

. CPS 7-19/2010-NFSM (Pt.)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation  
NFSM Cell

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated the 22nd November, 2010

**Subject:** Proceedings of the Review meeting of the major wheat growing states held at Jaipur on 19.10.2010 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar – regarding.

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With reference to the subject mentioned above, I am directed to forward herewith the proceedings of the Review meeting of the major wheat growing states held at Jaipur on 19.10.2010 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar for favour of your information and comments if any.

(A. Neeraja)  
Director (Crops)

**Distribution:**

**A.DAC:**

1. Shri Vimalendra Saran, PS to Hon'ble AM, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
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3. Shri K.V. Bhaskaran, Addl. PS to Hon'ble MOS(A), Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
4. Addl. Secretary, DAC (AB), Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
5. Agriculture Commissioner, DAC, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
6. Senior PPS to Secretary (A&C), Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi..
7. Senior PPS to Secretary (DARE) and DG (ICAR), Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
8. Joint Secretary (Crops), DAC, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
9. Joint Secretary (Seeds), DAC, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
10. Dr. G.K. Choudhury, Director (Wheat), Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
11. Dr. J.P.Singh, Director, Dte. of Millets Development, Kendriya Sadan, Vidyadhar Nagar, Jaipur.
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**B.ICAR**

13. Dr. K.M.L. Pathak, DDG (AS) , ICAR, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-II, Pusa Complex, New Delhi – 12
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15. Dr. K.C.Jain, ADG, ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
16. Dr. N. Nadarajan, Director, Indian Instt. Of Pulses Research, (ICAR), Kanpur.
17. Dr. S.S. Singh, Director, Dte. of Wheat Research (ICAR), Karnal.
18. Dr. D.M. Hegde, Director, Dte. of Oilseeds Research, Hyderabad.

C. State Govts. & SAU

19. Shri Sunil Porwal, Principal Secretary(Agriculture), Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
20. Shri Roshan Lal, FC & Pr. Secy(Agriculture), Govt. Of Haryana, Sachivalaya, Chandigarh.
21. Principal Secretary(Agriculture), Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
22. Shri A.K.Gupta, Secretary(Agriculture), Govt. of Punjab, Sachivalaya, Chandigarh. Shri Sanjay Agarwal, Principal Secretary(Agriculture), Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Sachivalaya, Lukhnow..
23. Shri Anil Kumar Agarwal, Principal Secretary(Agriculture), Govt. of West Bengal, Writer's Building, Kolkata.
24. Shri Arvinder Singh, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Bihar, Patna.
25. Dr. B.R. Shah, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.
26. Shri A.K. Yadav, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Haryana, Panchkula.
27. Dr. D.N. Sharma, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of MP, Vindhyachal Bhavan, Bhopal.
28. Dr. S.K. Rao, Director (Farms), Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalaya (JNKVV), Jabalpur.
29. Shri Jayant Deshmukh, Director of Agriculture (Extn. & Training), Govt. of Maharashtra, Central Building, Pune.
30. Dr. S.S. Adsul, Director of Agriculture (I & QC), Govt. of Maharashtra, Central Building, Pune
31. Dr. Mukesh Gautam, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of UP, Krishi Bhavan, Lucknow.
32. Dr. K.S. Khokhar, Vice Chancellor, Chaudhry Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCSHAU), Hissar.
33. Dr. Gurdial Singh, Jt. Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Punjab, SCO -82-85, Sector - 34, Chandigarh.
34. Dr. D.M. Singh, Addl. Director of Agriculture (Extn.), Govt. of UP, Krishi Bhavan, Lucknow.
35. Dr. Gurudev Singh, Jt. Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Punjab, SCO -82-85, Sector - 34, Chandigarh.
36. Dr. P.H. Rasan, Wheat Breeder, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth (MPKV), Rahuri.
37. Dr. Chinmoy Kundu, Jt. Director of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal, Writer's Building, Kolkata.
38. Dr. P.K. Bhattacharya, Dy. Director of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal, Writer's Building, Kolkata.

Other PSs :

39. Shri Ram Kumar, PS to Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Shri Paramvir Singh, AH & Dairying, Fisheries & Cooperation, Haryana.
40. Shri Umesh Sharma, PS to Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of MP, Bhopal.
41. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
42. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Shri Narendra Nath Dey, Govt. of West Bengal, Writer's Building, Kolkata.
43. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

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## **Proceedings of the review meeting of nine major wheat growing States on status of preparedness for Rabi 2010-11 held at Hotel Clarks Amer, Jaipur on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2010**

Prospects and preparedness for Rabi 2010-11 of nine major wheat growing States viz. Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal were reviewed in a meeting held at Jaipur on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar. Hon'ble MoS (Agriculture), Prof. K.V. Thomas, Secretary (A&C), Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR and other Senior Officers of DAC and ICAR also attended the meeting. More than 50 delegates that include Agriculture Ministers from five States viz Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal and Senior Officers from the State Departments of Agriculture of the nine (9) States participated in the meeting. The meeting was hosted by the State Government of Rajasthan.

The summary of deliberations is as follows:-

1. Shri Harji Ram Burdak, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of Rajasthan welcomed the Union Agriculture Minister and other dignitaries/guests. Likely increase in crop area, productivity and better prospects for Rabi in view of adequate water availability in the reservoirs and improved soil moisture status in the State was emphasized. Similarly a good harvest of Kharif crops was expected considering good monsoon and it was requested that adequate arrangements be made for procurement of Bajra and Moong at MSP. Additional support for construction of warehouses was also sought for safe storage of harvested grains.

2. Secretary (A & C) in his presentation focused on immense opportunities that exist in the form of a variety of crop development schemes increased funding support by Government of India and flexibility to adapt the program as per the local needs. The large unspent balances from previous year was also highlighted in his presentation and suggested to utilize the same adequately. The production targets for 2010-11 was also highlighted wherein 15 million tonnes of rabi rice, 82 million tonnes of wheat, 11.4 million tonnes of coarse cereals, 10.79 million tonnes of pulses besides 12.5 million tonnes of oilseeds were targeted during 2010-11. The challenges involving area, sowing time, high temperature and management of rust in wheat production and the strategies involving development of stress tolerant varieties, INM, Conservation Agriculture and vigilance in crop status were emphasized. Gram, lentil and peas were indicated to be the most promising rabi pulse crops and he indicated that the strategies for promotion of these pulses should be for area expansion, productivity increase and marketing support. Specific emphasis was laid for promotion of rice and hybrid rice under boro/summer/rabi seasons in Eastern India, besides Intensive Crop Management Practices and promotion of farm mechanization in rice cultivation. Among other issues, promotion of summer moong in North-Western region and involvement of CWC and NCCF in procurement was also highlighted. Secretary (A&C) concluded by stating that the kharif rice production loss could be compensated through good rabi crop cultivation in view of the congenial climatic conditions, ensuring timely supply of inputs, disseminating technologies and farm practices and efficient marketing arrangements and insurance cover through a coordinated effort.

3. Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR in his presentation expressed the major areas of concern involving water, soils, genetic erosion, biotic and abiotic stresses, inefficient energy management, trade and knowledge lag. Three pronged strategies viz; resource management, varietal and allied aspects were the salient features of his presentation. In the context of rainfed agriculture of the country, the DG, ICAR suggested adoption of water harvesting recycling

measures through Integrated Farming System Approach. The state-wise issues and suggestions involving the present status and potential technologies for Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, MP, UP, Bihar, WB, Maharashtra, Chattisgarh and Jharkhand were highlighted in his presentation. The specific problems of stagnating yield, yellow rust, Karnal bunt, menace of *Phalaris minor*, salinity and alkalinity problems with reference to Haryana and Punjab. The advantage of conservation agriculture in respect of the impact of climate change, the IPM technologies, farm mechanization, horticulture were spelt out. The demand for fodder over the years was also highlighted and DG, ICAR suggested active cooperation between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Animal Husbandry in making available fodder in different seasons. The issues of fisheries and poultry and agriculture education and extension were also analyzed with suggestions for active promotion.

4. In his remarks, Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Agriculture), Prof. K.V. Thomas opined that the strategies, issues, focus of optimal utilization of resources shall have to be looked into for achieving the envisaged production targets of 82 million tonnes of wheat and 16.50 million tonnes of pulses during the current year. In case of pulses, the Minister stated the problems of moisture stress and incidence of pests and diseases could well be addressed by seed priming, cultivation of disease resistant varieties, seed and soil treatment and replenishment of soil micro-nutrients. A proper pest surveillance system was also stressed upon for initiating timely action for any possible pest/disease outbreak. Climate change and the yield reduction due to temperature increase were also focused. The Minister stressed upon the states to tap potential and opportunities that arose out of the favourable agro-climatic conditions and expressed hope that DAC, States and ICAR Institutions should work together for realizing yield potentials.

## 5. Presentation by the States:-

5.1 **Haryana:** The presentation made by Shri Paramvir Singh, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of Haryana is summarized as under:-

- In spite of heavy rains and flash floods, the production of major Kharif crops i.e. rice and Bajra almost maintained the production level of Kharif-2009.
- The heavy rains during Kharif have helped in recharging the groundwater and making soil profile healthy giving a good opportunity for growing Rabi crops.
- The targets of production of wheat and gram have been kept at 114.62 Lakh tonnes and 1.43 Lakh tonnes as against the actual production of 105.00 Lakh tonnes and 0.62 Lakh tonnes respectively during last year. The target of production for mustard was kept 2.01 lakh tones more than that of the previous year.
- Planned for making availability of the required quantities of certified seeds and 100% seed treatment during Rabi, 2010.

### Issues:

- Urgent need to develop terminal heat resistant varieties of wheat.
- Development of high yielding and salinity resistant variety of gram.
- Inclusion of entire state under NFSM-wheat.
- Control measures for management of *Orobanche* – a parasitic weed of mustard.

**5.2 Madhya Pradesh:** Shri Ram Krishan Kushmaria, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of Madhya Pradesh gave a brief account of the State, which was followed by a detailed presentation by the Director of Agriculture, Government of Madhya Pradesh. The deliberations are summarized as under:-

- State has kept a production target of 95.12 Lakh tonnes of wheat, 44.18 Lakh tonnes for pulses and 11.50 of oilseeds for Rabi 2010-11 with an area target of 41 Lakh ha (wheat), 31.45 Lakh ha (gram), 6 Lakh ha (Lentil) ; thus the total area targeted under pulses during 2010-11 rabi has been kept at 39.22 lakh ha. Target of 8.75 Lakh ha for mustard has been kept for the year.
- Planned for 100% seed treatment in Rabi crops from the present 80%; seed distribution has been targeted as 7.05 lakh tonnes of wheat (durum) seeds and 2.16 lakh tonnes of chickpea seeds . The target for SRR has been stated to be at 30% in Wheat, 25% in Mustard and 10% in Gram have been kept to be achieved during rabi, 2010.
- The fertilizer demand is being fulfilled mostly; as against the demand of 21.62 lakh tonnes of total of all the fertilisers, the acceptance by GOI has been 20.66 lakh tonnes with minor shortfall in urea, DAP, NPK complex and MOP.

**Issues:**

- Problem relating to non-bearing of fruits in blackgram (PU-19, PU-31 and PU-40) supplied by SFCI during current *Kharif*.: similar problem was observed in case of Til (Sesamum) variety TKG-6 supplied by NSC.
- Capacity building of farmers through organizing of farm schools on a larger scale with PPP mode
- Enhancement of the rate of cost for each soil health card from present Rs.10/- to Rs.200/- per card which includes soil testing costs.
- Enhanced support for mechanization, additional requirement of fertilizers, release of funds under cotton and additional support for warehouses.
- Setting up of National Organic Farming Mission and Central Agriculture University at Khajuraho for catering the need of Bundelkhand.
- Setting up a National Research Instt. for Cow under ICAR.
- Provision of Revolving fund for seed production society to be made.

**5.3 West Bengal:** The deliberations made by Shri Narendra Nath Dey, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of West Bengal is summarized as under:-

- An area of 10.55 Lakh ha remained fallow during Kharif-2010 due to deficit rainfall by 30%. As a contingent planning, seed minikits of blackgram and Toria were distributed.
- To make good the loss of *Kharif*, the State has taken up a massive programme for expansion of low water requiring crops like; pulses, oilseeds, maize and wheat.
- State has already distributed 7.45 Lakh seed minikits in drought affected districts with the assistance from RKVY, NFSM and State Plan. Equal number of minikits of micro-nutrients would also be distributed.

- State has planned for distribution of 5000 pump sets to 5000 Self Help Group with 75% subsidy (50% from MMA + 25% from State Plan budget).
- State has worked out an area target of 3.57 Lakh ha of wheat, 2.28 Lakh ha of pulses, 8.63 Lakh ha and 0.96 Lakh ha of maize for Rabi 2010-11. FFS were established. Area increase is envisaged under wheat (40,000 ha), under Pulses (39000 ha), Maize (7800 ha) and oilseeds (1.46 lakh ha.).
- Special thrust under Boro rice cultivation (area increase by 68,000 ha.); more than 4.55 lakh seed minikits planned to be distributed.

**Issues:**

- Subsidy for bio-fertilizers/organic manures may be provided.
- Priority for rake movement for fertilizer in WB.
- Reversal of 80% indemnity level in case of potato under NAIS
- Problems of acid soils and micronutrient deficiencies in North Bengal Districts in particular
- Soil condition to be improved in the state, mechanization, availability of suitable varieties and improved irrigation coverage for enhanced pulses production.

**5.4 Maharashtra:** The presentation made by Shri Gulab Rao Devkar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra is summarized as under:-

- Setting up of pulse mission through integration of Central/State schemes of pulses. The crops include Redgram, Blackgram, Greengram and Chickpea.
- Strategy would focus on timely sowing, INM, adoption of micro-irrigation, mechanization and FFSs.
- State has implemented mechanization programme under 60,000 oilseeds and pulses village programme.
- Production targets of 58.37 Lakh tonnes of rabi foodgrains which includes Rabi sorghum (21.77 Lakh tonnes), wheat (24.66 Lakh tonnes), Rabi pulses (13.05 lakh tonnes) has been kept for Rabi during 2010-11. A target of 2.58 lakh tonnes has been kept for oilseeds for Rabi 2010-11.
- The seed replacement rate for wheat, gram, rabi jowar and safflower have been targeted as 45%, 2% , 15 % and 23% respectively during rabi 2010.
- Necessary arrangement for supply of seed and other input has been ensured in the State. However, State has requested for assured supply of fertilizers as per approved plan of the State.
- The area targeted for 2010-11 under wheat is 13 lakh ha and the production target is 24.66 lakh tonnes. The strategies are timely sowing, availability of certified/quality seeds, balanced use of fertilizer and micro nutrients, irrigation at critical growth stages and promoting use of water saving devices.

**Issues :**

Additional units of 25 block demonstrations under A3P for gram and additional funds under micro-irrigation.

- More funds for micro irrigation (Rs. 600 crores)
- Timely availability of fertilizers during the season.
- Additional provision of fund for farm mechanization under NFSM.

**5.5 Punjab:** The highlights of the presentations made by the Secretary Agriculture, Government of Punjab are given as under:-

- 42-75% contribution in wheat procurement for central pool.
- The water levels in reservoirs in 3 major dams viz; Ranjeet Sagar, Bhakhra and Pong dam was focused to be higher over the previous years which was stated to be due to the enhanced south-west monsoon period during 2010-11.
- The wheat productivity targets for *Rabi* 2010-11 has been kept 4400 Kg/ha with a total production targets 154 Lakh tonnes.
- Targets for Rabi pulses are worked out at 21.75 thousand tonnes during 2010-11 and the area under Rabi/summer pulses have shown increasing trends in the coming season. However, assured procurement of pulses in the season requested.
- Enhanced targets of 0.47 Lakh tonnes have been kept for oilseeds during Rabi 2010-11 as against average production of 0.34 Lakh tonnes during last 3 years.
- Capacity building of field functionaries and farmers on a massive scale.
- Promotion of conservation agriculture on a larger scale.
- Replacement of PBW-343 by suitable varieties DBW-17 and PBW-550 to arrest the incidence of yellow rust. Enhanced seed replacement rate of 37% in wheat, 40% in rabi pulses and 90% in rapeseed and mustard have been targeted during 2010-11. The varietal replace rate with PBW 550 and DBW-17 during 2010-11 have been targeted to be 23% and 41% respectively.

**Issues :**

- Requested for assured supply of fertilizers particularly 2 Lakh MT of DAP in the month of October and up to 10<sup>th</sup> of November, 2010.
- Assured supply of power in the tube well areas.
- Assured procurement of summer moong as the area under the crop has been targeted to be increased to 2 Lakh ha during 2010-11.
- Inclusion of all districts under NFSM-Wheat.

**5.6.1 Uttar Pradesh:** The highlights of the presentations made by the Principal Secretary of Agriculture, Government of Uttar Pradesh are given as under:-

- Increased production targets of wheat (309.21 Lakh tonnes), pulses (24.89 Lakh tonnes) and oilseeds (8.40 Lakh tonnes) during Rabi 2010-11.
- Shortage of seeds of major Rabi crops viz; wheat, barley and pulses like gram & lentil were highlighted, but stated that adequate tie up has been made to meet the demand.

- As against the requirement of 8 Lakh MT of fertilizers for October, 2010, 12.04 Lakh MT are available.
- Large number of *Kisan Melas* are planned both at district and block levels with a partnership of input companies/retailers, SAUs, KVKs, Government Departments and Banks.
- A noble concept “*Krishi ka Sandesh Laya, Dakiya Dak Laya*” to use postal services for transfer of technology. ATMA Sandesh, Krishi Chintan and other technical literature would be delivered by the Postman (Dakiya) in all 5200 Gram Panchayat.
- Replacement of PBW-343 and PBW-373 by PBW-502, PBW-550, PBW-509 and DBW-17 encouraged (6.24 Lakh quintals seed arranged).
- 80% sowing of wheat targeted by November and rest 20% by 10<sup>th</sup> December planned; short duration HYV wheat – Halna planned for late sown wheat areas.
- Balanced use of fertilizers as per soil test value, FYM, bio fertilizers and zinc sulphate in deficient areas.
- Large scale mechanization.
- For pulses, foundation seed production programme, use of gypsum in sulphur deficient areas, popularization of micro irrigation system in Bundelkhand, Intensive IPM campaign, cultivation of pulses in newly developed lands, formation of state pulses production mission, promotion of inter cropping of pulses with sugarcane have been planned; 3.2 lakh qtls. of seeds arranged.
- Popularizing new varieties of oilseeds through minikts, IPM coverage and use of gypsum as a source of sulphur.

**Issues :**

- Requested for release of first installment of funds under ATMA, NFSM and AGRISNET for smooth implementation of the programme and
- Sought control measures for blue bulls in pulses areas.

5.7 **Bihar:** Director of Agriculture, Government of Bihar in his presentation highlighted the following:-

- Reduced coverage of area under rice and maize due to irregular distribution of monsoon during Kharif 2010.
- During Rabi 2010-11, area targeted under boro/summer rice have been kept at 2 Lakh ha, wheat (24 Lakh ha) and Rabi/summer maize (5.50 Lakh ha). In case of pulses, the targeted area have been kept at 7.25 Lakh ha and oilseeds 2 Lakh ha. varieties viz. Prabhat, Gautam, Richaria, Khitij, IR-64, N-97 and PNR-S-191- seed requirement 25,000 qtls.
- A number of initiatives have been taken for augmenting the availability of quality seed, subsidy distributed at source variety-wise tie-up with seed agencies and distribution of foundation seeds for enhanced seed availability.

**Issues :**

- Enhanced allocation of fertilizers and matter relating to rake point restriction and non-availability of rakes at production unit/port during peak period needs GOI interventions.
- Low availability of seed of Boro/summer rice.
- Suggested for uniform and enhanced subsidy on farm implements under different Schemes of DAC; increased subsidy in case of paddy transplanted reaper, lesser land leveler, tractor and combined harvester.
- Provision sheds/godowns at district level for effective storage and maintenance of farm machinery.
- Subsidy on private hybrid maize seed.

5.8 **Gujarat:** The presentation made by the Director of Agriculture, Government of Gujarat is summarized as under:-

- Better water availability in the reservoirs during current *Rabi* season (84.86 %) than *Rabi* 2009-10 (67.5 %).
- Necessary tie-up has been made for supply of seed with seed supplying agencies. The State Government has also made a provision of Rs. 20 Crores from State budget for improvement of SRR of wheat, gram and mustard.
- Supply of large number of seed treating drum to achieve higher coverage (> 90%) under seed treatment.
- Ambitious production targets have been worked out for wheat (43.40 Lakh tonnes); gram (2.50 Lakh tonnes) and mustard (5.20 Lakh tonnes) as against an average production of 36.09 Lakh tonnes (wheat), 1.99 Lakh tonnes (gram) and 4.57 Lakh tonnes (mustard) during last 3 years.
- Summer bajra planned; for seed requirement of all crops necessary tie ups have been made. The SRR during 2010-11 targeted for wheat as 30.78%, Moong as 35.25%, Urd 33.47% and Gram 26.65% besides mustard 90%.
- All arrangements have also been made for capacity building of farmers and creating publicity through TV, radio and print media.

**Issues :**

- Sought subsidy on groundnut kernels instead of groundnut pods.

5.9 **Rajasthan:** Presentation made by Shri Harji Ram Burdak, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of Rajasthan is summarized as under:-

- Receipt of good rains after a decade in the State has provided better prospects for *Rabi* crops in Rajasthan during 2010-11.
- Involvement of private sectors on PPP mode for supply of hybrid seed of Bajra and maize under RKVY has helped in productivity improvement during *Kharif*. The similar efforts would be use during *Rabi* 2010-11.

- State has recognized and awarded 474 progressive farmers at State, District and Panchayat Samiti level.
- Massive support for creation of water harvesting structures (farm ponds, Khet Talai, Diggi) and use of drip and sprinklers for optimal use of water resources.
- The State has kept a production target of 80.6 Lakh tonnes of wheat, 8.4 lakh tonnes of Barley, 11.55 Lakh tonnes for pulses and 39.25 Lakh tonnes of oilseeds during Rabi 2010-11.
- The Seed Replacement Rates have been targeted under wheat as 35.42%, Barley 47.5%, Gram 9.65% and Mustard 86.69%.
- Introduction of “Policy for Promotion of Agro-processing and Agri-business-2010” would encourage the farmers of Rajasthan to invest for productivity improvement.

**Issues :**

- Requested for financial assistance for additional warehouses for storing harvested grains and provision for assured procurement of Bajra and Moong on MSP.
- Fertilizer shortage during the season should be addressed; adequate rail rakes be arranged.

6. Before summing up the session, the Hon’ble Union Agriculture Minister sought the specific input from Directorate of Wheat Research on the availability of varieties with reference to terminal heat stress problems.

Dr. S.S. Singh, Director, Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal apprised in this regard that the time of sowing is crucial in management of terminal heat. The wheat crop sown before 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 normally escapes the terminal heat problem. Besides, there some varieties like DBW-17, PBW-550, NW-3026, which are capable of combating the problem of heat stress as well as the rusts problems.

**CONCLUSION AND ACTION POINTS:**

7. While summing up the session, the Hon’ble Union Minister of Agriculture made the following observations and announcement:-

7.1 Hon’ble Union Minister of Agriculture indicated that this is the third meeting held at Jaipur in the series of regional meetings, the first two at Kolkata for the Eastern States and at Guwahati for the North Eastern States. The next regional review meeting will be in the South in the near future. The meeting with Animal Husbandry and Fisheries shall be held in near future.

7.2 As per the 1<sup>st</sup> Advance Estimates, Hon’ble Minister expressed his happiness indicating that Kharif prospects are very promising and hoped that the Rabi season ahead will be equally good in view of availability of water in the reservoirs and adequate moisture availability in the fields. Funds are available with the States for implementation of supporting programmes.

- 7.3 No shortage of input including seed was reported by any of the State except States of Punjab and West Bengal who have requested for additional supply of fertilizers and allotment of rakes. The matter will be taken up with the Fertilizer Ministry  
*(Action: Ministry of Fertilizer).*
- 7.4 The farmers of the country taking advantage of the Accelerated Pulses Production Programme will definitely achieve the production target of pulses of 16.50 million tonnes during the current year.
- 7.5 Normally, the MSP is enhanced @ 10%, but this year Govt. has increased the MSP of pulses by 30% with additional bonus of Rs. 5/- per Kg to the farmers. The MSP for Rabi would be decided by the Cabinet very soon.
- 7.6 In order to strengthen procurement operations, CWC and NCCF in addition to NAFED have been designated as the Central Agencies for procurement of pulses at MSP.  
*(Action: CWC, NCCF AND NAFED).*
- 7.7 Besides MSP , efforts by the central Govt. have seen a manifold increase in agricultural credit. From 86,000 crores four years back, today it is nearly 3.75 lakh crores for 2010-11. Besides a 2% interest subvention for timely repayment which effectively brought down the interest rate to 5%.
- 7.8 Considering the favorable agro climatic conditions, active promotion of technologies through the Government schemes and programmes like NFSM, A3P, RKVY, ISOPOM etc. support from ICAR institutions for pest control and for issuing crop advisories from time to time and effective coordination with State extension machinery up to village level, the production targets of 82 million tons of wheat, 10.79 million tons of pulses, set for the Rabi crops could be met.
- 7.9 Agriculture Minister announced a scheme to award the good performing states. Under the scheme the states that exceed the achievements of the best production level so far in foodgrains in terms of area and production, will be recognized at the national level along with three cash awards each comprising of Rs. 5 Crores, Rs. 3 Crores and Rs. 2 Crores to the 3 best performing States in order of their merit.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks by Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Government of India.

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