

Ministry of Food Processing and the Ministry of Railway

50% Freight Subsidy for agricultural perishables

October 15, 2020

Relevant to M&M- FES, FAAS

Background

- In the third tranche of announcements under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat scheme, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on May 15 that “Operation Greens” would now be extended from tomatoes, onions, and potatoes (Top) to all fruits and vegetables.
- The Rs 500 crore 'Top to Total' scheme aims to repair broken supply chains in India.
- The Centre acknowledges and identifies that supply chains have been disrupted due to the coronavirus induced lockdown, due to which farmers are not being able to sell their produce at fair prices.
- This resulted in distress sale and greatly reducing the price of perishable items including fruits and vegetables.

Highlights

- Food processors, farmer producer organisations, co-operative societies, individual farmers, licensed commission agents, exporters, state marketing and retailers engaged in processing and marketing of fruits and vegetables can avail of the scheme.
- The minimum distance between the production cluster to the consumption centre will be 100 km for food processors, farmers, exporters and FPOs but 250 km for retailers, state marketing and cooperative federations.
- Mango, banana, guava, kiwi, litchi, papaya, citrus, pineapple, pomegranate and jackfruit are the fruits which have been approved by the agriculture ministry.
- In vegetables, French beans, bitter gourd, brinjal, capsicum, carrot, cauliflower, green chillies, okra, onion, potato and tomato have been approved.

References

1. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/govt-to-give-50-subsidy-for-fruit-vegetable-transport-to-help-farmers-cut-post-harvest-loss-avoid-distress-sale/articleshow/76339679.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst
2. <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/trends/50-subsidy-on-transportation-storage-of-perishable-farm-produce-under-top-to-total-scheme-worth-rs-500-crore-5272801.html>