Fixed base price for certain Agricultural products in Kerala

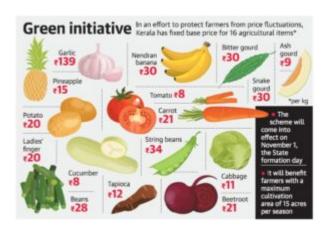
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In news

Kerala announces base price for certain Agricultural products

Salient features of the scheme

In order to protect farmers from price fluctuations,
State government of Kerala has fixed base price for 16 agricultural items



- The scheme would come in to effect from November 1
- Agricultural items covered under the scheme would be have price which is 20% above the production cost of the vegetable
- According to the scheme, if the market price dipped below the base price of a vegetable, the produce would be procured at the base price and the money transferred to farmers' accounts.
- The produce would be graded on quality, and the base price fixed on that basis
- -Local self-government institutions would have an important role to play in the scheme as they would

- coordinate the procurement and distribution of vegetables.
- The scheme would benefit a farmer with cultivation on a maximum of 15 acres in a season.
- Farmers would have to register on the Agriculture Department's registration portal after insuring the crop to get the benefit of the base price.
- Initially though, the registration would not be mandatory for farmers intending the procurement to happen through primary agricultural credit cooperative societies.
- Under the scheme, the procured produce would be sold through the department's markets or the societies' marketing network.
- Any excess produce would be converted into value-added products.
- The scheme also envisaged setting up of supply chain processes such as cold-storage facilities and refrigerated vehicles.