



INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

University Enclave, University of Delhi (North Campus), Delhi-110 007, INDIA

January 24, 2020

SEMINAR NOTICE

Topic: **To Support or not to Support: Some farm policy options and implications**
Speaker (s): Professor C.S.C Sekhar, Institute of Economic Growth
Chair: Professor Ajit Mishra, Institute of Economic Growth

The seminar details are as follows:

Date & time: Friday, January 31, 2020 at 3.00 p.m.
Venue: A.M. Khusro Room
Institute of Economic Growth
University of Delhi Enclave
North Campus, Delhi-110 007

All are welcome.

(Oindrila De)
Seminar Convenor

Abstract:

A large number of programs have been initiated to support agriculture in the last few years in India. These include programs on irrigation, insurance, marketing, price support etc. But some of these programs, initiated particularly in the last two years, constitute a major departure from the past. For the first time, a deficiency price support program (PM-AASHA) was launched in 2018 with a vastly enhanced minimum support prices. An income support program (PM-KISAN) was also launched in 2019 to make direct transfers to farmers, again for the first time in India. Despite such unprecedented nature of these measures, there is very little information in the public policy pronouncements on the possible economic implications of these programs. Also, scant empirical evidence exists in the literature on the economic effects of such programs, which is largely limited to farm programs in the US. There is very little public discourse in India on these programs which could have large implications for agriculture in the country. The present study is a small attempt to fill this gap. The study first assesses the need for such support programs, if any, and analyzes the fiscal implications of some of these programs. Important programs of price and income support are discussed and a comparative picture is drawn.