

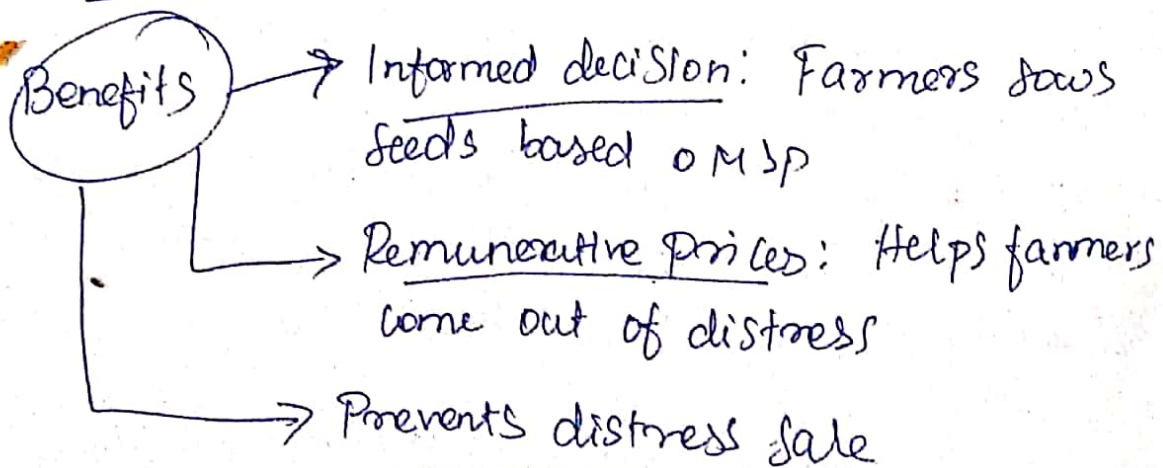
Despite various benefits, the idea of Minimum Support Price (MSP) need to be revisited and made flexible to adapt the dynamic changes happening in the country. Critically Analyse.

During the midst of Agrarian Crisis, MSP not only comes as a financial support but also as a moral booster to farmers to not to discontinue the agriculture & migrate to cities for work. However Climate change & water crisis has changed the scenario of viable agricultural practice all over the world.

Idea of MSP & Its Benefit

MSP, as a remunerative price covers at least 50% of cost of production.

- Calculated by Commission for Agriculture Cost & Price by considering various factors.



The Need to Revisit the Idea of MSP

- i) Not all the crops are covered under MSP.
- only 23 crops (mainly rice & wheat)
 - leading to monoculture of these crops which in turn lead to loss in soil fertility & water distress

ii) Poor Procurement: Due to lack of govt. machinery. Currently FCY is procuring only rice & wheat for PDS that too in some states

iii) Lower price in Market! Due to non-procurement farmers are forced to sell at distress price.

Change to MSP

- Bring credible procurement system where farmers are ensured MSP prices.
- MSP should be de-linked from market contracts for stability
- M.S. Swaminathan Committee on National Commission of Farmers recommended "to increase remunerative prices for farmers, MSP should cover crops other than rice & wheat and land reforms & water scarcity problem should be resolved"

To ensure farmers livelihood & nation's food security, Govt. must revisit the support price and provide holistic solution than just MSP.