

**Compliance Report with respect to Obligations of Public Authority vide Clause 4(1) (b) of Right to Information Act 2005 in the Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Center (MNCFC), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India**

*Clause 4(l) Every public authority shall*

*(a) Maintain all its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the right to information under this Act and ensure that all records that are appropriate to be computerized are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerized and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such records is facilitated;*

**The statistics of drought assessment indicators are kept in a form to facilitate compilation and dissemination. The drought indices data may be accessed at our website: [www.ncfc.gov.in](http://www.ncfc.gov.in). Crop maps generated from satellite data are also available on the website. Reports and Publications related to various projects are also available on the website.**

*(b) Publish before the commencement of this Act*

*(i) the particulars of its organization, functions and duties [Section 4(1)(b)(i)]*

**Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (NCFC) is an attached office of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India. Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) has been established under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India for applications of space and geospatial technology in various domains of agriculture. The Centre, named after the great Indian Statistician, Dr. Prashant Chandra Mahalanobis, was inaugurated on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2012.**

- **MNCFC was established, initially, to provide in-season crop forecasts and assessment of drought situation using state of the art techniques and methodologies developed by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).**

**The objectives of MNCFC were**

- **Multiple forecasts for 11 major crops at National/State/District level.**
- **Operationalization of methods developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) with respect of FASAL and NADAMS project.**
- **Inclusion of additional crops in crop forecasts and sub-district level moderate to high resolution drought assessment in the country in collaboration with ISRO.**
- **Development and refinement of approach of crop forecasts and drought assessment based on trends in satellite and related technologies.**
- **Repository of database related to crop forecasts and drought assessments generated from different sources such as India Meteorological Department, Institute of Economic Growth and State Agricultural Authorities, etc.**
- **Assimilation of crop forecast results from other programmes, related to flood, drought etc.**
- **Evolution of Centre towards use of Geomatics in other aspects of agriculture, such as Cropping System, Horticulture, Soil and its Health, Rainfed Area Assessment & Management, estimation of Damage due to Natural Calamities.**
- **Working towards assessment of crop prospect at Global level.**

**Currently, various programmes/projects being implanted by MNCFC, include**

- **Pre-harvest multiple crop production forecasting, at national-state-district level for 9 major crops of the country under the FASAL project**
- **District and sub-district level drought indicator assessment using satellite data, under NADAMS project**
- **National-State-District level Crop production estimation of 7 major horticultural crops using satellite data and horticultural developmental planning using geospatial technology, under CHAMAN project**
- **Use of Satellite data for crop insurance (Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana), including crop loss assessment, area discrepancy and yield dispute resolution, risk zoning, seasonality mapping, Smart Sampling, Direct Yield Estimation, etc.**
- **Crop intensification suitability planning in rice-fallow areas of 6 Eastern Indian States (**completed**)**

- **R&D studies on use of SCATSAT data for crop yield modelling (completed)**

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*(ii) the powers and duties of its officers and employees [Section 4(1)(b)(ii)]*

**Officers and employees perform their duties for the fulfilment of functions of MNCFC, aimed at creating/ updating and disseminating statistics on different facets of agriculture, horticulture, drought, crop insurance etc. Director heads MNCFC, and guides and supervises performance of various duties/tasks assigned to different officers and employees in NCFC.**

*(iii) the procedure followed in the decision-making process [Section 4(1)(b)(iii)]*

**The Centre is attached with the IT Division of DAC&FW, while the budget for MNCFC and its various projects comes from different divisions of DAC&FW, e.g. FASAL (including NADAMS) is through EA Division, CHAMAN is funded by Horticulture Division and Crop Insurance activity is funded by Credit Division. The Director reports to the Additional Secretary (IT), DAC&FW. All administrative matters requiring attention/approval of Jt. Secretary (IT)/ Secretary, files/papers/statements are submitted to Joint Secretary(IT) for approval/order/information at the level of Jt. Secretary/Secretary. For financial matters requiring IFD approval, files are submitted to the Joint Secretaries of the respective Divisions. In other cases, the Director approves/decides at his level. Meetings/Discussions are held with all concerned within MNCFC/ with other concerned officers in the Department/Ministry and also institutions/individuals.**

*(iv) the norms for discharge of functions [Section 4(1)(b)(iv)]*

**Standards in terms of time, coverage, consistency, frequency, which are explicit/implicit for all important items of work are observed by officials in MNCFC as well as States/ Research Institutions entrusted with the respective items of work. Adherence to these standards is also monitored/ reviewed through meetings/ discussion, including regular interaction with States/ Research Institutions during annual/periodic Review Meetings/Workshops/Seminars.**

- (v) *the rules, regulations, instructions, manuals and records, for discharging functions [Section 4(1)(b)(v)]*

**Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) is an attached office of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare. Procedures and practices to be followed are known and understood by officers and employees entrusted with the respective items of work. Wherever relevant/necessary, proforma and related instructions, including explanatory notes, are prepared and given to concerned officials/agencies. Care is also taken to comply with the recommendations made by expert committees in regard to concepts/definitions, estimation procedures, etc. in this exercise.**

- (iv) *Categories of documents held by the authority under its control [Section 4(1)(b)(vi)]*

**The assessments of drought indicators are widely disseminated through website/reports/data. The periodic reports on the crop forecasts are submitted to concerned authorities. The crop estimates, at block level, are kept in crop insurance portal for use by the concerned agencies. Keeping in view the emerging changes in technology within the country as well as abroad in the dissemination of agricultural information, constant efforts are made to update/upgrade the methods for dissemination of outputs by MNCFC.**

- (v) *the particulars of any arrangement that exists for consultation with, or representation by, the members of the public in relation to the formulation of its policy or implementation there of;*

**The work does not involve public contact / consultation with the public.**

- (vi) *Boards, councils, committees and other bodies constituted as part of the public authority [Section 4(1)(b)(viii)]*

**Not Applicable**

- (vii) *Directory of officers and employees [Section 4(1)(b)(ix)]*

**Annexure -I**

(viii) Monthly remuneration received by each of its officers and employees, including the system of compensation [Section 4(1)(b)(x)]

**Monthly remuneration including the system of compensation are being paid to each officers and employees as per the pay scales and norms prescribed by the government.**

(ix) the budget allocated to each of its agency, programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details of beneficiaries of such programmes;

**MNCFC meets its financial requirements from the budgetary provision of FASAL Programme under the Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census, Economics & Statistics of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare. The Revised Estimate for the Year 2019-20 is Rs. 13.20 crore.**

**MNCFC also receives funds for its CHAMAN programme from Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture and for the Crop Insurance activity from Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.**

(x) the manner of execution of subsidy programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details of beneficiaries of such programmes:

**Not applicable**

(xi) particulars of concessions, permits of authorizations granted by it;

**Not applicable**

(xii) details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form;

**The details are available on the Centre's website: [www.ncfc.gov.in](http://www.ncfc.gov.in).**

(xiii) the particulars of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information, including the working hours of a library or reading room, if maintained for public use;

**MNCFC has an in house reference library.**

(xiv) the names, designations and other particulars of the public information officers [Section 4(1)(b)(xvi)]

<b>Central Public Information Officer</b>	<b>Appellate Authority</b>
Dr Shalini Saxena Tele: 25843224 (O), Email: shalini.85@gov.in	Smt. Preeti Tahlani, Scientist-SE Tele: 25843226 (O), Email: preeti.tahlani@gov.in

(xv) No. of Employee against whom disciplinary action has been proposed taken (Section 4(2))

**NIL**

*(xvi) Programmes to advance understanding of RTI (Section 26)*

**Understanding is achieved by refereeing books and documents available on internet.**

*(xvii) Transfer Policy and transfer orders [ 1/6/2011-IR dt.15.4.2013]*

**As per Government of India Transfer policy.**

## Annexure –I

### Contact Details of Concerned Officers

Name of the Officer	Designation	Telephone	Email
<b>Department of Agriculture Cooperation &amp; Farmers' Welfare</b>			
Sh. Sanjay Agarwal	Secretary	+91-11-23382651	<a href="mailto:secy-agri@gov.in">secy-agri@gov.in</a>
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Sh. Vivek Aggarwal	Joint Secretary (IT)	+91-11-23381176	<a href="mailto:jsit-agri@gov.in">jsit-agri@gov.in</a>
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<b>Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre</b>			
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