Market chains

- The growth of communication networks needs to be supported amongst actors in the chain (farmers, transporters, buyers, traders, etc) in order to ensure more equitable, timely and collaborative access to markets for small holders.
- Government should put policies into place that systematically capture local knowledge, ensure appropriate research agenda setting and support the functioning of intermediary organizations.
- Government should aid the process of identification and vertical integration of diverse ICT tools that are employed in present day agricultural practices.

Research and Innovation

- Researchers and extensionists require continued training in how to interact and share knowledge more effectively using the new digital technologies.
- Academic and research data in agriculture, available in the form of journals and research paper needs to be digitalized to facilitate cross flow of information.
- At local and sub-national level, there should be institutional mechanism, mainly multi-stakeholder, to link rural communities with universities, research agencies through intermediary organizations.

7. Miscellaneous

7.1. Digital India Program

- The Digital India programme is a flagship programme of the Government of India with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- This programme has been envisaged by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY).
- Its **objective** is to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- Its **intended beneficiary** are citizens through improved IT infrastructure and service delivery

Salient Features of Digital India Programme

The Digital India programme is centred on **three key vision areas**:

- Digital Infrastructure as a Utility to Every Citizen
- Governance & Services on Demand
- Digital Empowerment of Citizens

It aims to provide the much needed thrust to the **nine pillars of growth areas**, namely:

- Broadband Highways,
- Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity,
- Public Internet Access Programme,
- e-Governance: Reforming Government through Technology,
- e-Kranti - Electronic Delivery of Services,
- Information for All, Electronics Manufacturing,
- IT for Jobs and
- Early Harvest Programmes.

Some of the **projects launched under the Digital India initiative**:

- **Digital locker system** to minimise usage of physical documents and enable their e-sharing via registered repositories.