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खाद्य श्रृंखला को बचाएंगे एग्रो केमिकल

जागरण सूत्रे, नई दिल्ली: फसलों की बोआई से लेकर रसोई के रास्ते खाने की शाली तक पहुंचने वाली लंबी श्रृंखला में खाद्यान्न का भारी नुकसान होता है। सिर्फ इसे रोकने में सफलता मिल जाए तो किसानों की आमदनी को कई गुना तक बढ़ाया जा सकता है। लेकिन इस लंबी खाद्य श्रृंखला को बगैर एग्रो केमिकल उपयोग के मजबूत बनाना संभव नहीं होगा। फसल सुरक्षा में रसायनों की बुनियादी जरूरतों पर चले दो दिवसीय मंथन में कृषि के सतत विकास के लिए रसायनों के विवेकपूर्ण व न्यायसंगत उपयोग का प्रमुखता से उल्लेख किया गया। मंथन के दौरान संसद की स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में लंबित कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक-2020 की खामियों को दूर करने पर विस्तार से चर्चा हुई।

- सुरक्षा**
- कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक की खामियों को दूर करने का आग्रह
 - कृषि के विकास के लिए रसायनों का विवेकपूर्ण उपयोग जरूरी

की। देश में नकली और घटिया किस्म के कीटनाशकों की घड़ल्ले से होने वाली बिज्जी पर लोगों का ध्यान खींचा। उन्होंने इसमें सुधार के लिए पेस्टिसाइड इंडस्ट्री को आगे आने की सलाह दी। इंडियन काउंसिल ऑफ एग्रीकल्चरल रिसर्च के सहायक उप महानिदेशक डा. एससी दुबे ने पेस्टिसाइड इंडस्ट्री में स्वदेशी मालिक्यूलस (अणुओं) पर अनुसंधान किए जाने पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने किसानों के खेतों पर होने वाली मुषिकलों का विस्तार से जिक्र करते हुए कीटनाशक उद्योग के लोगों से इसमें मदद करने का आग्रह किया। फसलों पर कीटनाशकों के अंधाधुंध उपयोग पर चिंता व्यक्त करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि यह काम

जागरुकता के अभाव में ऐसा हो रहा है। इसके लिए उद्योगजगत को आगे आना होगा। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को जगह-जगह खुली पेस्टिसाइड दुकान संचालकों को ट्रेनिंग देनी होगी। किसानों को कुछ भी दवा फकड़ाने की आदत से बाज आना होगा। इसमें इंडस्ट्री की जिम्मेदारी ज्यादा है। जबकि उद्योग संगठन एग्रो केमिकल फेडरेशन आफ इंडिया के अध्यक्ष एनके अग्रवाल ने कीटनाशक प्रबंधन बिल की खामियों को दुरुस्त करने का आग्रह किया। किसानों, डॉलरों और वितरकों में जागरुकता बढ़ाने की जरूरत बताते हुए अग्रवाल ने कहा कि इसमें सरकारी तंत्र को साथ देना होगा। कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में खामियों के महेनजर उसे संसदीय स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के विचारार्थ भेज दिया गया है। मंथन के दौरान विधेयक की विभिन्न कमियों पर विस्तार से चर्चा हुई। इस पर सरकार की ओर से हिस्सा लेने वाले प्रतिनिधियों ने भी हामी भरते हुए इसमें सुधार की उम्मीद जताई।

PUNJAB KESARI (PRINT)
SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

एसीएफआई करेगी केन्द्र से संशोधन की अपील

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : एग्रोकेमिफेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया (एसीएफआई) की चौथी वार्षिक आम बैठक के अवसर पर शुक्रवार को कृषि रसायन उद्योग के शीर्ष निकाय ने "पौधसंरक्षण रसायन: बुनियादी आवश्यकता" विषय पर एक विचार-मंथन तकनीकी चर्चा के आयोजन में "फॉर सस्टेनेबल एग्रीकल्चर" में किसानों को पौध संरक्षण रसायनों (कीटनाशकों) के विवेकपूर्ण और न्यायसंगत उपयोग के बारे में शिक्षित करने के महत्वका उल्लेख किया और कृषि रसायन उद्योग को सामूहिक रूप से धारणा प्रबंधन पर काम करनेकी आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। कृषि आयुक्त और अध्यक्ष, पंजीकरण समिति, कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय, डा. एस के मल्होत्रा ने लोगों को सुरक्षित फल, सब्जी और खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध कराने के लिए फसलों पर जैविक कीटनाशकों के प्रयोग पर जोर दिया है। डॉ. मल्होत्रा ने एसीएफआई चौथे वार्षिक सम्मेलन को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि किसानों को ग्रीन कीटनाशकों का फसलों पर उपयोग करना चाहिए जो मानव स्वास्थ्य के लिए कम खतरनाक हैं। इसके साथ ही ये पशुओं और पर्यावरण के अनुकूल हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि देश से बड़े पैमाने पर फलों और सब्जियों का निर्यात किया जाता है जिसके कारण भी इनमें कीटनाशकों का प्रभाव अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर का होना चाहिए। भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद के अतिरिक्त महानिदेशक एस सी दुबे ने कहा कि खर पतवार, व्याधियों तथा कीटों के कारण 10 से 30 प्रतिशत तक फसलों का नुकसान होता है। यह क्षति फसलों के तैयार होने और उसके बाद भी होती है। इस क्षति को यदि रोक दिया जाये तो किसानों की आय आसानी से दोगुनी की जा सकती है। महासंघ के अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने केन्द्र सरकार से सरल पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया के लिए समर्थन देने और कीटनाशक प्रबंधनबिल में संशोधन लाने का भी आग्रह किया।

जैविक कीटनाशक फसलों के लिए बेहतर : कृषि आयुक्त

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता
कृषि आयुक्त एस.के. मल्होत्रा ने लोगों को सुरक्षित फल, सब्जी और खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध कराने के लिए फसलों पर जैविक कीटनाशकों के उपयोग पर जोर दिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि किसानों को हरित कीटनाशकों का फसलों पर उपयोग करना चाहिए जो मानव स्वास्थ्य के लिए कम खतरनाक हैं। इसके साथ ही ये पशुओं और पर्यावरण के अनुकूल हैं।

कृषि आयुक्त ने यहां भारतीय कृषि रसायन महासंघ (एसीएफआई) के चौथे वार्षिक सम्मेलन को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि देश से बड़े पैमाने पर फलों और सब्जियों के साथ ही कीटनाशकों का निर्यात किया जाता है। इस कारण भी इनमें कीटनाशकों का प्रभाव और इसकी गुणवत्ता अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर की होनी चाहिए। डॉ. मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि देश में खाद्यान्न व बागवानी फसलों का रिकॉर्ड उत्पादन हो रहा है।

Saturday, Sep 25, 2021



NEWS BUSINESS MONEY TRAVEL SPORTS VIDEOS ENTERTAINMENT PHOTOS

Agrichemical body ACFI seeks ease of doing business for quality manufacturers



Source: PTI

Addressing the 4th Annual General Meeting, ACFI outgoing president N K Aggarwal urged the government to extend support for the uncomplicated registration process and bring modification in the Pesticide Management bill.

He spoke about the shortcomings of the Pesticide Management Bill (PMB), 2020, which was introduced in Rajya Sabha on March 23, 2020 and later it was referred to the Standing Committee on June 3, 2021.

Aggarwal said the industry supports strict provisions against bad players operating in the market but there should be ease of doing business for quality manufacturers.



By: ET

IND | ▶ 📷 📄

अपना बाजार जीतो

ब्रीफ + राज्य भारत मूवी लाइफस्टाइल खेल दुनिया

बिज़नेस बिज़नेस न्यूज़ MCX कमाएं-बचाएं इनकम टैक्स शेयर बाजार प्रॉपर्टी फोटो विडियो

एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की

एसीएफआई के निवर्तमान अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने एसीएफआई की चौथी वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए सरल पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया में मदद करने और कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में संशोधन करने का आग्रह किया।

एन के अग्रवाल ने कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक (पीएमबी, 2020) की कमियों के बारे में बात की जिसे 23 मार्च, 2020 को किया गया था और बाद में तीन जून, 2021 को स्थायी समिति के विचारार्थ भेजा गया था।

अग्रवाल ने कहा कि कृषि रसायन उद्योग, बाजार में सक्रिय, गड़बड़ी करने वाली कंपनियों के खिलाफ सख्त प्रावधानों को त्वरित समर्थन करता है लेकिन जो गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद बनाने वाले निर्माता हैं, उनके लिए कारोबार करने की आसानी होनी चाहिए। उन्होंने बाजार में उपलब्ध फर्जी और नकली उत्पादों को लेकर चिंता व्यक्त की।



पंजाब केसरी

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National News

SUN, SEP 26, 2021

6:39:46 PM



महाराष्ट्र: आगामी निगम चुनावों पर बोले...



जानिए विदेशी यात्राओं के दौरान क्या करते हैं...



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Home > Business News > एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की

BUSINESS NEWS HINDI (बिज़नेस)

एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की



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लोकमत हिन्दी

मराठी | English



वीडियो फोटो स्टूडियो भारत खेल-खिलाड़ी मनोरंजन स्वास्थ्य पूजा-पाठ ज़रा हटके विश्व

एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की

By भाषा | Published: September 24, 2021 09:39 PM

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अग्रवाल ने कहा कि कृषि रसायन उद्योग, बाजार में सक्रिय, गड़बड़ी करने वाली कंपनियों के खिलाफ सख्त प्रावधानों को लाये जाने का समर्थन करता है लेकिन जो गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद बनाने वाले निर्माता हैं, उनके लिए कारोबार करने की आसानी होनी चाहिए।

उन्होंने बाजार में उपलब्ध फर्जी और नकली उत्पादों को लेकर चिंता व्यक्त की।

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भारत की अग्रणी संवाद समिति

Sunday, Sep 26 2021 | Time 17:57 Hrs(IST)



जैविक कीटनाशकों का प्रयोग हो:मल्होत्रा



नयी दिल्ली, 24 सितम्बर (वार्ता) कृषि आयुक्त एस के मल्होत्रा ने लोगों को सुरक्षित फल, सब्जी और खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध कराने के लिए फसलों पर जैविक कीटनाशकों के प्रयोग पर जोर दिया है।

डॉ मलहोत्रा ने आज भारतीय कृषि रसायन महासंघ के चौथे वार्षिक सम्मेलन को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि किसानों को ग्रीन कीटनाशकों का फसलों पर उपयोग करना चाहिए जो मानव स्वास्थ्य के लिए कम खतरनाक हैं। इसके साथ ही ये पशुओं और पर्यावरण के अनकल

महासंघ के अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने कहा कि देश में कीटनाशकों का व्यापार सालाना 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये का है जबकि 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये के कीटनाशकों का निर्यात किया जाता है। उन्होंने कहा कि कीटनाशकों के प्रभाव को लेकर विदेशी गैर सरकारी संगठन समाज में भ्रम की स्थिति पैदा कर रहे हैं। किसानों में शिक्षा की कमी है, जिसके कारण वे कई बार बहकावे में आ जाते हैं।

Home » Business » ACFI demands ease of doing business for quality product manufacturers

एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की

एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की

Edited By: Bhasha , September 24, 2021 / 09:39 PM IST



एसीएफआई के निवर्तमान अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने एसीएफआई की चौथी वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए सरकार से सरल पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया में मदद करने और कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में संशोधन करने का आग्रह किया।

एन के अग्रवाल ने कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक (पीएमबी, 2020) की कमियों के बारे में बात की जिसे 23 मार्च, 2020 को राज्यसभा में पेश किया गया था और बाद में तीन जून, 2021 को स्थायी समिति के विचारार्थ भेजा गया था।

अग्रवाल ने कहा कि कृषि रसायन उद्योग, बाजार में सक्रिय, गड़बड़ी करने वाली कंपनियों के खिलाफ सख्त प्रावधानों को लाये जाने का समर्थन करता है लेकिन जो गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद बनाने वाले निर्माता हैं, उनके लिए कारोबार करने की आसानी होनी चाहिए।

उन्होंने बाजार में उपलब्ध फर्जी और नकली उत्पादों को लेकर चिंता व्यक्त की।



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ACFI urges Govt to look into agrochemical industry's concerns on Pesticide Management Bill

September 25, 2021 - by Agriculture Post - Leave a Comment

Welcoming all the attendees at the AGM, outgoing President of ACFI, NK Aggarwal, expressed his appreciation towards all the members, for their overwhelming support to him and expressed pleasure ACFI has gradually established itself as a true platform for policy interventions and a vocal flag-waver for the entire Indian agrochemical industry in a transparent and a democratic way.

He also urged the government to extend support for the uncomplicated registration process and bring modification to the Pesticide Management Bill. He also expressed upon the need for skill development and enhancing awareness of the farmers, dealers and distributors.

ACFI urges Govt to look into agrochem industry's concern on Pesticide Management Bill

The Agro Chem Federation of India (ACFI), the apex body of the agrochem industry, organized a brainstorming technical discussion on "Plant Protection Chemicals: The basic requirement for Sustainable Agriculture". President NK Aggarwal spoke about the shortcomings of the Pesticide Management Bill 2020 and urged the Government to bring modifications.

Aggarwal also reiterated the shortcomings of PMB, which had been introduced in Rajya Sabha by the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, on March 23, 2020, and later referred to the Standing Committee on June 3, 2021.

Home » Chemical » ACFI urges Govt to relook into Pesticide Management Bill

ACFI urges Govt to relook into Pesticide Management Bill

The Bill doesn't address the issue of bringing newer and better molecules in India.

By ICN Group | September 25, 2021



NK Aggarwal, Outgoing President of ACFI, urged the Government to extend support for the uncomplicated registration process and bring modification in the Pesticide Management bill. He also expressed upon the need for skill development and enhancing awareness of the farmers, dealers and distributors.

He reiterated on the shortcomings of Pesticide Management bill. The Pesticide Management Bill (PMB) - 2020 was introduced in Rajya Sabha by the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, on March 23, 2020 and later it was referred to the Standing Committee on June 3, 2021.



होम समाचार कंपनी समाचार साक्षात्कार कामयाब किसान राज्य योजनाएं इवेंट लेख वीडियो

Hindi News / News / ACFI organized 4th AGM

एसीएफआई (ACFI) ने चौथे एजीएम का आयोजन किया

कृषि रसायन क्षेत्र का कृषि में एक बहुत ही अहम योगदान है. कृषि रसायन उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एग्रोकैम फेडरेशन ऑफ़ इंडिया (ACFI) काफी कार्य कर रही है. एग्रोकैम फेडरेशन ऑफ़ इंडिया मुख्य रूप से कृषि रसायन उद्योग से

इस संस्था ने हाल ही में अपने चौथे एजीएम का आयोजन राजधानी दिल्ली में किया. कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत 11.30 बजे दीप प्रवज्जलन के साथ की गई. कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत एसीएफआई के डायरेक्टर जनरल डॉ. कल्याण गोस्वामी ने फेडरेशन के सभी सदस्यों और कार्यक्रम में आए हुए सभी डेलेगेट्स का स्वागत किया. इसके बाद एग्रोकैम फेडरेशन ऑफ़ इंडिया के प्रेसिडेंट एन.के. अग्रवाल ने सभी को संबोधित करते हुए कृषि रसायन उद्योग के कई विषयों पर चर्चा की. उन्होंने कहा कि कृषि रसायनों को लेकर जो गलतफहमी है कि कृषि रसायनों से मानव शरीर हो नुकसान होता है. इस गलत फहमी को दूर किया जाना चाहिए. इसी के साथ उन्होंने किसानों के मध्य कृषि रसायनों के सुरक्षित प्रयोग को लेकर एसीएफआई किस तरीके से कार्य कर रही है इसके विषय में भी उन्होंने बताया. उन्होंने कहा कि यह संस्था किसानों को सुरक्षित कृषि रसायनों के इस्तेमाल के बारे जागरूक करने के लिए लगातार कैम्पेन चला रही है.

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Agro Chem Federation of India Organized 4th Annual General Meeting on September 24

Sugandh Bhatnagar Updated 24 September, 2021

SINDHU
TIMES



महासंघ के अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने कहा कि देश में कीटनाशकों का व्यापार सालाना 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये का है जबकि 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये के कीटनाशकों का निर्यात किया जाता है। उन्होंने कहा कि कीटनाशकों के प्रभाव को लेकर विदेशी गैर सरकारी संगठन समाज में भ्रम की स्थिति पैदा कर रहे हैं। किसानों में शिक्षा की कमी है, जिसके कारण वे कई बार बहकावे में आ जाते हैं।



जैविक कीटनाशकों का प्रयोग हो:मल्होत्रा

महासंघ के अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने कहा कि देश में कीटनाशकों का व्यापार सालाना 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये का है जबकि 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये के कीटनाशकों का निर्यात किया जाता है। उन्होंने कहा कि कीटनाशकों के प्रभाव को लेकर विदेशी गैर सरकारी संगठन समाज में भ्रम की स्थिति पैदा कर रहे हैं। किसानों में शिक्षा की कमी है, जिसके कारण वे कई बार बहकावे में आ जाते हैं।



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सुरक्षित फल, सब्जी और खाद्यान्न के लिए फसलों पर जैविक कीटनाशकों के प्रयोग पर जोर

महासंघ के अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने कहा कि देश में कीटनाशकों का व्यापार सालाना 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये का है जबकि 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये के कीटनाशकों का निर्यात किया जाता है। उन्होंने कहा कि कीटनाशकों के प्रभाव को लेकर विदेशी गैर सरकारी संगठन समाज में भ्रम की स्थिति पैदा कर रहे हैं। किसानों में शिक्षा की कमी है, जिसके कारण वे कई बार बहकावे में आ जाते हैं।



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Agrichemical body ACFI seeks ease of doing business for quality manufacturers

The Agro Chem Federation of India ACFI on Friday urged the government to address various concerns of the industry on the Pesticides Management Bill, 2020, and sought ease of doing business for good manufacturers producing quality product.

रविवार, सितंबर 26, 2021 ताजा खबरें -

लेटेस्टली

QUICKLY # SOCIALLY देश विदेश टेक ऑटो खेल मनोरंजन लाइफस्टाइल वायरल फोटो गैलरी वीडियो

होम / एजेंसी न्यूज

जरूरी जानकारी | एसीएफआई ने गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद निर्माताओं के लिए कारोबार में आसानी की मांग की

Get Latest हिन्दी समाचार, Breaking News on Information at LatestLY हिन्दी. एग्रो केम फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया (एसीएफआई) ने शुक्रवार को सरकार से कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक, 2020 से जुड़ी इस उद्योग की विभिन्न चिंताओं को दूर करने का आग्रह किया तथा गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद बनाने वाले अच्छे निर्माताओं के लिए व्यापार करने में आसानी पैदा करने की मांग की।

एसीएफआई के निवर्तमान अध्यक्ष एन के अग्रवाल ने एसीएफआई की चौथी वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए सरकार से सरल पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया में मदद करने और कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में संशोधन करने का आग्रह किया।

एन के अग्रवाल ने कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक (पीएमबी, 2020) की कमियों के बारे में बात की जिसे 23 मार्च, 2020 को राज्यसभा में पेश किया गया था और बाद में तीन जून, 2021 को स्थायी समिति के विचारार्थ भेजा गया था।

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उन्होंने बाजार में उपलब्ध फर्जी और नकली उत्पादों को लेकर चिंता व्यक्त की।

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सरकारी योजनाएं

नौकरियां

एग्रो केम फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया ने 24 सितंबर को चौथी वार्षिक आम बैठक आयोजित की



By द न्यूज़ रिपेयर टीम 5 hours ago 13 views



NEWS

OPED

The Tribune

JALANDHAR | WEDNESDAY | 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

More flexible policies needed to boost trade



SUSIMA RAMACHANDRAN
SENIOR FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

ANY centuries ago, India used to be a major trading nation. The maritime fleets of the Chola rulers in south India travelled to distant parts of Asia and there was a flourishing trade with countries in the region. The heritage of being a trading country of note has diminished in modern times as the country's share in world trade is barely 2 per cent right now.

The Covid pandemic worsened the situation and the exports slumped by over 7 per cent in 2020-21 in tandem with the rest of the economy. The scenario is finally looking brighter as exports have perked up in the first quarter of the current fiscal and trade volumes are rising, owing to the growing demand linked to a resurgence in the global economy.

While examining trade issues, it is worthwhile to remember that few economic powers have risen to prominence without becoming notable exporters.

The rise of the post-war Japanese economy was accompanied by a huge export surge that propelled it into superpower status on the world stage.

As for China, little needs to be said, given its enormous clout as the

world's supermarket and the leading supplier of goods to developed and developing regions.

The tiger economies of Southeast Asia along with South Korea followed a similar route, becoming major exporters on their way to rapidly becoming more affluent.

India's failure to make a mark as an exporter has been due to many reasons, not the least of which has been the comfort of an enormous domestic market available for most manufacturers. Added to this has been the rigours of red-tape faced by exporters, including the rigidity of import-export policies.

The scenario began to change after the 1991 reforms were launched and the then Commerce Minister P Chidambaram revamped the trade policy of the day.

Yet, exports have failed to achieve their potential over the past three decades. There has been a definite upswing both in volume and value, but sustained high growth has eluded the country.

One of the factors constraining trade expansion has been the failure of successive governments to finalise free trade agreements (FTA) in a time-bound manner. Many such FTAs have been languishing for years, including the one with the European Union. Besides, India has failed to participate in regional trade groupings that might have been beneficial to its interests, like the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

India declined to become a member of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), even after several rounds of negotiations. The reasons cited have been concern over third country origin imports as well as



The focus on commodities needs to shift to finished products as these provide value and aid in the creation of jobs. The future outlook could be promising as more manufactured products are likely to move into the export basket after investments in the production-linked incentive scheme bear fruit. The results may be visible in the medium term after projects go on stream.

PUSH AWAITED: Though a big producer of wheat, fruits and vegetables, India remains a minnow on the export front. TRIBUNE PHOTO

the looming influence of China over the trade grouping.

These may have been valid, but the fact is that India needs to become more proactive in entering into bilateral and regional trade pacts instead of relying on the beneficial effects of being a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The hesitancy in opening up domestic markets must be removed, otherwise the logjam in concluding trade agreements will never end.

The nature of exports has also been a worrying issue. Despite the addition of numerous manufactured products to the mix, raw materials and intermediates continue to take a disproportionately large share of the export

basket. Iron ore as well as iron and steel exports have risen significantly this year, with the bulk of supplies going to China.

Besides, commodity prices have risen steeply recently, enabling petroleum products and iron ore to contribute largely to the rise in export valuations. The focus on commodities needs to shift to finished products as these provide value and aid in the creation of jobs in the economy.

The future outlook could be promising as more manufactured products are likely to move into the export basket after investments in the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme bear fruit. The results may be visible in

the medium term after projects go on stream. The expected higher output in the auto, textiles, pharmaceuticals, telecom and solar sectors should lead to more exports in these sectors.

The recent good news on the export front, thus needs to be viewed in the context of whether this will be sustained in the long run or remain a short-term phenomenon. Official data shows that exports have risen by 22 per cent in value terms during the four months from April to July this year, as compared to the similar period in the pre-Covid era of 2019.

A record monthly high of \$35.15 billion was recorded in July, a rise of 34 per cent over July 2019. With the annu-

al target having been set at an ambitious \$400 billion for the current fiscal, export growth so far is on track to achieving the goal.

More ambitious plans are reported to be under way to achieve a quantum jump in exports to key markets like the UAE, the US and Singapore. Another goal is to raise the share of exports in the country's GDP from 10.2 per cent currently to 15 per cent by 2030 for both merchandise and services.

If these targets are to be achieved, it is clear the policy approach needs to be more innovative. For instance, the biggest potential for export growth is in the area of agriculture and allied goods like seafood. India is already the top rice exporter in the world and the fourth largest cotton exporter. It is also the fourth largest seafood exporter.

This country is one of the biggest global producers of wheat, fruits and vegetables, but remains a minnow on the export front. Processing and value addition of agricultural products has been mentioned as a policy objective by many governments, but little action has been taken to give a push to these in any meaningful way.

So, if India is to take its fair share of world trade in the coming years, the outlook must become more flexible. Entering into FTAs with major trading partners needs to be carried out with a greater sense of compromise rather than the existing protectionist approach.

The agricultural sector also needs to be given enough facilities to ensure faster growth of processed food exports. Such policies could well ensure that India heads slowly but surely in the direction of becoming a leading trading nation yet again.

HINDUSTAN TIMES N.D 01/09/2021

2.19L women get training on 'sustainable agriculture'

State's initiative proving to be boon for women from families of marginal farmers

PRITESH BASU

KOLKATA: In a major success in empowering women, the Mamata Banerjee government has provided training to 2.19 lakh women from families of marginal farmers on "sustainable agriculture".

The initiative is helping those families solely dependant on agriculture and its allied sector to increase their income with the active participation of "mahila kisans (women farmers)".

With the project taken by the Bengal government as an initiative towards rural livelihood promotion under "Anandahara", the state government had initiated providing training to women members of Self-Help Groups on sustainable agriculture and has so far provided training to women from 2.19 lakh families in as many as 1,901 villages. The state government has empowered women by providing training in 538 Gram Panchayats in 117 blocks.

It needs a special mention that it is one of the flagship programmes of the state Panchayats and Rural Development department in strengthening the rural economy of Bengal.



Most interestingly, progressive women farmers are playing a key role in providing training to the "mahila kisans" across the state.

Speaking about the outcome of the programme, a state government officer said it is helping to reduce the cost of cultivation as women are well trained in using the locally available resources in farming activities.

"There are examples in which a trained 'mahila kisan' started earning by growing saplings on a small piece of land near her house and selling it in a local market in the Jangalmahal area," said the officer.

The training also helped women farmers pick up knowledge on growing 36 dif-

ferent varieties of leafy vegetables resulting in agricultural activities in the same piece of land, facilitating an increase in the income of the farmers' families. The training is also helping to promote the preservation and use of seeds of local varieties that leads to an increase in yield with a suitable climate for the same.

Again, setting up organic clusters and its "Participatory Guarantee Systems" (PGS) certification comes as a higher order intervention of the programme. In the past one year, six organic clusters have been set up in different parts of the state under the West Bengal State Rural Livelihood Mission in pilot project mode involving around 1,200 women members of Self-Help Groups. Clusters have come up at Jamna Gram Panchayat in Labpur, Baroghoria Gram Panchayat in Dhugguri, Samalbong Gram Panchayat in Kalimpong I block and Kagay Gram Panchayat in Kalimpong II block.

With the success of six organic clusters on 587.88 hectare area, the state Panchayats and Rural Development department aims to set up 36 more such clusters, mainly in Jangalmahal and the Hills.

Core sector output grows 9.4% in July

Gireesh Chandra Prasad

gireesh.p@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: The output of eight core sectors grew 9.4% in July due to strong growth in refinery throughput, electricity generation, and steel and cement production, official data showed on Tuesday.

This is the fifth consecutive month of growth in the core sector.

Core sector had seen a 9.3% increase in June.

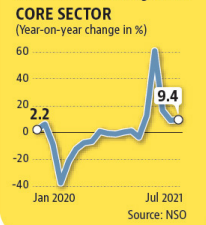
In July, cement production grew 21.8% annually, while steel output went up by 9.3% and coal output by 18.7%, data released by the commerce and industry ministry showed. Refinery products and electricity grew at 6.7% and 9% respectively in July, showed the data.

The figures indicate a strong output recovery although a part of it is due to the statistical effect of a contraction seen in the same month a year ago.

The production levels of five core sector segments—crude oil, natural gas, fertilizer, steel and electricity—are now higher than the pre-Covid levels (February 2020), said Devendra

Course correction

This is the fifth consecutive month of core sector growth.



Kumar Pant, chief economist at India Ratings & Research.

"The recovery post the second Covid wave has been swifter than the first wave. This implies that the core segment which, carries a weight of 40.27% in the Index of Industrial Production, will also provide cushion to the industrial sector recovery," said Pant.

He also said that given the uncertainty around a third wave, it was still early days in calling out a meaningful recovery, from the latest numbers.

Core Sector Output in July Rises 9.4%

Production surpasses two-year ago levels

Our Bureau

New Delhi: India's core sector output grew 9.4% year-on-year (YoY) in July as the production went past the pre-pandemic levels two year ago.

On a month-on-month basis, output rose 5.4% in July, after growing 1.5% in June, data released by the commerce and industry ministry showed on Tuesday.

The core sector index measures output of eight industries — coal, steel, cement, fertilizer, electricity, natural gas, refinery products, and crude oil.

The index had risen 9.3% in June 2021. "The latest data depicts that the overall index which on the back of Covid 2.0 had lost some ground in May and June 2021, crossed the two-year ago production levels in July 2021," said De-
vendra Kumar Pant, chief economist, India Ratings & Research.

All the core segments apart from crude oil witnessed growth in July — coal (18.7%), natural gas (18.8%), petroleum refinery products (6.7%), fertilizer (0.6%), steel (9.4%), cement (21.8%) and electricity (9.0%). Crude oil output

The eight core sector industries comprise nearly two-fifths the index of industrial production (IIP). Based on the performance of the core sector, non-oil exports and auto production, ICRA said it expects the IIP to record an expansion of 13-15% in July. CARE Ratings expects 12-14% rise in IIP. The production levels of five core sector segments namely crude oil, natural gas, fertilizer, steel and electricity are now higher than the production level of pre-COVID level of February 2020.

For April-July 2021-22, the sectors grew 21.2% compared to the corresponding period of the last



HANS INDIA BIZZ BUZZ 2/9/2021

ITC turning FMCG, hotels, agri segments into its main growth drivers

Company's Chairman Sanjeev Puri is shepherding the 'Next' strategy for its next horizon of growth through bold acquisitions, and disruptive digital innovation

SANJEEV SHARMA
NEW DELHI

DIVERSIFIED consumer goods conglomerate ITC appears to be closing in on turning its fast-moving-consumer-goods (FMCG), agriculture and hotel segments as its main growth drivers, with chairman Sanjeev Puri shepherding the 'Next' strategy for its next horizon of growth through bold acquisitions, and disruptive digital innovation.

This new strategy is aimed at ensuring that the ITC remains future-ready, consumer-centric, and nimble to create enduring value for stakeholders, something that the financial results are mirroring with FMCG and agriculture contributing nearly half of its total revenues in the April-June quarter.

The FMCG segment has been driven by higher demand for hygiene products, fragrances, spices, snacks, agarbattis and dairy products, with Savlon standing out as a growth engine of sorts.

ITC acquired Savlon from Johnson & Johnson in 2015, foraging into the disinfectant and antiseptic products market. Savlon crossed Rs 1200 crore in consumer spend in 2020-21, growing more than 13 times since acquisition, making it the largest brand in the company's personal care products portfolio, overtaking Vivel.

ITC has launched over 120 new products over the last one year, with product innovations in hygiene, nutrition and convenience segments. These include Savlon's foray into surface and cloth disinfectant sprays, 'neem' based cleaning solutions Nimwash and Nimesay, convenience-focused products such as ITC Master Chef Frozen Snacks, and scale up nascent



categories and products such like B Natural juices, Fabelle chocolates amongst others.

In four years from 2016-17 to 2020-21, the FMCG segment's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) margins have improved by 640 bps.

FMCG on fast lane

The company today is one of the largest incubators of world-class Indian brands. ITC FMCG business has garnered consumer spends of over Rs 22,000 crore and delighting more than 150 million households. Scaling up and fortification of existing growth platforms consisting of megabrands is an essential cog in the wheel of ITC's next strategy. The company has expanded its purpose-led brands like Savlon, Aashirvada, and Sunfeast into adjacent categories with remarkable success. These brands have immense headroom to grow given the relatively lower household penetration and rising per capita income. ITC is exploring more value accretive inorganic opportunities as an additional pillar of growth.

Puri's strategy to make ITC future-ready manifests in Life Sciences and Technology Centre (LSTC). LSTC helped ITC to launch 120 products amid the pandemic to meet emerging preferences. Towards this goal, the company has launched 9 state-of-the-art integrated consumer goods manufacturing facilities (ICML) to create structural advantages and drive enhanced competitiveness is also worth mentioning. The new-age consumer is a digital native with extensive engagement in social and e-commerce platforms. Recognizing this, ITC is identifying emerging trends in real-time through its Marketing Command Centre called 'Sixth Sense' to speedily launch differentiated products as also creatively engage with consumers. Under the 'Next' strategy, Puri has clearly sought to explore opportunities to craft disruptive business models anchored at the intersection of digital and sustainability. It is deploying a smart ecosystem with an integrated real-time operations platform across the organization to enable next-generation supply chains and smart manufacturing with digitally enabled factories.

The company has adopted multi-dimensional digital interventions for smart sourcing, smart logistics across businesses, and Industry 4.0 implementation in manufacturing. This is in addition to customized apps to facilitate digital ordering and trade engagement.

It has fast-tracked its journey in e-commerce, to meet the growing preference for 'contactless shopping'. This is besides strengthening the direct-to-consumer platform, ITC e-Store to reach consumers in newer geographies and introducing more 'digital first' brands to leverage the growing e-commerce space.

ITC under Puri's stewardship is unwavering in its resolve to build a formidable FMCG business. Revenues from its FMCG business during the quarter stood at Rs 3726 crore, accounting for 25 per cent of the quarterly revenues. The agriculture segment turned in revenues of Rs 4,991 crore, accounting for 28 per cent of the company's total quarterly revenues of Rs 14,649 crore before netting out inter-segment revenues of Rs 1,764 crore.

BUSINESS LINE CHENNAI 2/9/2021

Implement crop rotation

This can to a large extent ease Punjab's agrarian crisis

PVS SURYAKUMAR

Farmers' protests have been in the news since December 2020. While they have ebbed now because of the *rabi* harvest, some information distortion has been happening because of the differing perceptions on how the new farm laws will affect farmers.

After nearly 20 years of the Green Revolution, agrarian crisis gradually gripped Punjab beginning early 1980s. The reasons ascribed are wheat-paddy monoculture, decline in water table because of indiscriminate groundwater use, soil salinity and waterlogging due to excess surface irrigation, liberal use of chemicals, etc. The consequences: environmental degradation, stagnation in output, decline in productivity and farmers' incomes.

The Punjab Government got experts to study the issue several times. In 2002, Prof. SS Johl suggested that one million hectares from wheat and paddy be shifted to other crops by giving farmers ₹12,500 per hectare. The outcomes were limited because the entire ecosystem was built around wheat and paddy with assured procurement.

With the estimated assured net profit of about ₹57,000 per acre with 33 and 23 quintals of productivity for paddy and wheat, respectively, there is no incentive to diversify into untested crop(s).

Joint effort
The solution to the problem lies in *parivartan* (change) and implementing crop diversification on a significant geographic scale. But *parivartan* will be possible only if the State works closely with the Union Government.

A winning argument for the Government could be: *parivartan* would be evolved iteratively and implemented in one or two districts, with no financial loss to the farmers and with a clear objective of weaning farmers away from the wheat-paddy combination. Selection of the district(s) should be based on receptiveness of farmers who are not 100 per cent entrenched into wheat-paddy growing and procurement at MSP. The implicit assurance is,

well-endowed regions like Punjab will continue to contribute to the food security of the nation but with sustainable agricultural practices to make farmers' income resilient.

Crop combinations, allied activities and land equivalent ratios will have to be developed based on the best research practices of the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU). Agricultural extension, Farmer Field Schools (FFS), direct payments to farmers as set-offs (or incentives for change over to sustainable crops), private procurement mechanism, etc., will be integral components of the programme.

FFS must be the bed rock of *parivartan*. There must be at least 10 one-acre plots in all identified villages. The cost of raising crops will be borne by the project, but yield belongs to the farmer. The marketing arrangements must be in place *ab initio* and the prospective private buyers should be part of the extension effort and the FFS. A robust communication campaign is a must.

A detailed institutional arrangement for *parivartan* has to be evolved, with touch points in each village and administrative arrangements at the district and State levels. The project management unit must consist of administrators, civil society and professionals from agriculture and communication.

Parivartan should run for about five years. Project costing, time-lines and outcomes must be worked out based on detailed baseline survey and recommendations from PAU. An eminent economist averred that, to consolidate changes, incentive of ₹20,000 per farmer/hectare/year for a five-year period will be required.

Project formulators must factor the savings in power and fertiliser subsidies. Learnings from this programme will be of immense value for the government(s) as it will be transforming its role to a regulator and arbitrator of disputes from being a party to production and procurement. *Parivartan* should be supported through a soft loan to the State Government.

The writer is Deputy Managing Director, NABARD

OPRAN WINFREY

MUMBAI | MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 6, 2021 | www.ftpressjournal.in

Climate change, the cloud of doom that looms over the future of agriculture

Internal Affairs
K C Singh



The farmers' protest against the three farm laws passed by the Union government in September 2020 had raged for over nine months now. Coincidentally, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, two of the three states other than Haryana, at the forefront of the highway blockades around New Delhi, face Vidhan Sabha elections in February 2022. Thus, the focus has been on collateral political issues or, as in Punjab, on infighting regarding leadership. The real issues, especially the future of agriculture in India as global warming affects rain patterns and increases temperatures, have been largely neglected.

A recent issue of The Economist magazine takes up the impact that climate change is already having on global agriculture and crops. Therefore, while the concerns of farmers over the three 'black laws' need to be addressed, a debate is needed over the larger issue of the future of agriculture in India, against the backdrop of climate change. The magazine quotes a study that for every degree that global temperatures rise, the yield of maize or corn could drop by 7.2 per cent and that of wheat and rice by 6 and 3.2 per cent respectively. Two-thirds of the calories that humans consume come from these crops. On the other hand, the global population is expected to keep growing, going from 7.8 billion to a peak of 9.7 billion in 2064. The farmers' agitation is merely the symptom of the disease, the real problem being the grain-pro-

duction states being stuck in a rice-wheat cycle, which they want the Union government to sustain. Instead of enabling them to move to Green Revolution II, the Union gov-

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ernment is supporting a rice-wheat cycle, which they want the Union government to sustain. Instead of enabling them to move to Green Revolution II, the Union gov-



The nine-month-old farmers' agitation is merely the symptom of the disease. The real problem is the grain-producing states' being stuck in a rice-wheat cycle, which they want the Union government to sustain. Instead of enabling them to move to Green Revolution II, the Union government, with its new farm laws, appears to be cutting them loose and letting market forces determine their fate. Meanwhile, no one has even considered how to prepare Indian agriculture for global warming

ernment, with its new farm laws, appears to be cutting them loose and letting market forces determine their fate. Meanwhile, no one has even considered how to pre-

pare Indian agriculture for global warming. In Maharashtra and Karnataka, there have been sugarcane farmers affected by droughts that have impacted their output and

depletion of the water table, the brackish water under Rajasthan and Haryana has begun pushing into the sweet water of Punjab's subsoil. Making the most of this

ter, and finding themselves requiring greater amounts of chemical fertilisers. A related issue is the degradation of the soil quality in Punjab and Haryana and the leaching of fertilisers into subsoil water. There is a whole 'canoe ball' in areas where this contaminated water is drunk. But these are not the issues being debated by politicians nor solutions offered. The nature of Indian politics makes public debate personal and divisive. Globally, there is already a debate underway on the kind of adaptation that must be undertaken to both mitigate the impact of climate change on crops and productivity, and also exploit new opportunities.

The clear new pattern is of crops moving northward in western nations and Russia. Till recently, the only cold weather crops in Canada were wheat, peas and canola. Now, corn and soybeans are being grown in the same areas as temperatures have moderated. Arable land will grow because of the same warming phenomena, from 6 per cent to 41 per cent in Sweden and 5 per cent to 85 per cent in Finland. Russian President Vladimir Putin has unveiled a 'national action plan' to exploit the availability of more productive land in coming years. Already since 2015, Russia has been the world's number one wheat producer.

Why is the Indian government wasting time and energy over three farm laws when the larger challenge to Indian farming is already upon them: less arable land and climate change? The new master plan to break India out of existing cropping and marketing patterns is over due. The private sector can assist but it is the government that has to be the guide and mentor.

The writer is former secretary, Ministry of External Affairs



BUSINESS LINE CHENNAI 14/09/2021

India may get exclusive rights to sell Basmati in EU

Deadline for settling GI tag case expires without any pact with Pakistan

SUBRAMANIRAM MANCOMBU

Chennai, September 13
India will likely walk away with the sole right to the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Basmati rice in the European Union (EU) after the deadline for settling the issue with Pakistan expired on September 10, experts have said.

It will give New Delhi exclusive rights to market the fragrant rice in the EU as "Basmati" rice and deter other countries, mainly Pakistan, from selling the foodgrain as "Basmati".

"The current technical circumstances firmly indicate India would emerge victorious in the Basmati GI tag

case at the European Commission," said S Chandrasekaran, a trade analyst and author of the book *Basmati Rice: The Natural History Geographical Indication*.

One of the key issues pointed in favour of India is that Pakistan has only filed its opposition to granting GI tag to India and not an application for the exclusive indication tag.

Headed to EU courts?
"Pakistan is playing a losing game," said the expert.

Dubai-based international global intellectual



India had actually filed the petition seeking GI tag for its basmati rice on July 18, 2018. However, India's application was notified only last year

On the other hand, India and the EU have begun talks for a free trade agreement and a pact is likely to be signed soon. Viewed in this background, India would get the GI tag from the Union at the earliest.

"Since India sought additional time for further consultation, it is a clear indication that it wanted to settle the issue amicably and in a responsible manner. Looks like India and Pakistan have not reached resolution during the consultation process," said S Chandrasekaran.

Next logical step
According to him, India had actually filed the petition seeking GI tag for its Basmati rice on July 18, 2018. However, the notification on

India's application was issued only last year. "This indicates that the EU had examined India's application thoroughly and had gone into all issues to see if India met all requisite conditions. The EU should have notified India's application within six months but it took over two years to do that. This means the EU has upheld India's sanctity in applying for the GI tag," said the Basmati rice history book author.

He points out at the EU notification of September 2 last year which read: "In accordance with Article 50 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 the Commission has examined that application and concluded that it fulfils the conditions laid down in that Regulation." This itself is a vindication of India get-

ting the exclusive GI tag in the EU, he said. According to Chandrasekaran, in some of the transborder issues on GI, the EU has ruled in favour of Croatia for "political reasons". On the other hand, in the Collio PDO (protected designation of origin) case, the EU strictly adhered to the area of cultivation despite Slovenia pressing for expansion of the area. This case can be equated with the Basmati GI case.

Opposition from Pakistan
Pakistan opposed giving exclusive rights to India, contending that its farmers are also growing the variety. The Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan filed its objection to giving exclusive rights to India for selling Basmati in the EU.

property attorneys, United Trademark and Services, said if India and Pakistan failed to reach an agreement and the EU rules in favour of either party, "the matter could end up before the European Court".

BUSINESS LINE CHENNAI 20/9/2021

Building an agri-preneurs ecosystem, the APEDA way

Aim of the program is to boost farm exports and make India self-reliant

M ANGAMUTHU

India's agriculture business, especially for exports, lacks innovative ideas, technologies and suffers from inadequate funding in export-oriented agri-products' supply chain. It is in this backdrop that the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has initiated a programme for agri-preneurs on the lines of the Government's 'startup India' initiative.

The objective of the 'start-up agri-preneurs' programme is to bring about a revolution in agriculture exports and use it as a key driving force for *Aatmanirbhar Bharat*. It aims to boost agriculture exports by promoting budding start-up agri-preneurs which, in turn, contributes to the growth of the very basic unit of agriculture, the farmers, by facilitating the start-ups to source the products directly from the rural agricultural areas.

In 2018, India was ranked 44th among 160 countries on World Bank's Logistics Performance Index, while China was placed 26th, Chile was at 34 and South Africa was at 33rd.

The stagnant growth of agriculture exports is the higher lo-

gistics cost which is estimated at around 13 per cent of the GDP.

APEDA is addressing this issue by implementing digitalisation of export-oriented agri-produce supply chains. This is expected to improve transparency, reduce inefficiencies, logistics cost and enhance global competitiveness.

Roping in agri varsities

APEDA has been interacting with state agriculture universities, Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutions and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) institutes on food processing and suggesting introduction of courses in agri exports to orient these start-ups for international sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) requirements of importing countries.

It is in the process of signing MoUs with all State agriculture universities, ICAR institutions and stakeholders in agri-product supply chain. APEDA has signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad, Telangana strengthening the supply, implementing international standards and regulation for export for millet which is in demand as a



The stagnant growth of agriculture exports is the higher logistics cost which is estimated at around 13% of the GDP

super food.

It has also signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai to develop export-oriented packaging for all exportable agriculture products.

Developed countries are continuously raising the bar of food safety parameters and insisting on compliance with their strict standards and regulations on food products. These stringent requirements are a difficult bar to meet for these new agri-preneurs.

APEDA assists these business endeavours by setting up labs and giving information about the regulatory requirements of importing countries and extending subsidies for international certifications such as CE, HACCP, ISO etc. It updates the start-ups about these demand-

ing standards and regulatory requirements and suggests mitigation plans to meet the high MRLs.

Guidance, marketing

To strengthen the export-oriented agri-produce supply chain for budding agri-preneurs, APEDA is guiding them through the Internet of things (IoT) platform and its usage in the agriculture value chain, including precision farming, plant health monitoring and use of drones for precision agriculture, packaging, tracking of produce in transit.

APEDA also aims to assist in the evolution of structured marketing strategies for export of food products, market intelligence to make informed decisions, skill development, capacity building and high

quality packaging.

By extending financial aid through the market development plan, all of these can be executed in addition to international exposure by organising buyer-seller meets, exchange of trade delegations and opportunities to participate in international trade fairs.

22 Trial shipments

To motivate the start-up agri-preneurs, APEDA has commenced 22 trial shipments of ethnic food products such as moringa, organic millets, red rice, flavoured jaggery powder, jamun fruits, Burmese grapes, dragon fruits, etc.

APEDA is supplying information to start-up agri-preneurs on export of organic and geographical indication (GI) agriculture products and expedite registration of new GI agri products with the GI registry in Chennai.

It has also developed an agri-exchange portal for exporters to equip them with information on matrix of market research, analysis, intelligence and identification of products. This portal has data on agriculture exports and analysis to unveil the export tracks for start-up agripreneurs.

The author is Chairman, APEDA. The views are personal

Innovative solutions can douse farm fires

MANJIT S. KANG

It must be recognised that a practice that has been going on for over 50 years cannot be stopped at once. Farmers need economically viable solutions. Farmers should have the choice to adopt a solution that best suits them. A sustainable agricultural system is one that produces abundant food without depleting the earth's resources and without polluting the environment. Thus, it is best if crop stubble is incorporated into the soil. This would enhance soil health and curtail air pollution.

THE problem of burning of crop residue (stubble) following combine harvesting of paddy in Punjab and Haryana has been around for more than 50 years. The main causes of stubble burning are the narrow window for sowing wheat after harvesting paddy, labour shortage, much stubble left behind by the combines, and the high cost of removing/transporting stubble.

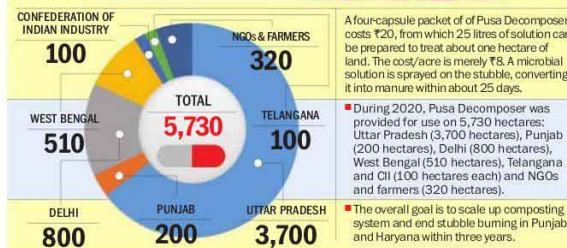
As estimated by the International Rice Research Institute, each kg of milled rice generates 0.7 to 1.4 kg of rice straw, depending upon the variety of rice, cutting height, and moisture content at the time of harvesting.

While wheat straw can be fed to cattle, paddy straw contains a high amount of silica, which makes it less palatable to livestock and less digestible. In addition, it wears out components (e.g., conveyers and grinders) of the processing machines.

Stubble burning causes emissions that worsen air pollution. Some of the emitted gases are also responsible for global warming and climate change, which are expected to impact all aspects of agriculture, food security and rural livelihoods.

According to the Hyderabad-based International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Punjab's farmers lose Rs 133 crore worth of urea and Rs 220-260 crore worth of all nutrients in burning crop residue. Stubble burning also kills essential soil organisms and farm-friendly insects.

As Albert Einstein put it, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them." It must be recognised that a practice that has been going on for over 50 years cannot be stopped at once.



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taken out of it. A sustainable agricultural system is one that produces abundant food without depleting the earth's resources and without polluting the environment. Thus, it is best if crop stubble is incorporated into the soil. This would enhance soil health and curtail air pollution.

Earlier, PUA and ICRISAT developed a method that produced compost from crop stubble in about 45 days. That compost contained about 2% nitrogen, 1.5% phosphorus, and 1.5% potassium, which could increase crop production by 4 to 9%. This method required much labour.

The most recent and most promising method, Pusa Decomposer, has been developed by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) to decompose paddy stubble in the field itself.

The IARI has partnered with two outfits: a company called Nurture Farm, whose mission is "Making agriculture profitable and environmentally sustainable today and in the future", and IIM-Rohtak. The company has enrolled 25,000 farmers from Punjab and Haryana and plans to cover five lakh acres of farmland this year.

Reduce area under paddy cultivation: Noted rice expert Dr GS Khush has suggested that area under paddy could be reduced from 27 lakh hectares to 15 lakh hectares in Punjab. This could be a doubly beneficial — helping with crop diversification and saving groundwater. Farmers can choose shorter-duration varieties of paddy, giving themselves more time for planting wheat.

Biofuel production: As done in countries such as China, the Philippines, Malaysia and Japan, crop stubble could be used to produce bioenergy. Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA)

has listed on its website some energy development projects from paddy straw. They have indicated that several biomass power projects (total capacity of 97.5 MW) have already been commissioned and are operational in Punjab, utilising 8.8 lakh metric tonnes of paddy straw annually.

In January 2021, a paddy straw briquetting plant was inaugurated at Kulburchan village (Patiala), which has a per-day capacity of 100 tonnes. The Punjab State Council for Science and Technology was instrumental in setting up this plant.

Straw management systems: The Punjab Government provides 50% subsidy to individual farmers and 80% to cooperatives or groups of farmers for the purchase of machines such as Happy Seeder. The government has already provided close to one lakh machines on a subsidy of about Rs 1,000 crore. The much-improved Happy Seeder allows farmers to plant wheat directly in the standing paddy stubble. When, in the not-too-distant future, Pusa Decomposer becomes available on a large scale, the paddy stubble could be turned into useful manure in a short time.

Build cheap houses from paddy stubble: I chaired a workshop on 'Innovations in Paddy Straw Management' in Chandigarh in December 2018. Harsharan 'Dhido' Gill demonstrated how to build a room from paddy straw. He stated that, based on substantial research, houses built from paddy straw were being promoted in the US and Europe. Such houses cost much less than traditional houses and saved electricity, as these houses stayed warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

The author is former Vice-Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana

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Agri exports play crucial role in doubling farmers' income: Govt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, September 7

FOOD AND CONSUMER affairs minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said agriculture exports have an important role to play in doubling farmers' income, and stressed the need for boosting India's outward shipments to be among top-5 nations in farm exports.

Goyal and agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Tuesday addressed the second day of the Chief Ministers' Conference on initiatives and schemes of the ministry of agriculture and farmers welfare, according to an official statement.

Speaking at the event, Tomar asked the states to take advantage of the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund so that the benefits can percolate to the

Food and consumer affairs minister Piyush Goyal stressed the need for boosting India's outward shipments to be among top-5 nations in farm exports

small and marginal farmers who lack warehousing and cold storage facilities at the farm gate.

On digital agriculture mission, he said the farmers' database is our wealth and will usher in focused programme delivery, reducing seepages, better policy formulation and smart farming in the country.

Database with 5.5 crore farmers is ready and work is progressing for verifying others with land records, he added.

Tomar said the Union Cabinet recently approved the National Edible Oil Mission (NMEO-OP) for palm oil with a focus on the northeast region and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Through this scheme, he said the production of edible oils will be accelerated in the country, thereby reducing the import of edible oils.

This mission will immensely benefit the palm oil farmers, increase capital investment, generate employment, reduce dependence on imports and increase the income of farmers.

During the meeting, the northeastern states appreciated the National Edible Oil Palm Mission started by the central government, and assured their cooperation in its implementation at their level.

Amazon India launches Kisan store

Farmers can buy over 20 brands of agri-input products on the platform



OUR BUREAU

Bengaluru, September 2

Amazon India has launched the Kisan (farmer) store that will make agri-inputs such as seeds, farm tools and accessories, available to buyers at competitive prices with the added convenience of delivery at their doorstep. The Amazon Kisan store was launched by Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.

"Farmers can choose to shop for thousands of agri-input products from over 20 brands on Amazon.in using any of the five Indian languages including Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, and Malayalam," the company said in a statement.

Farmers can also visit any one

The products on Amazon are offered by hundreds of small businesses present across India

of the over 50,000 Amazon Easy stores across the country and avail assisted shopping facility. The Amazon Easy store owners will help farmers browse the selection, identify a product they like, create their Amazon accounts, place orders and check-out to buy.

The selection of products on Amazon are offered by hundreds of small and medium businesses present across the country. Farmers can opt for cash on delivery as a payment option along with other digital

channels like net banking, UPI, Amazon pay, and debit & credit cards.

"It gives me immense pleasure to launch Amazon Kisan Store. I hope this initiative proves to be beneficial for the farmers and the people associated with the farming community to engage with the Indian farmers in the modern era of digital economy, increase the productivity of agricultural produce, provide services like logistics industry," Tomar said.

'Growth for agri sector'

Highlighting various government initiatives and schemes, Tomar said, "The country and the world are well-known with the skill of our agricultural scientists. I hope that this initiative will prove to be successful as well as beneficial and Amazon India will continue to contribute to fulfill Prime Minister's dream of building a self-reliant India."

BUSINESS LINE CHENNAI 3/9/2021

‘Encourage drone manufacturing, use in Tamil Nadu’

AJ VINAYAK

Mangaluru, September 2

Proper encouragement to the manufacture and use of drones in agriculture sector can alter the sector's landscape in Tamil Nadu in the years to come, according to S Chandramohan, Director and Group President (Finance and Investment), TAFE.

Participating in a panel discussion on “Rejuvenating Tamil Nadu's Farm Sector”, jointly organised by BusinessLine on Thursday, he said the adoption of drones is triggering a new service model in the country, including Tamil Nadu, where crop input companies along with the drone operators and other value chain stakeholders offer it as a service to the farmer.

On the use of other technolo-



(Clockwise from right bottom) Amit Mundawala, Co-founder and MD, StarAgri; Aleen Mukherjee, NICR COO and FPO strategy head, NCDEX; Prof N Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU; S Chandramohan, Director and Group President (Finance and Investment), TAFE; GR Chintala, Nabard Chairman; and Subramani MR, Commodities Editor, BusinessLine

gies, he said the use of four-wheel tractors and rice transplanters is catching up. The cost of manual transplant is around ₹7,000 per acre where as with the rice transplanters it is ₹3,500 per acre. Farmers can save huge money, and labour shortage can be addressed with this, Chandramohan said.

Role of FPOs

Welcoming the Tamil Nadu's plans to establish around 1,100 FPOs (farmer producer organisations), Aleen Mukherjee, COO of

NICR and Head FPO Strategy of NCDEX, said these FPOs are likely to aggregate almost 92 per cent of farmers in the State.

Highlighting the profitable pulse production scheme, crop insurance scheme, he said there is a huge amount of synergy what a model market such as NCDEX can provide as well where government and farmers and FPOs can actually utilise the market tools.

Sugarcane area

On the decline in the sugarcane area in Tamil Nadu, N Kumar,

Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), said profitable short duration crops such as maize have taken up in sugarcane growing area.

Considering the importance of farm mechanisation, TNAU has approved a diploma in agri engineering for the first time in India, he said.

Start-ups

Amit Mundawala, Co-founder and Managing Director, Star Agri-warehousing & Collateral Management Ltd, said though a lot of agritech start-ups have emerged, there is a need for better farmer linkages.

He said FPOs can act as an intermediary between tech companies and farmers.

Subramani Ra Mancombu, Commodities Editor, BusinessLine, moderated the webinar presented by NABARD with NCDEX as the knowledge partner. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and StarAgri Warehousing & Collateral Management were the other partners of the webinar.



TELANGANA TODAY, HYDERABAD 03 SEPTEMBER 2021

TS witnessing golden age in agri: Minister

Niranjan Reddy urges corporate sector to set up food processing units in the State

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy on Thursday urged the corporate sector to come forward and set up food processing units in Telangana State. Building an agricultural ecosystem is important for the overall development and Telangana is witnessing a golden age in agriculture with farm innovations, smart poultry, smart agriculture and seamless growth in land farming, he said.

The need of the hour is to produce more with less natural resources. The govern-

Telangana is the only State in the country that has provided a fully functional farmers insurance

— RAGHUNANDAN RAO, AGRICULTURE SECRETARY

ment is giving importance to setting up food processing zones, he said, in a message at the Agri Business Summit organised by RAY Consulting in the city.

Raghunandan Rao, Agriculture Secretary, said Telangana was the only State to provide 24 hours power supply to all sectors. It is also perhaps the first

State to provide investment and input assistance to every farmer twice a year at the beginning of the crop season, he said, adding that about Rs 40,000 crore assistance was extended under this scheme so far.

Telangana is also the only State that has provided a fully functional farmers' insurance. As a result of these

efforts, there has been a 40 per cent growth in cultivated area in the last seven years, he said, adding that huge investments had gone into irrigation. “Farm mechanisation has also gone up and warehousing capacities have also increased. Telangana has fully trained agriculture graduates available for every 5,000 acre of cultivable land,” Raghunandan Rao said.

Industries Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan highlighted the efforts put in by the State to promote agri-food processing centres and urged agri-entrepreneurs to use this opportunity.

Dr US Awasthi, MD of IFFCO and Dr Deepak Shah, CMD of Sulphur Mills were honoured with ABSA Lifetime Achievement Awards.

“Cooperatives are the real models of growth of any nation. IFFCO Group contributed significantly to the GDP of the country with a turnover of over 7 billion dollars. We have reduced our average energy and water consumption. We reach out to 2.5 million farmers each year. Every fourth bag of fertiliser sold in India belongs to IFFCO. During 2022-21 we marketed 137 lakh MT of fertilisers in the country,” said Awasthi.

HT MINT, ND 02 AUGUST 2021

PI Industries' investors draw comfort from CSM strength

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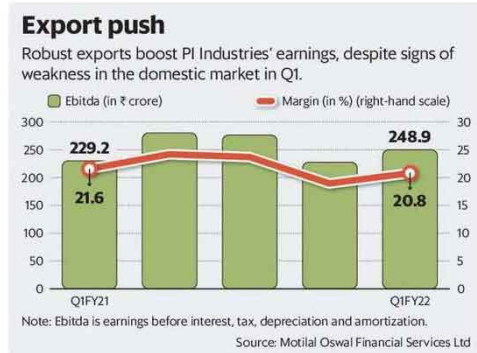
Shares of PI Industries Ltd scaled fresh highs on Wednesday, taking the year-to-date gains to more than 50%. Notably, its market capitalization is also more than ₹51,000 crore now.

Investors seem to draw comfort from the firm's robust growth in the custom synthesis manufacturing (CSM) segment and recent acquisition of active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) and intermediate business of Ind-Swift Laboratories Ltd, which marks its foray into the market.

The company reported 31% growth in CSM for the June quarter despite the second wave restrictions, a continuation of the momentum from 35% growth seen in FY21. The segment contributed more than two-thirds of the revenues and has a strong order book of more than \$1.5 billion as of June quarter. Analysts believe that this would ensure growth for the next three years. The company highlighted that 90% of CSM revenues are from patented molecules, which augur well for growth prospects. Further, the company has been adding new

The company reported 31% growth in its custom synthesis manufacturing segment for the June quarter

operationalize two manufacturing facilities with the capacity enhancement of about 15% in key products and also commissioning of a pharma lab. Its acquisition of the API and intermediate business of Ind-Swift Laboratories is expected to help in boosting revenues as well as growth. The acquisition is estimated to drive FY23 Ebitda by 10.5%, while its profit after tax may rise by



molecules too. Having commercialized five in FY21, the company plans about six new molecule launches in FY22. Of these, three already had been launched in the June quarter.

In its annual report, the company indicated that it will operationalize two manufacturing facilities with the capacity enhancement of about 15% in key products and also commissioning of a pharma lab.

Its acquisition of the API and intermediate business of Ind-Swift Laboratories is expected to help in boosting revenues as well as growth. The acquisition is estimated to drive FY23 Ebitda by 10.5%, while its profit after tax may rise by

6.5%, estimate analysts at Sharekhan.

"Growing its presence in the pharma API space remains critical going forward," a Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd report said.

That said, there are some challenges for the company. The lower-than-expected rainfall remains a near-term concern. As such, domestic revenues declined 13% year-on-year due to base effect and delayed rainfall. Analysts hope that a diverse portfolio would cushion it earnings.

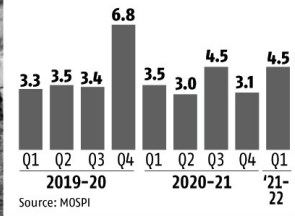
PI Industries' stock has been trading at an average of 33 times its one-year forward earnings for the past three years, point out analysts at Motilal Oswal. Considering the acquisition of the API business and growth trajectory, valuations appear modest.

SATISH KUMAR/MINT

BUSINESS STANDARD MUMBAI 01/09/2021

Despite high base, agri sector clocks growth

CONSISTENT PERFORMER
GVA of agriculture and allied activities at constant prices (in %)



SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 31 August

While all other sectors showed a surge due to the base effect, agriculture and allied activities did not have any such concern and the sector maintained its consistently good performance in the first quarter of FY22, clocking a growth rate of 4.5 per cent against 3.5 per cent during the same period last fiscal year.

Growth at current prices in Q1 of FY22 was also impressive at 11.1 per cent as against 5.6 per cent during the same period last fiscal year, thus translating into an inflation impact of 5.5 per cent. However, experts and market watchers have concern over final kharif output because the southwest monsoon continues to remain erratic over large parts of Central and Western India despite the recent revival in the rains.

Rain in August this year was 24.1 per cent less than the normal. The month according to

some experts was the sixth driest since 1901 and the third driest in this century, after 2005 and 2009.

August and July are the two most important months in the four-month southwest monsoon season and any drop in rain in those could have a debilitating impact on final crop output. The data of the India Meteorological Department showed in August this year almost all parts of India except the East and Northeast, received less than normal rain.

Central and North-West India suffered the most, with 39.2 per cent and 30.6 per cent less than normal rain.

"Agriculture has been the shining star once again with the rabi crop adding to this growth of 4.5 per cent over 3.5 per cent last year. The kharif prospects would be critical here and the monsoon and sowing pattern need to be tracked," Madan Sabnavis, chief economist at CARE Ratings, said.

BUSINESS LINE CHENNAI 25/9/2021

'Success of oil palm mission hinges on States'

Centre has ticked all the boxes the industry asked for: Balram Yadav, MD, Godrej Agrovet

OUR BUREAU
Mangaluru, September 24

Stakeholders and State governments can make the Centre's 'National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm' a success, according to Balram Yadav, Managing Director of Godrej Agrovet.

Making a special presentation on National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) at a meeting followed by the annual general meeting of Solvent Extractors' Association (SEA) of India in Goa on Thursday, he said the Union Government has ticked all the boxes that the industry had asked for. "I have no complaints, and I think we have got a deal which we had probably never expected as well," he said.

Stating that a little bit of hand holding is very important at this juncture, he said "the ball is in our court and

possibly in the State governments' court to make it a success. I am very sure if they support it well and utilise the subsidies given by the Central government well, it (NMEO-OP) will be a grand success."

Addresses all problems

Highlighting some of the issues being faced by the industry, he said the NMEO-OP has addressed these issues. The issues included the lack of quality imported seedlings due to low subsidy, random changes in FFB (fresh fruit bunches) price formula to support farmers at the cost of the processor, non-availability of fertiliser, delay in the release of subsidies by State governments, and lack of overall farmer hand-holding during the gestation period.

The Government has given focus on improving road infrastructure while focusing



Balram Yadav, MD, Godrej Agrovet

on North-Eastern parts of the country with regard to the implementation of NMEO-OP. Under the special package for north-east and Andaman and Nicobar islands, the mission offers 50 per cent of the actual cost and 20 per cent of the total outlay on oil palm for roads from field to the nearest FFB collection centre.

"Can you imagine? The government is saying that we will help you make roads to promote a crop," he said.

On the earlier initiatives in oil palm cultivation, Yadav said it has been successful

only in Andhra Pradesh, even though there are factories in Tamil Nadu, Goa, Mizoram, etc.

Difference in acreage

Every State started the whole thing with the big bang and kept quiet, he said.

Though the Government says that around 3.7 lakh hectares is under oil palm now, it is not more than 2 lakh hectares, he said. Most of the plants have been uprooted. The government still counts area where they have paid subsidy, whereas farmers have taken subsidy and uprooted, he said.

On the opposition to the NMEO-OP by certain people, he said forests have not been destroyed in the earlier plantings. Some people start opposing everything because of the lack of knowledge. He said the rainfall has improved in places wherever oil palm plantation density is more in Andhra Pradesh in the last 15 years.

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