

## **Agriculture Scenario – India Dated March 8, 2018**

- In India winter season (Rabi) crop sown area of 64.3 mha was less than the last year crop sown area of 64.8 mha. It was on account of lesser area under wheat and oilseed crops.
- Sugar production in India is expected to reach 25 million MT during 2018. Cotton output in India is expected to be 37.7 million bales.
- India contributes to 19 per cent of the world's total milk production. Dairy sector in India is expected to reach to Rs 9.4 trillion (US\$ 145.7) billion by 2020.
- Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ Management of Crop Residue is being promoted in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi by earmarking a budget of Rs. 1151.80 crore ( 2018-2020)
- Around 100 million Soil Health Cards (SHCs) have been distributed in the country during 2015-17 and a soil health mobile app has been launched to help Indian farmers.
- In December 2017, a mobile application which can forewarn farmers about diseases affecting the livestock has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
- Primary Agricultural Credit Society (PACS) are being provided Rs 2,000 crore (US\$ 306.29 million) for computerization so that cooperatives are benefitted through digital technology.
- With an aim to boost innovation and entrepreneurship in agriculture, the Government of India is introducing a new AGRI-UDAAN programme to mentor start-ups and to enable them to connect with potential investors.
- The Government of India has launched the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) with an investment of Rs 50,000 crore (US\$ 7.7 billion) aimed at development of irrigation sources for providing a permanent solution from drought.
- The Government of India plans to triple the capacity of food processing sector in India from the current 10 per cent of agriculture produce and has also committed Rs 6,000 crore (US\$ 936.38 billion) as investments for mega food parks in the country,

as a part of the Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters (SAMPADA).

- The Government of India has allowed 100 per cent FDI in marketing of food products and in food product e-commerce under the automatic route.
- A new platform for selling agricultural produce named e-RaKam has been launched by the Government of India and will operate as a joint initiative of Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited and Central Railside Warehouse Company Limited (CRWC).

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