Self-Reliance in Pulses Mission

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Economy*

Why in News?

The Union Agriculture Minister reviewed NAFED procurement operations and discussed Self-Reliance in Pulses Mission to ensure assured MSP procurement and boost domestic pulses production.

- **Aim –** Achieve self-reliance in pulses production and strengthen MSP procurement.
- **Launched in –** 2025, also known as Dalhan Aatmanirbharta Mission.
- **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- **Objectives**
- **Self-Sufficiency -** Increase pulses production to 350 lakh tonnes and cultivation area to 310 lakh hectares.
- **MSP Assurance -** Ensure ***100% procurement of Tur, Urad, Masoor for four years.***
- **Import Reduction -** Reduce dependency on imports and strengthen Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- **Key Features**
- **Seed Support –** Distribution of 88 lakh free seed kits and 126 lakh quintals of certified seeds.
- **High-Yield Varieties –** Promotes climate-resilient, pest-resistant, high-yield pulse varieties.
- **Infrastructure –** Strengthen procurement centres and post-harvest storage.
- **Cluster Approach –** Use cluster-based cultivation, seed hubs, and FPOs for efficiency.
- **Technology –** Implement ***SATHI Portal for seed traceability*** and quality monitoring.
- *e-Samriddhi, developed by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) to streamline the procurement process* from farmer registration to final payment.
- **Operational Strategy –** States prepare five-year seed production plans, monitored by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) (2025–31).
- Expand pulses into rice fallows and suitable lands, promote intercropping and diversification.
- **Status of Pulses Production in India –** ***India is the world's largest producer and consumer of pulses.***
- Production increased from 192.6 lakh tonnes (2013–14) to 252.38 lakh tonnes (2024–25), reflecting a growth of around 31%.

- But, Imports still 47.38 lakh tonnes (2023–24).
- **Major Producing States –** Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka

Quick Facts
Price Support Scheme (PSS) • Component of PM-AASHA to ensure remunerative prices for farmers. • **Launched in** – 2018 • **Mechanism –** Central agencies like NAFED and FCI physically procure pulses, oilseeds, and copra from farmers with the active participation of State governments. **Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF)** • **Launched in** – 2014-15 under the Department of Consumer Affairs to regulate price volatility of pulses, onions, and potatoes. • **Objective –** Maintain strategic buffer stocks for calibrated release to moderate prices, discourage hoarding, and stabilize markets. • **Mechanism –** Provides interest-free working capital to NAFED, Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium, and State/UT agencies for domestic procurement, market intervention, and imports when needed.

References

1. PIB | Self-Reliance in Pulses Mission
2. PIB | India's Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses
3. TH | Pulses Mission

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