



# SASYAM

## FOUNDATION

UNITED FOR SOLUTIONS

5<sup>th</sup> Edition



# VICHAR

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



CULTIVATING IDEAS, GROWING FUTURES

# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## Tamil Nadu records negative growth rate in agriculture and allied activities.

Even as Tamil Nadu is gearing up for the upcoming Kuruvai cultivation season, it has experienced a negative growth rate in agriculture and allied activities during 2024-25, for the first time in eight years. Last year, the growth rate in real terms was minus 0.09%, according to a perusal of the data of the Gross State Value Added by economic activity for Tamil Nadu (advance estimates for the States). Assessed at constant prices (base year: 2011-12), the data were published on the website of the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation two months ago.

SOURCE- THE HINDU



## Foodgrain production up by 106 lakh tonnes in FY25, hits 1,663.91 lakh tonnes: Shivraj Chouhan

India's total foodgrain production increased by over 106 lakh tonnes in 2024-25, reaching 1,663.91 lakh tonnes, according to Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Rabi production also rose from 1600.06 lakh tonne to 1645.27 lakh tonne.

SOURCE- THE HINDU BUISNESS



## TN government lists out achievements in agri, dairy, fisheries sectors.

The Tamil Nadu government reported a record 5.66% increase in agricultural growth from 2021 to 2024, with an increase in irrigation area from 36.07 lakh hectares in 2020-21 to 38.33 lakh hectares in 2023-24. The state government has allocated ₹1,94,076 crore to agriculture, dairy development, and fisheries sectors. SOURCE- THE HINDU



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

**Farming gets smarter: The real impact of AI on agriculture today.**

AI is revolutionizing agriculture by transforming farm operations with data-driven precision. AI systems analyze soil moisture, weather forecasts, and plant requirements to determine when and where to irrigate, conserving water and improving crop outcomes. This shift from fixed schedules to AI-driven systems is transforming farming and addressing age-old problems. Source - THE HINDU BUISNESSLINE



**India's foodgrain production rises by 106 lakh tonnes in FY25, hits 1,663.91 lakh tonnes: Agri Minister Shivraj Chouhan.**

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced India's foodgrain production for 2024-25 has increased to 1,663.91 lakh tonnes, a rise of over 106 lakh tonnes from the previous year. The ministry aims to make India the world's food basket, focusing on fulfilling domestic needs and assisting other nations. SOURCE- THE ECONOMIC TIMES



**Odisha Govt advances Mango value chain in Patnagarh under PSFPO to boost export.**

A workshop was held in Balangir, India, to improve post-harvest management practices for mango growers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and Cluster-Based Business Organizations. The event, organized under the Promotion and Stabilization of Farmer Producer Organizations (PSFPO) project, aimed to reduce post-harvest losses, maintain fruit quality, and enhance access to domestic and export markets. The training focused on sorting, grading, ripening, hygienic packaging, and storage, as well as understanding market requirements and export readiness. SOURCE- AGROSPECTRUM



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## India plans rapeseed meal export revival to China.

India is aiming to regain its share in China's rapeseed meal import market by leveraging its lower price advantage. The Solvent Extractors' Association (SEA) has urged China to ease import restrictions on Indian rapeseed meal. However, India's oilmeal export sector faces competition from Distillers Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS), a protein-rich alternative in animal feed. SOURCE - AGRO SPECTRUM



## Odisha-Gates Foundation pact unveils climate-smart agriculture push.

The Odisha Government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on climate-smart agriculture, enhancing dairy and fisheries productivity, and providing technical support. The MoU also includes the launch of a Climate-Smart Agriculture Alliance, critical research reports, and the official release of Odisha's Agriculture Statistics 2023-24. SOURCE- AGROSPECTRUM



## Indian Council of Agricultural Research to host annual conference of vice chancellors & directors.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is hosting an Annual Conference on 'Convergence for Action: Shaping Agricultural Research, Education and Extension for Viksit Bharat@2047', aiming to strengthen India's agricultural innovation ecosystem. Key policymakers, academic experts, and experts will discuss strategic reforms. SOURCE- FNB NEWS



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## Bihar showcases global agri-food potential at International Buyer-Seller Meet 2025

The International Buyer Seller Meet (IBSM) in Patna, Bihar, was organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, Trade Promotion Council of India, and the Government of Bihar. The event attracted 70 international buyers from 20 countries, 50 domestic and 20 institutional buyers, and boosted procurement opportunities for local MSMEs and FPOs. The event aimed to promote trade, strengthen exports, and unlock Bihar's agri-food potential.



## Union Agriculture Minister virtually interacts with State Agriculture Ministers to discuss 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan'

Union Agriculture Minister virtually interacts with State Agriculture Ministers to discuss 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan'. Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan discussed the upcoming 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan', a campaign aimed at transforming Indian agriculture. Chouhan urged states to participate and reach farmers to benefit from agricultural innovations and technological interventions. The campaign, conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, will involve 2,170 scientists visiting villages to train and engage with farmers. The goal is to increase agricultural productivity and ensure food security.



## Tea Board looking at tea tasting certification course to skill youth: Commerce secretary Sunil Barthwal

The Tea Board of India plans to launch tea tasting certification courses. This initiative aims to skill the youth and boost tea literacy. It will also promote tea tourism in India. Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal announced this on International Tea Day. India's tea exports increased to \$920 million in FY25.



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## Average mandi prices of major food crops ruling below MSP: RBI article

A recent RBI bulletin reveals that mandi prices for most major food crops, excluding wheat, are below MSP due to abundant harvests. While edible oil prices are rising, driven by soybean, sunflower, and mustard oil, vegetable prices show mixed trends. Favorable monsoon forecasts and increased fertilizer demand suggest a positive outlook for the upcoming kharif season, bolstering food security.



## Uttar Pradesh Backs Gene Editing to Drive Next Phase of Agricultural Growth

Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state, has urged for agri-modernisation driven by technology and science. At a state-level workshop on 'Biotechnology Applications for Crop Improvement', Dr K V Raju, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, emphasized the importance of enhancing yield, diversifying crops, and leveraging biotechnological tools to bridge yield gaps and boost farmer incomes. The state contributes nearly 20% to India's foodgrain output but faces major productivity gaps, such as rice yields and pulse productivity. Experts called for capacity building of state agriculture officials, agricultural universities, and KVKs to implement biotech advances responsibly. The workshop also highlighted the role of young innovators and the need for timely, science-driven reforms.



## 15% growth targeted in agriculture, allied sectors from Kharif

With the monsoon season fast approaching, the State government is setting a target of achieving 15 per cent growth rate in agriculture and allied sectors, beginning with the upcoming Kharif season. Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu emphasised the need for full preparedness and vigilance from all departments to realize this goal.



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## UP mango farmers warned of pest risk after rain, hailstorm hit state

Recent rainfall, hailstorms, and gusty winds are expected to cause pest infestation in mango crops in Uttar Pradesh, which contributes one-third to the country's total mango production. T Damodaran, Director of ICAR-Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, advises farmers to take timely action to control fruit flies and thrips, which can increase post-rainfall due to humid conditions and soil moisture. He suggests using 'methyl eugenol traps' and a jägery-based poison bait mixture for controlling adult fruit flies.



## Officials told to take measures to achieve 15% growth rate in allied agricultural sectors in A.P.

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Agriculture, Cooperation, Marketing, Animal Husbandry, and Fisheries Kinjarapu Atchannaidu has asked the officials of agriculture and allied departments to promote not only quality paddy cultivation but also horticultural crops. "Take measures to achieve 15% growth rate in allied agricultural sectors," he said during a video conference with the officials of agriculture and allied departments held at the Secretariat to assess the kharif preparedness.



## Barclays projects 7.2% growth in Q4 for India amid tax surge and improvement in agriculture sector

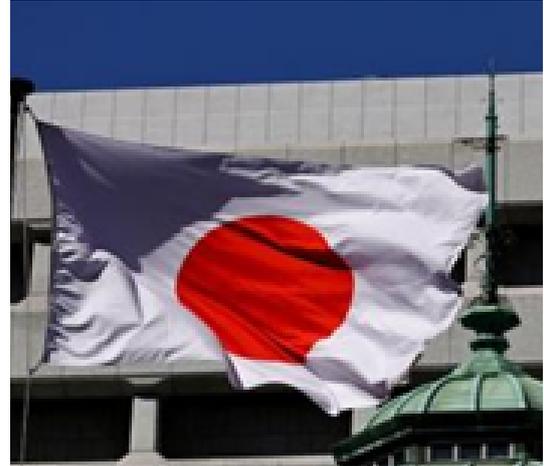
Barclays projects India's Q4 FY25 GDP growth at 7.2%, driven by net indirect tax growth and improved agriculture, while Nomura estimates 6.7%. Both firms forecast lower FY25 growth than official estimates. Easing inflation may prompt RBI rate cuts, supporting the economy amidst varying growth projections for the coming fiscal year.



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## Japan's agriculture minister resigns after inappropriate remark on rice

Japan's agriculture minister, Taku Eto, resigned due to an inappropriate remark about buying rice, as the public struggles with record high prices of the country's staple food. Eto claimed he never had to buy rice because his supporters always gave him the grain as gifts. The situation could be further trouble for Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's struggling minority government before a national election in July. Opposition parties threatened to submit a no-confidence motion against Eto if he doesn't resign voluntarily. SOURCE- BUSINESS STANDARD



## 7,400 villages to be covered under Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan in Haryana

The ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) is leading a nationwide campaign called "Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan" in Haryana, covering 7,400 villages with support from other institutes and the state government. The campaign aims to create awareness among farmers about modern technology and new seed varieties, and to lay the foundation for advanced agriculture and modern farming techniques. The initiative is designed as a two-way engagement with farmers. SOURCE- THE HINDUSTAN TIMES



## Accelerating India's agricultural transformation

India is transforming its agricultural sector, focusing on precision, sustainability, and empowered farmers. Addressing soil degradation, promoting balanced fertiliser use, and diversifying subsidies are crucial steps towards a future shaped by precision and technology-driven empowerment. SOURCE- THE BUSINESS LINE



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## Govt to establish 3 multi-state cooperatives for dairy sector growth

The Indian government has announced plans to establish three new multi-state cooperative societies for the dairy sector, focusing on animal feed production, dung management, and circular use of dead cattle residues. The aim is to create a sustainable dairy ecosystem that promotes a circular economy. The first society will focus on animal feed production, disease control, artificial insemination, dung management models, and circular use of dead cattle residues. SOURCE - THE BUISNESS STANDARDS



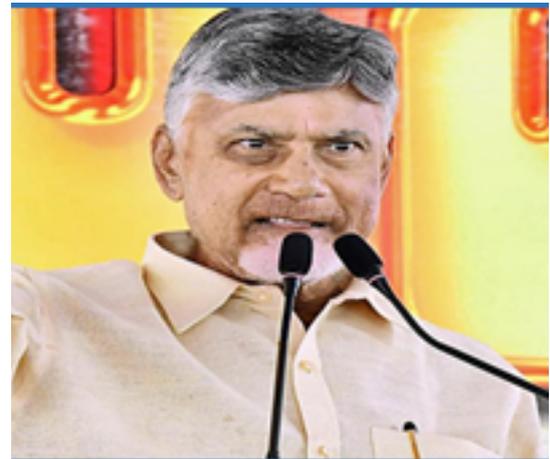
## Pingara FPC all set to lend a hand to areca farmers in Dakshina Kannada

Pingara Horticulture Farmers' Producer Company Ltd. (FPC) in Dakshina Kannada is set to assist arecanut growers struggling with labor shortages and other factors affecting plantation maintenance, starting next month, according to FPC president Ram Kishore Manchi. SOURCE= THE HINDU



## Naidu insists on scientific crop planning that aligns with global and domestic market trends

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed the Agriculture Department to prioritise scientific crop planning aligned with global and domestic market trends to protect the State's farmers. Informing farmers about suitable crops and cultivation areas beforehand ensures a balanced supply-demand ecosystem. Cultivation must be restricted to crops with strong market demand to safeguard farmers' income," Mr. Naidu said during a teleconference with officials and Ministers on Thursday. SOURCE- THE HINDU



# GENERAL AGRICULTURE

## Farmers continue protest against regulator across Vettar river; over 120 detained

Farmers and residents from over 30 villages staged protests on both banks of the Vettar river in Nagapattinam district on Friday (May 23, 2025), opposing the construction of a ₹49.5-crore regulator at Uthamasolapuram village in Thirumarugal block. The regulator, aimed at preventing seawater intrusion, is being constructed by the Water Resources Department, and preliminary work has already commenced. SOURCE- THE HINDU



## Provide clarity and announce proper guidelines on Annadata Sukhibhava scheme: A.P. Tenant Farmers Association

The Andhra Pradesh Tenant Farmers Association has demanded that the State government provide clarity and announce proper guidelines regarding the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme.

The association secretary Maganti Haribabu and others, in a statement on Wednesday, expressed concern that during the recent Cabinet meeting, the government did not issue a clear statement on the implementation of the scheme. SOURCE- THE HINDU



## India poised to emerge as world's leading potato producer, say international scientists

India is on track to become the world's top potato producer, overtaking China, according to scientists from the Peru-based International Potato Center (Centro Internacional de la Papa – CIP).

Speaking at a science symposium on 'Root and Tuber Crops Research and Development in India and South Asia', international experts projected that India's annual potato production could rise from the current 60 million tonnes to 100 million tonnes by 2050. SOURCE- THE HINDU

