Approved Extension of PMGKAY from December 2021 to March 2022

Cabinet has approved the extension of the free foodgrain distribution scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)- Phase V for another 4 months i.e. from December 2021 to March 2022, with an estimated additional food subsidy of Rs 53344.52 Crore.

- The total outgo (in terms of food-grains) for PMGKAY-Phase V is likely to be about 163 LMT (lakh metric tonnes).
- The Government of India (GoI) will be incurring an expenditure of nearly Rs 2.60 lakh Crore in PMGKAY Phase I- V.

a.Background:

i.In March 2020, the GoI announced the distribution of additional free-of-cost foodgrains (Rice/Wheat) to about 80 Crore National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries at the scale of 5 Kg per person/month under the PMGKAY to ensure food security of poor/vulnerable beneficiaries/households during COVID-19.

ii.Under PMGKAY food grains will be provided over and above the regular monthly NFSA foodgrains i.e., regular entitlements of their ration cards.

iii.The beneficiaries covered under the NFSA (Antodaya Anna Yojana & Priority Households) also includes those who are covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

b.Execution of PMGKAY Phase I- IV:

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i.Phase-I and Phase-II of the scheme were operational from April to June 2020 and July to November, 2020 respectively. Phase-III of the scheme was operational from May to June 2021. Phase-IV of the scheme is currently being operational from July to November, 2021.

ii.So far, a total of around 600 LMT foodgrains (equivalent to about Rs 2.07 Lakh Crore in food subsidy) had been allocated to the States/Union Territories (UTs) under the PM-GKAY (Phase I to IV).

iii.As per the reports available from States/UTs, 93.8 percent of foodgrains have been lifted and nearly 37.32 LMT (93.9% of July 2021), 37.20 LMT (93.6% of August 2021), 36.87 LMT (92.8% of September 2021), 35.4 LMT (89% of October 2021) and 17.9 LMT (45% of November 2021 (ongoing)) foodgrains have been distributed to about 74.64 Crore, 74.4 Crore, 73.75 Crore, 70.8 Crore and 35.8 crore beneficiaries respectively.

Approved Continuation of ACROSS Scheme for 5 years till 2026

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the PM approved the continuation of the umbrella scheme 'Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)' along with its 8 sub-schemes to the next finance cycle of 5 years i.e. from 2021 to 2026 at an estimated cost of Rs 2,135 crore.

Key Points:

i.ACROSS scheme is related to the atmospheric science programs of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and addresses different aspects of weather and climate services through various services like Public weather service, Agro-meteorological Services, Aviation services, Environmental monitoring services, etc.

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ii.The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) through its units such as India Meteorological Department (IMD), National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), and Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS).

iii.The 8 sub schemes of ACROSS which is being implemented by IMD, IITM, NCMRWF and INCOIS:

- Commissioning of Polarimetric Doppler Weather Radars (DWRs)-IMD
- Upgradation of Forecast System-IMD
- Weather & Climate Services-IMD
- Atmospheric Observations Network – IMD
- Numerical Modelling of Weather and Climate -NCMRWF
- Monsoon Mission III- IITM/NCMRWF/INCOIS/IMD
- Monsoon Convection, Clouds and Climate Change (MC4)-IITM/NCMRWF/IMD
- High Performance Computing System (HPCS)-IITM/NCMRWF

Union Minister Amit Shah launched 'Dairy Sahakar' Scheme from Anand, Gujarat

On October 31, 2021, Union Minister Amit Anil Chandra Shah, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) launched the Dairy Sahakar scheme at Anand, Gujarat during the function organised by AMUL (Anand Milk Union Limited) for the celebration of its 75th foundation year.

- With an outlay of Rs 5000 crore, it will be implemented by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), under the Ministry of Cooperation.

Objective:

i.To double the farmers' income and Atmanirbhar Bharat

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ii.To realize the vision of 'from cooperation to prosperity'

About Dairy Sahakar' scheme:

Under the scheme NCDC will provide financial support (loan) to the eligible cooperatives for activities such as
bovine development, milk procurement, processing, quality assurance, value addition, branding, packaging,
marketing, transportation and storage of milk and milk products, exports of dairy products.
• It will also supplement the existing efforts for strengthening the dairy sector in the country.

About AMUL:

It was initiated in 1946 as a cooperative movement in Anand with the guidance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and cooperative leader Tribhuvandas Patel. Now, it is a part of the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), selling its dairy products with the brand name Amul.

Recent Related News:

As per the 2021's Global Dairy Top 20 report released by a Dutch multinational banking and financial services company Rabobank, the France based 'Lactalis' became the World's number 1 dairy company in terms of market capital. Notably, India's 'AMUL' was placed at the 18th position, from its previous 16th rank in 2020.

About Ministry of Cooperation:

Union Minister– Amit Shah (Constituency- Gandhinagar, Gujarat)
Minister of State (MoS)– BL Verma

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Fisheries Minister Parshottam Rupala Launches 'Nationwide AHDF KCC campaign'

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (FAHD) Parshottam Rupala virtually launched the 'Nationwide AHDF (Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries) KCC (Kisan Credit Card) campaign' to expand the benefit of KCC to all eligible animal husbandry, dairy, and fishery farmers in India.

- The campaign, which is scheduled to be held for 3 months from November 15, 2021, to February 15, 2022, was organised by Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), in association with the Department of Fisheries (DOF) and the Department of Financial Services (DFS).
- The government is targeting to enrol around 2 crore people in the next 3 months.

Note – On February 04, 2019, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the KCC facility to Animal Husbandry farmers and Fisheries to support them to meet their working capital requirements.

Key Points:

i.Over 14 lakhs fresh AHDF KCC has been sanctioned through a Special Drive which was organized in 2020 from June 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in association with the Department of Financial Services, for providing AHDF KCC to eligible dairy farmers of Milk Cooperatives and Milk Producer Companies.

ii.As there are nearly 10 crore AHD farmers and 1.5 crore fishermen across India, there is sufficient scope for expanding the AHDF KCC

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beyond dairy cooperatives to cover other eligible dairy farmers and other animal husbandry activities.

iii.Livestock sector comprises one-third of the agriculture and allied sector Gross Value Added (GVA) and has over 8 percent Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR).

About KCC scheme:

i.The KCC scheme was introduced in 1998 by the government of India in association with the RBI and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for the issue of KCCs to provide relief to debt-ridden
farmers.

ii.The KCC scheme is being implemented by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks and Cooperatives.

iii.The scheme was further extended for the investment credit requirement of farmers viz. allied and non-farm activities in the year 2004.

iv.Farmers either individual or joint borrower, Joint Liability Groups/Self Help Groups (SHG) including tenant farmers having owned /rented/leased sheds are eligible for getting benefits under the scheme.

Recent Related News:

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala launched a nationwide, river ranching programme at Brijghat, Garh Mukteshwar in Uttar Pradesh as part of the government's efforts to boost fish production in the country.About Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (FAHD):

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Union Minister – Parshottam Rupala (Constituency – Gujarat)

Minister of State – Sanjeev Kumar Balyan (Constituency – Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh)

India's first Food Museum launched in Thanjavur,TN by Union Minister Piyush Goyal

On November 15, 2021, Union Minister, Piyush Vedpraksh Goyal virtually launched India's first Digital Food Museum in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu (TN). It is 1,860-sqft museum co-developed by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museums, Bengaluru (Karnataka) with an estimated outlay of Rs 1.1 crore.

• This museum showcases the Indian food evolution from nomadic hunter-gatherers into settled agriculture
producers will function from 11 am to 5 pm on all working days.

• Thanjavur is the cultural capital of Tamil Nadu.

Key Points:

i.The technologies used in this museum are projection mapping, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), touch
screen kiosk, proximity sensors and touch sensors.

ii.It displays the ancient grain storage methods (both global and indigenous) and challenges in storage besides
information about the journey of FCI.

iii.India is the 5th largest agricultural exporter in the world.

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iv.Central Government is also establishing 10 tribal freedom fighters museums to acknowledge their contribution.

About Tamil Nadu:

Chief Minister– Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin

Wildlife Sanctuaries– Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Anaimalai Tiger Reserve, earlier known as Indira Gandhi

Wildlife Sanctuary, Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary

Biosphere Reserves– Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve, Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, and Agasthiyarmalai Biosphere Reserve

India's 1st Fisheries Business Incubation Centre launched in Gurugram, Haryana

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (FAHD) Parshottam Rupala launched the India's first-of-its kind, dedicated business incubator known as LINAC-NCDC Fisheries Business Incubation Centre (LlFlC) in Gurugram, Haryana.

• The LlFlC is built at a cost of 3.23 crore to nurture fisheries start-ups under real market-led conditions.

• National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is an implementing agency for the LIFIC.

Key Highlights:

i.NCDC has identified the first batch of ten incubatees from four states— Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra

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• Out of them 6 are from newly-created Fish Farmers Producer Organizations with the support of the financial grant under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

• PMMSY was launched in 2020, with a target to increase India's Fishery Exports to Rs. 1 lakh crore by 2024- 25.

ii.The incubation unit will provide hand holding such as training, converting entrepreneurial ideas into business models and doling out seed money to the new as well as existing business entrepreneurs

Note – Union Minister Rupala also inaugurated Sardar Patel Auditorium at the LINAC premises.

Fisheries in India:

i.Fisheries is growing at a 7 per cent rate annually and is known as Sunrise Industry. At present, fish production is 130 lakh tonnes and exports worth Rs 46,000 crore.

ii.The goal is to reach 22 million tonnes of fish production and to increase exports to reach Rs 1 lakh crore by 2025.

Note – India is the 3rd largest fish producing and 2nd largest aquaculture nation in the world after China.

Recent Related News:

The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying launched the 'Nationwide AHDF (Animal Husbandry, Daring and Fisheries) KCC (Kisan Credit Card) campaign to expand the benefit of KCC to farmers.

About Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (FAHD):

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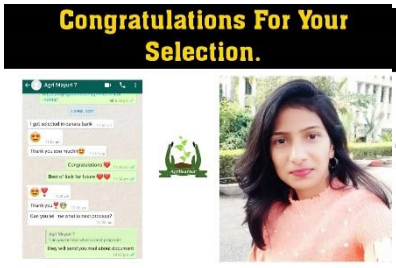
Union Minister – Parshottam Rupala (Constituency- Gujarat)
Minister of State – Sanjeev Kumar Balyan (Constituency – Muzaffarnagar, Uttarpradesh)
About National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
Established – 1963
Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi
Managing Director – Sundeep Kumar Nayak

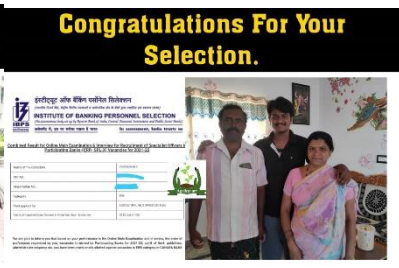
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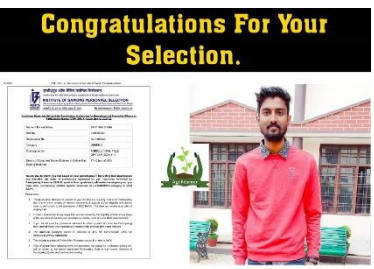
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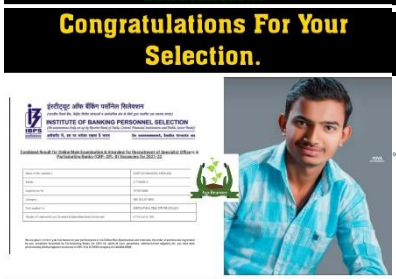
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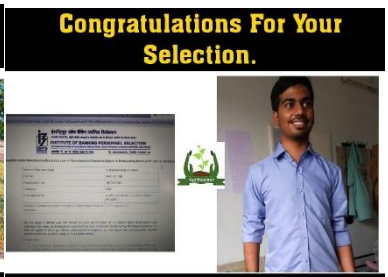






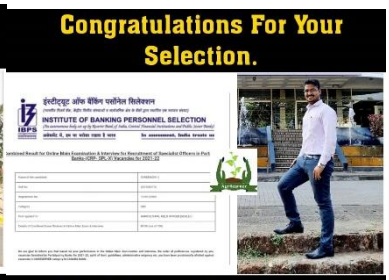


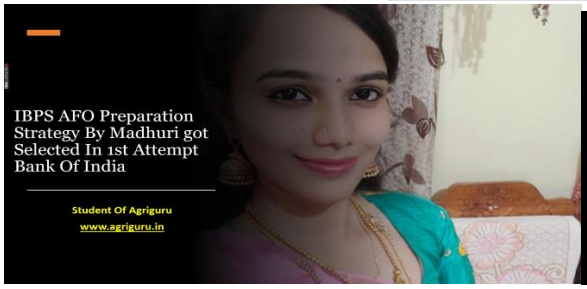


















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