

Q. The Farmer Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance 2020 Set to revolutionise agriculture, but Centre needs States cooperation Elaborate.

The ordinance by the Government will pave the way for liberalisation of rural farm economy. Just like Green Revolution, the ordinance is set to revolutionise agriculture.

→ Key features:-

- Aims to free agriculture trade
- Empowers farmers to sell unfettered
- ~~Also~~ Helps private players in setting up e-trading platforms
- Better pricing for farmers
- Promotes "Contract farming" with guaranteed protection
- Help farmers Double income by 2022

These key provisions of the ordinance will help to revolutionise agriculture.

Shortcomings:-

- "Agriculture" & "land" is a State Subject

- States Cooperation is essential for the Centre.
- States must reform its land & tenancy laws since the existing laws affects the proper implementation of the ordinance.
- No proper ownership rights in most states. The recent "SAMITVA" initiative by Panchayat raj might sort out this prop problem. The initiative uses drones to validate property rights.
- Traditional & customary laws vary between states & it affects investments
- States must establish rural road connectivity & cold storage facilities.
- Many states have not yet joined e-NAM & not also not amend APMC Acts. So it is essential for states to join the national trading platform to help rural economy.
- Robust legal framework is needed for land leasing & Contract arrangements

Conclusion: Thus cooperative federalism between Centre & States is essential for the growth of rural farm economy.