



e - Bulletin



Department of Agriculture & Coop.
Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India

Volume 1

Issue 1

July -September 2015

In this issue

■ Major Achievements of

Department of Agriculture

and Co-operation

■ Activities at state level.

■ Success stories on

Mushroom Cultivation

and

Fisheries

Website : www.agricoop.nic.in



Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
Ministry of Agriculture
Government of India



Narendra Bhooshan
Joint Secretary (Extn. & IT)

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to inform that Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India is releasing its first e-Bulletin. It contains DAC activities, state initiatives, success stories of farmers and many other updates. In this e-information era, this will certainly helpful in dissemination of information to farmers, extension functionaries, developmental experts, policy makers, researchers, agripreneurs and other stakeholders across different regions of the country. Many portals have been linked to DAC website (www.agricoop.nic.in) viz. mKisan portal, farmers portal, NOWCAST weather SMS alert and crop insurance portal etc. for the benefit of farmers, agripreneurs and extension workers.

I convey my sincere thanks to all the Divisional Heads of DAC for their cooperation in successful release of this first e-Bulletin.

(Narendra Bhooshan)

KISAN BAHDE - DESH BAHDE

Major Achievements of Department of Agriculture and Co-operation (DAC)

- To provide relief to farmers affected by hailstorm, unseasonal heavy rain in agriculture, horticulture and annual plantation crops profarmers steps were taken during rabi 2014-15. The input subsidy has been increased from Rs. 4, 500 per hectare to Rs.6,800 per hectare for rain fed areas, Rs 12,000 to Rs 18,000 per hectare for perennial crops, Rs. 9,000 to Rs. 13,500/ha, for assured irrigation and Rs.3,200- 4,000 to Rs.4,800-.Rs. .6,000 per hectare for sericulture. DAC has allotted Rs. 11,081 crores to State Disaster Response Fund for the year 2015-16.
- A new scheme, 'Soil Health Card' for every farmer was inaugurated by Hon' ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 19.02.2015 at Suratgarh, Rajasthan. These Soil Health Cards will be renewed after every three years.
- 'Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), a new scheme initiated to develop organic clusters and make available chemical free inputs to farmers. Groups of fifty or more farmers having 50 acres land would be motivated to take up organic farming under PKVY.
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) initiated with the objective of 'Har Khet Ko Paani'. PMKSY shall focus on : i) Creating sources of assured irrigation ii) Per drop - more crop. iii) Harnessing rain water at micro - level through 'Jal - Sanchay' and 'Jal - Sinchan'.
- Hon'ble Prime Minister has given Krishi Karman Awards at Suratgarh, Rajasthan on February 19, 2015 to nine states viz. Punjab, Odisha, Meghalaya, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Gujarat for best performance in agriculture production for the year 2013-14 and commendation award to five states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Karnataka. Besides, 18 farmers from nine states were also awarded for special contribution in foodgrains and oilseeds production. The amount of Krishi Karman Award for total food grain category has increased to Rs. 5 crore from Rs.2 crore. Under individual crop category, it has increased from Rs.1 crore to Rs.2 crore for rice, wheat, pulses and coarse cereals. The amount of commendation award has also increased to Rs.1.0 crore from Rs.25 lakh and for progressive farmer from Rs.1.0 lakh to Rs. 2.0 lakh.

Kisan Mandi Launched



Hon' ble Union Minister for Agriculture Sh. Radha Mohan Singh laid the foundation stone for Kisan Mandi in New Delhi on 25 September 2014. "This is the first wholesale centre for trading of fruits and vegetables outside the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC). Mandi has been established to provide unique opening link to the farmers & FPOs.

- m-kisan Portal for farmers has been operationalized. This portal gives information & advisories to farmers in their own language with respect to the crops/agricultural practices opted for by them and as applicable for their location. So far as 9,12,87,34,126 SMS have been sent to farmers by scientists, experts and officers.

- A separate portal for multi state co-operative society with the domain name www.mscoops.dac.gov.in have been launched by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister on 13 May, 2015.
- Price Stabilization Fund scheme of Rs.500 crore has been created by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation for price control measure. Detailed guideline is available on website www.agricoop.nic.in.
- Agri Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) created with the objective of implementation of an appropriate common e-market platform that would be deployable in 585 regulated wholesale markets in states across the country. Detailed guidelines for the scheme are available on the website www.agricoop.nic.in.
- To overcome impediments in marketing of agriculture produce, this department is taking the initiative to set up a National Agriculture Market (NAM). The department is constantly in dialogue with the States and Union Territories to carry out reforms of their Agri Marketing Laws including doing away with the concept of market area and enforcing single license which is valid across the state, single point levy of market fee, electronic auction as a mode for price discovery.
- Foundation stone of Saffron Park was laid on 23 August, 2014 by Union Agriculture Minister under National Mission on Saffron for economic revival of Saffron sector in Jammu & Kashmir.
- CHAMAN (Coordinated Programme on Horticulture Assessment & Management Using Geoinformatic) project has been launched in September, 2014 with the following components (a) area assessment and production forecasting of major horticultural crops in selected districts of major producing states; (b) using Remote Sensing Technology. Duration of this project is 2014-2017. Crops to be covered are Banana, Mango, Citrus, Potato, Onion, Tomato and Chilli. States to be covered are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

The Eastern Zone Regional Agricultural Fair

Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture, Sh. Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the Eastern Zone Regional Agriculture Fair at Central Potato Research Station, Patna on 19 February 2015. The theme of this fair was "Horticulture for Rural livelihood Security for Eastern Plains of India". In this fair, ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities and private firms working in the field of Agriculture had participated and put up their stalls and displayed their improved technologies/products to the farmers of the eastern region of the country.



DD Kisan Channel in 24 hours Services of Farmers



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi inaugurated DD Kisan Channel on 26th May 2015 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Kisan Channel is telecasting the programmes related to agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, water conservations, organic farming, weather condition and report on live mandies & expert talks. Films prepared on different aspects of agriculture is also being telecast from this channel.

DAC Launched Crop Insurance Portal

Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture Sh Radha Mohan Singh launched Crop Insurance Portal on 18 June 2015. Main features of Insurance Portal is (i) The only Insurance Portal for all stakeholders including Farmer, States Insurance Companies and Banks. (ii) All three major Insurance Schemes viz. National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Modified National Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) are covered (iii) Information to farmers on premium, cut off dates & company contact, details for their crops & location on web and sms through USSD (iv) Insurance premium calculator & creation of database of notified/ allotted units dynamically (V) Farmers application for loans / insurance and its integration with Bank. Detail procedure is mentioned on the home page of the Insurance Portal i.e. [Wwww.farmer.gov.in/insurance](http://www.farmer.gov.in/insurance)



NOWCAST Service Launched for WEATHERALERT SMS to Farmers -

NOWCAST is an innovative initiative taken by DAC. Main Features of NOWCAST are (i) Instantaneous advance warning by SMS valid for 3 hours regarding extreme weather conditions like squall, storm, hail etc. (ii) Based on the warning, farmers can take precautionary measures as needed and feasible (iii) Doppler based weather alerts from IMD is extracted and fed directly into mKisan Portal through web service (iv) SMSs to farmers in affected area get generated without human intervention. (V) Use of GIS database of NIC to identify affected Districts/ Blocks.

State News



Punjab Agriculture Minister Inaugrated Kheti Bhawan

Agriculture Minister Jathedar Tota Singh inaugurated the Kheti Bhawan on 9 June 2015 at SAS Nagar, Mohali (Punjab). The Agriculture Minister also presided over a state level conference on crop-diversification. The Minister called upon Agriculture experts to help farmers by imparting knowledge of new techniques, so that the financial status of the farmers could be improved. Agriculture Minister also released a book of 36 successful farmers of Punjab.

Foundation Stone of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), laid in Hazaribagh (Jharkhand)

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi unveiled the plaque to lay the Foundation Stone of the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) in Hazaribagh (Jharkhand) on 28 June 2015. The Governor of Jharkhand, Smt. Draupadi Murmu, the Union Minister for Agriculture, Shri Radha Mohan Singh, the Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Shri Raghubar Das, the Minister of State for Finance, Shri Jayant Sinha and other dignitaries graced the occasion.



1 Smt. Bilinda Syiemlieh Mushroom Cultivator

Smt. Bilinda Syiemlieh of Tengri Village under Mairang Block of West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya a member of SHG holds only 0.25 ha land. She hails from a remote village which is far away from the state capital of Shillong as well as from District Headquarter Nongstoin. One fine day a team of KVK West Khasi Hills visited her village and arranged a training on "Oyster Mushroom Cultivation". Hearing the scope and opportunities in mushroom cultivation, she decided to start this new venture with the technical support and encouragement of KVK and ATMA team. she expanded mushroom cultivation thus provided a good monthly contribution to the family income and helped to improve the family's standard of living. She had invested only Rs. 46,080/ha/unit and total output was Rs. 1,48,350/ha/unit. Her net profit was Rs. 10,2,270/ha/unit. She was awarded first prize in district. By her motivation 16 more farmers from her village started growing Mushroom.



2. Fish Cultivator to Entrepreneur-Sultan Singh

Shri. Sultan Singh hails from village Butana, block Nilokheri of District Karnal (Haryana). Fish cultivation idea came in his mind after taking just two days training from KVK, NDRI, Karnal. He had initiated fish cultivation in 1983 in the pond of his village. Now he has fresh water farm in two acres and cultivating the fish viz. Rohu, Katla, Common Carp, Grass Carp, Silver Carp, Fresh Water Prawn and Cat Fish. He is expert in fish culture, fish breeding, diseases & nutrient management.



Shri Sultan Singh set up the India's first processing unit for production of value added product of fresh water fish in collaboration with central Institute of Fisheries Technologies, Cochin. The Secretary of DARE and DG, ICAR Dr. S. Ayyappan had inaugurated this facility on 26th Feb. 2011. His company has ready to cook products like fish fingers, fish cutlet, fish nuggets, fish sticks, fish burger putty, golden fried prawn, kali mirch fish tikka, masala fish tikka, and grilled fish. These are hundred per cent fresh frozen and organic products and not using any preservatives and additives. Sultan Singh has got many national and international awards like Quality Summit Award from New York. He is in several advisory committee of ICAR like CIFT Cochin, CIFE

Mumbai and CIFRI Bhubaneshwar. His contact cell no. is 9812032544 and website "sultanfishseed.com."