

## **Webinar on Agriculture Reforms in India amid COVID19 pandemic, organised by Department of Commerce, Lucknow University**

A Webinar was organised by Department of Commerce, Lucknow University on the above subject and Director, BIRD was invited to deliver a lecture on “**Impact of COVID 19 on Agriculture-Allied Sectors: What needs to be done?**”

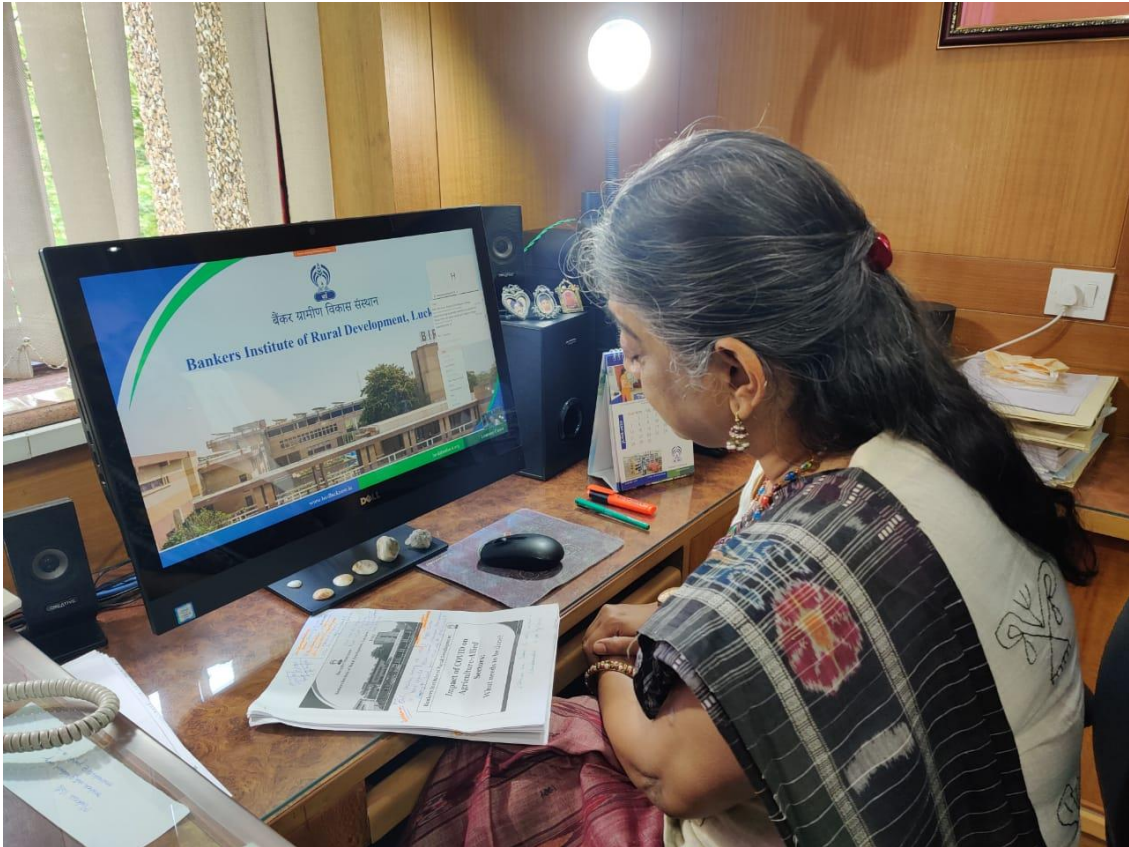
Director, BIRD started with the present status of agriculture especially issues in reference to production and marketing. How some issues are compounded due to pandemic. The other issues referred by her include: liquidity at Farmers level, issues related to migrant labours. Thereafter, she spoke about the various interventions/steps taken by Government – both at Centre and State level. These included:

- Agri. Infrastructure Fund
- MSME & other related packages
- RBI policy on interest rates & Moratorium
- Changes in MNREGS
- Changes in Marketing norms / APMC act modifications
- Other support like PM KISAN, crediting Jan Dhan accounts of women, free grain distribution, etc.
- NABARD’s support to financial institutions

While speaking on what needs to be done, she spoke about FPOs, Dairy cooperatives, crop diversification, risk diversifications, change in cropping pattern, Farming system approach, Digital marketing and mechanisation of agriculture. She ended with saying while reform policies like APMC, land leasing, etc. are introduced, their proper and quick implementation will reap the results.



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