

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) is an organisation of marketing cooperatives for agricultural produce.

It was established on October 2 1958 under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act. It was set up with the aim of promoting co-operative marketing of agricultural produce that would benefit farmers.

This article will give details about the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India within the context of the IAS Exam.

Overview of NAFED

NAFED has its headquarters in New Delhi with regional offices in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. It also operates 28 zonal offices in capitals of states and other crucial cities.

The NAFED is part of “Operation Greens” where price stabilization measures are implemented in order to increase farmers' income by 2022. It works in tandem with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in playing a lead role in purchasing oilseeds, pulses under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The PSS in turn is also a scheme under the PM-AASHA scheme.

Objectives of NAFED

The objectives of NAFED are as follows:

1. To organise, promote, and develop marketing and storage of agricultural and forest produce.
2. Assist for technical advice in agricultural production.
3. Facilitation, coordination and promotion of marketing and trading activities of partners associates in the agricultural sector.
4. Undertaking purchase, sale and supply of agricultural, marketing and processing requirements such as manure, seeds, fertilizers etc.
5. Facilitate the construction of warehouses as per the Warehousing act by constructing its own godowns and storage facilities.
6. Act as agent of any government or cooperative for the purchase, sale and storage of agricultural, horticultural and animal husbandry produce.
7. Provide insurance coverage to cover any accidents that may occur.

8. Organize consultancy work for the benefit of allied institutions under the NAFED
9. To undertake marketing research and dissemination of market intelligence;
10. To subscribe to the share capital and undertake business collaboration with cooperative institutions, public, joint and private sector enterprises, if and when considered necessary for fulfilling the objectives of NAFED.

Latest Scheme to be implemented by the NAFED

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare inaugurated the Honey Farmer Producer Organisation Programme (FPO). The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited will be the one of the national implementing agency

- It is a Central Sector Scheme that will promote 10,000 new FPOs
- Initially three implementing agencies would implement this scheme; they were the Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- The states may nominate their own implementing agency should they desire after consulting the Department of Agriculture.
- The FPOS will be developed by Cluster Based Business Organizations (CBBOs)

The scheme will have the following benefits:

- Skill enhancement in holistic beekeeping.
- Robust infrastructure for processing honey and allied products such as bee's wax, royal jelly, bee venom etc.
- Quality control by specialised laboratories
- Better supply chain management through advanced storage, collection and marketing centres.
- Promotion and Formation of FPOs is the first step for converting Krishi into Atma Nirbhar Krishi.