



STUDY ON “PROGRESSIVE BIHAR OFFERS UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES TO INVESTORS”

OCTOBER 2023



MSME EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL



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MSME Export Promotion Council

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, in the MSME Export Promotion Council, are pleased to place before of all the stakeholders the latest study paper that has been brought out by the Research Department along with the Confederation of Organic Food Producers & Marketing Agencies on “**PROGRESSIVE BIHAR OFFERS UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES TO INVESTORS**”.

The Studies brought out earlier have been received well and have received appreciation from the investors, research firms, government officials, media and start-ups. We hope the Jharkhand study will be equally be useful and serve its objective.

I appreciate the efforts of the Research Team. I wish the Study a great success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D S Rawat', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr D S Rawat
Chairman, MSME EPC



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AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the vital source of wealth in Bihar. Over 75 per cent of its population is engaged in agriculture pursuits. Bihar's productive contribution in food grain, fruit, vegetables, spices and flowers can increase manifold with improved methods and system management. The total geographical area of the state is about 93.60 lakh hectare, out of which only 56.03 lakh hectare is the net cultivated area and gross cultivated area being 79.46 lakh hectare. About 33.51 lakh hectare net area and 43.86 lakh hectare gross area receive irrigation from different sources. Principal food crops are paddy, wheat, maize and pulses. Main cash crops are sugarcane, potato, tobacco, oilseeds, onion, chillies and jute. It has notified forest area of 6,764.14 sq.km, which is 7.1 per cent of its geographical area.

The state is endowed with rich biodiversity. Agriculture provides ample supply of raw materials for the establishment of agro based industries. Bihar is the third largest producer of vegetables and fourth largest producer of fruits in the country. It is largest producer of Litchi, Makhana, Guava, Lady's finger in India. the state already exports Litchi, Basmati rice and snow pea. It has competitiveness in maize, rice and fruit such as banana, mango, litchi, and vegetables like onions, tomato and brinjal. Needless to mention, high, stable and regular supply of agricultural produce provides adequate opportunity for natural food, organic farming, marketing and food processing industries.

Of course, seed is the most critical input in modern agriculture. It is the carrier of the modern technology. There is an apparent need to step up investment in both public & private sector. The prevailing seed replacement rate which is less than 10 per cent in case of rice and wheat cannot sustain higher productivity growth rate. Therefore, the objective of the seed production programme involve increase the seed replacement rate, promotion of hybrid seeds, and crop varieties, which are new and adapted to the agro-climatic conditions of the state.



Agricultural marketing has been in the public domain with explicit limitations. Private sector and cooperative sector being encouraged to establish market, enter into buy-back arrangement and purchase directly from the farmers.

This Paper has covered various sectors for the period of 2018-19 to 2021-22 and the data has been used from the Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE).

TOTAL PRODUCTION: ALL SEASONS; FOOD GRAINS (000 TONNES) as on 21 June 2023



As per the data available as on 21 June, 2023, in 2018-19, the total production (all in 000 tonnes) of food grains was 15600.1, cereals 15146.6 and pulses 453.5, in 2019-20 the food grains 14233.0, cereals 13898.6 and pulses 334.4.

During the year 2019-20, the total production (all in 000 tonnes) of food grains was 14233.0, cereals 13898.6 and pulses 334.4 and in 2020-21, total production of all seasons of food grains was 15382.6, cereals 15005.7 and pulses 376.8.

In 2021-22, the total production of food grains was 17018.2 tonnes, cereals 16630.2 tonnes and pulses 388.0 tonnes.

TOTAL PRODUCTION (ALL SEASONS) NON-FOOD CROP OILSEEDS, JUTE & MESTA as on 21 June 2023

As per the data available as on 21 June 2023, In 2018-19 the total production of oilseeds was 125.0 (tones), jute 928.8 (000 bales of 180 kgs. each) and mesta 155.7 (000 bales of 180 kgs. each) and in 2020-21, oilseeds production 124.7 (tones), jute and mesta 646.8 and 155.3 (000 bales of 180 kgs. each) respectively.

The total production (000 tonnes) of all seasons oilseed in 2020-21 was 124.1, jute and mesta (000 bales of 180 kgs each) 618.3 and 169.2 respectively.



In 2021-22, oilseeds production was 121.5 tonnes, jute bales of 180 kgs. each and mesta 138.8 bales of 180 kgs each.

TOTAL PRODUCTION OF ALL SEASONS NON-FOOD CROPS OF SPICES & CONDIMENTS 000 TONNES as on 21 June 2023



As per the data available as on 21 June 2023, in 2018-19 the total production (in 000 tonnes) of all seasons of spices & condiments were 2.3 coriander, 3.9 ginger, 2.8 turmeric and 27 garlic. In 2019-20 the total production (000 tonnes) of coriander 2.0, ginger 3.3, turmeric 2.9 and garlic 25 and in 2020-21, coriander 2.1, ginger 3.0, turmeric 2.9 and garlic 26.

ORGANIC FARMING INDIA

AREA: According to Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in India, the cultivated area (organic + in conversion) in 2021-22 was 4726714.74 Ha, wild harvest collection area 4393151.17 Ha. and the total area is 9119865.91 Ha.

PRODUCTION: The production during the same period in India was farm production 3410195.02 MT, wild harvest production 20540.63 MT and total production 3430735.65 MT.

OPERATORS: individual farm producers in 2021-22 in India were 4946, ICG Groups 6921, Processors 1780 and trader 742. Wild operators 84 (total collectors 147360), total operators 14473 No. Total farmers are 2480859.

ORGANIC EXPORTS: the total exports quantity in 2021-22 in India were 460320.40 MT, total export value (INR) 5249.32 crore and the total export value (US\$) 771.96 Million.



ORGANIC BIHAR



The total area under organic certification process during 2021-22 (cultivated + wild harvest) was 30941.01 ha. The state-wise cultivated farm area for the year 2021-22 was organic area 24.19 ha, conversion area 30916.83 ha and the total area 30941.01 ha. The total organic farm production was 12.11 MT.

To enhance the farmers' income, the State government has decided to promote "Organic Corridor" since:

- The organic food industry is rising and is growing very fast ensuring high profitability.
- Food security needs to be addressed with the growing population and decreasing supply of resources which is why there is a need to increase the production but in a feasible and sustainable manner.
- Maintaining a clean and green environment is equally important, thus environmental sustainability needs to be maintained which can be achieved through organic farming.
- There needs to be an improvement in the health as the consumption can lead to many diseases such as cancer, infertility which happens when the toxic residue remains in the body, thus the safety of humans and animals are of utmost priority.
- The strike of balance between the environment and the livelihood becomes immensely important due to the risks caused by conventional agriculture practices.

GROSS STATE VALUE ADDED (GSVA) AND GROSS STATE DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GSDP) AT CURRENT PRICES: BASE YEAR 2011-12

Bihar has attained a position of one of the fastest growing states in India and becoming third among the top five fastest growing states (Andhra Pradesh 11.4% and Rajasthan 11.04%) by achieving nearly 11 per cent (10.98%) growth in 2021-22 as against the national growth rate of 8.68 per cent during the same period. The most important contributors to growth of GSDP have been livestock and fishing & aquaculture, registering growth rates of 9.5% and 6.7% respectively.

As per the information available as on 12 September 2022, in 2018-19 the GSVA at basic prices were Rs.5103514.1 million, taxes of products Rs.398096.8 million, subsidies on products Rs.221852.7 million, GSDP Rs.5279758.2 million and per capita GSDP Rs.44450.6.

In 2019-20, GSDA at basic prices Rs.5604659.0 million, taxes of products Rs.442124.2 million, subsidies on products Rs.221618.7 million, GSDP Rs.5825164.5 million and per capita GSDP Rs.48318.0.

While in 2020-21, the GSVA at basic prices were Rs.5586179.9 million, taxes of products Rs.525596.1 million, subsidies on products Rs.240232.1 million, GSDP Rs.587543.9 million and per capita GSDP Rs.47983.2 and in 2021-22, GSVA Rs.6389787.1 million, taxes of products Rs.624827.3 million, subsidies on products Rs.260124.0 million, GSDP Rs.6754480.3 million and per capita GSDP Rs.54383.2.

NUMBER OF BANKING OFFICES BY BANK GROUP: NUMBERS

As on 3 October 2022, the total number of banking offices by bank group in the state in 2018-19 were 6917; public sector banks 4098, foreign bank one, regional rural banks 2104, private sector banks 560 and small finance banks 154. In 2019-20, the number of banks had gone up and were 7463; public sector 4128, foreign bank one, regional rural banks 2124, more than 100 per cent jump took place in private sector banks and were 1029 whereas the small finance banks were 181.

During the year 2020-21, the total number of banks had been 7584; public sector 4140, one foreign bank, 2124 regional rural banks, 1130 private sector banks, and 189 small finance banks. In 2021-22, total number of banks increased to 7640;

public sector 4139, foreign bank one, regional rural banks 2124, private sector banks 1147 and small finance banks 229.



CREDIT DISBURSED BY ALL SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANKS BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY RS.MILLION

As per the information as on 19 October 2022, in 2018-19, the total bank credit disbursed by all scheduled commercial banks by economic activity was Rs.1249949.4 million; agriculture Rs.395978.3 million, industry Rs.146561.1 million, transport operators Rs.25109.7 million, professional & other services Rs.69187.2 million, personal loans Rs.378520.7 million, trade Rs.176763.5 million, finance Rs.14389.6 million and miscellaneous Rs.43439.4 million.

In 2019-20, total bank credit was Rs.1395899.2 million; agriculture Rs.434597.8 million, industry Rs.141306.9 million, transport operators Rs.24866.3 million, professional & other services Rs.77579.4 million, personal loans Rs.445369.0 million, trade Rs.206702.9 million, finance Rs.32284.3 million and miscellaneous Rs.33192.7 million.

Whereas in 2020-21, the total bank credit was Rs.1639643.0 million; agriculture Rs.496051.2 million, industry Rs.186830.9 million, transport operators Rs.22783.3 million, professional & other services Rs.69280.8 million, personal loans Rs.533656.3 million, trade Rs.256202.5 million, finance Rs.44819.0 million, and miscellaneous Rs.30019.2 million.

The total bank credit disbursed in 2021-22 was Rs.1955922 million; agriculture Rs.543797.8 million, industry Rs.244211.1 million, transport operators Rs. 21756.0 million, professional & other services Rs.72052.5 million, personal loans Rs.653230.3 million, trade Rs.320598.6 million, finance Rs.58400.8 million and miscellaneous Rs.41875.8 million.



TOURISM SECTOR

Tourism has turned out to be an economic booster contributing to the economic development of many countries/states over the last few decades. People see holidays as a necessity, and not as a luxury in the present scenario. Tourism calls for coordination and cooperation between travel agents, tour operators and tourists. Tourism has a few major-elements-destinations, attraction, sites, accommodation, and all ancillary services.

It may be mentioned that it involves the management of multitude of activities such as studying tour destination, planning the tour, making travel arrangements and providing accommodation. It also involves marketing efforts to attract tourists to travel to particular destinations. There is a subtle difference between just travelling and tourism.

In Bihar cumulative average growth rate of tourism over 2014 to 2019 is nearly 95 per cent. Bihar is at 30th place in the country in respect of domestic tourism and at 8th place in respect of foreign tourist. It is noteworthy that in recent years government of Bihar has attached special importance to the development of tourism in the state, recognized this sector as one of the 10 priority industries of Bihar for providing financial and other supports to this industry.

In Bihar hundreds of tourist destinations are required to be improved/developed as attraction points of experiences for global tourists, that could be possible if a category of entrepreneurs having insight and caliber to develop tourism products will come forward and take the challenges in right spirits.

In Bihar there are 45103 villages, having rich natural sites, pilgrimages world level Yoga Centre, prehistoric sites, rich cultured legacy, distinct cuisines, meals and festivals of rich tradition arts and crafts.

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There are already following well defined and identified tourism circuit broadly classified as Buddhist Circuit, Jain Circuit, Ramanyan Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Gandhi Circuit and Eco Circuit. Bihar posses enough resources which can be exploited if decently packaged into world class tourism product can grab the interest of new age tourist. These places can be repackaged into following:

- Heritage tourism
- Religious tourism
- Health tourism
- Cruise at River Ganga
- Ganga dolphin watch
- Arts, crafts and rural tourism



Most of the studies have felt that in Bihar tourism has immense scope of flourishing as a socio-economic venture supportive to the conservation and promotion of natural biodiversity of the countryside which will be the instrumental in sustainable development of Bihar, but such dream could be realized only when the issue of rural tourism would be taken up as an innovative strategic marketing endeavour by the entrepreneurs.



“PROGRESSIVE BIHAR OFFERS UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES TO INVESTORS”

RURAL TOURISM:



Considering the importance of role of rural tourism entrepreneurs in Bihar, government must come forward to extend following facilities to help those who take rural tourism with entrepreneurial zeal.

- A well designed policy framework for the rural tourism development.
- Establishment of education and training institutes for tourism studies.
- Preparing tourism products to attract specific categories of tourists in consonance with the determination of the carrying capacity of a tourism location.
- Declare and develop circuits for rural tourism.
- Develop general as well as tourism infrastructure.
- Adopt an effective tourism policy drive involving local as well as outside media to bring to the limelight the tremendous opportunities for rural tourism in Bihar.

These measures, if taken, Bihar will witness 200 per cent growth in tourists inflow, and generate direct jobs for over 5 lakh people and 6 lakh indirect jobs. It will significantly contribute to the economic development of the State.

As per the information available as on 5 October 2022, in 2019, the total tourist visits in the state were 35083179; domestic 33990038 and foreign 1093141. In 2020, total visits were 5946104; domestic 5638024 and foreign 308080 and in 2021 the number has gone down due to Covid-19 and touched 2502239; domestic 2501193 and foreign 1046.

ANNUAL SURVEY OF INDUSTRIES: NUMBER OF FACTORIES: ALL INDUSTRIES

During 2018-19, there were 3422 factories and in 2019-20, as per the Annual Survey of Industries there were 3429 factories.

RESERVES: COAL 000 TONNES

In 2018-19 the coal reserves (000 tonnes) were reported 1834000.0 and in 2019-20 coal reserves were 2751410.0 (000 tonnes).



INVESTMENT BY ALL PROJECTS RS.MILLION

As per the CMIE (as on 12 October 2023), in 2018-19 the new investment projects announced were Rs.314025.4 million, investment projects completed were of Rs.80094.6 million, the total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.4344911.5 million and under implementation of Rs.3150521.8 million.

During the year 2019-20, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.169178.6 million, investment projects completed of Rs.55745.8 million, investment projects revived of Rs.8663.4 million, total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.4628453.8 million and under implementation Rs.2367553.6 million.

In the year 2020-21, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.89337.6 million, investment projects completed of Rs.253933.7 million, investment projects revived of Rs.10982.7 million, the total investment projects outstanding of Rs.4313276.7 million and under implementation of Rs.3198185.8 million. and in 2021-22, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.135919.1 million, investment projects completed were of Rs.154922.2 million, investment projects revived of Rs.18411.8 million, the total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.3990498.0 million and under implementation Rs.3194397.3 million.

During the year 2022-23, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.54705.8 million, investment projects completed were of Rs.226667.5 million, total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.3775062.7 million and under implementation Rs.3176771.8 million.

INVESTMENT BY GOVERNMENT RS.MILLION



As per the latest information (as on 12 October 2023) in 2018-19 the new investment projects announced by government were of Rs.248866.0 million, completed projects worth Rs.63617.1 million, the total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.3702986.9 million and under implementation of Rs.2885461.2 million, and in 2019-20, the new projects were of Rs.135665.0 million, completed projects of Rs.40313.0 million, revived projects of Rs.5663.4 million, the total outstanding projects were worth Rs.4043627.9 million and under implementation of

Rs.2090293.3 million.

During the FY 2020-21, the new projects were of Rs.68676.2 million, completed projects of Rs.231553.7 million, revived projects of Rs.10982.7 million, total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.3794946.9 million and under implementation of Rs.2903863.3 million.

In 2021-22, the government announced projects worth Rs.58720.0 million, completed of Rs.146592.3 million, revived projects of Rs.18411.8 million, the total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.3394189.2 million and under implementation of Rs.2813119.7 million.

In 2022-23, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.27856.4 million, completed projects worth Rs.224511.0 million and the total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.3179266.2 million and under implementation Rs.2763445.1 million.

INVESTMENT BY PRIVATE SECTOR RS.MILLION

In 2018-19, the private sector investment in the new projects were Rs.66159.4 million, completed projects of Rs.16477.5 million, the total investment projects outstanding were of Rs.632219.6 million and under implementation Rs.255355.6 million and in 2019-20, new investment projects announced were of Rs.32983.6 million, investment projects completed of Rs.15432.8 million, investment projects revived of Rs.3000.0 million, total investment projects outstanding were Rs.574590.9 million and under implementation Rs.257555.3 million.

During the FY 2020-21, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.20661.4 million, completed the projects of Rs.22380.0 million, the total investment projects outstanding were Rs.508094.8 million and under implementation of Rs.284087.5 million. In 2021-22 the new investment projects announced were of Rs.77199.1 million, projects completed were of Rs.8329.9 million, the total outstanding projects were of Rs.586073.8 million and under implementation of Rs.371042.6 million.

In 2022-23, the new investment projects announced were of Rs.26849.4 million, completed projects were of Rs.2156.5 million, the total investment projects outstanding were Rs.595056.5 million and under implementation of Rs.412586.7 million.

FDI INFLOWS IN INDIAN RUPEES MILLION



As per the latest data available (24 May 2022), during 2020-21 the FDI inflow was Rs.3320 million and in 2021-22, Rs.8772.9 million.

OUTSTANDING NUMBER OF COMPANIES REGISTERED WITH THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS: NUMBERS

In 2018-19, there were 32176 registered companies, active were 22098, closed 6798, lying dormant under section 455 of Companies Act 2013 25, under liquidation 41 and under the process of struck off 3211.

During the FY 2019-20, as per the information as on 21 April 2022, there were 36429 registered companies; 22945 active, 8819 closed, 27 lying dormant, 41 under liquidation and 3597 under the process of struck off, and in 2020-21, 42043 registered, 29524 active, 8969 closed, 28 lying dormant, 41 under liquidation and 3481 under the process of struck off.

NUMBER OF NEWLY REGISTERED COMPANIES WITH MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

As per the data available as on 24 June 2022, in 2018-19, the total number of newly registered companies were 3896, in 2019-20, 4242, in 2020-21 there were 5612 and 5742 in 2021-22.

EXPORTS OF PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES IN INDIAN RUPEES (DGCI&S) RS.MILLION

Exports of all commodities in 2018-19, as per the information available on 1 July 2022, were Rs.114654.8 million; petroleum & crude products Rs.77602.8 million, non-petroleum products agricultural & allied products Rs.24805.6 million, ores & minerals Rs.829.7 million, manufactured goods Rs.10819.6 million and other commodities Rs.597.2 million.

In 2019-20, all commodities exports were Rs.117641.2 million; petroleum & crude products Rs.75230.4 million, non-petroleum products agricultural & allied Rs.29154.9 million, ores & minerals Rs.465.1 million, manufactured goods Rs.12339.6 million and other commodities Rs.451.3 million.

In 2020-21, due to pandemic, the exports had fallen and all commodities exports were Rs.111907.2 million; petroleum & crude products Rs.49033.8 million, non-petroleum products agricultural & allied products Rs.50518.4 million, ores & minerals Rs.229.8 million, manufactured goods Rs.11567.8 million and other commodities Rs.557.4 million.

There has been a significant increase in the all commodities exports and reached at Rs.172196.3 million; petroleum & crude products Rs.96368.3 million, non-petroleum products agricultural & allied products Rs.60135.0 million, ores & minerals Rs.486.8 million, manufactured goods Rs.14183.5 million and other commodities Rs.1022.8 million.



MSME SECTOR

The MSME sector in Bihar occupies the second position next alone to agriculture in terms of employment generation. This sector accounts for about 95% of the industrial units, 65% of manufacturing output. Due to highly growth oriented policy of the State government, MSMEs have greater opportunities to grow as ancillary industries to unleash higher industrial growth. Bihar economy during the recent years has shown an appreciable growth performance by contributing to creation of livelihood opportunities to millions of people, in increasing the overall economic growth of the state. Prompt and appropriate fiscal stimulus, effective monetary policy and huge capital inflows were greatly instrumental in the bounce back situation of the economy. The MSMEs in Bihar offer a heterogeneous and varied nature of fabric in terms of the size and structure of the units, variety of products and services, scale of production and application of technology. They contribute to the socio economic development of the state quite significantly. The MSMEs in Bihar constitute about 95% of the total number of industries and produce over 4700 value added products.

POTENTIALITIES FOR GROWTH: OPPORTUNITIES

MSMEs have substantially contributed to the economic development of the state. The sector has greater opportunities to grow as ancillary industries to unleash higher industrial growth. MSMEs being less capital intensive and more employment friendly have easier access to raw materials, subsidies and other incentives under cluster programs. The state has huge growth potential to create and enhance the capacity of enterprises both in the manufacturing and service sector by using the available resources. There are huge opportunities for to grow to unleash greater industrial growth. Development of the sector is, therefore, extremely important as it holds the key to inclusive growth and plays a pivotal role in holistic development of the state. MSMEs have attracted rapid investment in infrastructure, due to abundant job opportunities, emergence of a robust private sector with small and big companies/ corporate houses and high rise in consumerism.

MSMEs in Bihar consistently feed the domestic and the international value chain as manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, retailers, contractors and service provider by accounting for a substantial segment of our industrial units. Availability of adequate financial resources, a supportive policy framework to address the areas like entrepreneurship development, a competent pool of human resources, application of latest technology and new innovations, adequate international market linkages and bilateral trade agreements etc would make the Indian MSME sector globally competitive to address the emerging challenges and help ensure their sustainability.

In fact, a roadmap for MSME development should include a target for increase in the share of their contribution in the state economy, a substantial increase in generation of employment avenues up to 50%, an enhancement in MSME contribution in the key public and private sector by meeting the growing domestic demand, indigenization and important substitution and growth in foreign exports.

Despite the pivotal role and strategic importance in the context of industrial development and economic growth of the state, the MSME sector experiences several constraints and challenges. Several key issues remain to be addressed properly and measures yet to be taken in the interest of sustainable industrial development. These include:

- Equity as a source of financing is underutilized and the prevalence of investment by venture capital and angel investors is low.
- MSMEs face the problem of delayed payments from their buyers which adversely impacts their working capital as well as their next cycle of production.
- MSMEs lack adequate information about various schemes and benefits available by the government.
- Financial institutions /banks face challenges in credit risk assessment of MSMEs.
- The utilization of available credit guarantee and insurance schemes by bank has been low.

**POPULATION & CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS:
TOTAL (AS ON 1.3.2022)**

		Unit	2015-16	2020-21
1.	Population below age 15 years	%	39.3	36.4
2.	Sex ratio	per 1000 males	1062.0	1090.0
3.	Sex ratio at birth for Children born in last 5 years	per1000 males	934.0	908.0
4.	Children under age 5 years Regd with the civil authority	%	60.7	75.6
5.	Deaths in the last 3 years whose Birth was regd with civil authority	%	-	37.1
6.	POPULATION LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH OR USING:			
	I. Electricity	%	60	96.3
	II. Improved drinking water source	%	98.4	99.2
	III. Improved sanitation facility	%	26.5	49.4
	IV. Clean fuel for cooking	%	17.8	37.8
	V. Iodized salt	%	93.6	94.3



ABOUT MSME EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

The micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) has emerged as a highly vibrant and dynamic sector of the economy. It contributes significantly in the economic and social development of the country by fostering entrepreneurship and generating largest employment opportunities at comparatively lower capital cost, next only to agriculture. MSMEs are complementary to large industries as ancillary units and this sector plays extremely important role in the inclusive industrial development, and empowerment of rural sector.

The MSMEs are widening their domain across sectors of the economy, producing diverse range of products and services to meet demands of domestic as well as global markets. As per the MSME Industry Report, micro (manufacturing & services) stands for turnover up to Rs.5 crore, small turnover up to Rs.50 crore and medium turnover Rs.250 crore. With around 63.4 million units throughout the geographical expanse of the country, MSMEs contribute over 6.11% of the manufacturing GDP and 24.63% of the GDP from service activities as well as 33.4% of India's manufacturing output. The share of export of specified MSME related products to All India exports is around 50% in 2020-21.

The MSME Export Promotion Council, a non-profit organization, is incorporated as Section 8 of the Company Law by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The Council acknowledged as the fountain-head of knowledge, works closely work with the Centre and State Governments, Associations of micro, small and medium enterprises to help, promote and encourage these units.

The focus of services and activities is enhancing the entrepreneurial skill development, training, enriching the knowledge on various laws, promotion of women entrepreneurship especially in the North Eastern Region and SC-ST communities, connecting them with knowledge digital firms, fintech companies and importers/exporters, etc.



About Confederation of Organic Food Producers and Marketing Agencies

The Confederation of Organic Food Producers & Marketing Agencies , established in 2018, is the umbrella body of the organic food producers, processors, marketing agencies, buyers/sellers, certifying agencies, seed suppliers, consultants and other stakeholders. The objective of the Confederation is:

- to promote nature-friendly, scientific, farming systems and practices that are economically viable, energy efficient, climate friendly.
- simultaneously oriented towards the conservation of the environment and the empowerment of rural communities, building upon indigenous and traditional knowledge, skills and practices.
- help/guide farmers on how to undertake organic farming, assist farmers engaged in transitional organic farming to access practical know-how from experienced families or farmers through various means.
- to create awareness among all sections of consumers about the determinants of conventional chemical agriculture and consequences.
- to work closely with other organic farming associations, farmers associations in India and internationally in order to strengthen the organic farming movement.
- to hold programmes all over the country, take farmers to exhibit at international exhibitions, buyer/sellers meet that will help them directly.
- to lobby with Centre and State Governments for a conducive environment for the organic food industry.

It may be mentioned that India holds a unique position among 187 countries practicing organic agriculture. India is home to 30 per cent of total organic producers in the world having 2.30 million ha.



There is urgent need of the organic farming in India as:

- * the organic food industry is rising and is growing very fast ensuring high profitability,
- * food security needs to be addressed with the growing population and decreasing supply of resources
- * maintaining a clean and green environment is extremely important and, therefore, environmental sustainability needs to be maintained.
- * There needs to be an improvement in health as consumption may lead to many diseases.
- * strike balance between the environment and livelihood

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