



India's Resilient Production Systems in Agriculture

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Key Takeaways

*India achieved a record foodgrain production of **357.73 MMT (2024-25)**, with horticulture output at **362.08 MT**, reflecting a strong shift towards high-value crops.*

*India ranks among the top producers globally, with **150.18 MT** of rice, **117.94 MT** of wheat, **25.68 MT** of pulses, and **18.59 MT of millets**, reinforcing its role in global food security (2024-25).*

*Agricultural exports rose from **USD 34.5 billion (FY20)** to **USD 51.1 billion (FY25)**, with processed food share increasing to **20.4%**, signalling value-added growth.*

*Budget allocation rose from **Rs.21,933 crore (2013-14)** to **Rs.1.30 lakh crore (2026-27)**, indicating sustained focus on agricultural development.*

*Under PM-KISAN, **Rs.4.27 lakh crore** has been disbursed in **22 instalments**, while crop insurance claims exceeded **Rs.1.90 lakh crore**, strengthening income security and risk protection.*

Introduction

India's agricultural sector continues to play a pivotal role in sustaining **rural livelihoods, ensuring economic resilience, and safeguarding national food security**. Agriculture and allied activities account for nearly **one-fifth** of the country's gross value added at current prices, employ approximately **46.1 percent** of the workforce, and support close to **55 percent** of the population, underscoring their substantial socio-economic significance. Over the past five years, the sector has achieved an average annual growth rate of around **4.4 percent** at constant prices, reflecting enhanced expansion supported by **improved farm practices, technological integration, and more resilient production systems**.

India's Agricultural Production Performance

In the agricultural year 2024-25, India recorded an unprecedented foodgrain output of **357.73 million metric tonnes (MMT)**, marking an increase of **25.43 million metric tonnes (MMT)** over the preceding year, reflecting sustained gains in productivity, improved input management, and strengthened institutional support to farmers. The increase was primarily driven by higher production of **rice, wheat, maize, and coarse cereals** (including millets, designated as **Shree Anna**).

Horticulture has simultaneously emerged as a major driver of agricultural transformation and value addition. Total horticulture production reached **362.08 million tonnes (MT)** in 2024-25, indicating a structural shift towards high-value crops. According to the second advance estimates, production increased from **280.70 million tonnes** in 2013-14 to **367.72 million tonnes** in 2024-25. This output comprises approximately **114.51 million tonnes** of fruits, **219.67 million tonnes** of vegetables, and **33.54 million tonnes** from other horticultural crops. The gradual scaling of both foodgrain and horticultural production underscores India's strengthening domestic agricultural base and its growing prominence in global agri-food systems.

India in Global Agricultural Markets



India's agricultural exports have grown steadily in recent years. Agricultural export earnings increased from **USD 34.5 billion in FY20** to **USD 51.1 billion in FY25**, reflecting a **CAGR of 8.2 percent**. In **FY25**, agri-food exports, including processed food products, amounted to **USD 49.43 billion**, accounting for about **11.2 percent** of total exports. Notably, the share of **processed food exports** has also risen consistently, from **14.9 percent in FY18** to **20.4 percent in FY25**, indicating a progressive shift toward higher value-added within the agricultural export basket.

These trends underline the expanding role of **processed and diversified** agricultural products in strengthening export competitiveness while creating new opportunities across production, processing, and **global market integration**.

India holds a strong position in global agriculture, supported by diversified production systems and region-specific strengths across cereals, pulses, horticulture, and plantation crops. With the world's **second-largest agricultural land area**, India is a **global leader in farm output**, ranking among the world's top producers across several commodities, reflecting both the scale and sustainability of its agricultural production.

India's Dominance in Cereals, Pulses, and Millets

Rice and Wheat: India ranks as the world's **second-largest producer** of both **rice and wheat**, with output reaching **150.18 million tonnes of rice** and **117.94 million tonnes of wheat** during the **agricultural year 2024-25**. Rice production is primarily concentrated in states such as Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, and West Bengal. At the same time, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Punjab constitute the leading wheat-producing regions, reflecting the **geographic concentration of cereal production** within the country.

Pulses and Millets: India also leads globally in **pulse production**, recording an output of **25.68 million tonnes (2024-25)**, with **Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan** serving as the principal producing states. The country also **ranks first** worldwide in millet production, achieving approximately **18.59 million tonnes (2024-25)**, largely driven by **Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Karnataka**.

In terms of trade performance, **Rice exports** reached **USD 12.95 billion in 2024-2025**, while exports of **pulses and millets** amounted to **USD 855 million** and **USD 59.20 million**, respectively. These figures underscore the growing international demand for diversified, climate-resilient cereal crops, reinforcing India's strategic role in global food and nutrition security.

India's Global Position in Horticulture

Fruits and Vegetables: India is the world's **second-largest producer** of **fruits and vegetables**, with output reaching **114.51 million tonnes of fruits** and **219.67 million tonnes of vegetables** in **2024-25**. **Fruit production** is primarily concentrated in **Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu**, while **Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Gujarat** lead vegetable output. **Exports of fruits and vegetables** amounted to **USD 1,818.56 million in 2024-25**, reflecting the increasing contribution of high-value horticulture crops to India's agricultural trade and in global market integration.

Dry Onion: India also ranks **first** globally in **dry onion production**, contributing nearly **25 percent** of total world output, largely from **Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat**.

India's Leadership in High-Value Cash Crops

Sugarcane: In high-value cash crops, India is the **second-largest** producer of **sugarcane**, with output of **454.61 million tonnes (2024-25)**, mainly from **Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra**.

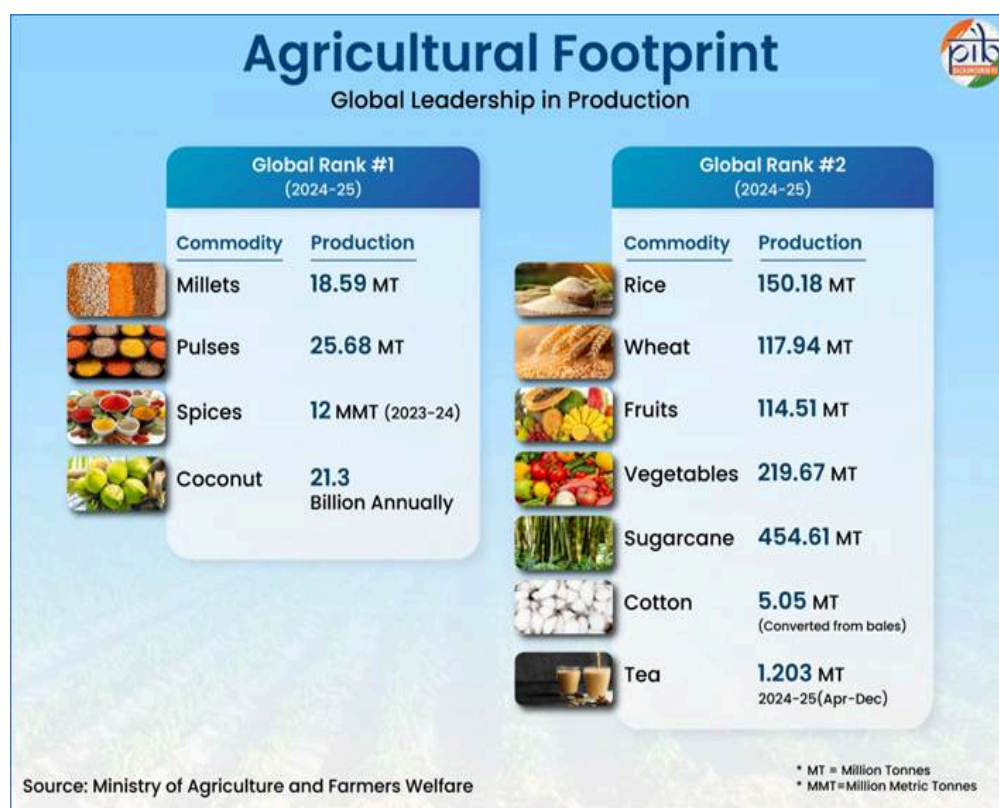
Cotton: India ranks as the world's **second largest producer of cotton**, with output estimated at approximately **5.05million tonnes** (converted from bales) in **2024-25**. Production is concentrated mainly in **Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Gujarat**, which constitute the principal cotton-growing states. **On the trade front, despite global tariff-related challenges, India's cotton exports to the USA during January-October 2025 amounted to USD 31.31 billion, indicating relative stability in export performance amid evolving international market conditions.**

Tea: India ranks **second globally in tea production**, with output reaching **1.203 million tonnes during April-December 2024-25**. Production is concentrated in **Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka**. **Tea exports** during the period from **April to October 2025-26** amounted to **USD 605.90 million, up 15.16 percent** from the corresponding period of the previous year.

Spices: India continues to lead the world as the leading producer, with total production reaching **12 million metric tonnes in 2023-24**. Major producing states include Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh. Spices exports reached **USD 4.52 billion in FY25**, underscoring India's strong global market presence in this segment.

Coconut: India ranks **first** globally in coconut production, with an annual output of approximately **21.3 billion nuts**. Coconut exports were valued at **USD 513 million in 2024-25**, reflecting steady international demand.

Coffee: India produces **around 0.36 million tonnes** of coffee annually, with nearly **70 percent exported to 128 countries**. Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu are the principal producing states. During April-October FY 2025-26, coffee exports amounted to **USD 1,176.31 million**, representing an increase of approximately **12 percent** over the corresponding period of the previous year.



*The Union Budget 2026-27 has emphasised on the promotion of **high value crops**, by announcing targeted support for **coconut, sandalwood, cocoa and cashew in coastal regions, agar trees in the North Eastern states, and high value nuts such as almonds, walnuts and pine nuts in hilly areas**. This region-specific approach reflects a policy intent to harness local agro-climatic strengths, and encourage diversification towards crops that offer higher economic returns.*

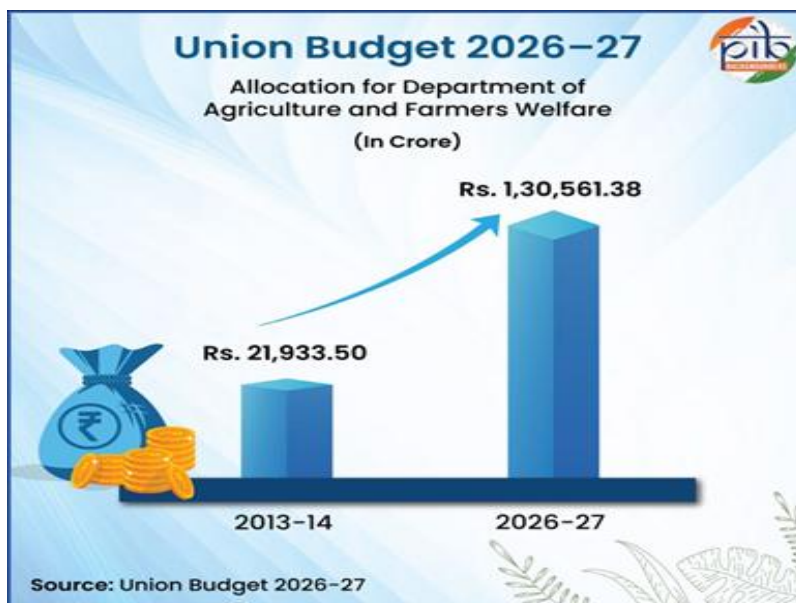
Therefore, India's diversified commodity base and geographically balanced production systems strengthen its role in stabilising **global food supply chains**. The integration of improved production practices with **expanding export markets** reflects a transition towards resilient agriculture that boosts economic growth while promoting long-term environmental balance.

Public Policy Interventions Supporting Resilient Production Systems

India's agricultural policy framework combines **financial support, productivity enhancement, and risk management** measures to strengthen farmer welfare and sectoral resilience.

Budget Allocation

The Government has significantly enhanced budgetary allocations to the agriculture sector, underscoring a long-term policy commitment to strengthening farmers' welfare and rural livelihoods, and over the years, reflecting a consistent commitment to farmers' welfare.



Budget allocation for the **Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** increased from **Rs. 21,933.50 crore** (approximately USD 2.64 billion) in **2013-2014** to **Rs. 1,27,290.16 crore** (approximately USD 15.34 billion) in **2025-26**, representing a **substantial enhancement in public investment over the period**. Building on this trajectory, the budget allocated (2026-27) of **Rs. 1,30,561.38 crore** (approximately USD 15.73 billion) to the **Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** reaffirms the continued prioritization of agricultural development.

From Input Support to Resilient Growth: India's Productivity-Led Agricultural Strategy

India's agricultural development strategy has progressively shifted toward enhancing productivity through improved input-use efficiency, technological adoption, and the promotion of sustainable agronomic practices. Mission-oriented interventions, including the **National Food Security and Nutrition Mission**, the **Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses**, and the **National Mission on Edible Oils-Oilseeds and Oil Palm**, along with targeted extension and institutional credit support, are driving this structural transformation toward higher productivity, reduced import dependence, and enhanced resilience within the agricultural sector.

*The **National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM)**, formerly the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), is a centrally sponsored scheme to increase the production of rice, wheat, pulses, and nutri-cereals/coarse cereals in the country.*

*The **Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses** (2025–31) aims to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses by significantly enhancing domestic production reduce import dependence, and pave the way for an “Aatmanirbhar Bharat” in pulses.*

*The **National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)**, including the **Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)** and **Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds)** initiatives, aims to achieve self-reliance in edible oil production by 2030-31. It focuses on expanding cultivation areas, enhancing production and productivity through quality seeds, enhancing technology, and increasing farm income to reduce import dependency.*

Quality Seeds and Soil Health:

- Under the **Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Materials (SMSP) initiative** (a centrally sponsored scheme under the umbrella scheme of "Green Revolution- Krishonnati Yojana"), approximately **6.85 lakh Seed Villages** have been established, resulting in the production of **1,649.26 lakh quintals** of quality seeds.
- **As of mid-November 2025**, approximately **25.55 crore Soil Health Card** scheme cards have been issued to promote balanced and site-specific nutrient management.
- The share of gross irrigated area has increased to **55.8 percent** under **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)**, reflecting progress in expanding irrigation coverage and improving water-use efficiency.

Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material initiative (SMSP) seeks to expand the supply of certified and quality seeds while improving the seed replacement rate and the standard of farm saved seeds. It also works to modernise seed production, processing, testing and storage infrastructure, and encourages the adoption of advanced techniques across the seed value chain.

A **Soil Health Card** is issued to farmers for each landholding, detailing soil status based on 12 parameters including **Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur, Zinc, Iron, Copper, Manganese, Boron, pH, Electrical Conductivity, and Organic Carbon**. Issued every two years, it guides farmers on suitable fertilisers and soil treatments to maintain long term soil health.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) aims to improve on farm water efficiency by promoting drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. It also supports small scale water storage and conservation measures to strengthen water availability for micro irrigation.

Credit, Mechanisation and Technology:

- Ground-level agricultural credit disbursement reached **Rs.28.67 lakh crore** in FY 2024-25, reflecting the structural expansion of institutional finance to the farm sector.
- As of 31 March 2025, **7.72 crore operative Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** accounts were in operation, strengthening farmers' access to timely and affordable credit.
- Between 2014-15 and 2025-26, **27,554 Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs)** were established to enhance smallholder access to farm mechanisation services. A Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) is a unit comprising a set of farm machinery, implements, and equipment meant for hiring by farmers.
- Livestock sector productivity has been supported through large-scale technology and health interventions, including approximately **125 crore vaccinations** against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) since 2020 and **88.32 million artificial inseminations** conducted during 2024-25.

Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme meets the financial requirements of farmers at various stages of farming. The scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system under a single window with flexible and simplified procedure to the farmers for their cultivation and other needs like short term credit requirements for cultivation of crops, post-harvest expenses, investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities, produce marketing loan, consumption requirements of farmer household, working capital for maintenance of farm assets and activities allied to agriculture.

Sustainable Agriculture, Extension, and Mission Mode Initiatives:



- Natural farming expanded to **17,632 clusters** covering **6.39 lakh hectares**, with **15.79 lakh** farmers enrolled
- Kisan Call Centres handled **30.65 lakh** farmer queries in 2024-25
- Oilseed mission recorded over **18 percent** increase in oilseed area, nearly **55 percent** in production, and about **31 percent** in productivity between **2014-15 and 2024-25**
- Domestic edible oil availability reached 121.75 lakh tonnes in 2023-24
- Ethanol blending saved over **Rs.1.44 lakh crore** in foreign exchange as of **August 2025**

These interventions reflect a shift towards technology-driven, resource-efficient, and improved production systems that strengthen farm productivity and resilience.



Integrated Support for Farmers' Welfare, Risk Management, and Collective Action

Securing stable farm incomes, institutionalising risk mitigation mechanisms, and strengthening cooperative networks are integral to enhancing farmer resilience and sustaining agricultural growth amid increasing climatic and market variability.

Price and Income Support:

- **The Minimum Support Price (MSP)** has been announced for **22 mandated crops** and fixed at least **1.5 times** the cost of production, with upward revisions for the **Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2025-26** and **Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2026-27**
- Under **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)**, over **Rs.4.27 lakh crore** has been disbursed in **22 instalments** (as on 17th March 2026), providing direct income support to farmers.
- **The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PMKMY)** has enrolled **24.95 lakh farmers** as of **2nd Feb 2026**, extending social security coverage to small and marginal cultivators.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), is a **Central Sector Scheme** offering **annual financial assistance of Rs. 6,000/- to each eligible farmer family**, delivered in three equal instalments of **Rs. 2,000/-**, into their Aadhaar seeded bank accounts of farmers through DBT mode.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PMKMY) scheme aims to provide social security net for the **Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF)** by way of pension, as they have minimal or no savings to sustain their livelihood during their old age and to support them in the event of consequent loss of livelihood. Under this scheme, a minimum fixed pension of **Rs.3,000/-per month** will be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years. The scheme is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, with entry age of 18 to 40 years.

Crop Insurance Protection:

- **The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** insured **4.19 crore farmers** during **2024-25**, covering **6.2 crore hectares**.
- Since **2016-17**, over **86 crore applications** have been processed, with claims exceeding **Rs.1.90 lakh crore** disbursed.
- Coverage expanded by **32 percent** compared to **2022-23**, strengthening protection against climate and market-related risks.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is a crop insurance scheme aiming to provide financial protection to farmers against crop loss due to natural disasters (hail, drought, famine), pests, and diseases. PMFBY provides crop insurance at a cost-effective premium to all Indian farmers through a network of insurance companies and banks.

Strengthening Cooperatives and Collective Systems:



- Of 67,930 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) under computerisation, 54,150 have been onboarded onto Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platforms, with 43,658 operational.
- A total of 18,183 new multipurpose cooperative societies were registered by March 2025.
- A decentralised grain storage programme is operational in 11 PACS, with 500 new godowns announced in 2024 to enhance local storage capacity.
- Institutional reforms through the National Cooperation Policy and Tribhuvan Sahkari University aim to strengthen governance and capacity-building within the cooperative sector.

Collectively, these interventions consolidate income stability, institutional risk protection, and expand collective market access, thereby reinforcing the resilience and long-term sustainability of India's agricultural economy.



Market Reforms, Value-Chain Modernisation, and Public Food Distribution

The strengthening of food management systems, market infrastructure, and value addition mechanisms has emerged as a central pillar of India's farm-to-market strategy. Strategic investment in storage capacity, processing facilities, digital market platforms, and public distribution reforms is enhancing supply chain efficiency, stabilising prices, and improving farm-level remuneration. Collectively, these interventions are fostering a more resilient, transparent, and integrated food ecosystem that balances producer incentives with consumer welfare.

Market Linkages and Infrastructure:

Significant investments in market linkages and post-harvest infrastructure have strengthened agricultural value chains and improved producers' integration with formal markets. As of 28 February 2026, 49,796 storage projects had received financial assistance amounting to Rs. 4,832.70 crore, while 25,009 marketing infrastructure projects had received subsidies

totalling **Rs.2,193.17 crore**. The **e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)** platform expanded its outreach to **1.8 crore farmers, 2.72 lakh traders, and 4,724 Farmer-Producer Organisations (FPOs)** across **1,656 mandis** in 23 States and 4 Union Territories, enhancing digital price discovery and inter-market trade.

*The **e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)** is a pan-India electronic trading portal designed to integrate existing APMC (Agricultural Produce Market Committee) mandis across the country into a unified online platform, enabling “**One Nation One Market**” for agricultural commodities. The platform streamlines agricultural marketing by offering single-window services such as commodity arrivals, AI-based quality assaying, e-bidding, and direct e-payment to farmers. It aims to enhance transparency, efficiency, and competitiveness in agricultural trade while expanding market access for farmers and reducing information asymmetry.*

Under the Formation and Promotion of **10,000 FPOs** scheme launched in 2020, 10,000 FPOs had been registered by 28 February 2026. In the fisheries sector, collectivisation has been reinforced through the formation of **2,195 Farmers' Fisheries Producer Organisations (FFPOs)**, alongside the extension of **Kisan Credit Card benefits to 4.39 lakh fishers**, thereby broadening institutional credit access and enhancing sectoral resilience.

Food Processing and Value Addition:

The food processing sector plays a significant role in India's industrial landscape, accounting for **12.91 percent** of organised manufacturing employment. Under the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)**, 1,185 projects had been completed as of 30 November 2025, strengthening **modern processing and cold-chain infrastructure**. The **Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the Food Processing Industry (PLISFI)** approved 169 applications, mobilising investments of **Rs.9,207 crore**, with incentives amounting to **Rs.2,162.55 crore** disbursed by 31 December 2025.

Additionally, the **Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME)** supported **4,04,062 applications**, facilitating **1,72,707 loans** with term lending of **Rs.14.19 thousand crore** and extending seed capital assistance of **Rs.1,277.45 crore** to women Self-Help Groups as of **31 December 2025**, thereby promoting decentralised value addition and inclusive enterprise development.

***Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)** constitutes a comprehensive initiative aimed at developing modern infrastructure for the food processing sector. It seeks to establish an integrated and efficient supply chain spanning from the farm gate to retail markets. The scheme enhances farmers' price realisation, minimises post-harvest losses, promotes value addition, and supports income enhancement. Additionally, it generates rural employment, increases processing capacity, and strengthens the export competitiveness of processed food products.*

***The Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the Food Processing Industry (PLISFI)** proposes financial incentive to modernize and enhance competitiveness of the food processing industry by manufacturing specific categories of food products having high potential for growth in output and value addition.*

***Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME)** is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, designed to address the challenges faced by the micro-enterprises and to tap the potential of groups and cooperatives in supporting the upgradation and formalization of these enterprises.*

Procurement and Food Security:

The Central Government procures foodgrain to ensure food security, while providing price support to farmers through **Minimum Support Prices** announced by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Co-operation. The details of the procurement of food grains are as follows:

- RMS 2025-26 (Wheat): **300.35 LMT** procured; **25.13 Lakh** farmers benefited.
 - KMS 2024-25 (Paddy): **832.17 LMT** procured; **118.59 Lakh** farmers benefited.
 - KMS 2025-26 (Paddy) (as on 17.11.2025): **243.48 LMT** procured; **21.22 Lakh** farmers benefited.
 - Coarse Grains/Milletts 2024-25: **11.72 LMT** procured.
- KMS 2025-26 (Coarse Grains/Milletts) (as on 16.11.2025): **64,365MT** procured (ongoing).

Therefore, the government maintains adequate food stocks to meet buffer norms for **food security**, ensure regular supply through the **Public Distribution System**, and enable market intervention to stabilise open market prices.

Under the **National Food Security Act**, subsidised foodgrains have been provided to **81.35 crore** beneficiaries, covering up to **75 percent of the rural population** and **50 percent of the urban population**.

Storage and Public Distribution System:



The implementation of the **One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)** has achieved **99.8 percent Aadhaar seeding of ration cards**. It has been operationalised across all 36 States and Union Territories, enhancing beneficiary portability and inclusion. Over **99 percent** of the 5.43 lakh Fair Price Shops are equipped with **electronic point-of-sale (ePoS)** devices, facilitating the digitisation of more than **98 percent** of transactions and strengthening transparency in distribution. In FY24, **Rs.267.6 crore** was transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to over **10 lakh beneficiaries**, improving targeting efficiency and accountability. Collectively, these reforms reinforce market integration, **reduce distribution inefficiencies**, and **strengthen food security** within an increasingly digitised farm-to-distribution ecosystem.

Sustainable Development Goals Linkages

India's agricultural initiatives are closely aligned with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, integrating national development priorities with global sustainability commitments. Productivity enhancement, public procurement and food security measures directly contribute to **SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)**. Initiatives promoting sustainable agriculture, including soil health management, natural farming and resource-efficient practices support **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)** and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**. Strategic Investments in post-harvest infrastructure, value addition, storage, and digital agricultural markets reinforce **SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)**. Together, these interventions reinforce a resilient and resilient agricultural ecosystem aligned with global development priorities.

Conclusion

India's **agricultural transformation** reflects a balanced approach that combines strong production growth, expanding **global market presence**, and **targeted policy interventions** across the **farm-to-market value chain**. Record foodgrain and horticulture output, **growing exports**, and diversified commodity leadership demonstrate the sector's **sustainability** and **adaptability** to changing economic and climatic conditions. Mission-driven support through inputs, income protection, market infrastructure, and digital food systems has **strengthened productivity, improved farmer welfare**, and **enhanced food security outcomes**. As resilient production systems continue to evolve, the expanding role of agriculture provides a strong foundation for deeper integration with allied activities, further supporting rural livelihoods, value addition, and long-term economic stability.

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