

Development was initiated in 1952 in this country. Another programme designed to encourage the participation of masses in the planning process (and political decision-making) was the programme of democratic decentralisation, often known as Panchayati Raj.

- **Institutional credit:** A National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) was also set up. As a result of the expansion of institutional credit facilities to farmers, the importance of moneylenders has declined steeply and so has the exploitation of farmers at the hands of moneylenders.
- **Procurement and support prices:** To provide remunerative prices to the farmers
- **Input subsidies to agriculture:** The government has provided massive subsidies to farmers on agricultural inputs like irrigation, fertilisers and power.
- **Food security system:** In a bid to provide food grains and other essential goods to consumers at cheap and subsidised rates, the Government of India has built up an elaborate food security system in the form of Public Distribution System (PDS) during the planning period.
- **Rural employment programmes:** The government introduced various poverty alleviation programmes particularly from Fourth Plan onwards like Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA), Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labour Development Agency (MFAL), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY), Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), etc.
- **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY):** The RKVY was launched in 2007-08 with an outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore in the Eleventh Plan for incentivising States to enhance public investment to achieve 4 per cent growth rate in agriculture and allied sectors during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. The RKVY format permits taking up national priorities as sub-schemes, allowing the States flexibility in project selection and implementation. The sub-schemes include: Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI); Integrated Development of 60,000 pulses villages in Rain fed Areas; Promotion of Oil Palm; Initiative on Vegetable Clusters; Nutri-cereals; National Mission for Protein Supplements; Accelerated Fodder Development Programme; and Saffron Mission.
- **National Food Security Mission (NFSM):** The NFSM is a crop development scheme of the Government of India that aims at restoring soil health and achieving additional production of 10, 8 and 2 million tonnes of rice wheat and pulses, respectively by the end of 2011-12. It was launched in August 2007 with an approved outlay of Rs. 4,883 crore for the period 2007-08 to 2011-12. The Mission has focused on the Districts with productivity of wheat/rice below the State average.
- **Macro Management of Agriculture.** Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) is one of the centrally sponsored scheme formulated in 2000-01 with the objective to ensure that Central assistance is spent through focused and specific interventions for development of agriculture in States. To begin with, the scheme initially consisted of 27 Centrally sponsored schemes relating to Cooperative Crop Production Programmes (for rice, wheat, coarse cereals, jute, sugarcane), Watershed Development Programme (National Watershed Development Project for Rain fed Areas, River Valley Projects/ Flood Prone Rivers),