



Longitudinal Analysis of Minimum Support Price increase in Indian Agriculture (2000-01-2024-25)

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Abstract: Agricultural pricing policy is essential for achieving growth and certainty in both the Indian economy and the agricultural sector. Because the government purchases and distributes food through various buffer stocks and public distribution systems so that food reaches the needy community at affordable rates. But MSP is limited to a few crops and a few states. Shanta Kumar Committee argues that MSP is unnecessary and unprofitable, as only 6% of farmers benefit from it. The study covered 25 years of MSP. And to fulfill the purpose of the study, the data has been divided into five groups of MSP of five years each. Along with this, the fluctuations in the CAGR of different crops from the mean were also observed, and the mean, standard deviation, and variance were also observed. For hypothesis testing, an F test was conducted using ANOVA. Using this, p-value and significance were determined. The MSP data of different years was analyzed in detail. In which it has been found that from 2000-01 to 2024-25, there was an uneven increase between the CAGR of different crops and different years, and also there was disparity in mean, standard deviation, and variance. MSP should be made inclusive and universal by reducing the disparity in MSP.

Keywords: Minimum Support Price • Crop Prices, Green Revolution • CAGR increase of MSP • Price Support Mechanism

Introduction

India is an agricultural country, and agriculture forms the backbone of its economy. According to the 2011 Census, about 69% of the population lives in rural areas, largely dependent on agriculture (Yadav 2024). States that agriculture employs nearly 42% of the workforce and contributes 18.8% to GDP, a share much higher than in developed nations (Economic Survey 2022–23). Agriculture accounts for around 10% of total exports, with agricultural commodities forming over 38% of exports (PIB 2024). Since independence, major efforts such as the Green Revolution 1966, MSP, CACP, and FCI have strengthened agricultural growth, price support, food security, and farmers' income, moving India towards food-grain self-sufficiency. (Acharya S 1997). Prices of agricultural products fluctuate daily, weekly, and monthly due to the seasonal and perishable nature of

agriculture compared to industrial production (Raghavan (2004). Therefore, an effective agricultural pricing policy is essential for stability and growth in the Indian economy (Gupta et al. (2021). The Minimum Support Price aims to ensure farmers receive a fair minimum price for their produce (Basantaray (2023). Government pricing policy seeks to protect both producers and consumers through instruments such as MSP, procurement, buffer stocks, and the public distribution system (Das 2020). MSP encourages investment and production by assuring prices before sowing (Jacoby (2015). While higher MSP has boosted wheat and rice production, it has also increased disparities among other crops and favored food grains (Aditya 2017).

The Minimum Support Price performs two key functions: it acts as a minimum price guarantee and supports buffer stocks, which are distributed



to vulnerable groups through the Public Distribution System at subsidized rates (Swaminathan 2006). MSP also provides price security, reduces uncertainty, and guides farmers toward socially desirable cropping patterns. Recent increases in MSP for millets, pulses, and oilseeds aim to promote diversification and self-sufficiency. However, MSP procurement is constrained by storage capacity and largely focused on major crops such as rice, wheat, and sugarcane. Market failures, climate risks, and infrastructure gaps justify price controls. The Shanta Kumar Committee noted that only about 6% of farmers benefit directly from MSP procurement. Micro-level studies show no consistent or significant relationship between MSP and agricultural or wholesale prices, except when MSP equals or exceeds market prices (Kumar 2015). Market forces largely influence cropping patterns. Chand (2003) found that price policies over the past six decades mainly benefited wheat, rice, and sugarcane, neglecting other crops and harming land quality (Sutradhar et al 2022). MSP has also increased income and regional inequalities, benefiting only a few states with strong procurement systems, while remaining negligible in northeastern regions. Studies indicate MSP calculations are skewed and limited in coverage. However, awareness of MSP helps farmers negotiate better prices. Overall, MSP benefits some farmers, but broader market reforms are necessary for inclusive growth (The Hindu 2024).

Research methodology and Data collection

The study titled “Longitudinal Analysis of Minimum Support Price Increase in Indian Agriculture (2000-2024)” has been done entirely on the basis of secondary data sources. This data was collected from the Ministry of Agriculture and Welfare, [TNAU Agritech portal](#) every year and on the basis of crop season, Kharif, Rabi, and other crops. Along with this, the economic survey, the agriculture annual report, the central

government, the budget newspaper, and reports of departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Welfare of the Government of India, reports of various departments of the Government of India, related research papers, published project reports, related websites, etc. were also used in the research. On the basis of the available data, further direction was provided, and the MSP values of different years, different seasons, and different crops were analyses. MSP of 25 years was included in the study. And to fulfill the objective of the study, the data has been divided into five groups of MSP of five years each. The data was analyses. by dividing the MSP of five years in Group A from the year 2000-01 to 2004-05, in Group B from the year 2005-06 to 2009-10, in Group C from the year 2010-11 to 2014-15, in Group D from the year 2015-16 to 2019-20, and in Group E from the year 2020-21 to 2024-25. Along with this, the CAGR of different crops and different groups was also found out, and the mean, standard deviation, and variance of the CAGR of all groups were found separately for different years and different crops. Along with this, the fluctuations in the CAGR of different crops from the mean were also observed. The F test was conducted using ANOVA for hypothesis testing. Using this, p-value and significance were determined. After which the result, discussion, and conclusion were written.

Objectives

1. To study various aspects of Minimum Support Price receipt in the country from 2000-01 to 2024-25 for the price-determined crops.
2. To study the increase in the price of MSP in the country.
3. To study whether the CAGR of MSP is increasing uniformly in all groups.
4. To study the increase in the MSP determined in the country crop-wise and every year



Hypothesis:

HO: CAGR of MSP is increasing uniformly in all the study groups.

HO: There is no difference in CAGR of study groups.

Observations and Discussion

Prices and CAGR of different crops from the year 2000-01 to 2004-05 are presented in Table 1. In Group A, there is a difference in the MSP CAGR value of all the crops. Among Kharif crops, the highest CAGR of 5 years was 4.21 percent for the groundnut crop, followed by 3.36 percent for maize, 3.27 percent for urad, 3.03 percent for soybean, and 2.98 percent for

Tur/Arhar. Thus, the CAGR of other crops was obtained, respectively. The crops with the lowest CAGR were cotton long staple at 1.43 percent, paddy grade A at 1.78 percent, and paddy normal at 1.88 percent, respectively. Among Rabi crops, rapeseed and mustard had the highest CAGR, and among Rabi crops, wheat had the lowest CAGR of 0.96 percent. Among cash crops, the highest CAGR of 4.59 percent was found in sugarcane, and the lowest CAGR of 1.38 percent was found in copra ball. Finally, the most interesting thing is that the lowest CAGR was found in wheat and paddy, which are always in the news.

Table 1 (Group A) Details of MSP of various crops in India from 2000-01 to 2004-05

S.N.	Year	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	CAGR
Kharif Crops							
1.	Paddy Common	510	530	530	550	560	1.88
2.	Paddy Grad-A	540	560	560	580	590	1.78
3.	Jowar (Hybrid)	445	485	485	505	515	2.96
4.	Jowar (Maldandi)	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Bajra	445	485	485	505	515	2.96
6.	Maize	445	485	485	505	525	3.36
7.	Ragi	445	485	485	505	515	2.96
8.	Tur/Arhar	1200	1320	1320	1360	1390	2.98
9.	Moong	1200	1320	1330	1370	1410	3.27
10.	Urad	1200	1320	1330	1370	1410	3.27
11.	Cotton (Medium Staple)	1625	1675	1675	1725	1760	1.60
12.	Cotton (Long Staple)	1825	1875	1875	1925	1960	1.43
13.	Groundnut	1220	1340	1355	1400	1500	4.21
14.	Sunflower seed	1170	1185	1195	1250	1340	2.75
15.	Soyabean(Kala)	775	795	795	840	900	3.03
17.	Soyabean(Yellow)	865	885	885	930	1000	2.94
18.	Sesamum	1300	1400	1450	1485	1500	2.90
19.	Nigerseed	1025	1100	1120	1155	1180	2.85
Rabi Crops							
20.	Wheat	610	620	620	630	640	0.96
21.	Barley	500	500	500	525	540	1.55
22.	Gram	1100	1200	1220	1400	1425	5.31
23.	Masur (Lentil)	1200	1300	1320	1500	1525	4.91
24.	Rapeseed & Mustard	1200	1300	1330	1600	1700	7.21
25.	Safflower	1200	1300	1300	1500	1550	5.25
26.	Toriya	1200	1300	1300	1500	1550	5.25
Other							
27.	Copra Milling	3250	3300	3300	3320	3500	1.49
28.	Copra ball	3500	3550	3550	3570	3750	1.38



29.	De -Husked Coconut	-	-	-	-	-	-
30.	Jute	785	810	850	860	890	2.54
31.	Sugarcane	59.50	62.05	69.50	73	74.50	4.59
32.	TOBACCO(VFC) Black Soil	26.00	27.00	28.00	31.00	32.00	4.24
33.	TOBACCO(VFC) Light Soil	28.00	29.00	30.00	33.00	34.00	3.95

Source: <https://agritech.tnau.ac.in/msp.html>

The MSP levels and CAGR of different crops in Group B for the period 2005-06 to 2009-10 is presented in Table 2. Among Kharif crops, the highest MSP CAGR was recorded for jowar (sorghum) at 15.71 percent, followed by niger seed (14.90 percent), soybean (12.50 percent), green gram (12.67 percent), ragi (11.75 percent), paddy (10.75 percent) and urad (10.96 percent). In the case of Rabi crops, wheat recorded the highest MSP CAGR at 11.05 percent, while toriya showed the lowest growth at 0.54 percent. A notable observation is that although wheat and

paddy had relatively lower MSP growth in the previous group, they registered significantly higher CAGR in this period. This sharp increase may be attributed to two main factors: policy interventions aimed at supporting farmers and rising inflationary pressures. However, the widespread increase in MSP CAGR across most crops during this period suggests that inflation played a more dominant role. Elevated inflation levels during these years pushed up input costs as well as output prices, resulting in higher MSP growth across crop categories.

Table 2 (Group B) Details of MSP of various crops in India from 2005-06 to 2009-10

S.N.	Year	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	CAGR
Kharif Crops							
1.	Paddy Common	570	580	645	850	950	10.75
2.	Paddy Grad-A	600	610	675	880	980	10.31
3.	Jowar (Hybrid)	525	540	600	840	840	9.85
4.	Jowar (Maldandi)	-	555	620	860	860	15.71
5.	Bajra	525	540	600	840	840	9.85
6.	Maize	540	540	620	840	840	9.23
7.	Ragi	525	540	600	915	915	11.75
8.	Tur/Arhar	1400	1410	1550	2000	2300	10.43
9.	Moong	1520	1520	1700	2520	2760	12.67
10.	Urad	1520	1520	1700	2520	2520	10.63
11.	Cotton (Medium Staple)	1760	1770	1800	2500	2500	7.27
12.	Cotton (Long Staple)	1980	1990	2030	3000	3000	8.66
13.	Groundnut	1520	1520	1550	2100	2100	6.67
14.	Sunflower seed	1500	1500	1510	2215	2215	8.10
15.	Soyabean(Kala)	900	900	910	1350	1350	8.44
17.	Soyabean(Yellow)	1010	1020	1050	1390	1390	6.59
18.	Sesamum	1550	1560	1580	2750	2850	12.95
19.	Nigerseed	1200	1220	1240	2405	2405	14.91
Rabi Crops							
20.	Wheat	650	750	1000	1080	1100	11.09
21.	Barley	550	565	650	680	750	6.39
22.	Gram	1435	1445	1600	1730	1760	4.16
23.	Masur (Lentil)	1535	1545	1700	1870	1870	4.02
24.	Rapeseed & Mustard	1715	1715	1800	1830	1830	1.30
25.	Safflower	1565	1565	1650	1650	1680	1.42
26.	Toriya	1680	1680	1735	1735	1735	0.64



other							
27.	Copra Milling	3570	3590	3620	3660	4450	4.50
28.	Copra ball	3820	3840	3870	3910	4700	4.23
29.	De -Husked Coconut				988	1200	10.20
30.	Jute	910	1000	1055	1250	1375	8.60
31.	Sugarcane	79:50	80.25	81.18	81.18	107.76	10.49
32.	TOBACCO(VFC) Black Soil	32.00	32.00	32.00	-	-	00
33.	TOBACCO(VFC) Light Soil	34.00	34.00	34.00	-	-	00

Source: <https://agritech.tnau.ac.in/msp.html>

The price and CAGR growth of different crops from the year 2010-11 to 2014-15 is presented in Table 3. Among Kharif crops, the highest CAGR of MSP was found for soybean at 12.29 percent, followed by groundnut at 11.70 percent, Gowar Hybrid at 11.95 percent, and Ragi at 11.32 percent. The lowest CAGR among Kharif crops was found for cotton at 6.18 percent.

Similarly, among Rabi crops, the highest CAGR of MSP was found for Toria at 11.15 percent, and the lowest CAGR was found for wheat at 5.30 percent. Among other crops, the highest CAGR of MSP was found for sugarcane at 9.5 percent, and the lowest was for copra at 3.36 percent.

Table 3 (Group C) details of MSP of various crops in India from 2010-11 to 2014-15

S.N.	Year	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	CAGR
Kharif Crops							
1.	Paddy Common	1000.00	1080.00	1250.00	1310.00	1360.00	0 6.34
2.	Paddy Grad-A	1030.00	1110.00	1280.00	1345.00	1400.00	0 6.33
3.	Soyabean(Kala)	1400.00	1650.00	2200.00	2500.00	2500.00	12.29
4.	Soyabean(Yellow)	1440.00	1690.00	2240.00	2550.00	2550.00	12.10
5.	Sesamum	2900.00	3400.00	4200.00	4500.00	4600.00	0 9.66
6.	Nigerseed	2450.00	2900.00	3500.00	3500.00	3600.00	0 8.00
7.	Jowar (Hybrid)	880.00	980.00	1500.00	1500.00	1530.00	11.69
8.	Jowar (Maldandi)	900.00	1000.00	1520.00	1520.00	1550.00	11.48
9.	Bajra	880.00	980.00	1175.00	1250.00	1250.00	0 7.27
10.	Maize	880.00	980.00	1175.00	1310.00	1310.00	0 8.28
11.	Cotton (Medium Staple)	2500.00	2800.00	3600.00	3700.00	3750.00	0 8.44
12.	Urad	2900.00	3300.00	4300.00	4300.00	4350.00	0 8.44
13.	Groundnut	2300.00	2700.00	2700.00	4000.00	4000.00	11.70
14.	Sunflower seed	2350.00	2800.00	3700.00	3700.00	3750.00	0 9.79
15.	Ragi	965.00	1050.00	1500.00	1500.00	1650.00	11.32
17.	Tur/Arhar	3000.00	3200.00	3850.00	4300.00	4350.00	0 7.71
18.	Moong	3170.00	3500.00	4400.00	4500.00	4600.00	0 7.73
19.	Cotton (Long Staple)	3000.00	3300.00	3900.00	4000.00	4050.00	0 6.18
Rabi Crops							
20.	Safflower	1800.00	2500.00	2800.00	3000.00	3050.00	11.12
21.	Toriya	1780.00	2425.00	2970.00	3020.00	3020.00	11.15
22.	Gram	2100.00	2800.00	3000.00	3100.00	3175.00	08.61
23.	Wheat	1120.00	1285.00	1350.00	1400.00	1450.00	0 5.30
24.	Barley	780.00	980.00	980.00	1100.00	1100.00	0 7.11
25.	Masur (Lentil)	2250.00	2800.00	2900.00	2950.00	3075.00	0 6.44
26.	Rapeseed & Mustard	1850.00	2500.00	3000.00	3050.00	3100.00	10.87



Other							
27.	De -Husked Coconut	1200.00	1200.00	1400.00	1425.00	1425.00	0 3.49
28.	Jute	1575.00	1675.00	2200.00	2300.00	2400.00	0 8.78
29.	Copra Milling	4450.00	4525.00	5100.00	5250.00	5250.00	0 3.36
30.	Copra ball	4700.00	4775.00	5300.00	5500.00	5500.00	0 3.19
31.	Sugarcane	139.12	145.00	170.00	210.00	220.00	0 9.59

Source: <https://agritech.tnau.ac.in/msp.html>

Table 4 presents the MSP and CAGR of various crops in Group D for the period 2015-16 to 2019-20. Among Kharif crops, Ragi recorded the highest MSP CAGR at 13.80 percent, followed by Gowar (10.18 percent), Bajra (10.07 percent), Moong (8.67 percent), Sunflower (8.25 percent) and Urad (4.26 percent), the lowest in this group. Among Rabi crops, safflower

showed the highest CAGR at 9.58 percent, while gram recorded the lowest at 2.50 percent. Among other crops, Cobra Milling had the highest CAGR (11.39 percent), whereas sugarcane recorded the lowest (3.63 percent). Overall, MSP growth remained relatively stable, though Gowar and Bajra showed notable increases.

Table 4 (Group D) Details of MSP of various crops in India from 2015-16 to 2019-20

S.N.	Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	CAGR
Kharif Crops							
1.	Paddy Common	1410	1470	1550	1750	1815	0 5.17
2.	Paddy Grad-A	1450	1510	1590	1770	1835	0 4.82
3.	Urad	4625	5000	5400	5600	5700	0 4.26
4.	Cotton(Medium Staple)	3800	3860	4020	5150	5255	0 6.69
5.	Cotton (Long Staple)	4100	4160	4320	54500	5555	0 6.26
6.	Maize	1325	1365	1425	1700	1760	0 5.84
7.	Ragi	1650	1725	1900	2890	3150	13.80
8.	Tur/Arhar	4625	5050	5450	5875	5800	0 4.63
9.	Moong	4650	5225	5575	6975	7050	0 8.67
10.	Jowar (Hybrid)	1570	1625	1700	2430	2550	10.18
11.	Jowar (Maldandi)	1590	1650	1725	2450	2570	10.07
12.	Bajra	1275	1330	1425	1950	2000	0 9.42
13.	Groundnut	4030	4220	4450	4890	5090	0 4.78
14.	Sunflower seed	3800	3950	4100	5388	5650	0 8.25
15.	Soyabean(Kala)	-	-	-	-	-	-
17.	Soyabean(Yellow)	2600	2775	3050	3390	3710	0 7.36
18.	Sesamum	4700	5000	5300	6240	6485	0 6.65
19.	Nigerseed	3650	3825	4050	5877	5940	10.22
Rabi Crops							
20.	Wheat	1625	1625	1735	1840	1925	0 3.44
21.	Barley	1225	1325	1410	1440	1625	0 5.81
22.	Gram	3600	4000	4400	4620	4075	0 2.50
23.	Masur (Lentil)	3400	3950	4250	4476	4000	0 3.30
24.	Rapeseed & Mustard	3350	3700	4000	4200	4425	0 5.72
25.	Safflower	3300	3700	4100	4945	5215	0 9.58
26.	Toriya	3290	3560	3900	4190	4425	0 6.10
other							
27.	Copra Milling	5550	5950	6500	7511	9521	11.39
28.	Copra ball	5830	6240	6785	1750	9920	11.21



29.	De -Husked Coconut	1500	1600	1760	2030	2571	11.37
30.	Jute	2700	3200	3600	3700	3950	0 7.90
31.	Sugarcane	230.00	230.00	255.00	275.00	275.00	0 3.63

Source: <https://agritech.tnau.ac.in/msp.html>

Table 5 Group E, the increase and CAGR of MSP price of different crops from the year 2020-21 to 24-25 have been shown. Among Kharif crops, the highest CAGR of MSP was 6.13 percent for Gowar, followed by an increase in the CAGR of MSP of Ragi. Among Kharif crops, the lowest CAGR in MSP price was

found for cotton. Among Rabi crops, the highest CAGR of MSP was found for Masur at 5.60, and the lowest was for sunflower. Among other crops, the highest CAGR of 4.77 percent was found for jute, and the lowest was found for copra. In this group, the fluctuation in the CAGR of crops was found to be the least as compared to other groups.

Table 5 (Group E) Details of MSP of various crops in India from 2020-21 to 2024-25

S.N.	Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	CAGR
Kharif Crops							
1.	Paddy Common	1860	1940	2040	2183	2300	0 4.33
2.	Paddy Grad-A	1880	1960	2060	2203	2320	0 4.29
3.	Jowar (Hybrid)	2620	2730	2970	3180	3371	0 5.16
4.	Jowar (Maldandi)	2540	2750	2990	3225	3421	0 6.13
5.	Bajra	2150	2250	2350	2500	2625	0 4.07
6.	Maize	1850	1870	1962	2090	2225	0 3.76
7.	Ragi	3295	3377	3578	3846	4290	0 5.41
8.	Tur/Arhar	6000	6300	6600	7000	7550	0 4.70
9.	Moong	7190	7275	7755	8558	8682	0 3.84
10.	Urad	6000	6300	6600	6950	7400	0 4.28
11.	Cotton (Medium Staple)	6515	5726	6080	6620	7121	0 1.79
12.	Cotton (Long Staple)	5825	6025	6380	7020	7121	0 4.09
13.	Groundnut	5275	5550	5850	6360	6783	0 5.15
14.	Sunflower seed	5885	6015	6400	6760	7280	0 4.34
15.	Soyabean(Kala)	-	-	-	-	-	
17.	Soyabean(Yellow)	3880	3950	4300	4600	4892	0 4.74
18.	Sesamum	6855	7300	7830	8635	9267	0 6.21
19.	Nigerseed	6695	6930	7287	7734	8717	0 5.42
Rabi Crops							
20.	Wheat	1975	2015	2125	2275	2425	0 4.19
21.	Barley	1600	1635	1735	1850	1980	0 4.35
22.	Gram	5100	5230	5335	5440	5650	0 2.06
23.	Masur (Lentil)	5100	5500	6000	6425	6700	0 5.60
24.	Rapeseed & Mustard	4550	5050	5450	5650	5950	0 5.51
25.	Safflower	5327	5441	5650	5800	5940	0 2.20
26.	Toriya	4650	-	-	-	-	00.00
other							
27.	Copra Milling	9960	10335	10590	10860	-	0 2.18
28.	Copra ball	10300	10600	1100	11750	-	0 3.34
29.	De -Husked Coconut	2700	2800	2860	2930	-	0 2.06
30.	Jute	4225	4500	4750	5050	5335	0 4.77
31.	Sugarcane	285.00	290.00	305.00	315.00	340.00	0 3.59
Group C CAGR							

Source: <https://agritech.tnau.ac.in/msp.html>



Summary of ANOVA is presented in Table 6. It was found that the mean of group A is 3.19, and the standard deviation is 1.45 and the variance is 2.586. Similarly, group B has a mean of 8.39, which is higher than group A. Because the standard deviation of this group was higher, which is the standard deviation is 3.82, which is higher than group A, and the variance is 17.966, which is higher than all the groups; therefore, the variability is highest in group B. In group C, the mean is 8.45, the standard deviation is 2.64, and the variance is 10.851, which is lower than group B. In group D, the mean is 6.9, the standard deviation is 3.15 and the variance is 12.262. This group ranks second in variability

among all the groups. Similarly, in group E, the mean was found to be 3.91, the standard deviation was 1.60 and the variance was 3.334. The F-test value was 18.515; this is more than the F Critical Value of 2.430.

Hypothesis Test: The CAGR of MSP is increasing uniformly in all the groups of the study. This hypothesis is rejected because α 0.05 > p-value 1.86 E-12 minimum or significant was obtained, due to which the H0 hypothesis is rejected and the CAGR of MSP is not increasing uniformly in all the groups of the study. Due to which the H1 hypothesis is accepted. And the critical value 2.430 > p-value 1.86 E-12 was obtained.

Table 6 Details of Summary and ANOVA Results

SUMMARY						
Groups	Count	Sum	Mean	Standard deviation	Variance	
Group A	32	95.76	3.19	1.45	2.586	
Group B	32	251.81	8.39	3.82	17.966	
Group C	32	253.76	8.45	2.64	10.851	
Group D	32	209.02	6.9	3.15	12.262	
Group E	32	117.56	3.91	1.60	3.334	
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit.
Between Groups	696.209	4	174.052	18.515	1.86E-12	2.430
Within Groups	1457.053	155	9.400	-	-	-
Total	2153.262	159	-	-	-	-

Source: author by created analysis data table

Conclusion and policy making

Minimum Support Price (MSP) plays a vital role in Indian agriculture by providing assured prices to farmers and protecting them from market uncertainties and price fluctuations. It safeguards farmers against distress sales and contributes to income stability. Government procurement and buffer stock operations, along with distribution through the Public Distribution System, further strengthen national food security and ensure affordable food availability for vulnerable populations.

The study indicates that MSP growth has been uneven across crops and different time periods. Considerable disparities are visible in both MSP levels and Compound Annual Growth Rates (CAGR) during 2000–01 to 2024–25. Among the identified phases, Group ‘B’ (2005–06 to 2009–10) recorded the highest CAGR, average MSP, and standard deviation, indicating rapid but volatile price increases. In contrast, Group ‘A’ showed relatively stable and lower MSP growth.

During Groups ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘C’, crops such as wheat, paddy, and sugarcane received higher



MSP increases because of their importance in food security and procurement policies. In later phases, especially Groups 'D' and 'E', greater policy emphasis was placed on pulses, oilseeds, and millets. The launch of the Shri Anna Yojana in 2023 reflects efforts toward crop diversification and nutritional security. Although MSP benefits remain concentrated in a few states, broader implementation and stronger digital platforms like e-NAM can help reduce regional disparities and promote sustainable agricultural development.

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