

25.10.2016



### **Scheme to promote cool season crops launched**

The State Horticulture Mission has launched a scheme to promote cool season crops at Vattavada, Kanthallur, and Devikulam.

A project was prepared when Agriculture Minister V.S. Sunil Kumar visited the area two months ago.

Under the scheme, 2,000 hectares will be brought under vegetable cultivation.

The vegetables to be grown in the area include carrot, beetroot, cabbage, chilly, onion, and potato. Farmers will be given Rs. 15,000 a hectare for starting cultivation so that they could shun private money lenders during sowing season.

The scheme plans to maximise the area of cultivation in three seasons.

The main season of vegetable harvesting is over and the farmers are ready to prepare land for the second season of farming.

Farming in the second and third seasons are limited owing to shortage of irrigation facilities and water.

The government had earlier launched a scheme to clear grandis cultivated in the three grama panchats to bring more area under vegetable cultivation.

However, the plan had been kept on hold following a ban on tree felling.

Now, 1,025 farmers' clubs had been constituted to make available funds through financial institutions.

Devikulam assistant agriculture director Bose Antony said farmers should apply to Krishi Bhavans to get financial help for starting vegetable cultivation.

***Under the scheme, 2,000 hectares in Idukki will be brought under vegetable cultivation***

## High price sweetens the deal for jaggery farmers



The season at the jaggery market at Anakapalle has begun on a positive note with a high average price.

Though the arrivals start trickling in from July, owing to heavy rains in August and September, hardly any significant stock has been coming to the market.

With the wet weather abating for nearly a fortnight now, the week began with arrivals of about 5,000 to 6,000 lumps a day.

The average rates for the black and the deluxe quality jaggery now are Rs. 360 and Rs. 430 respectively for 10 kg. This compares quite favourably with the Rs. 240 and Rs. 290 for the two varieties respectively at the beginning of 2015-16 season.

The 2015-16 season turned out to be quite good for the market. It received 30 lakh lumps (each of 15 kg) i.e., 45,000 tonnes of jaggery during the season.

The black quality began to be bought at Rs. 220 and moved up to Rs. 270 and the deluxe from Rs. 270 to Rs. 320 during the season. Traders stocked about 13,000 tonnes from January to April, say market sources.

When demand rose they started offloading beginning at Rs. 290 for the black variety and it shot up to Rs. 360. The best quality had begun at Rs. 330 and ended at a high of Rs. 450, according to market sources.

“What resulted in considerable improvement in the rate for the stocks enabling us to offload the inventory was the crop failure in Maharashtra,” analyses prominent trader Korukonda Butchiraju of Anakapalle.

Said to be the second largest jaggery market in the country, the Anakapalle market has a turnover of more than Rs. 110 crore.

Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra are major sugarcane producing States and failure in the latter has also resulted in spurt in sugar price, he points out. The price for a quintal of sugar that was more than Rs. 2,000 jumped to around Rs. 3,700 in 2015-16 season, he said.

### **Rs 285 crore for Musi modernisation project**



The Telangana government would soon take up modernisation of Musi irrigation project with an estimated cost of Rs.285 crore so that entire water that is available in its catchment area is utilised in Nalgonda district, without letting it flow into Krishna river, according to Irrigation Minister T. Harish Rao.

Making the announcement at Nakrekal in Nalgonda district on Monday, he said that the modernisation works would be taken up in the coming summer season and completed on a war-footing. The programmes like Mission Kakatiya to restore minor irrigation tanks and giving nine-hour power to farm sector during day time were all part of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's pro-farmer agenda, he noted.

Alleging that irrigation sector was grossly neglected in the district during the Congress rule, the minister said the Telangana government was trying to undo the injustice meted out by taking up new irrigation projects and redesigning some ongoing ones.

Pointing a finger at Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy for not even opposing Pulichintala project taken up to ensure water to third crop in Guntur district by submerging a large number of villages in Nalgonda, Mr. Harish Rao said it explained the Congress commitment to Telangana people.

The minister said the Telangana government was allocating 40 per cent funds in the budget for the benefit of the farming community. In united Andhra Pradesh, farmers were accorded last priority while industries and power supply to Hyderabad remained top agenda of the then rulers, he explained.

A meeting would be organised in Hyderabad soon on irrigation problems in Nakrekal constituency. Mr. Harish Rao also said that the water from SRSP Stage-II would reach Nalgonda district by June next.

Minister for Energy G. Jagadish Reddy, Vice Chairman of Legislative Council Nethi Vidyasagar, MP Dr. B. Narasaiah Goud, Zilla Parishad Chairman Balu Naik, legislators V. Veeresham and G. Kishore, Forest Development Corporation Chairman B. Narender Reddy and other attended.

### **Gloomy future stares at Chittoor farmers**

With the State government declaring as many as 53 mandals in Chittoor district as drought-hit, farmers are caught in the grip of dismay, searching for alternate crops and hoping for a shift from traditional crops of paddy, sugarcane and groundnut.

Farmers in the tail-end district, who mostly depend on rains, suffered over 80% loss in groundnut cultivation this year, following poor rainfall from July to September.

The mango crop was also wiped out in the district in 2016. The rain-guns operation in about one lakh hectares could not give the desired results. October also registered deficit rainfall. In Chittoor and Madanapalle divisions, the groundwater table is gradually plummeting, projecting tough agriculture regime in the coming months.

Though the district witnessed widespread rains in June, it did not help in recharge of groundwater. In July, deficit rainfall was reported in over 30 mandals. During the close of the kharif season, the western mandals began to feel the pinch of drought conditions, with no rains.

Except for the November-December rains last year, Chittoor district is perennially known for drought conditions. In 2014, 42 mandals were declared drought-hit followed by 55 in

2015. The one month-long downpour (November) last year did not help the agriculture front, but played a crucial role in sustaining the fast depleting groundwater table. The effect of last year's rain alone is considered the saviour of the farmers in several parts of the district even now.

### **Groundwater table plummeting**

The deficit rainfall in the sugarcane belt of Nagari and Satyavedu Assembly constituencies had dampened the spirit of the farmers. In the Kuppam region, the groundwater table is dipping alarmingly, with several villages reporting difficulty in procurement of drinking water.

Sensing an air of unrest sweeping the farmers in the rural side, the district administration is gearing up to prepare an action plan for extending subsidies and incentives to the farmers for the ensuing season.

### ***State government declares 53 mandals as drought-hit in the district***

### **More farmers in Namakkal take up sericulture**

With cocoon production yielding rich dividends, more farmers are taking up the activities in the district during the current year.

India's silk industry is the world's second largest after China contributing to about 18 per cent to the world production.

While the demand for silk in the State is about 3,000 tones every year, about 1,900 tones are produced every year in the State.

Though all the five kinds of silk is produced across the country, over 70 per cent of the production in the State is mulberry silk. The larva of mulberry silk moth grows for about 25 days feeding mulberry leaves and the fully matured larva spins to protect itself just before the pupa state forming the cocoon.

A Government Seed Farm is located at a sprawling 13.10 acre at Semmedu in Kolli Hills where seed cocoons are produced and sold to farmers.

Officials of the Department of Sericulture said that 1,179 farmers were involved in mulberry cultivation in 1,811 acre in the district in the past five years.

They were given assistance and grants for installing drip irrigation system, constructing rearing sheds and purchase of gadgets and for cultivation. They added that Bivoltine cocoon production was mostly undertaken and farmers were encouraged to adopt modern silkworm rearing techniques for improving productivity.

K. Palanivel (61) of Eachankadu in Vennandur Union, who is involved in sericulture activities for the past nine years, said that he received Rs. 10,500 per acre as grant for cultivating mulberry and is keen to increase the area under cultivation.

In 2015-16, 477.50 tone of cocoon was produced in the district in which 399.60 tones is Venpattu (white silk).

Officials said that in 2016, about 700 acre of land is currently under mulberry cultivation as farmers have showed interest in the activities.

Farmers sell their final product, cocoon, in the markets in Anaimeedu in Salem and in Dharmapuri.

### **Water released for special wetting**



Farmers in Lower Bhavani Project ayacut area have heaved a sigh of relief as the Public Works Department has released water from Bhavani Sagar Reservoir for special wetting.

The water flow will continue for a fortnight with effect from October 21. Though farmers were earlier reluctant to accept water for special wetting, there was no option left due to the drought-like situation and water scarcity even for drinking purposes.

The water release will recharge thousands of wells and borewells.

For the duration of special wetting, 2,300 cusecs is being released every day into the LBP canal.

Farmers look for early onset of Northeast monsoons with anticipation of adequate accrual in catchment areas of the dam for continuance of water supply beyond the fortnight schedule.

Water for special wetting is dependent on current supply of water to the Bhavani Sagar Dam from hydel reservoirs in The Nilgiris.

There is a cause for concern since inflow into the Bhavani Sagar Dam came down to 297 cusecs on Monday morning. In addition to the release of 2,300 cusecs into LBP canal, 150 cusecs was also let into the Bhavani river for meeting drinking water requirement out of the current storage of 5.4 tmc.

### **A new lease of life for Bengal Gram variety**



A group of scientists from the Agriculture Research Station in Kalaburagi, University of Agricultural Science at Raichur and International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) has given a new lease of life to the near extinct Annigeri 1 variety of Bengal Gram which is free from the killer wilt disease.

The scientist team, led by D.M. Mannur, Project Director of the Agriculture Research Station, S.B. Yeri, M. Mahiboobsa, S.K. Jayalakshmi of the Agriculture Research Station, I. Shankergouda from UAS, Raichur, R.K. Varshney, Mahendra Thudi and P.M. Gaur from ICRISAT, has successfully overcome the wilt disease problem in Annigeri 1 through introgression method of gene transfer from a donor parent seed WR 315 to develop Super Annigeri 1. The improved variety is now released for all India field trials and multi-field trials in Karnataka.

Dr. Mannur, who presented a paper on the improved Super Annigeri 1 variety of Bengal Gram at an International Seminar at Bosnia a week ago, told *The Hindu* here that the paper drew a lot of interest among the international community of scientists which appreciated the efforts of the Indian scientists in saving a popular variety of Bengal Gram from becoming extinct.



Annigeri 1 has a five- decade history of changing the economic fortunes of farmers in North Karnataka, parts of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra with a very high yield of around 20 quintals per hectare. The medium-sized variety was very popular among consumers because of its sweet aroma and taste, unlike the other varieties which lacked taste.

According to Dr. Mannur, Annigeri 1 variety ruled the roost once with a coverage of near 100 per cent of the total area under Bengal Gram in the State, but slowly the dominance started receding due to wilt disease which wiped out the crop and the farmers started shifting to new varieties. Now only around 10 per cent of the area is under Annigeri 1 variety in the region.

The field trials in the university and demonstration plots of the Super Annigeri 1 variety has shown excellent results with total resistance to the wilt disease and in all probability Super Annigeri 1 would be released for commercial production next season.

### **Bird flu: surveillance stepped up in State**

The Department of Animal Husbandry has stepped up surveillance throughout the State in the wake of the bird flu outbreak in Delhi and Rajasthan.

A high-level meeting convened by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan here on Monday was told that precautionary measures had been adopted in Thakazhy grama panchayat, Alappuzha, following the reported death of 10 ducks.

### **Analysis**

Samples of the dead birds had been sent to the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases at Bhopal for analysis.

The results were awaited.

Minister for Animal Husbandry K. Raju said the Alappuzha Collector had been directed to convene a meeting of duck and poultry farmers on October 25 and intensify surveillance measures.

### **Bird flu outbreak**

A press note quoting the Minister urged farmers across the State to be vigilant in the wake of the bird flu outbreak in the country.

They had been advised to report unnatural deaths of birds.



Animal Husbandry Director N. Sasi said the department was keeping surveillance over migratory birds.

“Bird droppings are regularly being tested.” Dr. Sasi said sufficient stocks of personal protection kits for doctors and bird handlers were maintained.

### **Culling of birds**

“Selective culling of birds will be carried out if the tests prove positive for avian influenza.”

The Delhi government has expressed concern over the death of 64 birds including migratory birds, ducks and crows due to the H5N8 strain of the bird flu virus.

The Madhya Pradesh government has sounded an alert after several painted storks at the Gwalior zoo are suspected to have died of the virus.

An alert has been sounded in Rajasthan also following the reported death of birds in forest areas.

*Minister urges farmers to be vigilant in the wake of the bird flu outbreak in north India*



### **Centre monitoring seed agencies to ensure adequate supplies during rabi sowing**

#### **New Delhi, October 24:**

Following complaints from Karnataka of shortage of seeds, especially of chana or chickpea, in the ongoing rabi season, the Centre has swung into action to arrange adequate supply in the State and also ensure that seed agencies and producers honour the agreements made with all States.

“We got a complaint from Karnataka a few days ago that the State was not getting adequate supply of seeds, including chana. We promised that we would take care of its problem, made an intervention at the level of seed agencies and arranged for the seeds,” an Agriculture Ministry official told *BusinessLine* .

Timely availability of seeds and fertilisers during the sowing season is a crucial requirement for a good crop and delays could cause huge losses to farmers.

“There are times when seed agencies go back on their word and do not want to deliver the promised amount to States as they hope to get a better price elsewhere. This is when the Centre intervenes and ensures that the promised quantities of seed are delivered, like in the case of Karnataka this time,” the official said.

The Karnataka Agriculture Minister recently met officials from the Agriculture Ministry at the Centre and all problems were taken care of, the official added. States make an indent stating the quantity of seed they would require and place it with seed distribution agencies such as the National Seed Corporation and various State seed development corporations. These agencies may produce the seed or they enter into agreements with other producers including farmers, procure the seed from them by paying for it, get the seeds certified and supply to States. The States then sell the seeds to the farmers.

“Now that the sowing season for the rabi crop is in full swing, our officials are regularly holding meetings with all seed agencies to monitor if disbursements are being made as per commitments. Wherever discrepancy is noticed, action will be taken,” the official said.

Similar monitoring is done for all farm inputs including fertilizers and pesticides. “There is enough availability of all crucial farm inputs this season. We don’t expect any serious shortage to crop up for any input,” the official added.

Sowing of rabi crops begins from October and goes on till December for most crops while April is harvest time. Rabi crops include wheat, maize, millets, pulses and oilseeds.

## **Diploma programme for agriculture input dealers**

### **Mangaluru, October 24:**

Technical competency building among the agricultural input dealers will help bring down unnecessary use of pesticides and other inputs, according to H Kempe Gowda, Joint Director of Agriculture, Dakshina Kannada district.

He was speaking at the inauguration of a one-year diploma in agricultural extension services for input dealers at Krishi Vijana Kendra (KVK) in Mangaluru on Monday.

Shivakumar Magada, Head of KVK in Mangaluru, said that 40 farm input dealers from Dakshina Kannada district would be attending a 48-week diploma in agricultural extension services. The district has around 220 farm input dealers.

The diploma would help agri input dealers to act as para-extension professionals, he said.

GR Pennobaliswami from the Bengaluru-based University of Agricultural Sciences, who is the nodal officer for implementing the diploma programme in Karnataka, said the diploma programme was currently being conducted for 240 agri input dealers in Davangere district.

## **Atmospheric CO2 breaches crucial level in 2015, to stay high in 2016**

### **New Delhi, October 24:**

The concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere globally has touched a record high again, according to the World Meteorological Organisation.

Data released by the United Nations organisation showed two consecutive years of record CO2 levels — 397.7 ppm in 2014 and 400 ppm in 2015. Earlier this year, an analysis by scientists across the globe, including from NASA, showed that 2015 was the hottest year since temperature recording began in 1850s, with average temperatures sitting nearly 0.75 degree Celsius higher than the normal, breaking the earlier record set in the year 2014.

“CO2 levels had previously reached the 400 ppm barrier for certain months of the year and in certain locations but never before on a global average basis for the entire year,” the WMO said in an official statement.

WMO’s annual Greenhouse Gas Bulletin further predicted that 2016 will be the first year ever in which CO2 remains above 400 ppm all through the year.

At the forthcoming Conference of Parties meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, a global agreement to keep warming under 2 degree Celsius is likely to come into force. Curbing, even reducing, CO2 emissions are vital as part of the deal to achieve this target.

The average atmospheric CO2 levels in 2015 is estimated to be as much 144 per cent over the levels (278 ppm) seen in the pre-industrial years — the baseline for calculating global warming, the bulletin said.

In the last 25 years — between 1990 and 2015 — there was a 37 per cent increase in radiative forcing (the warming effect on climate) because of long-lived greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide (N2O) from industrial, agricultural and domestic activities, the WMO said.

The previous year’s El Nino weather event, which changes weather patterns, including monsoons, has been cited as one of the reasons for the elevated CO2 levels.

## Rising arrivals weigh on soya



### **INDORE, OCTOBER 24:**

With mandis opening here after two days of holidays, rise in arrival of new crop today dragged soyabean to ₹2,900-2,950 a quintal. Plant deliveries remained stable at ₹3,000 amid sluggish demand in soya oil. Strong foreign support lifted soya oil with soya refined rising to ₹662-65 for 10 kg (655-58 last week), while soya solvent rose to ₹627-30 (620-25). Soyameal ruled at ₹28,000 a quintal on the spot on weak domestic demand.

### **Palm oil to test resistance, dip**

Malaysian palm oil futures on the Bursa Malaysia Derivatives ended higher on Monday, on declining output and higher soya oil prices. Output in Malaysia, the world's second largest palm producer after Indonesia, is affected by the lagging effects of last year's crop-damaging El Nino.

CPO active month January futures moved perfectly in line with our expectations. As illustrated earlier, the bigger picture has gradually turned friendly and shows bullish tendencies, and now, we are seeing adequate confirmation of a bullish reversal that has materialised. The medium- to long-term picture also continues to exhibit bullish tendencies. Strong supports are now seen at MYR 2,750-65/tonne range and while supports hold, prices are expected to edge higher towards important near-term resistance at 2,935-45 levels or even higher in the coming sessions. A good downward correction is expected around 2,945-50 zone, failing which the rally could get wings to take out the psychological resistance at MYR 3,000 levels.

In the medium-term picture, there is scope for this uptrend to turn into a very strong one even targeting 3,120-3,200 levels. But, this could happen only after some corrective

declines. Unexpected decline below 2,675 could postpone the bullishness. Favoured view expects a strong rally higher and any corrective dips to find supports mentioned above.

**Wave counts:** One of our targets at MYR 1,850/tonne was met. The rally from there looks very impressive. As mentioned earlier, we expected prices to push higher towards 2,645 initially and then correct lower in a corrective pattern towards 2,460 or even lower to 2,225 and then subsequently rise towards a medium to long-term target at 3,125, which could bring this current impulse to an end. The medium- to long-term expectation, that we have been having is slowly materialising and the impulse wave is under way. We have maintained for several weeks now that any dips could prove to be opportunity to participate in the upcoming uptrend. However, the picture could turn weak if prices unexpectedly went below MYR 2,400/tonne levels now.

RSI is in the neutral zone now indicating that it is neither overbought nor oversold. The averages in MACD are above the zero line of the indicator hinting at a bullish reversal in trend. Only a crossover again below the zero line could hint at weakness again.

Therefore, look for palm oil futures to test the resistance levels.

Supports are at MYR 2,770, 2,720 and 2685. Resistances are at MYR 2,920, 2,945 and 3,120.

The writer is the Director of Commtrendz Research. There is risk of loss in trading.

## **Crop insurance: Micro agents can now sell govt-sponsored schemes**

### **Hyderabad, October 24:**

In a move that can expand the reach of crop insurance schemes, micro insurance agents have now been permitted to sell government-sponsored crop insurance products to farmers.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has issued a circular to this effect.

The decision of the regulator came in the wake of requests made by some stakeholders to categorise government-sponsored schemes as micro insurance products irrespective of the sum insured under the individual policy.

With this decision, crop insurance products under schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Weather-Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) can be bought by farmers from micro insurance agents without any limit on the sum assured.

However, key modalities, such as the sum insured, premium, premium rate per crop, and unit area will remain as notified under the respective government-sponsored insurance schemes without any change, PJ Joseph, Member, Non-Life, IRDAI, said.

Till now, micro agents could only sell crop insurance products with a maximum cover of Rs. 1 lakh, according to the norms issued by the regulator last year. Also, currently, government-sponsored insurance schemes are mostly sold along with crop loans taken by farmers.

Under the PMFBY, the flagship low-cost insurance scheme for farmers launched by the government last year, about 3.20 crore farmers were insured for the kharif season, government data show. The WBCIS operates on an actuarial basis with premium subsidy ranging from 25-50 per cent, equally shared by the Centre and the States.

According to the IRDAI's annual report 2014-15, the number of farmers insured under this scheme during kharif 2014 was about 2.5 lakh.

The CPIS, a component of the National Crop Insurance Programme, is available to all coconut-growing States, but is yet to gain popularity. Only 2,845 coconut farmers were insured under this scheme in 2014-15.

## **Cardamom continues to gain on poor crop fears**

### **Kochi, October 24:**

Upsurge continued in small cardamom prices on good buying support following apprehensions of poor crop at auctions held in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

At the Monday morning auction conducted by Cardamom Planters Association (CPA), the auction average has shot up today to Rs. 1,045.53 a kg against Rs. 973.42 the previous Monday.

A total of 38.5 tonnes arrived and almost the entire quantity was sold out. The maximum price stood at Rs. 1,255/kg.

Last week, the individual auction average at all the auctions except the CPA auction on last Monday stayed above Rs. 1,000 a kg and was vacillating between Rs. 1,010 and Rs. 1,061 a kg.

Exporters have bought somewhere between 80 and 100 tonnes. Good colour current bulk was being traded at Rs. 1,100 a kg.

## Delhi government issues health advisory as 6 more birds die of H5N8 flu



The Delhi government issued a health advisory on Monday asking people not to consume half boiled or half cooked chicken or eggs as precaution with six more birds dying of the H5N8 flu on Monday. Development Minister Gopal Rai on Monday issued an 11-point health advisory asking people not to eat half cooked or half boiled chicken or eggs.

“All chicken and bird meat cooked at or above 100 degree centigrade should be consumed because cooking at high temperatures kills virus if any. The flu H5N8 is not known to infect or harm human beings but since more and more birds are dying, doctors and experts suggested an advisory be issued as part of larger precautionary measures,” Rai said.

precautionary measures,” Rai said.



## Bird Flu (AVIAN INFLUENZA)

## Please do

## कृपया यह करें

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Avoid direct contact with bird secretions  | पक्षी स्राव के साथ सीधे संपर्क से बचे   |
| 2 | Clean all feeders, waterers, cages used for birds with detergents (soap/surf). Dispose properly all the slaughter waste.                             | पंछियों और पोल्ट्री के लिए इस्तेमाल किये जाने वाले पिंजरे और खाने के बर्तन को रोज़ साबुन या डिटर्जेंट से साफ़ करें। मीट वेस्ट का उचित निपटान करें।                            |
| 3 | Please don't touch dead birds with naked hands and inform to the control room Ph. No. 23890318 for further action                                    | कोई पंछी मृत पाया जाता है तो कृपया मरे हुए पंछी को नंगे हाथ से न छूए तथा नियंत्रण कक्ष को फोन नंबर 23890318 पर तुरंत सूचित करें   |
| 4 | Wash hands frequently at the time of dealing with raw poultry products. Take due care of personal hygiene. Maintain cleanliness in surrounding.      | कच्चे पोल्ट्री उत्पादों के साथ काम करने के समय में हाथ बार बार धोये। व्यक्तिगत सफाई का विशेष ध्यान रखें। अपने आस-पास स्वच्छता बनाए रखें।                                      |
| 5 | Always use mask and gloves at the time of dealing with raw chicken/chicken product   | हमेशा कच्चे चिकन / चिकन उत्पादों के साथ काम करने के समय में मास्क और दस्ताने का उपयोग कीजिए   |
| 6 | Eat only completely cooked meat & meat products (100°C).   | अच्छी तरह पके हुए मीट का ही सेवन करें।(100 डिग्री सेल्सियस)   |
| 7 | In case any pond etc. is near your Mohalla, Park, etc. and is not being disinfected with lime etc., then inform on above mention Control Room Number | यदि आपके मौहल्ला, पार्क आदि में कोई तालाब है और वहाँ पर संबंधित विभाग द्वारा चूने एवं दवाई का छिड़काव नहीं किया जा रहा है तो कृपया उपरोक्त नियंत्रण कक्ष नम्बर पर सूचित करें। |

## Please don't do

## कृपया यह न करें

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Do not consume uncooked chicken or eggs                                   | कच्चा चिकन और कच्चे अंडे ना खाये                              |
| 2 | Do not consume half cooked chicken/bird or half boiled or half fried eggs | आधा पका चिकन/पंक्षी आधा पका, आधा उबला या आधा तला अंडा ना खाये |
| 3 | Prevent exposure from sick looking (sluggish) chicken                     | बीमार (सुस्त) दिख रहे पंछियों के संपर्क में ना आये            |
| 4 | Do not keep raw meat near the cooked meat                                 | पके हुए मीट के साथ कच्चा मीट न रखें                           |

With four more ducks found dead in a lake overseen by the central public works in Shakti Sthal near Raj Ghat on Monday making it the fourth site of bird deaths after the zoo, Hauz Khas district park lake and Sundar Nagar, Rai expressed concern about the situation. Since October 14, 64 birds have died of avian influenza and the zoo and the Hauz Khas district park lake remain closed to visitors.

Rai also appealed to sellers and handlers of bird meat to maintain cleanliness and take precautions like not touching ill or dead birds with bare hands and regularly washing hands and work stations. He reiterated that no birds have been found dead in the Ghazipur chicken mandi so far and no reports of infection in poultry have come in.

Rai also took a potshot at the Centre complaining that the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases at Bhopal was not sending results of tests on the samples sent to them. "The initial 50 samples sent to them from all over the capital have not yet come in and we are not being able to take necessary precautions which were to be based on the results. I am meeting the union agriculture minister who oversees animal husbandry tomorrow."

Rai also rebuked the centre's DDA for "not alerting the Delhi government on time about deaths in the Hauz Khas district park" where 45 ducks perished in the last 10 days. The situation in Hauz Khas prompted him to call a meeting on Monday with members of the health, revenue, environment and public works departments, authorities of the zoo, the three MCDs, the DDA, and the central public works department.

"In the meeting all the bodies were issued a 3-point advisory wherein it has been made mandatory for them to apply a 4 feet wide patch of lime around all water bodies under their jurisdiction, spray a strong anti-virus like sodium hypochlorite on birds in areas under their care and add vitamins to bird feed where birds are reared," Rai said. The Pune National Institute of Virology came visiting on Monday to collect samples from birds in the zoo and Hauz Khas. Rai, who was scheduled to travel to campaign in Goa on Monday, cancelled his visit. "I will go to Goa after Diwali since the bird flu outbreak needs to be monitored right now," Rai said.

## Panchkula: Manohar Lal Khattar launches two markets for farmers



To provide skill and technical training to the youth, a Polytechnic-cum-Multi Skill Training Centre will be constructed in Sector 20, Panchkula. The foundation stone of the Rs 33 crore-project was laid by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar here on Monday. The training centre will be constructed on about five acres at a cost of more than Rs 33 crore and will provide skill and technical training to the youth to make them employable. More than 55 skill-based courses will be provided at the centre, which is likely to be completed within two years.

Apart from the training centre, Khattar also inaugurated the farmers' market constructed by Haryana State Agricultural Marketing Board (HSAMB) in Sector 20. Built over 1.50 acres at a cost of more than Rs 20 lakh, the farmers' market include 84 raised platforms, one farmer registration centre, two sale outlets, one retail outlet booth, 100 weighing scales of 20-kilogram capacity and rate display board.

While the farmers bringing their produce to this market would get 20 per cent more than the market rate, the consumers would be benefitted, as the produce would be available at prices that are 20 per cent less.

Khattar also visited the cold store and inspected the facilities for grading and packaging of vegetables and fruits.

The chief minister also inaugurated the Apple Market constructed over 3.3 acres with an investment of Rs 4.03 crore. Two blocks were constructed in this market, with 24 shops in Block A and 20 in Block B.



Apart from the inauguration of completed projects, Khattar also laid the foundation stones of four new projects, including the expansion of the Mansa Devi shrine.

Owing to the paucity of time, he unveiled the foundation stone of two lifts at Mata Mansa Devi Temple at Rs 47 lakh and foundation stone of expansion of periphery of Mata Mansa Devi Temple at Rs 91.78 lakh at the grain market. The foundation stones would be soon moved to the temple premises.

He also laid the foundation stone of labor shelters in New Grain Market, Sector 20, with an estimated cost of Rs 1.31 crore.

The chief minister also inaugurated the tertiary treatment plant that has already started functioning in May. Constructed at a cost of Rs 55 crore in Sector 20, the plant will provide 25 MLD tertiary water supply to parks and green belts in Panchkula. It had already started supplying water to Golf Park, Sector 3, in May this year.

### **120 organisations to demand ban on release of GM crop**



Representatives of over 120 organisations from 20 states will gather at Jantar Mantar here on Monday to demand a ban on commercial release of genetically modified (GM) mustard.

“At a juncture when the government is disregarding voices of experts and farmer leaders, of state governments and citizen groups on all these matters, this assembly in Jantar Mantar assumes great significance,” said Kavitha Kuruganti from Alliance for Sustainable & Holistic Agriculture (ASHA).

She said leaders from various political parties, major farmer unions, trade unions, honey industry representatives, people’s movements and other civil society formations and scientists will join to show solidarity towards the issue.

“Citizens from 20 states of India, who are mainly representatives of around 30 large national organisations or alliances and more than 120 state level or local bodies will join Sarson Satyagraha protest against GM mustard and to press home their demand for an immediate ban on it and other such GMOs,” she said.