

IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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IAI ORGANIZED A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ON “MICRO IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGIES, DESIGN, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE” IN PUNE, MAHARASHTRA.

Irrigation Association of India organized a two-day Certificate Program named “Micro Irrigation Technologies: Design, Operation, and Maintenance” on February 16th-17th, 2024, at Tarawade Clarks Inn Pune. Dr. K.P. Mote, Director of Horticulture, Commissionerate of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra, inaugurated the program, which was attended by 50 young and experienced Micro-Irrigation professionals from Maharashtra. The program aimed to equip professionals with expertise in MI Technologies, covering essential concepts, Micro-Irrigation technologies, and sessions on AI and automation exploring smart and digital farming solutions in micro irrigation.



IAI, PRESIDUM MET SHRI. MANOJ KUMAR SINGH AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION COMMISSIONER, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH

Irrigation Association of India delegation led by Mr. Kaushal Jaiswal President- IAI, Mr. Saurabh Sangla Sr. Vice President, Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Director IAI and other industry leaders met Shri Manoj Kumar Singh, IAS - Agriculture Production Commissioner, Government of Uttar Pradesh in Lucknow on 05th February 2024 to discuss industry concerns and prospects in the state of Uttar Pradesh. With industry





leaders emphasizing the need to boost the adoption and boosting the Micro-Irrigation coverage in the state, key priorities suggested to strengthen the industry in Uttar Pradesh included bridging manpower gaps through skill development, pooling of resources, ensuring adequate demand, favourable policies, and government support.



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IAI ATTENDS THE LAUNCH OF THE FRAMEWORK ON VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKETS (VCM) BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

Irrigation Association of India represented by Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Director Irrigation Association of India. The launch was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India on 29th January 2024 at Krishi Bhawan. Shri Arjun Munda, Hon. Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare launched the Framework on Voluntary Carbon Markets in Agriculture at the event. The Framework prepared by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare aims to promote Voluntary Carbon Markets in agriculture so that farmers can benefit from carbon credits by adopting sustainable agriculture practices. The launch of the framework coincides with recent in the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022 enabling the creation of 'Carbon Trading Markets' in India. With India's 3rd Biennial Update to the UNFCCC attributing 14.45% of India's GHG emissions to the agricultural sector, carbon credits generated by voluntary reductions in GHG emissions are valuable financial incentives to transition to more sustainable agricultural practices.



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IAI PARTICIPATED 2ND INDIA INTERNATIONAL HORTI EXPO 2024 AT GREATER NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH

Irrigation Association of India took part in the 2nd India International Horti Expo from February 22nd to 24th, 2024 at the India Expo Centre Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. This international exhibition focused on various aspects of horticulture, floriculture, and landscaping, including Greenhouse Technology, Irrigation, Crop Protection, and Postharvest Technology. As a supporting Association, we showcased the latest Micro-Irrigation technologies and highlighted the benefits of these technologies in water and nutrient management, improved productivity, and sustainable agricultural development. The expo provided exposure to international best practices, technologies, and innovations and facilitated connections within the industry.



RKVY BUDGET 2024-2025

The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna of the MoA&FW has been allocated Rs 7,500 crores in the Interim Union Budget 2024-2025. Since 2022-2023 Per Drop More Crop, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna, National Project on Soil and Health Fertility, Rainfed Area Development and Climate Change, Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization including Management of Crop Residue, etc. have been merged with RKVY. The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare issued Operational Guidelines for the PDMC Scheme in 2023. The revised guidelines provide all states with a broad framework for the implementation of the PDMC Scheme in the states.



(Source: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>)

GOVT. OF RAJASTHAN INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR INSTALLATION OF OFF GRID SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC WATER PUMPING SYSTEMS



The arid/semi-arid state of Rajasthan has a very high potential for the adoption of solar powered energy systems. With the intention to tap this potential, the Commissionerate of Horticulture Government of Rajasthan has invited applications from interested firms to design, manufacture, and install Off-Grid Solar Photovoltaic Water Pumping systems. Vendors will be allowed to install solar pumps of 3, 5, and 7.5 HP under Component-B of the PM-KUSUM Scheme of the Ministry of

New and Renewable Energy. With a target of 50,000 SPWPS, both surface and submersible pumps may be installed. Vendors may prioritize small and marginal farmers and farmers with access to water-efficient technologies like Micro-Irrigation. The scheme is an effort of the Government of Rajasthan to promote the adoption of clean and renewable sources of energy in the state.

(Source: https://jankalyanfile.rajasthan.gov.in//Content/UploadFolder/Tender/9318Main_376ab98c-7a0c-43c7-9209-30cf287f7017.pdf)

GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH ENCOURAGES SUGARCANE FARMERS TO ADOPT AI IN SUGARCANE CULTIVATION

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has expressed a keen interest in introducing Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions in sugarcane cultivation in the state. Currently, AI techniques are being used to monitor crop health, predict pest attacks, forecast weather patterns, application of fertilizers and pesticides, and advise farmers on water conservation and irrigation techniques. With 574 lakh tonnes of sugarcane crushed in 120 Sugar mills across the state, the introduction of AI tools can help farmers increase the productivity and profitability of sugarcane cultivation in the state benefitting thousands of farmers engaged in its cultivation.

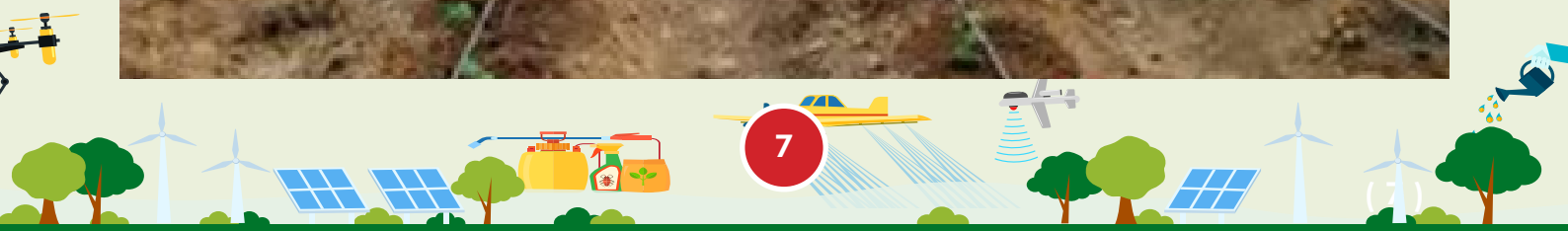


(Source: <https://www.kisantak.in/farming-techniques/story/sugarcane-cultivation-in-uttar-pradesh-with-ai-technology-or-artificial-intelligence-834666-2024-02-03>)

JHARKHAND GOVT. ENCOURAGING CACTUS FARMING IN THE STATE

Farmers in the state of Jharkhand are being encouraged to cultivate cactus under the Watershed Development component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayai Yojna. The scheme currently being implemented by the Department of Rural Development is encouraging landless farmers in the state to adopt the cultivation of cacti on barren lands in their villages. With similar initiatives bearing fruit in the desert regions of Rajasthan, cactus farming is emerging as an alternate source of income to farmers.

(Source: <https://www.prabhatkhabar.com/state/jharkhand/ranchi/cactus-farming-increase-farmers-income-barren-land-get-new-life-jharkhand-government-helps-grj>)



WORLD BANK AND UTTAR PRADESH SUGAR MILLS ASSOCIATION DISCUSS ON ADOPTION OF MI FOR SUGARCANE

The World Resources Group of the World Bank and Uttar Pradesh Sugar Mills Association held a meeting in Lucknow to discuss the adoption of Micro-Irrigation for sustainable under UP Pragati Agri Water Accelerator Programme. With sugarcane a water intensive crop consuming large volumes of water and Uttar Pradesh one of the largest producers of sugarcane in the country, the Accelerator aims to boost the adoption of Micro-Irrigation by sugarcane farmers in the state. The Program will converge with the recently launched Uttar Pradesh Micro-Irrigation Plan (UP-MIP) of the Government of Uttar Pradesh and aims to target 38 districts in the state. The meeting held with the Sugar Mills Association is a part of the UP Accelerator Pragati an initiative of the 2030 Water Resources Group and the Government of Uttar Pradesh to improve water use efficiency, increase productivity and incomes, and reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG). In addition to sugarcane, the Accelerator also proposes to work on sustainable practices in rice, mango, and millet. The aim is to create a conducive space for the private sector to collaborate and leverage innovations and best practices that increase the value of sustainability investments in agri-water operations.



(Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/upsma-wbgroup-discusscane-irrigation/articleshow/105797987.cms>)

KARNATAKA WILL STUDY THE MADHYA PRADESH MODEL IN DISTRIBUTION OF WATER FOR DRIP IRRIGATION

Karnataka will study the Madhya Pradesh model in distribution of water for drip irrigation. "It looks like the drip irrigation scheme here has failed. Farmers here are rough and at many places they have removed drip irrigation pipes. In Madhya Pradesh, government provides water till the nearest point to the agriculture field and does not involve in drip irrigation. We will study the model and take a decision soon."

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/irrigation-projects-focus-is-on-completing-ongoing-works-says-karnataka-deputy-chief-minister/article67878505.ece>



HOW INDIA CAN BALANCE ITS WATER DEMAND AND SUPPLY ACROSS SECTORS?



In 2020, while India's domestic sector required 54,000 billion litres water, the agriculture sector needed 14 times more—776,000 billion litres. According to estimates by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), the agriculture sector will account for 87% of India's water demand by 2030. This will inevitably stress our limited water resources. Disputes between competing water sectors such as agriculture and industries could also become mainstream.

To enhance India's water security and bolster its food systems in the future, Firstly, governments, particularly at the state level, should expand the adoption of enhanced on-farm irrigation and water management practices. This includes leveraging technologies such as precision agriculture, embracing micro-irrigation, mulching, and implementing policy reforms like water auditing and volumetric pricing. By implementing such practices, a significant amount of irrigation water (around 20-47%) could be conserved by 2030 and 2050.

Source - <https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/a-looming-crisis-how-india-can-balance-its-water-demand-and-supply-across-sectors/3360272/>

POMEGRANATE AMID SAND DUNES: HOW RAJASTHAN FARMERS STRUCK GOLD

Rajasthan farmers have turned the desert sands into gold by successfully cultivating pomegranates. With innovative irrigation techniques and dedication, farmers have defied the odds, achieving abundant harvests in the arid, harsh climate. Their success showcases the potential for non-conventional crops and the importance of efficient water usage in agriculture.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/pomegranate-amid-sand-dunes-how-rajasthan-farmers-struck-gold-9014711/>



FM INDIA MAY CHANGE NEW 45 DAYS PAYMENT RULE FOR MSMES

The finance ministry is thinking about changing a new tax rule. As per this rule, businesses must pay small and medium-sized companies within 45 days. Some businesses want this rule to start later, while others want more time to pay, they say it needs to be extended more than 45 days. To encourage prompt payments to small businesses, a new clause (h) in section 43B of the I-T Act says businesses must pay small or micro businesses on time. If they pay after the stipulated time which is 45 days in section 15 of the MSME Development Act 2006 will be enabled as a deduction only on actual considerations. If the proposed changes come into force, the rules will apply to all Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises manufacturing or providing services with investments ranging from Less than Rs 1 cr to Rs 50 cr.

(Source: <https://blog.saginfotech.com/fm-india-change-new-45-days-payment-rule-msme>)



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BAYER CARBON PROGRAM EXPANDS ELIGIBILITY, CREATES NEW POTENTIAL REVENUE STREAMS FOR THOUSANDS OF US FARMERS

Bayer USA announced several enhancements to its Bayer Carbon Program that provide all-new opportunities for more U.S. farmers to earn incentives for implementing regenerative agriculture practices that sequester carbon while promoting soil health. The updates include expanded enrolment eligibility that gives more farmers access to potential new revenue streams for participating. In addition, an extended historical performance period for fields with eligible practice changes and a new Nitrogen Management Program could increase a farmer's per-acre payment potential. The Bayer Carbon Program is designed to help U.S. farmers realize the soil health benefits of regenerative agriculture practices, like reducing tillage and planting cover crops. The carbon program creates a mutually beneficial model that pays farmers for their efforts to sequester carbon through regenerative agriculture practices. Unlike some other carbon-based sustainability programs that incentivize farmers, the Bayer Carbon Program bases revenue potential on the practices performed, instead of how many tons of carbon are captured.

(Source: <https://www.bayer.com/en/us/news-stories/carbon-program-expands-eligibility?fbclid=IwAR1C716scnMrJDCNLANVEiE39xMC5IzCD72P2Hz9I6L-Or1vsVXOvxLcEPg>)

RUSSIA TURNS TO INDIA TO SOURCE BANANA, APEDA CHAIRMAN FLAGS OFF CONSIGNMENT

India, the world's largest producer of banana, has swiftly moved to take advantage of the space created by Latin American country Ecuador in Russian market as a Mumbai-based exporter has sent a consignment of 20 tonnes (1540 boxes) of bananas to from India to Russia via sea



route. Flagging off the consignment on February 17, exported by Gurukrupa Corporation, Chairman of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Abhishek Dev appealed other exporters to employ novel methods in shipping new products to new destinations and assured APEDA's full support to facilitate such endeavors.

(Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/russia-turns-to-india-to-source-banana-apedachairman-flags-off-consignment/article67861153.ece>)

ABOUT IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Irrigation Association of India (IAI) is an apex industry body established in 1999, representing Micro Irrigation System (MIS) manufacturing companies in India. It is a not-for-profit organization and is working towards the successful implementation of Micro Irrigation in India for the benefit of farmers.

IAI has a registered office at Pune, Maharashtra, India and corporate office at New Delhi. IAI is closely working with the central Government of India and the State Governments. The association has a strong presence in states through IAI State Chapters at Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and North Eastern Region.

What we do

- Policy Advocacy
- Knowledge Dissemination
- Capacity Building
- Convene meeting with Central/State govt. departments to apprise the industry issues
- Sectoral Conference/Workshop to promote Micro Irrigation



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