

## Analytical Study Of The Role Of Chhattisgarh Markfed

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### ARTICLE INFO

### ABSTRACT

In a developing country like India, the importance of agriculture is not likely to diminish because of its various aspects like food security and employment for the poor rural. The focus of various Five Year Plans was on self-sufficiency and self-reliance in agricultural production and as a result of these efforts, there has been a continuous increase in agricultural production and productivity. Measuring sustainability of agriculture has become a challenge for Markfed who want to evaluate their efficiency and effectiveness. Markfed of different states play a vital role in the development of agriculture sector. An attempt has been made to analyse the role of Markfed through the presented research.

**Key-words** - Markfed, Chhattisgarh, Paddy Procurement

**Introduction** - Chhattisgarh state is an agriculture based economy and it is the backbone of food production of the country. It has a significant contribution in the food production of the country. Chhattisgarh is a developing state. The favorable climate and soil here is best for paddy production. Chhattisgarh state is identified as the 'rice bowl'. Various central and state governments are playing an important role in the development of the agriculture sector. Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited is one of them which came into existence in the year 2000 with the formation of the newly developed state to connect the government and farmers. The goal of Chhattisgarh State Government Marketing Federation is to purchase and store paddy and other grains from farmers at the minimum support price announced by the Government of India. Chhattisgarh Markfed is playing an important and leading role as an essential part of Chhattisgarh's economy. Despite its commercial characteristics, it is fulfilling its social responsibilities by providing free services to farmers for the use of both chemical fertilizers and other agricultural inputs.

### Research Reviews –

1. Saluja & Singh, (2017) The present research paper focuses on the working system and capacity of the marketing federation in the distribution of chemical fertilizers in Chhattisgarh. The survey method has been used in the presented research. It has been found through the research that the main function of the Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Marketing Federation is to provide high quality chemical fertilizers to the farmers at reasonable prices so that black marketing of chemical fertilizers can be stopped.
2. Kaur, (2016) The presented research focuses on the role of Markfed in the agriculture sector as well as the problems faced by it. In the present study, Punjab Cooperative Marketing Federation has been analyzed. The conclusion of the research shows that Punjab Cooperative Marketing Federation is providing its best services in the field of development of agriculture.
3. Kaur & Dhaliwal, (2015) The present research paper depicts the attitude of framers towards two federations Markfed and Harfed under the state of Punjab and Haryana. The federations are playing an important role in the marketing of agricultural produce and consumer products. The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. It is found from the conclusion that most of the respondents of marketing federation and Harfed have expressed their satisfaction regarding the functions of the marketing federation. Overall, the respondents of Markfed are more satisfied with the purchase of produce and products than the respondents of Harfed.

### Research Objectives -

1. To study the role of Chhattisgarh State Government Distribution Federation Limited (Markfed) in the development of agriculture in Chhattisgarh state.
2. To analyze the achievements of Chhattisgarh State Government Distribution Federation Limited (Markfed) in the field of paddy procurement.
3. To study the challenges faced by Chhattisgarh State Government Distribution Federation Limited (Markfed).

**Research Method** - The presented research paper is based on analytical study. The present study is based on legal data. This data has been collected through Chhattisgarh State Government Distribution Federation Limited's annual report, internet and annual statistical report.

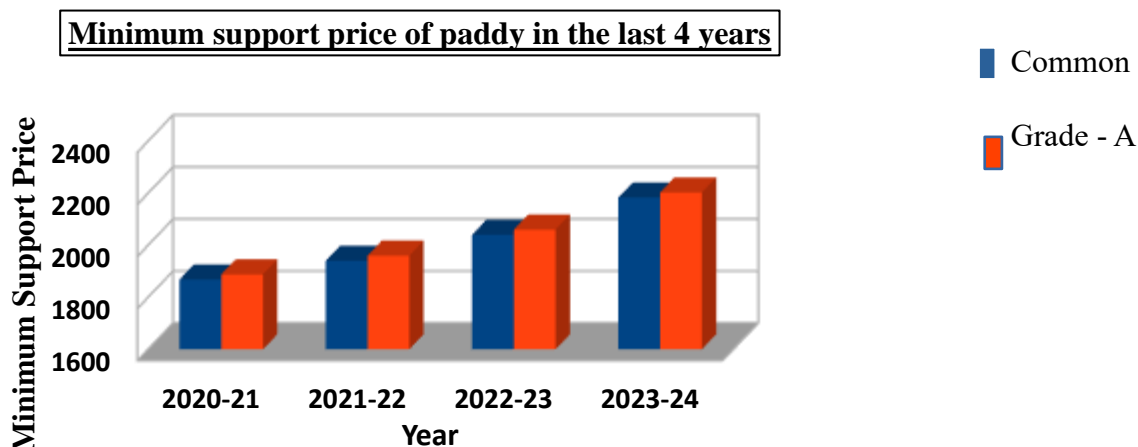
### Objectives and functions of Chhattisgarh State Government Distribution Federation Limited (Markfed) -

1. To provide assistance to other marketing committees situated in the State.
2. To carry out welfare activities as directed by the State Government.
3. To act as an agent of the State Government for purchase of paddy and distribution of chemical fertilizers.

**Analysis** – In the presented research study, the information regarding paddy procurement and minimum support price (MSP) of paddy for three years by Chhattisgarh State Government Distribution Federation Limited (Markfed) has been shown through a table, which is as follows-

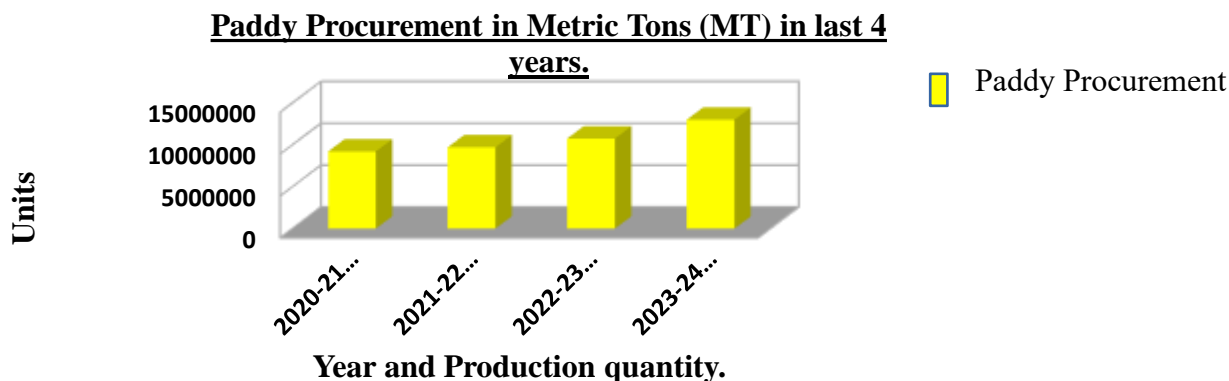
#### Minimum support price of paddy in the last 4 years

Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Common	1868	1940	2040	2183
Grade-A	1888	1960	2060	2203



#### Paddy Procurement in Metric Tons (MT) in last 4 years.

Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Paddy Procurement	92,02,388	97,02,388	1,07,53,024	1,30,00,000 (Approx.)



**Analysis** – From the analysis of the presented table and data, it is known that the minimum support price of paddy has increased in Chhattisgarh in the last 4 years. The support price of paddy in 2020-21 was Rs. 1868/- per quintal, which has increased to Rs. 2183/- in the present time 2023-24. Now the minimum support price of paddy in Chhattisgarh is likely to be Rs. 3100/-. The effect of increase in minimum support price of paddy in the past days has been seen in paddy procurement from farmers. As in 2020-21, paddy procurement is expected to increase from 92,02,388 lakh metric tonnes to 130 lakh metric tonnes in the current time 2023-24. Since the establishment of Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Distribution Federation, there has been an unprecedented increase in paddy procurement in the state. In the year 2000-01, Chhattisgarh Markfed had purchased 4,63,204 metric tonnes of paddy, which is currently estimated to increase to 130 lakh metric ton in 2023-24. Chhattisgarh Markfed has done a very good job in the field of fertilizer distribution. According to the records submitted by the head office, it is certified that there has been a regular increase in the sale of fertilizers in both Kharif and Rabi seasons. Farmers are getting a fair minimum support price for their produce every year from the government.

After analyzing the various aspects it can be clearly seen that Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited (Markfed) is really actively participating in the agriculture sector of the state.

**Challenges and Suggestions** – Many challenges have to be faced while implementing any program in a planned manner. There are any challenges in the work being done by Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited (Markfed) which are somehow creating obstacles in the development of markfed and the state. For example, Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Distribution Federation Limited (Markfed) is facing a shortage of storage centers. At present, it is working with open storage in some districts due to which many times the crops of the farmers are damaged. There is a lack of transportation facilities in many districts of the state due to which problems are arising for both the farmers and markfed. To solve these problems, the state government needs to work together with markfed. The state government needs to increase transportation facilities. Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Distribution Federation will have to maintain continuity in the arrangement of more storage centers. Chhattisgarh markfed should provide training to the employees in keeping digital records to get better output.

**Conclusion** – It is clear from the study that the role of Chhattisgarh Markfed in the sustainable and balanced development of agriculture cannot be ignored. The cooperative structure of Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Marketing Federation, government support, progressive policies, new schemes and their implementation are the main components of the success of the corporation. Since the establishment of Chhattisgarh state, Markfed has been continuously contributing to agricultural stability and farmer's welfare activities. Chhattisgarh Markfed is moving towards improving the farmers by providing high quality agricultural products at a standard price. Inclusive development of agriculture in this state will definitely get stability.

In Chhattisgarh, agriculture is not only the farmers' business and means of earning a livelihood. It also represents the social and cultural richness of the state, and this is possible only when the state government and Markfed provide support to the farmers at the basic level, so that the farmers will also be assured and establish the term 'rice bowl' of Chhattisgarh as a reality.

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