



Weekly Report (December 2020)

**Commodity Outlook and
Situation Analysis Project**

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COMMODITY OUTLOOK AND SITUATION ANALYSIS



Centre broadens its stratagem's to measure farmers' income



The BJP-led central government planned to widen the means in order to measure the earnings of farmers' by calculating the income of cultivars in the financial year 2022-23. In the year 2016, the government had declared to double farmers' income and to raise them by 100 percent in a span of six years, i.e. 2022-23. Given that raising agriculture GDP twice would need an extensive unparalleled growth rate of farm, the target astonished Indian economists completely. It is to be noted that GDP is the most commonly used measure of income which embodies the value of all goods and services generated by an economy. Though nearly half of the Indian population depends on agri-sector, its growth has remained submissive for the past five years, affecting the farm incomes proportionately. On this ground, the government has started pondering over the numbers and policy measures, and thus, has initiated stratagems to assess the change in the income of the farmers', and consequently, the government will measure the gross total earnings of a farm-household on a base year of 2016-17.

Walmart Foundation to support Farmers' livelihood in India, announced to grant Rs. 34 crore



Walmart Foundation, the philanthropic division of Global WalMart declared to grant nearly Rs. 34 crore to Digital Green and Technoserve as part of its long-standing commitments. This grant would serve as the basis for the schemes and programmes designed to aid smallholder farmers to have access to training on modern agriculture practices and technologies. In the year 2018, Walmart Foundation had announced of providing a support of US\$ 25 million for the next five years to improve the condition and livelihood of the farming community in India. Kathleen McLaughlin, EVP and Chief Sustainability Officer at Walmart and President of Walmart Foundation said, “These grants are expected to have a positive impact on more than 81,000 farmers in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh.” Further she added that the Walmart India’s direct farm-sourcing team would extend its support in reviving sustainable agriculture practices in India.

India's water man appeals for cohesive watershed development to counter drought



While addressing the audience at the 52nd foundation day celebrations at Pune-headquartered BAIF Development Research Foundation (BDRF), the Water man of India, Sri Rajendra Singh urged the government to design an integrated watershed development approach to reduce the condition of drought in the country. Condemning the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), he cited that the scheme doesn't focus on community-driven programmes and is completely contractor-driven and corporate-driven. The 2015 Stockholm Water Prize recipient called for an increase in canopy cover to reduce the phenomena of evaporation. He also warned that India must be ready to counter the adversities of climate change in coming years and must start relying on other alternatives resources.

India's western Gujarat state tops in water management practices



India's western state of Gujarat continues to be at the apex in the field of water management practices whereas states like Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have improved their grades, according to the NITI Ayog's report. Other states like U.P, Bihar, Odisha and Jharkhand have joined the bracket of low-performing strata. The Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) by NITI Aayog evaluated the performance of states across India over a set of water indicators for the last three years. Sadly, 16 out of the 27 states in the country still scored less than 50 points on the Index and consequently, fell in the low-performing category.

India urges SAARC nations to practice uniform GAP standards



With an aim to boost regional trade in South Asian regions, India called for practicing uniform national standards on Good Agriculture Practices (GAP). GAP is a benchmark that defines valid measures and inputs need to be followed up by the farmers for producing safe and high quality agri-products across the world. In India, the standards are set in and managed by the Quality Council of India (QCI).