

CEASIS

28th July 2025

CEASI

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE FOR
AGRICULTURE SKILLS IN INDIA



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

ICAR-DWR SIGNS MOU WITH VIDHYASHREE TRADERS FOR TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION



ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research (ICAR-DWR), Jabalpur, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Vidhyashree Traders, Jabalpur, for the licensing and commercialization of an innovative farm tool 'Adjustable Spray Boom Holding Attachment for Multinozzle Knapsack Sprayer.'

The MoU was signed by Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal Scientist & In-charge Director, ICAR-DWR, and Smt. Rasmi Jain, Proprietor, Vidhyashree Traders. The device has been developed to improve spray efficiency by providing uniform

coverage, adjustable height, and reduced operator fatigue. It is expected to support more effective and economical weed management on farms.

The collaboration aims to facilitate wider availability of the technology through local manufacturing and distribution. The signing was witnessed by ICAR-DWR scientists, PME and ITMU cell members, and representatives from Vidhyashree Traders.

This initiative reflects a practical step in connecting agricultural research with on-ground use, offering a simple and useful solution to improve farming practices.

ANDHRA PRADESH LAUNCHES VILLAGE-LEVEL FARM MACHINERY SURVEY



Andhra Pradesh will conduct a state-wide village-level survey to assess the availability and use of agricultural machinery. The survey, scheduled for completion by August 31, will be carried out by agricultural assistants through Rythu Seva Kendras (RSKs), according to Director of Agriculture Dilli Rao.

The initiative aims to build a digital inventory of farm equipment owned by farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS), and private agencies. It will include machinery purchased with or without subsidies and record

details like ownership, condition, and operational status.

The data will be uploaded to the state's Agriculture Information Management System (APAIMS 2.0). This effort is expected to support demand-based budgeting, link data with Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs), and identify underused equipment for better utilization.

The survey also supports initiatives like the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) and PM-KISAN, while helping plan future services such as AI-driven crop advisories, real-time CHC bookings, and expanded drone spraying.

GOA PLANS REVIVAL OF KHAZAN FARMING WITH MECHANISED SUPPORT



The Goa government has announced plans to revive khazan farming by investing in bundh repairs and promoting mechanised agriculture. Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said around ₹48 crore has been spent on restoring bundhs and related infrastructure across khazan lands.

Sawant highlighted that nearly 40 lakh sq m of land is now cultivated using mechanised methods. He credited Fr George Quadros for training local youth, many of whom are now empanelled as service providers for various farming operations.

MLAs raised concerns about bundh maintenance delays, fund disbursement, and subsidy implementation. Aldona MLA Carlos Ferreira stressed the need for proactive soil conservation and faster approvals. Siolim MLA Delilah Lobo urged timely subsidy payments, especially for fencing, while Fatorda MLA Vijai Sardesai suggested linking agriculture with eco-tourism.

The Assembly passed the related grants by voice vote, with several members supporting the new 'Amritkal Agriculture Policy' and calling for its speedy implementation to support farmers and protect Goa's agricultural landscape.

STEPS STRENGTHENED TO ENSURE FERTILISER AND PESTICIDE QUALITY FOR FARMERS



To ensure the quality of fertilizers and pesticides, the government has implemented several monitoring mechanisms. Under the Insecticides Act and Rules, 12,511 inspectors have been deployed by central and state governments to check pesticide quality at manufacturing units and sale points. From 2020-21 to 2024-25, around 3.56 lakh samples were tested, and legal action was taken on 9,088 substandard cases.

Similarly, the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) 1985 regulates fertilizer quality. It defines standards for chemical, organic, and bio-fertilizers, and

prohibits the sale of non-compliant products. Violations can lead to suspension of authorization or penalties under the Essential Commodities Act.

Awareness programs are also conducted to encourage the safe and limited use of chemical pesticides. Support is provided for mechanization, custom hiring centers, and drones through schemes like SMAM. Other initiatives such as Crop Residue Management, Per Drop More Crop, and Rainfed Area Development are being implemented to promote sustainable and efficient farming, especially among small and marginal farmers.

MADHYA PRADESH EMERGES AS INDIA'S THIRD-LARGEST FLOWER PRODUCER



Madhya Pradesh has become the third-largest flower-producing state in India, with production reaching 512,914 tonnes last year. The flower business in the state is witnessing rapid growth, contributing significantly to the rural economy and farmer incomes. Flowers are now cultivated across 42,978 hectares, with major varieties including marigold, rose, sevti, gladiolus, and ranjanigandha. Marigolds dominate with 24,214 hectares, followed by roses at 4,502 hectares. The average yield stands at 15.01 tonnes per hectare.

The sector's expansion has been driven by increased domestic and international demand,

especially for roses from Guna, which are now exported to cities like Paris and London. Smallholder farmers are shifting from traditional crops to floriculture, earning higher incomes. The state has added 5,329 hectares of flower cultivation in 2024-25 alone. High-tech nurseries, technical guidance, and infrastructure support—like the ₹130 million nursery project in Gwalior—are further strengthening the sector. Overall, flower production has increased by 86,294 tonnes in the last four years.

MANGO CULTIVATION COVERS 37% OF GUJARAT'S HORTICULTURE AREA



On the occasion of National Mango Day, the Gujarat government highlighted that mango cultivation occupies over 1.77 lakh hectares—37% of the state's total 4.71 lakh hectares under horticulture crops. In 2024-25, Gujarat exported more than 856 metric tonnes of mangoes, reflecting the state's strong position in mango production. The region's favourable climate and soil support the growth of various mango varieties including Kesar, Alphonso, Rajapuri, Totapuri, and Sonpari.

Mango farming is mainly concentrated in Valsad (38,000 ha), Navsari (34,800 ha), Gir

Somnath (18,400 ha), Kutch (12,000 ha), and Surat (10,200 ha). A key highlight was the export of 224 metric tonnes of Kesar mangoes processed through Gujarat's first irradiation facility at Bavla near Ahmedabad. This unit, certified by the US Department of Agriculture's APHIS, is the fourth such facility in India. The state's emphasis on infrastructure and quality standards is helping boost its global mango footprint.

UP GOVT OFFERS 50% FENCING SUBSIDY TO BOOST HORTICULTURE



The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a new initiative under the Integrated Horticulture Development Mission Scheme, providing a 50% subsidy for installing fencing around horticultural farms. This move aims to protect high-value crops from stray animals and external threats while reducing input costs for farmers. The scheme will operate on a “first come, first served” basis, encouraging timely applications and quick implementation.

Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, who is also the Chairman of the Haryana International Horticultural Marketing Corporation Limited, presided over the 5th Steering Committee meeting at Chandigarh on July 26, 2025. Agriculture Minister, Sh. Shyam Singh Rana is also seen in the picture.

The government's objective is to enhance profitability for horticulture farmers by minimizing crop losses and improving farm-level security. By reducing the financial

burden on farmers and promoting better infrastructure, this step is expected to accelerate horticulture development across the state. The scheme supports a broader push to strengthen agriculture infrastructure, increase farmer income, and promote sustainable practices in the horticulture sector.

OPERATIONAL PUSH FOR GANAU INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURE MARKET



The International Horticulture Market being developed in Ganaur, Sonapat, is one of Haryana's flagship infrastructure projects in the agri-marketing sector. Spread over 544 acres, the project includes 17 modern sheds on 350 acres, parking for 5,500 trucks and 15,000 cars, and provisions for vertical marketing. With a total cost of ₹2,595 crore, the tender process has already been approved, and operations will be carried out under the 'Business Operation Plan'—allowing only those investors with a minimum of 100 acres of horticulture experience and an annual turnover

of ₹100 crore.

To expedite operations, a dedicated nodal officer will coordinate efforts across state, central, and departmental levels. The market is expected to benefit traders from Delhi's Azadpur Mandi and fruit producers from Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir due to its excellent road connectivity. Authorities have also been advised to involve APEDA for technical guidance to enhance global competitiveness and ensure the market's potential is recognized beyond Haryana.

GOVERNMENT MOVEMENT WITH NEW PACS, DAIRY, AND FISHERY SOCIETIES ACROSS PANCHAYATS



The Government has launched a nationwide plan to strengthen the cooperative movement by establishing 2 lakh new multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (M-PACS), along with Dairy and Fishery Cooperative Societies, in all panchayats and villages within five years. The initiative aims to converge various schemes like Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), and PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), with support from NABARD, NDDB, NFDB, and State Governments.

As per the National Cooperative Database, 22,606 new societies have been registered across the country as of 30 June 2025. To streamline implementation, a Standard Operating Procedure (Margdarshika) was issued on 19 September 2024, outlining targets and stakeholder roles. In Andhra Pradesh, 4,188 PACS, 9,149 Dairy, and 200 Fishery Cooperative Societies are planned. As of June 2025, 891 Dairy and 2 Fishery Cooperative Societies have been registered in the state, including five in Krishna District.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP IN LUCKNOW FOCUSES ON INDIGENOUS BREED DEVELOPMENT AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTIVITY



A national workshop on Breed Development in India was held at the Indira Gandhi Convention Centre in Lucknow. The event brought together experts, policymakers, and over 700 participants, including livestock farmers and veterinarians from across India, to discuss strategies for genetic improvement and sustainable livestock development.

Key initiatives launched included the Framework for Establishment of Breeders Associations and inauguration of the Artificial Insemination Training Institute in Gorakhpur. Additionally, three infrastructure projects

under the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) were inaugurated in Amethi, Bareilly, and Mathura.

The workshop emphasized technologies like In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) and Sex Sorted Semen (SSS) to enhance livestock quality. Discussions focused on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) eradication, natural farming, and region-specific interventions.

Two expert panels highlighted best practices in breed selection, performance tracking, and reproductive technologies, positioning the workshop as a major step toward sustainable and inclusive livestock development in India.

GADVASU CHARTS ROADMAP FOR FUTURE OF BUFFALO FARMING IN PUNJAB



A national symposium titled 'Buffalo Farming for Tomorrow: Policy, Practice and Potential' was recently held by GADVASU's Directorate of Extension Education, focusing on revitalising buffalo farming in India, particularly in Punjab. The event brought together policymakers, researchers, industry leaders, and farmers to deliberate on key strategies for sustainable buffalo development.

Vice-Chancellor JPS Gill announced the upcoming inauguration of a dedicated Buffalo Research Centre in Tarn Taran, and outlined the university's roadmap for improving

productivity—highlighting early calving and value-added product development like mozzarella and traditional sweets.

Experts discussed major challenges such as high calf mortality, weak breeding policies, and gaps in nutrition and milking technology. Proposals included a Buffalo Broiler Mission, separate milk collection systems, and low-cost purity testing. The symposium emphasised buffaloes' lower water footprint and climate resilience.

Two technical sessions covered breeding, health, milk processing, and meat opportunities. An open house discussion included progressive farmers and stakeholders, making the symposium a landmark step in Punjab's livestock development agenda.

OVER 2 LAKH FARMERS JOIN VIRTUAL DRIVE TO BOOST DAIRY, LIVESTOCK PRACTICES ACROSS 16 STATES



In a major digital outreach initiative, over two lakh livestock farmers across 16 states and Union Territories participated in a nationwide virtual awareness program on July 23, 2025. Conducted through 4,000 Common Service Centres (CSCs), the program aimed to promote modern animal husbandry practices and connect farmers with government schemes and expert guidance.

The program covered regions including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, and all North-Eastern states. Key topics included artificial insemination, genomic

selection, biosecurity, and advanced breeding technologies like IVF and Sex-Sorted Semen.

Farmers were encouraged to utilize support mechanisms such as the Animal Husbandry Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and benefit from government initiatives like the FMD-Mukt Bharat Abhiyan, which has delivered over 100 crore doses to combat Foot and Mouth Disease.

Officials emphasized the sector's role in sustainable rural incomes, breed improvement, disease control, and the formalization of livestock cooperatives. The event also included expert-led sessions and videos to enhance awareness and practical knowledge.

DIGITAL AGRI-REVOLUTION: OVER 1.79 CRORE FARMERS THRIVE ON E-NAM



The government's flagship electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform has recorded significant progress, with 1.79 crore farmers, 2.67 lakh traders, and 4,518 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) registered as of June 30, 2025. A total of 1,522 mandis have been integrated into the platform, facilitating cumulative trade worth ₹4.39 lakh crore.

e-NAM enables farmers to sell their produce directly to buyers, eliminating intermediaries and ensuring better price realization. The platform offers features such as real-time pricing, quality grading, online bidding, and e-payment, promoting transparency and

faster payments.

Mandis are integrated into e-NAM based on proposals from States and Union Territories, helping build a pan-India digital trading network of regulated wholesale markets. By promoting uniform quality standards, harmonized trading practices, and efficient logistics, e-NAM continues to expand digital access and market reach for farmers, enhancing their income and participation in formal agricultural trade.

PARLIAMENTARY PANEL RECOMMENDS MSP FOR ORGANIC CROPS, BOOSTS FOR INPUTS AND MARKET ACCESS



A Parliamentary Estimates Committee has recommended introducing Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for select organic crops to promote sustainable farming and ensure fair compensation for farmers. The report suggests formalizing the existing 20-30% market premium through an institutional MSP system.

The panel highlighted key challenges in organic farming, such as high labour costs, limited market access, and a shortage of bio-fertilizers. It urged the Agriculture Ministry to enhance financial support for organic inputs, certification, and infrastructure under schemes

like MOVCDNER, and to improve logistical support in difficult terrain.

The committee also called for strengthening market linkages, including setting up dedicated organic retail outlets in cities.

It commended the Ministry's work under the NICRA project and supported expanding the use of digital technologies like AI for early warnings on weather and pests. It recommended partnerships with tech institutions to make these tools widely accessible.

The report also suggested reinstating regular rankings of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to ensure accountability and improve performance tracking.

INDIA-UK TRADE AGREEMENT TO BOOST OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIAN FARMERS



The recently signed India-UK Free Trade Agreement is expected to benefit Indian farmers by providing improved access to UK markets. Under the agreement, over 95% of Indian agricultural and processed food products will enter the UK duty-free, creating new opportunities for a range of items including cereals, spices, marine products, fruits, and pickles.

The move is expected to reduce trade costs and increase the global competitiveness of Indian farm exports. Officials estimate a potential 20% growth in agricultural exports to

the UK over the next three years. Sectors such as marine exports, including shrimp and tuna, will particularly benefit from the elimination of tariffs.

The agreement also supports diversification, offering scope for newer products like millets and organic produce to reach international markets. At the same time, key domestic crops such as dairy and edible oils remain protected under the deal.

Overall, the agreement aims to strengthen export prospects for Indian farmers and agri-businesses while supporting sustainable growth in the sector.

₹28.17 CRORE AGRI LOANS DISBURSED IN ARUNACHAL TO BOOST RURAL LIVELIHOODS



In a major step toward strengthening rural livelihoods and agricultural growth, agricultural loans worth ₹28.17 crore were distributed to 282 beneficiaries across Arunachal Pradesh during a Monsoon Credit Outreach Programme held at Doimukh. Organised by the State Bank of India, the event also saw the issuance of 50 loan sanction letters to farmers, self-help groups (SHGs), and young entrepreneurs from various districts. The initiative aims to promote financial inclusion and empower communities through sustainable agriculture practices.

The program was highlighted as a key measure to support rural entrepreneurship, women empowerment, and agri-based economic development. Beneficiaries were encouraged to make effective use of central and state-sponsored schemes such as the Kisan Credit Card (KCC), PMFME, and FPO initiatives to enhance productivity and move towards self-reliance. Following the disbursement, a high-level review meeting was held with officials from key departments including agriculture, fisheries, animal husbandry, and rural development, in collaboration with senior banking authorities.

CEFMI IN COLLABORATION WITH ESCORTS KUBOTA SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES THREE-DAY FPO TRAINING IN KURUKSHETRA

The Centre of Farm Mechanization Skills in India (CEFMI), in collaboration with Escorts-Kubota Limited, successfully concluded a three-day residential training program for Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) held from 21-23 July 2025 in Kurukshetra. Tailored for FPO board members and CEOs, the intensive workshop focused on strengthening leadership and technical capabilities to advance mechanized agriculture at the grassroots level, with participation from around 20 FPOs across various districts of Haryana.

The first day covered effective governance models, board responsibilities, institutional structures, and transparent decision-making processes laying a strong foundation for robust FPO operations. On the second day,

participants gained hands-on experience with tractors, attachments, and other advanced farm machinery, learning essential operation techniques, safety measures, and maintenance routines. The final day was dedicated to agribusiness financing, including credit appraisal, working capital management, and strategies for engaging with banks and financial institutions.

The program combined expert-led classroom sessions, live field demonstrations, and peer networking opportunities to bridge key skill gaps, enhance productivity, and promote climate-smart, resilient agribusiness. All participating FPOs received certification, marking their improved capacities to drive sustainable, inclusive growth through mechanization in their communities.



3-DAY DAIRY FARMER ENTREPRENEUR TRAINING HELD IN BARABANKI BY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR DAIRY SKILLS IN INDIA (CEDSI)

The Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India, in collaboration with Skill Green Global organized a three-day training program in Barabanki district, Uttar Pradesh, from July 15 to 17, 2025. The initiative was part of a focused effort to empower rural youth and farmers under the Dairy Farmer Entrepreneur job role. The program aimed to enhance participants' understanding of scientific dairy farming practices, promote mechanization in dairy operations, and build entrepreneurial capabilities for sustainable livelihood development. Over the course of the training,

beneficiaries received hands-on exposure to key areas such as cattle management, fodder production, hygiene and sanitation, financial planning, and the use of appropriate mechanized tools in dairy farming. The program emphasized the integration of modern practices with traditional knowledge to improve productivity and profitability. This initiative is a significant step toward fostering rural entrepreneurship and ensuring the inclusive growth of the dairy sector in Uttar Pradesh and beyond.



CEASI, IN COLLABORATION WITH ASCI, ROLLS OUT AGRICULTURE MACHINERY DEMONSTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM

The Centre of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India (CEASI), in collaboration with the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), is conducting the Agriculture Machinery Demonstrator Training Program to skill and empower 250 beneficiaries in Uttar Pradesh. This program is designed to equip participants with practical knowledge and hands-on expertise in the operation, maintenance, and demonstration of advanced agricultural machinery.

Focusing on rural youth, agri-entrepreneurs, and farm service providers, the program aims

to build a cadre of trained professionals who can serve as agents of change in promoting mechanized, efficient, and climate-smart farming practices. The training includes sessions on modern equipment such as seed drills, harvesters, power weeders, and precision tools, along with modules on safety, troubleshooting, and minor repairs.

By bridging the skill gap in the mechanization ecosystem, this initiative contributes to enhancing farm productivity, reducing manual drudgery, and supporting India's vision of sustainable and technology-driven agriculture.



EMPOWERING SUSTAINABLE SUGARCANE FARMING IN AYODHYA THROUGH THE SASHWAT MITHAS INITIATIVE

As part of the Sashwat Mithas initiative, the Centres of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India, in collaboration with UPL SAS Limited, are promoting sustainable sugarcane cultivation in Ayodhya. To date, 431 farmers have been surveyed spanning 56 unorganized and 3 organized farmer groups to assess current practices and identify areas for improvement. Based on the insights gathered, village-level demonstration plots have been established to showcase best practices in efficient water usage, soil health management, and organic input application.

To foster community participation and peer learning, the team has conducted 50 farmer meetings, 8 field days, and engaged with 55

local retailers to extend outreach and knowledge dissemination. During these interactive platforms, participants discuss on-ground challenges with experts and observe climate-resilient techniques in action.

Through rigorous field research, hands-on demonstrations, and stakeholder engagement, the initiative empowers sugarcane growers to adopt eco-friendly, resource-conserving methods that enhance yields, preserve ecosystems, and promote climate-smart agriculture. The ultimate goal is to not only boost sugarcane productivity but also develop a scalable model for ecological balance and long-term sustainability in the Ayodhya region.





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CEHSI
Centre of Excellence for
Horticulture Skills in India

A Roundtable on

**Smart Post-Harvest Strategies:
Value Enhancement, Loss Reduction,
and Supply Chain Efficiency**

Organized By:
Centre of Excellence for
Horticulture Skills in India (CEHSI)

Date: 5th August 2025
Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi
Time: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

The **Centre of Excellence for Horticulture Skills in India (CEHSI)**, operating under the **Centre of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India (CEASI)**, is pleased to host a Roundtable on **Smart Post-Harvest Strategies: Value Enhancement, Loss Reduction, and Supply Chain Efficiency**. Scheduled for **5th August 2025** at the India International Centre, New Delhi, the event will convene key stakeholders from the agriculture and skilling ecosystem to deliberate on innovative and scalable approaches to strengthening the post-harvest value chain in horticulture. The roundtable will take place from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.



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