

Status Report on NCMP Items for the Month of May 2005.

NCMP Name	NCMP Date	NCMP Ministry	NCMP Extract	NCMP Status
1	2	3	4	5
I-2	8/30/04	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) (Seeds Division)	Farmers will be given greater say in the organizations that supply inputs to them	<p>The identification of organizations that supply inputs should extend to other organizations within the fold of the Ministry involved in marketing etc.</p> <p><u>SEEDS</u></p> <p>The Agriculture Minister had vide his latter dated 3rd February, 2005 requested the Minister of Heavy Industry & Public Enterprises to relax the existing guidelines relating to qualification, age and experience as also the requirement for sponsoring the name of three persons for each vacancy so as to facilitate appointment of farmers' representatives on the Board of Directors of National Seeds Corporation (NSC) and State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI). The response from the Ministry of Heavy Industry & Public Enterprises is awaited. The matter is being pursued.</p> <p><u>Fertilizer</u></p> <p>The Department of Fertilizers is administering the manufacturing & distribution of fertilizers. It is, therefore, for that Department to provide adequate representation to farmers' representatives on various Boards and Committees of the Fertilizer Units. However, 34% of fertilizers are being manufactured in the cooperative sector institutions such as KRIBHCO and IFFCO. All the members of these two cooperatives are elected from farmers' cooperatives. The farmers' representatives have, therefore, adequate say in the management of these two institutions.</p> <p><u>Credit</u></p> <p>Presently, 27% of the credit flow is</p>

				<p>through Cooperative Banks. In view of the cooperative nature of these organizations the farming community is adequately represented in the management of the cooperative banks / societies.</p> <p><u>PESTICIDES</u></p> <p>The manufacture of pesticides is largely in the private sector and the Ministry is only performing the regulatory functions of enforcement and registration. The Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee for Pesticides has several professional experts on their committees and has a regular interface with the pesticides manufacturing associations and their representatives to ensure that good quality and non spurious pesticides and insecticides are made available to the farmers at affordable rates.</p> <p><u>MACHINERY</u></p> <p>The manufacture of machinery is primarily in the private sector. However, regular meetings are held with the manufacturers to ensure that farmer friendly and good quality machinery is produced.</p> <p>(b) There should be a Standing Committee of Farmers’ representatives to advise the Ministry on regular basis.</p> <p>The Department has already complied with this requirement and constituted the National Commission on Farmers to advise on farmers related issues along with other allied issues of increased production, productivity and higher incomes.</p> <p>(c) The Farmers Commission will look at the disaggregated solutions for removing stagnation in agricultural production in consultation with State Governments for different agro-climatic zones.</p>
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L-3	8/30/04	DAC (Cooperation Division)	The UPA Government will bring forward a Constitutional Amendment to ensure the democratic, autonomous	<p><u>Amendment to the Constitution in respect of Cooperatives</u></p> <p>The Draft Note for the Cabinet modified in light of comments received from Prime Minister's Office, National Advisory Council and the Ministries / Departments concerned has been referred to the Department of Legal Affairs for advice.</p>

			and professional functioning of cooperatives.	
L-4	8/30/04	DAC (Marketing Division)	Controls that depress the incomes of farmers will be systematically removed.	The Planning Commission have set up a Committee for this purpose. No separate Task Group has been set up in this Department as approved by the PMO.
S-4	8/30/04	DAC (Credit Division)	Crop insurance schemes will be made more effective	The Planning Commission, to which the draft Modified National Agriculture Insurance Scheme, was referred for “in principle” approval, has indicated that the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission will hold a meeting to discuss the proposed Scheme.
S-5	8/30/04	DAC (Crops Division)	The UPA Government will introduce a special programme for dry land farming in the arid and semi-arid regions of the country.	It has been decided to include moisture index as a criterion for identification of districts for the implementation of the scheme. The relevant information has been collected and the Note for EFC is under preparation.
S-8	8/30/04	DAC (Trade Division)	The UPA Government will ensure that adequate protection is provided to all farmers from imports, particularly when international prices fall sharply.	Subsequent to removal of quantitative restrictions on imports in 2001, the Government has increased import duties on a number of agricultural products to provide adequate protection to the domestic farmers. The import duties on wheat, rice, maize, edible oils, pulses, cotton, spices, tea, coffee, areca nut, apple have been increased in the last 05 years. The import duty on refined palm oil has been increased to 75% in the Budget 2004-05.
S-2C		DAC (Marketing, Horticulture & Crops Division)	The UPA Government will ensure that public investment in rural infrastructure is stepped up in a significant	1. <u>Construction of Rural Godowns:</u> During the month of April 2005, the two implementing agencies namely NABARD and NCDC, cleared proposals for setting up of 244 godowns with a capacity of 0.920 lakh tonne. Cumulatively, 9711 storage projects have been sanctioned to create 142.92 lakh MTs of storage

			<p>manner at the very earliest. The UPA will pay special attention to augmenting and modernizing rural infrastructure consisting of irrigation; cold-chain; and marketing outlets.</p>	<p>capacity upto 30.4.2005.</p> <p>2. <u>Development of Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization.</u></p> <p>The Agriculture Minister has requested the Chief Ministers / Administrators of the State Governments / UT Administrations (which have not so far modified their respective APMC Acts) to expedite the marketing reforms so that their States / UTs could also be notified for grant of central assistance under the aforesaid scheme.</p> <p>Meanwhile, National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur organized sensitization programme about the scheme for the officers, entrepreneurs and farmers of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and also for the bankers at Thiruvanthapuram.</p> <p><u>Horticulture</u></p> <p>(i) The number of projects sanctioned under the Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction / Expansion / Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages increased from 1296 with a capacity of 53.02 lakh MTs as on 31st March, 2005 to 1374 with a capacity of 54.02 MTs as on 30th April, 2005.</p> <p>(ii) The EFC Memo for implementing the Scheme on Micro Irrigation during the Tenth Five Plan was approved on 4.5.2005 and a Note for CCEA has been circulated to different Ministries / Departments for their views.</p> <p>(iii) The centrally sponsored scheme on National Horticulture Mission has been approved by the CCEA with an outlay of Rs.2300 crores for implementation in the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan.</p>
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