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ICL develop's a diagnostic tool for farmers

ATM News Network: ICL, the world's leading indigenous Israeli mineral company, has announced the unveiling of a revolutionary diagnostic tool called ICLeaf. The tool will give farmers a personalised prescription to maximize production. Measuring up to 10 different components in a plant leaf sample will give an accurate physical response. It will also make recommendations regarding nutrient consumption. The process starts with collecting the leaves from the crop. The pages are then analyzed using technology. Through this method, results are available as fast as three days after taking initial samples for several weeks using conventional methods. The new tool is also more durable than conventional testing. It will help farmers to take quick and data driven decisions based on measurements. This tool will help to make immediate improvements in different seasons by taking multiple samples every year. iCleaf tool advises farmers. It recommends optimal fertilizers based on crop nutrition plan, crop type, location and environmental conditions through optimized data. It is a customer-centric tool, offering personalized guidance throughout the process with the help of professional agronomists.

Forecast of record horticulture production, increase upto 342.33 million tonnes

ATM News Network: The central government has announced a record horticultural production of 342.33 million tonnes in an area of 28.08 million hectares for the year 2021-22. The Centre has released the third advance estimate of area and production of horticultural crops, in which the figures have been released.

Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has congratulated the farmers, scientists and horticulture officials for this achievement.



Following are the third advance estimates of area and production of various horticultural crops for the year 2021-22, compiled on the basis of information received from States/UTs & other government sources.

Year 2021-22 (3rd Advance Estimate)

- Total horticulture production is estimated at 342.33 million tonnes in 2021-22. This represents an increase of about 7.73 million tonnes (an increase of 2.3%) over 2020-21 (final).
- Fruit production is estimated at 107.24 million tonnes in 2020-21 as against 102.48 million tonnes.
- Vegetable production is estimated at 204.84 million tonnes in 2020-21 as against 200.45 million tonnes.
- Onion production is expected to be 31.27 million tonnes in 2020-21 as against 26.64 million tonnes.

Export associations should unite for creating an international mage in grape exports: Rodrigue Oliva

ATM News Network: Indian grapes are rejected in overseas markets due to their poor quality. Such incidents do not tarnish the image of a single person, the image of the whole of India is tarnished. In order to avoid it, India's grape organisations must come together with the government system to prepare rules, and if they are implemented, India's grape export industry can be kept safe, said Rodrigo Oliva, an international grape expert in South Africa. Maharashtra State Horticulture Association Nashik Division organised a seminar on Pruning Management of Orchards at Samridhhi Lawns, Nashik, where



he was speaking as a special guide. Nashik MP Hemant Godse inaugurated the programme. Ashok Gaikwad, former president of the Maharashtra State Vineyard

Growers Association, presided over the event. Divisional Joint Director of Agriculture Mohan Wagh, Vice President of Maharashtra State Viticulture Association Kailas Bhosle, Former President of Maharashtra State Viticulture

Association D. B. Mogul, President of Maharashtra State Grape Growers Association Nashik Division Ravindra Nimse, Honorary Secretary Balasaheb Gadakh, Director of NRCG at Pune Dr R. G. Somkuvar, Scientist of NRCG Dr D. S. Dr Yadav, an expert in plant pathology and Somnath Holkar was present on this occasion. Grape growers from all over the district who came to listen to Rodrigue Oliva's thoughts were present till late in the evening. Rodrigue Oliva said that many challenges have arisen in the world due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Businesses and industries were closed. As a result, many lost their jobs. There is a recession in many countries including America, and Europe. Truck drivers became jobless due to lockdowns and the shutting of businesses.

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India's leading Agri Exhibition 'Krishithon' in Nashik from November 24

ATM News Network: The country's premier agricultural exhibition, Krishithon, which showcases the latest modern technologies and future trends in agriculture, is approaching. The Convenor of Krishithon Sanjay Nyaharkar believes that the exhibition is a platform for innovation and business in the agricultural sector, is all set to become the mega event of the present and future of the agricultural sector and will benefit farmers and agribusinesses. Since the year 1998, the Krishithon exhibition has become a milestone in the field of agriculture. The Krishithon exhibition conducted in Nashik is known as India's Premier exhibition with participation of leading Agri industries in the field of new technologies in agriculture, marketing of crops and innovative platforms to celebrate Innovative farmers. This will be the 15th edition of Krishithon, and preparations are at war footing. In the past few editions, Krishithon has worked to create brands and introduce new technologies and business opportunities. With such convenience for businesses, lakhs



of farmers and dealers visit Krishithon. This year, with the support of the Central Govt., State Govt. & Agriculture Dept. various government agencies including the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the Dept. of Agriculture of the State Govt. will participate in the Krishithon. Apart from that, the support of Agro Inputs Manufacturers Association of India, Nashik Agro Dealers Association, Maharashtra State Nursery Association and all other agriculture associations has been received. Also, leading companies in India have booked their stalls in this. Co-convenor Sahil Nyaharkar said that since the exhibition has not been held for two years, there is enthusiasm among both the participating organisations and the

farmers. The agriculture business who's who are eagerly waiting for the curtain raising of the Krishithon.

Krishithon Youth In Agriculture awards to celebrate agriculture

Today's youth is constantly trying to enrich the agricultural sector by using their experimentation and technology while facing many challenges. To honour and celebrate the agriculture and their contribution to agriculture an award ceremony will hold during Krishithon. Innovative minds will be honoured in various categories by dignitaries from the platform of Krishithon to glorify their work. The awards will be presented in seven categories.

- Innovative Youth Farmer Award (Male & Wome's Group)
- Innovative Young Agricultural Entrepreneur Award
- Innovative Young Researcher Award
- Innovative Agricultural Extension Work
- Ideal Water Conservation Award
- Excellent Agri. Student Award

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ISRO proposes for satellites dedicated to agriculture sector

ATM News Network: The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has recommended special satellites to boost the country's agricultural industry, said ISRO President S Somnath has given. A proposal in this regard has been submitted to the government.

He was speaking on the occasion of Engineers Conclave 2022 being held at Liquid Propulsion System Center (LPSC) in Valiamala. He said that the proposed 'Bharat Agriculture Satellite' program has been discussed with the Union Agriculture Department.

Two satellites will be required to cover the total agricultural area in the country. They will help in various agriculture related tasks like crop forecasting, pesticide application, irrigation, soil data collection and generation of important data related to drought. He further said that the yield of the crop comes in a few months. Not more than a week. Hence, constant surveillance is essential. "Today's satellites are not enough. So we need to add more satellites with higher repeatability. We have



advised to do the same. These satellites will not be owned by ISRO, but by the Union Agriculture Department. ISRO will only provide technical support", explained President Somnath. ISRO Chairman has proposed setting up of 'Earth Observation Council' to overcome current shortcomings in Earth observation capacity and data utilization. He claimed that such a council could solve the problems in the sector in a centralized manner. According to Somnath, current satellites have shortcomings as lack of continuous Earth observation missions, underutilization of available remote sensing data, technological gaps, lack of an organized method for data handling and distribution as per field demands.

EDITORIAL



India's 'Flight' in Agricultural Technology

Drones are likely to be at the centre of transformation in the Indian agricultural technology sector, with drones having the potential to increase the country's GDP by 1 to 1.5 percent. According to a recent report by the World Economic Forum, at least five lakh jobs will be added in this sector in the coming years. India's progress in agricultural technology is not surprising given the forecast expressed by the World Economic Forum. The progress made by technology in all fields in India is astounding. The agricultural sector was not left behind.

Today, agriculture is not just a primary sector but is now a developing industry. Advanced technology is being used to produce more and better food grains with a reasonable investment. Drones are useful for keeping a close eye on crops on large-scale farms. By attaching a camera to the drone, the farmer can sit in one place and closely monitor the growth of each plant. As technology evolves rapidly, drones of different sizes and types are available. So they are used not only for photography but also for many other purposes. You can also brainstorm ideas on how it can be used more effectively.

Technology has created many opportunities for the agricultural industry, especially agriculture. If you look at the technological facilities that are useful for farming, you can guess these things. Efforts are being made to make farming easier through artificial intelligence, mobile applications, tracking through satellite images, drones and biotechnology.

In the Union Budget, the government has focused on promoting the use of drone technology for agricultural work. The central government has approved the use of drones for land registry records, spraying fertilizers on crops and monitoring. In this background, to promote the use of drones in the agricultural sector, the state government will provide grants for the purchase of drones for agricultural machinery and implements inspection institutes, institutes affiliated to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, agricultural science centres, farmers' producers' organisations and agricultural universities to carry out drone technology-based spraying demonstrations under the agricultural mechanisation sub-campaign.

The central government issued some guidelines regarding drones earlier this year. Accordingly, the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has revised the guidelines of the 'Sub-mission on Agricultural Mechanization' to make drone technology cost-effective. This includes a subsidy of 100% of the cost of agricultural drones or Rs 10 lakh, whichever is less, for the purchase of drones by Agricultural Mechanics Training, Testing Institutes, Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes, Agricultural Science Centres and State Agricultural Universities for large-scale demonstration of this technology in farmers' fields.

Farmer Producer Organisations will be eligible for a subsidy of up to 75% of the cost of agricultural drones for a demonstration on farmers' fields. Contingency costs of Rs 6000 per hectare will be given to enforcement agencies who do not wish to purchase drones but hire drones for a demonstration from custom hiring centres, hi-tech hubs, drone manufacturers and start-ups. Contingency expenses of implementing agencies purchasing drones for drone demonstrations will be limited to Rs 3000 per hectare.

Efforts to increase the use of drones are being done and are welcomed. But its limitations should also be checked. This technology is expensive. There is confusion as the farmers do not know at what stage and in what quantity the spraying should be done accurately.

12th installment of Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana transferred by PM Modi

ATM News Network: The government has released Rs 16,000 crore through direct benefit transfer (DBT) under the 12th installment of the PM Shetkari Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme. It is expected to benefit 10 crore farmers.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the installment amount at the inaugural function of "PM Shetkari Samman Sammelan 2022" at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Prime Minister Modi said that farmers will get cheap and quality crop nutrients under the 'Ek Rashtra, Ek Khaad' scheme launched today.

Under this scheme, eligible farmer



families are given a benefit of Rs 6,000 per annum in three equal installments of Rs 2,000 each. So far, eligible farmer families have received benefits of over Rs 2 lakh crore under the PM Kisan Yojana, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office said.

22 crore soil health cards, over

1,700 varieties of seeds have been provided to farmers to increase crop productivity, Prime Minister Modi said during the event. The Prime Minister also tweeted about this from his Twitter handle. Under this scheme, the government has so far distributed 11 installments to the farmers.

However, the farmers claimed that they were not getting the money due to several technical problems including online installment transfer. To ensure that this amount reaches them, farmers have to complete e-KYC formalities. Installments are transferred to farmers' Aadhaar linked bank accounts.

DA&FW and NAFED to boost International Year of Millets

ATM News Network : A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited in New Delhi yesterday to boost the initiative envisioned by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to promote Millets towards celebration of the International Year of Millets 2023.

Both organisations will work together for the promotion and marketing of millet-based products, keeping in view the initiative of "International Year of Millets (IYOM)-2023" proposed by the Government of India to the United Nations, which is to be celebrated across the world. As India is gearing up to bring millet back on the global map, they will build support and organize, promote, market, and forge effective market linkages for millet-based products to maximize the value capture and millet-based commodities across the country.

The DA&FW and NAFED will collaborate in key areas like



facilitating advisory support to manufacturers/processors of millet-based products to develop value-added millet-based commodities; on-boarding of start-ups, inclusive of start-ups empanelled with Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR); formation of FPOs specifically for developing a range of millet-based products; promote and market millet-based products through the network of NAFED Bazaar Stores and other institutions linked with NAFED as well as installation of Millet based Vending Machines at various locations across Delhi-NCR; and dispensing millet-based products that shall assist in establishing the focus on millet-based commodities.

(Source : PIB)

Inter-ministerial review meeting held

ATM News Network : The Union Inter-Ministerial Meeting with the States on the issues of Crop Residue Management was chaired by the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar with the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav and the Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala in co-chair. The three ministers held intense discussions with the states to check the burning of stubble. Tomar said that there is a need to fix the accountability of the collectors in the affected districts by the respective State Governments, while Yadav said that the states should implement effective measures immediately. Rupala stressed on proactive steps, especially for the problem of stubble burning in Punjab.

In the high-level review meeting, senior officials of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi state government and top officials of all the three central ministries and senior officials of other central ministries and departments participated.

Drone tech will give support to the 'GDP'

ATM News Network: ATM News Network: From personal use to warfare, drones or aerial vehicles are being used extensively. If someone tells you that drones can also add to the economic development of the country, you will not believe it. The World Economic Forum has expressed this prediction, and the same content has been published by the Economics Times.

According to the report, drones are likely to be at the center of transformation in the Indian agricultural technology sector, with drones having the potential to increase the country's GDP by 1 to 1.5 percent. The World Economic Forum has said in a report that at least five lakh jobs will be added in this sector in the next few years.

Artificial intelligence (AI), agricultural, military and civil technologies are truly revolutionizing the remote areas of the country, which has the power to truly transform the lives of a billion people. India's fourth industrial revolution is taking place in collaboration with the Adani Group. Drones are at the center of



such a revolution. They can become the basis for the transformation of the economy, the report said.

India's agriculture sector is vital to the economy. Agriculture is the means of livelihood of 8% of the households in the country. Agriculture provides food security to 1.3 billion citizens living in the world's second most populous country. In fact, Indian agriculture is not only important for the domestic market, but is also an important component of the global food supply chain.

India exported \$29,815 million worth of agricultural and allied products in 2020-21, the World

Economic Forum said.

However, the agricultural sector has reached a critical point. Where nutrition security, self-sufficiency, environmental issues, climate change and sharp inflation have increased the challenge of food security. Other challenges include fragmented land facing the agricultural sector, inefficient use of agricultural inputs, poor availability of credit and financial inclusion, lack of market access and poor post-harvest infrastructure. A combination of infrastructure and access challenges has prevented Indian agriculture from achieving its full potential, the report said.

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Indian container trade sees drop in 3rd quarter



ATM News Network : India's largest public handler, saw volumes drop sequentially over the July-September quarter. The port handled 481,595 TEUs last month, decreasing from 497,568 TEUs in August and 503,442 TEUs in July, according to data.

Further, the number of container ship visits to Nhava Sheva in September shrank to 194 from 203 calls in August. Nhava Sheva has five container-handling facilities, while work on a 2.4 million TEU capacity expansion is underway. The industry representatives expressed that there was a 4% decline in the volume witnessed at ports. Demand was not as high as expected in the first quarter regarding growth, and the same was seen for the most part in the second quarter. Major shipping lines speculate that a peak season may be underway, and it is too soon to declare a trade slowdown.

The ongoing demand slowdown has already prompted major carriers/consortiums serving Indian trades to implement significant

contract/spot rate reductions. The value of Indian merchandise exports in September stood at US\$33.81 billion, down 3.5% year-over-year, according to new government data.

"The slowdown in exports is a reflection of the toughening conditions of the global trade facing demand slowdown on account of high inventories, rising inflation, economies entering a recession, high volatility in currencies and geopolitical tensions," said A Sakhivel, president of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), said in a statement.

Industry observers expect trade volumes to further tighten in the coming months as global economies battle heightened inflationary woes.

Indian ports reported all-time high container volumes in the fiscal year 2021-22 – hitting combined throughput of 19.5 million TEUs out of countrywide major/minor ports, a gain of 13% over the previous year.

Google's online program for agritech startups

ATM News Network : Google India has announced a special one-week bootcamp program for agritech startups. The virtual program being held in November will offer one week of talks and mentorship around technology, design, business, product and growth for select AgriTech startups, said Google India.

Several Google teams, AgriTech industry experts and Google for Startups mentors will be involved in bringing insights to the startups. Google will provide mentorship and support for up to 15 AgriTech solutions that have reached



product-market fit and are aiming to scale.

Google said the bootcamp will focus on funded startups with an India-first approach, that also have the potential to scale globally. Solutions centered on the use of artificial intelligence in the areas of farm productivity, sustainable agriculture and more can apply.

14 million hectares of land to be under organic farming by 2025: Sharma

International Conference of Bioagri Input Producers Association

ATM News Network: Under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Yojana, the central government is planning to bring 14 million hectares of land under organic farming by 2025. This land is approximately 10% of the total arable land. At present, the extent of organic farming is approximately 28 lakh hectares, which is almost 2% of the total agricultural land of the country, asserted Dr Gagnesh Sharma.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the second edition of the Bio-Agri Input Producers Association's International Conference Bio-Agri 2022 which started at Hotel Park Hyatt in Hyderabad.

Sharma said that various initiatives of the central government are underway to popularize organic fertilizers in India, and there are 537



organic fertilizer units across India. Their installed capacity is approximately 3 lakh metric tonnes. The Indian market is worth Rs 1200 crore. To meet the growing demand for organic produce, India's Biotech Consortium has projected the country's need for bio-fertilizers to triple its current installed capacity

by 2025.

At this time former Union Agriculture Secretary Dr SK Malhotra was the chief guest. Many eminent professionals from the industry, SML Limited Chairman Deepak Shah, Pradeep Jaipuria and BIPA office bearers were present at the inauguration ceremony.

NASAKA ready for crushing season of 2022-23 : Chief Minister Shinde

ATM News Network: The opening of cooperative sugar factories is a matter of happiness for farmers and members. With the establishment of sugar factories, a picture of prosperity and transformation is created in the farmers, members and surrounding areas, and sugar factories always stand by the farmers by providing financial support even in difficult times, asserted Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. He said that with the opening of Nashik Cooperative Sugar Factory, Diwali has become sweeter in the real sense for the farmers.

The crushing season for the year 2022-23 of the Nashik Sakhar Karkhana or Nashik Cooperative Sugar Factory (Nasaka) Ltd was inaugurated by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. On this occasion Ports and Mines Minister and Guardian Minister of District Dadaji Bhuse, Revenue Minister Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, State Minister of Uttar Pradesh Tarun Rathi, MP and Factory Chairman Hemant Godse and members, farmers were present in large numbers.

The Chief Minister further said that 98 percent of the total production cost of sugarcane has been given a

fair and economical rate in the state. The area under sugarcane cultivation has increased for this season and the average production of sugarcane is expected to be 95 tonnes per hectare. Also in this season, 203 factories are expected to start production of 138 lakh tonnes. Last year there was a large production of sugar and the state overtook Uttar Pradesh too. There are 60 lakh metric tonnes of sugar reserves in the country, of which 30 lakh metric tonnes of sugar is in Maharashtra. It is estimated that 100 lakh metric tonnes of sugar will be exported from India and Maharashtra is likely to have the largest share of 60 lakh metric tonnes, CM Shinde said. The Nashik Cooperative Sugar Factory, which has been closed for the past nine years, has given relief to the sugarcane farmers of the area by opening it on the auspicious occasion of Diwali. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has tried to revive



the sugar industry by giving in-principle approval to the ethanol project. Revenue Minister Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil said that a study group should be formed in Maharashtra on the lines of the Central Government for cooperative overall development.

A decision has been taken in the interest of the farmers by starting the Nashik Cooperative Sugar Factory. Also, Guardian Minister Dadaji Bhuse said that farmers and employees should get justice by making the crushing season successful.

In the program, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde released the sugarcane production mission booklet.

Demand for Gardening & Agriculture Equipment to increase

ATM News Network : The Persistence Market Research (PMR) has published a novel research report on "gardening and agricultural equipment". The report has been titled, "Gardening & Agriculture Equipment Market: Global Industry Analysis 2013 – 2017 and Opportunity Assessment 2018–2026."

With the advancement of technological landscape the market has developed and generated several opportunities for the equipment manufacturers which consists of tier-1 as well as small players operating in global and regional markets.

In order to retain their positions in the market, the players are entering into collaboration with the core market stakeholders in order to operate manufacturing facilities



efficiently. Innovating the current technology and the optimization of new technology has become the need of the hour for the players in the market for the production of gardening & agriculture equipment.

The players operating in the market are Husqvarna Group, Honda Motor Co., Ltd, AndreasStihl AG & Co. KG, Briggs & Stratton

Corporation and others.

According to the report, the global gardening and agriculture equipment market is projected to exhibit a CAGR of 4.8% from 2018 to 2026. The market is expected to touch US\$ 51,314.6 Mn by the end of 2026 rising from a valuation of US\$ 33,858.2 Mn in 2017

Rising Green Space Initiatives to Boost Demand for Gardening

and Agriculture Equipment

As environmental concerns are growing and diet-related problems are increasing, governments and development partners are extensively promoting school gardening. Gardening has also been added to school curriculums with an aim to promote gardening as an activity.

Urban green spaces are those spaces in the city which are covered by vegetation or other soft and permeable surfaces. The interest in urban and green spaces seems to be rising and many cities are giving trials to innovative ways to introduce urban greenery into the cities. Cities are generating greener spaces to create more calm and environment-friendly places.

Industrial Automation Domain
Plastic Valves Market - Plastic

Valves Market Segmented By Polyvinyl Chloride, Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride, Polypropylene Valve Material with Ball Valves, Butterfly Valves, Check Valves, Gate Valves, Globe Valves Type in Manual Valves, Pneumatic Valves, Electric Valves Actuation: Servo Press Market - Servo Press Market Segmented By Crank, Screw Product in Small, Medium and Large Capacity in Automotive, Aerospace, Electrical and Electronics Industry

Concrete Vibrator Market - Concrete Vibrator Market Segmented By Internal Concrete Vibrators, External Concrete vibrators Product Type in Petrol Concrete Vibrators, Diesel Concrete Vibrators, Electric Concrete Vibrators Fuel Type in Automatic, Semi-automatic Automation
(Source: einnews.com)

AgriBid is an 'AgriTouch' company: Co-Founder Suvarna

Manoj Suvarna says that a year and a half ago Agribid Pvt Ltd was established. "As a startup, we have helped many farmers to sell their produce. Our emphasis is on aggregating the goods produced by the farmers and selling them to the big traders. Farmers have to sell their products through a broker in a small market. Instead, we have set up AgriBid with the aim of selling the same goods to big traders in other states," explained Suvarna. He added, "Agribid has so far sold rice, onions, potatoes, and pulses. Agribid is promoting farmers through Farmer Producer Companies (FPOs). FPOs are being added with us. So far, Agribid has helped set up 300 farmer-producer companies. Farmers bring their products through them and Agribid helps in finding a market and fetching a good price for their produce.

ATM News Network: Indian youngsters are highly motivated to bring change to society by starting their businesses with new concepts and ideas. Agri startups in the country are ahead in this to make farming profitable and by working on the availability of new markets in the country as well as abroad. On the same line, the 'Agribid' was started by a bunch of tech enthusiasts. This startup is getting good responses from farmers. Agribid is becoming an important link in getting good prices for agricultural products by delivering the goods of farmers directly to the market. "That's why the startup is not Agritech company but Agritouch company", said Agribid Pvt Ltd co-founder Manoj Suvarna while having a candid conversation with Agri Trade Media. Agri Trade Media interacted with him to know what Agribid is, what their purpose and their journey are throughout.



About two to two and a half lakh metric tonnes of agricultural

produce has been sold through the Agribid platform and 60 percent of the total was farmers' produce. The company is also collaborating with government agencies. They have recently tied with Tribal Development Corporation in Nashik. "We have sold most of the paddy for them. We are trying to work with other government agencies in the same way. We are also working with independent groups of farmers," said Suvarna. Speaking about the available

markets Suvarna informed ATM, "We are trying to make the products of the farmers available not only in the domestic market but also in foreign markets. For example, we have helped some farmers' groups to enter into cooperative agreements with companies in Dubai. Through this, many farmers are exporting their produce directly. Similarly, we have started our work in ten to twelve states. We will start working in almost all the states in the coming time".

"Our effort will be that the farmers should sell their goods directly to the big traders or buyers. For example, onions are sent across the country from Lasalgaon in the Nashik district. Farmers of Nashik district also go to Lasalgaon to sell onions. But from our platform, the same farmer can directly sell in Kerala, Karnataka or any state. Farmers should register with us, we will bring the best buyers to the farmers. This is what Agribid does", he explained.

Agribid India is a startup company. The Agribid has been honoured with the prestigious Aegis Graham Bell Award-2022 in the field of agricultural technology awarded by the Ministry of Skill Development. It has been honoured with the Best Startup Award. AgriBrid has also been honoured with the Asia-Pacific Stevie Award for Innovative Startup.

Clearzone solution for protection of crops: Patel



ATM News Network: There are many products available in market for protection of crops from animals. As soon as problems arise in front of farmers, new products enter the market claiming to find a solution. This is achieved through various research works. In this, the company Clearzone has created products to prevent the animals from destroying the crops and also for the proper nutrition of the crops. Kaushal Patel, Managing Director of Clearzone Company has claimed that these products are a boon for saving crops from animals and harmless for animals. ATM interacted with Mr Patel. He gave detailed information about the company's various products for farmers' crops. Clear Zone, ingredient manufacturing company operating in sectors of agriculture, hospitals and public health, has made its mark across the country.

The startup has come up as a reliable chemical brand in all three sectors and was established in the year 2016.

Kaushal Patel says that the company ClearZone works in three sectors namely agriculture, hospital and public health sector. In field of public health, the company has created products for citizens that cannot be found anywhere else. About 15 to 18 products out of 40 researched products have been made available in the market. ClearZone was created as a solution to various issues related to chemical manufacturing. Farmers suffer the most from destruction of crops from wild animals like wild boars, porcupine, nilgai and others. These animals are responsible for destroying standing crops. Clearzone has come up with a solution to prevent them from

entering the field and destroying the crops using only spraying method. For the past four years we have researched new products called R&D. This product is new and will definitely be beneficial for the farmers. Mr. Patel's specifications of the company's products are as follows:

REPELLENTO 1092- This product contains no toxins or chemicals. Only the animals like Nilgai and pigs are affected by this drug. After spraying it in the field, it prevents nilgai and pigs from entering the field. It has no adverse effect on goats, sheep, cows, buffaloes or humans & even the crops remain unaffected. It is a natural product. "Many farmers who have seen damage to their standing crops have thanked us saying "You came running like God" after using this product," said

Patel.

Skinexo 1605- We specially formulated this product to control skin diseases affecting animals. Whether it was fungal infections of animal skin or other skin diseases, or the more recent lumpy disease, they claimed to control these diseases.

Farmexo Mineral Mix- Crops do not stand properly after sowing due to lack of proper nutrition or lack of minerals. The seeds face difficulties in forming sprouts from the ground. Plants do not bear fruits and flowers. For this too our company has come up with a solution called Farmexo Mineral Mix. Spraying this product provides crops with 14 types of minerals. The company has claimed that the farmers can see 40 to 50 percent difference in crop growth and that the product is natural and contains no chemicals.

"Drone technology should reach every village": Thakare



ATM News Network : E-Digitalbox Aerospace a drone company based in Nashik has a vision to make the drone technology affordable for farmers. The company mainly deals in manufacturing agriculture and wildlife drones. The company aims to reach grassroot level in drone technology and wants to make available the accessories of drones like two wheeler parts and garages are available in every village, informed CEO and CMD, E-Digitalbox Aerospace.

The company provides training to farmers of ten days, where they can learn flying drones and changing drone parts assembling accessories and small repairs. The company has tie-up with NDMVP and Udyog Vardhini for training farmers. Thakare explained that the labour cost and the time consumed in spraying of the pesticides tremendously high in manual spraying comparing it with the

drone. For one acre the farm labourer takes 180 minutes to spray, while the drone takes only 10 minutes. It also solves the question of labourer availability, controls wastage and assures precise spraying.

"Our vision is to make available the drone technology in every corner and every village in affordable price. We are offering drones in prices less than 30 to 40 percent than the one available in market, with no compromise with the quality of the product. We are creating awareness and taking the government schemes to farmers and agriculture students which are available for drones," informed Thakare.

The drone technology can be beneficial and affordable if the farmers use it cooperatively. If farmers from one village with similar crops come together it will help them in saving time and money at the same time.



Apeda's agricultural products see 25% increase in exports

ATM News Network : Exports of major agricultural and processed products promoted by the Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority have increased to US\$ 13.77 billion that is about Rs. 1,07,942 crore in FY 2022-23 from US\$ 11.06 billion a year ago. Apeda's products have reached a record 25.6 billion USD in FY 2022. There has been an impressive increase of over 100 percent in the export value of wheat, pulses and milled products. While guar gum and poultry products have registered more than 80 percent growth. Apeda's potential will definitely focus on higher value added and processed food products. Special emphasis will be placed on millet-based products, which have more value than raw grains, especially for health-conscious citizens, said Apeda president M Angmuthu. Apeda plans to organise

17 major events abroad to promote nutritious cereals. "We will encourage exporters to source their products directly from farmer producer organisations", Angmuthu added. He also said that Apeda will focus on improving the quality of food items. Apeda is mandated to promote all agricultural products divided into 27 categories except tea, coffee, spices and marine products. Apeda accounts for more than 50 percent of the total exports in agriculture and allied sectors valued at USD 50.21 billion in 2021-22. Although the government has banned wheat exports from May 13, its exports have increased by 136 percent in the first H1 of the current financial year. 1.49 billion US dollars. 0.63 billion in the corresponding period last year. Other cereals, including maize excluding rice, wheat, rose 12 percent to \$525 million from \$467 million.

10450 ht. orchard plantation in Nashik

ATM News Network: Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, 8271 farmers have been given the benefit of fruit orchard cultivation in Nashik Division in 2021-22, fruit orchards have been planted on an area of 9946 hectares. In the year 2022-23, under this scheme, 10450 hectares of cultivation have been planned in the department, informed Mohan Wagh, Joint Director of Agriculture.

To achieve the objective of providing employment and economic income to the farmers from their available fields, the state government has undertaken a large-scale tree plantation program. Under this scheme, 100 percent subsidy is paid to the farmers in 3 years for continuous planting in the field, planting on the embankment, planting on fallow land, and planting orchards and other trees under Rohayo.

Appeal to farmers under a campaign to join IHDM mission

ATM News Network: Integrated Horticulture Development Mission 2022-23 is being implemented by the State Government with the aim of planting fruits, flowers, spices and reviving old orchards. In this, this program is being implemented to revive the old orchards of exotic fruits, flowers, spices and crops such as mango, Sapodilla, orange and sweet lime. For this, a subsidy is provided by the state government. More and more farmers having orchards of Mango, Sapodilla, Orange and Sweet lime who are willing to grow exotic fruits, flowers, spices should apply under Horticulture component on Mahadbt portal mahadbtmahait.gov.in and maximum farmers should avail the

scheme. Also, Mohan Wagh, Divisional Joint Director of Agriculture, has appealed to contact the nearest agriculture office for more information about the scheme.

Documents required to avail the scheme -

1. Interested farmers should apply through the Agriculture Dept. website <https://mahadbtmahait.gov.in/farmer/login> under Horticulture component. 2.7/12 Extract, Form 8-A. 3. Aadhaar Card photocopy 4. Photocopy of bank passbook attached to Aadhaar card 5. Photocopy of Caste (Rev. Caste/Rev. Tribe) Certificate. 6. A recent passport size photograph. 7. Affidavit. 8. Site Inspection Report

Biodegradable pots to help nursery businesses

ATM News Network : A new product developed with help from New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries (#MPI) will offer an alternative to plastic trays and pots used by nurseries and gardeners. The ministry has supported Pinehurst Associates Ltd to develop a proof of concept for biodegradable garden pots, MPI's Director of Investment Programs Steve Penno said in a statement on Monday. "The pots can last 12 months above ground before biodegrading, with the biodegrading process starting as soon as soil is added. They can be planted directly into the ground,



with the pot providing fertilizer for the plant as the pot biodegrades," Penno said.

"Taking commonly used plastic pots out of landfills will also help the environment," he said. MPI contributed more than 41,000 NZ dollars (about 23,100 U.S. dollars) to the project through the Sustainable Food and Fiber Futures fund. This has enabled Pinehurst Associates to refine its research and development, and work through manufacturing issues. The product is currently being tested in three commercial nurseries.

Export associations should unite...

from page 1...
The average age of truck drivers in Europe, including the US, is around fifty. There is a possibility that there will be a shortage of drivers after these drivers retire in the next five to ten years. The problem of a shortage of drivers can also take a serious form.

This time the director of NRCG Dr R. G. Somkuvar gave guidance on the contribution and challenges of the National Grape Research Centre. Scientist Dr D. S. Yadav and plant pathology expert Dr Somnath Holkar gave guidance on Downy, Bhuri, Karpa, pests and disease management in grapes.

Potato, Tomato to see drop of 4-5%

ATM News Network: Potato and tomato production is expected to decline by 4 to 5 percent in the crop year ending July 2022. The Union Ministry of Agriculture has released an estimate that onion production has remained higher than the previous year. Releasing the third advance estimate, the ministry said potato production would decline by five per cent to 53.39 million tonnes in 2021-22. Which was 56.17 million tonnes last year. Similarly, tomato production is estimated to have declined by four percent to 20.33 million tonnes. It was 21.18 million tonnes last year. However, onion production has increased to 31.27 million tonnes in the 2021-22 crop year. It was 26.64 million tonnes last year. Total vegetable production is estimated at 204.84 million tonnes during the period as against 200.45 million tonnes. Fruit production is



estimated to increase to 107.24 million tonnes in the 2021-22 crop year. Last year it was 102.48 million tonnes. Total horticultural crop production is projected to increase by 2.31 percent to 342.33 million tonnes in 2021-22. It was 334.60 million tonnes last year. Production estimates are released by the government at different stages of crop growth and harvest. A total of four estimates are released.

DGCA gives nod for RPTO to Garuda Aerospace

ATM News Network : The Chennai based Garuda Aerospace, one of the leading drone tech company has received a green signal from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Now, it will be considered as a Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO) in India. The RTPO will offer a drone pilot license course at a very low cost to the rural youth. The company will now train the rural youth for flying drone for agriculture use. It has targeted to train one lakh youth across 755 districts. Garuda Aerospace is the only company to receive drone loan by Agriculture Infrastructure Fund for Made in India Kisan Drones. To keep up with the rising demand for agri drones, the company is focusing on development of at least one lakh, low cost Kisan Drones by



Garuda aerospace

the year 2024. The aim of the company is to provide employment to the rural youth in field of agricultural drone technology. The Agri Kisan Drone helps increase food crop productivity, reduce crop loss, and reduce farmer exposure to harmful chemicals while being capable of arranging services like a precision spray of pesticides, fertilisers, crop health monitoring, surveillance, industrial inspection, yield measurement and crop loss mitigation and are fitted with sensors, cameras, sprayers among other features.

Highlighting the development, Agnishwar Jayaprakash, CEO and Founder, Garuda Aerospace said, "With this approval, we are certain that we will be able to utilise our skillset and help the sector grow significantly. We are certain about creating new job opportunities as we begin training, educating and skilling Indian youth for diverse applications." Garuda Aerospace recently commenced its US\$30 million Series A round at US\$250 million valuation and expects to be India's first drone unicorn startup in the near future. Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has invested and is also the Brand Ambassador of the company. Garuda Aerospace boasts of a drone fleet of 400 drones and a well-trained team of over 500 pilots across 26 different cities.

India's leading Agri Exhibition 'Krishithon' in Nashik from November 24

from page 1... **Competitions and Seminars for Awareness** - Various subjects related to agriculture are addressed from the platform of Krishithon. In it, youth participation in agriculture is an inspiring activity. In line with this, this year, Bol Bhidu, i.e. Krishithon Oratory Competition 2022 has been organised. An oratory competition for youngsters to talk about the issues of farmers will be held. For the first time, the candidates will compete online on a social media platform and will spread awareness with their videos.

Krishithon has taken the initiative to create a comprehensive discussion on various issues of farmers. Krishithon is an innovative platform to interact with renowned experts in the field of agriculture and agribusinesses. Following this, a seminar on 'Questions of Farmers, Guidance Experts' has been organised in the Krishithon. Farmers will be guided according to various crops like grape, onion, tomato, pomegranate producers and dairy.

300+ Agri-Business leaders in Krishithon - More than three hundred reputed national and international companies and organisations from the state working in the field of agriculture will participate in this year's

edition of Krishithon. Also, the exhibition will see participation from agricultural input manufacturers, seeds, agricultural implements, tractors, drip and frost irrigation, spraying machine manufacturing companies, banks, insurance companies, agricultural universities, agricultural research centres, agricultural science

centres, various agro-related industries, nurseries, food processing industries as well as agricultural government departments will participate in the exhibition. Krishithon is geared up with various activities. For more information about this exhibition visit the website www.krishithon.com

Krishithon 2022: Questions from farmers, guidance from experts

Thursday 24 November 2022

Morning Session
10 am to 12.30 pm
Inauguration Ceremony

Afternoon Session
1.30 pm to 4.30 pm
Seminar - Clean Milk Production and Animal Health

Friday 25 November 2022

Morning Session
10 am to 12.30 pm
Krishithon Yuva Sanman

Afternoon Session
1.30 pm to 4.30 pm
Crop Seminar : Grape - Guidance from experts

Monday 28 November 2022

Morning Session - 10 am to 2 pm

Saturday 26 November 2022

Morning Session
10 am to 12.30 pm
B2B Summit and Awards

Afternoon Session
1.30 pm to 4.30 pm
Crop Seminar :
Onion - Tomato -
Guidance from Experts

Sunday 27 November 2022

Morning Session
10 am to 12.30 pm
Women in Agriculture Summit

Afternoon Session
2.30 pm to 5.00 pm
Crop Seminar :
Pomegranate -
Guidance from Experts

Youth in Agriculture
Summit & Awards

Use of the herbicide glyphosate restricted by Central Govt

ATM News Network: The central government has banned the use of chemical herbicide glyphosate, which is harmful to human and animal health. The center has released the same notification on 25 October 2022. According to this order, glyphosate can now be used only by pest control operators (PCOs). PCOs are licensed to use hazardous chemicals to control other pests, including rats. Although not explicitly mentioned in the official order, many experts believe that the ban is intended to prevent the rampant spread of glyphosate by farmers. Glyphosate and its formulations are widely registered. It is currently used in more than 160 countries, including the European Union and



the United States. It has been used by farmers worldwide for over 40 years for safe and effective weed control. Glyphosate is used mainly in tea plantations in India. It is used to control weeds. This chemical is also used on non-cropped areas to control unruly growth. These include irrigation canals, railway sidings, waste lands, embankments, farm boundaries, parks, industrial and military areas, airports, power

stations, etc. Trace amounts of glyphosate have also been detected in crops such as gram. Farmers use it to beautify their produce. The use of glyphosate has increased manifold since the illegal cultivation of HT Bt cotton in India. To implement this order, companies will now have to return all certificates of registration for chemical production or sale to the Registration Committee. The order said that if any company fails to return the registration certificates within three months, appropriate action will be taken under the Pesticides Act, 1968. Glyphosate is already banned in some states. The final notification banning glyphosate comes two years after the ministry issued the

Glyphosate is completely safe; Center should reconsider

Limiting the use of glyphosate to pest control operators seems to make no sense. Pest control operators are not in rural areas. Regarding carcinogenicity, we want to reiterate that glyphosate is a very safe compound chemical to use. It has been tested and validated by leading regulatory authorities across the globe including India. Glyphosate and its formulations are also widely registered. Currently it is used in more than 160 countries including the European Union, America, Canada, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Britain, South Africa, Korea, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India etc. We hope the Government of India will reconsider this order. Otherwise ACFI will have no option but to take legal support, said President of Agro Chem Federation of India Parikshit Mundra.

draft on July 2, 2020. The draft was released following a report by the Kerala government to ban the distribution, sale and use of this herbicide. Opposing the decision, Director General of Agro-Chemical Federation of India (ACFI) Kalyan

Goswami said, Glyphosate based formulations are very safe to use. It has been tested and verified by leading regulatory authorities around the world including India. He said that restricting its use by PCO would inconvenience farmers and increase the cost of cultivation.

Indian agrochemical companies flourishing in wave of global recession

ATM News Network: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that the world economy will grow by 6.1% in 2021 post-Covid, with developed countries growing by 5.2% and developing countries by 6.8%. All these pace India leading the global growth with a growth rate of 8.9%.

However, rising inflation, the Russia-Ukraine war and the food crisis are pushing the world to the brink of recession with rapidly rising interest rates. In this background, the stability of the financial market is being threatened. The IMF has predicted that growth in global and some regional economies will slow in 2022. But still, the 8.2% growth forecast for India is maintained. Agriculture is an important sector along with manufacturing, industry and service sectors that contribute to the growth of India's economy.

According to the Economic Survey 2021-2024, agriculture and allied sectors have proven to be the most resilient in recovering from the Covid-19 shock. The agriculture sector has recorded a growth of 3.6 percent in 2020-21 and 3.9 percent in 2021-22. Agrochemicals have contributed to India's economic development directly through industrial expansion and indirectly through advances in agricultural production.

Agrochemical production and exports have increased significantly in recent decades. This trend is expected to continue. Although the pandemic has affected the economy in all walks of life, the Indian agrochemical industry is considered to be one of the industries that have successfully weathered the pandemic. It has

FY2021-22 Rankings	Company	Revenue						Change/E (FY2021-22/ FY2020-21)	CAGR (FY2016-17- FY2021-22)	
		₹ in Cr	US\$ in Mn	₹ in Cr	₹ in Cr	₹ in Cr	₹ in Cr			
1	UPL Ltd.	41,390.00	5,556.08	34,628.00	31,626.00	18,777.00	15,006.00	13,792.00	19.53%	24.58%
2	PI Industries	4,263.70	572.35	3,356.60	2,815.70	2,400.90	1,205.00	1,140.00	19.88%	30.19%
3	Ghanda Group	4,052.00	543.93	3,245.00	2,854.30	3,010.00	2,336.30	1,965.00	24.87%	15.57%
4	Sharda Cropchem	3,003.67	403.20	2,058.46	1,685.40	1,682.20	1,486.10	1,198.80	45.92%	20.17%
5	Tagros Chemicals	2,608.00	350.09	1,990.00	1,732.00	1,299.00	-	-	31.06%	26.15%
6	Coromandel International	2,510.54	337.01	2,083.87	1,685.40	1,802.00	1,506.00	1,398.00	30.47%	12.42%
7	Meghmani Group	2,415.18	324.21	1,581.43	1,430.78	1,037.15	776.76	734.00	52.72%	26.90%
8	Bharat Group	2,321.30	311.60	2,186.00	2,106.00	1,831.90	1,567.80	1,420.00	6.19%	10.33%
9	Indofil Industries	2,294.09	307.95	2,144.94	1,900.60	1,927.10	1,749.00	1,668.30	6.95%	6.58%
10	Crystal Crop Protection	2,234.00	299.89	2,057.00	1,586.90	1,480.00	1,364.90	1,285.60	8.60%	11.69%
11	Krahi Resayan	2,169.28	291.20	2,183.20	1,790.00	1,312.00	1,278.00	1,117.00	-0.64%	14.20%
12	Rallis India	2,083.00	279.62	1,881.00	1,719.00	1,481.00	1,334.00	1,230.20	10.76%	11.11%
13	Wilford Chemicals	1,887.33	253.35	1,534.65	1,286.30	1,170.60	1,124.10	1,090.6	22.98%	11.59%
14	SML Group	1,753.00	235.32	1,651.00	1,450.00	1,400.00	1,200.00	800.00	6.18%	16.99%
15	NACL Industries	1,640.16	220.17	1,191.37	1,014.90	865.50	884.20	849.70	37.67%	14.06%
16	Best Agrolife	1,512.00	202.97	1,405.43	1,152.00	828.00	746.00	-	7.58%	19.32%
17	Insecticides India	1,503.96	201.89	1,420.23	1,363.20	1,193.50	1,106.40	1,076.20	5.90%	6.92%
18	Dhanuka Agritech	1,477.78	198.37	1,387.47	1,120.07	1,005.80	962.60	873.20	6.51%	11.10%
19	Heramba Industries	1,450.37	194.69	1,218.65	965.00	1,000.00	740.00	625.00	19.01%	18.34%
20	GSP Crop Science	1,284.56	172.44	1,132.89	912.90	820.00	820.00	810.00	13.39%	9.66%

overcome supply chain issues, changing demand patterns and economic crises. The Indian agrochemical industry is valued at US\$ 4.1 billion. It is expected to grow at a rate of 8.3% to reach USD 8.1 billion by 2025.

The companies on the list this year 2021-22 are

the same as compared to last year except for the change in their rankings. The minimum turnover of listed companies is Rs 1284.56 crores. Which is Rs 239.5 crore additional than the financial year 2020-21. UPL, the world's fifth-largest agrochemical company,

topped the list with sales of Rs 41,390 crore, showing a growth rate of nearly 20%.

There are 11 companies with sales above Rs 2,000 crore and eight companies with sales between Rs 1,000 crore-2,000 crore. The total revenue of the pesticide business of the top 20 companies increased by 18.88% in the financial year 2021-22 compared to the previous year. This increase is 5.5% higher than the growth rate of 13.45% in FY 2020-21-2019-20. The growth rate of these companies has increased.

From the point of view of individual companies, 19 other companies with similar sales, excluding agrochemicals, have experienced varying degrees of financial prosperity. Among them, 12 companies have achieved double-digit growth and seven companies have achieved single-digit growth. In particular, Sarada Cropchem, Tagros Chemicals, Meghmani Group and NACL Industries have welcomed over 30% growth.

Indian companies have accelerated the pace of bringing new products to the market in the last two years. Which has already contributed to their revenue. Companies have mentioned this in their annual reports for 2021-22.

An analysis of the performance of these companies during the financial year 2021-22 shows that the main factors contributing to the remarkable growth of these companies are the continued expansion of overseas markets, increase in export and domestic market share, increase in production capacity of existing factories and construction of new factories as well as the continuous introduction of new products.

Sugarcane crushing season to be prolonged?

ATM News Network : The current talks about the prolonged rains are making the sugarcane farmers a bit worried. The extended stay of the monsoon is likely to postpone the 2022-23 crushing season in the state by at least a fortnight. After last year, the state has again recorded record production of sugar. A delay in the fall season is likely to have political and administrative implications. The news of such content has been published by Economics Times.

According to Economic Times report, we were supposed to start sugarcane crushing from October 1. However, the government gave permission to start filtration from October 15. It is difficult to start sieving now as it is not possible to harvest in waterlogged fields.

"If the area under sugarcane is the same, we may face the same situation as last year", said Sanjay



Khatal, Managing Director, Maharashtra State Cooperative Sugar Factory Federation. Kolhapur businessman Ghorpade said that if there is no more rain, it is expected that the factories will start working from the first week of November. Prolonged rains are good for increasing sugarcane yield per acre.

Detection of roundworm with satellite imagery; Unveiling Syngenta's Business Digital Tool

ATM News Network: Harmful roundworm insects that feed on plant roots can cause major damage to crops. Syngenta, the world's leading crop protection company, has taken the initiative to control these parasites in view of the loss of billions of dollars.

Syngenta is launching the world's first commercial digital tool to diagnose infestations of plant parasitic roundworms in soybean crops by analysing images taken from satellites. This is a major breakthrough in the management of this destructive pest. Syngenta is focused on delivering an expanding portfolio of digital and precision agriculture solutions to farmers worldwide.

Roundworms that live on plants are microscopic parasites that live in the soil. They feed on the roots of plants. Further fungal infections open up. This poses a threat to crop health, crop quality and yield.



These harmful parasites cause about USD 150 billion in crop losses globally every year.

The new digital tool uses a unique algorithm to analyse field images obtained by satellites. Through this, areas of high incidence of roundworms in crops can be identified. The potential damage caused by this microscopic parasite can be estimated. By using this tool, farmers can quickly modify their farm management practices. They

will help to prevent damage to the produce. Also sustainable improvement of the farm can be brought about by reducing the use of inputs. Syngenta will first offer this service to soybean farmers in Brazil. Brazil accounts for approximately 35 percent of global soybean production. In

Brazil, plant-parasitic roundworms cost soybean production more than \$5.4 billion annually. According to one estimate, Brazilian farmers lose up to 30 percent of their crops in highly infested areas.

Harmful roundworms that destroy crops are a major threat to farmers and food security. Syngenta is using sophisticated digital solutions to combat these pests, said Jeff Roe, president of Syngenta Crop Protection.

MSP approved for all Rabi Crops for marketing Season 2023-24

ATM News Network: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24.

Government has increased the MSP of Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24, to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The absolute highest increase in MSP has been approved for lentil (Masur) at Rs.500 per quintal followed by rapeseed and mustard at Rs.400 per quintal. For safflower, an increase of Rs.209 per quintal has been approved. For wheat, gram and barley an increase of Rs.110 per quintal, Rs.100 per quintal respectively has been approved.

Refers to cost which includes all paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour or machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigations charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel or electricity for operation of pump sets and other expenses and imputed value of family labour.

The increase in MSP for Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24 is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the All-India weighted average Cost of Production, aiming at reasonably fair remuneration for the farmers. The maximum rate of return is 104

percent for rapeseed & mustard, followed by 100 percent for wheat, 85 per cent for lentil; 66 per cent for gram; 60 per cent for barley; and 50 per cent for safflower.

From the year 2014-15, there has been a renewed focus on increasing the production of oilseeds and pulses. Efforts have yielded good results. Oilseeds production has increased from 27.51 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 37.70 million tonnes in 2021-22 (4th advance estimates). Pulses production has shown similar increasing trend. The Seed Minikits programme is a major tool for introducing new varieties of seeds in the farmers' fields & is instrumental for increasing seed replacement rate. The productivity of pulses and oilseeds have increased substantially since 2014-15. In

case of pulses productivity has been increased from 728 kg/ha (2014-15) to 892 kg/ha (4th Advance estimates, 2021-22) i.e. 22.53% increase. Similarly, in oilseed crops productivity has been increased from 1075 kg/ha (2014-15) to 1292 kg/ha (4th Advance estimates, 2021-22). The Government's priority is on increasing production of oilseeds and pulses and thus fulfilling the objective of Atmanirbhar Bharat. The formulated strategies are to increase production through area expansion, productivity through High Yielding Varieties (HYVs), MSP support and procurement. Government is also promoting adoption of smart farming methods through the use of technology and innovation in the agriculture sector in the country. Government is implementing a

Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM), which includes India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA), Farmers Database, Unified Farmers Service Interface (UFSI), and Funding to the States on the new Technology (NeGPA), Revamping Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Soil health, Fertility and profile mapping. Under the NeGPA programme, funding is given to State Govt. for Digital Agriculture projects using emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML), Internet of Things (IOT), Block chain etc. Adoption of drone technologies is being done. To promote smart farming, the Government also promotes Startups in the Agriculture sector and nurtures agri-entrepreneurs.

NPHTI to provide free Polyhouse farming training

While giving information about the organisation, Dr Patil said that the work of this organisation started rapidly after 2002. A horticulture training center was established in Maharashtra with the technical and financial support of the Practical Governance Centre of the Netherlands Government and the Dutch Development Bank.

He said that till date, more than 40 thousand citizens of not only the state, but the country and 10 other countries have received training in polyhouse shednet through this organisation in polyhouse or shednet training. A farmer who wants to undergo polyhouse or shednet training, needs a certificate from the National Institute of Post-Harvest Technology. Although this is a part of our work, our core job is

ATM News Network: Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board has been set up by the state government. The Agriculture Marketing Board has been given a developmental program in terms of development in the management of sale of agricultural commodities, development of infrastructure projects as well as training and high-tech agriculture. Under this, the Agricultural Marketing Board established the National Post Harvest Technology Institute in the year 1998. The director of National Post Harvest Technology Institute Bhaskar Patil said that the farmers of India have got an opportunity to learn information about polyhouse farming through this organisation.



to understand post-harvest technology. For this, a project called Magnet is currently running in the state through MSAMB.

At the same time, the central government has given approximately Rs.12.50 crores for Centra Government of Floriculture i.e. training center for flower cultivation. Out of this, 10 crore rupees have been given by the

central government and 2.5 crore rupees by the institute. Training in flower farming will now start through this. It is planned to provide training to 5 thousand farmers of the state under this. This training will be free. Farmers who want to work in polyhouses or floriculture should register their names with Taluka Agriculture Officer or District Agriculture Superintendent. Free

training will be given to registered farmers.

The projects of precooling, storage, cooling vans are being done under various projects in the state. Under this, the work of scrutinizing the farmers is done at the National Institute of Post-harvest Technology. Accommodation for 260 farmers, 8 classrooms, 10 polyhouses, meals are provided. At

this place, farmers can see projects such as bamboo development center, floriculture, tissue culture, aeroponics, hydroponics and others.

A five-day training camp on farming technology, post-harvest technology and export techniques is organized at the Institute of Post-Sugi Technology. It includes floriculture. In future, the training course will be conducted by the joint faculty of the National Institute of Horticulture and the Institute of Postharvest Technology.

Five thousand rupees will be given by the National Horticulture Institute. The remaining amount has to be paid to the farmers. The plan will be announced after approval.

India-Botswana to promote cultivation of nutri-cereals

ATM News Network: The visiting Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation of Botswana, Dr Lemogang Kwape held a meeting with the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar in New Delhi today to discuss the issues of cooperation between the two countries in the Agriculture and Allied sectors.

In the meeting, both the Ministers expressed satisfaction at the friendly and close bilateral relations between the two countries. Tomar said that overseas Indians are making a significant contribution to the economy of Botswana. He spoke about the possibility of further enhancing bilateral trade to increase the benefits of farmers-producers of both the countries. Both the ministers emphasized on promoting the cultivation of nutri-cereals on a large scale in view of their nutritious value and significance. Tomar informed that



India is gearing up to celebrate the International Year of Millets on a global scale.

Both sides also discussed the issues of market access for their agricultural products and assured each other of resolving the issues at the earliest. Since the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two Governments in January, 2010 on Cooperation in Agriculture and Allied Sectors has expired, the two Ministers agreed upon the early revival of the MoU. Dr Kwape thanked Tomar for the warm welcome and hospitality and invited him to visit Botswana.

Genetically modified mustard gets clearance from Central Govt

ATM News Network: India has given environmental clearance to indigenously developed genetically modified GM mustard seeds. This has paved the way for the commercial use of mustard.

India is the world's largest importer of edible oil, spending billions of dollars a year on it. India imports more than 70% of its edible oil from Argentina, Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia, Russia and Ukraine.

"I can call it a historical development," says Deepak Pental, a geneticist and former vice-chancellor of Delhi University. A team led by him has developed GM mustard seeds after more than a decade of efforts. However, commercial use of GM mustard seeds will take some years, he said. The government has confirmed in a statement that it has received the highest level of approval for the GM mustard crop known as



rapeseed.

After years of field trials and analysis of crop data, in 2017 Deepak Pental's team came close to getting government approval for GM mustard seeds for commercial use. But it could not be approved due to opposition from activists who opposed the use of transgenic technology in agriculture.

Since coming to power in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly urged farmers to boost

domestic oilseed production to become self-reliant. Prime Minister Modi was at the forefront of efforts to adopt GM cotton seeds when he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat.

This decision led to a fourfold increase in production, making India the world's number one cotton producer and second largest exporter. India has not approved any transgenic crop since the cultivation of genetically modified GM cotton was allowed in 2002.

Biostimulant industry gets boost as demand grows for organic products

ATM News Network: Increasing demand for biological products globally is having a positive impact on the biostimulants industry. Global population growth and increasing public awareness about harmful chemicals used in plant growth are driving market growth. As people become more health conscious, people are shifting away from artificial ingredients to organic products.

Various problems related to soil erosion and contamination are affecting the agricultural sector in various countries. Some countries have implemented regulations for chemical use in agriculture. Adverse climate change, food and hunger issues, overexploitation of resources and many other issues are affecting food production capacity. It is estimated that by 2028, the biostimulant market could grow to over US\$ 6.5 billion. Trends have started for growth of this industry.

Soil treatment is essential to promote agriculture

Soil contamination is a prevalent problem in many countries. Due to the limited availability of land,



tillage is very important. Companies are working towards making efficient biostimulants, which can help treat the soil. As this reduces the need for fertilizers for crops, they can be used for growing organic crops.

Increased yield of crops due to biostimulants

Studies have shown that the appropriate use of biostimulants can increase crop yield, crop performance and abiotic stress

tolerance. A detailed study has been carried out by Tradecorp International, the University of Milan and the Italian agricultural research centre Agricola. Delphian Plus and Filgreen are the company's biostimulants that help prevent heat stress in plants in the short term. They help increase antioxidant levels in plants and reduce cellular damage. It improves the crop's tolerance to abiotic stress. It also increases crop production.

India-Israel collaborate to develop agriculture sector in Sri Lanka

ATM News Network: Industry parties in India and Israel are planning to invest jointly in the development of the agriculture sector in Sri Lanka.

The Agriculture Ministry has initiated this move to establish the centres of excellence in Agriculture in Sri Lanka in collaboration with Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation.

According to the reports in the Daily mirror, Israel will provide technical assistance, while India has agreed to provide financial support to Sri Lanka.

The Agricultural Ministry has identified five locations including Horana, Seetha-Eliya, Mahailluppallama, Angunukolapelessa and Gannoruwa.

The places will be developed for cultivation of fruits, potato, non-rice cereals, legumes and oil crops. There is also a proposal for establishing a horticulture research and development institute. Sri Lanka High Commissioner Milinda Moragoda and Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay have liaised with each other regarding the pilot project.

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