

Agriculture Policies and Acts

Title	National Agricultural Policy, India		
Date/Year	2000		
Jurisdiction	India	Central	All river basins
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture		
Keywords	Agriculture, irrigation, insurance, technology, value addition, market		
Weblink	http://rrtd.nic.in/agriculture.html		
Objectives	<p><i>The National Policy on Agriculture seeks to actualise the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster agricultural development, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro business, create employment in rural areas, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families, discourage migration to urban areas and face the challenges arising out of economic liberalization and globalisation.</i></p>		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 4 per cent annual growth rate aimed over next two decades. • Greater private sector participation through contract farming. • Price protection for farmers. • National Agricultural Insurance scheme to be launched. • Dismantling of restrictions on movement of agricultural commodities throughout the country. • Rational utilisation of country's water resources for optimum use of irrigation potential. • High priority to development of animal husbandry, poultry, dairy and aquaculture. • Capital inflow and assured markets for crop production. • Exemption from payment of capital gains tax on compulsory acquisition of agricultural land. • Minimise fluctuations in commodity prices. • Continuous monitoring of international prices. • Plant varieties to be protected through legislation. • Adequate and timely supply of quality inputs to farmers. • High priority to rural electrification. • Setting up of agro-processing units and creation of off-farm employment in rural areas. 		
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of a concrete and time bound action plan to complement the policy. • The policy emphasis the need for diversification, but the price/market support policies do not complement diversification • Agriculture is a state subject in India and hence the state priorities and concerns differ and may not be in line with the national policy • The importance and implications of the increasing strain on India's limited water resources are not adequately recognised by the NAP • The document does not stress the need for improved irrigation as a precondition to higher growth • Technology policy needs to ensure both that appropriate technologies are generated and that they are effectively disseminated to end users • No specific recommendation to address gender concerns. 		

Title	National Policy for Farmers, India		
Date/Year	2007		
Jurisdiction	India	Central	All river basins
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture		
Keywords	Farmer, agriculture, conservation, market, price, extension, livelihood, land		
Weblink	http://agricoop.nic.in/imagedefault/policy/NPF2007ENG.pdf		
Objectives	<i>The aim of the Policy is to stimulate attitudes and actions which should result in assessing agricultural progress in terms of improvement in the income of farm families, not only to meet their consumption requirements but also to enhance their capacity to invest in farm related activities.</i>		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Policy has defined, the term “FARMER” as a person actively engaged in the economic and/or livelihood activity of growing crops and producing other primary agricultural commodities and will include all agricultural operational holders, cultivators, agricultural labourers, sharecroppers, tenants, poultry and livestock rearers, fishers, beekeepers, gardeners, pastoralists, non-corporate planters and planting labourers, as well as persons engaged in various farming related occupations such as sericulture, vermiculture, and agro-forestry. It also includes tribal families/persons engaged in shifting cultivation and collection, use and sale of minor and non-timber forest produce. • The policy is an all-encompassing one, in the sense that it has included every category which depends on agriculture and allied activities (fisheries, poultry, animal husbandry etc.) for livelihoods within the definition. • Gender friendly policy- it has taken into account the contribution of women work force in agricultural production. The policy mentions to provide support services for women agriculturalists, develop women friendly implements, speedily delivery of credit services/Kissan Credit Card to Women, women oriented micro enterprises and significant role of women as water users-both in access and management. • Policy also addresses the issues of land reforms and extension reforms and also stresses the need for public investment in agricultural research and development 		
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National farmer Policy calls for convergence and integration of allied sectors of agriculture. An integrated approach would demand coordination between line departments/ministries. Schemes and programs need to complement each other. Operational Planning at district level by multi-disciplinary professional group is a good initiative. • Agricultural Price and market reforms mentioned in the policy comprise price support systems and post-harvest management. The pre -requisite of cold storages to reduce post-harvest losses was not highlighted in the policy. • The policy duly addresses the issues of land reforms and waste land management and a bottom –up approach in planning but implementation has always been a bureaucratic problem in India. Access to credit and other institutional services is still a mirage for many small and marginal farmers across the country. Given that agriculture is a state subject and the capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions vary widely across states. • More investment in agricultural research and development will enable to streamline R&D to local conditions but this is yet to happen. 		

Title	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture, India		
Date/Year	2010		
Jurisdiction	India	Central	All river basins
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture		
Keywords			
Weblink	http://agricoop.nic.in/Climatechange/ccr/National%20Mission%20For%20Sustainable%20Agriculture-DRAFT-Sept-2010.pdf		
Objectives	<i>The National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture seeks to transform agriculture into an ecologically sustainable climate resilient production system while at the same time, exploiting its fullest potential and thereby ensuring food security, equitable access to food resources, enhancing livelihood opportunities and contributing to economic stability at the national level</i>		
Highlights	<p>Ten mission interventions under the mission are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved crop seeds, livestock and fish culture, • Water use efficiency, • Pest management, • Improved farm practices, • Nutrient management, • Agriculture insurance, • Credit support, • Markets, • Access to information, • Livelihood diversification <p>Each of these dimensions has then to be analyzed in the context of four functional areas viz. Research and Development, Technology and Practices, Infrastructure and Capacity Building for identifying adaptation and mitigation needs in a multi-dimensional and cross-sectoral matrix.</p>		
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation vs. Adaptation in Agriculture Sector- • Rainfed farming is not given due significance. • Controversies related to conserving genetic resources in one hand and promoting genetically modified crops on the other • The operationalization demands convergence of various other programs like RKVY, MGNREGS , NWDPRRA etc and also with line departments which is a tedious task • Limitation of mechanization in small farm holdings • Non popularity of micro irrigation techniques with small and marginal farmers 		

Title	Policy and Process Guidelines for Farmer Producer Organizations		
Date/Year	2013		
Jurisdiction	India	Central	All river basins
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture		
Keywords	Producer, company, cooperative, agriculture, resource, market		
Weblink	http://nhm.nic.in/Archive/FPO-Policy&Process-GuidelinesDAC2013.pdf		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To promote economically viable, democratic, and self-governing Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)</i> • <i>To provide support for the promotion of such FPOs by qualified and</i> 		

	<p><i>experienced Resource Institutions (RIs).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To provide the required assistance and resources – policy action, inputs, technical knowledge, financial resources, and infrastructure – to strengthen these</i> • <i>FPOs.</i> • <i>To remove hurdles in enabling farmers’ access the markets through their FPOs, both as buyers and sellers.</i> • <i>To create an enabling policy environment for investments in FPOs to leverage their collective production and marketing power.</i>
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provisions of this Policy will apply equally to FPOs already registered either under the Companies Act or under various central and state cooperative society laws and those FPOs which will be registered subsequent to the issue of this Policy. • The main qualifying criterion for an FPO to attract benefits under various schemes and programmes of the Central and State Government is that it must be a body registered and administered by farmers and the organisation must be focused on activities in the agriculture and allied. • Detailed guidelines for the promotion of FPOs, including methodology of selecting RIs, budgets and registration processes are annexed to this Policy. • These are meant to guide the Central and State Government agencies engaged in FPO promotion and provide a detailed roadmap to achieve the vision of building FPOs, especially if funds under Central schemes are being used to promote FPOs. However, State Governments are free to develop their own independent guidelines to support FPOs if they are using State budgetary funds for the same. • The mandate of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will be expanded to include FPOs in the list of eligible institutions which receive support under the various programmes of the Corporation.
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concept has captured little attention across the country. • Setting up of farmer Producer Company, its registration to annual filing of information is a lengthy process which cannot be done by farmer’s initiative alone. • The policy states that the States may directly engage Resource Institutions (such as NGOs, private companies, research bodies, cooperatives, farmers’ groups) to mobilise farmers through an open bidding process. There is no direct involvement of the government other than facilitating the FPOs through centrally sponsored and state sponsored programs and schemes. • The APMC Act needs to be amended properly to allow direct sale of farm produce by Farmer Producer Companies. As of now only 16 states have adopted the model APMC act in India. • The policy also clashes with cooperative regulation and tenancy provisions • Recruitment of qualified managers is another problem. As per the policy, the managers are recruited by the board of directors which in turn is appointed by the members of farming community. • The policy has no special provision to address gender concerns

Title	The State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act (The MODEL ACT)		
Date/Year	2003		
Jurisdiction	India	Central	All river basins
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture		

Keywords	Agriculture, market, price, contract farming, purchase, private
Web link	http://agmarknet.nic.in/amrscheme/modelact.htm
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ease the control of agricultural markets by the state in order to facilitate greater participation of the private sector, particularly to engender massive investments required for the development of marketing infrastructure and supporting services. • To promote development of a competitive marketing infrastructure in the country and to bring about professionalism in the management of existing market yards and market fee structure. • To safeguards farmers from the exploitation of farmers by the private trade and industries if any
Highlights	<p>The Model Act, 2003, provides for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Private Markets/ yards, Direct Purchase Centres, Consumer/Farmers Markets for direct sale and promotion of Public Private Partnership in the management and development of agricultural markets in the country. • Separate constitution for Special Markets for commodities like Onions, Fruits, Vegetables, Flowers etc. • A separate chapter has been included in the legislation to regulate and promote contract-farming arrangements in the country. • Prohibits of commission agency in any transaction of agricultural commodities with the producers. • Redefines the role of State Agricultural Marketing Boards to promote standardization, grading, quality certification, market led extension and training of farmers and market functionaries in marketing related areas. • Constitution of State Agricultural Produce Marketing Standards, Bureau for promotion of Grading, Standardization and Quality Certification of Agricultural Produce. This would facilitate pledge financing, E-trading, direct purchasing, export, forward/future trading and introduction of negotiable warehousing receipt system in respect of agricultural commodities
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So far only 16 states have adopted the model APMC act. • States have not adopted it uniformly. Each state has made its own modification • Horticulture should be specifically excluded from definitions of APMC. Because these Mandis are main culprits for inflation and wastage of fruits and veggies. • All APMCs Mandis should introduce electronic auction platform • Open membership of APMC's by encouraging wholesalers and retailers to enter into transactions with the growers. • Anyone should be allowed to trade in APMC market. Licensing system should be abolished. • The APMC Market Committee should only fix the transaction fee and keep a Bank Guarantee from traders to ensure that the farmers' payment is not affected. • All the taxes/cess levied in APMC Mandis should be abolished.

Title	State Agricultural Policy, Assam, India		
Date/Year	2000		
Jurisdiction	India	Assam	Brahmaputra
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Assam		

Keywords	Agriculture, diversification, value addition, infrastructure, market, credit, extension
Weblink	http://artassam.nic.in/Agriculture%20Department/The%20Assam%20State%20Agriculture%20Policy,%20%20.pdf
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide food security and improve nutritional intake and decrease the population below the poverty line. • To increase the average yield of all major crops • To increase the cropping intensity through increase in irrigation and mechanization. • To diversify into other crops, specifically wheat, oilseeds, pulses and horticultural crops. • To treat the agriculture sector as an area of maximum employment generation. • To develop marketing and processing infrastructure. • To converge the resources available under various government schemes like JGSY and PMGSY, etc. • Field Management Committee to function as a SHG to strengthen extension activities and as focal points for agricultural credit.
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state agricultural policy clearly mentions short term, medium term and long term strategies to achieve the objectives. • The short term strategy is to raise the Average Yield of all crops in Assam primarily by ensuring increase in irrigated area through the use of Shallow Tube Wells and increase in mechanization through power tillers and tractors, availability of good quality seeds and fertilizers and other inputs in the market • The medium term strategy envisages giving special emphasis to production of wheat, oilseed and pulses, where the State is deficient and also lay stress on the growth of the horticulture sector especially through value addition as it would lead to an increase in area under horticulture crops, where Assam has a comparative advantage over the rest of the country. • As part of long term strategy, the State intends to promote value addition by encouraging private players to set-up food processing industries in the State through development of infrastructure and marketing network for horticulture produce and to have an industrial policy, which is particularly attractive to entrepreneurs.
Key Issues	---

Title	Agricultural Policy for Punjab, India		
Date/Year	March 2013		
Jurisdiction	India	Punjab	Indus
Timeframe		Status	Draft Policy
Issued By	Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Punjab		
Keywords	Agriculture, sustainability, market, credit, diversification, procurement		
Weblink	http://punjab.gov.in/documents/10191/20775/Agriculture+policy+of+punjab.pdf/9db4456f-55c5-4b55-882a-adf5811b2a53		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To attain a long term growth rate of 3% per annum in the agricultural sector including dairy with technologically feasible, economically viable and environmentally sustainable initiatives. This growth should be inclusive and demand driven so as to cater to the needs of domestic and international market.</i> 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An increase in the real incomes of farmers by increasing productivity, lowering cost of production and adoption of high value crops, agro-processing and dairy farming.</i>
Highlights	<p>The highlights of the suggested agriculture policy are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging the optimal use of natural resources for long term sustainability of agriculture; enhancing the productivity of crops and live-stock through strengthening research, public and private investments and development programmes; improving the economy of farmers; encouraging the cultivation and addressing the problems of high value crops; addressing the constraints through restructuring of the incentives, market orientation, credit delivery system and value addition to produce both at industrial scale and at the village level; and restructuring of various development departments for coordinated implementation of various activities.
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy has addressed the issues of groundwater depletion and has stated that the state should adopt the Model Bill on Ground water regulation and electricity and water should be charged beyond a certain level of use. • Policy supports crop diversification and has identified a few alternate crops and mentions about suitable price support and initiation of procurement • Further it talks about trade facilitation, freight subsidy and tax reform so as to make the products more competitive in domestic and international market • Policy should have stopped free electricity rather than keeping a certain limit for use. This is a politically sensitive issue and hence no political party wants to take this radical step. Also, the govt. is following the same path with the alternate crops which had been adopted for popularising rice and wheat viz, MSP and procurement.

Title	Uttar Pradesh Agricultural Policy, India		
Date/Year	2013		
Jurisdiction	India	Uttar Pradesh	Ganges
Timeframe		Status	Draft Policy, This is a revised version of current policy dated 2005.
Issued By	Govt. of Uttar Pradesh		
Keywords	Agriculture, extension, technology, market, diversification		
Web link	http://www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in/files/file/agripolicyenglish.pdf		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To achieve a growth rate of 5.1% in the agriculture sector.</i> • <i>To develop and popularize appropriate eco-friendly farming systems which would improve the soil health as well as farm income.</i> • <i>To develop and conserve natural resources for maintaining ecological balance.</i> • <i>To increase the income of farmers through agricultural diversification towards high value activities, while retaining the core-competence in area of food and nutritional security.</i> • <i>To develop infrastructure facilities in sectors of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, agriculture implements, extension services, food processing and marketing by promoting private sector involvement across the agricultural supply chain.</i> 		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing agricultural production and productivity by improving input use efficiency, soil health and developing sodic and waste lands. • Ensuring timely availability of quality inputs. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing cost of cultivation by way of better crop management, use of cost effective locally available inputs and adoption of new technologies. Ensuring private sector participation in the field of agricultural research, development, extension, input management and distribution, and agricultural marketing. Increasing the profitability of agriculture produce by way of value addition and agro based industries. Proposal for legislation to prohibit ground water exploitation in notified areas Promoting utilization of non-conventional energy resources. A separate policy for organic production will be developed. Necessary amendment in Mandi act Encouraging development of infrastructure at rural level. Women friendly agriculture technologies and machineries will be developed
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground water regulation only in notified areas with critical water level and not uniform across the state. Due to better farm returns, water guzzling crops like Mentha is getting popular; the policy states that a commission will be constituted to review the area expansion of such crops. But no timeline regarding constitution and the submission of review report. More and more farmers are cultivating Mentha in the eastern Uttar Pradesh. The policy highlights the involvement of private sector especially in input supply and value addition and also mentions about amending APMC act; amendment of APMC is a precondition for contract farming and direct selling of produce which is pending in the state since long time.

Title	National Agriculture Policy, Bangladesh		
Date/Year	October 2010		
Jurisdiction	Bangladesh	National	Ganges & Brahmaputra
Timeframe		Status	Draft. Currently implementing the policy dated 1999
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture		
Keywords	Agriculture, research, extension, sustainable, credit, market		
Weblink	http://www.bcsnnp.net/images/pdf/agriculture_policy_2010.pdf		
Objectives	<p><i>The National Agriculture Policy broadly aims at creating an enabling environment for Sustainable growth of agriculture for reducing poverty and ensuring food security through increased crop production and employment opportunity as envisaged in National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction (NSAPR), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and SAARC Development Goals (SDGs).</i></p> <p><i>The specific objectives are to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>developing and harnessing improved technologies through research and training;</i> <i>increasing productivity and generating income and employment by transferring</i> <i>appropriate technologies and managing inputs;</i> <i>promoting competitiveness through commercialization of agriculture; and</i> <i>establishing a self-reliant and sustainable agriculture adaptive to climate change and responsive to farmer's needs.</i> 		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A paradigm shift in the research and development program so as to enhance the production efficiency, productivity and profitability. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research thrust on weather and crop forecasting, climate change and disaster management. • Better transfer of technology and equity in service delivery • Strengthening agricultural informatics by linking all stakeholders in National Agricultural Research Systems with other national, regional and international centres of excellence • Strengthening agricultural extension system and agricultural education system • Public private partnership to increase agricultural production • Creation of Agricultural Credit Foundation to make credit more accessible • Facilitating women's participation in agricultural production system through access to agricultural technology and capacity building. • Government will create Agriculture Price Commission to provide guidelines to strengthen agricultural marketing
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy emphasises on reforming agricultural research and development, service delivery mechanisms, extension programs etc. to increase the agricultural production in the context of climate change. An action plan for this revised policy is yet to be developed. • The revised policy has given importance to market reforms which includes strengthening market intelligence and market regulation, developing infrastructure and value chains. However, agricultural produce market regulation act needs to be amended. Also a comprehensive agri-business policy should be there to ensure private participation.

Title	The Agricultural Produce Markets Regulation Act		
Date/Year	1964		
Jurisdiction	Bangladesh	National	Ganges & Brahmaputra
Timeframe		Status	Implemented. Amended in 1985
Issued By	Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Bangladesh		
Keywords	Notified market, license, advisory committee, market functionary, dispute		
Weblink	http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/pdf/337_.pdf		
Objectives	<i>To regulate the purchase and sale of agricultural produce and markets in which such produce is purchased or sold in Bangladesh.</i>		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any market can be declared as Notified market in the official gazette in respect of such agricultural produce and with effect from such date as notified. • No person can act as a market functionary (middleman) in the notified market without a license issued under this act for one year in respect of notified agricultural produce. • A District Market Advisory Committee is constituted in each district to advise the Director in the matter of market regulation, fixation of market charges and settlement of dispute. • The market advisory committee will be maintaining a set of weights and set of measures which will be made available free of charge to any purchaser or seller in the notified market and which will be verified periodically by Market Advisory Committee. 		
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the existence of this Act the middle man is reaping profit in all deals. This is mainly because farmers have no access to market information/ market price. • The policy is out dated and need to incorporate elements to facilitate private participation in marketing/agri-business. 		

Title	National Agricultural Policy, Nepal		
Date/Year	2004		
Jurisdiction	Nepal	National	Ganges
Timeframe		Status	Implemented
Issued By	Nepal Law Commission		
Keywords	Agricultural productivity, research, extension, technologies, investment, public private partnerships, biodiversity		
Weblink	http://www.investnepal.gov.np/portal/index.php?p1=download&f=cmVzb3VyY2VfYzQyZTY4NDBhMmMyYjgucGRmOjpOYXRpb25hbCBBZ3JpY3VsdlHVyYWwgUG9saWN5LnBkZg		
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Agricultural production and productivity shall be increased</i> 2. <i>The bases of a commercial and competitive farming system shall be developed and made competitive in the regional and world markets.</i> 3. <i>Natural resources as well as the environment and biodiversity, shall be conserved promoted and properly utilized.</i> 		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural productivity and production shall be increased by utilizing appropriate technologies local potentialities and extension. • Non-agricultural use of fertile land will be discouraged • Development of irrigation facilities, road, transport and electrification • Promotion of high value agricultural crops near highways and feeder roads • Formulation and implementation of agricultural plans by local bodies. • Promotion of participatory and competitive agricultural research with the participation of private sector and NGOs • Encouraging private and foreign investments in agricultural research and development • Strengthening agricultural education system • 50% participation of women in all agricultural program • Special facilities in policy for farmers with less than half hectare land, those who lack irrigation facilities, marginal farmers, Dalits and agricultural workers. This includes land ceiling, lease agreements, pasture development, small irrigation units, livestock insurance, use of improved/ high yielding breeds, genetically modified organisms, conservation of traditional technologies products. 		
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nepal has a wide potential for value addition and agri-export. But it has not been fully exploited due to lack of enabling environment. Though the policy addresses infrastructural issues, adequate investment has not happened in this sector. • The policy recognizes the role of private sector in agricultural R &D and agri-business ventures but the govt. not many successful public private partnerships took place • It also mentions about a separate agricultural industrial policy to link agricultural research, production and market, but the policy is not ready till date. • The policy has not addressed the issue of climate change 		

Title	Agriculture and Food Security Policy, Pakistan		
Date/Year	2011		
Jurisdiction	Pakistan	National	Indus
Timeframe		Status	Draft

Issued By	Government of Pakistan, Ministry of National Food Security and Research
Keywords	Agriculture, institutional reforms, public- private partnerships, sustainable agriculture, rural business hubs
Weblink	http://www.mnfsr.gov.pk/gop/index.php?q=aHR0cDovLzE5Mi4xNjguNzAuMTM2L21uZnNyL3VzZXJmaWxlczEvZmlsZS9Ob2xpY3klMjBECmFmdCUyMDI5JTIwU2VwdGVtYmVyLnBkZg%3D%3D
Objectives	<p><i>The agriculture and food security policy would aim to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Create a modern, efficient and diversified agricultural sector</i> • <i>Ensure attractive incomes and decent employment for those who live and work in rural areas;</i> • <i>Use the resource base in an efficient and sustainable manner;</i> • <i>Flexibly adapt to climate change and be resilient enough to quickly recover from shocks and emergencies;</i> • <i>Ensure that all sections of the population have stable access to adequate, nutritious and safe foods necessary for a healthy life</i>
Highlights	<p>The key elements of the new agricultural policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • move to a more innovation and technology based agriculture that makes efficient and sustainable use of natural resources; • redirect public sector agriculture expenditure by focusing agriculture subsidies to socio-economic groups that need it most such as small farmers, landless, women, and nomads and transhumant, and public investments in creation of knowledge, technology and essential infrastructure • ensure that food is accessible to all sections of the population, in particular vulnerable groups such as children and women, and is prepared, stored and consumed in a way that ensures nutritional security. <p>The specific actions include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional reforms to facilitate better collaboration between public and private sector in R&D, and extension Governance and Institutional Reforms • Gradual revision of the regulatory framework for fruit, vegetable and livestock markets. • Introducing an efficient and equitable system of charges, taxes and subsidies for agriculture • Bringing a more efficient and sustainable use of groundwater • Reforms in land markets and rental agreements • Ensuring Sustainability through adopting guidelines for land use planning, water and effluent management, control of dangerous chemical and hazardous drugs, promotion of IPM technologies and implementing plant and animal quarantine services. • Improving service delivery
Key Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy has listed the key constraints to agricultural production and productivity and the policy actions are framed to address these constraints. The success indicators of critical policy action will enable to track the progress towards the objectives. However, agriculture is a provincial subject in Pakistan and some of the provinces have their own agricultural policy. The institutional and governance reforms proposed in the policy might contradict provincial interests. • Concrete action plan for ground water regulation and crop diversification are not mentioned. • The policy has not laid stress on strengthening infrastructure and cold storage facilities, market intelligence and information. • Gender concerns are missing

Title	Agricultural Marketing Policy of Bhutan		
Date/Year	July 2013		
Jurisdiction	Bhutan	National	Brahmaputra
Timeframe		Status	Draft
Issued By	Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives		
Keywords	Regulatory framework, private sector, subsidies, infrastructure, market information, risk management, value addition		
Weblink	http://www.gnhc.gov.bt/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Agricultural-Marketing-Policy-Draft-V8-20130723-Tashi.pdf		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provide an efficient, effective and transparent legal and regulatory framework for performance of the agricultural marketing functions in order to enhancing competitiveness in the local and external markets.</i> • <i>The single overriding goal is to facilitate strategic marketing of agricultural products while ensuring fair returns to all stakeholders based on a competitive, efficient and equitable marketing system.</i> 		
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put in place a legal and regulatory framework for an efficient, effective and transparent agricultural marketing at different levels. • Facilitate and encourage private sector, including cooperatives and farmer/producer groups. • Put in place a framework to address anti-competitive practices, including cartels and monopolistic tendencies. • Promote competition and competitive pricing policy in all points of the agricultural marketing chain. • Subsidies will be provided as exigency, time-bound measures associated with counteracting the effect of extreme emergency situations; • Encouraging nascent enterprises and activities associated with promotion and encouragement of new crop; national priority programmes such as the Winter Vegetable Programme • Design and implement agriculturally defined guidelines on the use of anti-dumping, safeguards and countervailing duties • Development and adoption by value chain operators of processing methods and techniques. • Improve quality and standard of agricultural products that are produced and marketed. • Establish efficient and effective agricultural marketing systems and structures • Develop, support, strengthen and empower farmer groups and cooperatives • Strengthen agriculture marketing infrastructure, market intelligence • Mainstream gender and youth in all agriculture marketing activities. 		
Key Issues	---		