



SASYAM

FOUNDATION

UNITED FOR SOLUTIONS

20th Edition



VICHAR

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



CULTIVATING IDEAS, GROWING FUTURES

GENERAL AGRICULTURE

NITI AAYOG CALLS FOR A STABLE, FUTURE-READY POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR ADOPTION OF FRONTIER TECHNOLOGIES IN AGRICULTURE

Recognising agriculture's critical role in ensuring economic resilience, rural prosperity, and food security, frontier technologies such as seed technologies, verticalised farming, digital twins, precision agriculture and smart sensors, agentic AI, predictive analytics, and advanced mechanisation offer unprecedented possibilities to significantly enhance productivity, sustainability, and farmer incomes," it said in its report Reimagining Agriculture: A Roadmap for Frontier Technology Led Transformation, released on Monday



RICE PRICES DOWN BY UP TO 36% POST-FESTIVE SEASON

After an initially hopeful monsoon, Indian farmers find themselves grappling with the fallout of unprecedented rains that have wreaked havoc on their crops. Once ambitious projections for cotton and soybean have fallen flat, casting a shadow over the agricultural sector and pushing farmers deeper into financial strain.



GOVT PROBES COMPLAINTS OF RE 1 CROP DAMAGE CLAIMS; WARNS INSURERS AGAINST PLAYING JOKES WITH FARMERS

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has ordered a probe into crop insurance claims as low as Re 1. He expressed strong disapproval of insurers providing such minimal amounts to farmers. The minister emphasized that such practices are unacceptable and likened them to jokes. He directed officials to ensure accurate crop damage assessments and expedite claim settlements.



GENERAL AGRICULTURE

UP GOVT TO GIVE 1 PC RECOVERY REBATE ON NON-HYBRID PADDY; 15 LAKH FARMERS TO BENEFIT

The government of Uttar Pradesh has introduced a 1% recovery rebate for non-hybrid paddy, reflecting the earlier support provided for hybrid varieties. This initiative is set to benefit approximately 1.5 million farmers, albeit adding an estimated burden of Rs 166 crore to the state's finances.



ISMA URGES CENTRE TO ALLOW 2 MILLION TONNES SUGAR EXPORTS AS PRODUCTION SEEN RISING 16% ON BUMPER MAHARASHTRA, KARNATAKA OUTPUT

The Indian Sugar & Bio-energy Manufacturers' Association (ISMA) has urged the government to permit the export of two million tonnes of sugar in 2025-26. This request follows projections of a 16% year-on-year increase in gross sugar production, driven by favorable weather and increased sugarcane cultivation in Maharashtra and Karnataka.



INDIA RAPESEED PLANTINGS TO HIT RECORD HIGHS DUE TO FAVOURABLE WEATHER, CHINESE DEMAND

India's rapeseed planting is set for a record high, driven by robust Chinese demand for rapeseed meal and favorable rainfall. This surge in production is expected to help the world's largest edible oil importer reduce costly overseas purchases. Farmers are planting more due to profitable returns from last year's crop.



GENERAL AGRICULTURE

UN UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL AND ACTING ADMINISTRATOR HAOLIANG XU TO VISIT INDIA FROM NOVEMBER 10–12

Haoliang Xu, UN Under-Secretary-General and Acting Administrator of UNDP, will visit India from November 10 to 12 to strengthen the partnership between India and UNDP. He will meet with government officials, private leaders, philanthropic organizations, and civil society to discuss initiatives in inclusive growth, digital transformation, and climate action. A highlight will be a reception celebrating 60 years of collaboration, alongside dialogues on digital health innovation and South-South cooperation, focusing on India's scalable digital platforms like eVIN, CoWIN, and U-WIN as global models for public health solutions



UPL LAUNCHES GLOBAL CAMPAIGN '#AFARMERCAN' AHEAD OF COP30, CHAMPIONING FARMERS AS CLIMATE HEROES

UPL launched the global campaign '#AFarmerCan - The hero you don't know you need' on November 6, 2025, ahead of the 30th UN Climate Change Conference. The campaign highlights farmers as critical players in climate resilience and seeks recognition from world leaders for their contributions. UPL, active in over 140 countries, shares 20 farmer stories showcasing agriculture's role in addressing greenhouse gas mitigation, energy security, water conservation, soil health, and biodiversity. The campaign advocates for a four-pillar incentive framework: rewarding climate-smart practices, providing subsidies and insurance, enhancing market access, and promoting digital tools and training. UPL's CEO, Jai Shroff, emphasizes that farmers deserve recognition as innovators and leaders in climate action.



GENERAL AGRICULTURE

GERMAN DELEGATION VISITS ICAR-IARI TO STRENGTHEN INDO-GERMAN COLLABORATION ON AGRIPV AND SUSTAINABLE FARMING

A German delegation, led by Parliamentary State Secretary Johann Saathoff, visited the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) on November 1, 2025, to explore AgriPV innovations and enhance Indo-German cooperation in sustainable farming. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director of ICAR-IARI, welcomed the delegation and discussed initiatives related to AgriPV systems aimed at promoting clean energy and net-zero farming practices. The visit highlighted joint efforts in integrating solar energy into agriculture and emphasized the establishment of a Centre of Excellence on AgriPV at IARI and the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), supported by GIZ India, reinforcing commitments to sustainable agriculture and climate-resilient farming systems.



INDIA, SRI LANKA HOLD FIRST JOINT WORKING GROUP MEETING TO BOOST COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

India and Sri Lanka have initiated a new phase of agricultural collaboration through their inaugural Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting in New Delhi on October 30, 2025. The meeting, co-chaired by officials from both nations, focused on enhancing cooperation in areas such as farm mechanization, sustainable farming, seed development, and food security. Discussions included joint research, capacity building, and technology transfer, with a strong emphasis on modern agricultural practices to combat climate challenges. The Sri Lankan delegation also visited the Indian Agricultural Research Institute to learn from India's agricultural innovations. Overall, the meeting aimed to bolster food and nutritional security through mutual cooperation.



GENERAL AGRICULTURE

AMUL RANKS WORLD'S NO. 1 COOPERATIVE, IFFCO SECOND IN GLOBAL MONITOR REPORT 2025

Amul has been ranked the world's top cooperative, followed by IFFCO in second place, according to the International Cooperative Alliance's World Cooperative Monitor 2025. This was announced at the ICA CM50 Conference in Doha, Qatar. Amul, which operates a three-tier cooperative system, links over 18,600 village cooperatives with approximately 3.6 million milk producers in India, many of whom are women, thus emphasizing rural women's empowerment. Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised the achievements and highlighted the government's commitment to support the cooperative sector.

