3rd Global Potato Conclave

Syllabus subtopic:

- Food Processing and Related Industries in India- Scope’ and Significance, Location, Upstream and Downstream Requirements, Supply Chain Management.
- Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors and Issues arising out of their Design and Implementation

Prelims and Mains focus: About the event and its significance; about PM Kisan Sampada Yojana

Context: The Prime Minister addressed the 3rd Global Potato Conclave at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Background

- The previous two Global Potato Conferences were organized during 1999, and 2008.

- The Conclave is being organized by Indian Potato Association (IPA) in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, and ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla and International Potato Center (CIP), Lima, Peru.

- Scientists around the world, potato farmers and other stakeholders have gathered for the Global Potato Conclave to discuss the important aspects related to food and nutrition demand in the next few days.

About the event

- This mega event has three major components;
(i) The Potato Conference, 
(ii) The Agri Expo, and 
(iii) Potato Field Day

- The **Potato Conference** will be held for **3 days** during 28-30 January, 2020. It will have **10 themes** out of which **8 themes are based on basic and applied research**. The **remaining two themes** will have **special emphasis on potato trade, value chain management and policy issues**.

- **AgriExpo** will be organized during 28 to 30 January, 2020, to showcase the status of potato-based industries and trade, processing, seed potato production, biotechnology, public-private partnership in technology transfer and farmers related products etc.

- **Potato Field Day** will be organized on January 31, 2020. This will include demonstration of advancements in potato mechanization, potato varieties and latest technologies.

- **Major issues that are to crop up** are Shortage of Planting Material, Supply Chains, Post-Harvest Losses, needs for enhanced processing, export and diversified utilisation and necessary policy support – viz for production and use of certified seed, for long distance transport and export promotion.

**Significance of the event**

The 3rd Global Potato Conclave will **provide an opportunity to bring all stakeholders at one common platform** so that all the issues are discussed and future plans are made involving everyone related to the potato sector. This will be a unique event to expose different stakeholders of the country to the frontiers of knowledge and innovations in potato research.

**Govt. initiatives**
The steps taken by the Government to promote food processing industries at every level like opening the sector to 100% FDI, helping in value addition and value chain development through PM Kisan Sampada Yojana.

**About PM Kisan Sampada Yojana**

- A Central Sector Scheme - SAMPADA (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in 2017. This umbrella scheme has now been renamed as the "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)" to be implemented by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI).

- PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana is a comprehensive package which aims to create modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.

- It will not only provide a big boost to the growth of food processing sector in the country but also help in providing better returns to farmers and is a big step towards doubling of farmers income, creating huge employment opportunities especially in the rural areas, reducing wastage of agricultural produce, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods.

**Objectives of the scheme**

- Creation of modern infrastructure for food processing mega food parks/ clusters and individual units
- To create effective backward and forward linkages - linking farmers, processors and markets
- To create robust supply chain infrastructure for perishables.

The following schemes will be implemented under PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana:
(i) Mega Food Parks
(ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure
(iii) Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing/ Preservation Capacities
     (Unit Scheme)
(iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters
(v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages
(vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure
(vii) Human Resources and Institutions