

## Policy initiatives – State Government

**1. Dedicated Agriculture Budget:** Odisha is among the few states that present a separate agriculture budget. During the year 2020-21, separate “People’s Budget”, “Climate Budget”, “Women and Children budget” and “Nutrition Budget” were also presented to provide continuous focus to these crucial areas.

**2. State Agriculture Policy 2020 (SAMRUDHI):** The policy has been formulated and implemented to bring a shift from subsistence agriculture to profitable and commercial agriculture. The vision behind the new agriculture policy is to harness the potential of Odisha’s agricultural sector in a sustainable manner, aimed at continuously raising farmers’ incomes and welfare while ensuring nutritional security. The sectors specific strategy in the policy are designed on eight pillars known together as “SAMRUDHI” (Science and Technology, Adaptation to climate change, Market focus, Resource use, Up-scaling infrastructure, Diversification, Human resource development, Institutional strengthening). The aim of this policy is to coherently and progressively undertake simultaneous reforms by interlinking inputs, production and marketing.

Eight Pillars of SAMRUDHI:

- Leveraging **Science and Technology**
- **Adaptation** to climate change
- **Markets** (domestic & global), physical and financial, spot and future.
- **Resource use** efficiency ensuring higher productivity
- **Upscaling** appropriate infrastructure
- **Diversification** of production to high value agriculture
- **Human Resources** upgrading and skilling
- **Strengthening Institutions**

The Five Year target on various parameters setup by State Government is listed below:

- 100 percent updation and digitization of agricultural land records
- To completely eliminate exclusion and inclusion errors in KALIA and ensure that every eligible agricultural household is covered under the scheme
- 100 percent implementation of direct benefit transfer (DBT) and electronic monitoring for government programs
- Create a 100 percent updated digital data base of all Odisha farmers, labourers, tenant farmers and sharecroppers
- Cover at least 75 percent of state’s farmers under crop insurance;
- Bring back at least 5 lakh hectares of fallow land into agriculture;
- To annually divert at least 1 lakh hectares of upland paddy area to high value agriculture
- Shift part of the rabi acreage of 2.3 million hectares away from pulses to horticultural crops
- At least 0.1 million hectares will be put under micro-irrigation
- Increase irrigation coverage: from current 43 percent, the ratio of irrigation potential utilized to irrigation potential created will be increased to at least 70 percent
- Procure at least 25 percent of production of the MSP like oilseeds, cereals, maize etc. in the next five years.
- For dairy, organised breeding drive will be promoted and is likely to cover at least 1.5 million breedable bovines in the coming five years.

### **3. Policy Reforms**

#### **The State has passed Odisha Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020,**

It aims at improving production and productivity of crops and livestock with participation of contract farming companies in the process of input supplies, knowledge transfer, value addition and marketing. Fifty types of plant and five animal produce have been included in the contract farming legislation. Odisha's ordinances also amend the State's Agriculture Produce Marketing Act, 1957, to provide restriction-free trade and transaction of agricultural produce (including livestock) within the State (and the country) to maximize farmers' income by increasing market access.

#### **“Odisha Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotions and Facilitation) Ordinance – 2020”**

As per the Govt. of India Model APLMC Act, 2017, an Ordinance namely “Odisha Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotions and Facilitation) Ordinance – 2020” has been promulgated by Honorable Governor, Odisha State on 13.05.2020 in the place of existing state Act, the Odisha Agriculture Produce Market Act, 1956. The basic objective of the ordinance is to provide for geographically restriction-free trade and transaction of agricultural produce including livestock across the state and country and to give freedom to the agriculturists to sell their produce in a better manner.

**4. KALIA Scheme:** The Government of Odisha has launched a farmers' welfare scheme named KALIA (Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation). KALIA scheme is a State sponsored farmers welfare scheme that aims to provide all-inclusive and flexible support system for the farmers ensuring accelerated agricultural prosperity. Under the scheme, small and marginal farmers, landless agricultural households, vulnerable agricultural household, landless agricultural laborers and sharecroppers (actual cultivators) are eligible under different components of the scheme. KALIA scheme has five key components such as (i) Support to Cultivators for Cultivation, (ii) Livelihood Support for Landless Agriculture Households (iii) Financial Assistance to Vulnerable Agricultural Households (iv) Life Insurance Support to Cultivators and Landless Agricultural Labourers & (v) Interest Free Crop Loan. During 2019-20, around 54.18 lakh farm households were extended support for cultivation and livelihood amounting to Rs. 2838.01 crore (Source: Activity Report 2019-20, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, GoO).

**5. BALARAM-** to augment flow of credit to farmers cultivating land as sharecroppers, a Scheme named “Bhoomihina Agriculturist Loan And Resources Augmentation Model” (BALARAM) has been formulated in association with NABARD. The target of the Scheme is to form 1 lakh Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) covering at least 5 lakh farmers/ share croppers using the platform of ATMA (Agricultural Technology Management Agency) of Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Govt. of Odisha, with a budget of Rs. 1040 crore.

**6. Organic Farming Policy, 2018:** The policy aims to promote organic farming to improve soil fertility and productivity, judicious use of water resources and to encourage farming with use of local resources. State intend to bring 2 lakh hectares of agricultural area under organic farming, through knowledge dissemination, soil health management, promotion of seed sovereignty, etc.

#### **7. Odisha Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) Policy, 2018**

As per the State FPO policy, 2018

- Farmers will be eligible for financial and capacity building assistance for limited purpose of implementation of product-specific cluster/ commercial crop cycles.
- FPOs will be given priority for access to markets and linking to market aggregators
- Single Window Clearance System to be made applicable to FPOs for issue of licenses.
- Land will be made available to FPOs at a concessional rate or free. The State Government has announced support of Rs. 60 crores for promotion and development of FPOs in the Budget 2020-21.

## **8. Start-up Odisha**

Government of Odisha has adopted new Start Up policy to develop a world class “Start-up Hub” in Odisha by 2020. The policy provides incentives and exemptions over and above the Start-up policy of Government of India and any other existing policy of Odisha. The Policy has a vision of creating enabling environment and supporting eco-system that facilitates at least 1000 start-ups in the next five years in the State. A Start-up Capital Infrastructure fund with an initial corpus of Rs.25crore shall be setup to support development of hard and soft infrastructure for the start-up ecosystem in the State, such as physical infrastructure for incubators including testing labs, design studio, tool rooms, virtual incubators etc.

## **9. Odisha Food Processing Policy 2016:**

To put in place support measures and enabling infrastructure for food processing industry, the Odisha Food processing Policy 2016 was formulated. Under the policy, facilitation, support to the food processing sector in the form of single window clearance system, establishment of mega food parks/sea food parks, state food parks at strategic location, promotion of agri-export zones, development of common infrastructure at food processing clusters, etc. are envisaged.

## **10. Ama Krushi**

Ama Krushi is an initiative of Department of Agriculture, Government of Odisha, under which free of cost customized agricultural advice is provided to the farmers. At present 1,270,455 farmers are enrolled for the service. The customized advisory to the farmers include the full cycle of crops, right from soil preparation to storage of harvest and minimum support prices (MSP). Farmers will receive calls from Ama Krushi containing relevant information. Further, they can also call at Ama Krushi no. to get their queries resolved. Majority of crops grown in the state including paddy, greengram, blackgram, tomato, brinjal, groundnut, mustard, potato, onion, maize, redgram, cotton, and etc are covered under the program. Farmers are also provided information regarding various government schemes. The service is expected to enable farmers to have a better crop yield, and earn better returns from their harvest, resulting into a better livelihood. The web link for AMAKRUSHI is (<https://www.amakrushi.in/go/>)

## **11. PMFBY – Initiatives**

Government of Odisha has implemented two pilot projects in collaboration with NRSC (Crop Insurance Decision Support System) and IRRI (Science Based Crop Insurance). This has enabled selection of Crop Cutting Experiment (CCE) plots using Smart sampling Technique. As per this technique, geo-tagged CCE plot selections were made based on crop phenological parameters. This helped in vast improvement of CCE environment by making the plot selection process scientific & transparent. Use of this innovative technique has been hailed by Government of India. In the meantime, the smart sampling method has

been extended to all the 30 districts of Odisha for implementation. Further, a “web service” for integration of Land Records with Crop Insurance Portal and “ACIM” portal for monitoring last mile connectivity of claim disbursement have been developed and all stakeholders like Insurance Companies, Banks, State Government have been linked. These have made Crop Insurance services more efficient and fruitful.

## **12. Online services of the Fisheries Department and the Livestock Development**

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched 15 online services of the Fisheries Department and the Livestock Development through video conferencing on December 3, 2020. The online services will include a number of useful services for fishermen and farmers including registration of fishing boats and licenses, registration of brackish water farms and availing subsidy for setting up of new livestock and fishery units. The state has also planned to promote cage culture fishery in large and medium reservoirs under its new policy that was brought out in March 2020, as it can help increase the state's annual fish production by over 1.24 lakh tons, . The state Government also signed MoUs with various entrepreneurs for taking up Cage Culture in the Hirakud Reservoir.

## **13. Agricultural Entrepreneurship Promotion Scheme 2018**

An advanced scheme namely Agricultural Entrepreneurship Promotion Scheme 2018 was introduced with key objective to groom at least 1000 rural youths as Agri-Entrepreneurs in 40 tribal blocks of 12 districts of the states and through which about 2 Lakhs small and marginal farmers would be able to increase their income. Through this scheme quality inputs, technological service including farm equipment and marketing assurance at the doorsteps of the farmers will be provided through value chain enabler termed as Agri-Entrepreneur to be worked at GP level for helping farmers through providing missing farm service through the scheme.

## **14. Agriculture Production Cluster (APC) in Tribal Regions of Odisha**

State Government has formed Agriculture Production Cluster (APC) in Tribal Regions of Odisha to double the farm income of 1.00 lakh women farmers of small and marginal category by formation of producer groups and building APCs/Producer companies in 40 back ward blocks of 12 Tribal dominated districts in the state through cultivation of high value crops in 20,000 hectares, grooming of 750 market linked Agri-Entrepreneurs as value chain enablers under the project.