

(II) CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES:

1. INTEGRATED SCHEME OF OILSEEDS, PULSES, OIL PALM AND MAIZE (ISOPOM) (75:25) :

This scheme has been launched during the year 2004-05. In this new scheme, all the ongoing schemes of OPP, NPDP and AMDP have been merged. Only maize crop has been considered for Himachal Pradesh. The Government of India has approved an annual plan for Rs.97.92 lacs for Himachal Pradesh for increasing productivity and total production of maize in the State during 2012-13. The scheme is being implemented on 75:25 basis, except for the component of publicity where central Government share is 100 percent. The main component under the scheme are block and IPM demonstrations, distribution of plant protection materials and equipments, providing pipes to carry water from water sources to the fields and publicity etc.

2. BIOGAS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (100%):

This is 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which subsidy @ Rs.4000 per biogas plant of one cubic meter and Rs.10,000/- per biogas plant of two & above cubic meter capacity is being provided. So far, installation of 43,803 biogas plants in the State upto 31.03.2012 have been anticipated. The targets for construction of Biogas plants of 1500 Nos and 300 Nos during the period of 12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017) and Annual Plan 2012-2013 have been fixed respectively.

3. MACRO MANAGEMENT– WORK PLAN FOR ACCELERATED GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE (90:10):

Government of India has launched this programme during 2000-2001 on 90% Centre share and 10% State share basis. In this, states have to identify this constraints and purpose schemes for funding through Work Plan. Flexibility has also been given to State Level Coordination Committee to make changes in allocation, if required from one scheme to other. For the year 2012-13, Work Plan of Rs.1411.21 lac has been approved to the Govt. of India. Scheme-wise detail is given as under:-

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount (Rs. in lacs)
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme for Wheat	168.67
2.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme for Rice	50.90
3.	Integrated Cereal Dev Programme for Pulses & Oilseeds	71.75
4.	Scheme for Farm Mechanisation	264.19
5.	NWDPRA	400.00
6.	Operational expenses	21.70
7.	Innovative Schemes	
I.	Protective irrigation and water harvesting	180.00
II.	Promotion of Organic Farming	209.00
III.	Diversification and area expansion under Turmeric in	30.00

	monkey prone areas	
IV.	Weed control	15.00
	Total-	1411.21

4. SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS (ATMA) (90:10) :

This programme is a major initiative towards revitalizing agricultural extension to make the extension system decentralized and demand driven. The scheme has been conceptualized on the basis of the policy framework for agricultural extension and experiences with the innovations in the technology dissemination component of the National Technology Project implemented in the 7 States including H.P.

Following key reforms are being promoted under the scheme;

1. Providing **innovative restructured autonomous bodies** at the district level (Agriculture Technology Management Agency) and at block level (Farmers Advisory Committee, Block Technology Team), which are flexible, promote bottom up and participatory approaches, are farmer driven and facilitate public-private partnership.
2. **Convergence of line departments'** programmes and operating on gap filling mode by formulating Strategic Research and Extension Plan(SREP) and Annual Work Plans.
3. Encouraging **Multi-agency Extension Strategies** involving inter-alia public/private extension service providers.
4. Moving towards integrated, broad-based extension delivery in the line with farming systems approach.
5. Adopting Group approach to extension (Operating through Farmer interest Groups (FIGs) & Self Help Groups (SHGs).
6. Addressing gender concerns (mobilizing farm women into groups, capacity building etc.)
7. Moving towards sustainability of extension services (e.g. through beneficiary contribution).

One of the first tasks of the district level institutions is to facilitate the preparation of a Strategic Research and Extension Plan (SREP) of the district through participatory methodologies involving all the stakeholders and farmers. SREP becomes the basis for development of Block/District level plans. State Extension Work Plan is developed at the State level and it contains a consolidated activity-wise plan incorporating all the District Action Plans (DAPs) in the State and the State Level activities. In the year 2011-12, Rupees 1295.05 lacs were spent. For 2012-13 approved outlay is Rs. 1572.60 lacs. All districts have now been covered under this scheme.

5. MASS MEDIA SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURE EXTENSION (100%CSS):

The primary objective of the scheme is to use television and radio with their massive penetration, as a vehicle for agricultural extension. Basically, the scheme is focusing on two initiatives:

Doordarshan:

The first is use of Doordarshan for infrastructure for providing agricultural related information and knowledge to farming community. It has two components (i) narrowcasting using high/low transmitters of Doordarshan (ii) regional and national agricultural programmes in terrestrial mode of transmission. Presently, Doordarshan Shimla is telecasting Krishi Darshan programme between 6.00 PM to 6.30 PM five days in a week.

All India Radio:

This component of scheme envisages use of FM transmitters of AIR to broadcast area specific agricultural programmes with 30 minutes radio transmission six days a week. Presently, half an hour, Kisanvani programme is being broadcast, six days a week from FM Dharamshala and Hamirpur.

6. SEED VILLAGE PROGRAMME (100%CSS) :

Major constraint in increasing production and productivity of crops noted is the lack of sufficient quantities of quality seed of improved varieties to be made available to the farmers in time, To overcome this constraint, Govt. of India has started a novel programme known as "Seed Village Programme", by which sufficient seed multiplication can be achieved in order to meet local seed requirement besides facilitating supply of seeds at reasonable cost and ensuring quick multiplication of new varieties in a shorter time.

Under this programme, areas of better seed production will be identified and a compact area approach will be followed. 50 to 150 suitable, responding/ willing farmers for the same crop will be identified/ selected preferably in compact area/cluster approach. Foundation/certified seed at 50% cost will be made available to these identified farmers. The seeds for half an acre per farmer will be allowed. Training on seed production and seed technology will be imparted to the identified farmers for the seed crops grown in the seed villages. Besides this, assistance @ 33% on seed storage bins of 2.1 Quintal capacity is also available.

7. PROMOTION AND STRENGTHENING OF AGRICULTURE MECHANISATION THROUGH TRAINING, TESTING AND DEMONSTRATION (100%CSS):

Government of India has launched this programme to improve testing efficiency and to popularize the improved/newly developed agricultural/ horticultural equipments at farmers' fields under the actual field conditions and to improved the performance and acceptability assessment of the agricultural implements.

8. CROP INSURANCE SCHEMES:

A). RASHTRIYA KRISHI BIMA YOJNA (RKBY):

The State Govt. has introduced this scheme from Rabi, 1999-2000 season. Crops covered are Wheat, Barley, Maize, Paddy, Potato and Ginger. 50% subsidy on premium is being provided to small and marginal farmers. The scheme is compulsory for loanee farmers and optional for non-loanee farmers. The scheme provides comprehensive risks insurance against yield losses viz. drought, hailstorm, floods and pests disease etc. The Agriculture

Insurance Co. of India (AICI) is implementing the scheme. The farmers of the State can get benefit out of this programme. State and Government of India share the losses equally. From Rabi, 2007-08, the subsidy on premium has been raised from 10% to 50% to small & marginal farmers. Ginger crop of District Sirmour has been included in this scheme on pilot basis from Kharif, 2008.

a) Objectives:

1. To provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases.
2. To encourage the farmers to adopt progressive farming practices, high value in-puts and higher technology in Agriculture.
3. To help stabilise farm incomes, particularly in disaster years.

b) Farmers to be covered:

The Scheme covers following groups of farmers:

On a compulsory basis: All farmers growing notified crops and availing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO) loans from Financial Institutions i.e. Loanee Farmers.
 On a voluntary basis: All other farmers growing notified crops (i.e., Non-Loanee farmers) who opt for the Scheme.

c) Risks Covered:

Comprehensive risk insurance will be provided to cover yield losses due to non-preventable risks, viz.:

1. Natural Fire and Lightning
2. Storm, Hailstorm, Cyclone, Typhoon, Tempest, Hurricane, Tornado etc.
3. Flood, Inundation and Landslide
4. Drought, Dry spells
5. Pests/ Diseases etc.

d) Seasonality Discipline: The broad seasonality discipline followed for Loanee farmers will be as under:

Activity	Kharif	Rabi
Loaning period	April to September	October to Next March
Cut-off date for receipt of declarations	November	May
Cut-off date for receipt of yield data	January / March	July / September

The broad cut-off dates for receipt of proposals in respect of Non-loanee farmers will be as under :

Kharif season : 31st July
 Rabi season : 31st December

However, seasonality discipline may be modified, if and where necessary in consultation with State / UT and the Govt. of India.

B). Pilot Weather based crop insurance scheme (WBCIS):

In addition to this, from Rabi, 2008-09 season, tomato crop of District Solan has been covered under weather based crop insurance scheme for the first time. From the Rabi 2009-10 season, Rabi potato crop has also been covered under weather based crop insurance scheme in the Districts of Kangra and Una.

a) Objectives:

1. To provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases.
2. To encourage the farmers to adopt progressive farming practices, high value in-puts and higher technology in Agriculture.
3. To help stabilise farm incomes, particularly in disaster years.

b) Perils Covered:

Following weather perils, which are deemed to cause " Adverse weather incidence", leading to crop losses, would be covered under the scheme; Temperature(Low temperature(frost), Chilling, High mean temperature, temperature fluctuation), Wind speed and Rainfall(deficit/excess).

c) Seasonality Discipline:

The broad cut-off dates for receipt of proposals in respect of Loanee & Non-loanee farmers will be as under :

Kharif season : August

Rabi season : March-April

9. KISAN CALL CENTRE:

Under this, farmers can get any information on agriculture by dialling toll free number 1800-180-1551 or 1551. The service is available from 6.00 AM to 10.00 PM on all days. This is 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

10. RASHTRIYA KRISHI VIKAS YOJNA (RKVY) (100%CSS) :

Concerned by the slow growth in Agriculture and allied sectors, the Government of India has launched a special Additional Central Assistance Scheme **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY)**. The RKVY aims at achieving 4% annual growth in the agriculture sector during the XI Plan period, by ensuring a holistic development of Agriculture and allied sectors. The scheme is being implemented in the State of Himachal Pradesh from the year 2007-08 to achieve envisaged annual growth rate. This scheme has also been continued by the Govt. of India during 12th Plan.

a). Objectives of the scheme:

- I. To incentives the states as so as to increase public investment in Agriculture and allied sectors,
- II. To provides flexibility and autonomy to states in the process of planning and executing Agriculture and allied sector schemes,
- III. To ensure the preparation of agriculture plans for the districts and the states based on agro-climatic conditions, availability of technology and natural resources,
- IV. To ensure that the local needs/ crops/ priorities are better reflected in the agricultural plans of the states,
- V. To achieve the goal of reducing the yield gaps in important crops, through focused interventions,
- VI. To maximize returns to the farmers in Agriculture and allied sectors,

VII. To bring about quantifiable changes in the production and productivity of various components in Agriculture and allied sectors by addressing them in a holistic manner.

b). Area of Focus under RKVY:

- I. Integrated development of major food crops such as wheat, paddy, coarse cereals, minor millets, pulses & oilseeds.
- II. Activities related to enhancement of soil health and mechanization.
- III. Development of rain fed farming systems in and outside watershed areas.
- IV. Support to state seed farms and IPM.
- V. Strengthening of market infrastructure and marketing development.
- VI. Strengthening of infrastructure to promote extension services.
- VII. Activities relating to enhancement of horticultural production and popularization of micro irrigation systems.
- VIII. Animal husbandry and fisheries development activities.
- IX. Organic and bio-fertilizers and innovative schemes.

Government of India has allocated funds to the tune of Rs 73.48 crores during 2012-13 for Agriculture growth, which includes Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and R&D, the detail of which is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of Scheme	Allocation for 2012-13
1	Normal RKVY	4506.00
2	National Mission on Protein Supplements (NMPS)	1642.00
	Dairy - 624.00	
	Goatery - 100.00 (c) Fisheries - 918.00	
3	National Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters	1200.00
Total:-		7348.00

Keeping in view the allocation received from the Govt. of India, the meetings of State Level Sanctioning Committee and State Level Committee has already been convened to approve the projects under Stream-I & Stream-II. On the basis of projects approved, the allocation of funds had also been made amongst different stakeholder departments as per detail given below:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of the Department	Funds allotted
1.	Agriculture	3733.50
2.	Horticulture	504.50
3.	Animal Husbandry	1884.00
4.	Fisheries	1126.00
5.	Industries	100.00
Total:-		7348.00

11. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND (R.I.D.F.):

The Department of Agriculture is participating in RIDF for creation of irrigation potential through minor irrigation/ WHS. The Department got funds under RIDF-V during 1999-2000 where NABARD sanctioned 157 FIS amounting to Rs.14.85 crores which has created irrigation potential of 3,560 hect. These schemes are being executed through Water Users Associations who will also maintain them after their completion. Under RIDF-VI, 140 flow irrigation schemes were posed to NABARD which have been sanctioned for Rs.11.37 crores covering an area of 3,031 hect. Under RIDF-VII, 126 schemes worth Rs.7.84 crores have been sanctioned, which will create CCA of 2,395 hectare. Besides, 90 water harvesting projects have been sanctioned for Hamirpur, under RIDF-VII with cost of Rs.6.78 crores. Under RIDF-IX, 200 minor irrigation schemes amounting to Rs.8.32 crores have been executed creating CCA 7,161 hectares. Under RIDF XII, 150 minor irrigation schemes amounting to Rs. 9.01 crores have been executed creating CCA 1333.62 hectares during 2006-07. During the year 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 9.57 crores has been incurred creating CCA 1418.00 hectare. At the end of the financial year 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 10.50 crores has been incurred for creating CCA 1300 hectare. From 2009-10 onward, the Planning Department has stopping funding for soil & water conservation, irrigation to Agriculture Department under RIDF.

12. PROJECT UNDER RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND-XIV (RIDF-XIV) :

For inclusive growth in agriculture and to provide gainful employment to our small and marginal farmers at their farms, the scheme has been implemented during the year, 2008-09 with a total outlay of Rs. 353 crores. Under this scheme, the farmers were encouraged to install polyhouses for production of vegetables and assistance to the tune of 80% of the cost for G.I. poly house and 90% for bamboo poly house is being provided through the Department of Agriculture, H.P. Polyhouses of the size of 40, 100, 250, 500 and 1000 sqm. are being constructed. The poly house of 250 sqm. provides employment to 2-3 persons round the year. Besides this, for efficient use of irrigation water, micro irrigation systems are also being installed within polyhouses and outside the polyhouses, on which 80% capital subsidy. For creation of water sources like tanks, wells, small lifts, 50% assistance is being provided under the scheme. For polyhouses & other related water sources, Rs.154 crore was sanctioned whereas for bringing 20,000 ha. area under micro-irrigation Rs.198 crore was sanctioned.

A. PRODUCTION OF CASH CROPS BY ADOPTION OF PRECISION FARMING PRACTICES THROUGH POLY HOUSE CULTIVATION.

The objectives of the project are higher productivity and income per unit area, judicious use of natural resources like land and water, year round availability of vegetables, assured production of quality produce and increased efficiency of monitory inputs. NABARD has sanctioned this project under RIDF XIV amounting to Rs. 154.92 crores that shall be implemented in 4 years starting from the financial year 2008-09.

The Project components include construction of polyhouses providing micro-irrigation in the polyhouses through sprinkler and drip. For both these components, the farmers would be provided 80% subsidy and 20% would be beneficiary's contribution. Besides this, the farmers shall be provided with 50% assistance for creation of water resources for these poly

houses like farm tanks, shallow wells, pumping sets, small lifts etc. In all 28820 poly house / micro- irrigation system will be constructed during the project period covering an area of 147 hectares. 90% subsidy is being provided to small and marginal farmers and to BPL families for the construction of bamboo polyhouse. Depending upon the area and site, different models of poly houses ranging from low cost tunnel, low cost poly houses made of local material, medium cost poly houses made of local material and medium cost poly houses with standard material shall be constructed. Besides this, 2650 no. of water sources like tanks, shallow wells, pumping sets shall also be constructed on the basis of actual need. Up to 2011-12, 10105 Polyhouses have been constructed. An area of 111.25 Ha. have been covered under protected cultivation and expenditure of Rs. 82.76 Crore has been incurred. A budget provision of Rs.35.0 Crore has been made for 2012-13.

B. SPECIAL PROJECT ON DIVERSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURE THROUGH MICRO IRRIGATION AND OTHER RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN HP

Although water is a renewable resource, its availability in appropriate quality and quantity is under severe stress due to increasing demand from various sectors. Agriculture is the largest user of water, which consumes more than 80% of the country's exploitable water resources. The overall development of agriculture sector and indented growth rate of GDP is largely dependent on the judicious use of available water resources, while the irrigation projects [major and medium] have contributed to the development of water resources, the conventional methods of water conveyance and irrigation, being highly inefficient, has led not only to wastage of water but also to several ecological problems like water logging, salinisation and soil degradation making productive agricultural lands unproductive. It has been recognised that use of modern irrigation methods like drip and sprinkler irrigation is the only alternative for efficient use of surface as well as ground water resources. Hence, this project on diversification through micro irrigation and other related infrastructure in HP aims at increasing the area under efficient methods of irrigation viz., drip and sprinkler irrigation. NABARD has sanctioned this project under RIDF- XIV amounting to Rs.198.09 crores starting from 2009-10. The project components include sprinkler system, drip system, farm tank, shallow well, shallow tube well, deep tube well, small and medium lifts and pumping machinery. In all 17,312 sprinkler / drip irrigation systems shall be installed during the project period. Besides this, 16020 nos. of water resources like tanks, shallow well, shallow tube well, deep tube well, small and medium lifts and pumping machinery shall also be constructed on the basis of actual need. For sprinkler and drip systems, the farmers shall be provided 80% subsidy and 20% would be beneficiary's contribution. Besides this the farmers shall also be provided 50% assistance for creation of farm tank, shallow well, shallow tube well, deep tube well, small and medium lifts and pumping machinery. A farmer can install sprinkler system up to 4 hectares of land whereas for drip up to one hectare. Up to 2011-12, 16795 sprinkler sets have been installed covering an area of 11458.12 Ha. and sum of Rs. 5924.92 has been spent. A budget provision of Rs.15.44 Crore has been made for this component during 2012-13.

13. NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION (NFSM) :

The National Food Security Mission is a centrally sponsored scheme has been launched in 2007. Government of India has allocated funds to the tune of Rs 22 crores during 2012-13 for rice and wheat crop. Himachal Pradesh has been included under this Mission to increase the production and productivity of Wheat and Rice. Under this Mission, 10 Districts in Wheat and three Districts under Rice have been selected in the State. The Mission provides assistance for laying cluster demonstrations, distribution of Certified Seed, Micro-Nutrients, Plant and soil protection material, liming of acidic soils, improved implements and machinery, introduction of IPM, INM and capacity building of the farmers. Besides this assistance would be available for water harvesting, Micro irrigation & pumping sets. A sum of ₹ . 4.95 crore have been approved for NFSM Rice and ₹ . 17.05 crore for NFSM Wheat for the year 2012-13. The Department has already started implementation of NFSM Rice during current Kharif season. The Mission would be very helpful in increasing the productivity level of Rice and Wheat. For smooth implementation of the Mission in the Districts the District level NFSM Executive Committees have also been constituted in all the districts.

Objectives of this scheme:

- a. Increasing production of rice and pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement in a sustainable manner in a identified district of the State.
- b. Restoring soil fertility and productivity at the individual farm level.
- c. Creation of employment opportunities.
- d. Enhancing farm level economy i.e. farm profits to restore the confidence among the farmers.

14. ORGANIC FARMING

Organic agriculture is a holistic production management system which promotes and enhances agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity. Its emphasis is on the use of management practices in preference to the use of off-farm inputs, taking into account that regional conditions require locally adapted systems. This is accomplished by using, where possible, cultural, biological and mechanical methods, as opposed to using synthetic material, to fulfill any specific function within the system. The State of Himachal Pradesh has started taking steady strides towards the promotion of organic farming. There is an increasing awareness about organic agriculture practices in the state. Besides, most of the remote and inaccessible areas are still continuing with the traditional methods of crop production using organic manures as the only source of the nutrients.

It includes all the agricultural production systems that promote environmentally, socially and economically sound production of food and fibers. In this system soil fertility is the key to successful production. Organic farming aims to optimize quality in all aspects of agriculture by taking into consideration the natural capacity of plants, animals and the land. It emphasizes on the health of agricultural ecosystem and prohibits the use of synthetic herbicides and pesticides, genetically modified organisms, synthetic fertilizers in crop production and hormones and antibiotics in livestock production. It respects the law of nature to increase yields and disease resistance. Organic farming requires a high level of farm

management skills and require use of wide variety of resources to solve the problems. The organic farming focuses on;

- Maximize biological activity in soils
- Maintain long term soil health and minimize soil erosion
- Enhance the genetic and biological system and its surroundings
- Provide livestock with optimal living conditions for well being and better health
- Recycling of materials of plant and animal origins, nutrients to the land (soil and minimize the use of non renewable resources
- Promotion of environmentally friendly use of soil, water and air thus minimizing agricultural pollution

Fertility management in different types of soils is very crucial and critical to increase the productivity under organic farming. Fertility management encompasses application and addition of nutrients supplying materials, which include chemical fertilizers, organic manures and other ameliorants. Efficacy of added materials depends on several factors like structure of soil, drainage and tilth etc. It has been found that continuous use of chemical fertilizers has lead to several problems in hill soils i.e. reduction in pH, deficiency of secondary and micro nutrients and reduced biological activity. It is tradition in hills to add organic manures in the soils which also supplement nutrition and also improves physical and biological properties of soils. Practice of incorporation of organic manure is very good, but farmers usually add partially decomposed biomass, which account for immobilization of available nutrients in soil particularly Nitrogen and also it is the chief source of insects attack, fungal and weed infestation.

The most challenging time in the organic farming system is the transition phase as the farmer switch from conventional to organic agriculture. During the early stages of conversion, drop in yields up to 30 % have been reported by farmers who were dependent on herbicides, fertilizers and pesticides and it takes about decade for their yields to recover. But some farmers observed that the yields rebound within just a few years as they were using only minimum inputs. The yields tend to increase with the number of years under organic management as farmers gain experience and soil improves. It has also been reported that organic farms have higher yields than conventional farms under stress caused by drought, heat, excessive rainfall or unreasonably cold weather.

Organic farming tends to have lower cost of production than conventional farming, as less emphasis on purchased inputs. Similarly, the net income from organic farming appears to be slightly higher than the conventional farming. In general, the expenses are lower and the income is higher (due to price premium).

Keeping in view importance and scope of Organic Farming, the Government has already notified the policy for its adoption and fulfillment of need based organic farming policy objectives. The present project proposal is prepared in consideration of the organic farming policy document of Himachal Pradesh giving thrust to some of the strategies to be adopted viz, Govt. support to organic sector, support to organic farmers, the incentive schemes for the farmers and strategy for awareness raising. The main features of organic policy are as under:

1. Incorporation of organic into agriculture development.
2. Awareness raising.
3. Research and Technology support.
4. Strengthening Organic Extension services support.
5. Organic quality assurance.
6. Meeting organic input requirement.
7. Supply chain and marketing.
8. Identifying Niche Areas for organic farming and converting institutional farms etc.

Justification/Objectives:

- To promote the policy relating to adoption of Organic Farming
- Promotion of environment friendly agriculture
- Recycling & use of farm waste biomass, thereby reducing the cost of production
- To improve the physical and biological properties of soils, shelf life and flavour of farm produce
- To reduce the use of inorganic fertilizers
- To increase export of farm produce
- Improvement of soil health

ONGOING PROGRAMMES:-

1. A turn-key organic cluster project in 1200 Ha in HP

Project cost	Rs. 267 lac
Duration	Three years
Project area	Bilaspur, Solan and Hamirpur
Project partners	-Department of Agriculture, HP -CSK HPKV, Palampur - International Competence Centre for Organic Agriculture, Bangalore
Project components	Area to be covered under organic farming- 1200 Ha No. of farmers to be covered under organic certification- 2600 No. of Vermicompost unit to be set up- 800 Market linkage, contract farming through farmer groups and marketing agencies Strategy paper and Package of practices

2. Project on Organic Farming

Project cost	Rs. 278.34 lac
Duration	Two years
Project area	Kullu, Mandi, Kangra and Shimla
Project partners	-Department of Agriculture, HP -CSK HPKV, Palampur

	- Himachal Organic Farmers' Forum (HOFF)
Project components	Area to be covered under certified organic farming- 1300 Ha. Marketing management of organic produce

3.Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana- Promotion of organic farming

Assistance for organic certification through cluster approach for 3years	@ Rs.10,000/- per hectare
Assistance for construction of vermicompost units/HDPE Portable Unit	@ Rs.4000 per unit
Assistance for Area Expansion under organic farming	@ Rs.10000/-per hectare

ACHIEVEMENT OF ORGANIC FARMING IN THE STATE:

Sr. no.	Particulars	Unit	Achievement
1	Farmers registered under organic farming Certified Under conversion	Nos. Nos. Nos.	25,160 3678 21,482
2	Area under organic farming	Ha	12,500
3	Vermiculture hatcheries	Nos.	20
4	Vermicompost unit	Nos.	4,14,230
5	Bio-fertilizer production unit	Nos.	4
6	Bio-control Labs	Nos.	4
7	Fair	Nos.	2
8	Distribution of literature 1) Adhunik Kheti Me Jaiv Urvarkon (Bio- fertilizers) Ka Mahtav Aur istemal 2) Jaivik Krishi Ke Rashtriya Manak 3) Kenchua Khad–Bhoomi Ke Upjaupan Ke Liye Vardan 4) Kenchua Khad 5) Jaivik Kheti 6) Organic farming 7) Potash mobilising bacteria 8) Bio- treated seeds 9) NPK-liquid bio-fertilizers 10) Bio-control agents and bio-pesticides 11) Jaivik Kheti 12) Jaivik Kheti Neeti 13) HP Organic Policy Hindi/English	Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos.	15,000 50,000 50,000 20,000 20,000 6,000 439 600 336 502 1000 1000 1000

15. AGRISNET PROJECT:

The Government of India has launched a Central sector scheme titled “Strengthening of/ promoting agricultural informatics and communications” of which one component is AGRISNET [Agricultural Resources Information System network] .This envisages that the tools of ICT would provide networking of agriculture sector not only in the country but globally and the state government department will have reservoir of database. It will bring farmers, researchers, scientists and administrators together by establishing Agriculture information online. AGRISNET proposes to create an interactive interface for Government to Citizen (G2C) i.e. for Farmers and Government to Government (G2G) services i.e. services for the Department of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries. The proposed system would maintain a database of information about various activities of the respective Departments. This database would be used to provide information and services to the users. The following Government to Citizen (G2C) and Government to Government (G2G) Services would be provided by using ICT tools:-

Government to Citizen (G2C): Information dissemination and FAQs, Curbing diseases and maintaining general health, Supply of different items, Trainings and services, Expert advisory services, Market information, Application forms

Government to Government (G2G) Services: Generation of database of respective Departments, to exchange and disseminate information

Govt. of India has approved Rs. 703.12 Lakh as the total cost of project. Government of India has released Rs 132.60 Lacs on 24/7/06 and Rs. 570.52 Lacs on 18/2/09. The hardware has been procured and installed in all stakeholder Departments. Software requirement specifications [SRS] have been prepared and software development work has been awarded to M/s Samtech Infonet Ltd.

AGRISNET Portal has been launched officially on 28/7/10 and is available at <http://hpagrisnet.gov.in>. Department of IT, HP has developed a data structure in the form of AGRISNET Portal, which encompasses wide array of information on district wise package of practices of major crops, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal husbandry and Fisheries, collected from different stakeholder Departments. Such data Bank will facilitate Stakeholder departments to provide correct answers to the farmers and may also be used by extension personnel and farmers directly to download application / subsidy forms.

16. National e-Governance Plan –Agriculture [NeGP-A]:

Government of India has started a centrally sponsored scheme [CSS] “National e-Governance Plan –Agriculture [NeGP-A] in Department of Agriculture and Co-operation with outlay of **Rs. 227.79 Crores**. Government of India has approved an outlay of **Rs. 12 Crores** for this scheme during year 2010-11. In first phase, the scheme is being implemented in 7 states including HP. Department of It, has been appointed nodal agency for the implementation of [NeGP-A] in HP and funds to the tune of **Rs. 1 Crore** has been released directly to “Society for promotion of IT & e-governance (SITEG), HP” an autonomous body on dated 31/3/2011.

The vision behind the project is to create an environment conducive for raising farm productivity and income to global levels through provision of relevant information and services to stakeholders. Various IT initiatives/ schemes undertaken or implemented by DAC which are aimed at providing information to the farmers on various activities in agriculture value chain, will be integrated, so that farmers are able to make proper and timely use of available information. The information is intended to be provided to farmers through various channels including common service centres, internet kiosks and SMSs. 12 clusters of services have been identified.

Sr. No.	Name of services
1	Information on Pesticides, Fertilisers and Seeds
2	Providing Information on Soil health
3	Information on Crops, farm machinery, Training and Good Agricultural practices (GAPs)
4	Information on Forecasted Weather
5	Information prices, arrivals, procurement points and providing interaction platform
6	Electronic Certification for Exports and Imports
7	Information on marketing infrastructure
8	Monitoring implementation / Evaluation of Schemes & programs
9	Information on Fishery Inputs
10	Information on irrigation infrastructure
11	Drought Relief and Management
12	Livestock Management

State Government has constituted one State Empowered Committee and 12 District NeGP-A Implementation Teams for the implementation of this plan and fixed the roles and responsibilities of committees.

17. Aryabhata Geo-informatics & Space Application Centre (AGiSAC)

The State Council for Science, Technology and Environment H.P. has established Aryabhata Geo-informatics & Space Application Centre (AGiSAC) which would function as nodal agency to facilitate the use of spatial and Geo-spatial technologies for the planning and developmental activities in the State.

Objectives:

1. To facilitate decentralized planning and decision making.
2. To facilitate Monitoring and Evaluation of Government Schemes & Programmes.
3. To set up integrated natural resources data management system.
4. To provide services/consultancy based on specific user needs in the field of Remote Sensing and GIS.
5. To provide wider usage of geo-spatial applications through simultaneous support systems/ software.

6. To promote the use of SATCOM networks for distant interactive training and education in the State.

Services for Agriculture Department:-

1. Agriculture Information System
{Administrative structure, Agriculture infrastructure (Polyhouse, Micro-Irrigation Units & Biogas Units) & Databases}
1. Agro - Advisory
(Soil treatment)
2. Decision support system (Vermicompost units)

The centre has developed online SMS based recommendations for farmers regarding Soil Health status initially for Bilaspur District.