
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF MSP AND THE SEEDS BILL, 2025: A STUDY IN INDIAN AGRARIAN TRANSFORMATION

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture as the foundation of civilization and backbone of the economy employs half the population. However, in recent era the agriculture sector is facing immense hurdles of out-migration of youths and price instability due to inflation making them vulnerable and prone to loss occurring fields. The Minimum Support Price is one such policy that focuses on improving the farmers profit through imposing minimum price for the crops. Even after its importance, the MSP is not yet regarded as statutory right. Further, the proposed Seeds Bill has narrowed down the definition of farmers and opens the domestic seed market to global competition endangering the domestic rural traditional community production. The paper analyzed these regulatory gaps and examined their connection with the rising youth out-migration from agricultural sector. Towards the end, the paper proposes inclusive, sustainable and farmers right-oriented policy for farmer welfare; and digital inclusive policy for youth involvement in the traditional agricultural practices. The present paper analyzes the legal regulatory gaps prevailing in the Indian agro-labour legislations, focusing primarily on absence of legally recognized Minimum Support Price and, irregularities in Seeds Bill, 2025. Further, examining the connectivity of them with Youth out-migration from Agricultural sector causing negative social transformation in Indian Agrarian Regime.

Keywords: Agriculture – MSP – Seeds Bill – Youth Migration – Regulatory Gaps

I. INTRODUCTION:

Agriculture remains a primary source of livelihood in India, yet it is increasingly characterized by income insecurity, regulatory gaps, and declining youth participation. Despite policy mechanisms such as the Minimum Support Price (MSP), the absence of statutory enforceability and uneven implementation have limited their effectiveness in ensuring farmer welfare. Simultaneously, emerging frameworks like the Draft Seeds Bill, 2025 signal a shift toward formalization, raising concerns about the marginalization of small and traditional farmers. These challenges have contributed to a growing trend of youth migration from agriculture to informal sectors, driven by low returns, production risks, and inadequate institutional support. This paper examines how legal and policy deficiencies—particularly in MSP and seed regulation, shape agrarian distress and labour shifts, arguing for a more inclusive and rights-based legal framework to sustain farmer livelihoods and retain youth in agriculture.

II. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE:

The study is undertaken for the following objectives:

- i. To analyze the existing legal framework in the agricultural field and their effectiveness.
- ii. To examine the limitations of MSP in actual ground reality and the absence of statutory recognition.
- iii. To critically evaluate the Seeds Bill with PPVFR Act, 2001.
- iv. To address the rising youth migration from agriculture to other informal sectors.
- v. To propose recommendation on policy framework and implementation mechanism for farmer inclusive decisions and youth development in agrarian works.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

This study adopts a doctrinal research methodology, effectively analyzing the secondary sources existing on the Indian agrarian legal framework. The secondary resources of acts such as Essential Commodities Act, Food Corporation Act, and other such legislations were interpreted in-depth. Along with the official government publications and reports from valid sources. Judicial Precedents and constitutional provisions were incorporated to understand the

rights of the farmers. The study further examined scholarly peer-reviewed journal articles and research papers to analyze distinct point of view. Further, comparative approach been taken to identify the contrast between the Seeds Bill and the existing Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Rights Act.

The scope of this study is limited to Indian Agrarian Legal framework for understanding the recent development and regulatory gaps in this particular regime. The research does not conduct empirical findings and in-field study, rather focused on available secondary resources.

IV. REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

*Mekha M. Vinod and Gaurav Sharma*¹ analyzed the prevailing regional inequal distribution of price system through empirical findings and advocated for MSP in all regions. *Amit Kumar Basantaray*² discussed the price disparity among marginal farmers and large sector farmers, finding that the private entities often force the vulnerable farmers to sell their produce in lower rates. *Sebak Kumar*³ further examined the need for legal interference to implement effective MSP policies nationwide.

*Qazi Mohammad*⁴ studied the crucial role of PPVFR act in ensuring the breeders and farmers right. The farmers definition in the PPVFR act is much broader and includes the traditional farmer community unlike the proposed Seeds Bill, 2025. Such narrow view will jeopardize the rights of the farmer.

¹ Gunashekhar H, Sreenivasulu M.b and Prashanth P, Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology Volume 42, Issue 4, Page 101-106, 2024, Perceived Causes of Vulnerable Employment among Rural Youth in Agricultural Endeavours: Insights and Recommendations, <<https://www.journaljeai.com/index.php/JEAI/article/view/4045/9414>>

² Amit Kumar Basantaray, Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology Volume 41, Issue 1, Page 53-65, 2023, Is Minimum Support Price Effective in India? Evidence from State-wise Paddy, <<https://journalajaees.com/index.php/AJAEES/article/view/1833/3650>>

³Sebak Kumar Jana, Siddhartha Sankar Manna, Legal Guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Indian Agriculture- Issues and Options, October 2024, International Journal of Innovative Research in Engineering & Management, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/384645934_Legal_Guarantee_of_Minimum_Support_Price_MSP_and_Indian_Agriculture-Issues_and_Options/link/67093cb568e0f20a610caa1e/download?_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIn19>

⁴Qazi Mohammad, Sharique Saleem, Naseem Ahmed The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer's Rights Act (PPVFR) in India: A Crucial Legal Framework for Plant Variety Protection, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/387511383_The_Protection_of_Plant_Varieties_and_Farmer's_Rights_Act_PPVFR_in_India_A_Crucial_Legal_Framework_for_Plant_Variety_Protection/link/6772390600aa3770e0c7988e/download?_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIn19>

Gunashekhar⁵ analyzed the mounting increase in the rural youth migration and dealt with the employment shift from agriculture to more urban oriented works, finding the shift to be a result of socio-economic consequence that require legal steps rather than a mere aspiration effect.

Collectively, the literatures are demonstrated that there is a regulatory gap between the statutory regulation and actual ground reality which are causing high distress among the farmer community. The regulatory gap exists between the legalization of MSP, structural changes in Seeds Bill and migratory problems among the younger generation that requires legal perception in coordination with socio-economic view.

V. PRICE REGULATION THROUGH MINIMUM PRICE SUPPORT (MSP):

Minimum Support Price (MSP) is the agricultural policy support provided to the farmers of India for ensuring fair value of return for crops. The MSP presently covers about 22 variety of crops and, Sugarcane through Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) through the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)⁶. There are three main types of production cost to determine the MSP by CACP; 1) The total paid out cost directly made by farmer on seeds, fertilizers, electricity, pesticides and others through cash (*denoted as, A2*), 2) The sum addition of A2 and the unpaid family labour (*denoted as, A2 + FL*) and, 3) The comprehensive cost which sums up the A2 + FL and the rents on owned land, leased land, and also interest on fixed capital (*denoted as, C2*).

The determination of MSP differs regionally and covers only 22 mandatory varieties which calculates to mere 6% of the total crop varieties; in short, the policy is not covering 94% of such produce in India⁷. The variation of MSP across region promotes income inequality among the farmer community⁸, with note of existing income bias of large farmers accumulating 10%

⁵ Gunashekhar H., Sreenivasulu M. and Prashanth P, Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology Volume 42, Issue 4, Page 101-106, 2024, Perceived Causes of Vulnerable Employment among Rural Youth in Agricultural Endeavours: Insights and Recommendations, <<https://www.journaljeai.com/index.php/JEAI/article/view/4045/9414>>

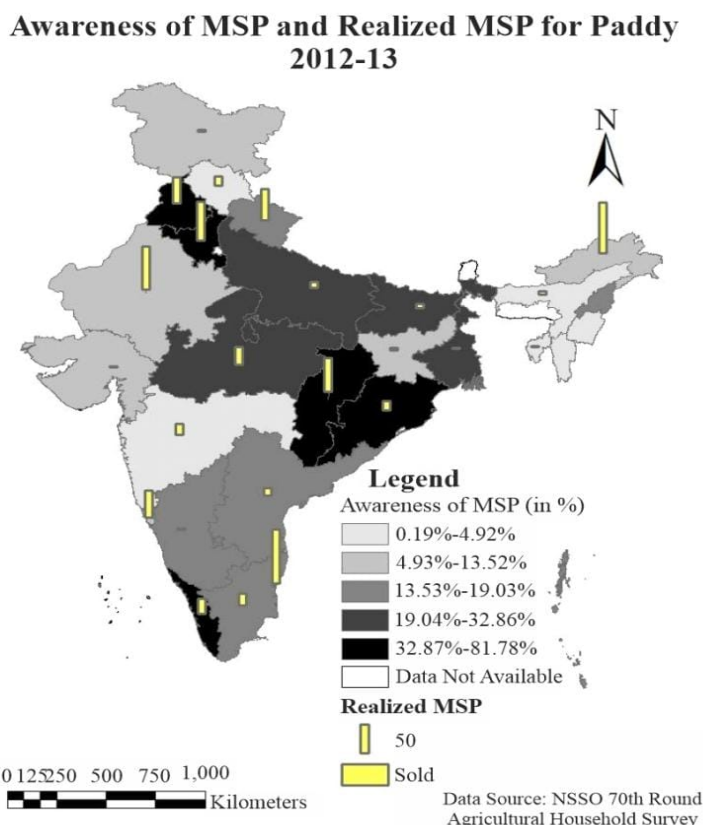
⁶ Press Information Bureau, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, 03 FEB 2023 7:26PM by PIB Delhi, Legal Guarantee for MSP, <<https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1896131®=3&lang=2>>

⁷ Prankur Gupta*, Reetika Khera†, Sudha Narayanan, Minimum Support Prices in India: Distilling the Facts, <https://ras.org.in/index.php?Article=minimum_support_prices_in_india#fn1>

⁸ Mekha M. Vinod and Gaurav Sharma, Journal of Experimental Agriculture International Volume 48, Issue 2, Page 99-109, 2026, Growth and Effectiveness of Minimum Support Price for Paddy in Gujarat, <<https://www.journaljeai.com/index.php/JEAI/article/view/4045/9414>>

more income than small and marginal farmer community⁹.

The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) further recorded the lack of awareness regarding the existence and working mechanism of MSP and PPAs. Resulting in low contribution of crops in MSP level¹⁰. Leading to small and marginal farmers approaching private agencies that procure the crops in values that are less than the MSPs¹¹.



Along with the mandatory crops, the Government also procures oilseeds, pulses, rabi, jute, cotton, copra and other commercial crops. National Commission on Farmers headed by Dr. M. S. Swaminathan submitted its report in 2006, recommending the MSP to be 50% more of the

⁹Sebak Kumar Jana & Siddhartha Sankar Manna, *Legal Guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Indian Agriculture: Issues and Options*, 11(5) Int'l J. Innovative Res. Eng'g & Mgmt. 1 (2024), <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/384645934_Legal_Guarantee_of_Minimum_Support_Price_MSP_and_Indian_Agriculture-Issues_and_Options/link/67093cb568e0f20a610caa1e/download?_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIiwicGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIn19>

¹⁰ Raya Das, *Minimum Support Price in India* (2019), AgEcon Search, <<https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/304157/files/07-Raya-Das.pdf>>

¹¹ Amit Kumar Basantaray, *Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology*, Volume 41, Issue 1, Is Minimum Support Price Effective in India? Evidence from State-wise Paddy Procurement, <<https://journalajaees.com/index.php/AJAEES/article/view/1833/3650>>

C2¹². However, it is implemented only to selected crops due to budgetary hurdles¹³.

Further, the increased margin of MSP to oilseeds compared of foodgrains is seen as a historic event. As such step led to increased domestic cultivation and reduction in dependence on imports¹⁴.

The MSP is merely a policy guaranteed to the farmers and not a legal right. This position led to many protests and debates for its legal recognition to protect the livelihood of farmer community. Section 3 of the Essential Commodity Act, 1955 regulates the price stabilization and more consumer-oriented approach rather than addressing the interest of the producers¹⁵. The present FCI Act, 1964 institutionalize the procurement of such mandatory crops however, fails to recognize the MSP legally¹⁶. Through the National Food Security Act, 2013 the government procures the food grains in need of Public Distribution System (PDS) for providing them at subsidized level to household upholding the Right to Food¹⁷. Wherefore, the MSP in India is sustained through the statutory structure for its implementation however, lacks recognition as statutory rights creating a coverage gap.

VI. SEED REGULATION AND FARMERS RIGHTS IN SEEDS BILL, 2025:

After ratifying the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPs) in 1994, India focused on giving effective implementation to Article 27.3 (b) of this agreement. The article requires the member countries to establish plant variety protection using a patent, an effective sui generis system, or a combination of the two¹⁸. Following that, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer's Rights Act, 2001 was passed to protect the rights of the breeders,

¹² Press Information Bureau, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare 12 DEC 2018 12:18PM by PIB Delhi Implementation of Swaminathan Committee Report,

<<https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1555575®=3&lang=2> >

¹³ Legalising MSP in India – Challenges and way forward, Drishtiiias.com, 02 July 2024,

<<https://www.drishtiiias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-editorials/legalising-msp-in-india-challenges-and-way-forward> >

¹⁴ Legalising MSP in India: Challenges and Way Forward,

<<https://journaloffarmsciences.in/index.php/JFM/article/view/444/420> >

¹⁵ S 3 Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

¹⁶ S 13 of Food Corporation of India Act, 1964.

¹⁷ S 3 National Food Security Act, 2013.

¹⁸Qazi Mohammad, Sharique Saleem, Naseem Ahmed The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer's Rights Act (PPVFR) in India: A Crucial Legal Framework for Plant Variety Protection,

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/387511383_The_Protection_of_Plant_Varieties_and_Farmer's_Right_s_Act_PPVFR_in_India_A_Crucial_Legal_Framework_for_Plant_Variety_Protection/link/6772390600aa3770e0c7988e/download?_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIiwicGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIn19 >

plant varieties and farmers.¹⁹

The legislation even though, not adopted the International Union for the Protection of New Plant Varieties (UPOV) exclusively, certain provisions were inspired from it in constructing a farmer-friendly statute. The PPVFR Act serving as a prominent step in achieving both international obligation and domestic farmers protection.

The provisions of this Act closely work with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically, SDG-4, SDG-12 and SDG-15²⁰. Apart from that, Seeds Act, 1966 as a pivotal outcome of the Green Revolution, established state led regulation with limited corporate partnership which are going under the process of refining through the Seeds Bill, 2025. The present bill advocates for a regulated seed selling and notably the Value for Cultivation and Use or VSU as a uniform market standard.

The Seeds Bill, 2025 is being highly criticized by the farmers community, expressing their dissatisfaction with regard to limited farmers rights²¹. The definition of “farmer” under the said bill found to be non-verbatim with the PPVFR Act despite its objective to be in correspondence with the existing law. The Bill defines the “farmer” u/s 2(1) as a person who cultivates the land by himself or through other person, either owns the land himself or not, and excludes company, or dealer or individuals engaging in selling of seeds for commercial purpose²².

The definition therefore, excluded the Self-Help Groups (SHG)s, and farmers community; which are recognized under the PPVFR Act²³. It fails to address the community and collective efforts of the farmers. With that, the Bill allows for selling of seeds only after proper registration along with the tech-indulged QR on the package and brand name. The practicality of this incentive is questionable since, regional and marginal farmers have the long root practices of exchanging seeds and taking up collective activities rather than individual efforts.

One of the other drawbacks is the increase in strength of the Central Seed Committee from 22

¹⁹ Rangnekar, D. (2004). "Intellectual Property and Farmers' Rights: The Case of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001.

²⁰ Sustainable Development Goals, <<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>>

²¹ G.V.R. Subba Rao, Farmer associations in Andhra Pradesh oppose Seed Bill-2025, The Hindu, November 30, 2025, <<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/farmer-associations-in-andhra-pradesh-oppose-seed-bill-2025/article70341810.ece>>

²² S 2(1) of Seeds Bill, 2025.

²³ S 2(k) of PPVFT Act, 2001.

to 27, while State Seed Committee is barred with 15. The Union Government however, beholds the power to ratify their recommendations, passively defaulting the federal structure itself. The Bill reads to opening the domestic market for multi-state corporations in the name of “ease of doing business”. Nevertheless, it is previously noted that farmers lack tech-driven production as compared to the MNC’s.

Another backlog is the Zoning as provided under PART B of the Bill, where the zones are divided on cartographic grounds rather than agro-climatic reality. The compensative measure for the farmers as per the present Bill is through the Consumer protection rather than actual legislative recognition swindling their status of farmers as breeders and conservers of biodiversity²⁴.

VII. REDUCED YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND MIGRATION FROM AGRICULTURE:

Indian Agrarian society is facing immense downfall of youth participation; the percentage declined from 56% to 27%²⁵. In persistence to the compromising situation of the farmers and increasing inflation rates, the younger generation are preferring informal jobs over agriculture. The increasing salinity and deteriorating environment also becoming a common factor²⁶. Followed by other cultural and socio-economic factors of increased population and tech-development.

The Youths are favoring unorganized jobs instead of agriculture as a result of mounting peer pressure and the hurdles of agriculture²⁷. Nonetheless, the connectivity between this

²⁴ Priyanka Bedwal, *Rewriting Power by Regulating Seeds: Politics of Symbolism Behind the Seeds Bill, 2025*, The Wire,

<<https://thewire.in/agriculture/rewriting-power-by-regulating-seeds-politics-of-symbolism-behind-the-seeds-bill-2025>>

²⁵ Samreen Wani, *India’s youth is leaving farms, but skill gaps mean stagnant pay*, Forbes India, <https://www.forbesindia.com/article/news/indias-youth-is-leaving-farms-but-skill-gaps-mean-stagnant-pay/2992262/1?utm_source=chatgpt.com>

²⁶ Rural youth migration in India: Causes, consequences, and pathways to sustainable development Dayalal Sankhla <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Dayalal-Sankhla/publication/395975491_Rural_youth_migration_in_India_Causes_consequences_and_pathways_to_sustainable_development_Dayalal_Sankhla/links/68db9589d221a404b2a38fb7/Rural-youth-migration-in-India-Causes-consequences-and-pathways-to-sustainable-development-Dayalal-Sankhla.pdf?origin=publication_detail&_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIiwicGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uRG93bmxvYWQiLCJwcmV2aW91c1BhZ2UiOiJwdWJsaWNhdGlvbiJ9fQ&__cf_chl_tk=K72ahVs88V5rUwOcg2MHqHG90taNI02mIF3gxCeS5QQ-1774956722-1.0.1.1-x_bxHCQ.h7z_g4n.RlsrHUHfK_9op4jO5G2xI6iDh_k>

²⁷ Gunashekhar H, Sreenivasulu M. and Prashanth P, *Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology* Volume 42, Issue 4, Page 101-106, 2024, Perceived Causes of Vulnerable Employment among Rural

mobilization of youth is not only socio-economic oriented but the consequence of the legal irregularities and gaps that are being left unaddressed.²⁸

Table 1. Causes elicited by respondents for their vulnerable employment in agricultural domain

S. No	Causes	f	%	Ranks
A Related to Human capital				
1	Lack of awareness about the subsidiary occupation	68	56.67	XIX
2	Lack of resource conservation knowledge	82	68.33	IX
3	Lack of entrepreneurial culture	67	55.83	XX
4	Lack of skill-oriented trainings	75	62.50	XV
5	No training regarding improved technology	80	66.67	X
B Related to Physical capital				
6	Inadequate and untimely supply of inputs like seeds, fertilisers, plant materials	92	76.67	VI
7	Lack of transportation facility	74	61.67	XVI
8	Lack of storage facility	97	80.83	III
9	Lack of personal protection equipment when the application of agrochemical's	69	57.50	XVIII
10	Lack of sufficient extension staff in Agri-allied sectors	79	65.83	XI
C Related to Financial capital				
11	Complex procedure for credit avail	101	84.17	II
12	Low remunerative prices and price fluctuations	105	87.50	I
13	High cost of inputs	90	75.00	VII
14	Lack of credit support	93	77.50	V
D Related to Natural capital				
15	Lack of irrigation facility	78	65.00	XII
16	Erratic rainfall and cumulative draught / monsoon vagaries	72	60.00	XVII
17	Frequent external constraints like pest, disease	65	54.17	XXII
E Related to Social capital				
18	No value and dignity in farming	77	64.17	XIII
19	Partiality by local leaders to avail social benefits	76	63.33	XIV
20	Lack of proper advice from the parents regarding their work	66	55.00	XXI
21	Preponderance of distress due to lack of profits in agriculture and allied sectors	94	78.33	IV
22	Poor accessibility of extension agencies for technical guidance	83	69.17	VIII

The most reported reason for such migration is the low remuneration pertaining in agricultural sector. However, the effective practices such MSP are not implemented through legal structure but rather through means of policy. Simultaneously, the Seeds Bill, 2019 narrowing the definition of farmers imposing greater negative impact on the already vulnerable society. The government though formulated and implementing various agrarian policies through Central Government Scheme and Central Government Sponsored scheme.

i. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM KISAN)

Youth in Agricultural Endeavours: Insights and Recommendations,
<https://www.journaljeai.com/index.php/JEAI/article/view/4045/9414>

²⁸ K. Reddy Sai Sravanth N. Sundaram, Analysis of socioeconomic status of young migrant farmers in India using probit regression, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1331677X.2022.2106267>

- ii. *Pradhan Mantri Kisan MaanDhan Yojana (PM KMY)*
- iii. *Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)/ Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS)*
- iv. *Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)*
- v. *Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)*
- vi. *Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs)*
- vii. *Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)*
- viii. *Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises' (AgriSURE)*
- ix. *Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)*
- x. *Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)*
- xi. *Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)*
- xii. *Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)*
- xiii. *Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)*
- xiv. *National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM)*
- xv. *Digital Agriculture Mission*
- xvi. *Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM) - National Agriculture Market (ISAM eNAM)*
- xvii. *Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM) - Others (ISAM-Others)*
- xviii. *Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)*
- xix. *Soil Health Card (SHC)*
- xx. *Rainfed Area Development (RAD)*
- xxi. *National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm*
- xxii. *National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO) Oilseeds*
- xxiii. *National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)*
- xxiv. *Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region*
- xxv. *Agroforestry*

xxvi. Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)

xxvii. National Bamboo Mission

The above are the Agro Oriented Schemes and Programmes by the Central Government²⁹. Even though, the schemes and programs are actively addressing the socio-economic challenges, the long-term cumulative defects require legal interpretation and broader recognition to divert the mobilizing youth population towards agriculture and other agriculture-oriented works to ensure stability.

VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION OF RIGHTS:

The constitutional of India reflects a strong commitment toward the protection of agrarian livelihoods. The core lies Article 21, which guarantees the right to life. The Supreme Court in *Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation*³⁰ expanded this guarantee to include the right to livelihood. The continued absence of a statutory framework guaranteeing remunerative prices, particularly the non-legally enforceable nature of the Minimum Support Price (MSP), raises concerns regarding the adequacy of State compliance with Article 21.

In addition, Article 19(1)(g) guarantees the freedom to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade, or business. Agriculture being one of the most important profession falls under this ambit however, excessive regulatory burdens such as, stringent seed certification requirements cause adverse effect. The State has a positive obligation to secure a living wage and decent standard of life to agricultural labourers³¹ in addition to, the duty to organize agriculture and other allied activities³².

In *Chameli Singh v. State of Uttar Pradesh*³³, the Court held that the right to shelter includes the right to livelihood and a life of dignity, thereby linking land rights with human dignity. In *K.T. Plantation Pvt. Ltd. v. State of Karnataka*³⁴, the Court emphasized that deprivation of property under Article 300A must be just, fair, and reasonable, underscoring the need for fairness in state actions affecting agrarian landholdings. Furthermore, in *ITC Ltd. v.*

²⁹ Annual Report 2024-2025, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Government of India,

<https://www.agriwelfare.gov.in/Documents/HomeWhatsNew/AR_Eng_2024_25.pdf>

³⁰ *Olga Tellis v. Bombay Mun. Corp.*, (1985) 3 S.C.C. 545 (India).

³¹ Art. 43, Ind. Const., 1950.

³² Art. 48, Ind. Const., 1950.

³³ *Chameli Singh v. State of U.P.*, (1996) 2 S.C.C. 549 (India).

³⁴ *K.T. Plantation Pvt. Ltd. v. State of Karnataka*, (2011) 9 S.C.C. 1 (India).

*Agricultural Produce Market Committee*³⁵, the Court upheld the State's power to regulate agricultural markets in the interest of protecting farmers from exploitation, thereby affirming the legitimacy of regulatory intervention.

Despite the constitutional guarantee, the agricultural labourers and farmers are facing immense pressure and hurdles which directly forcing the younger generation to move into alternatives. That such alternative, also directs towards unorganized sectors with low income and with no social security rather than a formal job. Therefore, strict regularity in agricultural practice is much needed with ground realities to address this challenge.

IX. SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

In note with the above discussed hurdles, the following recommendations are made for better ground reality implementations:

i. Reframing the definition of "farmer" under the Seeds Bill, 2025:

It is recommended that the definition of "farmer" under the Seeds Bill, 2025 should be redefined in verbatim with the Protection of Plant Variety and Farmer's Right Act, 2001. The definition must be interpreted wide enough to include the traditional farmer community and not only individual category.

Further, the complaint-based system should be modified into statutory compliance on seed breeders. Additionally, the provision shall be interpreted to regulate and legalize the traditional seed exchange practice among agricultural labourers.

ii. Market Regulation and Competition Assurance:

To reduce the power on large scale farmers and industries, competition law can be indulged to avoid monopolies and price manipulation on seed breeding and selling. The Government can regulate the market through licensing and price monitoring.

iii. Providing statutory recognition:

The MSP mechanism can be provided statutory status ensuring the minimum pay for the

³⁵ ITC Ltd. v. Agric. Produce Mkt. Comm., (2002) 9 S.C.C. 232 (India).

agricultural produce. Further, to address the gap between MSP and the market price, Price Different Payment (PDP) can be adopted nation wide as a compensation to the farmers which are being done in Haryana and Madhya Pradesh³⁶. This mechanism will greatly help in increasing the pay of the agrarians who may sell at low cost due to market constraints.

iv. Agriculture and Digital Integration:

In order to attract youth, the intersection of agriculture and digital mechanism is necessary. Technological advancement like AI can be used for checking inefficiencies. Further, Digital platform like e NAM can be developed to eliminate the pertaining lack of infrastructure and low online participation volume³⁷. Private entities partnership shall be undertaken to regulate competition and digital integration in the agro-product market.

X. CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, agriculture and agri-oriented works hold a significant role in the economy. The paper has dealt with the pertaining MSP legality issues and the narrowed definition of farmer along with the existing large youth migration from the agricultural sector and the shortcomings in Seeds Bill. With the above recommendation, the MSP legalization will result in raising the livelihood and standard of living of farmers thereby, eliminating the low remuneration crisis among the rural agro-youth. Further, through re-definition of farmer and reconstruction of seeding regulation will encourage the traditional farmers community to innovate and cultivate. Private entities are much needed however, not in the vulnerability of the marginal farmers. Therefore, legal regulation by the Government will make a cumulative effect in sustainable agriculture with more youth induced labourers upholding the constitutional framework.

³⁶ Need to rethink MSP: Time has come to look at alternatives like deficiency payments & direct income support, Financial Express, 15 July 2022, <<https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/need-to-rethink-msp-time-has-come-to-look-at-alternatives-like-deficiency-payments-direct-income-support/2594438/>>

³⁷Jana and Manna, Legal Guarantee of Minimum Support Price MSP and Indian Agriculture Issues and Options, IJIREM, 2024, <[JanaandMannaIJIREM2024Legal-Guarantee-of-Minimum-Support-Price-MSP-and-Indian-Agriculture-Issues-and-Options.pdf](#)>

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1. Indian Constitution, 1950.
2. Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
3. Food Corporation of India Act, 1964.
4. National Food Security Act, 2013.
5. The PPVFT Act, 2001.
6. The Seeds Bill, 2025.
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