

Crop Cutting Experiments (CCE)

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Why in News?

The recent NSO's Annual Report on Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS) Scheme, 2023-24 has raised concerns about the quality of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs).

- **Crop Cutting Experiment (CCE)** is a field-based statistical method to estimate crop yield.
- **Method** - A scientifically selected portion of a field is harvested, threshed, cleaned and weighed.
 - The result is used to calculate yield per hectare.
 - Final crop production is mainly calculated using - Area under crop × Average yield per hectare.
- **Key Findings of the Report**
 - Only 72% of CCEs in 2023-24 followed the prescribed scientific procedures.
 - Around 28% had procedural lapses or errors.
 - About 11% had errors in crop selection, harvesting or weighing.
 - Around 10% had errors in recording information such as irrigation, seeds and fertilisers.
 - Selected villages or fields were frequently replaced in several states, affecting the quality of scientific sampling.
 - Supervision was inadequate in several states.
 - Some CCEs were conducted by untrained personnel, raising concerns about data accuracy.
- **CCEs Importance** - Official crop estimates influence
 - Minimum Support Price (MSP) and procurement
 - Public Distribution System (PDS)
 - Food grain imports and exports
 - Food security planning
 - Crop insurance claims
 - Agricultural policy and planning
- **Measures** -
 - Ensure 100% supervision of CCEs.
 - Train field personnel properly.
 - Update the General Crop Estimation Survey (GCES) plan.

- Ensure timely selection of fields.
- Improve coordination with farmers.
- Strengthen digital monitoring and quality checks.

Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS) scheme

- **Introduced jointly by** - Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) and state authorities in 1973-74
- **Purpose** - To check and evaluate the quality of crop-area enumeration and crop-cutting experiments conducted by state field workers.
- **Executing Agency** - National Statistical Office (NSO)
- **Scope** - It operates across multiple states and union territories to maintain data integrity for India's agricultural policy and food security planning

Reference

[Down To Earth| Crop Cutting Experiments \(CCE\)](#)

