

**DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION**

**FOR OPERATIONALISATION OF**

**THE NATIONAL POLICY FOR FARMERS, 2007**

## OPERATIONALISATION OF NATIONAL POLICY FOR FARMERS 2007 – PLAN OF ACTION

S. No.	NPF 2007 Para No. and Policy Provision in brief and the Ministry(s) / Department(s) with primary responsibility (PR) or primary coordination (PC)	<b><u>PLAN OF ACTION;</u> Schemes / Programmes / Action already implemented or under implementation</b>	<b><u>PLAN OF ACTION;</u> Further action/ steps to be taken and Agency for Action and Coordinator</b>
1.	<p><b><u>Para 4.1 – Asset Reforms</u></b></p> <p><i>The purpose of asset reforms is to ensure that every farmer household in villages possesses and/or has access to productive assets like land, livestock, fishpond, homestead farm, and/or income through an enterprise and/or market driven skills, so that the household income is increased substantially on a sustainable basis. This in turn would ensure nutrition and livelihood security and their education and health requirements.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR/PC : DAC, DOLR, DORD, DAHDF.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various programmes for distribution and providing of agricultural and homestead land to rural poor who do not have any land or house under land distribution and other schemes are being implemented constantly by various States. Distribution of ceiling surplus land, Government wastelands and Bhoodan land is an integral part of land reforms policy. 49.65 lakh acres of ceiling surplus land, 153.22 lakh acres of Government wasteland and 16.66 lakh acres of Bhoodan land was distributed to the eligible rural poor.</li> <li>• The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) 2006 implemented with the aims of creating durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor and to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household. The scheme has been extended to cover all the districts in the country with effect from 1.4.2008.</li> <li>• Government is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana to provide houses to eligible rural poor.</li> <li>• Training of eligible farmers under several on-going schemes of State and Central Governments like KVIC / <b>REGP</b>/ SGSY/ ATMA etc.</li> <li>• Bankable schemes to provide assets for self-employment to eligible farmers with or without subsidies are being implemented by the Centre and the States.</li> <li>• PMRY scheme for self-employment of educated youth as per eligibility criteria.</li> <li>• Provision for skill based training and loans under SGSY under Department of Rural Development (DORD).</li> <li>• Eleventh Plan for Livestock Sector aims an overall growth of 6 to 7% per annum with milk group achieving a growth of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of training of farmers and members of farm households under on-going schemes be augmented to impart market driven skills including enterprises which can be formally certified / recognized to facilitate self-employment of trained persons. <b><u>(Action: DORD/ MOMSME / DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Self-employment of trained persons through Bank loans under on-going schemes or through Banks or other wise should be ensured. <b><u>(Action: DORD/ MOMSME/ DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Provision for revolving funds with watershed development committees, pani panchayats, panchayats, farmers' SHGs etc. to provide interim finance to farmers for self-employment and income generation, subject to reimbursement by the Banks or repayment by beneficiaries should be made. <b><u>(Action: DOLR/ DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• State cooperative banks may be assisted by DAC under RKVY/ Macro Management or under existing schemes of DAC and/or by NABARD for training and promoting self-employment of trained farmers under different agri related enterprises through Farmers' Groups / organizations. <b><u>(Action: DAC/ NABARD)</u></b></li> <li>• MOF may instruct NABARD, SIDBI and Banks to promote skill development and self-employment through productive</li> </ul>

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		<p>5% and meat and poultry 10%. This benefits the small and marginal farmers and landless labourers who maintain bulk of the livestock in the country. The sector also provides additional employment opportunities to the rural population especially the female population who manage the livestock in the household.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various schemes are under implementation by Department of Animal Husbandry &amp; Dairying (DOAH&amp;D) like Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund and Development of Fresh Water Aquaculture to provide subsidy for asset creation in dairy, poultry and fisheries.</li> <li>• National Programme for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding and Programmes of Artificial Insemination of Cattle, under implementation presently, will enhance the wealth of livestock as an asset.</li> <li>• To encourage setting up of Fodder Block Making Units, assistance upto 25% of the investment cost is provided in respect of bankable projects appraised by NABARD/ Nationalised Banks.</li> <li>• DOAHD introduced a new CSS i.e. "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production" to improve the quality of raw milk produced at the village level.</li> <li>• Motorization of traditional craft, development of fresh water as well as brackish water aquaculture, and several on-going schemes of DOAHD on development of fisheries and aquaculture provide for asset creation, job opportunities and marketing skills for the rural population.</li> <li>• In order to boost inland fish production, assistance in the form of subsidy is given to the fish farmers for construction of fish ponds, reclamation/ renovation of ponds and tanks, integrated fish farming, running water fish culture,</li> </ul>	<p>assets for farmer families under on-going programmes of NABARD, SIDBI and Banks. <b><u>(Action: MOF/ DAC)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAUs, KVKs, MANAGE and other training institutions may be identified to impart training for market driven skills which can be certified/ recognized as Diploma / Certification courses by SAUs. <b><u>(Action: DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• ATMA Scheme may be reviewed to take up skill based training more vigorously by augmenting provisions for agri-clinics and agri-business schemes under DAC, if necessary. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• The skill development under SGSY should be given priority. <b><u>(Action: DORD)</u></b></li> <li>• Convergence between NREGA and Watershed Development Programmes should be prioritized and ensured at the field level by associating PRIs. <b><u>(Action: DORD/DOLR/MOPR)</u></b></li> <li>• Skill based training for farmers and youth in areas like post-harvest management, improving quality certification for better marketing opportunities, quality service to the farmers/managing agro-service centres etc. should be taken up on priority under RKVY. This activity can be coordinated by District/ Block/ Village Panchayats.<b><u>(Action: DAC/DARE)</u></b></li> </ul>

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		<p>establishment of fish seed hatcheries and fish feed meals etc., thereby creating available assets for fishers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Fisheries Development Board established with one of the basic objective being generation of substantial employment.</li> <li>• A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme is proposed for implementation by D/o AYUSH during Eleventh Plan with a total outlay of Rs.630 crore to support cultivation, value addition, processing, warehousing and marketing of medicinal plants covering around one lakh hectares of land in identified clusters which will facilitate better returns to the farmers. The scheme also provides assistance for capacity building, training of farmers and to support Herbal Mandis and Agri Mandis for upgraded marketing infrastructure.</li> <li>• Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MOFPI) proposes in the Eleventh Plan a Scheme for Infrastructure Development to set up Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chains, Value Added Centres, and Strategic Distribution Centres. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market to ensure maximizing value addition, minimizing wastage, increasing farmers' income and creating huge employment opportunities in rural sector.</li> <li>• The National Bamboo Mission also promotes marketing of bamboo and bamboo based handicrafts. The Mission is also intended to generate employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled persons, especially unemployed youths. Employment generation of 50.4 million mandays of work by plantation works alone is one benefit to the farmers.</li> <li>• Under National Horticulture Mission programme, farmers will be benefited in terms of establishment of new orchards resulting in increase in farm income. Establishment of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of willing elected members of Panchayats with preference to women and members from weaker sections on measures to tackle drought and flood situations and for providing quality advice/ service to farmers (particularly for sustainable farm practices, post harvest management and value addition, processing and marketing) should be taken up under RKVY / ATMA programmes. <b>(Action DAC).</b></li> <li>• SAUs / KVKs and other competent institutions may be assisted under RKVY to strengthen their training infrastructure. <b>Action DAC)</b></li> </ul>
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		<p>infrastructure for pre-harvest and post-harvest management, markets, value addition chains etc. will also help farmers in enhancing production and productivity of horticultural produce, reduce post harvest losses and ensure remunerative prices for their produce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scheme for Development / Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization is under operation since October 2004. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to the entrepreneurs including farmers to set up marketing infrastructure projects to cater to the post harvest management. Farmers can set up such assets so as to increase their income.</li> <li>• Vocational training with a view to create a world class skilled labour force has been implemented. Training courses are offered to a network of ITIs and ITCs located all over the country.</li> <li>• A Mission on Vocational Education and Skill Development would be launched soon. As a result of which over 1 crore students will receive vocational training which would be a four-fold increase from the current level.</li> </ul>	
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2.	<p><b><u>Para 4.2 : Asset Reforms - LAND</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen implementation of laws relating to land reforms, with particular reference to tenancy laws, land leasing, distribution of ceiling surplus land and wastelands, providing adequate access to common property and wasteland resources etc.</li> <li>• Consequent to conferment of land rights to women, appropriate support services to woman farmers became urgent like Joint pattas for both homestead and agricultural land essential for women to access credit and other services.</li> <li>• Land Acquisition Act to be reviewed with reference to assessment of compensation.</li> <li>• Prime farmland must be conserved for agriculture.</li> <li>• Fulfillment of commitments under existing re-settlement policy in letter and spirit.</li> <li>• For non-agricultural purposes land with low biological potential shall be earmarked and the States would be advised to allocate lands with low biological potential for non-agricultural development activities.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR/PC: DOLR, DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land and its development falls within the jurisdiction of the States and the role of Central Government is of advisory and coordinating in nature. Implementation of land reforms programme is reviewed constantly at various forums including conferences of Revenue Ministers, Secretaries of States etc. organized by MORD.</li> <li>• State Governments are advised constantly for distribution of land to the eligible poor by action plans and by undertaking special drives. States have also been advised to take effective steps for detecting insecure or informal tenants so as to bring them on record, for implementation of the legislative provisions for preventing alienation of tribal lands and their restoration, for providing equal rights of ownership of assets like houses and land to women and for taking up consolidation of holdings.</li> <li>• Funds are being provided by DOLR to the States / UTs for computerization of land reforms, digitization of cadastral maps etc.</li> <li>• A “Committee on State Agrarian Relations and Unfinished Task in Land Reforms” has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development, and a “National Council for Land Reforms” has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. Issues related to land reforms are to be considered by these committees in detail.</li> <li>• The Land Acquisition Act, 1894, has been reviewed and the amendments in the Act inter-alia cover the issue of compensation. The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill 2007 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha and is presently under the consideration of the Standing Committee of Parliament on RD.</li> <li>• The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy 2007 was also approved by the Government and notified on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematic plan / strategy for wasteland development should be prepared, through State Governments, dovetailing funds available under various schemes like NREGA, SGRY, RKVY etc. and developed wasteland, as far as practicable, be distributed to landless agricultural labourers preferably organized as SHGs, giving preference to women and SC/ST farmers for cultivating the developed land in a sustainable manner. Specific guidelines for this purpose may be issued. <b><u>(Action: DOLR/DORD)</u></b></li> <li>• Computerisation of land records and revenue maps should be taken up on priority, particularly in tribal sub-plan areas. <b><u>(Action: DOLR)</u></b></li> <li>• National and State Land Use Boards may be strengthened so as to proactively give quality advice to farmers on possible land uses in a sustainable manner, keeping in view the weather and other conditions including, trade and marketing issues. Boards should promote sustainable management of land, keeping watch on diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes and identifying lands with low biological potential for providing land for non-agricultural purposes, which is essential for non-farm employment in rural areas. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• The amendments to Land Acquisition Act</li> </ul>

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		<p>31.10.2007. The policy was circulated to all the States. The policy inter-alia provides for setting up of projects on wasteland, degraded land and un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural purpose to be kept to the minimum, multi-cropped land to be avoided for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, to be kept to the minimum. Further, before land is acquired for a project, the respective government should take into consideration the alternatives that will minimize the acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To give legal protection to the policy, the Rehabilitation &amp; Resettlement Bill 2007 has already been introduced in Lok Sabha.</li> <li>• A Centrally Sponsored Programme “State Land Use Boards” through Macro-Management of Agriculture is being implemented under which the States have been advised to take appropriate steps for scientific use of land and also to ensure prevention of diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purpose.</li> <li>• The Sub Committee of the National Development Council on Agriculture also recommended that diversion of productive agricultural land should not be allowed for industrialization or urbanization. It also recommended compensation in case agricultural land is provided for other developmental projects i.e. compensation for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded or wastelands elsewhere.</li> </ul>	<p>and National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy / Act may provide for payment of cost of development of equivalent wastelands to compensate for diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural or industrial purposes over and above the compensation being paid under the law.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DOLR)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLUBs may monitor effective utilization of this fund to be created by State Governments. Implementation of wasteland development projects utilizing this fund as far as practicable should be taken up through Groups of beneficiaries to whom the land would be allotted for cultivation after development. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• DOLR / State Governments may quickly identify wastelands or degraded lands where rural non-farm activities can be promoted. Necessary infrastructure development to facilitate such activities in identified lands should be taken up. States may be advised accordingly. <b><u>(Action: DOLR)</u></b></li> <li>• SLUBs may suitably be alert on issues relating to the diversion of prime agricultural land for non-agriculture purposes. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• A State level Agricultural Land Development Fund may be created to</li> </ul>
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			<p>accumulate such compensatory fund to be accrued for development of equivalent wastelands for diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purpose. This fund can be used for development of degraded land for productive purpose. This will help in taking care of two issues of arresting fast shrinking agricultural land and also development of degraded/ wastelands fast to put it to economic use to compensate for loss of agricultural land. <b><u>(Action : DOLR/DAC).</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community based partnership for production and development of low cost, unproductive, heavily grazed, eroded / degraded lands through watershed development approach should be encouraged. <b><u>(Action: DORD/DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• The policy provides for implementation of laws relating to, inter alia, tenancy and land leasing. States may examine ways and means to develop land lease markets under their respective laws. States may be advised accordingly. <b><u>(Action: DOLR)</u></b></li> </ul>
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3.	<p><b><u>Para 4.3 - Asset Reforms - WATER</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-availability of timely and adequate water for irrigation becoming a serious constraint, assured irrigation is the need of the hour.</li> <li>• Rainwater harvesting, aquifer recharge and improving the efficiency of water-use are important and accorded priority. Necessary legislative measures to regulate and control the development and management of groundwater to be taken up.</li> <li>• Water use efficiency can be enhanced by synergy with seed varieties, nutrients and farm implements.</li> <li>• <b>Concept of maximizing yield and income per unit of water to be used in all crop production programmes.</b></li> <li>• Water users' associations to be encouraged to gain expertise in maximizing the benefits from available water.</li> <li>• Water quality needs attention, since it often gets polluted at the source due to over-exploitation and indiscriminate use of fertilizers, pesticides and toxic chemicals.</li> <li>• Equity in water distribution to be ensured. Women would be given significant role as water users, both in access and management.</li> <li>• Existing wells and ponds to be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water being a State subject, water resource projects are planned, implemented, funded and managed by the respective State Governments as per their priorities. Several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by respective State Governments. Government of India provides technical assistance in preparation of the schemes and its evaluation.</li> <li>• Schemes implemented under which Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) provides assistance to States are: (a) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme; (b) Command Area Development and Water Management; (c) Repair, Renovation &amp; Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture; (d) "Artificial Recharge of Ground water through Dug Well" (proposed).</li> <li>• "National Water Policy" has been adopted which provides, inter alia, for efficiency of utilization in all the diverse uses of water, fostering awareness of water as a scarce resource; and promotion of water conservation consciousness.</li> <li>• MOWR formulated and circulated a Model Bill on Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) to all States and UTs.</li> <li>• Several national and regional conferences and training programmes as PIM organized.</li> <li>• 13 States have already enacted exclusive legislation or amended existing legislation. Four States have taken action for enactment.</li> <li>• So far 68000 water users' Associations have been formed in the country.</li> <li>• A sub-Committee was constituted under the chairmanship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICAR/ SAUs may review and modify their curricula to incorporate the concepts of this policy on "Water", with specific reference to water use efficiency, water conservation, water quality, groundwater recharge, rainwater harvesting and maximizing production and income per drop of water and take steps for wider dissemination of the results of research on higher water use efficiency, conservation of water, water quality and on optimization of income etc. Training of farmers on these aspects may be also organized through SAUs/ KVKS. <b><u>(Action: DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• Policy lays emphasis on skill development, awareness / literacy relating issues facing agriculture and also emphasizes sustainable development process without affecting the fertility of soils and environment, preserving / conserving water resources and bioresources. SAUs, KVKS and other field level institutions of Ministries/ Departments of Water Resources, Rural Development, Land Resources, Agriculture and Cooperation, DARE, Consumer Affairs, Food &amp; Public Distribution, Fertilisers, Environment &amp; Forests etc. would have to take a coordinated action to implement various skill oriented training programmes as per their capacity and resources. Multi subject awareness/training oriented to substantially improve skill base of farmers would be desirable. ICAR / SAUs/ KVKS may be assisted to prepare training modules for such skill development</li> </ul>

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	<p><i>renovated.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved irrigation practices including sprinkler and drip irrigation and through pani panchayats.</li> <li>• Launching of water literacy movement.</li> <li>• Integrated development of surface and groundwater resources and their conjunctive use to be envisaged right from the project planning stage.</li> <li>• Cultivation of high value crops like pulses and oilseeds in water scarce areas.</li> <li>• Symbiotic interaction and convergence of efforts through various initiatives like NRAA, NHM, TMOP and NREGP to promote water use efficiency and water conservation methods.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(PR/PC: DOWR and DAC)</u></b></p>	<p>of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to prepare a report on “More Crop and Income per Drop of Water”. The Committee submitted its report which is presently under consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring sustainable development of water resources either surface or groundwater is main objective of programmes being implemented.</li> <li>• National Water Policy also provides for integrated and coordinated development of surface and ground water resources and their conjunctive use.</li> <li>• Action has been initiated in respect of action points in the Swaminathan Sub Committee Report on “More Crop and Income Per Drop”. One important action taken by MOWR is implementation of Farmers’ Participatory Action Research Programme through involvement of agricultural universities / ICAR / WALMIS and engineering colleges etc. This programme aims to create awareness for water consideration including rain water harvesting and related issues.</li> <li>• MOWR initiated several measures on the issue of depletion of groundwater table, including, a draft Model Bill for regulation and management of groundwater. 10 States have already enacted legislation and 19 States initiated action.</li> <li>• MOWR has introduced three tier system of monitoring major and medium irrigation schemes at the Centre, State and Project level. Monitoring system is aimed at contributing in identification of the inputs required, analysis of the reasons for any short falls/ bottlenecks and suggest remedial measures etc. with a view to complete the projects in a time bound manner. Command Area Development and Water Management Programme has also provision for monitoring.</li> </ul>	<p>training. As far as possible, accreditation as applicable for vocational training / education may be ensured for such training programmes. Guidelines for effectively associating private sector in this effort may be developed by DAC (Extension Division) in consultation with DARE / ICAR.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC, DARE, MOWR, DORD, DOLR/ MOCAF&amp;PD, DOF, MOEF)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sprinkler and drip irrigation may be taken up in a mission mode. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Several programmes and schemes have already been launched by the Government of India. These schemes have to be constantly monitored with reference to targets and outcomes. Programmes like ground water recharge, rainwater harvesting and watershed development should be augmented and expanded. <b><u>(Action: MOWR/ DAC/DORD)</u></b></li> <li>• A large number of Water Users’ Associations are existing now. These associations should be encouraged to gain expertise in maximizing benefits from available water and also about water quality. For their capacity building, steps may be taken for seed money raised by farmers as well as assistance from Government which can be utilized for linkage with Bank credit for cropping and livestock/ allied sector activities including value addition and to take up non-farm activities to augment income of small and</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Artificial Recharge of ground water Advisory Council” has been set up by Government of India for popularizing and adoption of the concept of artificial recharge among all stakeholders.</li> <li>• Rainwater harvesting is one of the components of all Watershed Programmes being implemented by DAC. There are also several State Sector Programmes of Watershed under implementation.</li> <li>• Rainwater harvesting and recharge is a priority area of research for the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), where several Institutes under ICAR are contributing towards Integrated Watershed Management, Rainwater Harvesting, Multiple Use of Water for increasing its productivity, conjunctive use of rain, surface and groundwater for maintaining sustainable hydrologic regime, increasing water use efficiency, increasing irrigation water resources and crop water management under different sources of irrigation.</li> <li>• A pilot scheme for “Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture” has been implemented. Government of India also providing assistance to the States for related activities through external assistance.</li> <li>• Sprinkler and Drip Irrigation Systems are covered under Micro Irrigation Scheme being implemented by Horticulture Division of DAC.</li> <li>• ICAR conducted long term studies under AICRP – Water Management with 25 research centres spread over different agro-ecoregions of the country where the sprinkler and drip systems were evaluated for irrigation scheduling, water production functions and other aspects. Recommendations were passed on to Water Users’ Associations and Pani Panchayats.</li> </ul>	<p>marginal farmers. Federation of these associations at Block and District level should be organized with financial support from Central and State Governments to facilitate their capacity building, effective single window service to their member-farmers to the extent practicable.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Action: MOWR/ DAC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislations of Model Bills on Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) and for regulating groundwater of MOWR were enacted by only some States. To what extent the enactments are effective in achieving the desired outcome should be evaluated and required modifications, if necessary, may be implemented. Other States be persuaded for enactments on priority.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Action: MOWR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scheme for training of farmers and trainers on water harvesting etc. is an excellent initiative by DARE. Emphasis should be on training of trainers, officials of KVKs, entrepreneurs of agri-clinics/ agri-business centres, extension personnel who can then train the farmers, to improve the outreach and increase coverage of farmers. As DARE proposes a corpus fund for this purpose, similar corpus fund should be created at the KVKs which can be funded under RKVY or any other on going schemes under DAC. Recovery of the cost of training by each institution should be the primary objective in the medium term.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Action: DARE/ DAC)</b></p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cropping System which requires less water and high value, covering oilseeds and pulses, has been adopted in water scarce areas by DAC.</li> <li>• MOWR had already undertaken various awareness programmes as part of regular activity of its apex organizations like Central Water Commission, Central Groundwater Board and particularly through the Training Institutes i.e. National Water Academy, Pune, Rajiv Gandhi National Groundwater Training and Research Institute.</li> <li>• As a water literacy movement, a scheme for training of farmers and trainers on water harvesting and effective utilization of water resources is being launched by Department of Agricultural Research &amp; Education (DARE) during the Eleventh Plan with a corpus fund of Rs.96 crore at 32 State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and ICAR Institutes with the aim that each centre would annually train about 1000 farmers and 100 trainers.</li> <li>• Integrated and Coordinated Development of Surface and Groundwater and their conjunctive use are the integral part of various projects of DARE/ ICAR.</li> <li>• DAC (TMOP) is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of “Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize” (ISOPOM) from 1.4.2004 with the main objective being promotion of crop diversification in favour of oilseeds and pulses. A revolving fund for promoting location specific high yielding varieties for drought prone areas under Central Sector Seed Production Scheme was implemented in 1985. Frontline demonstrations on improved production technologies in pulses, oilseeds and maize are being conducted through ICAR to popularize improved technology among farmers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Extension Mechanism to ensure that the farmers, SHGs/ WUAs / pani Panchayats are trained and made aware about issues relating to water quality and water use efficiency with appropriate land use and cropping pattern. Financial incentives for SHGs / WUAs adopting sustainable practices should be built in through financial assistance to WUAs as seed money. The Command Areas of Irrigation projects should also sensitize farmers about water use efficiency and conservation, water quality and other aspects. <b>(Action: DAC/ DORD/ MOWR)</b></li> <li>• High Value Cropping Systems in water scarce areas have to be encouraged. Seeds of pulses and oilseeds may be supplied in abundance in dryland areas and seeds of rice and other high water crops should not be supplied in these areas by official channels. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Action Plan to cover waterlogged areas in irrigated ayacuts and other potential areas should be prepared by the States for pisciculture with the help of FFDA. Suitable guidelines may be issued to the States in this regard. <b>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F).</b></li> <li>• Certain minimum percentage of funds available under NREGA should be utilized in rainfed areas and where water table is fast depleting, for rainwater</li> </ul>
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			<p>harvesting and groundwater recharge and other measures to conserve water and land resources.  <b><u>(Action DORD)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attention should be given for increasing cropping intensity through multiple cropping in irrigated areas and inter-cropping. State-wise evaluation and assessment of water use efficiency and income per unit of water should be undertaken to sensitize all stakeholders on these important issues.  <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• New technologies are to be introduced for revamping and creating water storage and distribution systems to prevent losses on account of evaporation.  <b><u>(Action: DAC / DARE/ MOWR)</u></b></li> <li>• A National Crop Specific Plan on Water Use efficiency may be evolved for principal foodgrains and other water intensive crops.  <b><u>(Action: DAC/ MOWR/ DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• Appropriate measures should be taken for improving surface water irrigation efficiency to 40% by 2010 and 50% by 2025 and ground water irrigation efficiency to 70% as recommended by National Commission for Integrated Water Resource Development.  <b><u>(Action : MOWR)</u></b></li> </ul>
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4.	<p><b><u>Para 4.3.6 DROUGHT CODE, FLOOD CODE AND GOOD WEATHER CODE to be introduced. NRAA to provide technical and other support.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>PC: DAC</u></b></p>	<p>Existing Manuals / Procedures / guidelines on droughts and floods have taken care of all aspects of post – drought / flood situations including relief and rehabilitation measures and packages to the affected farmers/rural population from disaster management point of view.</p> <p>Presently, AICRP on Agro Meteorology is providing contingency plan on agro adversary services considering the impact of rainfall, temperature and other weather related parameters through its coordinated centres.</p> <p>Drought Prone Areas Programme is being implemented by the Department of Land Resources (DOLR).</p> <p>As a first step towards bringing a Drought Code, DAC has already requested the National Institute of Disaster Management under the Ministry of Home Affairs to prepare a National Manual for Drought Management. NIDM has already prepared the draft manual and further follow up action is being taken by them. The manual will help the States in preparation or revision of their respective drought codes.</p> <p>As a follow up action of the recommendations of the Second Administrative Reforms Commission, a proposal is under active consideration of DAC to set up a separate institutional mechanism for continuous and integrated drought management. Once such an institute is set up, the needs of the farmers in the drought prone areas are likely to be taken care of.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Model Drought Code for arid and drought prone areas should be prepared and circulated to States incorporating short-term and long term mitigation measures. Action already initiated by DAC be expedited in close coordination with DOLR and NIDM. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• A Model Flood Code for chronically flood affected areas be prepared and circulated to States incorporating measures like ensuring availability of quality seeds and other inputs to be provided to the farmers after flood, planning for crops/ varieties resistant to water logging / flood and other measures to mitigate losses to the farmers on account of floods. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• A Model Good Weather Code for arid areas and drought prone areas may be prepared incorporating measures to be taken by farmers in case of good rainfall or good weather in these areas with adequate preparedness for supply of quality seeds, seedlings, and other inputs to the farmers. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• For preparation of above Model Codes, DAC may take the lead with the assistance of ICAR institutions like NCAP. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>

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5.	<p><b><u>Para 4.4: - Asset Reforms - Livestock</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to address the major constraints faced by farmers relating to breed, fodder, feed, health care and remunerative prices for their produce.</li> <li>• Agri-clinics operated by veterinary and farm science graduates to be encouraged.</li> <li>• Crop-livestock mixed farming systems would be promoted apart from encouraging production of organic manures and biofertilisers.</li> <li>• Livestock insurance to be revamped and made accessible to all farmers.</li> <li>• Quarantine and testing facility for imported birds and vaccines at all ports of entry to be established and strengthened.</li> <li>• Testing imported poultry vaccines before they are marketed would be made compulsory.</li> <li>• Poultry rearing to be recognized as an agricultural activity and to provide support to backyard poultry farmers to promote clusters or small holders poultry estates.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DOAHD&amp;F</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department of Animal Husbandry &amp; Dairying (DOAHD) is operating 18 Central Livestock Organizations and Allied Institutions for production and distribution of superior germ plasms to the States for cross breeding and genetic upgradation of the livestock. The seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms are producing high pedigree bull calves of indigenous and exotic breeds of cattle and important buffalo breeds for distribution to States.</li> <li>• The National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding is implemented by DOAHD over a period of 10 years in two phases, with around Rs.1200 crore allocations. The project envisages genetic upgradation and development and conservation of important indigenous breeds.</li> <li>• A new macro scheme “National Project for Improvement of Poultry and Small Animals” has been initiated from 2005-06.</li> <li>• Two CSS are currently under implementation i.e. “Central Fodder Development Organisation” and “Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development”. These schemes provide Central assistance to the States to supplement their efforts in feed and fodder development sector.</li> <li>• A CSS “Assistance to States Poultry/ Duck Farms” was launched in 1999-2000 with the objective of one time assistance to State Poultry Farms.</li> <li>• Another CSS i.e. “Livestock Health and Disease Control” is also implemented with the main activity being immunization against economically important diseases of livestock and poultry. National Project on Rinderpest Eradication has also been undertaken.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current programme on livestock insurance is implemented on a pilot basis. There is a need to extend the scheme to cover and make the same accessible to all farmers. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• Credit should be made available for crop-livestock mixed farming systems suitable for different agro-climatic regions. This can be extended through Kisan Credit Cards. NABARD may issue suitable guidelines to banks in this regard. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F/MOF/NABARD)</u></b></li> <li>• There is a need to strengthen the existing livestock disease surveillance system at State and National levels. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• Training and skill development in livestock issues and crop-livestock mixed farming systems and enriching agricultural wastes to livestock feed / fodder and other related issues should be taken up by DOAHD, DAC and DARE/ICAR. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F/DAC/DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• Agri-clinics by veterinary Graduates should be set up so as to ensure that no un-employed veterinary graduate is left out, within a period of 3 to 5 years. They should be utilized for training of farmers and in providing quality extension services to farmers apart from services for animal health. They can also be trained as trainers for development of skills of</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In order to reduce morbidity and mortality, efforts are being made by the States to provide better health care through poly-clinics/ veterinary hospitals/ dispensaries including mobile veterinary dispensaries. A network of 26,540 such agencies supported by 250 diseased diagnostic laboratories are functioning in the States for quick and reliable diagnosis of diseases. The required quantity of vaccines are produced in the country at 29 veterinary vaccine production units.</li> <li>• Efforts are also made to prevent ingress of diseases from outside the country and for maintaining the standards of veterinary drugs and formulations.</li> <li>• Under the Macro Management CSS “Livestock Health and Disease Control”, Central Government is implementing disease control activities.</li> <li>• In respect of Avian Flu, Central Government initiated immediate action to control and contain the outbreak. Control and containment measures comprised a series of strategic actions that are to be taken in accordance with the action plans of DOAHD and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW).</li> <li>• Unemployed veterinary graduates are provided assistance to establish private veterinary clinics and clinics with retail outlets for feed and medicines. DAC is also implementing agri-clinics and agri-business schemes for agricultural graduates which includes veterinary graduates.</li> <li>• The Extension Reforms Scheme under DAC also provides for establishment of agri-clinics and agri-business centres to promote delivery of extension and other services in self-employment mode. Full cost of training on agri-business development is supported.</li> </ul>	<p>farmers. <b><u>(Action DAC/ DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fodder and feed play an important role in increasing productivity of livestock. Production of fodder and feed and plantation of fodder trees should be encouraged. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livestock insurance: A CSS “Livestock Insurance Scheme” has been implemented on a pilot basis with an outlay of Rs.120 crore. The twin objectives of the scheme are providing protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death and secondly, demonstration of the benefit of the insurance of livestock in order to popularize rearing of improved animals. The scheme is being continued during the year 2007-08 in the same format. For evaluating the efficacy and impact of the livestock insurance scheme during its pilot period, an independent study has been given to the Institute of Rural Management. Based on the findings and recommendations of the study, implementation of the scheme in the entire country and covering more species of livestock during 2008-09 and beyond will be considered.</li> <li>• Establishment of Poultry Estates is one of the proposed activity during the Eleventh Plan under Poultry Development Scheme with a provisional allocation of Rs.150 crore.</li> <li>• Animal quarantine and certification services are implemented with the main objective of prevention of ingress of animal diseases into the country by regulating import of livestock and its products. Four quarantine stations are already functional at Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkatta and two more Stations are being set up at Bangalore and Hyderabad.</li> </ul> <p>As regards testing of safety and efficacy of imported vaccines, this is regulated by the Drug Controller General and the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) is testing such vaccines. Further, the Central Government has also established National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre at Baghpat which will be functional shortly.</p>	
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6.	<p><b><u>Para 4.5: Asset Reforms - Fisheries</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve income of fisherman families by encouraging scientific fish rearing, harvesting and processing.</li> <li>• Need for well-planned aquarian reforms in order to provide landless labour families access to village ponds and other water bodies in the public domain for aquaculture.</li> <li>• NFDB to bring major activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture for professional management and focused attention.</li> <li>• “Fish for All” training and capacity building centres to impart training to fisher families and fisher women.</li> <li>• Provision of small dredgers.</li> <li>• Centralized services to support the de-centralized capture and culture fisheries sectors.</li> <li>• Promoting Inland aqua-culture by providing necessary space in ponds and reservoirs.</li> <li>• Promoting Artificial coral reefs.</li> <li>• Raising bioshields to safeguard the lives and livelihood of coastal fishers and farm families.</li> <li>• Management and economic use of Exclusive Economic Zones. (EEZs)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DOAHD&amp;F</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following on-going schemes are implemented by DOAHD:- (a) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture; (b) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations; (c) Welfare Programme for Fishermen; (d) Fisheries Training and Extension; (e) Assistance to Fisheries Institutes.</li> <li>• Fisheries Training and Extension is implemented as a scheme to provide training to fishery personnel to assist them in undertaking fisheries extension programme. The scheme also provides assistance to fisher folk in upgrading their skills. Assistance is also provided for setting up/ upgradation of training centres in States / UTs.</li> <li>• The National Fisheries Development Board was set up recently with the main objectives of bringing major activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture for focused attention and professional management; to improve production, processing, storage, transport and marketing of the products and culture fisheries; to generate substantial employment and to train and empower women in the fisheries sector.</li> <li>• National Scheme for Welfare of Fishers takes care of training and extension for fisher families.</li> <li>• Provision of small dredgers is covered under the scheme “Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations” with a fund allocation of Rs.32 crore.</li> <li>• Fish Farmer Development Agency and National Federation of Fishermen and Cooperatives Ltd. takes care of the Centralised services to support the decentralized capture and culture fisheries sector and also inland aquaculture by providing necessary space in ponds and reservoirs.</li> <li>• The management and economic use of EEZs is covered under NFDB’s mandate. This will benefit marine fishers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutions for training in “Fish for All” should be set up at district and block levels. ATMAs can be the nodal agency for this purpose. KVKs, progressive fish farmers, NGOs and other competent institutions should be assisted to build their capacity to enable them to impart such training, which may be certified / recognized through appropriate institutional mechanism like State Council for Vocational Training. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• Action plan to cover waterlogged areas in irrigated ayacuts and other potential areas should be prepared by the States with the help of FFDAs. Suitable guidelines may be issued to the States in this regard. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• A Comprehensive Model Fisheries Act may be formulated and circulated to the States for achieving fuller utilization of resources in the high seas as well as on land, handling of Inter-state matters relating to brackish water or fresh water culture fisheries, prohibition of capture of breeder and immature fish, restriction on jute netting, timber seasoning and polluting of water bodies, restriction on electric fishing and restrictions on maximum time of fishing, maximum volume of catch from common property water bodies and frame work for conversion of less productive agricultural land like waterlogged / saline lands to aqua culture bodies etc. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> </ul>

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7.	<p><b><u>Para 4.6 – Asset Reforms – Bioresources.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efforts will be made to conserve and enhance the Bioresources and to ensure their sustainable use with equitable sharing of benefits.</li> <li>• Implementation of PPVFR Act 2001 and Biological Diversity Act 2002 will be strengthened and guidelines developed to recognize the rights of farmers and farming community.</li> <li>• National Gene and Biodiversity Fund would be used to recognize and reward contributions of farmers.</li> <li>• The following measures would be promoted for conservation and development of bioresources:</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (a) Documentation of traditional knowledge through community biodiversity registers and support to tribal and rural people for revitalizing their in situ farm conservation traditions.</li> <li>• (b) Participatory breeding procedures for improving the productivity of land races and genetic engineers working in public institutions to perform the role of pre breeding in participatory breeding programmes with farmers. Pre breeding and participatory breeding to be integrated to help insulate small farmers from the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two major legislations as mentioned in the policy provision are already under implementation.</li> <li>• DAC had also established the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority in November, 2005, to enforce the provisions of the PPV&amp;FR Act. 12 crops were notified for registration under the Act.</li> <li>• Genetic Engineering of major cereals, pulses. Vegetables, oilseeds and fruit crops is currently underway mediated by ICAR Network Project on Transgenics, encompassing 21 institutions, 14 crops and agronomic traits such as resistance to biotic stresses and tolerance to Abiotic stresses. A new institute on Agricultural Biotechnology is proposed during Eleventh Plan.</li> <li>• Documentation of traditional knowledge has been compiled by DARE/ICAR under NATP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implementation of the two legislations i.e. Biological Diversity Act 2002 and PPV&amp;FR Act 2001 have to be strengthened and detailed guidelines may be developed. Awareness about the enactments through mass media and agricultural extension mechanism should be provided to cover the importance of bioresource conservation. <b><u>(Action: DAC and MOEF)</u></b></li> <li>• National Gene and Biodiversity Fund should be set up to be used, inter alia, to recognize and reward the farmers who are considered to be protectors of biodiversity. <b><u>(Action: DARE/ICAR)</u></b></li> <li>• Documentation of traditional knowledge should be ensured by PPVFR Authority. Action needs to be taken for the development of community biodiversity registers and for engagement of ICAR institutions and other NGOs in documentation of traditional knowledge. <b><u>(Action: DAC/ DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• Sensitization of farmers with the environmental concerns and balanced and conjunctive use of bio mass, organic and inorganic fertilizers and controlled use of agro chemicals (INM/ IPM) should be taken up more vigorously. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>

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	<p><i>risks of pest and disease epidemics.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>(c) Launch of literacy movement on genetic and legal aspects in specified areas.</i></li> <li>• <i>(d) Genome clubs will be encouraged in rural schools and colleges for imparting understanding on genetic resource conservation.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DARE/ICAR and DAC</u></b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of rural and urban garbage, innovative solution to waste reduction and re-cycling of agricultural and municipal organic wastes that can be composted may be given priority. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Training can be imparted by ICAR / KVKs. <b><u>(Action: DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• One Model Genome Club in each State should be set up to start with, with the support from RKVY. <b><u>(Action: DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• One institution under DAC may be given responsibility for protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities and harnessing them for sustainable agricultural growth. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>
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8.	<p><b><u>Para 4.7: Animal Genetic Resources.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A system of rewards and incentives to be developed to motivate people to conserve their breeds under Biological Diversity Act.</li> <li>• Government to recognize the livestock keepers' rights and acknowledge their contribution and adapt policies and legal frameworks to protect the same and to pre-empt attempts to use the intellectual property system to obtain control over animal resources.</li> <li>• Documentation of indigenous knowledge of pastoral communities about animal maintenance and breeding.</li> <li>• Community based conservation and development of indigenous livestock breeds and species to be encouraged.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of disease secure facilities for germ plasm and selection of disease resistant varieties.</li> <li>• AS Graduates, SHGs and progressive livestock farmers to be supported to maintain pedigree animals.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DARE/ICAR and DOAHD&amp;F</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICAR has already taken up a Network Project on Characterization and Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources of the country. Presently the project is in operation in 7 different locations, covering cattle, buffalo, goats and sheep breeds. In Eleventh Plan, 19 new units are proposed. To support the programme, there are 3 core labs assisting in molecular characterization of the germ plasm. The country report on animal genetic resources has also been prepared and sent to FAO which is part of the state of the World Animal Genetic Resources Report of FAO.</li> <li>• Some of the indigenous knowledge applied by the livestock rearers particularly on diseases control aspects has been documented through the ITK Project launched under NATP. A reviewed trust on documenting more such knowledge as well as validating the same is required across the country. Special biological and economically traits in the conserved livestock diseases have been documented. However, this should be a continuous process together with screening of the germ plasm for disease resistance quality.</li> <li>• In order to identify and protect the country's animal genetic resources, Genetic Cataloging of the breeds have been taken up. 84 of the known 140 breeds have already been genetically catalogued.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The system of rewards and incentives should be introduced on priority. Biodiversity Funds may be made available to DARE for strengthening the on-going research activities.</li> <li>• Animal Science graduates, SHGs and progressive livestock farmers should be encouraged and supported to maintain pedigree animals.</li> <li>• Evaluation of pedigree bulls used for artificial insemination of cattle for the quality of progeny, ranking and selection of superior quality breeding bulls should be taken up more vigorously. .</li> <li>• Livestock breeding policy at State level / National level may be evolved for increasing productivity of livestock and livestock products taking into account the need for preserving biodiversity.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Action for all the above points:</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>(Action: DARE/ICAR, DOAHD&amp;F and MOEF)</u></b></p>

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9.	<p><b><u>Para 5.1 – Support Services – Science &amp; Technology</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>New technologies which can help enhance productivity per unit of land and water are needed for overcoming the prevailing technology fatigue.</i></li> <li>• Frontier technologies like biotechnology, information and communication technology (ICT), renewable energy technologies, space applications and nano-technology provide opportunities for launching an “ever-green revolution” capable of improving productivity on a sustainable basis.</li> <li>• In order to ensure social inclusion in access to new technologies, public investment in socially relevant agricultural research should be stepped up under the umbrella of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) which comprises large numbers of ICAR institutions, State Agricultural Universities, All India Coordinated Research Projects and National Bureaus. NGO and private sector R &amp; D institutions should also be included under the NARS umbrella. NARS would be revamped and reoriented so as to effectively address the problems faced by small and marginal farmers.</li> <li>• Community managed Seed Villages and Seed Technology Training Centres are needed, with women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the recent past, there has been a rapid advancement in the development of space technology including IT, Remote Sensing, GIS, GPS, etc. which serve as a cost effective tool for collection of information relating to agricultural resources i.e. soil, land, water and crops over large areas for their efficient monitoring and management.</li> <li>• Remote sensing data is being utilized for crop growth monitoring, crop acreage and yield estimation, crop production forecasting, crop pests and disease management, identifying type of forest cover, detection of forest fire hazards, probable sites for forest plantations, assessment of forest biomass and habitat suitability analysis and management. It also covers flood and drought monitoring, disaster management, biosphere and biodiversity conservation studies.</li> <li>• Nano-technology has potential in enhancing resource use efficiency in terms of soil-water-nutrient-pesticide through development of suitable nano products and biocensors. Research initiatives in this direction are being made to harness the potential.</li> <li>• Recognizing the importance of the frontier technologies in enhancing productivity and quality in agriculture, emphasis has been provided in the higher agricultural education on these topics. Courses on these items have already been included in the under-graduate programmes. Restructuring of the Master’s and Doctoral programmes is under progress that will include due emphasis on all these frontier technologies.</li> <li>• DOBT is implementing various programmes to create varieties resistant / tolerant to various important biotic and abiotic stresses including bio fortification of staple food crops, keeping in view the recommendations of the Task Force. DOBT would develop programme for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As envisaged in the Document, “Eleventh Five Year Plan – Agriculture”, the strategy to accelerate agricultural growth to 4% per annum in the Eleventh Plan requires action, inter alia, on bringing technology to the farmers. It is necessary to prepare a long term vision envisaging synergy between SAUs / ICAR institutions with other relevant research funded by CSIR/ DOBT and MOES etc. especially to cope up with climate change from global warming. Immediate action points are: - priority in agriculture research should be given to strategic research; - research priorities have to shift towards evolving cropping systems suited to various agro climatic conditions and towards enhancing the yield potential in rainfed areas through development of drought and pest resistant remedies; - ICAR needs to restructure accordingly and to increase its accountability; - SAUs also need to be made more accountable and strengthened to develop, refine and promote location specific technologies. Their teaching capacity also requires to be strengthened.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DARE/ICAR, DOBT, MOES, CSIR, SAUs)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of biotechnology in agriculture should be promoted keeping in view the recommendations of the Task Force on Application of Biotechnology in Agriculture. DOBT programme to create varieties</li> </ul>

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	<p>playing the major role because of their traditional knowledge of seeds and seed management, especially in tribal communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Scientific literacy and removing doubts and fears about the risks and benefits associated with biotechnology and other new technologies can be done by the farmers selected in each Panchayat with provision of adequate training so as to enable them to serve as Farm Science Managers in their respective villages.</i></li> <li>• <i>For safe and responsible use of recombinant DNA technology or genetic engineering a National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority would be set up.</i></li> <li>• <i>Need based breeding of crop varieties would be stepped up such as fruits and vegetables of processing quality.</i></li> <li>• <i>High-level multi-disciplinary attention shall be paid for enhancing scientific inputs in organic farming and to meet the needs of farmers. Crop-livestock-fish integrated production systems offer scope for the adoption of the principles and methods of organic farming.</i></li> <li>• <i>In intensively cultivated mono-crop areas, crop diversification may be beneficial from the points of view of ecology, economics and employment generation. However, any advice on crop diversification</i></li> </ul>	<p>developing crops adapted to climatic changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As regards ICT in agricultural education and research, ICAR is contemplating to support e-connectivity, availability of online journals and needed infrastructural development. Development of e-courses in the degree programmes is envisaged. A digital library of Ph.D theses is being set up. The Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture is being set up at IARI, New Delhi. These provisions would promote the use of ICTs for both in Campus and off campus interactions, access to knowledge and library management.</li> <li>• The Eleventh Plan outlay of DARE/ICAR has been more than double compared to Tenth Plan. The recommendations of Mashelkar Committee and Swaminathan Committee have been taken into cognizance for revamping the agricultural research system.</li> <li>• The research focus during Eleventh Plan has been made to take into account the environmental factors, change in climate and organic farming. The small and marginal farming production systems have also received priority attention. Realizing the fact that technology is not gender neutral, ICAR is focusing on generation of technology which suit women farmers and also addressing gender concerns.</li> </ul>	<p>resistant to various climatic change should be intensified. Once such varieties are developed, DAC / DARE may take appropriate action for on-farm demonstrations of such varieties Research programmes for use of biotechnology for nutritional fortification may be taken up.</p> <p><b>(Action: DOBT/ DAC/ DARE)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NARS, Seed protection/ production agencies and private sector may be brought together in consortia for development of new varieties and for production of newly developed varieties. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• In view of the fact that overwhelming majority of the farmers use farm saved seeds, farmers are required to be trained in seed production, particularly for hybrid seeds, processing and storage technologies on a large scale. SAUs and KVKs should train progressive farmers in this regard. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Seed Village Programmes associating more women farmers and SHGs should be further expanded. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Long term research required to develop biotech crops for food security in the country should be given top most priority and ongoing programmes be strengthened. <b>(Action: DOBT, DARE/ ICAR )</b></li> </ul>

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	<p><i>must be accompanied by steps to ensure effective market support for the alternative crops. In planning for crop diversification, particularly from food to non-food crops, such as for the production of biofuels, the food security of the nation would be kept in view.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Intellectual Property Rights regime will make provision for compulsory licensing of rights in the cases of research products and processes of value to resource-poor farming families.</i></li> <li>• <i>In all cases of health and food security, social inclusion will be the guiding factor.</i></li> <li>• <i>Conservation farming in the heartland of Green Revolution and turning the Indo-Gangetic Plains into major bread basket through an appropriate mix of technology services and public policies would be given priority.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR/PC: DARE/ICAR, DOBT, DAC, MOES and CSIR</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICAR has already established Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each rural District of the country. The activities of KVKs include technology assessment and refinement through on-farm trials in order to identify the location specificity of technology under different farming systems, frontline demonstrations to establish the production potential of improved agricultural technology on the farmers' fields, training of farmers to update their knowledge and skills, and training extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development. KVKs have been targeted for e-connectivity to facilitate exchange of information and upgrade the technology. This facility will enable the farmers to get information quickly on new technologies.</li> <li>• Advances in biotechnology are having dramatic impact on agriculture production. In India, Bt. Cotton is an example due to which cotton output has been tremendously increased.</li> <li>• Department of Information Technology (DOIT) has already initiated various measures towards ICT infrastructure and initiatives at five levels i.e. National level, State level, Block level, Village level and Linkages with various National and International R&amp;D Institutes, organizations, networks, academic institutes etc.</li> <li>• The National Seed Research and Training Centre was set up by DAC to impart training to the personnel working in various seed development organizations and also to act as Central Seed Testing Laboratory.</li> <li>• A Centrally Sponsored Scheme i.e. "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds" is under implementation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of quality seeds and its distribution and exchange at community level needs to be intensified under the schemes like Seed Village and other ongoing schemes/programmes of DAC. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Blue print for conservation farming in States of Punjab, Haryana and Western U.P. should be prepared in consultation with the concerned State Governments. Sustainable agricultural practices keeping in view the limitations of natural resources and needs for monitoring soil fertility and water conservation should be suitably incorporated. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Where the existing land and water do not optimally support production of foodgrains, such areas should be diversified with horticulture including floriculture and fodder for livestock etc. as would be feasible. Such lands for diversified cropping should be identified in consultation with the State Governments. <b>(Action: DAC, M/o Textiles and CSIR)</b></li> <li>• As regards crop diversification, to provide further impetus to the efforts, policy initiatives like assurance for procurement of produce, fixing MSPs, creation of post harvest and value addition opportunities should be taken up. However, concerns of food security have to be kept in view while planning for diversification. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> </ul>



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seed Village Programme has also been implemented. 13, 213 such seed villages were organized in various States.</li> <li>• The CSS provided specific targets fixed for women farmers under three specific components of the scheme i.e. Seed Village Scheme, Quality Control Arrangements on Seeds and Use of Biotechnology in Agriculture – Public Awareness Campaign.</li> <li>• DOBT is in the process of establishing the National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority to provide a single window clearance mechanism for genetically modified organisms, engineered products and processes. DOBT is presently preparing a new legislation in this regard.</li> <li>• DOBT has ongoing programmes on development of improved priority crops i.e. potato, okra, onion, brinjal and tomato.</li> <li>• Need based breeding of crop varieties including suitable for processing quality fruits and vegetables has been incorporated in research agenda by ICAR.</li> <li>• DOBT has supported a number of R&amp;D projects to develop packages for biofertilisers and biopesticides and their demonstrations in farmers' field. In addition, the Department is formulating two network projects on Integrated Nutrient Management on Plantation Crops and on development of Microorganisms Consortium for use as biofertilisers in various crops and cropping systems.</li> <li>• DOBT is also giving due focus on the development and standardization of cost effective and commercially viable mass production technologies of biopesticides.</li> <li>• Presently ICAR has two Network Projects on Organic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibility for exploring production of high value hybrid rice in rice growing bowls of the country may be initiated. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Region specific and result oriented research strategy based on agro-climatic zones may be developed to improve productivity in a sustainable manner with emphasis on location specific and economically viable improved varieties of agricultural and horticultural crops, livestock species and aqua culture. Conservation and judicious use of germ plasm and other bio-diversity resources should be ensured. <b>(Action: DARE/ICAR)</b></li> <li>• A network of ICAR multi-disciplinary Task Forces to develop all inclusive futuristic research agenda for different regions of the country on a continuous basis should be set up. <b>(Action: DARE)</b></li> <li>• Development of human resources through capacity building and skill upgradation of extension functionaries should be taken up on priority basis by SAUs/KVKs. Upgradation of training infrastructure for this purpose should be considered under RKVY and other innovative projects. <b>(Action: DARE/DAC)</b></li> </ul>

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		<p>Farming going on in 13 locations of different agro-ecological regions and research activities are conducted on diversified use of productive input in major cropping systems of the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crop diversification: Bamboo based Agro Forestry practices are being promoted by National Bamboo Mission in intensively and extensively cultivated mono crop areas. NHM and TMNE are being implemented.</li> <li>• Crop diversification: National Food Security Mission's objective is to increase the production and productivity of rice, wheat and pulses in a sustainable basis in the districts which have high potential but relatively low level of productivity performance at present.</li> <li>• Crop diversification: Research is being promoted through All India Coordinated Research Projects on Cropping Systems Research and Dryland Agriculture. Some of the ecologically sustainable and efficient cropping patterns for different States have already been suggested.</li> <li>• As regards intellectual property rights, the Patents Acts 1970 and PPVFR Act 2001 have elaborate provisions for compulsory licensing of intellectual property in the case of invention and plant varieties respectively. This will help the farmers in having access to the product and processes suitable for their regions / farming systems in sufficient quantity and reasonable price. ICAR through its IP Management and Guidelines has already made it clear that it may put its proprietary technologies in the public domain as and when required in national and public interest to meet specific needs of Indian agriculture and farmers.</li> <li>• The resource conservation technologies like zero tillage, raised bed planting, precious farming, laser leveling, site</li> </ul>	
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		<p>specific nutrient management etc. are presently include din different productive systems to increase the input use efficiency, productivity and improvement of soil health. These technologies are cost effective, eco-friendly and save water, nutrients and energy requirements to a great extent.</p>	
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10.	<p><b><u>Para 5.2 – Support Services – Agricultural Biosecurity.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Integrated National Agricultural Biosecurity System (NABS) covering crops, animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry and agriculturally relevant microorganisms, will be established.</li> <li>• The objectives of NABS are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (a) Effective and integrated surveillance, vigilance, prevention and control mechanisms designed to protect the productivity and safety of crops, farm animals, fishes and forestries;</li> <li>• (b) Introduction of Integrated Biosecurity Package comprising regulatory measures, education, improved sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures and social mobilization.</li> <li>• (c) Organised integrated national agricultural Biosecurity programme with effective quarantine facilities for insulating the major agro-ecological and farming system zones from invading alien species of pests, pathogens and weeds and genetically modified organisms.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR/PC: DAC, DOAHD&amp;F and DARE</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Biosecurity covers crops, plants and trees, and farm and aquatic animals. The subject covers protection and safety of flora and fauna including breeds, conservation of genetic resources, quarantine and health care, protection from pests and pathogens, use of organic manures and biofertilisers, improved sanitary and phyto sanitary measures etc. The policy provides for establishment of NABS covering agricultural Biosecurity as a whole.</li> <li>• <b><u>Action already implemented in respect of agricultural Biosecurity:</u></b></li> <li>• Various schemes are being implemented in the area of plant protection through the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine &amp; Storage, Central Integrated Pest Management Centres, Plant Quarantine Stations etc. with the objective of ensuring agricultural Biosecurity, food security and trade security. Standards for pest risk analysis, guidelines for certification of SPS measures and Plant Quarantine Order 2003 are certain pro-active measures taken by DAC.</li> <li>• The schemes implemented are: “Strengthening &amp; Modernisation of Pest Management Approach in India”, “Strengthening and Modernisation of Plant Quarantine Facilities in India” and “Monitoring of Pesticides Residues at National Level”.</li> <li>• These schemes cover the major thrust areas of plant protection i.e. promotion of integrated pest management, strengthening of quarantine measures and infrastructure for preventing the entry of exotic pests, weeds and diseases, facilitating export of pest free agri products/ commodities, introduction of plant material of new high yielding crops, human resource development in plant protection skills and monitoring of pesticides residue levels.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action should be initiated to have an autonomous authority to monitor and implement National Agricultural Biosecurity System, covering crops, livestock, fisheries etc. One competent ICAR institution may be designated to provide institutional and technical support to the proposed authority. <b><u>(Action: DAC/ DARE/ICAR/ DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• Animal quarantine facilities at land route borders should be strengthened.. ICAR indicated that the quarantine stations are also ill equipped to even undertake basic testing of materials. This should be appropriately strengthened and modernized. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• ICAR indicated that the amendments to the existing Livestock Importation Act need to be undertaken on priority basis so as to prevent ingress of exotic diseases and ensure effective check against the spread of infections / diseases as per the regulations of the Office of International des Epizooties (OIE). <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• After the Avian influenza outbreak, there should be more containment laboratories in strategic locations considering the geographic requirements for effective diagnosis and control of animal diseases. Other facilities / steps including disease surveillance required to prevent spread of such deadly diseases may also be put in place on priority. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During Eleventh Plan, several new initiatives are proposed to be implemented on plant protection, integrated pest management, plant quarantine etc. by DAC.</li> <li>• DOAHD had implemented various schemes and programmes to ensure Biosecurity of land and aquatic animals including their protection, breeds, health care and quarantine, through Central Livestock Organizations and Allied Institutions, Central Cattle Breeding Farms, National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding, National Project for Improvement of Poultry and Small Animals, Livestock Health and Disease Control, National Project on Rinderpest Eradication, Network of Polyclinics/veterinary hospitals and dispensaries, diagnostic laboratories, Livestock Insurance, Animal Quarantine and Certification Services, National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centres, National Fisheries Development Board in respect of fisheries etc.</li> <li>• ICAR is seized with the matter of agricultural biosecurity of the country. National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources has been solely responsible for being watchdog of entry of invasive organisms and their alien species in research materials and germplasm imports.</li> <li>• ICAR, being aware of the threat from invasive species that are expected to cause extensive calamities for Indian agriculture, suitable research in these areas has already been put in place for being prepared to face calamities as and when they arise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In view of increasing aquaculture production and diversification, it is likely that there is going to be a greater demand for introduction of exotic fish and shell fish species both for food fish and ornamental fish production. It is, therefore, necessary to develop a biosecurity system for assessment of risks and certified movement of aquatic animals in the regions. While guidelines for introduction of exotic species have been prepared, there is a need to put the quarantine system in place at least in important places of entry. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F/DARE/ ICAR)</u></b></li> <li>• Capacity building and development of human resources for biosecurity is important. For that purpose existing training institutions under DAC and ICAR should be strengthened. <b><u>(Action : DAC/DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• Flow of information and surveillance of pest and livestock diseases should be strengthened / improved. <b><u>(Action: DAC/DARE/ DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> <li>• Agri-clinics should be associated in popularizing IPM / INM techniques, bio-pesticides and natural pesticides etc. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Drive for pre-sowing treatment of seeds should be strengthened further. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>
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11.	<p><b><u>Para 5.3 – Support Services – Agro Meteorology</u></b></p> <p><i>The national capacity in short, medium and long-term weather forecasting is considerable. Generic information about weather has to be translated into location- specific land use advice, based on cropping patterns and water availability. The Agro-meteorological Advisories issues (from time to time by Indian Agromet Advisory Service Centre, Pune), would be used by Panchayat level functionaries, trained to give appropriate land use suggestions to farmers with least possible time lag.</i></p> <p><i>In the case of marine fisheries, data on wave heights and location of fish shoals available would be transmitted to the fishermen using frontline technologies such as Internet-FM /HAM radio services would be very helpful to fishermen on the high seas.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR/PC: DAC and MOES</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAC has initiated a project on “Agricultural Output Using Space, Agro-Meteorology and Land Based Observations” (FASAL). It envisages the use of improved techniques to make multiple early in-season forecast of production of major crops at National and State levels.</li> <li>• Indian Meteorological Department issues Agromet Advisory Bulletin at three levels – at the agro-climatic zone level, the bulletins are issued by the Agromet Field Units located at SAUs or ICAR Institutes; at the State level by the Agromet Advisory Centres of IMD and at the National level by the Agrimet Division of IMD.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FASAL project should be implemented expeditiously. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Districts/ sub-district level meteorological forecasting should be developed by IMD so that it can be more useful for farmers. <b><u>(Action: MOES/ DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>

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12.	<p><b><u>Para 5.4 – Support Services – Climate Changes</u></b></p> <p><i>Proactive measures to reduce the vulnerability to climate change will be taken. Based on simulation models, contingency plans and alternative land and water use strategies will be developed for each major agro-climatic zone. In drought and flood prone areas, experienced farmers would be trained as “Climate Managers”, in the art of managing drought, flood and aberrant monsoons.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DARE/DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livestock research on adverse climatic conditions is difficult to implement. But many indigenous breeds of livestock have such properties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of farmers and willing elected representatives of Panchayats in managing adverse conditions like drought, flood and deficiencies in rainfall etc. should be undertaken.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/ DARE)</u></b></p>

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13.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(A): Seeds</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Good quality seeds and disease free planting material are essential for crop productivity and security.</i></li> <li>• <i>In case of new varieties, foundation seeds would be provided to grass root level seed growers and their groups.</i></li> <li>• <i>Mutually beneficial farmer-seed company partnerships will be encouraged. Agri Universities to organize courses on seed technology and business and mainstream business principles in all applied courses.</i></li> <li>• <i>A National Seed Grid will be established to ensure supply of seeds across the country as per area specific requirement.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR :DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICAR is implementing a project “Seed Production in Agricultural Crops and Fisheries”. The project is being implemented at 85 centres / nodes of SAUs / CAU/ ICAR institutions etc. The objectives are to strengthen capacity for improved seed production, enhance seed quality of different crops, to undertake rapid multiplication and sapling production and to train trainers and seed producers in case of crops, horticultural crops and fisheries.</li> <li>• The National Seed Research and Training Centre (NSRTC) has been operationalised at Varanasi to impart training to the personnel working in various seed development organizations and also to act as Central Seed Testing Laboratory.</li> <li>• The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Act 2001 was enacted. PPV&amp;FR Authority was also established.</li> <li>• A Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds” has been implemented by DAC.</li> <li>• Seed Village Programme was undertaken.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Model guidelines on farmer-seed company partnership keeping in view model rule for contract farming should be prepared and circulated for consideration of State Governments. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• A National Seed Grid should be established to ensure timely supply of seeds, especially to areas affected by natural calamities. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Use of hybrids and coverage under hybrids should be expanded significantly and given high priority under ongoing schemes. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• The strategy for Eleventh Plan emphasizes the need to ensure adequate and timely supply of quality seeds. The seed production and distribution system must be revamped by strengthening public sector seed agencies and by involving private trade in seed multiplication and distribution system. States must simultaneously strengthen their systems to check quality of seeds by expanding testing facilities for seeds. Appropriate guidelines may be issued to the States. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>



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14.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(B): Soil health:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil health enhancement holds the key to raise farm productivity. Each farmer will be issued a soil health passbook containing information on the physics, chemistry and micro biology of farm soils with corresponding advisories.</li> <li>• More laboratories to detect specific micro nutrient deficiencies in soils will be established.</li> <li>• Soil organic matter would be increased by incorporating crop residues in the soil.</li> <li>• Proper technical advice on the reclamation of wastelands and on improving their biological potential will be made available.</li> <li>• Fertilizer pricing policies will be reviewed to promote balanced use of fertilizers.</li> <li>• Agro forestry will be encouraged for efficient nutrient cycling, nitrogen fixation, organic matter addition and for improving drainage.</li> <li>• Production and marketing mechanism for biofertilisers, organic manures etc. will be put in place.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the programmes of Watershed Management of DAC, such as NWDPPRA, RVP &amp; FPR, WDPSCA, the Soil Health Cards are ensured for each beneficiary.</li> <li>• Under the above programmes, thrust is also being given for enhancing soil organic matter, agro-forestry and cropping systems for increasing nitrogen fixation.</li> <li>• For reclamation of alkali soils, there is a Central programme for Reclamation of Alkali Soils funded under MMA.</li> <li>• DAC is implementing a scheme on “Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers” which is presently under MMA. DAC has now proposed a new CSS “National Project on Promotion of Balanced Use of Fertilisers” to promote balanced use of fertilizers in a holistic manner by encompassing all critical areas and constraints like strengthening of soil testing facilities through setting up of new soil testing laboratories etc., promoting use of organic manures/ green manures and micronutrients, promoting use of soil amendments in acidic / sodic soils for improving their fertility status and strengthening of central and state fertilizer quality control laboratories.</li> <li>• A Group of Ministers has been constituted by the Government under AM to consider various issues regarding the sustainable use of fertilizers, pertinent subsidy and other pricing issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue of soil health passbooks with soil testing advisory may be ensured first in the districts where adequate soil testing facilities are already available or would be available. As per the soil testing results, soil maps at district level should be prepared and updated regularly. <b><u>(Action DAC).</u></b></li> <li>• Agencies at the National level to promote agro forestry in comparatively low productive agricultural land may be designated and suitable guidelines to States in this regard may be developed. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Agri clinics and agro service centres may be assisted to have soil testing and input testing facilities as far as possible. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• All KVKs may be provided with soil testing facilities. <b><u>(Action: DARE/DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Soil health awareness should be promoted through a credible system of soil testing and of advice on nutrient needs based on soil test extension and farming. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Production and usage of fortified /coated fertilizers, manufacture and use of fertilizers amenable to fertigation and biofertilisers should be encouraged. <b><u>(Action: DOF)</u></b></li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of sulphur as a subsidized nutrient under the subsidy regime may be considered. <b>(Action: DOF)</b></li> <li>• Uniform freight subsidy regime for all subsidized fertilizers may be considered. <b>(Action: DOF)</b></li> <li>• Nutrient based pricing of fertilizers and encouraging fertilizers with balanced nutrients to maintain soil health may be considered. <b>(Action: DOF)</b></li> <li>• New products including biofertilisers should be included in the subsidy regime. <b>(Action: DOF)</b></li> <li>• Production of SSP by linking subsidy to input price should be encouraged. <b>(Action: DOF)</b></li> <li>• Monitoring of planned movement of fertilizers through fertilizer based Monitoring System upto the Block level should be ensured. <b>(Action: DOF)</b></li> </ul>
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15.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(C): Pesticides.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Development, introduction and diffusion of environmentally safe and effective pesticides will be given priority.</i></li> <li><i>There is a need for incorporating the use of chemical pesticides in IPM system.</i></li> <li><i>Suitable quality control, safety evaluation and other regulatory systems would be strengthened.</i></li> <li><i>The sale of spurious and sub-standard pesticides would be prevented and bio-pesticides would be promoted.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The schemes implemented by DAC presently are “Strengthening and Modernisation of the Pest Management Approach in India” and “Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National level”. The major thrust areas of these schemes are promotion of Integrated Pest Management, ensuring availability of safe and quality pesticides for sustaining crop production and promoting creation of pesticide testing infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrangements for analyzing pest residues in agricultural produce in the markets selected at random to monitor quality / safety may be made by States. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>States may be advised to incorporate plans for pesticide quality infrastructure and the funds provided to them under MMA and RKVY. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>
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16.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(D): Implements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Farmers need region and crop specific machines and implements for timely sowing, management of weeds and improving post harvest operations.</i></li> <li>• <i>Women farmers especially need women friendly implements/ tools.</i></li> <li>• <i>Agri entrepreneurs and farm graduates and progressive farmers would be encouraged to provide implements and tools, machinery, tractors and other farm implements on a custom-hire basis.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAC conducted a study relating to formulating a long term mechanization strategy for each agro climatic zone/state through ICAR, covering all aspects of agricultural mechanization including post harvest. The final report has already been sent to all States for implementation of the strategies identified for their respective agro-climatic zone.</li> <li>• DAC is also implementing a CSS “Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training, Testing and Demonstration”.</li> <li>• Towards promotion of agricultural mechanization, Farm Machinery Training &amp; Testing Institutes (FMTTIs) have already been set up at various places. These institutes are engaged in developing human resource for agricultural mechanization, analysis of performance characteristics of agricultural implements for improvement in quality. Further, the institutes are conducting different types of training programmes in the selection, operation, repair/ maintenance and management of farm machinery.</li> <li>• With the objective of induction of improved and new technology in the agricultural production system, demonstration of newly developed agricultural equipment has been undertaken.</li> <li>• In order to make available various agricultural implements and machines at cheaper rates, assistance in the form of subsidy is available to all farmers for purchase of agricultural equipment under MMA.</li> <li>• A number of agricultural implements and hand tools suitable for farm women have been developed by R&amp;D Organizations under ICAR.</li> <li>• States have been asked to earmark 5-10% of their allocation for distribution of gender friendly equipment/ tools through Government assistance.</li> <li>• Establishment of Farm Machinery Banks under MMA through State Work Plans has been proposed to custom hire machines not affordable to the target group of small and marginal farmers.</li> </ul> <p>DAC is also supporting the SHGs to operate agri-business of farm implements for custom hire by providing them subsidy under MMA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steps taken for development of women friendly implements / tools be reviewed and guidelines to State Governments to ensure development and greater use of these implements should be issued. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• The implements like rotavators be popularized through training and demonstration in KVKs and agri-clinics/ service centres. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>
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17.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(E) : Vaccines and Sero- diagnostics</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Gaps in the available facilities would be filled in the case of important animal diseases. Biotechnology research in the area of vaccine development would be stepped up.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DARE and DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOBT launched several R&amp;D projects for development of veterinary vaccines and diagnostics.</li> <li>• Efforts during the Tenth Plan resulted in development of technologies for anthrax vaccine and the same was transferred to private industries. Trials are on going.</li> <li>• Currently emphasis in animal vaccines has shifted from basic biological research to product development. Priorities for development of product and processes animal health related R&amp;D projects have been formulated. The specific areas include development of new and improved vaccines for various animal and plant diseases.</li> <li>• Biotechnology research in the area of vaccine development is already on going at IVRI. A software named NADRES has also been developed to predict the occurrence of 10 major diseases of livestock and poultry and forewarn the vaccine needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action to strengthen production facilities for vaccines for livestock may be taken. <b><u>(Action: DARE)</u></b></li> <li>• Steps should be taken to improve the infrastructure for vaccine production. <b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></li> </ul>

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18.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(F): fish seed and feed.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Good quality and disease-free fish seed and feed at affordable prices. Fishermen and their groups would be trained.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DOAHD&amp;F</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is already covered under the mandate of NFDB.</li> <li>• Special project has been launched by ICAR to produce good quality seed of fish. Training of progressive fishermen and their groups is in-built component of the project.</li> <li>• Research is also in progress to develop concerned feed for fish.</li> <li>• These issues are also covered under the CSS of DOAHD “Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture”.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to train para veterinarians in service delivery mechanisms to consolidate desired growth in livestock sector. States may be suitably advised.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F in consultation with DARE/ ICAR)</u></b></p>

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19.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(G) : animal feed.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Both conventional and non-conventional approaches for conversion of cellulosic wastes into good animal feed, planting of nutrition rich fodder plants and dissemination of technologies would be encouraged.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DOAHD&amp;F</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning Commission has dropped the component of “Enrichment of Straw and Cellulosic wastes” since 2005.</li> <li>Bio-availability of nutrients in different fodder crops has been assessed by ICAR. Agro-climatic zone-wise mineral mapping has also been completed and this has helped in supplementing deficit minerals both for production enhancement and combating nutrition related disorders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programmes/schemes to enrich agricultural wastes to quality feed material for livestock should be augmented and strengthened. State Governments can utilize existing schemes of DAC / DOAHD like RKVY. Appropriate guidelines may be issued to the States in this regard.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/ DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></p>

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20.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(H) : Other Essential Support</u></b> <b><u>Services.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genetic evaluation systems for indigenous breeds as well as crosses to be established.</li> <li>• Upgrading of breed through artificial insemination.</li> <li>• Cross breeding suited to the farmers resources.</li> <li>• Improved processing and marketing.</li> <li>• A cadre of para- vetrarians to be trained to set up support service centres for the farmers to promote early detection and treatment of diseases and other veterinary services.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DOAHD&amp;F</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding under DOAHD.</li> <li>• For the cross breeding to suit the farmers' resources, States were requested to formulate breeding plans.</li> <li>• For the door step delivery of AI/breeding services, provisions made for training professionals, veterinarians existing AI workers and induction of private AI workers.</li> <li>• Human resource in the area of marker-assisted selection for faster genetic improvement has been planned together with concurrent steps to apply this tool in cattle and buffalo.</li> <li>• Upgrading of important buffalo breeds has been taken up.</li> <li>• Processing, value addition and packing of various milk, meat, egg and wool products has been carried out and in some cases the technologies have been passed to industries.</li> <li>• Work on SPS measures / clean meat, milk and egg production has been initiated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New facilities for genetic evaluation of indigenous livestock breeds should be created and existing facilities be strengthened.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DOAHD&amp;F)</u></b></p>



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21.	<p align="center"><b><u>Para 5.5</u></b> <b><u>Inputs &amp; Services –</u></b> <b><u>(I) : Support services for women empowerment.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women working in farms need appropriate support services like crèches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training etc.</li> <li>• For funding, existing schemes of MORD, MOPR and MOA would be augmented and utilized and new schemes to be introduced if required.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC, DORD, MOPR</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NREGA provides for special provisions for women farmers including provision of one woman deputy to look after the children below the age of 6 years accompanying women workers and for free medical treatment and ex-gratia payment in certain contingencies like death of the woman worker or her child.</li> <li>• Integrated Child Development Scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, which promotes child development through converging basic services for improved child care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provisions should be made under the programmes like NREGA, ICDS for providing child care centres including crèches, nutrition and health care of women farmers and other women centric requirements like training of women should be considered. <b><u>(Action: MORD/ MOWCD)</u></b></li> <li>• Training of adequate number of women farmers in all training programmes under DAC, DOAHD&amp;F and DARE may be ensured. <b><u>(Action: DAC/DOAHD&amp;F/DARE)</u></b></li> </ul>
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22.	<p><b><u>Para 5.6 - CREDIT AND INSURANCE</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement in the outreach and efficiency of the rural banking system.</li> <li>• Adequate and easy reach of credit to the farmers at reasonable interest rates.</li> <li>• Financial inclusion.</li> <li>• Extensive coverage of farmers under Kisan Credit Card Scheme.</li> <li>• Micro credit and micro insurance to be promoted.</li> <li>• NABARD to facilitate convergence between credit availability and credit absorptive capacity of farmers and for efficient credit delivery system.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC, MOF/NABARD</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An exclusive network of nationalised / commercial bank branches, regional rural banks, cooperative banks, cooperative credit societies and NABARD spread in the rural areas to provide easy access of credit to the rural population.</li> <li>• Farmers now receive short-term credit upto Rs.3 lakh at an interest rate of 7% per annum.</li> <li>• Several steps have been taken to ensure timely and sufficient credit to the farm sector.</li> <li>• <b>A total loan waiver scheme to the extent of Rs.60,000 crore has been announced in the Budget for 2008-09.</b></li> <li>• Several recommendations of the Vyas Committee were accepted and communicated to Banks for implementation.</li> <li>• Loans upto Rs.50,000 for agriculture and upto Rs. 5 lakh for agri-clinics and agri-business are provided without any collateral security.</li> <li>• Banks are advised to make available basic banking “no frills” account with either Nil or very low minimum balances and charges and also to provide account holders with a small over draft facility.</li> <li>• Kisan Credit Card Scheme was introduced covering term credit as well as working capital for agriculture and allied activities and a reasonable component for consumption needs. The latest version of KCC includes provision for crop loan and general consumption also. Further, a general credit card system introduced to provide loan upto Rs.25,000 for entire rural population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action should be taken by MOF, NABARD and RBI by analysing the problem of credit delivery at State level and issuing appropriate guidelines to remove bottlenecks, if any and improve the existing mechanism to ensure an efficient and better delivery system of credit.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: MOF/ RBI/ NABARD).</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kisan Credit Card may have a component to take care of the long term investment needs of farmer for undertaking soil enrichment / land development or micro irrigation/ irrigation development and also for setting up of enterprises creating non farm employment opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/ MOF)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While assessing Banks’ performance in providing credit to farmers, the number of farmers / accounts covered should also be a criteria.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/ MOF)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective credit guarantee insurance scheme for agriculture and allied sectors may be put in place to take care of genuine cases of enterprise failure to relieve the affected farmers from the burden of loan.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/ MOF)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credit counseling centres may be set up in each block and bank branches to</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reforms in respect of credit cooperatives as per Vaidyanathan Committee recommendations.</li>   <li>• Agricultural Insurance including NAIS.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The credit flow in the year 2006-07 (as on 31.3.2007) rose to Rs.2,03,297 crores from Rs.86,981 crore in 2003-04. A target of Rs.2, 25,000 crores has been fixed for the year 2007-08.</li> <li>• In order to improve the access of the farmers to institutional credit, Government approved a package for revival of short-term cooperative credit structure at an estimated expenditure of about Rs.13,596 crore.</li> <li>• Reschedulement / restructuring of arrears under agriculture credit package.</li> <li>• Benefits of credit under rehabilitation package in 31 districts.</li> <li>• Facility of training and capacity building by NABARD.</li>   <li>• Based on the consensus arrived at with the State Governments and other stakeholders on the recommendations made by the Task Force, Government has approved the package of revival of the short term rural cooperative credit structure involving financial assistance of Rs.13,506 crore.</li>   <li>• NAIS has already been implemented. The modified NAIS is under consideration of the Government. Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme is under implementation on a pilot basis.</li> </ul>	<p>counsel and advise the indebted farmers and to assess the credit needs of farmers in a holistic manner. Such Counseling Centres may be set up at each branch level. District and Block Panchayats may oversee / monitor functioning of credit counseling centres. <b>(Action: MOF/NABARD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to extend all insurance facilities made available by Government for farmers at the time of sanctioning KCCs or agricultural credit by Bank branches to improve the risk mitigation for farmers. <b>(Action: MOF)</b></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Credit and Insurance literacy to promote awareness among farmers.</i></li> <li>• <i>Credit counseling centers to be established.</i></li>   <li>• <i>KCC to women farmers.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR/PC for entire Para 5.6: DAC, MOF and NABARD, States</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RBI had already instructed the SLBCs conveners to set up financial literacy-cum-credit counseling centres on a pilot basis. Based on the experience gained, lead banks in the States would be asked to establish such centres.</li>   <li>• As per RBI, KCCs are issued to all eligible farmers irrespective of gender.</li> </ul>	<p>ATMA scheme may incorporate training on credit and insurance aspects also. Such counseling centres may be set up at each branch level. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p> <p>Specific target for KCC to women farmers and women SHGs may be given by MOF. <b><u>(Action: MOF)</u></b></p> <p>NABARD may consider direct lending to PRIs, NGOs and selected private sector units and popularize model schemes like agri clinics, enterprises and contract farming. RIDF can be used for this purpose. NABARD should promote sector wise pro-active plans to improve productivity in agriculture and rural development activities. <b><u>(Action: MOF, NABARD)</u></b></p>
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			<p>New categories of micro borrower accounts with loan upto much less than the existing small borrowers limit of Rs.2 lakhs may be introduced by NABARD to monitor credit flows to poorer sections of the population. <b>(Action: MOF/NABARD)</b></p> <p>Incentives for regular repayment of bank loans by farmers should be created by enhancing credit limit under KCCs, extending study loans, providing skill development training or by other suitable mechanisms. <b>(Action: MOF)</b></p> <p>Elected Panchayat members including women members should be imparted training on how to identify, initiate and implement credit worthy projects in agriculture and allied sectors and non-farm sectors. <b>(Action: DAC/MOPR)</b></p> <p>Banks may take pro-active steps to educate and empower the borrowers through workshops, seminars, community meetings, training programmes and promoting and encouraging SHGs so as to enhance productivity continuously. <b>(Action: MOF/NABARD)</b></p> <p>Performance criteria for NABARD and Banks including cooperative banks should include number of successful agricultural polyclinics and information centres / agricultural enterprises set up and created. <b>(Action: MOF/NABARD)</b></p>

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23.	<p><b><u>Para 5.7 – Cooperatives</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cooperatives should function as economic enterprises and not as an extended arm of the State. They require entrepreneurial approach, gather competitive edge through suitable enterprise focus and form suitable strategic alliances with private and public sector units. Appropriate mechanism would be put in place for farmers to have greater control of the market channels and improve profit opportunities through cooperatives &amp; SHGs.</i></li> <li>• <i>The policy and legal framework under which cooperatives are functioning would be reviewed so as to create an enabling environment for them to attain autonomy and run their operations in business-like fashion subject to provision of law. The management of the cooperatives needs to be made professionally competent, with clear demarcation of functions of the elected members and the managers. The audit and accounting systems would be improved and made transparent so as to give greater confidence to all the members of cooperatives.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the consensus arrived at with the State Governments and other stakeholders on the recommendations made by the Task Force, Government has approved the package of revival of the short term rural cooperative credit structure involving financial assistance of Rs.13,506 crore.</li> <li>• DAC is implementing various schemes and programmes to promote cooperatives like cooperative education and training, cooperative development programmes through NCD, integrated cooperative development projects, strengthening of national level cooperative federations, etc.</li> <li>• To revitalize cooperatives, the Constitution (106<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bill 2006 was introduced in Lok Sabha seeking to make the functioning of cooperatives autonomous, democratic and professional in nature.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal for the amendment of the Constitution for revitalizing cooperative sector may be expedited. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Implementation of Vaidyanathan Committee Recommendations for revival of short term and medium term cooperative credit structure may be reviewed and steps taken to streamline this process accounting for delay in revival of cooperatives. <b><u>(Action: MOF/ DAC/NABARD)</u></b></li> <li>• All States must act urgently to implement the Vaidyanathan Committee Recommendations. Monitorable deadlines may be set to meet the required commitments. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Federations/cooperatives of SHGs at Block and district level for important crops / products may be encouraged. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Model guidelines should be issued for agricultural cooperatives / federations of SHGs to enter into strategic alliances with private and public sector organizations for marketing, value addition and other forward linkage activities. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Training programme be conducted for elected members of cooperatives to improve productivity and efficiency. <b><u>(Action : DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>

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24.	<p><b><u>Para 5.8 – Extension, Training &amp; Knowledge Connectivity</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a growing gap between scientific know-how and field level do-how. This knowledge deficit would be overcome speedily to enhance the farm productivity and profitability.</li> <li>• <i>Krishi Vigyan Kendras would take up training and lab to land demonstrations in the area of post-harvest technology, agro-processing and value addition to primary products to provide skilled jobs in villages.</i></li> <li>• <i>State Governments would be supported for strengthening the extension machinery through retraining and retooling of existing extension personnel and for promoting farmer to farmer learning by setting up Farm Schools in the fields of outstanding farmers. The Farm Schools with linkages to KVK can speed up the process of technological upgradation of crop and animal husbandry, fisheries and agro-forestry.</i></li> <li>• <i>Efforts will be made to bring farmers, processors, retailers and other stakeholders together to support modern agricultural practices. Convergence of extension efforts especially at the district level and below would be ensured.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A CSS “Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms” has been launched with the objective to support the States in revitalizing the extension system by promoting new institutional arrangement for technology dissemination in the form of ATMA at the district level.</li> <li>• Extension Reforms Scheme has several provisions for the benefit of the farmers like financial assistance to organize Farmers’ Organisations, for training and demonstrations on the fields of farmers, farmer to farmer dissemination at demonstration plot etc.</li> <li>• Some new provisions have also been included now in the Extension Reforms Scheme, inter alia, Farm Schools in the fields of outstanding farmers, farmer to farmer extension support, funding windows at State and District levels for implementing innovative extension activities, farmers’ awards and Community Radio Stations to be set up by KVKs etc.</li> <li>• Vocational training with a view to create a world class skilled labour force has been implemented. Training courses are offered to a network of ITIs and ITCs located all over the country.</li> <li>• A Mission on Vocational Education and Skill Development would be launched soon. As a result of which over 1 crore students will receive vocational training which would be a four-fold increase from the current level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Farm schools with linkage with agri-clinics and agri-business centres as well as KVKs / ATMAs may be encouraged by issuing suitable guidelines and targets to States. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Training of trainers should be more systematically organised by MANAGE. Regional centres of MANAGE may also be considered to improve performance in this regard. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Number of farmers covered under skill based training programmes should be substantially stepped up. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Nationwide Sustainable Natural Resource Inspection and Safeguard Extension (SUNRISE) Programme may be initiated to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading and socially acceptable solution to natural resource management. Inter-disciplinary teams to promote this may be constituted with resource support from SAUs / MANAGE. <b>(Action: DAC/DORD)</b></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential of ICT would be harnessed by establishing “Gyan Chaupals” (Village Knowledge Centres) in villages. Further, Common Service Centre of the Department of Information Technology, Government of India and those set up by State Government and private initiative programmes will be evolved for inclusive and broad-based development.</li> <li>• Thus, the structure of the ICT based knowledge system would, inter alia, include setting up of such village Centres. Last mile and the last person connectivity would be accomplished with the help of technologies such as broadband Internet, community radio, or internet-mobile phone synergies.</li> <li>• Empowering farmers with the right information at the right time and place is essential for improving the efficiency and economics of small and marginal holdings. Mass media, particularly the radio, television and local language newspapers, will be used to play an important role in this regard.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DARE/ ICAR have already established several Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country.</li> <li>• NABARD had already introduced ICT – enabled Village Knowledge Centres to be established by the State Governments with loan support from RIDF.</li> <li>• State Governments have already set up Common Service Centres under the programmes of the Department of Information Technology. DIT has also proposed integration of VKC with CSC scheme which would provide significant value addition and enable the Government to provide a unified front end delivery point to the farming community.</li> <li>• ICT infrastructure is presently available at four levels i.e. National Level, State level, Block level and Village level.</li> <li>• Department of Telecommunications have provided most of the villages with Village Public Telephones. The Department is also working on schemes to expedite mobile roll out in rural areas. The broadband connectivity programmes have also been taken up.</li> <li>• DAC launched a CSS “Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension” to bring qualitative change in the lives of farming community relating to innovation, knowledge and skill of modern and scientific techniques of agricultural practices, horticulture, animal husbandry, poultry, fisheries etc.</li> <li>• Doordarshan / AIR are broadcasting several programmes pertaining to agriculture and allied sectors. Committees have been set up to provide guidelines, experts’ support and overall direction of content generation and to review schedules of the programmes. State Governments have also constituted technical support groups which provide information and advise on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework for linking extension machinery with common service centres or other IT infrastructure including PCO booths available at village level should be developed, so that these can function as Gyan Chaupals at village level providing quality information and advice to the farmers. To start with all Panchayats headquarter villages can be covered under Gyan Chauapals. Steps be taken urgently to develop software resources necessary for Gyan Chaupals in consultation with States.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/DOIT)</u></b></p>
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		<p>the emergent issues to be covered to provide timely and need based information to the farmers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doordarshan has also made an innovate effort to organize “Live Crop Seminars” involving farmers, State officials and experts of all major crops for addressing the problems of the farmers on a single platform.</li> <li>• Ministry of Information &amp; Broadcasting has recently notified the Revised Policy on Community Radio stations”.</li> </ul>	
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25.	<p><b><u>Para 5.9 – Social Security</u></b></p> <p>Coverage of farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural workers, under a comprehensive National Social Security Scheme is essential for ensuring livelihood security. Government would, therefore, take necessary steps to have an appropriate social security scheme in place.</p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC, MOLE, DORD, DOLR</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With a view to provide social security to workers in the unorganized sector, including landless agricultural labourers, Ministry of Labour &amp; Employment have introduced the “Unorganized Sector Social Security Bill, 2007” in Parliament. It provides for formulating suitable welfare schemes on matters relating to life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and other benefits.</li> <li>• NREGA, which has been implemented by the Government, aims to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households in the identified districts of the country by providing atleast 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household. This scheme has been extended to all districts in the country w.e.f. 1.4.2008. Creation of durable assets and strengthening of livelihood resource base of the rural poor is an important objective of the scheme.</li> <li>• A health insurance scheme for the poor “Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana” has been launched to cover BPL families in the first instance, envisaging issuance of smart cards to facilitate cash less transactions upto Rs.30,000 so that the worker does not have to pay anything for seeking medical treatment.</li> <li>• Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana has also been launched providing death and disability insurance cover to rural landless households.</li> <li>• National old age pension scheme has also been launched for providing financial assistance to the beneficiaries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to popularize existing insurance schemes among the farmers by the Banks and extension machinery.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action:MOF/DAC)</u></b></p>

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26.	<p><b><u>Para 5.10 – Agricultural Prices, Marketing and Trade</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism would be implemented effectively across the country.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: DOFPD/DAC/DOC/MOT for their respective MSPs</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At Present 25 crops are covered under MSP regime. The government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production and also, on the other hand, to safeguard the interests of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices.</li> <li>In addition to MSP, the DAC is also implementing the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses and oilseeds through NAFED.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priority should be on implementing MSP for 25 crops effectively in all States, particularly where the decentralized procurement system is continuing. Disbursement of subsidies in time and other issues discouraging decentralized procurement may be addressed effectively. Guidelines should be issued to the States to submit audited accounts in time in order to ensure that the benefits of MSP operations reach the intended beneficiaries without any delay. <b><u>(Action: DOFPD/DAC/DOC/MOT for their respective MSPs)</u></b></li> <li>Indirect tax structure on foodgrains and commercial crops should be reviewed. Excise duty on farm machinery/implements, fertilizers, biofertilisers, biopesticides etc. used as inputs in agricultural production should be reduced. <b><u>(Action: MOF)</u></b></li> <li>Rural godowns/ warehouses set up under existing schemes of DAC should have facilities for grading and sorting. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) would be strengthened to respond speedily to exigencies especially in the case of sensitive crops in the rainfed areas.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>(PR: DAC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The establishment of Community Foodgrains Banks would be promoted to help in the marketing of underutilized crops and thereby generate an economic stake in the conservation of agro-biodiversity</i></li> </ul> <p><b>(PR: DOF&amp;PD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Food security basket will be enlarged by storing and selling nutritious millets and other crops not covered under PDS now.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>(PR: DOF&amp;PD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Efforts will be made to develop a single National market by relaxing internal restrictions. All controls and regulations hindering increase in farmers' income will be reviewed and abolished.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>(PR: DAC)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAC is already implementing the Market Intervention Scheme for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities generally perishable in nature and not covered under MSP/ PSS. MIS is implemented to protect the growers of this commodity from making distress sale in the event of bumper crops when there is a glut in the market and the prices tend to fall below economic levels/ cost of production.</li> <li>• The Community Foodgrain Banks under Village Grain Bank Scheme, have been promoted by DOFPD. This scheme has been continued in Eleventh Plan also. An outlay of Rs.87 crore has been earmarked to establish 13,432 VGBs in the Eleventh Plan period.</li> <li>• DAC is also implementing Grameen Bhandaran Yojana.</li> <li>• DOFPD is allocating coarse grains under TPDS. However, the storability of coarse grains like bajra and maize is very short ranging from 9 months to one year and therefore, these foodgrains cannot be stored for longer period.</li> <li>• At present the States alone are empowered to initiate the process of setting up of markets for agricultural commodities in notified areas. The present day restrictions are acting as a disincentive to farmers, trade and industries. States have been advised to suitably modify the laws relating to APMC to facilitate development of competitive markets in private and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further expansion of the Village Grain Bank scheme in targeted areas and introduction of the scheme in areas not currently targeted may be considered expeditiously. The scheme may include release of coarse grains where local community seeks such release for their consumption.</li> </ul> <p><b>(Action: DOFPD)</b></p> <p>Levy of market fees as a regular tax on agricultural produce as in model APMC Act / Rules may be reviewed and if necessary, States may be encouraged to shift to a service charge on the basis of use of services by farmers instead of compulsory levy. This will go a long way</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terminal markets for agriculture would be developed on Public Private Partnership model to improve productivity and greater quality awareness among the farmers. <b>(PR:-DAC)</b></li> <li>• The role of the Agriculture Produce Market Committees and State Agriculture Marketing Boards would be transformed from mere regulatory focus to promotion of grading, branding, packaging and development of markets for local. <b>(PR: DAC)</b></li> </ul>	<p>cooperative sectors, to allow procurement of agricultural commodities directly from farmers' fields and to establish effective linkages between the farm production and the retail chain and the food processing industries. A model APMC Act has been circulated to all the States for adoption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Consumer Affairs have already suggested to the States to remove all the barriers on movement, storage, trade etc. of essential commodities especially the agricultural commodities excepting licenses required for fair price shops, kerosene retailing and petroleum products. It was also suggested for rescinding all other licensing orders, storage control orders etc. for smooth barrier-free inter-State trade.</li> <li>• The setting up of terminal markets under PPP model was not found feasible. However, DAC has initiated action to promote modern terminal markets for fruits, vegetables and other perishable products in important urban centres. These markets provide state of the art infrastructure facilities and are envisaged to operate on a "hub- and – spoke" format linking terminal markets to a number of collection centres. The operational guidelines of the scheme have been circulated to the States, which have amended APMC Act to allow setting up of markets in private sector.</li> <li>• The Model Act 2003 and the Model APMC Rules 2007 have been circulated to all the States envisaging drastic changes in the role of APMC and States Agricultural Marketing Boards by advocating professional management of markets, promotion of grading, establishment of private markets, contract farming, direct purchase from agriculturalists etc.</li> </ul>	<p>to ensure single national market. <b>(Action: DAC and MOF)</b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Farmers require authentic advice based on meteorological, marketing and management information for land use decisions and investments. Infrastructure support would be put in place to minimize post-harvest losses and enable agro-processing and value-addition at the village level itself to increase employment and income.</i></li> <li>• <i>Farmers' organizations and other entities like cooperatives and small farmers' estates would be encouraged so that farmers can get a fair deal and enjoy the economies of scale.</i></li> <li>• <i>Producer Groups and Cooperatives will be encouraged to promote agro-processing industry. Constraints would be removed for improving the negotiability of warehouse receipts.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>(PR: DAC)</u></b></p>	<p>The States are in the process of notifying amendments to their respective APMC Acts and framing rules there under. It is expected that the role of APMCs would be changed to face competition in the domestic as well as international markets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purchases of wheat and paddy are made through cooperative societies.</li> <li>• DOFPD has been operating "Save Grain Campaign" scheme. However, on the recommendations of ERC, the scheme has been discontinued.</li> <li>• The concept of scientific storage is already covered under the mandate of "Farmers' Extension Service Scheme" of the Central Warehousing Corpn.</li> <li>• A Central Sector Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for construction and renovation of rural godowns of DAC is already envisaged during the Eleventh Plan period with the proposed outlay of Rs.450 crore. This is pending with EFC. DOFPD have also supported the scheme.</li> <li>• A Warehousing (Development &amp; Regulation) Bill 2007 has been passed by the Parliament to make the warehouse receipt a fully negotiable instrument. Farmers would be able to seek easy loans from the Banks against these negotiable warehouses receipts against their agricultural produce stored in these warehouses.</li> <li>• MOFPI has proposed a Scheme in Eleventh Plan for Infrastructure Development envisaging setting up of Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chains, Value added Centres etc. DOAHD has an on going scheme for Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production.</li> <li>• Farmers' organizations / farmers' interests groups producing the same crop / commodity are the major</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of farmers for adopting practices which would result in minimizing post harvest losses should be undertaken in horticultural sector. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Formation of groups of farmers particularly small, marginal and women</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The trade policies in agriculture would aim at protecting livelihood of farmer families and fostering the economic well being of farmers. Effective Livelihood Security for farmers would be put in place.</i></li> <li>• <i>Quality and trade literacy programmes would be launched across the country.</i></li> <li>• <i>Appropriate measures would be introduced to mitigate price risks and enable the stakeholders, particularly the farmers, to hedge their risk.</i></li> <li>• <i>Farmers' Associations and SHGs would be supported to export on competitive terms by spreading awareness of the opportunities available for external agricultural trade and for value addition.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>(PR: DAC)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The agri-export zones would be further strengthened to become places where farmers will get the best possible price for their produce.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>(PR: DAC)</u></b></p>	<p>focus for extension reforms scheme. Financial support and incentives are available to these FOs/ FIGs for their capacity building, revolving funds to support their activities and rewards for better performing groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is implementing the AEZ scheme. NABARD provides financial and promotional initiatives.</li> </ul>	<p>farmers backed up by capacity building should be encouraged to enable farmers to avail benefits of on-going schemes/ policies. Block/district level federations may be encouraged to take up processing and post-harvest activities, particularly in horticulture sector.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p> <p>Agri-clinic services have been provided in some AEZs. APEDA may consider encouraging agri-clinics and agri-business centres in other AEZs by utilizing on going schemes of DAC. Development infrastructure of AEZs on a PPP model may be explored by APEDA. <b><u>(Action: APEDA/DOC/DAC)</u></b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The twin goals of ensuring justice to farmers in terms of a remunerative price for their produce and to consumers in terms of a fair and affordable price for staples (as farmers are also consumers) would be achieved through the following integrated strategy.</i></li> <li>i) <i>The Government while taking decision on MSP would ensure that both the farmers (who also constitute the majority of consumers) and the consumers get a fair deal. The Government may procure the staple grains needed for the PDS at the market price or MSP, whichever is higher.</i></li> <li>ii) <i>The food security basket would be widened to include the crops of the dry farming areas like bajra, jowar, ragi, and other crops and effective implementation of MSP in rainfed areas would add to the improvement in productivity and income in dry land farming. <b><u>(PR: DAC, DOF&amp;PD)</u></b></i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At Present 25 crops are covered under MSP regime. The government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production and also, on the other hand, to safeguard the interests of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices.</li> <li>• In addition to MSP, the DAC is also implementing the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses and oilseeds through NAFED.</li> <li>• As regards inclusion of crops like bajra, jowar, ragi etc. of dryland areas in PDS, CIP of coarsegrains for distribution under TPDS has already been fixed and 1.6 lakh MT of coarse grains has been allocated under TPDS as against purchase of 1.91 lakh MT as on 5.3.2008. However, acceptability of coarse grains under TPDS is very poor. Moreover, procuring and consuming states are different resulting in logistic problems. The shelf life of coarse grains is also shorter as compared to wheat and rice.</li> </ul>	<p>Expanding and strengthening of AEZs may be taken up by APEDA and DOC. <b><u>Action: APEDA/DOC)</u></b></p> <p>Coarse grains like bajra, jowar, ragi, etc. of dryland areas would be included in PDS if their procurement is done by State Governments and there is a demand from States / Consumers. • <b><u>(Action: DOFPD)</u></b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The terms of reference and status of the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) would be reviewed to make the MSP regime more effective</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR/PC for the entire Para 5.10 - DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Expert Committee headed by Prof. Y.K. Alagh on the Methodological issues in fixation of MSP submitted its reports to the Government. The report, inter alia, contains recommendations on the terms of reference and status of CACP. DAC is shortly submitting the issue for the approval of the Cabinet.</li> </ul>	<p>Follow up action of the Alagh Committee Report may be expedited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>
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27.	<p><b><u>Para 5.11 – Integration with Processing and Value Chain</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>It is necessary to integrate the agricultural produce with processing and other value chain activities. Improving post harvest management linking the farmers to the market and promoting demand driven farming, effective steps would be taken.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>PR: MOFPI and DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOFPI has proposed Eleventh Plan scheme i.e “Infrastructure Development” which envisages setting up of Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chains, Value Added Centres, Strategic Distribution Centres etc. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximizing value addition, minimizing wastage, increasing farmers’ income and creating employment opportunities in rural sector.</li> </ul>	<p>There is an urgent need for modernization of cold storage and processing facilities in the country to minimize post harvest losses in perishable agricultural produce. Creation of these infrastructures by federations of farmers’ SHGs with appropriate linkages with the private sector be encouraged and supported under on going schemes of DAC. Appropriate guidelines for this purpose may be issued.</p> <p><b><u>(Action : DAC/ MOFPI)</u></b></p> <p>SFAC should be energized to cater to the needs of the farmer entrepreneurs and to promote public and private investment in agri business.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p> <p>DAC may advise the States to take up building up of the following infrastructure out of RKVY funds and the special funds of Rs.35,000 crores by MOFPI given to States:</p> <p>(a) Primary processing centres – cum – cold chain at villages.</p> <p>(b) Collection centres – cum – cold chains</p> <p>(c) Transportation logistics at appropriate temperature.</p> <p>(d) Capacity building in post harvest management handling.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/MOFPI)</u></b></p>

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28.	<p><b><u>Para 5.12 – Curriculum Reforms</u></b></p> <p>The motto of the Agricultural and Animal Science Universities would be to groom "every scholar/student as an entrepreneur". This will call for integrating business management principles with major applied courses. The Farm Universities would also restructure their curricula in a manner that the relative gender roles in farming are recognized and they are equally empowered technologically. There is a need to restructure the curricula to focus on nutrition, post-harvest technology and quality and safety standards. The Farm Universities would be reoriented to give emphasis on entrepreneurship and capacity building on quality including sanitary and phytosanitary measures and codex alimentarius standards of food safety.</p> <p>Farm graduates to be provided registration and accreditation as farm practitioners.</p> <p><b><u>PR: DARE/ ICAR</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on the Norms, Standards, Academic Regulations and UG Curricula and Syllabi submitted by the Committee on Agricultural Education have been accepted by ICAR for implementation in all SAUs to bring in greater uniformity, acceptability and quality and relevance. Courses on agri-business management, entrepreneurship development, communication skills, computer knowledge, biotechnology, environment science, nutrition, post harvest technology, quality and safety standards, have been included. Experiential learning programmes with a view to develop a cadre of highly skilled professional have been recommended in all disciplines. A National Core Group is undertaking the revision of Master's and Doctoral course curricula and syllabi keeping in view the changing national and global scenario in agriculture.</li> <li>• ICAR supports AUs to build excellence in niche areas in education and research. There are 28 niche areas of excellence functioning in the country.</li> <li>• Establishment of Career Guidance and Placement Cell in all AUs is being pursued by ICAR to facilitate employment and higher studies. Such Cells may also take up the business advisory services.</li> </ul>	<p>DARE may take suitable action to authorize SAUs / KVKs/ ATMA to register and accreditate the farm graduates. These registered graduates may be covered on priority under agri-clinic / agri-business centre scheme for providing quality service to farmers.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/DARE)</u></b></p> <p>Issues relating to agriculture in the context of WTO, Codex, SPS etc. should be incorporated in the curriculum and training of faculty on these aspects should be taken up on priority. Each SAU may constitute a WTO Cell to undertake research on WTO related issues and implications in the context of particular States and to generate awareness on WTO, Codex, SPS issues.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DARE/DAC)</u></b></p>

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29.	<p><b><u>Para 6 – Special Categories of Farmers</u></b></p> <p>(i) <b><u>Tribal farmers:</u></b> Actions to be taken are updating of land records in tribal areas, strengthening institutional structure to enable participatory process, easy access to institutional credit to tribal farmers, documentation of traditional crops and knowledge for conservation and provision of appropriate technology and extension services with relaxed criteria for providing inputs in tribal areas.</p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC , MOTA</u></b></p> <p>(ii) <b><u>Pastoralists:</u></b> Actions to be initiated are restoration of traditional grazing rights and camping right for forest areas, formalizing entitlements of traditional pastoralists/herders, grazing land and drinking water sources for livestock would be conserved and expanded, documentation of indigenous livestock and breeds to protect intellectual property and involving pastoralists in local resource management including village forest ---</p> <p>(iii) Solution for price fluctuation and ---- from imported plantation crops, recognizing and rewarding traditional knowledge in areas of bio-diversity conservation and traditional health care and horticulture development in islands, creation of mangrove and other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOLR is implementing scheme for updating and computerization of land records.</li> <li>• New enactment governing settlement of tribals in forest area has been passed.</li> <li>• SHGs are being encouraged in tribal areas to access credit and extension.</li> <li>• To some extent these are covered under NHM, coconut Board programmes. Price fluctuation through MIS is there.</li>   <li>• The National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (MOEF) is implementing two schemes i.e. National Afforestation Programme and Grants-in-aid for Greening India Scheme, which may augment the availability of fodder (tree or grass) through the planting of trees/grasses, apart from the objective of re-generation of degraded forests and adjoining areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emphasis on formation of SHGs in tribal areas, particularly of women farmers, should be given with necessary training and other inputs. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Development of Tribal Land, which is mostly infertile and hilly, may be taken up so as to increase its productivity. Watershed approach should be adopted for this purpose. <b>(Action: DOLR/DAC)</b></li> <li>• Standard norms for supply of inputs particularly of quality seeds, should be relaxed for the 75 districts of the country where scheduled tribe population is more than 50%. Since the capacity of tribal population to absorb advance technology is very low, technology programmes for them should concentrate on simple, energy saving, drudgery removing, production harvest and post harvest technologies. <b>(Action: DARE/ DAC)</b></li> <li>• Target for updating and computerizing land records in tribal areas should be more ambitious <b>(Action: DOLR/MOTA)</b></li> <li>• District/Block level watershed development Committees as well as SHGs</li> </ul>

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	<p><i>bioshields to safeguard lives and livelihoods. Encouraging home gardens and nurseries in urban areas.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC and MOEF</u></b></p>		<p>may be encouraged in Tribal Areas. As far as possible, development through watershed approach be given preference.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/MOTA/DOLR)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOEF may take action for restoring traditional grazing rights in certain forest areas.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: MOEF)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of traditional knowledge in tribal areas, pastoralists and islands may be undertaken.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Import of horticulture product be included in sensitive item list to monitor growth in import and import price fluctuations.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity in Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands be ensured and strengthened with horticulture development.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/DAHD&amp;F / MOEF)</u></b></p>
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30.	<p><b><u>Para 6.3 – Other categories – Plantation Farmers:</u></b></p> <p><i>Price Stabilisation Fund for plantation crops helps them to be insulated from vagaries of market.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DOC</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Other categories – Island Farmers</u></b></p> <p><b><u>PR: MOEF</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Other categories – Urban Farmers</u></b></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOC administers the Price Stabilisation Fund for plantation crops like coffee, tea, rubber and tobacco. This scheme was introduced in April 2003 to be in vogue till March 2013.</li> <li>• Spices Board implemented a scheme “Export Oriented Production and Post Harvest Improvement of Spices”, with specific reference to cardamom.</li> <li>• DOC constituted a Task Force to look into the problems of price volatility faced by plantation crop growers. The recommendations were accepted by GOM and action is being taken by DOC to implement the recommendations, inter alia, crop insurance scheme covering tea, coffee, rubber, tobacco, spices and floriculture, floating of plantation development bonds and subsidy to floriculture units for re-plantation and introduction of new varieties.</li>   <li>• National Afforestation Programme (MOEF) has a provision for raising of coastal shelter belts in the degraded forests and adjoining areas.</li>   <li>• Urban farmers are being encouraged under NBM to raise bamboo nurseries and bamboo plantations which may provide edible shoots to supplement the nutritional requirements.</li> </ul>	<p>Price Stabilisation Fund administered by DOC may be extended to all Plantation Crops including spices. <b><u>(Action : DOC/DAC)</u></b></p> <p>The provision in National Afforestation programme for raising coastal shelter belts in the degraded forests and adjoining areas should be implemented particularly in vulnerable areas. <b><u>(Action: MOEF)</u></b></p>

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31.	<p><b><u>Para 7 – Special categories of Farming</u></b></p> <p><i>(i) Organic Farming (OF) KVKs would be equipped to provide training in OF. Certification procedure would be strengthened to make it farmer friendly and affordable. OF zones would be identified. OF would be encouraged in selected rainfed areas, linking to the niche markets, agri-clinics and agri-business centres for OF. Biofertilisers, organic manures and bio-pesticides would be treated at par with chemicals for support and promotion.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC and DOF</u></b></p> <p><i>(ii) Green Agriculture with IPM and INM would be encouraged with district labeling and certification.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DARE</u></b></p> <p><i>(iii) Genetically Modified Crops: Incorporate genes to impart resistance to drought, salinity and other stresses. Training and awareness on agronomic management of GM crops.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DARE</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schemes of “National Project for Organic Farming” is being implemented by DAC. NPOF was taken up for production, promotion and market development of organic farming in the country with an outlay of Rs.57 crore during Tenth Plan as a pilot scheme. The scheme is being continued during Eleventh Plan with the proposed outlay of Rs.150 crore.</li> <li>• DAC also proposes a new scheme “Balanced Use of Fertilisers”.</li> <li>• ICAR is also promoting organic farming in respect of certain horticultural, plantation and agricultural crops showing large export potential and internal demand for their organic produce.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICAR is encouraging Green Agriculture through resource conservation technologies and soil- water – nutrient management practices minimizing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides to sustain higher crop production in the country.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOBT on behalf of MOEF permits and oversees experimentation and use of GM Crops on case to case basis after duly considering the potential advantages and risks. DOBT involves other organizations, including ICAR in testing of GMCs as per needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More emphasis be given on training and capacity building for organic farming and on formation of SHGs / Groups of farmers to facilitate group certification and other benefits of groups. <b>(Action: DAC/APEDA)</b></li> <li>• Capacity building for certification of organic produces be expanded. <b>(Action: DAC/APEDA)</b></li> <li>• Marketing linkage be established through contract farming or other wise in identified organic farming zones, mostly in rainfed areas. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certification procedure and protocol for green agriculture should be finalized keeping in view good agricultural practices. <b>(Action: DAC/DARE)</b></li> <li>• Genes to make crops drought and salinity resistance should be developed through research. <b>(Action: DARE/ICAR)</b></li> <li>• Low cost green house technology and preparation of model schemes of horticultural crops, floriculture etc. should be developed for encouraging entrepreneurs under NHB/ agri business schemes. <b>(Action: DAC/DARE)</b></li> </ul>

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	<p><i>(iv) <b>Protected (Green House) Agriculture:</b> Protected green house agriculture of horticultural crops would be promoted by supporting farmers and home science graduates and other entrepreneurs. Low cost green house, micro irrigation with fertigation techniques would be popularized in areas where evaporation exceeds precipitation. Suitable support for such technologies to increase income in water deficit areas.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DARE</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GM crops are regulated under “Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro organisms / Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells Rules, 1989” notified under the Environment Protection Act (1986). The rules are implemented through the biosafety guidelines which provide for detailed bio-safety assessment including both environmental safety as well as health safety. As of date, Bt. Cotton is the only GM crop approved for commercial cultivation in India.</li> <li>• Recognizing the importance of green house cultivation &amp; production of horticultural crops with management of weather condition having high yield potential, major research focus has been given for the protected cultivation for horticultural crops especially vegetables, fruits, flowers and medicinal plants. The technology developed with respect to production system management under green house regarding fertigation, plant architecture management and protection technology is being adopted by the farmers. The Commission has suggested for support which is made available by the DAC through National Horticulture Mission. Low cost green house technology has also been developed and is being promoted.</li> </ul>	
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32.	<p><b><u>Para 8 – Special Regions.</u></b></p> <p>(i) <i>Special attention to distress hot spots to reduce risk and promote inputs for sustainable agriculture.</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Knowledge connectivity, social support system and marketing infrastructure in these areas would be strengthened with convergence of benefits under different schemes.</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>Local communities would be involved in conservation of mega bio-diversity areas like Eastern/Western Ghats and Eastern Himalayan region.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC and DARE</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation package in 31 districts is under implementation.</li> <li>• Joint Forest Management practice popularized for certain type of forest areas.</li> <li>• The initiative of involving local communities in the mega-diverse areas in the conservation of biological diversity is in consonance with the draft “National Biodiversity Action Plan” being formulated by the MOEF.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening of knowledge connectivity, social support system and market infrastructure be taken up on priority. Programmes like INM, IPM, organic farming should be implemented more intensively so as to cover all 31 districts covered under Rehabilitation Package. Contract farming to provide assured market to farmers be implemented with provisions for reduced and superior risk mitigation measures. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Emphasis should be on organization of farmers, particularly women farmers in SHGs, with support from on-going schemes. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Panchayats may be actively associated in re-structuring of credit and credit counseling, training and extension, identifying vulnerable farmers, monitoring implementation of rehabilitation package in 31 districts, organizing farmers in SHGs with assistance like training / capacity building and ensuring convergence of different schemes to mitigate distress conditions in the event of crop failure. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>

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33.	<p><b><u>Para 9 – Farmers of the Future</u></b></p> <p>(i) Methods of achieving economies of scale by small and marginal farmers through the farming groups would be popularized.</p> <p>(ii) Women would be encouraged to participate in such group activities.</p> <p>(iii) Small Farmers' Groups would be encouraged and supposed to take up activities such as value addition, processing and marketing.</p> <p>(iv) To promote SHGs and commodity based farmers' organizations.</p> <p>(v) Formation of small holders' estates (SHE), for example in cotton, horticulture, medicinal plants, poultry and aqua culture. SSEs can manufacture products and market under brand names. Agri-clinics, agri-business centres would be linked to such estates.</p> <p>(vi) Symbiotic contracts conferring benefits to producer and purchasers would be encouraged to provide assured and remunerative marketing opportunities to farmers. Well defined code of conduct or model contract would be developed.</p> <p>(vii) Small farmers at SHGs would be associated in farmers' companies.</p> <p>(viii) State farms, inter alia, would be used for developing Living Heritage Gene Banks for local crops and livestock.</p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers' Groups/SHGs are encouraged and promoted under ATMA scheme of DAC.</li> <li>• Women farmers are organized as SHGs to enable their access credit and processing/marketing.</li> <li>• Group/ cluster approach is encouraged under SGRY.</li> <li>• Existing scheme to strengthen State livestock farming.</li> <li>• Funding under RKVY can be used to develop State farming as Living Heritage Gene Banks for local crops and livestock.</li> <li>• Various extension programmes are taken up by the KVKs under ICAR in order to create much needed awareness about improved agricultural technologies among the farmers. During the last one year, KVKs involved 1860 SHGs.</li> <li>• Farmers Organizations' / Farmers interests Groups producing the same crop/commodity are given attention in the extension reform scheme. Financial support is available for their capacity building, revolving funds to support their activities etc.</li> <li>• Contract farming has been prevalent in various parts of the country for commercial crops like sugarcane, cotton, tea, coffee etc. The Model Act on Reforms in Agricultural Marketing provide for an institutional arrangement for registration of sponsoring company, record of contract farming agreement, indemnity to farmers' land and lays down a time bound dispute resolution mechanism. Financial assistance is also available under "Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure" for setting up of marketing infrastructure projects to meet the post harvest management requirement of the produce grown under the contract farming system.</li> <li>• Ministry of Textiles encouraged contract farming through the Cotton Technology Mission.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking of agri-clinics / agri- business centres to small holders' estates/ SHGs etc. should be undertaken in a systematic manner to strengthen extension system. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• Commodity based women SHGs/ cooperatives may be assisted under ATMA, Watershed Projects, NHM, NBM and SGRY programme to facilitate such groups. <b>(Action: DAC/MORD)</b></li> <li>• Commitment for better risk coverage, input supply and technology to farmers may be built in the guidelines/ rules for contract farming. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> <li>• The formulation of small holders' estates requires integrated efforts from various Ministries/ Departments. <b>(Action: Ministries concerned)</b></li> <li>• For proper utilization of state farms for development/preserving breeds of locally available livestock and crops, necessary assistance to States should be provided. <b>(Action: DAC/DOAHD)</b></li> <li>• Comprehensive guidelines to facilitate organisation of farmers to SHGs including the incentives like training, revolving funds etc. for SHGs, should be issued to States in order to empower farmers through SHGs. <b>(Action: DAC)</b></li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognition of innovative practices by progressive farmers should be due by instituting Awards for such farmers at National and State level. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> </ul>
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34.	<p><b><u>Para 10 – Attracting Youth</u></b></p> <p>(i) Educated youths would be helped and supposed to set up agri-clinics and production-cum-processing centres to take up outsourcing works.</p> <p>(ii) A number of vocational training courses in different aspects of agricultural and allied activities shall be introduced and recognized.</p> <p>(iii) Trained persons would be supposed through various schemes to launch self-employment ventures for value addition.</p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC and DARE</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In order to attract youth to the agriculture sector, KVKs set up by ICAR are providing training and skill development in different aspects of agriculture and allied activities.</li> <li>• A scheme for promoting self-employment among agricultural graduates i.e. "Establishment of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres by Agricultural Graduates was launched by DAC to provide extension and other services to farmers on payment basis, to support agricultural development and entrepreneurship and to promote self-employment. Under the scheme, agri-entrepreneurs are given training for setting up of agri-clinics and agri-business venture, bank finance and capital and interest subsidy. As of 30.11.2007, 14594 agriculture graduates were trained through 83 nodal training institutes across the country and 4820 of them have established agri-ventures.</li> <li>• KVIC is implementing Rural Employment Generation Programme with an aim to create individual entrepreneurship and thereby setting up of village industries in the rural areas.</li> <li>• KVIC is also organizing Entrepreneurship Development Programme and Skill Development Training Programme through its training centres situated all over the country. The rural youths can avail the benefit of these programmes for upgradation of their skills.</li> <li>• Some SAUs have started diploma/ certificate based training courses.</li> <li>• Rest as in para 4.1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DARE/ ICAR may implement the provision relating to vocational training course through SAUs/KVKs and private institutions through district level network of such institutions / polytechnics in order to bring in need based and vocation specific training of rural youth. KVKs / SAUs may provide training of trainers and resource persons in other vocational institutions. Similar training for women should also be undertaken.</li> </ul> <p><b>(Action: DARE)</b></p>

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35.	<p><b><u>Para 11 – Other Policy Measures</u></b></p> <p><i>(i) Existing State Land Use Boards would be revamped and linked to district level land use committees to be constituted by State Governments so as to provide proactive advice to farmers on land use.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Land Use Boards have been constituted in almost all the States for scientific use of land and creating awareness among Land User Agencies for its sustainable use. Steps have also been taken to minimize the diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. Strengthening of SLUBs is already funded under MMA.</li> </ul>	<p>State Governments may be advised to constitute district level land use committees duly linked to the SLUBs. Attention should be given to build capacity of SLUBs / DLUCs under existing schemes like RKVY so that these can monitor and advise on optimum land use taking into consideration ecological, meteorological and marketing / trade factors.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC/ DOLR)</u></b></p>
36.	<p><i>(ii) Major thrust in floriculture, roots and tuber crops, aromatic and medicinal plants, bee keeping and sericulture.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC, NHM , DOHFW, AYUSH, MOT</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHM has been established.</li> <li>Floriculture, medicinal and aromatic plants are being promoted through area expansion programmes while for root and tuber crops, assistance is being provided through production and supply of seed material. Bee keeping is also being promoted under NHM. Market linkages are envisaged through rural and wholesale markets. Mini Mission I under TMNE aims to provide technological support by way of providing information on practices, nucleus planting material and skill upgradation for adoption of technology.</li> <li>Ministry of Textiles set up Technology Mission on Cotton and Jute and various sericulture and silk sector schemes are being implemented to bring tangible improvements in the productivity and quality of cotton, jute and silk sectors in the country.</li> <li>Technology Mission on Silk is in conceptual stage in Ministry of Textiles.</li> </ul>	

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37.	<p><i>(iii) MIS would be strengthened so as to expedite processing and sanctions.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Already covered under para 5.10</b></li> </ul>	<p>DAC may review MIS to eliminate delays. Mechanism of a revolving fund as in the case of Karnataka for this purpose at State level may be considered for funding under existing schemes like RKVY.</p> <p><b>(Action: DAC)</b></p>
38.	<p><i>(iv) In order to monitor food security issue, a Cabinet Committee on Food Security should be constituted.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DOFPD and Cabinet Sectt.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAC has implemented NFSM recently.</li> <li>• Several national programmes have been launched to ensure food security. Some of these programmes are: PDS, Mid-day Meal Scheme, Antyodaya, Annapoorna, Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, SGRY, Food for Work Programme, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, National Drinking Water Mission and National Nutrition Mission, National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme, World Bank assisted Capacity Building Project on Food, National Rural Health Mission and Pilot Programme for Control of Micronutrient Malnutrition etc.</li> </ul>	<p>As the Cabinet Committees have to be constituted only by the Cabinet Secretariat, DOFPD may initiate necessary proposals for the constitution of the Cabinet Committee on Food Security.</p> <p><b>(Action: DOFPD)</b></p>
39.	<p><i>(v) Anti-retroviral drugs would be made available free of cost. Approach of treatment of farmers suffering from TB/HIV/AIDS would be taken into account access of patients to food.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: MOHFW and AYUSH</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Rural Health Mission has been implemented.</li> </ul>	

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40.	<p><i>(vi) Rural non-farm employment initiation for farm households, consortium approach would be adopted.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DORD</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various programmes and schemes are under implementation like: NREGA, SGSY, SGRY, etc.</li> <li>• MOL&amp;E introduced the “Unorganized Sector Social Security Bill 2007” in Parliament.</li> <li>• NREGA aims at enhancement of livelihood security of all categories of households of the rural areas in identified districts of the country. The scheme is proposed to be extended to cover the entire country from 1.4.2008.</li> <li>• MOFPI’s proposed scheme on Infrastructures Development mainly focuses on generation of farm level and farm linked employment.</li> </ul>	<p>Strengthening skill based training system and vocational education to promote rural non-farm employment should be undertaken. <b><u>(Action: DAC/DOLR)</u></b></p> <p>States may be advised to identify and earmark wastelands and degraded lands for possible development of employment intensive non-farm enterprises in rural areas. <b><u>(Action: DOLR)</u></b></p>
41.	<p><i>(vii) Income growth rates for farmers would be measured and published.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>		<p>Suitable mechanism should be evolved in consultation with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation to assess the income growth rates of farmers from time to time. <b><u>(Action: DAC/MOSPI)</u></b></p>
42.	<p><i>(viii) Support to State Governments for devolution of functions and functionaries for empowering panchayats. Steps to accord centrality to panchayats in addressing problems of farmers.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC and MOPR</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Committee has been constituted by the Cabinet Secretariat to review modifications to be made in the existing guidelines for CSSs implemented by DAC to ensure the centrality of panchayati raj institutions in their planning and implementation.</li> <li>• The issue of devolution of powers has been resolved for adequate devolution to the panchayats in terms of functions, functionaries and finances. These have been placed before all the Committees of NDC and</li> </ul>	<p>For NHM , TMNE, TMC, ISOPOM, Support to State Extension Programmes, MMA, NBM and Rehabilitation Package in 31 districts, the guidelines for the schemes to be modified to bring centrality to PRIs in following aspects:- (a) Identification of crops and beneficiaries in consultation with district panchayats, (b) Training, extension and awareness through Panchayats and Gram Sabhas (c) Attending PRI and Gramsabha meetings</p>

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43.	<p><i>(ix) Regional media resource centres would be set up to assist media with timely and accurate information on issues relating to agriculture, food security and farmers welfare.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<p>have emerged as a national consensus of panchayats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Minister for Panchayati Raj has visited the States and signed the Statements of Conclusions with the 23 States / UTs laying down roadmap for empowerment of PRIs in the States.</li> <li>DAC implements a CSS “Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension” to bring qualitative change in the lives of farming community. Programmes are being broadcast / telecast through AIR / DD. Doordarshan has also made an innovative effort for organizing “Live Crop Seminars” involving farmers, officials and experts. These programmes were covered live for extending their benefit to other farmers widely.</li> <li>Ministry of I &amp; B has implemented policy on Community Radio Stations.</li> </ul>	<p>and giving them feed back and data.</p> <p>(d) Identifying vulnerable farm households for necessary assistance be done through Panchayats/Gram Sabha.</p> <p>(e) Training of selected Panchayat members on sustainable soil testing, water use efficiency, quality of fertilizer/pesticide, quality of agro products/awareness, quality certification of organic produce and ways and means to effectively manage natural calamities and aberrations in weather conditions may be take up.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC and MOPR)</u></b></p>
44.	<p><i>(x) Integrated approach for rural energy.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: MOP and MONRES</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Power has launched “Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana” in 2005 which aims to create rural electricity infrastructure to electrify all villages and to provide access to electricity to all rural households in the country by 2009. In addition to village and household electrification, the infrastructure envisages to cater to the requirement of agriculture and other allied activities.</li> </ul>	



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing "Integrated Rural Energy Programme". Support is extended for limited extension of renewable energy systems / devices etc. This programme was continued in the Tenth Plan and it is proposed to merge this programme with any existing programme from the Eleventh Plan onwards.</li> </ul>	<p>In consultation with NOVOD Board, guidelines may be issued to encourage tree based bio-fuels while improving edible oil production to meet the domestic consumption requirement. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p>
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45.	<p><b><u>Para 12 : Operationalisation of the Policy</u></b></p> <p><i>States would be encouraged to have an effective mechanism for continuous feed back from the farmers to ensure that measures taken under the policy address the problems of the farmers.</i></p> <p><b><u>PR: DAC</u></b></p>	<p>Many of the provisions contained in the National Policy for Farmers 2007 are already under implementation by various Central Ministries and Departments and the State Governments, through several centrally sponsored schemes and programmes. Further, several schemes and programmes like National Food Security Mission/ Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana are launched or proposed in the Eleventh Plan period, which, once implemented, augment the current schemes and programmes facilitating operationalisation of the policy. Apart from these schemes and programmes, concerted actions are taken through central assistance to the States for various activities connected to agriculture and allied sectors and special/relief/rehabilitation packages, whenever occasion arises. Action is also constantly taken by the Central Ministries and Departments through various organizations, institutions and research and training institutes under their control and through other autonomous agencies. These ongoing programmes can be effectively utilized to implement various policy provisions for welfare of farmers.</p> <p>In pursuance of the decisions of NDC, specially convened for the agriculture sector on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2007, Government has launched two new schemes i.e. the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and the National Food Security Mission with the objectives to incentivise the States to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors and to improve productivity of foodgrains to achieve self-sufficiency on sustainable basis. These two programmes are expected to go a long way in realizing the provisions of the National Policy for Farmers 2007 through State specific de-centralized strategy taking into account the agro-climatic and other local conditions as reflected in the District action plans for agriculture and allied sectors.</p> <p>An Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted by the Department of Agriculture &amp; Cooperation to prepare the plan of action for operationalisation of the policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is need for coordinated action between all agencies at State level. Under RKVY there is a State level project sanctioning Committee headed by Chief Secretary. This Committee at State level with representatives of DAC may also be mandated to review implementation of National Policy for Farmers 2007 at State level by ensuring effective convergence of on-going schemes like RKVY / NFSM etc. Representatives of other important Ministries may be specially invited to the meetings of these Committees while reviewing implementation of the National Policy for Farmers 2007. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Efforts be made to have a single window facility, in association with the Panchayats, for providing or facilitating provision of quality and timely service to farmers. <b><u>(Action: DAC/MOPR)</u></b></li> <li>• There should be convergence in skill development programmes at State / district level being funded by different Ministries and Departments of the Central Government with the provision available under proposed National Mission for Skill Development so that it can be taken up in a focused manner in Mission mode. <b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></li> <li>• Improving existing monitoring mechanism is a priority area. MOA,</li> </ul>

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			<p>MOWR, MORD may evolve a system of monitoring flagship programmes through a system of independent monitoring mechanisms at Central and State level. The existing system adopted for PMGSY scheme being implemented by MORD may, inter alia, be considered for adoption. Result of monitoring should be posted in Department websites.</p> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC, DARE, DAHD&amp;F, MOWR, MORD)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The monitorable outcomes for RKVY may be specified in the guidelines. One of the outcomes should be effective implementation of NPF by State Governments. Extent to which these outcomes have been achieved in the past years should be incorporated as a criterion for funding under RKVY for subsequent year.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(Action: DAC)</u></b></p>