	One year

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9.	Rules Committee	Nominated	15	Till reconstituted
10.	General Purposes Committee Nominated	@		Till reconstituted
11.	House Committee	Nominated	15	One year
12.	Public Accounts Committee	Elected	22 (15-Lok Sabha) (7-Rajya Sabha)*	One year
13	Committee on Public Undertakings	Elected	22 (15-Lok Sabha) (7-Rajya Sabha)*	
14.	Library Committee	Nominated	9 (6-Lok Sabha) (3- Rajya Sabha)*	One year
15.	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	Elected	30 (20-Lok Sabha) and (10-Rajya Sabha)*	One year
16.	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	Nominated	15	One year

@ Consisting of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, members of the Panel of Chairmen, Chairman of all Standing Committees of the Lok Sabha, leaders of recognized parties and groups and such other members as may be nominated by the Speaker.

- Members of the Rajya Sabha are also associated with these committees.

Rajya Sabha				
S. No.	Name of the Committee	Whether Elected/ Nominated	No. of Members	Term
1.	Business Advisory	Nominated	11 (Including Chairman and Deputy Chairman)	Till reconstituted Committee
2.	Committee on Petitions	Nominated	10	Till reconstituted
3.	Committee on Petitions	Nominated	10	Till reconstituted
4.	Committee on Rules	Nominated	16	Till reconstituted
5.	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	Nominated	15	Till reconstituted
6.	Committee on Government	Nominated	10	Till reconstituted
7.	House Committee	Nominated	7	Till reconstituted

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8.	General Purposes Committee	Nominated	@@	*
9.	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	Nominated	10	Till reconstituted
10.	Committee on MPLAD scheme	Nominated	10	Tenure of the Members (in RS)
11.	Ethics Committee	Nominated	10	Till reconstituted
12.	Committee on Provision of Computers to MPs (RS)	Nominated	7	Tenure of the Members (in RS)

@@ Consisting of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, panel of Vice Chairman, Chairmen of all Standing Committees of the Rajya Sabha, Leaders of recognized parties and groups and such other members as may be nominated by the Chairman.

* Not provided in the rules is constituted every year.

Joint Committees				
S. No.	Name of the Committee	Whether Elected/ Nominated	No. of Members	Term
1.	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	Nominated	15(10-Lok Sabha) (5-Rajya Sabha)	One year
2.	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	Elected	15 (10- Lok Sabha) (5-Rajya Sabha)	Co-terminus the life of Lok Sabha
3.	Committee on the Empowerment of Women	Nominated	30 (20- Lok Sabha) (10-Rajya Sabha)	One year
4.	Joint Parliamentary Committee on the functioning of Wakf Boards	Nominated	30 (20- Lok Sabha) (10-Rajya Sabha)	No fixed tenure
5.	Joint Committee on Security in Parliament House complex	Nominated	10 (7-Lok Sabha) (3-Rajya Sabha)	No fixed tenure

OTHER PARLIAMENTARY MATTERS

- The Youth Parliament Scheme was first introduced in the Schools in Delhi in 1966-67. Kendriya Vidyalayas located in and around Delhi were incorporated into the ongoing Scheme for Delhi Schools in 1978.

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All Indian Whips Conference

- The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India has been organizing All India Whips' Conference from time to time, with the purpose of establishing suitable links among the whips of various political parties at the Centre and the States.
- Fifteen All India Whips' Conferences have been organized so far since 1952. The Fifteenth All India Whips Conference was held on 10-11 February, 2011 in Chandigarh.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 AND SPECIAL MENTIONS

The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs takes follow-up action on matters raised under Rule 377 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and by way of Special Mentions in Rajya Sabha. Also after 'Question Hour' in both the Houses of Parliament, Members raise matters of urgent public importance. Though it is not mandatory, Ministers sometimes react to the points made by the Members. In the absence of concerned Minister the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs assures the House or the individual Members that their sentiments would be conveyed to the concerned Ministers.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP

- The Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 are made by the President of India under Article 77 of the Constitution for the allocation of business of the Government of India.
- The Ministries/Departments of the Government are created by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister under these Rules.

CABINET SECRETARIAT

- The Cabinet Secretariat in terms of provisions of the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 functions directly under the Prime Minister.
- The administrative head of the Secretariat is the Cabinet Secretary who is also the exofficio Chairman of the Civil Services Board. The business allotted to cabinet secretariat is (i) Secretarial assistance to Cabinet and Cabinet Committees; and (ii) Rules of Business.
- The Cabinet Secretariat ensures that the President,

the Vice-President and Ministers are kept informed of the major activities of all Ministries/Departments by means of monthly summary of their activities.

- Management of major crisis situations in the country and coordinating activities of various Ministries in such a situation is also one of the functions of the Cabinet Secretariat.
- The Cabinet Secretariat is seen as a useful mechanism by the departments for promoting inter-Ministerial coordination since the Cabinet Secretary is also the head of the civil services.

NATIONAL AUTHORITY, CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

- National Authority, Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) was set up by a resolution of Cabinet Secretariat dated 5 May 1997 to fulfil the obligations enunciated in the Chemical Weapons Convention initially signed by 130 countries in a conference which concluded on 14 January 1993 for the purpose prohibiting of the development, production, execution, transfer, use and stockpiling of all chemical weapons by Member-States is a non-discriminatory process.

MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT

List of the Ministries/Departments

1. Ministry of Agriculture

- (i) Department of Agriculture and Co-operation
- (ii) Department of Agricultural Research and Education
- (iii) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying

2. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

- (i) Department of Commerce (Vanijya Vibhag)
- (ii) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

3. Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

- (i) Department of Telecommunications
- (ii) Department of Post
- (iii) Department of Information Technology

4. Ministry of Defence

- (i) Department of Defence
- (ii) Department of Defence Production
- (iii) Department of Defence Research and

- Development
- (iv) Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare
- 5. Ministry of Finance**
 - (i) Department of Economic Affairs
 - (ii) Department of Expenditure
 - (iii) Department of Revenue
 - (iv) Department of Financial Services
- 6. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**
 - (i) Department of Health and family welfare
 - (ii) Department of Ayurveda, Yoga-Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)
 - (iii) Department of AIDS Control
 - (iv) Department of Health Research
- 7. Ministry of Home Affairs**
 - (i) Department of Internal Security
 - (ii) Department of States
 - (iii) Department of Official Language
 - (iv) Department of Home
 - (v) Department of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs
 - (vi) Department of Border Management
- 8. Ministry of Human Resource Development**
 - (i) Department of School Education and Literacy
 - (ii) Department of Higher Education
- 9. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**
- 10. Ministry of Labour and Employment**
- 11. Ministry of Law and Justice**
 - (i) Department of Legal Affairs
 - (ii) Department of Justice
- 12. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**
 - (i) Department of Personnel and Training
 - (ii) Department of Pensions and Pensioners' Welfare
- 13. Ministry of Railways**
- 14. Ministry of Rural Development**
 - (i) Department of Rural Development
 - (ii) Department of Land Resources
 - (iii) Department of Drinking Water Supply
- 15. Ministry of Science and Technology**
 - (i) Department of Science and Technology
 - (ii) Department of Scientific and Industrial Research
 - (iii) Department of Bio-Technology (Biotechnology Vibhag)
- 16. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**
 - (i) Department of Youth Affairs.
 - (ii) Departments of Sports

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT - RESULTS FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT

- Pursuant to the announcement made in the President's address to both Houses of the Parliament on June 4, 2009, the Prime Minister approved the outline of the Performance monitoring and Evaluation System (PMES) for Government Departments on September 11, 2009. Performance Management Division in the Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for this activity through the mechanism called Results-Framework Documents. (RFD).

(i) Implementation of 2nd Administration Reforms Commission

Recommendation

- Administrative Reforms Commission-II (ARC) in its report on "Organisational Structure of Government of India" Inter alia recommended that Government of India should primarily focus on core functions and that it should, at all levels, be guided by the principle of subsidiarity.

(ii) Performance Related Incentives (PRI)

- Incentives play an important role in improving performance of employees in public and private sectors. The scheme is applied at the individual employee level and at the team/group level. The Scheme has two parts-one part measures the performance of the entity; and the second links the performance to financial incentives.

(iii) Performance Appraisal Report (PAR) System

- The system of Performance Appraisal Report as laid down in the All India Service (PAR) Rules, 2007 is being reviewed owing to widespread dissatisfaction with the working of the PAR system at all levels. Keeping in view the conceptual and procedural flows in the performance evaluation methodology of PAR system, a set of corrective measures is being proposed by the Performance Management Division.

(iv) Operationalizing 'Sevottam'

- The PMD, in Partnership with Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, has decided to operationalize the concept of

‘Sevottam’ through the mechanism of Results-Framework Document.

- Ministries/Departments are expected to design citizen/client charters along with a robust Public Grievance Redress Mechanism. In order to better monitor compliance, ministries/Departments have been advised to include the ‘Sevottam’ concept in their Results/Framework Documents as a mandatory performance indicator.

(v) Implementing e-Office

- In its efforts to move towards a paperless office, the day to day working of the PMD and the Cabinet Secretariat is being carried out through the e-Office system developed by the NIC. This paperless e-Office system is expected to be a role model for all other Departments of the Government of India.

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

- The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is appointed by the President. The procedure and the grounds for his removal from office are the same as for a Supreme Court Judge. He is not eligible for further office under the Union or a State government after he ceases to hold his office.
- The accounts of the Union and of the States shall be kept in such form as the President may, on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, prescribe.
- The duties, powers and conditions of service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General have been specified by the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act. 1971.

ALL INDIA SERVICES

- Accordingly, a provision was made in Article 312 of the Constitution for creation of one or more All India Services common to the Union and State. The Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service are deemed to be constituted by the Parliament in terms of Article 312 of the Constitution. After the promulgation of the Constitution, a new All India Service, namely, the Indian Forest Service, was created in 1966. A common unique feature of the All India Services is that the members of these services are recruited by

the Centre but their services are placed under various State cadres and they have the liability to serve both under the State and under the Centre.

UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

- The Constitution under article 315, provides for an independent body known as Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for recruitment to Group ‘A’ and Group ‘B’ Gazetted posts under Central Government and for advice in various service matters.
- The Chairman and Members of the Commission are appointed by the President for tenure of six years or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. To ensure independence, chairman after completion of tenure is not eligible for any further employment either under the Government of India or Government of a State. The Members are also covered by the above provision but they are eligible for appointment as chairman of Union Public Service Commission or State Public Service Commission. They can not be removed except for the reasons and in the manner provided for in the Constitution.

CIVIL SERVICES REFORMS

- Second ARC in its 10th Report in November, 2008 on the subject “Refurbishing of Personnel Administration” has given various recommendations on Civil Services Reforms. The recommendations include (i) Stage of entry into Civil services (ii) Age of entry and number of attempts (iii) Structure of Civil Services Examination (iv) Other modes of induction into Civil Services i.e., induction of officers of State Civil Services into IAS to be made by UPSC on the basis of common examination and (v) Allotment of cadres to All India Services.

RESERVATION IN SERVICES

- Reservation in services under the Government of India is available to the Scheduled Castes (SCs.) the Scheduled Tribes (ST's), the Other Backward Classes (OBCs), the Persons with Disabilities and the Exservicemen, The quantum of reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in direct recruitment on all-India basis by open competition is **15 percent, 7.5**

per cent and 27 per cent respectively. In direct recruitment on all-India basis otherwise than by open competition, it is available at the rate of 16.66 per cent for SCs, 7.5 per cent for STs and 25.84 per cent for OBCs.

- Reservation for ex-servicemen and physically handicapped persons is termed as “horizontal” reservation and reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs is termed as “vertical” reservation. Guidelines exist explaining how the “horizontal” reservation is to be adjusted against the “vertical” reservation.
- **Articles 341 and 342** of the Constitution define as to who would be the SCs and the STs with respect to any State or Union Territory. Definition of ‘ex-servicemen’ for the purpose of getting reservation in services is contained in the Ex-servicemen (Re-employment in Civil Services and Posts) Rules, 1979 and conditions for reservation to persons with disabilities are derived from the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION

- Staff Selection Commission (SSC) with Headquarters at New Delhi initially known as Subordinate Service Commission was set up on 1st July, 1978. The Commission has Regional offices at New Delhi, Allahabad, Mumbai, Kolkata, Guwahati, Chennai and Bangalore and Sub-Regional offices at Raipur and Chandigarh.

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT SERVICES

- The Central Secretariat has three services, namely (i) Central Secretariat Service (CSS), (ii) Central Secretariat Stenographer’s Service (CSSS) and (iii) the Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS).
- The Government had set up a Cadre Restructuring Committee on 16 June, 2008 (i) to assess the magnitude of stagnation in various grades of CSS, (ii) to review the structure of the CSS, and (iii) to suggest remedial measures-both short term and long term. The Committee has since submitted its report in November, 2008. The report was later on considered by the Committee of Secretaries on 9 February, 2010.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES

- Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) is the nodal **agency** of the Government for administrative reforms as well as redressal of public grievances relating to the States in general and grievances pertaining to Central Government agencies in particular.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS

- The Civil Services Day- To rededicate and recommit ourselves to the cause of the people, **April 21** has been declared as Civil Services Day and is being celebrated every year since 2006. The Sixth Civil Services Day was organized by the Department on April 21, 2011 at Vigyan Bhavan.
 - Administrative Reforms Commission- The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) was constituted on **31.8.2005**, as a Commission of Inquiry, under the Chairmanship of **Shri Veerappa Moily** for preparing detailed blueprint for revamping the public administrative system. The Commission was requested to suggest measures to achieve a proactive, responsive, accountable, sustainable and efficient administration for the country at all levels of the Government. **It has presented 15 reports to the Government for consideration.**
- The Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 30 March, 2007 to consider the recommendations of the second ARC and to review the pace of implementation of the recommendations as well as to provide guidance to the concerned Ministries/Departments in implementing the decisions. It has since been reconstituted on 21.08.2009. **The GoM was last reconstituted on 21-02-11.**
 - This Group of Ministers has so far considered **eleven** reports, namely (i) Right to Information; Master Key to Good Governance (First report), (ii) Unlocking human capital; Entitlements and Governance - a Case Study relating to NREGA (Second Report), (iii) Crisis Management; From Despair to Hope (Third report), (iv) Ethics in Governance (Fourth Report), (v) Local Governance (Sixth Report), (vi) Capacity Building for Conflict Resolution (Seventh Report) (vii) Citizen Centric Administration - The Heart of

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Governance (Twelfth Report) (viii) Social Capital - A Shared Destiny (Ninth Report) and (ix) Organisational Structure of Government of India (Thirteenth Report) (x) Promoting e-Governance - The Smart Way Forward (Eleventh Report) and (xi) State and District Administration (Fifteenth Report).

- The decisions of GoM on these reports are at various stages of implementation. The report on "Combating Terrorism (Eighth Report)" has been handled by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Thus, in all 13 Reports have been considered, so far. Remaining 2 Reports i.e. Public Order-Justice for each; Refurbishing of Personnel Administration - Scaling New Heights are also shortly being put up for consideration of GoM.
- Out of total 1251 recommendations in the above eleven reports, **1005** recommendations have been accepted, 180 not accepted, 22 deferred and 21 referred to other fora. Action has been taken on 433 recommendations and action on 572 recommendations is under implementation. Action on 23 recommendations is being taken by Ministry of Home Affairs.

PUBLIC GRIEVANCES

- The Department has developed a SEVOTTAM framework for bench marking service delivery standards by the Government of India Ministries/ Departments. The main objective of the project is to set standards in consultation with user group and include these standards in the Citizen's Charter. The Second Administrative Reforms Commission also recommended that the Union and State Governments should make the 'Seven Step Model' recommended by it as mandatory for all organizations having public interface. The Department has also developed and implemented a web-based Centralized public Grievances Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). Initiated in June 2007, the System was established in June 2008.

e-GOVERNANCE

- Under e-Governance, the Department is implementing e-Office, one of the Mission Mode Projects (MMP) under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) of Government of India. The e-Office aims at significantly improving the operational

efficiency of Central Government Ministries and Department through improvement in workflow mechanisms and associated office procedure manual. This year the **14th** National Conference on e-Governance based on the theme "Rural e-Service Delivery" was held in **Aurangabad** on **10-11 February, 2011**.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

- A Plan Scheme on "International Cooperation", in the field of Administrative Reforms, as a component of the "Pilot Projects on AR" was started in 2007-08 as an appropriate measure to meet the expenses in execution of the programme of action under the MOU signed with participating countries and international organisations. At present, there are four countries, with whom MOUs have been signed; China, Malaysia (bilateral) South Africa (bilateral as well as trilateral; i.e., IBSA) and Brazil (under IBSA).
- The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances) is an institutional member of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) since 1998. India has been participating in the CAPAM Biennial International Innovations Award Programme since its conception and has won gold medals in 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 & 2010 and silver medals in the year 2002, 2004 and 2006. In the 7th CAPAM Awards Programme held at Malta, 3 projects submitted by GOI, were selected among the top twelve finalists, out of over 150 submissions received by CAPAM from various Commonwealth countries.

Assistance to other Countries

- At the request of SAARC Cabinet Secretaries, India organized a SAARC workshop on PMES/ RFD/This workshop was well received and has generated more interest from SAARC countries in adopting a similar policy in their countries. Performance Management Division (PMD), Cabinet Secretariat has already organized workshop on RFD policy in Bhutan and Sri Lanka. Pakistan has approached through the SAARC Secretariat for a similar workshop in Pakistan.

India-Brazil-South Africa Forum - Recognizing the emergence and consolidation of India-Brazil-South Africa

(IBSA) Forum-(IBSA) initiatives and collaboration at regional and global level for promoting good governance and wishing to strengthen South-South cooperation. The Prime Minister of India, the President of Brazil and the President of South Africa met in Brasilia (Brazil) on September 13, 2006 for the 1st Summit meeting of the India-Brazil-South Africa dialogue forum. It has since held five meetings and adopted the area of cooperation as (i) Integrated monitoring and evaluation, (ii) e-governance, (iii) Human Resource Development, (iv) Citizen oriented service delivery, (v) Anti-corruption and ethics and (vi) Accountability and Transparency. The 7th IBSA WGPA meeting was held on 5-6 March, 2011 in New Delhi, where the Working Group decided a way forward in terms of an action plan for implementing the MoU on identified areas of interest.

India-China Co-operation- A Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of Civil Services, Personnel Management and Public administration was signed on 27.05.2010 between the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Government of India and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

India-Malaysia Co-operation- A MoU on cooperation in the field of Civil Services, Personnel Management and Public administration was signed on 14.05.2010 between the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Government of India and the Public Service Department of the Government of Malaysia.

DOCUMENTATION AND DISSEMINATION

- This Department is engaged in organizing lecture series / presentations etc, of best practices across the country. These are immensely useful for the administrators and the dissemination of success stories would facilitate replication of the same elsewhere also. The Department has published a series of books on the subject. These are - Ideas that have Worked, Learn from Them, Splendour in the Grass, Roofless Towers, Management by Listening and In Search of Light. Under the World Bank Project 'Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction', the Department had taken up an initiative to design and develop a web based repository of good governance initiatives and best practices.
- The Department has initiated a project 'Modeling

Best Practices' under DFID assisted programme on Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction. The objective of the project is (i) to identify, incubate document, analyze and customize the best practices for actual implementation in other States and (ii) proactively replicate select best practices on pilot basis in the willing states by developing states by developing a Model. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Private Ltd. was selected to perform this job. Three Models have been prepared and are ready for replication namely, Jan Seva Kendra (Gujarat), Activity Based Learning (Tamil Nadu) and Radical Improvement in Delhi Education (NCT Delhi).

- The Department also brings out two regular publications namely 'Management in Government' A Quarterly Journal and Civil Services News - A monthly newsletter.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION

- The Right to Information Act, 2005 has been enacted with a view to empower the citizens, promote transparency and accountability in the working of the Government, contain corruption, and make the democracy work for people in real sense. The Act aims at creating an informed citizenry which would be better equipped to keep necessary vigil on the instruments of governance and make the government more accountable to the governed.
- The procedure for seeking information under the Act is very simple. Whoever wants any information from any office of the Government has to simply make a request to the Public Information Officer of the office. The request has to merely indicate the information sought and the address at which the information is required. **The request can be sent either by post or submitted in person. It can be made in Hindi or English or in the official language of the area and can also be sent through e-mail.** If the applicant does not get the information within **30 days** or the applicant is not satisfied with the reply given to him, he can make an appeal within 30 days to the appellate authority appointed by the authority who is an officer superior to the Public Information Officer.
- The appellate authority has to decide the appeal within 30 days of the receipt of appeal. If the applicant is not satisfied even with the decision of

the appellate authority, he can file a second appeal with the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be within 90 days.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE - CONSTITUTIONAL / STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- Article 343 (1) of the Constitution provides that Hindi in Devanagari script shall be the Official Language of the Union, Article 343 (2) also provided for continuing the use of English in official work of the Union for a period of 15 years (i.e., up to 25 January 1965) from the date of commencement of the Constitution, Article 343 (3) empowered the parliament to provide by law for continued use of English for official purposes even after 25 January 1965.

Policy

- In compliance with the Official Language Resolution, 1968, an Annual Programme is prepared by the Department of Official Language in which targets are set for the offices of the Central Government with regard to originating correspondence, telegrams, telex, etc., in Hindi. Eight Regional Implementation Offices have been established at Bangalore, Cochin, Mumbai, Kolkata, Guwahati, Bhopal, Delhi and Ghaziabad to monitor the implementation of Official Language Policy of the Union.

Committees / Samitis

- A Committee of Parliament on Official Language was constituted in 1976 under section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 to periodically review the progress in the use of Hindi as the Official Language of the Union and to submit a report to the President. The Kendriya Hindi Samiti was constituted in the year 1967. It is chaired by the Prime Minister. It is the apex policy making body which lays down the guidelines for the propagation and progressive use of Hindi as Official Language of the Union Under the directions of the Kendriya Hindi Samiti, Hindi Salahakar Samitis have been constituted in 57 Ministries/departments under the chairmanship of the Ministers concerned.

Award Schemes

- The Indira Gandhi Rajbhasha Awards Schemes has

been in operation since 1986-87. Shields are given every year to Ministries/Departments, Banks and Financial Institutions, Public Sector Undertaking and Town Official Language Implementation Committees for outstanding achievements in the implementation of the official language Policy of the Union. Cash awards are given to the working/retired employees of the Central Government, Banks, Financial Institutions, Universities, Training Institutions and Autonomous Bodies of the Central Government for writing original books in Hindi.

- The National Awards Scheme for Original Book writing on Gyan-Vigyan has been renamed as Rajiv Gandhi National Awards Scheme for Original Book Writing in Hindi for promoting writing of books in Hindi on all branches of modern Science/Technology and contemporary subjects.

Administrative Tribunal

- Administrative Tribunals in the country were set up in the Year 1985 under the Administrative Tribunals Act 1985. The Administrative Tribunals Act owes its origin to Article 323-A of the Constitution which empowers Central Government to set-up by an Act of Parliament.
- The procedural simplicity of the Act can be appreciated from the fact that the aggrieved persons can also appear before it personally.
- The CAT was set-up on 1 November, 1985. Today, it has 17 regular benches, 15 of which operate at the principal seats of High Courts and the remaining two at Jaipur and Lucknow.

Inter-state Council

- Article 263 of the Constitution envisages establishment of an institutional mechanism to facilitate coordination of policies and their implementation between the Union and the State Governments.
- In pursuance of the recommendation made by the Sarkaria Commission on State Relations, the Inter-State Council was set up in the year 1990 through a Presidential Order dated 28 May 1990.
- Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Council. Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories having Legislative Assemblies, Administrators of Union Territories not having Legislative Assemblies, Governors of States under President's rule and six Ministers of Cabinet rank in the Union Council of Ministers, nominated by

the Chairman of the Council, are members of the Council, Five Ministers of Cabinet rank nominated by the Chairman of the Council are permanent invitees to the Council.

- The Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council was first constituted in the year 1996 for continuous consultation and processing of matters for the consideration of the Council. Hon'ble Home Minister is the Chairman of the Standing Committee, and has five Union Cabinet Ministers and nine Chief ministers as members.
- The Inter-State Council Secretariat had entered into a Framework Agreement with the Forum of Federations. Canada in the year 2005 for an international partnership with the Forum in improving governance and enhancing democracy by promoting dialogue on the practices, principles and possibilities of federalism.

The States

The system of government in States closely resembles that of the Union.

Executive

Governor

State executive consists of Governor and Council of Ministers with Chief Minister as its head. The Governor of a State is appointed by the President for a term of five years and holds office during his pleasure. Only Indian citizens above 35 years of age or eligible for appointment to this office. Executive Power of the State is vested in Governor.

Council of Ministers with Chief Minister as head, aids and advises Governor in exercise of his functions except in so far as he is by or under the Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion.

- In respect of Nagaland, Governor has special responsibility under Article 371 A of the Constitution with respect to law and order and even though it is necessary for him to consult Council of Ministers in matters relating to law and order, he can exercise his individual judgement as to the action to be taken.
- Similarly, in respect of Arunachal Pradesh, Governor has special responsibility under Article 371H of the Constitution with respect to law and order and in discharge of his functions in relation thereto.
- Likewise, in the Sixth Schedule which applies to

tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram as specified in para 20 of that Schedule, discretionary powers are given to Governor in matters relating to sharing of royalties between district council and state government. Sixth Schedule vests additional discretionary powers in Governors of Mizoram and Tripura in almost all their functions (except approving regulations for levy of taxes and money lending by nontribals by district councils) since December 1998.

- In Sikkim, Governor has been given special responsibility for peace and social and economic advancement of different sections of population.

Legislature

- For every state, there is a legislature which consists of Governor and one House or, two Houses as the case may be. In **Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh**, there are two Houses known as legislative council and legislative assembly.

Legislative Council

- Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad) of a state comprises not more than one-third of total number of members in legislative assembly of the state and in no case less than 40 members (Legislative Council of Jammu and Kashmir has 36 members vide Section 50 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir).

Legislative Assembly

- Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) of a state consists of not more than 500 and not less than 60 members (Legislative Assembly of Sikkim has 32 members vide Article 371F of the Constitution) chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the state.

Powers and Functions

- State legislature has exclusive powers over subjects enumerated in List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution and concurrent powers over those enumerated in List III.

Union Territories

- Union Territories are administered by the President acting to such extent, as he thinks fit, through an Administrator appointed by him. Administrators of Andaman and Nicobar Islands,

Delhi and Pondicherry are designated as Lieutenant Governors. The Governor of Punjab is concurrently the Administrator of Chandigarh. The Administrator of Dadra and Nagar Haveli is concurrently the Administrator of Daman and Diu. Lakshadweep has a separate Administrator. The National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Pondicherry each has a legislative assembly and council of ministers.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Municipalities

- The first such Municipal Corporation was set-up in the former Presidency Town of **Madras in 1688**; and was followed by similar corporations in the then **Bombay and Calcutta in 1726**.
- In order to provide for a common framework for urban local bodies and help to strengthen the functioning of the bodies as effective democratic units of self government, Parliament enacted the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 (known as Nagarpalika Act) relating to municipalities in 1992. The Act received the assent of the President on 20 April 1993. **The Government of India notified 1 June 1993 as the date from which the said Act came into force.** A new **part IX-A** relating to the Municipalities has been incorporated in the Constitution.

Panchayats

- **Article 40** of the Constitution which enshrines one of the Directive Principles of State Policy lays down that the State shall take steps to organise village panchayats and endow them with such powers and, authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government.

Election Commission

- Election Commission of India is a permanent Constitution Body. The Election Commission was established in accordance with the Constitution on 25 January 1950. The Commission celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 2001.
- Originally the commission had only a Chief Election Commissioner. It currently consists of Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners. For the first time two additional Commissioners were appointed on 16 October 1989 but they had a very short tenure till 1 January 1990. Later, on 1 October 1993 two additional Election Commissioners were appointed.
- The concept of multi-member Commission has been in operation since then, with decision making power by majority vote.
- The Commission has a separate Secretariat at New Delhi, consisting of about 300 officials, in a hierarchical set up. Two or three Deputy Election Commissioners who are the senior most officers in the Secretariat assist the Commission.
- Under the Constitution, the Commission also has advisory jurisdiction in the matter of post election disqualification of sitting members of Parliament and State Legislatures. Further, the cases of persons found guilty of corrupt practices at elections which come before the Supreme Court and High Courts are also referred to the Commission for its opinion on the question as to whether such person shall be disqualified and, if so, for what period. The opinion of the Commission in all such matters is binding on the President or, as the case may be, the Governor to whom such opinion is tendered.



1. Consider the following statements:

- 1) By the 42nd Amendment of the Constitution, Fundamental Duties of the citizens have been added.
- 2) Part IV of the constitution deal with the Fundamental Duties.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 & 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

2. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The President is elected by Members of an electoral college consisting of elected and nominated members of both houses of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of the States.

- 2) The President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Vice-President resign his office. Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
3. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) The Vice-President is elected by members of an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament.
 2) The removal of Vice-President from office is to be in accordance with procedure prescribed in Article-61 of the constitution.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
4. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) According to the Constitution 84th Amendment Act, 2001 the total number of existing seats as allocated to various states in the Lok Sabha on the basis of the 1971 census shall remain unaltered till the first census to be taken after the year 2026.
 2) In the Lok Sabha presently 530 members are directly elected from the states and 13 from Union territories.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
5. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) Y.B. Chauhan was the first leaders of opposition in the Lok Sabha.
 2) Salary and other suitable facilities are extended to the leaders of opposition in the parliament through a separate legislation brought into force on 1st November 1977.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
6. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) The Kendriya Hindi Samiti is chaired by the President of India.
 2) The Kendriya Hindi Samiti was constituted in the year 1967.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) The Prime Minister is the Chairman of Inter-State Council.
 2) The procedure and grounds for the removal of CAG office are the same as for a Supreme Court Judge.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
8. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) The Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under the Prime Minister.
 2) The Cabinet Secretariat ensures that the President, the Vice-President and Ministers are Kept informed of the Major activities of all Ministers.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
9. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) Only citizens of India above 35 years of age are eligible for appointment as the Governor of a State.
 2) In Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh there are two Legislative Houses.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 only b) 2 only
 c) Both 1 & 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
10. **Consider the following statements:**
 1) The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution applies to tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur.
 2) The first Municipal Corporation was set up in India in Madras in 1688.
 3) The 74th Amendment Act, 1992 is related to Municipal bodies.
 Which of the above statements is / are correct?
 a) 1 & 2 only b) 1 & 3 only
 c) 2 & 3 only d) Neither 1 nor 2



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INTRODUCTION

- Agriculture and allied sectors contribute nearly **14.4 per cent** of Gross Domestic Product (GDP of India) While about **58.2 per cent** of the population is dependent on agriculture for their livelihood.
- The agricultural output, depends on monsoon as nearly **55 per cent** of area sown is dependent on rainfall.
- Production of foodgrains is estimated at **250.42** million tonnes in 2011-12 (As per 2nd Advance estimates).
- The production of rice is estimated at **102.75** million tonnes, production of wheat is estimated at **85.93** million tonnes, production of coarse cereals is estimated at **42.08** million tonnes and production of pulses is estimated at **17.28** million tonnes.
- The oilseeds production during 2011-12 is estimated at **30.53** million tonnes. The sugarcane production is estimated at **347.87** million tones.

- Cotton production is estimated at **34.09** million bales (of 170 kgs each).
- The total area coverage under foodgrains in 2011-12 has been reported at **125.93** million ha. against **126.65** million ha. in 2000-11.
- The increase in Minimum Support Prices between 2008-09 to 2010-11, amongst cereals, has ranged between 3.70 per cent (wheat) to 17.6 percent (paddy common).

RASHTRIYA KRISHI VIKAS YOJANA

- Pursuant to the resolution adopted by the National Development Council (NDC), to reorient the current agricultural development strategies to meet the needs of the farmers.
- For this objective, a new State Plan Scheme of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for agriculture and allied sectors, the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) was launched during **2007-08** with an envisaged outlay of 25,000 crore for the 11th Five Year Plan.
- **The funds under the Scheme are provided to**

the States as 100 per cent grant by the Central Government.

Revised Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme

- The Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme is Centrally Sponsored Schemes formulated with the objective to ensure that the Central assistance is spent on focused and specific interventions for development of agriculture in areas of priority of different States.
- It became operational in 2000-01 in all States and UTs. The Scheme provides sufficient flexibility to States to develop and pursue the programmes on the basis of their regional priorities.
- In the year 2008-09, Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme was revised to improve its efficacy in supplementing / complementing the efforts of the States towards enhancement of agricultural production and productivity. Role of the scheme has been redefined to avoid overlapping and duplication of efforts and to make it more relevant to the present agricultural scenario in the States to achieve the basic objective of food security and to improve the livelihood system for rural masses.
- The Revised MMA scheme comprises **10 sub-schemes** relating to crop production and natural resource management.

HORTICULTURE SECTOR

National Horticulture Mission

- India is endowed with ideal agro-climate conditions for growing a variety of horticultural crops. In order to harness their potential, DAC is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM) since 2005-06 in 18 states and 3 UTs covering 382 potential districts. Other states are covered under the Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (NMNEH). The Mission endeavors the holistic development of horticulture sector, duly ensuring forward and backward linkages by adopting cluster approach, with the active participation of all stakeholders. During the year 2012-13, India produced horticulture products of about 260 million tones as per 3rd Advance estimates. The country is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world.

National Bamboo Mission

- The National Bamboo Mission was launched in **2006-07** as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to promote the growth of bamboo sector. The programmes address four major areas of bamboo development namely (i) Research and Development, (ii) Plantation Development, (iii) Handicrafts Development and (iv) Marketing.
- An area of 1,77,065 ha (forest area 1,24,318 ha and non-forest area 5,27,47 ha) has been brought under bamboo plantations.

Central Institute for Horticulture (CIH) Nagaland

- Recognizing the importance of institutional support for the development of horticulture in the North East region, the establishment of a Central Institute of Horticulture in Nagaland, has been approved for implementation in 2005-06.

National Horticulture Mission

- National Horticulture Mission was launched during the year 2005-06 with objective of providing holistic growth to the horticulture sector through an area based, regionally differentiated strategy, supply of quality planting material, production and productivity improvement, technology promotion, extension, post harvest management and marketing.

Impact of NHM

Due to interventions under NHM, a momentum has been generated in the overall growth in horticulture sector with increase in area and production from 1845m ha. and 166.9 million tons in 2004-05 to 20.9 m ha. and 223.1 million tons in 2009-10, respectively resulting in an increase of 13.28% in area.

National Policy on Cooperatives

- The Union Government has formulated a National Policy on Cooperatives sector. The objectives of the National Policy are to facilitate all round development of the Cooperatives in the country and to work as a guide for action of the State in Cooperative.

Multi-State Co-operative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002

- The amendment has been proposed to facilitate the implementation of the Multi-State Co-

operative Societies Act, 2002 and to remove the difficulties faced in its implementation. Objectives - (i) Active member participation. (ii) Use of modern tools for more efficient and transparent functioning. (iii) De-politicization. (iv) Enabling the business growth by providing a conducive environment. (v) Strengthening and expanding the multi-State co-operative societies.

The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Amendment Act, 2002

- The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Act, 1962 has been amended vide NCDC (Amendment) Act, 2002 expanding the mandate of NCDC to include foodstuff, industrial goods, livestock, and services in the programmes and activities in addition to the existing programmes.
- National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will be able to provide loan directly to the Cooperative without State/Central Government guarantee on furnishing of security. The activities concerning water conservation, animal care/ health, disease prevention, agricultural insurance and agricultural credit, rural sanitation/drainage/ sewerage, labour, tourism, hospitality and transport, electricity and power and rural housing have been made as notified services.

National Seed Research and Training Centre (NSRTC), Varanasi

- The National Seeds Research and Training Centre (NSRTC). **Varanasi** (Uttar Pradesh) has been notified as a Central Seed Testing and Referral Laboratory (CSTL), with effect from 1st April, 2007.
- The primary objective for establishing the NSRTC is to have separate National Seed Quality Control Laboratory to serve as CSTL and a referral laboratory for courts in India and also to act as a human resource development centre in the field of seed quality. The CSTL of the NSRTC has become a member laboratory of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), Zurich, Switzerland with effect from 2007.

National Seed Mission

- The Department proposes, to launch National Seed Mission from the year 2011-12 with an

outlay of 3775 crore replacing the existing Seed Infrastructure Scheme on account of the dynamism in the seed sector and the experience gained in the Implementation of the Scheme.

KISAN CALL CENTRE (KCC)

- Kisan Call Centers have been functioning since 21st January, 2004 and working in 25 different locations covering almost all the States of the country. At present 144 Call Centre Agents have been engaged in KCCs who are answering farmers' queries in 21 local dialects. All KCC locations are accessible by dialing single toll free number '1551' and '1880'-180-1551' from 6.00 A.M. to 10.00 P.M. on all 7 days a week nationwide.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Development of Agriculture Informatics and Communication

- DAC is supporting e-Governance activities in the State agriculture and allied Departments through AGRISNET. Funds under AGRISNET are provided to the States/UT Governments on the basis of specific project proposals submitted by them.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT

Institutional Arrangements

Agricultural credit is disbursed through a Multi-Agency network comprising of Commercial Banks (CBs), Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperatives with their vast network covering almost all the villages in the country and outreach extending to the remotest part of the country. The Cooperative Credit Institutions, both in short and long-term structure are the main institutional agencies for dispensation of agricultural credit. In addition, on the lines of the Business Correspondent and Business Facilitator model, Banks are using the services of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), Micro Finance Institutions and other Civil Society Organization as intermediaries in providing financial and banking services in the rural areas.

Revival Package for Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure

- In pursuance of recommendations made by the

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Vaidyanathan Committee Task Force, the Government of India had approved a Revival Package for Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS) which aims at making it a well managed and vibrant structure to best serve the credit needs of Rural India. Revival Package envisages an outlay of 13,597 crore for recapitalization of STCCS, capacity building and training and computerization subject to legal reforms by the State Governments.

- As on May, 2011, an amount of 8993.08 crores has been released by NABARD as Gol share for recapitalisation of 53,560 PACS.

Kisan Credit Card

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme was introduced in August, 1998 with major share of crop loans being routed through it. Banks were advised that the credit card should normally be valid for 3 years subject to an annual review. The scheme was revised in October, 2004. The revised scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit for the comprehensive credit requirements of farmers under single window, with flexible and simplified procedure, adopting whole farm approach including the short term credit needs, term loan and a reasonable component for consumption needs, through Kisan Credit Card. The banks may extend the validity of KCC from 3 years to 5 years in case of sanctioning of term loan facility under KCC. So far 12.03 crore KCC's have been issued by the banking system in the country.

Flow of Credit-achievement

- The target of agriculture credit flow for the year 2010-11 was fixed at 3,75,000 crore and the achievement as on March, 2010 is – 3,66,919 crore forming 113 per cent of the target. Target for credit flow for 2010-11 is – 3,75,000 crore.

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

- The frequency and severity of droughts, floods, cyclones and erratic climatic changes accentuate uncertainty and risk in the agricultural production and the livestock population in India. The National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is being implemented in the country since Rabi 1999-2000, as a part of risk management in agriculture with the intention of providing financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of crops as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases. The premium rates are ranging between 1.5 per cent and 3.5 per cent (of sum insured) for food and oilseed crops. In the case of commercial/horticultural actuarial rates are being charged. Under the scheme,

at present, 10 per cent subsidy in premium is available to small and marginal farmers.

- During the last twenty crop seasons (i.e. from Rabi 1999-2000 to Kharif 2010), 1714 lakh farmers have been covered over an area of 2626 lakh hectares insuring a sum amounting to 2,10,524 crore. Claims to the tune of about 21,031 crore have become payable against the premium income of about 6,303 crore benefiting about 462 lakh farmers.
- Based on the recommendations of the Joint Group constituted study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes and views/comments of various stake-holders, a proposal on Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) has been approved by the Government of India on pilot basis in 50 districts during the remaining two years of 11th five year plan from Rabi 2010-11 season.

COCONUT PALM INSURANCE SCHEME (CPIS)

- The Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) is launched on pilot basis during years 2009-10 2010-11 and 2011-12 in the selected areas of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu to cover Coconut Palms. The scheme is administered by Coconut Development Board (CDB) through AIC.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND RAINFED FARMING SYSTEMS

Land Scenario in India

- The land serves as storages for water and nutrients required for plants and other living micro-macro-organism. The demand for food, energy and other human requirements depends upon the preservation and improvement of the productivity of land. But land resources are limited. Increasing human and animal population has reduced availability of land over the decades.
- Per capita availability of land has declined from 0.89 hectare in 1951 to **0.37 hectare in 1991** and is projected to slide down to **0.20 hectare in 2035**. As far as agricultural land is concerned, per capita availability of land has declined from 0.48 hectare in 1951 to **0.16 hectare in 1991** and is

likely to decline further to **0.08 hectare in 2035**. This decline in the extent of cultivable land is mainly due to increase in population and diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes such as urbanization, roads, industries, housing etc.

- **Out of 328.73 million hectare of geographical area of India, about 141 million hectare is Net Area Sown. Of this, about 62 million hectare (44%) is irrigated and the remaining is rainfed.** Rainfed area is generally subjected to wind and water erosion and is in different stages of degradation for subjecting it to wind and water erosion and is in different stages of degradation for subjecting it to intensive agriculture.

Land Degradation

- The information of the extent of soil degradation in the country has been assessed by various agencies. The estimates of the agencies vary widely i.e. 63.9 million hectare to 187 million hectare, due to different approaches in defining degraded soils and adopting various criteria of delineation. The main agencies that have estimated soil degradation are – Nation Commission on Agriculture (NCA, 1976), Society for Promotion of Wasteland Development (SPWD, 1984), National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA, 1985), Ministry of Agriculture (1985), and National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSSLUP, 1984 & 2005).
- Problems of land degradation are prevalent in many forms throughout country and in most cases, a combination of such problems exists. In the absence of comprehensive and periodic scientific survey, estimates have been made on the basis of localized surveys and studies. NBSSLUP and Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) conducted several studies and logically concluded that 146.82 million ha. area is suffering from land degradation in the country.

Watershed Programmes for Development of Degraded Lands

- Various Watershed Development Programmes (WDPs) namely, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project & Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS), Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA) and Rainfed Area Development Programmed

(RADP) are being implemented for prevention of Soil erosion and land degradation across the country.

Soil Conservation Training Centre Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), Hazaribagh, Jharkhand – Non-plan

- This Centre organizes medium and short duration training courses every year for field Functionaries and project officers of the State Government engaged in implementation of soil and water conservation programmes. During 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 0.45 crore has been allocated for undertaking various training courses.

Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA)-Plan

- This Scheme was launched during the Eight Five Year Plan in Seven states of North Eastern Region, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura with 100 percent Central Assistance to the State Plan. During 2011-12, an area of 0.41 lakh ha. of Jhum land has been targeted for development with an expenditure of Rs. 50.00 crore.

CENTRAL SPONSORED PROGRAMMES

Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP and FPR)

- Presently, this programme is being implemented in 60 catchments of 27 States (all the States Except Goa) including all the States of North Eastern Region of the country. The total catchment area of ongoing programme is about 113.51 million hectare, out of which an area about 3015 million hectares is categorized as a priority area, needed urgent treatment under this programme.
- The catchment are mostly inter-state in nature and all categories of lands viz. agriculture, waste and forests are taken up for treatment in an integrated manner on watershed approach basis. During 2011-12 an area of about 2.00 lakh hectares is targeted for treatment with estimated cost of Rs. 250.00 crore.

National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)

- The National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture

(NMSA) is one of the eight Mission under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). It seeks to address issues regarding 'Sustainable Agriculture' in the context of risks associated with climate change by devising appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies for ensuring food security, enhancing livelihood opportunities and contributing to economic stability at the national level.

- The mission identifies ten key dimension for promoting sustainable agriculture practices, which will be realized by implementing a Programme of Action (POA) that covers both adaptation and mitigation measures through four functional areas namely, Research and Development, Technologies, Products and Practices, Infrastructure and Capacity Building.
- While recognizing the role of modern technologies and research in promoting the sustainability of agricultural production, the Mission also emphasizes the need to harness traditional knowledge and agricultural heritage for in-situ conservation of genetic resources.
- The POA would be operationalised through mainstreaming adaption and mitigation strategies in ongoing research and development programmes and in flagship schemes including; Rashtriya Kisan Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) etc. through a process of selective up scaling and course correction measures.

Salient Achievements of Novod

- The National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) board was constituted on 8th March, 1984 under the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oil Development Board Act, 1983 as a statutory body for the integrated development of oilseeds and vegetable oil industry under the control of the Union government consisting of 36 members headed by the Union Ministers of Agriculture as Chairman and ten members in its Managing committee headed by Secretary (Agriculture and Cooperation) as Chairman.
- The Scheme "Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds'(OBOs) has been implemented by the Board during the 10th plan period and continued in 11th plan period to harness the existing potential and augment the future potential of TBOs like **Jatropha, Jajoba, Mahua, Neem, Karanja, Wild Apricot, Cheura, Kokum,**

Simarouba Tung etc.

Research and Development Programme

- The National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) Board had constituted National Networks namely, National Network on Jatropha and Karanja and National Network on Wild apricot and Cheuras by involving 43 SAUs, Institutions of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI). The Energy Research Institute (TER) and Indian institute of Technologies (IITs) during 2004-05 to address various researchable issue.

Rainfed Farming System

- Rainfed agriculture is characterized by low levels of productivity and low input usage. Variability in rainfall results in wide variation and instability in yields. The bulk of the rural poor, live in the rainfed regions. Government of India accords priority to the holistic and sustainable development of rainfed areas through watershed development approach. The key attributes of the watershed approach are conservation of rain water and optimization of soil and water resources in a sustainable and costeffective mode.

National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas

- The National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA) was launched in the **8th Plan** period and has been subsumed under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) since November, 2000. The broad objectives are: (i) conservation, upgradation and sustainable utilization of natural resources, (ii) enhancement of agricultural productivity in sustainable manner, (iii) restoration of ecological balance in the degraded and fragile rainfed eco-systems by greening these areas through appropriate mix of trees, shrubs and grasses, (iv) reduction in regional disparity between irrigated and rainfed areas and (v) creation of sustained employment opportunities for the rural poor. The programme is presently being implemented in all the States. The main components include : (i) Preparatory phase (Entry point activities, Institution and capacity building and Detailed Project Report), ii) Watershed Works Phase (Watershed development works, Livelihood activities for the assetless



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persons and production system and micro enterprises) and (iii) Consolidation phase.

National Food Security Mission

Background

- National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is a crop development scheme of Government of India that aims at restoring soil health and achieving additional production of **10, 8 and 2 million tons of rice, wheat and pulses**, respectively by the end of 2011-12. It was launched in **August, 2007** as a follow up of the special session of National Development Council convened in May 2007, with an approved outlay of Rs. 4883 crores for the period from 2007-08 to 2011-12. A sum of about Rs. 3381 crores has been spent till 31.3.2011.

Salient Features of the Mission

- The Mission has focused on the Districts with productivity of wheat/rice below the State average. The total area targeted is about 20 and 15 million hectares for rice and wheat respectively. On the other hand, Districts with potential for area expansion and productivity enhancement have been covered under pulses.
- The mission is under implementation in 480 District of eighteen States viz. comprising of 142 District for rice in 115 States; 142 Districts for wheat in nine States and 468 Districts for pulses in 16 States. Some of the Districts are common for two or more crop components.
- The Mission interventions consists of a judicious mix of proven technological components covering seeds of improved varieties, soil ameliorants, plant nutrients, farm machines/implements and plant protection measures that are promoted through financial assistance to the farmers coupled with capacity building of farmers and innovative extension techniques such as Farmers' Field School and Field Demonstration. Resource conservation technologies such as zero till seed-cum-fertilizer drill, sprinklers sets and system of rice intensification received special attention in the mission. In addition to these interventions there is provision of local initiatives to address the location specific problems in the District and need-based short/medium term applied/adaptive research projects. Similarly there is provision for pilot projects on controlling the menace of blue bull and providing community generators in places where adequate ground water is available at shallow depth and availability of electricity is inadequate.

- There is direct transfer of funds from the Centre to a State level nominated autonomous Agency which in turn transfers the funds to the District Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA).
- To support location specific activities which are otherwise not covered under the mission but can help boosting the production of rice, wheat and pulses, a provision of 10% of the total allocations in NFSM has been made. The assistance is limited to two crores per District for the entire 11th plan period where mission programme for two or more crops is implemented. Districts where only one crop programme is being implemented, the assistance has been limited to Rs. One crore. The States, however should ensure that the programme under local initiative is a part of the Strategic Research and Extension Plan (SREP) of the District drawn up by ATMA.
- The Mission is steered by a General Council (GC) constituted under the chairmanship of Union Agriculture Minister as its apex governing body. This council draws member from Planning Commission, Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Finance, Fertilizer and Water Resources Ministers. It is empowered to take policy decision and make necessary changes in programme design in response to the feedback from States.
- Food Security Mission Executive Committees (FSMEC) at the National, State and District level have been constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary (A & C), Chief Secretary of respective States and the District Collector or Chief Executive Officer of Zila Parishad, respectively. A National Mission Director at the National level and State Mission Directors in all the NFSM States are appointed who are the member secretaries of the respective Executive Committees at the National and State level. National Mission Director is also the member secretary of the GC.
- In addition to above components a special initiative under the name of Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (AP3) was initiated in 2010 to boost the production of pulses by active promotion of technologies in 100 clusters of 100 hectares each.

Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes:

Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes (FMT&ITIs) have been established at Budni (Madhya Pradesh), Hissar (Haryana), Garladinne, Anantpur (Andhra Pradesh) and at Biswanath Chariali (Assam). The institutes

have the capacity to train 6000 personnel annually on various aspects of agricultural mechanisation. These institutes also undertake testing and performance evaluation of agricultural machines including tractors in accordance with National and International Standards.

State Agro Industries Corporations: The Government of India had advised the State Governments in the year 1964, to set up State Agro Industries Corporations (SAICs) in the public sector to act as catalysts in providing access to industrial inputs for farmers, for their use in agriculture. Thus, 17 SAICs were set up in the joint sector with equity participation of the Government of India and respective State Governments. Many of the State Governments have increased their equity participation as a result of which the government of India, at present, is a minority shareholder. So far, the government of India's shares in SAICs of Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and West Bengal have been transferred to the State governments concerned.

Legislative framework: The Dangerous Machines (Regulations) Act, 1983, came into force with effect from 14th December, 1983. The Act provides for the regulation of trade and commerce and production, supply and use of products of any industry producing dangerous machines with a view to securing the welfare of persons operating any machine and for payment of compensation for death or bodily injury suffered while operating any such machine.

NEW INITIATIVES

Accelerated pulses production Programmes : A new initiative of Accelerated Pulses production programmes (A3P) has been initiated under National Food Security Mission from Kharif 2010, where in, farmers of 1 million hectares of potential pulses areas would be involved in intensive promotion of pulses through village level block demonstration production and protection technologies. This would enable the farmers of the A3P areas to avail Seed Minikits, Integrated nutrient Management, Integrated pest management components free of cost up to 2 hectares of area of individual farmers.

600,000 pulses villages: In addition, Pulses farmers in selected watershed areas in major pulses growing states are provided incentives for purchase of tractor, rotavator and ridge furrow planters etc. as a unit to be used on custom hiring basis under new initiative of "organizing 6000 pulses and oilseed villages". During 2011-12, the scheme would be implemented in the states with more than 500000 hectares of pulses area. The states of M.P., U.P., Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, constituting nearly 96% of pulses area would be covered the scheme.

Green revolution in eastern India: This initiative is being implemented in Eastern Region of the country comprising of Bihar, Jharkhand, eastern UP, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and West Bengal. The objective is to increase the productivity of crops, mainly, wheat, maize, pulses by intensive cultivation through promotion of recommended agriculture technologies and package of practices.

National Mission on Micro Irrigation

- A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Micro Irrigation was launched in January 2006 on the recommendation of the Task Force on Micro Irrigation (MI). The Scheme is continuing in mission mode since June, 2010 as the "National Mission on Micro Irrigation" (NMMI). The Scheme has popularized the use of MI technology to enhance water use efficiency in agriculture has found wide acceptability among the farmers.

New Scheme of Saffron Mission

- Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has initiated a Saffron Mission with a total cost of Rs. 37218.28 lakh to be implemented during 2010 to 2014. Out of this total cost, an amount of Rs. 28806.80 lakh is Government of India share under RKVY scheme. The following components are included in this intervention.
 - (a) Replanting
 - (b) Improving soil health
 - (c) Production of Planning Material
 - (d) Strengthening of irrigation System
 - (e) Enhancing Product Quality
 - (f) Saffron Mechanization
 - (g) Maintenance Cost of Machinery under Public Farms
 - (h) Weather Station Development
 - (i) Transfer to Technologies
 - (j) Quality testing and Marketing
 - (k) Enhancing Research and Extension capabilities

Agricultural Marketing

Organized marketing of agricultural commodities has been promoted in the country through a network of regulated markets. Most of the state Governments and Union Territories have enacted legislations (APMC Act) to provide for regulation of agricultural produce markets. While by the end of 1950, there were 286 regulated markets in the country, today the number stands at 7,157 (31.3.2010).

Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM)

- Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) is premier national level

Institute set up by the Government of India in August 1988 at Jaipur to offer specialized Training, Research, Education and Consultancy in Agricultural Marketing. NIAM is an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. The main objectives of NIAM are as follows : (i) To provide specialized training in agricultural marketing designed to develop leadership potential in the management of agricultural marketing enterprises and services. (ii) To undertake research in agricultural marketing for Government, Cooperative and other Institutes, both on public funding and by contract; (iii) To undertake appraisal of markets/marketing projects for approval and financial support by the Central Government, on consultancy basis.

Integrated Nutrient Management

- India is the third largest producer of fertilizers after China and USA and second largest consumer after China in the world. Against 24.91 million tonnes of fertilizer nutrients (NPK) consumed during 2008-09, the nutrient consumption was 26.49 million tones during 2009-10. The consumption of major fertilizers namely, Urea, DAP, MOP, SSP and Complexes was 26.67, 10.49, 4.63, 2.65 and 8.02 million tonnes respectively during 2009-10.
- The all India average fertilizer consumption in 2009-10 was 135.27 kg/ha of NPK nutrients, though there was wide variation from state to state varying from, 237.1 kg/ha. in Punjab, 225.7 kg/ha. in Andhra Pradesh, 209.9 kg/ha. in Haryana and 205.8 kg/ha. in Tamil Nadu.

Price of Fertilizers

- Presently urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price control. To ensure adequate availability of fertilizers to farmers at reasonable rates, subsidy is provided by Government of India. Urea, the most consumed fertilizers, is subsidized under the New Urea Pricing Scheme. The price of Urea has been increased by 10 per cent from 1st April 2010. Government of India is implementing Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) policy w.e.f. 1st April 2010, and subsidy is being given on the basis of nutrients NPK and S present in the fertilizers to the companies.

Fertilizer Quality Control

- The Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute at Faridabad and its three Regional Laboratories located at Navi Mumbai,

Chennai and Kalyani have been set up for inspection and analysis of both imported and indigenous fertilizers, giving technical advice and providing training on Fertilizer Quality Control to State Enforcement Agencies and Analysts.

National Project On Promotion of Organic Farming

- National Project on Organic Farming is a continuing scheme from 10th Five Year Plan period and is being implemented in 11th plan with an outlay of 101.00 crore for technical capacity building and promotion of organic farming in the country. The revised scheme of National Project on Organic Farming has initiated with some new innovative activities. The main components of the scheme include:
 - (a) Financial assistance for setting up of Fruits/Vegetable Market Waste compost units and Bio-fertilizers production/Bio-pesticides units.
 - (b) Technical capacity building and Human Resource development through training and research.
 - (c) Quality control of Organic fertilizers/Bio-fertilizers as statutory requirement under FCO.
 - (d) Biological assessment of Soil Health.
 - (e) Launching and operationalization of low cost certification system known as Participatory Guarantee System (PGS).
 - (f) Awareness creation and publicity of increasing adoption of organic farming in the country.

Animal Husbandry

- The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries is one of the Departments under the Ministry of Agriculture. It came into existence on February 1, 1991 by merger to two Division of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation viz. Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development into a separate Department. The Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and a part of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries was later transferred to this Department on October 10, 1987.
- The Department is responsible for matters relating to livestock production, preservation, protection & improvement of stocks, dairy development, matters relating to the Delhi Milk Scheme and the National Dairy Development Board. It also looks after all matters pertaining fisheries, which includes inland and marine sectors and matters

related to the National Fisheries Development Board.

Contribution of Livestock Sector To Food Basket

- The contribution of livestock sector to the food basket in the form of milk, eggs and meat has been immense in fulfilling the animal protein requirement of ever-growing human population. **The present availability of human protein in an Indian diet is around 11.3gm per person per day, as against a world average of 29gm.**

Milk Production : During past five-year plans, several measures were initiated by the Government to increase the productivity of livestock, which has resulted in significant increase in the milk production to the level of 112 million tonnes in the year 2009-10 as compared to 53.9 million tonnes in 1990-91. India continues to be the largest producer of milk in the world.

Egg-Production : The egg production in the country has reached 59.84 billion numbers in 2009-10.

Wool Production : The wool production in the country has reached 42.7 million kg during 2009-10.

National E-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGP-A)

- Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has initiated, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, A National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGP-A) with view to promoting focused and integrated implementation of e-Governance activities in agriculture in order to secure rapid development of agriculture in India through the use of information technology (ICT) and enable the farmers to raise their farm productivity and farm income. 12 cluster services have been identified from the point of view of application development and implementation during the first phase.

SCHEME/PROGRAMMES

Livestock Insurance: The Government of India introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Livestock Insurance, on pilot basis during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 in 100 selected districts of the country. The scheme covers 300 selected districts from 10th December, 2009. The Scheme has been formulated with the twin objective, providing protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to

death and to demonstrate the benefit of the insurance of livestock. It is a 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored scheme.

Livestock Census

- The first Livestock Census was conducted during 1919-1920 and since then it is being conducted quinquennially by all States/UTs in India. So far **18** such Censuses have been conducted and the latest one is 18th Livestock Census in the series with 15/10/2007 as the date of reference.

Cattle and Buffalo Development

- India possesses **27** acknowledged indigenous breeds of cattle and seven breeds of buffaloes. The elite animals are selected and registered on the basis of their performance for production of superior pedigree bulls, bull-mothers, frozen semen and frozen embryos for future breeding improvements.
- A Central Herd Registration Scheme for identification and location of superior germ plasm of cattle and buffaloes, propagation of superior germ stock, regulating the sale and purchase, help in formation of breeders society and to meet requirement of superior bulls in different parts of the country is also being implemented.
- The Government of India has established Central Herd Registration Unit in four breeding tracts i.e. Rohtak, Ahmedabad, Ongole, Ajmer. A total of 92 Milk Recording Centres are functioning to register these breeds of cattle viz. Gir, Kankrej, Hariana and Ongole and in Buffalo Jaffrabadi, Mehsani, Murrah and Surti.
- The seven Central cattle breeding farms at Suratgarh (Rajasthan), Chiplima and Semiliguda (Orissa), Dhamrod (Gujarat), Hessarghatta (Karnataka), Alamadi (Tamil Nadu) and Andeshnagar (Uttar Pradesh) are engaged in scientific breeding programmes of cattle and buffaloes and production of high pedigreed bulls for National Project for Cattle/Buffero Breeding Programme besides providing training to farmers and breeders.

POULTRY DEVELOPMENT

- Poultry sector, besides providing direct or indirect employment to nearly 3 million people is a potent tool for subsidiary income generation for many landless and marginal farmers and also provides nutritional security especially to the rural poor.
- To provide necessary services to the farmers of the country region-wise, four regional centers have

been restructured on the principle of one-window service to the farmers. In these regional Central Poultry Development organizations (CPDOs) located at Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar, Mumbai and Hessarghatta, training is also being imparted to the farmers to upgrade their technical skills.

SHEEP AND GOAT DEVELOPMENT

- According to Livestock census 2003, there are about 61.47 million sheep and 124.36 million goats in the country. About five million households in the country are engaged in the rearing of small ruminants (sheep and goats) and other allied activities.
- Central Sheep Breeding Farm, Hissar is engaged in production of acclimatized exotic/cross bred superior quality rams. During 2009-10, the farm supplied 726 rams and 134 bucks. A total of 48 farmers were trained in mechanical sheep shearing and 532 farmers were trained in sheep management.

Meat Production/Processing and Export

- There are 21 export-oriented modern abattoirs and 57 meat processing plants registered with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority exporting raw meat (Chilled and frozen) to about 63 countries.

Feed and Fodder Development

- The Central Fodder Seed Production Farm located at Hessarghatta (Karnataka) working with the same objectives as of Regional Stations produced 75.00 MT fodder seeds of different varieties of grasses/legumes, conducted 829 field demonstrations, organized 22 training programmes and 19 farmers fairs.
- A Central Minikit Testing programme of fodder crops is under implementation for popularizing the high yielding fodder varieties on a large scale through Director Animal Husbandry of States. During 2010-11, 11.79 lakh minikits were allotted to the states for distribution to farmers free of cost.

Central Fodder Development Organization

- Under this Central Sector Scheme, 7 Regional Stations for Forage Production & Demonstration is located in different agro-climatic zones of the country and one Central Fodder Seed Production Farm at Hessarghatta, Bangalore are being operated.

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT

- The Indian, dairy industry has acquired substantial growth during the Ninth Plan, achieving an annual output of over 112.54 million tonnes (provisional) of milk at the end of 2009-10. India's milk output has not only placed the industry first in world, but also represents sustained growth in the availability of milk and milk products. The per capita availability of the milk reached at a level of 263 grams per day in the year 2009-10, but it is still lower than world average of 284 grams per day.

Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP):

The schemes, 'Integrated Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward areas' was launched in 1993-94 on 100% grant-in-aid basis. The scheme was modified in March, 2005 and was named as 'Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)'.

Dairy Venture Capital Fund: To bring about structural changes in unorganized sector, measures like milk processing at village level, marketing of pasteurized milk in a cost effective manner, quality upgradation of traditional technology to handle commercial scale using modern equipments and management skills, a new scheme viz. Dairy Venture Capital Fund is being implemented during 11th Five Year Plan.

National Dairy Plan: National Dairy Plan is a strategic plan prepared by NDDB with an estimated outlay of 17,371 crore to achieve a target of 180 million tonnes of Milk producing annually by 2021-22. Milk production is expected to grow at 4 per cent with an annual incremental output of 5 million tonnes in the next 15 years.

Livestock Health

- For ensuring the maintenance of disease-free status and to be compatible with the standards led by the World Animal Health Organization (OIE), major health schemes have been initiated to support animal health programmes in the State.
- A network of 27562 Polyclinics/Hospitals/Dispensaries and 25195 Veterinary aid Centres (including Semen Centres/Mobile Dispensaries), supported by about 250 Disease Diagnostic Laboratories, are functioning in the States and Union Territories for quick and reliable diagnosis of diseases.
- In order to provide referral services over and above the existing disease diagnostic Laboratories are also

functioning. Further, for control of major livestock and poultry diseases by way of propnylactic vaccination, the required quantity of vaccines are produced in the country at 29 veterinary vaccine production units out of these, 21 are in the public sector and 7 in private sector. Import of vaccines is also permitted as and when required.

Animal Quarantine and Certification Service:

There are six Animal Quarantine Stations functioning one each at Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre, Baghpat

- In order to assess the quality of vaccines and biological products a National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre (National Institute of Animal Health) has been set up at Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh. The Institute has the following objectives : To recommend licensing of manufacturers of veterinary vaccines, biological, drugs, diagnosis and other animal health preparations in the country. To establish standard preparations to be used as reference materials in biological assays. To ensure quality assurance of the veterinary biological products both produced indigenously and imported.

Central/Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories

- The Centre for Animal Disease Research and Diagnosis (CADRAD) of Indian Veterinary Research Institute, **Izatnagar** is functioning as Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. The Disease Investigation Laboratory, Pune, Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals, Kolkata, Institute of Animal Health and Biologicals, Bengaluru, Animal Health Institute, Jalandhar and Institute of Veterinary Biologicals, Khanapara, Guwahati are functioning as referral laboratories for Western, Eastern, Southern, Northern and North-Eastern region, respectively.

Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC):

In order to control the economically important livestock diseases and to undertake the obligatory functions related to Animal Health in the country, the Government of India is implementing Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC) with the following components.

- Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD)
- National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE)
- Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme

(FMD-CP)

- Professional Efficiency Development (PED).

Fisheries

- The fisheries sector has been one of the major contributors of foreign exchange earnings through export. Export of fish and fishery products has grown manifold over the years.

Specialised Institutes

- The Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering Training, Kochi with units at Chennai and Visakhapatnam, aims at making available sufficient number of operators of deep-sea fishing vessels and technicians for shore establishments. Integrated Fisheries Project, Kochi, envisages processing, popularizing and test marketing of unconventional varieties of fish. The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries, Bengaluru, is engaged in techno-economic feasibility study for location of fishing harbour sites. Fishery Survey of India (FSI) is the nodal organization responsible for survey and assessment of fishery resources under the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

National Fisheries Development Board

- National Fisheries Development Board was established to work towards blue revolution with a focus on to increase the fish production of the country to a level of 10.3 million tonnes, to achieve double the exports from 7,000 crores to 14,000 crores and direct employment to an extent of 3.5 million by extending assistance to the various agencies for implementation of activities under Inland, Brackish water and Marine sectors.

Major activities to be taken up by the National Fisheries Development Board:

- Intensive aquaculture in ponds and tanks.
- Enhancing productivity from Reservoir Fisheries.
- Brackish water Coastal Aquaculture.
- Mariculture.
- Sea Ranching.
- Seaweed Cultivation.
- Infrastructure for Post Harvest Programmes.
- Fish Dressing Centres and Solar Drying Fish
- Domestic Marketing.
- Other Activities.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an apex national organization for

conducting and coordinating research and education in agriculture including animal husbandry, fisheries and allied sciences. The Council undertakes research on fundamental and applied aspects in traditional and frontier areas to offer solutions to problems related to conservation and management of resources, productivity, improvement of crops, animals and fisheries.

- The Council has its headquarters at New Delhi and a vast network of institutes all over the country consisting of 49 institutes including 4 national institutes with Deemed to be University status; 6 National Bureau; 17 National Research Centres; 25 Project Directorates; and 78 All India Coordinated Research Projects including Network Projects. For higher education in agriculture and allied fields there are 44 State Agricultural Universities and 1 Central Agricultural University at Imphal.

Horticulture

- In coconut, accession IND 125 S was recommended for cultivation in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, and hybrid IND 376 for Asom and Kerala.
- Two varieties, namely **Kufri Nilima** and **Kufri Frysona**, of potato were released for cultivation in Nilgiris hills of Tamil Nadu and Indo-Gangetic plains respectively.
- In spices, one variety each of ginger (Subhada) and cumin (RZ 345) was recommended for release.
- Hybrid 1084 of dwarf stature mango with regular bearing was found promising.
- In banana, embryo rescue was standardized for wild species and hybrids involving wild species.
- Fingerprints of 44 grapes accessions were developed.
- Bhima Red variety of onion, developed through bulb to row selection method, possesses attractive red colour with yield around 30 tonnes/ha in rabi and yield potential of 50 tonnes/ha
- A process patent (No. 1261/MUM/2008) has been filed by the Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research at Indian Patent Office, Mumbai, for preparation of pure aloin from aloe through extraction and purification.

Natural Resource Management

- Among the *Pseudomonas* strains isolated from rainfed regions of India, ***Pseudomonas putida* 'GAP-P 45'** was able to induce synthesis of novel proteins in the plants conferring tolerance to

drought stress. Bagasse proved a successful biostimulator for the removal of ammonia and nitrate in shrimp aquaculture. This technology is available for adoption by farmers.

- Gmelina-turmeric based agroforestry was found suitable for Humid and Sub-Humid regions. Gmelina with turmeric, sapota, teak-based agro forestry system proved useful for adoption in transitional and hilly zone with medium/deep soils under irrigated condition in Karnataka.
- A pond-based farming technology (deep water rice in kharif+watermelon, okra, spinach, chili in winter+on-dyke vegetables-fruits+fish inside pond) in a representative deep waterlogged areas (1-2.5 m water depth) of Puri district, Orissa enhanced the net water productivity to 7.21/m³ and net returns (22,100) in rice, Rainwater harvesting system was designed and agricultural diversification model (on-dyke horticulture, fisheries, cultivation of diversified field crops, short-term fruits like papaya, banana, floriculture like marigold, tuberose etc.) with harvested rain water was developed for small and marginal farmers with multiple use of water. The technology has been recommended for inclusion in the 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Act' for implementation in watersheds of eastern Indian states.

Agricultural Engineering

- Research and development in the ICAR on farm tools and machinery, post harvest and technology on cereals, pulses, oilseeds, cotton, jute, natural resins, gums and lac, and removable energy sources are being carried out by the Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal; Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana; Central Institute of Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai; National Institute for Research on Jute and Allied Fibres, Kolkata and Indian Institute for Natural Resins and Gums, Ranchi.

National Agricultural Innovation Project

- The National Agricultural Innovation Project has made significant progress in approving and grounding 187 sub-projects (39 in component I, 51 in II, 36 in component III, and 61 in component IV) at a total outlay of about 1,017 crore.

Intellectual Property Portfolio Management

- Patents were granted to the ICAR in 8 fields of

invention. The ICAR institutes secured 4 Trademarks to distinguish the ICAR products. Six copyrights were registered by the ICAR institutes to protect their software from unauthorized copying. The premise of centralized planning and

decentralized execution for Intellectual Property Management in the ICAR was strengthened. Some of the ICAR institutes have entered MoUs with private and public sector companies for commercialization of plant varieties/hybrids.



1. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Agriculture and allied sector contribute nearly 17.4 percent of GDP of India.
- 2) About 58.2 percent of the Population is dependent on agriculture for their livelihood.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 & 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

2. Consider the following statements:

- 1) As per the advance estimates the production of foodgrains is estimated at 250.42 million tonnes in 2011-12.
- 2) The production of rice is estimated at 102.75 million tonnes in 2011-12.
- 3) The oil seeds production during 2011-12 is estimated at 30.53 million tonnes.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 & 2 only
- b) 1 & 3 only
- c) 2 & 3 only
- d) All of the above

3. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is a state plan scheme administered by Union Ministry of Agriculture and funds under the scheme are provided to the state as 100 percent grant.
- 2) The Primary objective is to assist states to achieve the overall growth rate of 4.5% in agriculture and allied sectors.

Select the correct code given below.

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 & 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

4. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The Horticulture Mission was launched during 2001-02 to achieve overall development of horticulture in seven states to harness the potential that exists in the northeast region.
- 2) The Mission was further extended to three other states namely Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal

Pradesh and Kerala during 2003-04.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 & 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

5. Consider the following statements about Kisan Credit Card Scheme:

- 1) It was introduced in the Ninth Five Year Plan with major share of crop loans being routed through it.
- 2) The banks may extend the validity of KCC from 3 years to 5 years in case of sanctioning of term loan facility under KCC.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 & 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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