**VISION**

To make rainfed agriculture an economically viable enterprise for improving livelihood and welfare of farming community, by adopting appropriate strategies compatible with agro-ecology, agro- biodiversity and sustainability.

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**MISSION**

To promote prosperity of farmers and ensure inclusive growth in rainfed areas of the country on a sustainable basis.

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**MANDATE / OBJECTIVES**

- To prepare a perspective plan, outlining the national strategy and road map for holistic and sustainable development of rainfed farming areas.
- To evolve comprehensive guidelines for all initiatives (schemes etc) of different Ministries including externally aided project (EAPs) for promotion of rainfed/dry land farming systems.
- To coordinate and bring convergence within and amongst agricultural and wasteland development programmes taken up for rainfed areas by various stakeholders.
- To identify rainfed areas in different states and prioritise them based on severity, and prepare developmental strategies, including watershed development plans in consultation with states, focusing on multidimensional activities – field crops, horticulture, dairy & animal husbandry, fishery, silvi-pasture and agro-forestry and secondary agriculture, with a view to nurturing natural resources and promoting welfare of people on a sustainable basis.
- To identify gaps in input supply (including organic status), credit availability, access to appropriate technology, and awareness & knowledge level of farmers in rainfed areas.
To guide the implementing agencies on priority setting, and monitor the specific interventions required.

To suggest modalities needed to strengthen national and state level institutions/organisations concerned with rainfed/dryland areas; promote inter-institutional/organizational linkages; and establish their responsibility vis-a-vis prioritised watersheds.

To develop plans/programmes for capacity building of both governmental and non-governmental functionaries at all levels (national, state, district and field).

To set the research agenda including a critical appraisal of on-going programmes and promote diffusion of required knowledge for integrated farming in rainfed areas down to district and field level authorities.

To monitor trends in disbursement of rural credit/insurance cover/safety net programmes developed for rainfed areas.

To evaluate the effectiveness of completed projects, programmes, watersheds etc. and undertake concurrent evaluation of on-going programmes.

**Organization chart**