Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana

Mains: *GS 3 - Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.*

Why in news?

Recently, the Union Cabinet approved the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) which was announced in 2025-26 Union budget.

What is Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana?

- It is a scheme to ***develop 100 agricultural districts.***
- **Launched by** – Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- **Basis** – It is designed on the *lines of the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)*.
- **Objectives –** Enhancing agricultural productivity.
- Adopting crop diversification and sustainable agriculture practices
- Augmenting *post-harvest storage at the panchayat and block level*
- Improving irrigation facilities
- Facilitating *availability of long-term and short-term credit*.
- **Beneficiaries –** 100 districts with low productivity, moderate crop intensity and below-average credit parameters.
- **Budget –** Rs.24,000 crore per year.
- **Implementation period –** *6 years*, beginning with the financial year, 2025-26.
- **Guidance and capacity building support by** – NITI Aayog

How it will be implemented?

- **Implementation** – It will be implemented through the *convergence of 36 existing schemes across 11 Departments,* other State schemes, and local partnerships with the private sector.
- **Identification of 100 districts** - It will be based on 3 key indicators
    - Low productivity
    - Low cropping intensity
    - Less credit disbursement
- The number of districts in each State/Union Territory will be based on the share of Net Cropped Area and operational holdings.
- However, a *minimum of 1 district will be selected from each State*.
- **Implementation arm** – *Committees will be formed* at district, State and national levels for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of the scheme.
- **A master plan** - This will include agriculture and allied activities which will be drawn

up for every district.

District Agriculture and Allied Activities Plan
• **Prepared by** - District Dhan Dhaanya Samiti headed by the Collector. • **Members** – Progressive farmers. • **Alignment with national goals** - Crop diversification - Conservation of water and soil health - Self-sufficiency in agriculture and allied sectors - Expansion of natural and organic farming

- **Technical knowledge partners –** Central and state agriculture universities.
- **Monitoring** – The progress of the scheme in each Dhan-Dhaanya district will be monitored on a *monthly basis on 117 Key Performance Indicators.*
- A portal/ dashboard will be developed for this purpose.
    - *Central Nodal Officers (CNOs)* will be appointed for field visits, review and monitoring.
- **Ranking districts** – It is based on their performance.

What are the expected outcomes?

- **Higher agricultural productivity** – It can help in achieving higher agricultural productivity and also can *enhance value addition* in agriculture and allied sectors.
- **Local livelihood creation –** It can create sustainable employment and income opportunities within communities.
- **Achieve self-reliance –** It will *increase domestic production* with local manufacturing, innovation and resource utilization.
- **Growth of national indicators** - As the indicators of these 100 districts improve, the national indicators will automatically show an upward trajectory

What lies ahead?

- **Resilient farming -** should not be dependent on credit, instead expand and diversify income streams for farmers via allied and value-added activities.
- **Build capacity and awareness –** provide training and awareness programme for farmers.
- **Build private – public partnership**– foster collaboration with start-up, private sector and research institution for innovation.

Quick Facts

- **Cropping intensity** – It is defined as the *% of gross cropped area to the net area sown.*
- Simply put, it means the number of crops grown on a piece of land in an agricultural year (July-June).
- At the all-India level, it was recorded at 155 % in 2021-22, but there were variations across states.
- It is a measure of how efficiently land is used.

Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)
• **Launched in –** 2018. • **Target –** India's 112 most underdeveloped districts, • **Aim** – To transform the districts quickly and effectively. • **Implementation and monitoring by** - NITI Aayog • **Working –** It is based on the 3 Cs, - Convergence of central and state schemes - Collaboration of central and state level nodal officers and District Collectors - Competition among districts through monthly delta ranking based on incremental progress in 49 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) under 5 socio – economic themes. • **Five broad socio-economic themes** - Health & Nutrition, - Education, - Agriculture & Water Resources, - Financial Inclusion & Skill Development, and - Infrastructure.

Reference

The Indian Express| Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana

