

Major Government Schemes for The Development of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in India

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INTRODUCTION

Agriculture and allied sectors play a vital role in India's economy by ensuring food security, generating employment, and supporting rural livelihoods. To promote sustainable agricultural growth and improve the socio-economic conditions of farmers, the Government of India has introduced several schemes covering crop production, irrigation, soil health, agricultural marketing, infrastructure, animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries.

These initiatives aim to increase productivity, enhance farmers' income, reduce production risks, encourage entrepreneurship, and strengthen value chains through financial assistance, technological support, and infrastructure development.

Schemes for Agriculture Development

The Government of India has introduced several schemes to promote sustainable agricultural development, improve farmers' livelihoods, and strengthen the agricultural sector.

These initiatives focus on enhancing farm productivity, providing income and risk support, improving irrigation and soil health, expanding market access, developing post-harvest infrastructure, and promoting high-value crops.

Together, these schemes contribute to increasing agricultural production, improving resource-use efficiency, ensuring food security, and enhancing farmers' income. Table 1 presents the major ongoing Government schemes for agriculture development in India, along with their objectives, key provisions, and benefits.

Table 1: Major Government Schemes for Agriculture Development in India

Sl. No.	Scheme	Year of Launch	Purpose	Major Provisions	Key Benefits
1	Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)	2019	Provide income support to landholding farmer families	Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of ₹6,000 per year in three installments to eligible farmers	Helps farmers meet agricultural input and household expenses; improves financial stability
2	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)	2016	Provide crop insurance against natural calamities and crop losses	Insurance coverage from pre-sowing to post-harvest losses; low farmer premium rates; technology-based claim settlement	Reduces financial risk due to drought, floods, pests, diseases, and other non-preventable risks
3	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)	2015	Improve irrigation access and water-use efficiency	Focus on “Har Khet Ko Pani” and “Per Drop More Crop”; promotes micro-irrigation systems	Expands irrigation coverage, saves water, and increases crop productivity
4	Soil Health Card Scheme	2015	Promote balanced fertilizer use and improve soil health	Provides farmers with soil nutrient status and fertilizer recommendations	Reduces unnecessary fertilizer use, lowers input costs, and improves soil fertility
5	National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)	2016	Create a unified national agricultural market	Online trading platform connecting agricultural produce markets (mandis)	Better price discovery, wider market access, and transparent trading
6	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	2014	Promote horticulture production and post-harvest management	Supports fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers, plantation crops, nurseries, and protected cultivation	Increases horticulture productivity, farmer income, and export potential
7	Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)	2020	Develop post-harvest and farm infrastructure	Provides financing support for warehouses, cold storage, processing units, and community farming assets	Reduces post-harvest losses and improves value addition
8	National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)	2021	Increase domestic edible oil production	Supports oil palm cultivation, planting material, and processing infrastructure	Reduces edible oil imports and increases farmer income

Schemes for Development of Animal Husbandry

Animal husbandry is an important component of Indian agriculture, contributing significantly to rural livelihoods, nutritional security, and the national economy. To improve livestock productivity, promote breed improvement, strengthen animal healthcare, enhance dairy infrastructure, and encourage entrepreneurship, the Government of India has implemented

several development schemes. These initiatives provide financial assistance, technical support, disease control measures, and infrastructure development to improve the income and sustainability of livestock farmers. The following table presents the major Government of India schemes for animal husbandry development, along with their objectives, key benefits, and major provisions.

Table 2: Major Government schemes for Development of Animal Husbandry in India

Sl. No.	Scheme	Launch Year	Purpose	Key Benefits	Major Provisions
1	Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)	2014	Conserve and develop indigenous bovine breeds and enhance milk production and productivity.	Improved genetic quality of cattle and buffaloes, higher milk yield, support for dairy farmers.	Establishment of Gokul Grams, Integrated Indigenous Cattle Centres, artificial insemination, sex-sorted semen, IVF technology, bull production, and breed improvement programmes.
2	National Livestock Mission (NLM)	2014–15	Promote sustainable livestock development through entrepreneurship, fodder development, and breed improvement.	Financial assistance for sheep, goat, piggery, poultry, fodder cultivation, and feed processing; employment generation.	Focus on breed development, fodder and feed development, entrepreneurship development, value-chain creation, and skill development for livestock farmers.
3	Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)	2021 (by merging existing disease-control schemes)	Prevent, control, and eradicate major livestock diseases while improving animal health services.	Free vaccination against major diseases, disease surveillance, veterinary healthcare, and reduced livestock mortality.	Includes vaccination against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), disease surveillance, and strengthening veterinary infrastructure.
4	Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)	2020	Encourage private investment in animal husbandry and dairy infrastructure.	Concessional credit for dairy processing, meat processing, feed plants, breed improvement, and value addition.	Credit support for dairy processing plants, milk chilling units, meat processing facilities, feed manufacturing units, animal waste management, and export-oriented infrastructure.

5	National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD)	2014	Strengthen dairy infrastructure and improve milk procurement, processing, and marketing.	Better milk collection systems, quality testing, cold-chain facilities, and enhanced farmer income.	Financial support for milk collection centres, bulk milk coolers, processing plants, village-level dairy infrastructure, and dairy cooperative strengthening.
6	Supporting Dairy Cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organizations (SDCFPO)	2021	Strengthen dairy cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organizations to improve milk marketing and value addition.	Working capital support, improved milk procurement, and enhanced market access for dairy farmers.	Financial assistance to dairy cooperatives and FPOs for business continuity, procurement, processing, and marketing of milk and dairy products.

Schemes for development of fisheries

The fisheries sector is an important component of India's agricultural economy, contributing to food and nutritional security, employment generation, exports, and the livelihoods of millions of fishers and fish farmers. To promote sustainable fisheries development, enhance production and productivity, modernize infrastructure, and improve market access, the Government of

India has launched several schemes and funding initiatives. These programmes support aquaculture, marine and inland fisheries, post-harvest management, value addition, digitalization, and financial inclusion. The following table presents the major Government of India schemes for fisheries development, highlighting their objectives, key benefits, and major provisions.

Table 3: Major Government schemes for development of fisheries in India

Sl. No.	Scheme	Launch Year	Purpose	Key Benefits	Major Provisions
1	Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries	2015–16	Increase fish production, productivity, and income of fishers through integrated fisheries development.	Development of inland, marine, and aquaculture sectors; employment generation; support for fish seed production and infrastructure.	Assistance for hatcheries, fish seed farms, reservoirs, ornamental fisheries, mariculture, deep-sea fishing, and fisheries infrastructure. The scheme concluded in March 2020 and was later subsumed into PMMSY.
2	Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)	2018–19	Address infrastructure gaps and modernize the fisheries sector through concessional finance.	Long-term loans at concessional rates for creation of modern fisheries infrastructure.	Financial support for fishing harbours, fish landing centres, cold chains, ice plants, brood banks, hatcheries, feed mills, processing units, and aquaculture infrastructure.

3	Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)	2020	Achieve sustainable and responsible fisheries development, enhance production, reduce post-harvest losses, and improve fishers' income.	Financial assistance for fish ponds, biofloc units, cage culture, hatcheries, ornamental fisheries, fishing vessels, cold storage, processing, and marketing infrastructure. Subsidies of up to 40% for the general category and 60% for SC/ST/Women for eligible beneficiary-oriented activities.	Implemented during FY 2020–21 to FY 2024–25 with an investment of ₹20,050 crore. Covers three broad areas: (1) production and productivity enhancement, (2) infrastructure and post-harvest management, and (3) fisheries management and regulatory framework.
4	Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY)	2024 (approved for FY 2023–24 to FY 2026–27)	Formalize the fisheries sector, strengthen fisheries micro and small enterprises, and improve access to finance and insurance.	Digital identity for fishers and fish farmers, easier institutional credit, aquaculture insurance incentives, performance grants, support for fisheries cooperatives and startups.	₹6,000 crore Central Sector sub-scheme under PMMSY. Establishes the National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP), promotes digital registration, provides working capital support, financial literacy, quality certification, and incentives for value-chain improvement.

CONCLUSION

The Government of India's ongoing schemes for agriculture, animal husbandry, and fisheries provide comprehensive support across the entire agricultural value chain—from production and resource management to processing, marketing, and risk mitigation. By promoting modern technologies, sustainable resource use, improved infrastructure, and financial inclusion, these programmes contribute to higher productivity, greater income security, and enhanced livelihood opportunities for farmers, livestock owners, and

fishers. Effective implementation and greater awareness among beneficiaries will further strengthen the role of these schemes in achieving inclusive and sustainable rural development.

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