

## Farm bill 2020, Farmers protest

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### Abstract

In recent scenario, one of most important trending news is “Farm Bill 2020” which was passed by the president Ram Nath Kovind on 27th sept, while the farmers are protesting against the bill mainly the farmer of north side Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and other like W.B, Karnataka. So, it has to be clear what is “Farm Bill 2020” and why many farmers are against this act. After the bill passed by the president, the bills have become Act.

**Keyword:** - Bill, Act, Farm

### Introduction

Those 3 Farm acts are:

- I. The Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill
- II. The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill
- III. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill

According to the history after independence govt adopted different measures for improving agriculture sector some were like APMC Act and MSP. Farmers have different options to sell their produce either by local market, APMC, MSP and eNAM.

Agricultural Produce Market

Committee (APMC) 1950 also known as krishi mandis is established by state govt. in which farmer sell their produce to middleman/bicholiya/arhatiya and they sell to supplier, shopkeeper.

Minimum Support Price (MSP) 1975 it was a great step of govt in which farmer can directly sell their produce to govt at fixed price set by the govt and even when if any condition due to which farmers produced can’t be sell govt purchases their produce at MSP.

E-NAM National Agriculture Market or eNAM is an online business platform for agricultural commodities in India. The market allows farmers, traders and buyers with online trading in agricultural commodities.

**Act 1-** The Farmers’ Produce Trade

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and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill

**I.** Farmer is free to intra and interstate trade or any trade area of farm produce-

**II.** One nation one market

**III.** Private mandis can be establish

**IV.** Farmer can ignore middleman and sell directly to buyers at price to be fixed between them.

**V.** Farmer can fix the price

**VI.** No marketing tax

**A) Reason of farmer's protest-**

**I.** Trade area is not mechanized

**II.** Can't trust the trader in new law

**III.** End of APMC and free hand to big corporate buyer

**IV.** Middleman income affected

**Act 2-** The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill [5]

**I.** It's a contract farming in which the agreement between agri firm and farmer, as farmer have to produce a crop for pre agreed price

**Example** – like chips companies can buy potatoes directly from farmer on pre fixed price

**A) Reason of farmer's protest-**

- MSP will be removed
- No control of govt on price
- Demand link MSP to contract price

**Act 3-** The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill

**I.** It is considered as hoarding as govt allowed the agent for unlimited stocking which is not illegal any more.

**A) Reason of farmer's protest-**

**I.** Artificial price fluctuation

**II.** Low price for farmer after harvest

According to govt, this act give farmer full power as farmer will receive good price value of their produce.

**Farmer worries -**

**I.** Due to private mandis there will be end of APMC

**II.** Restrict farmer to approach civil court instead govt officers are more in power

**III.** Due to no tax on private market it only benefits big corporates

**IV.** Farmer will lose bargaining power

**V.** Small scale farmer have difficulties to negotiate directly with large scale buyer

**VI.** There were no restriction on farmer to sell anywhere earlier too

**VII.** Middleman will not go away

**VIII.** Many labors/employ

**Farmer demand-**

**I.** Farmer want link MSP to contract farming

**II.** Reforms in APMC needed, not its destruction

III. Investment to made in agri sector through govt not private sector

IV. Don't give price setting power to big corporate

### Protest-

In Punjab, small-scale protests had started in August 2020 when the Farm Bills were made public. It was only after the passage of the acts that more farmers and farm unions across India joined the protests against the reforms. [citation needed] On 25 September 2020 farm unions all over India called for a Bharat Bandh to protest against these farm laws. The most widespread protests took place in Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh but demonstrations were also reported in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Kerala and other states. Railway services remained suspended in Punjab for more than two months due to the protests, starting from October. Following this, farmers from different states then marched to Delhi to protest against the laws. Farmers also criticized the national media for misrepresenting the protest. From 12 December, farmer unions took over highway toll plazas in Haryana and allowed free movement of vehicles. In certain parts of India, bullock-cart rallies in support of farmer's protest have also been organized by marginal farmers.[138] Transport bodies such as the All-India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC),

representing about 9.5 million truckers and 5 million bus and taxi drivers, have threatened to halt the movement of supplies in the northern states, and if the government fails to address the farmer's issues, it would be done nationwide.



**Result and discussion**

On 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the Modi Cabinet finally repealed all three farm bills. However, protests would continue until 11 December 2021, when the protests were finally declared over and the farmers started returning to their homes.

**Refernce**

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