

CEASI

14th July 2025

CEASI

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE FOR
AGRICULTURE SKILLS IN INDIA



ABOUT CEASI

Who We Are:

“Centre of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India (CEASI)” is an autonomous organization working under the aegis of “Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)”, which is working under Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) for skilling and capacity building of farmers, wage workers, self-employed professionals, extension workers etc. engaged in organized and unorganized segments of Agriculture & Allied sectors.

CEASI is an apex organization of Centres of Excellence in various sub-sectors of agriculture viz.

- Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India (CEDSI)
- Centre of Excellence for Horticulture Skills in India (CEHSI)
- Centre of Excellence for Farm Mechanization Skills in India (CEFMI)
- Centre of Excellence for Climate Resilient Agriculture (CoECRA)
- Centre of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture (CoE-AI)

What We Do:

Skilling & Capacity Building:

Building capacity based on stakeholder needs in agriculture and allied sectors.

Knowledge Management:

Developing QPs, NOS, skill gap reports, and newsletters to support workforce standards.

Research:

Conducting industry research to identify needs and bridge skill gaps as per industry demands.

Advocacy & Advisory Services:

Creating networks to share innovations and address sectoral challenges.

Our Vision

An autonomous institution of excellence committed to developing a highly skilled workforce in agriculture, driving innovation, technological advancement, and sustainable practices to enhance the prosperity and resilience of Indian agriculture.

Our Mission

To emerge as the leading organization for skill development in cutting-edge agricultural practices, both nationally and globally, fostering holistic sector growth through sustainability, profitability, capacity building, knowledge dissemination, policy advocacy, and innovative research.

CEASI's Impact:

CEASI is driving transformative change in Indian agriculture by empowering individuals, enhancing skills, and uplifting communities across the country.

- ▶ 15+ States
- ▶ 15 FPOs Trained & Supported
- ▶ 20,000 Agri / Dairy Professionals Upskilled
- ▶ 5000+ Entrepreneurs Skilled
- ▶ 3000+ Women Empowered
- ▶ 30,000+ Lives Impacted

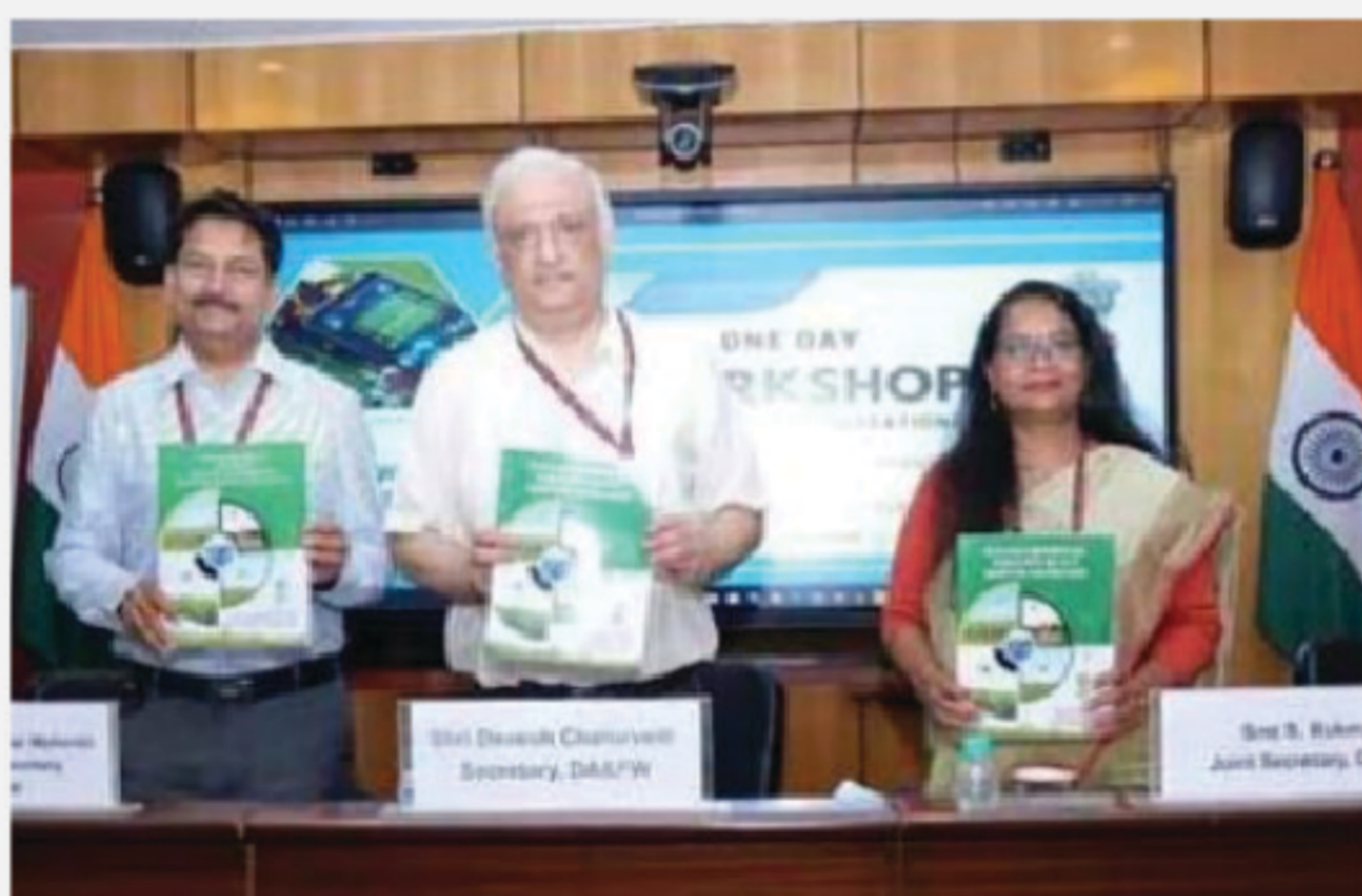
BIHAR EXPANDS ACCESS TO FARM MACHINERY WITH 267 NEW CHCS



Bihar is set to establish 267 new Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) this financial year to provide small and marginal farmers with access to modern agricultural machinery on hire. Each new CHC will be set up in a different panchayat, bringing the state closer to its goal of covering all 8,093 panchayats. With 950 centres already functional, this expansion aims to make farm mechanisation more inclusive and efficient, especially for those with limited resources. At least one key machine, such as a tiller, seeder, transplanter, harvester, or thresher, will be available at each CHC.

Each centre involves an investment of up to ₹10 lakh, with substantial subsidies provided to reduce costs. Tractors with 35 BHP or more are eligible for a subsidy of ₹1.6 lakh, while a 40% subsidy—up to ₹4 lakh—is available for other equipment. The initiative welcomes participation from progressive farmers, SHGs, Jeevika groups, crop cluster federations, FPOs, and PACS, ensuring a wide range of rural stakeholders benefit from improved access to farm tools.

DIGITAL PLATFORMS TO BOOST FARM MECHANISATION, ENSURE FAIR ACCESS: AGRICULTURE SECRETARY



Digital systems like the upgraded Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Platform 2.0 and the NaMo Drone Didi Portal are transforming agricultural mechanisation in India, said Agriculture Secretary Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi at a national workshop held in New Delhi. Organised by the Ministry of Agriculture's Mechanization & Technology Division, the event showcased how these platforms enhance transparency, improve efficiency, and resolve long-standing issues in subsidy delivery for farm machinery. Crop-specific SOPs for drone-based application of nutrients were also launched, aiming to

standardise and scientifically guide drone use in agriculture.

The NaMo Drone Didi Yojana, a key highlight, empowers women from Self-Help Groups to operate drones for tasks like spraying fertilizers and pesticides. The new Drone Portal enables states to track operations, manage certifications, and support users through a central dashboard. Live demos and open discussions allowed state officers to share practical feedback and strategies. These digital tools are expected to simplify access to subsidies, promote fair trade, and make farm mechanisation more inclusive for small and marginal farmers.

GOOGLE LAUNCHES AI TOOLS TO BOOST SMART FARMING AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE



Google has unveiled a suite of AI innovations to advance data-driven agriculture in India, including the launch of the Agricultural Monitoring and Event Detection (AMED) API. The tool offers real-time insights into crops and field activity across India, helping stakeholders develop precision farming solutions that improve productivity and climate resilience. Built on the foundation of Google's Agricultural Landscape Understanding (ALU) platform, AMED aims to shift agricultural decision-making from broad analysis to granular, actionable data.

In collaboration with IIT-Kharagpur, Google DeepMind is also creating localized datasets under the Amplify Initiative to enhance AI's cultural and linguistic sensitivity. These efforts aim to strengthen the relevance of AI tools for India's diverse farming communities. "We are transforming foundational AI into practical solutions for real-world challenges," said Dr. Manish Gupta of Google DeepMind. The integration of AI in agriculture is expected to support smarter farm mechanisation, optimise input use, and improve risk management especially critical in the face of rising climate variability.

AGRITECH HUB IN MEERUT TO DRIVE SMART FARMING AND RURAL INNOVATION



A new AgriTech Innovation Hub and Startup Showcase was inaugurated at SVPUAT, Meerut, by Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Jayant Chaudhary, marking a major step in advancing precision farming and rural innovation. Supported by IIT Ropar, the hub integrates IoT-enabled sensors, smart irrigation, automation, and real-time analytics to promote sustainable and data-driven agriculture. Designed to serve as a collaborative platform, it brings together farmers, researchers, startups, and agri-tech experts to co-create scalable, region-specific

solutions for North India.

The initiative includes training through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), hands-on workshops, and a model smart farm. The event also featured an MoU between IIT Ropar and SVPUAT and showcased 20 agritech startups. The hub will empower smallholder farmers with modern tools and knowledge, while also engaging rural youth in agri-entrepreneurship. With IIT Ropar contributing ₹75 lakh in infrastructure and expertise in IoT, AI, and Cyber-Physical Systems, this hub is expected to redefine the agricultural landscape through smart mechanisation and inclusive innovation.

ANDHRA PRADESH EMERGES AS MAJOR HORTICULTURE HUB WITH IMPRESSIVE GROWTH



Andhra Pradesh has recorded remarkable growth in the horticulture sector, with production touching 275.13 lakh metric tonnes and cultivation spread across 15.98 lakh hectares. The state is rapidly transforming into one of India's major horticultural hubs, cultivating a wide range of crops such as chilli, cocoa, lime, oil palm, papaya, tomato, cashew, mango, banana, and sweet oranges across diverse agro-climatic zones.

At the 6th Convocation of Dr. YSR Horticultural University held in Atkur, Krishna district, it was highlighted that India is becoming a key player

in global food supply, with food grain production reaching 354 million tonnes in 2024-25 — a 6.5% increase over the previous year. Record harvests of wheat, rice, and maize underscore the rapid advancements in agricultural practices. The convocation also celebrated academic excellence among students, with medals and awards presented in recognition of their achievements. The event included presentations of the university's annual progress and contributions.

KOLAR'S HISTORIC JACKFRUIT ORCHARD BLOSSOMS INTO INNOVATION HUB



Karnataka's first Jackfruit Progeny Orchard, located within the Horticulture College campus at Tamaka village near Kolar, is evolving into a thriving hub of innovation and biodiversity. Just 10 km from Kolar city, this unique orchard showcases rows of mature jackfruit trees that not only define the landscape but also represent years of dedicated cultivation and conservation efforts in the region.

More than just an academic space, the orchard has become a living laboratory for research, learning, and value addition in jackfruit cultivation. With its rich genetic diversity and

consistent focus on innovation, the orchard is contributing to the promotion of jackfruit as a commercially viable and nutritionally rich fruit. It stands as a symbol of Karnataka's commitment to preserving indigenous horticultural heritage while aligning with modern agricultural practices, making it a model for similar initiatives across the country.

MEGHALAYA'S ORGANIC PINEAPPLES MAKE GLOBAL DEBUT WITH DUBAI EXPORT



Meghalaya has achieved a major milestone in agricultural exports with the shipment of 2 metric tonnes of premium organic pineapples to Dubai. Sourced from farmers of the Jirang Organics Farmer Producer Company in Ri-Bhoi district, the consignment marks the state's growing presence in the global horticultural value chain. This initiative is part of the IFAD-supported Megha-LAMP programme, promoting organic farming and sustainable agri-business practices.

The export event also coincided with a major entrepreneurship push, where financial support

was extended to local entrepreneurs under various government schemes. Beneficiaries included individuals from sectors such as farming, bakery, printing, cafes, and homestays—reflecting the state's commitment to inclusive economic development. The move showcases Meghalaya's rising potential as an organic produce hub, backed by its favourable agro-climatic conditions and focus on innovation. In parallel, the state also announced new infrastructure developments and institutional expansions, further cementing its role as an emerging player in national and international horticultural markets.

ODISHA LAUNCHES AWARENESS DRIVE TO BOOST URBAN HOME AND ROOFTOP GARDENING



Odisha has initiated a state-wide awareness campaign to promote rooftop and home gardening in urban areas under the State Plan Scheme - Innovative Projects for Promotion of Urban Horticulture. The campaign is being implemented by the Central Horticultural Experiment Station (ICAR-IIHR), Bhubaneswar, with a dedicated campaign vehicle launched to cover five major cities: Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Sambalpur, Berhampur, and Jeypore.

The campaign aims to educate citizens on the importance of increasing green spaces amid rapid urbanisation, which is causing the loss of

greenery and contributing to urban heat island effects. Equipped with audio-visual materials in Odia and English, the vehicle will engage with residential communities, institutions, and resident welfare associations through demonstrations, pamphlet distribution, and expert interactions. The initiative promotes urban and peri-urban horticulture for aesthetic value, better nutrition, and a healthier environment, encouraging active citizen participation to build greener, more sustainable cities across Odisha.

GOA PROMOTES FRIESWAL CATTLE TO STRENGTHEN DAIRY SECTOR



The Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AHVS), Goa, is promoting the Frieswal cattle breed to strengthen the state's dairy sector. Currently, the cattle breeding farm at Copardem, Sattari, houses around 90 Frieswal cattle. These crossbred animals—5/8 Holstein Friesian and 3/8 Sahiwal—were developed by ICAR-CIRC, Meerut, and the Defence Ministry in 1987. Known for producing up to 4,000 kg of milk with 4% fat over a 300-day lactation, Frieswal cattle combine high milk yield with adaptability to tropical conditions.

The Sahiwal genes offer heat tolerance and disease resistance, while the Holstein Friesian contributes to high productivity, making the breed suitable for Goa's climate. AHVS Director Veena Kumar expressed intent to collaborate with ICAR to expand production and distribution statewide. At a recent interface meeting, ICAR Goa brought together stakeholders to discuss strategies for wider dissemination of Frieswal germplasm. ICAR Goa Director Parveen Kumar emphasized coordinated efforts to ensure sustainable growth in the state's livestock sector.

VIRTUAL AWARENESS DRIVE ENGAGES OVER 1 LAKH LIVESTOCK FARMERS ACROSS WESTERN AND SOUTHERN INDIA



The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) conducted a Virtual Awareness Program for livestock farmers across Western and Southern States/UTs via Common Service Centres (CSCs) on 11th July 2025. The initiative aimed to educate farmers on key topics such as breed improvement, timely vaccination, zoonotic disease control, and hygiene practices.

Held at over 2,000 CSC locations across Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Goa, Puducherry, Daman & Diu, and Dadra &

Nagar Haveli, the program reached more than 1 lakh livestock farmers.

The sessions featured expert talks and educational videos on the use of Sex-Sorted Semen (SSS) technology and vaccination. Officials highlighted the benefits of disease prevention and productivity through modern livestock practices.

This digital initiative reinforces DAHD's commitment to leveraging technology for farmer outreach, promoting the "lab to land" approach, and strengthening India's livestock and dairy ecosystem through informed, tech-enabled farmer participation.

JAMMU REVIEWS ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PROJECTS WITH FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY AND DIGITAL GOVERNANCE



Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar, chaired a detailed review meeting at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Talab Tillo, Jammu, to assess progress under major Animal Husbandry schemes in the division.

The meeting involved officials from all districts, including Directors, Joint Directors, and Chief Animal Husbandry Officers, and reviewed key schemes like CAPEX, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), and NABARD-funded projects.

Key focus areas included progress under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission, National Livestock Mission, National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP), and Artificial Insemination Programme. A district-wise update was presented on FMD vaccinations, dairy and poultry development, and cold-chain infrastructure.

The department's shift to digital governance through the Kisan Saathi portal and Output Tracking App was highlighted as a major step toward transparency.

Officials were urged to promote dairy cooperatives, enhance value addition, strengthen

UP ADVANCES INDIGENOUS LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT THROUGH NATIONAL WORKSHOP



Uttar Pradesh hosted a national workshop on "Development of Animal Breeds in India" at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, Lucknow, highlighting the state's commitment to livestock development and indigenous breed conservation. The event marked the launch of key animal husbandry initiatives, including infrastructure projects in Amethi, Bareilly, and Mathura under the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund, and the inauguration of an Artificial Insemination Training Institute in Gorakhpur.

The workshop emphasized the critical role of livestock in strengthening rural livelihoods, with a focus on breed improvement and scientific breeding methods. Uttar Pradesh, leading in national milk production, is also promoting the health of its livestock through the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Free Livestock Campaign.

The state is actively working to preserve native cattle breeds and enhance dairy productivity. Women-led milk cooperatives in regions such as Jhansi, Gorakhpur, and Kashi are driving economic empowerment and breed quality enhancement. Welfare schemes such as cow shelters, ownership support, and nutritional aid programs are also contributing to rural development.

ODISHA HONoured AS BEST STATE IN AGRICULTURE AT NATIONAL CONCLAVE



Odisha has been awarded the Best State in Agriculture at the 16th Agriculture Leadership Conclave, organized by Agriculture Today Group in New Delhi on July 9. The recognition highlights the state's consistent efforts in agricultural development and farmer empowerment.

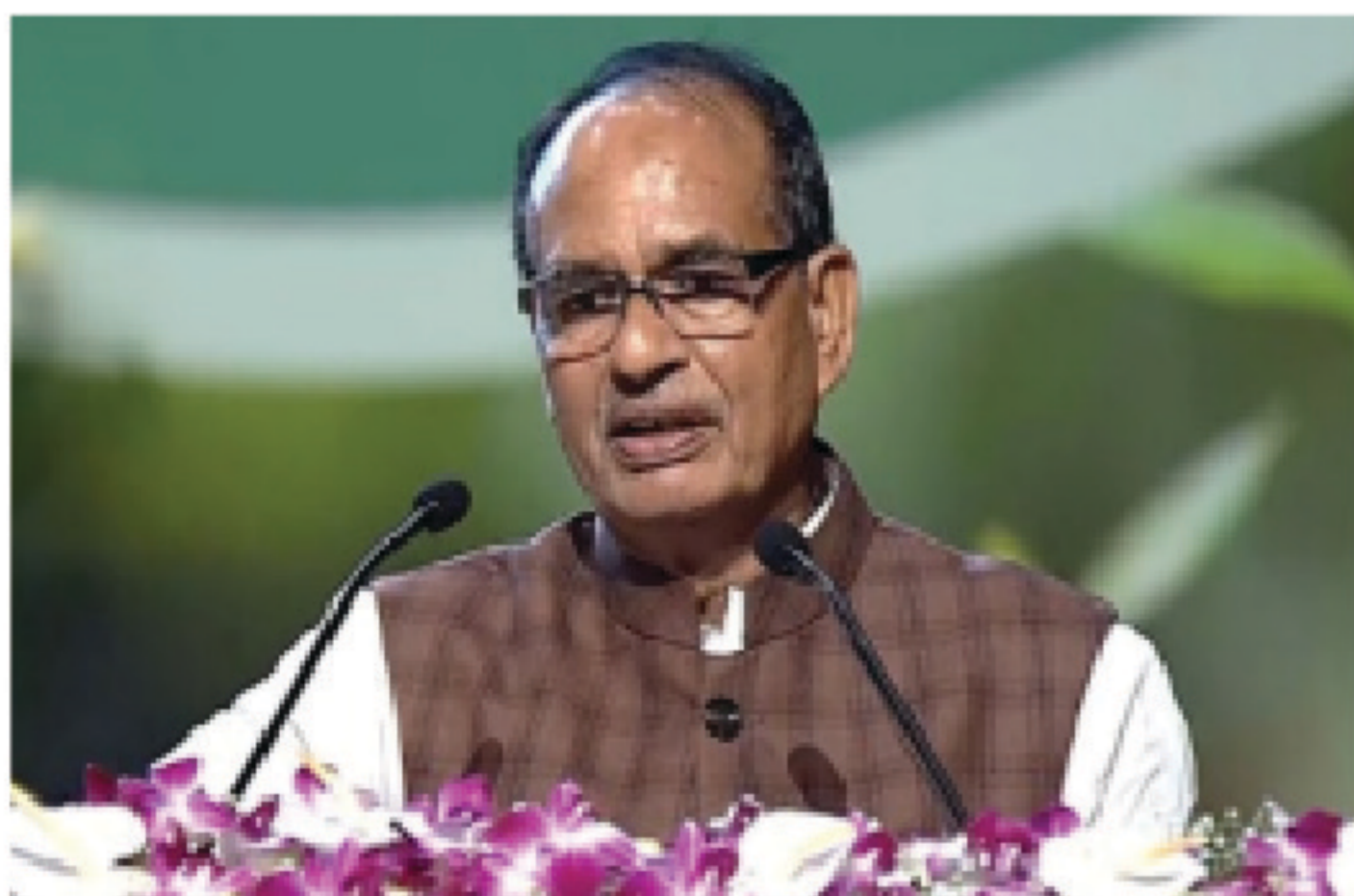
The award was received by Deputy Chief Minister and Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment Minister, Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, on behalf of the Odisha government. Upon his return to the state, the award was formally presented to Governor Ganeshi Lal

during a brief ceremony. Principal Secretary of the Agriculture Department, Aravind Kumar Padhee, was also present.

This accolade is expected to further boost motivation among the farming community and stakeholders involved in Odisha's agricultural ecosystem. Governor Ganeshi Lal acknowledged the dedication of farmers and officials alike, emphasizing the vital role of the farming community in driving the state's progress.

The award reinforces Odisha's position as a leader in sustainable agricultural practices and rural development.

STATE-SPECIFIC AND CROP-WISE ACTION PLANS TO DRIVE AGRICULTURAL REFORMS



In a major push for agricultural transformation, crop-wise and state-specific action plans will be formulated to address diverse agro-climatic needs across India. A series of focused meetings on key crops has commenced, with recent deliberations on soybean and upcoming sessions planned for cotton and sugarcane. The initiative aims to make missions like the Cotton Mission more result-oriented, backed by on-ground insights and localised strategies.

During the 96th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), officials reviewed achievements, adopted

financial reports, and released new publications. The meeting underscored the need for stronger Centre-State collaboration, emphasising demand-driven research tailored to real farmer needs. Proposals such as establishing "Crop Medicine Centres" on the lines of Jan Aushadhi Kendras were also discussed. Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to boosting food grain production and aligning schemes with grassroots realities, ensuring that agricultural policies are both impactful and inclusive in addressing the sector's evolving challenges.

INDIA PLANS STATE-WISE STRATEGY TO BOOST OILSEEDS AND PULSES PRODUCTION



India is set to launch state-wise and crop-specific action plans to increase the production of oilseeds and pulses, aiming to reduce import dependence and enhance farmer income. The initiative focuses on strengthening demand-driven research aligned with climatic suitability and regional crop needs. Recent crop-specific meetings, including one on soybean, are part of this broader strategy. Future meetings on cotton, sugarcane, and other key crops are planned to develop targeted solutions for boosting productivity.

In addition, stricter regulations will soon be introduced to prevent the sale of substandard agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilisers, and pesticides. Emphasis is also being placed on modernising farm mechanisation through innovation and technology tailored to farmer needs. States have been urged to assess existing schemes, retain impactful ones, and phase out ineffective programmes. The overall approach reflects a shift toward practical, region-specific agricultural planning supported by better research, improved inputs, and enhanced coordination between the Centre and States.

MAHARASHTRA TO LAUNCH SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEME FOR FARM LABOURERS



The Maharashtra government will soon introduce a new social security scheme for agricultural labourers, aiming to strengthen farmer welfare and reduce farm distress. Minister of State for Agriculture Ashish Jaiswal informed the state assembly that the government's broader goal is to bring farmer suicides down to zero. Over ₹69,000 crore has already been spent on various farmer-focused schemes, including the Namo Shetkari Samman Yojana, Crop Insurance, farm mechanisation programs, and compensation grants. More than ₹56,000 crore has been disbursed under

the Namo Shetkari scheme in the last three years alone.

To enhance agricultural resilience, the government is planning ₹5,000 crore in investments, driven by cost savings from a revamped Re 1 crop insurance scheme. Additional initiatives include a ₹500 crore AI-based pest control policy, faster satellite-based damage assessments, and the construction of 45,000 km of paddy roads. Organic farming, export-oriented crops, and support for damage due to wildlife and natural calamities are also being prioritised under the upcoming agricultural development roadmap.

EMPOWERING SUSTAINABLE SUGARCANE FARMING IN AYODHYA THROUGH SASHWAT MITHAS INITIATIVE

As part of the Sashwat Mithas initiative, the Centers of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India, in collaboration with UPL SAS Limited, are advancing sustainable sugarcane cultivation practices in Ayodhya. This initiative is focused on enhancing farmer capacities in eco-friendly and climate-resilient agricultural methods that boost productivity while protecting natural resources.

A total of 415 farmers have been surveyed so far to assess existing farming practices and uncover areas for improvement. These insights are guiding the development of demonstration plots, which are being set up at the village level to practically exhibit techniques such as efficient water usage, soil health management, and organic input application.

To ensure widespread community participation and knowledge transfer, the team has conducted 46 farmer meetings—44 unorganized and 2 organized—along with 4 field days. These sessions serve as dynamic platforms where farmers can engage with experts, exchange experiences, and observe sustainable techniques in real-time.

Through a blend of field research, interactive sessions, and live demonstrations, the initiative is motivating farmers to adopt environmentally responsible farming practices. The overarching goal is not just to enhance sugarcane yields, but to promote long-term ecological balance and agricultural sustainability in the Ayodhya region.

MODEL PLOT



CONTROL PLOT





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(CEASI), Unit No. 101, First Floor, Greenwoods Plaza, Block 'B' Greenwoods City, Sector-45, Gurugram, Haryana-122009



+91 74287 06078



info@cedsi.in



www.ceasi.in



@ceasi_india