IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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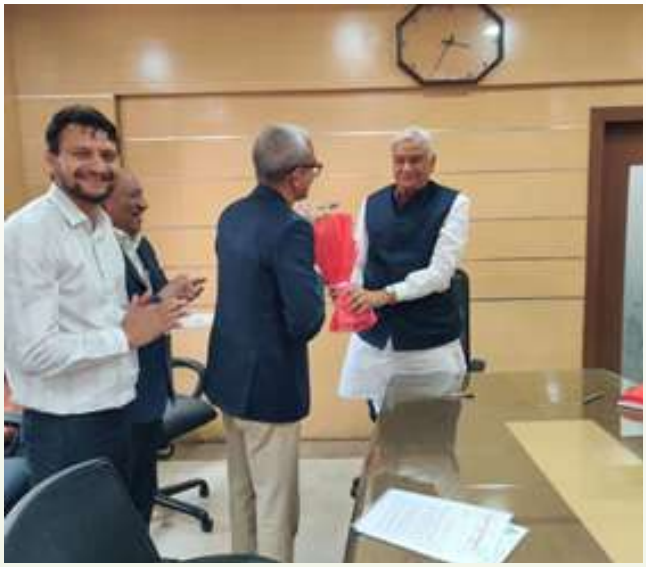
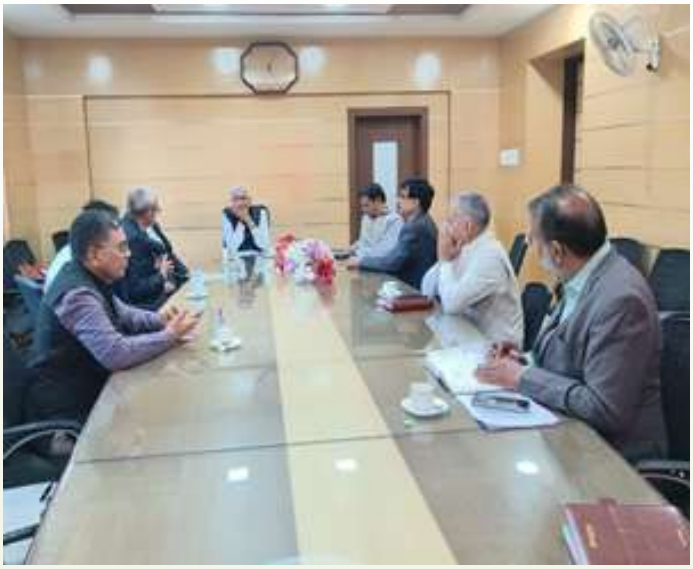
IAI UPDATES

IAI DELEGATION MEETING WITH DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA, HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE GOVT. OF RAJASTHAN

A high-level delegation, headed by Mr. Pravin Lath, Vice President of the North Irrigation Association of India & MD- Nimbus Pipes Limited, alongside Mr. Arun Jajodia, CEO of Tirupati Sprinklers - India and State Treasurer of Laghu Udyog Bharati, Rajasthan, convened with prominent stakeholders from the Departments of Horticulture and Agriculture at Secretariat Bhawan on February 7th, 2024. Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Vaibhav Gallaria IAS, Principal Secretary of Agriculture, Government of Rajasthan, were among the notable figures present, along with other esteemed officeholders.

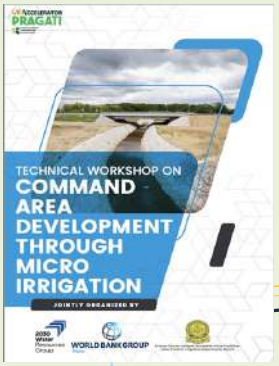




The meeting centred on addressing significant challenges pertaining to the implementation of the PDMC Scheme. Discussions also explored innovative interventions such as AI, IoT, Automation, SMART Irrigation, Solarized MI, Polyhouses, among others, aiming at the efficient utilization of our valuable water resources.

IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA PARTICIPATES IN A WORKSHOP ON COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MICRO-IRRIGATION

Irrigation Association of India attended a Workshop on "Command Area Development through Micro Irrigation (MI)" on 24th February 2024 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The workshop was jointly organized by the 2030 Water Resources Group (2030 WRG), the World Bank & the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department (UPID), Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP). The workshop brought together experts from key Nodal Ministries, State Water Resources Departments, Irrigation industry, and the World Bank to deliberate on issues including micro-irrigation, command area development, and water use efficiency measures. The workshop explored potential Micro Irrigation Models for increasing On-Farm Water Use



Efficiency in Canal Commands. With Last Mile Connectivity a key concern in Canal Commands, the constitution of the Technical Support Unit (TSU) by the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department represents a strong commitment to tackling the demand and supply of water resources in the state. The launch of pilot projects and stakeholder coordination will be part of future initiatives in the state.

IAI PRESIDENT OUTLINED NEED OF EFFICIENT WATER MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE FOR VIKSIT BHARAT@2047

Shri Kaushal Jaiswal, President, IAI & MD Rivulis India attended the one-day National Conclave on Viksit Bharat @ 2047 on 27th February 2024. Organized by FICCI on the theme "Viksit Bharat & Industry", the conclave provided Ministers & Secretaries, Govt of India, leading global & Indian Industry Leaders, Diplomats, Academia, Economists, Think Tanks, and other stakeholders with a platform to discuss ideas with the potential to bring about transformational changes needed for Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

As a distinguished panellist, he outlined key challenges plaguing the future of Indian agricultural growth, food, and nutrition security. Acknowledging the growing threat of climate change and an increasing demand for assured irrigation, he stressed on efficient management of water resources the future on Indian agriculture. According to him, the future of Indian agriculture depended on increasing Water Productivity i.e. water consumption per unit output with access to Water-efficient technologies like Micro-Irrigation key to addressing all concerns. Key recommendations for Viksit

Bharat @ 2047 included enhanced industry-government collaborations, enabling access to MI technologies, and continued government support and investments as fundamental prerequisites for a Viksit Bharat.

IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA 4TH QUARTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Irrigation Association of India convened its 4th quarter meeting on February 26th, 2024, held virtually and attended by IAI members along with IAI Consultants from the Project Management Unit (PMU) as special invitees. This marked the first interaction between the IAI Executive Committee and the appointed Consultants of the PMU since its establishment under the PDMC Scheme in November 2024.

During the meeting, the IAI Executive Committee assessed the progress achieved under the PMU since its inception, reviewed the March Action Plan, and examined the 1st Quarter Action Plan for 2024-2025. The PMU's primary objective is to address critical bottlenecks in the implementation of the Per Drop More Crop initiative, a component under the RKVY Scheme. Immediate priorities for the PMU include expediting the disbursement of pending instalments to states for the year 2023-2024.

INDUSTRY NEWS

GGRC RELEASES UNIT COST NORMS FOR INSTALLATION OF MIS IN CROP SPACINGS OF 1.0M X 0.6M AND BELOW

The Gujarat Green Revolution Company (GGRC), a Special Purpose Vehicle created for the promotion of Micro Irrigation in the state of Gujarat has issued Unit Cost Norms for the installation of Micro Irrigation Systems (MIS) in Crops with Spacings of 1.0 M X 0.6 M and below. According to PDMC Central guidelines and most State guidelines subsidies for installation of MIS systems are available for Crops with spacings ranging from 12M X 12M to 1.2M X 0.6M. Crops like vegetables are closely spaced with spacing often less than 1.2M X 0.6M. With Gujarat a water-scarce state, the release of Unit Cost Norms for Crops with Spacings 1.2M X 0.6M is a welcome initiative both for farmers and the industry working in the state. With an enormous demand for vegetables (leafy vegetables, potatoes, cabbage, peas, gourds, etc) access to Micro-Irrigation technologies can benefit vegetable farmers immensely with the potential to increase yields, reduce costs, and double incomes while saving scarce water resources.

Gujarat is the 1st state in the country to introduce Unit Cost Norms for Crops with spacings of 1.0m X 0.6M in the country. States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana with a high potential for vegetables may consider the introduction of similar initiatives.

(Source: https://ggrc.co.in/webui/Content.aspx?PageId=37)

WORLD BANK AND UTTAR PRADESH SUGAR MILLS ASSOCIATION DISCUSS ADOPTION OF MI IN SUGARCANE FARMING

The World Resources Group of the World Bank and the Uttar Pradesh Sugar Mills Association convened in Lucknow to discuss the integration of Micro-Irrigation into sustainable agriculture under the UP Pragati Agri Water Accelerator Programme. Given the water-intensive nature of sugarcane cultivation and Uttar Pradesh's significant role as a sugarcane producer, the Accelerator seeks to promote Micro-Irrigation adoption among sugarcane farmers in the state. Aligned with the Uttar Pradesh Micro-Irrigation Plan (UP-MIP) launched by the state government, the Programme targets 38 districts. This meeting with the Sugar Mills Association is part of the UP Accelerator Pragati, an initiative of the 2030 Water Resources Group and the Government of Uttar Pradesh, aiming to enhance water efficiency, productivity, income, and reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG). Beyond sugarcane, the Accelerator plans to focus on sustainable practices in rice, mango, and millet farming.

The objective is to create an environment conducive to private sector collaboration, leveraging innovations and best practices to enhance the value of sustainability investments in agricultural water management.

(Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/upsma-wbgroup-discusscane-irrigation/articleshow/105797987.cms?pcode=461)

AVAADA ENERGY SECURES 1,140 MW AGRI SOLAR PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

Avaada Energy has secured decentralized agricultural solar projects totalling around 1,140 megawatts to be set up at an investment of Rs 5,000 crore. The company has received the Letter of Award (LoA) for the project from MSEB Solar Agro Power Limited (MSAPL), a state-owned enterprise of the Maharashtra government. The project spans 192 locations in 10 districts. This project aligns with the Mukhyamantri Saur Krushi Vahini Yojana 2.0 (MSKVY 2.0), also known as 'Mission 2025', aimed at transforming the agricultural energy supply with a 30 percent feeder solarisation target by 2025.

(Source:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/avaada-energy-secures-1140-mw-agri-solar-projects-in-maharashtra/articleshow/108296881.cms

TORRENT POWER BAGS 306 MW SOLAR PROJECT WORTH RS 1,540 CR.

Torrent Power has secured a contract from Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co Ltd for setting up 306 MW solar projects worth Rs 1,540 crore under the PM-KUSUM Scheme. The project has been awarded at 48 distributed locations, across Nasik District, Maharashtra. The project is conceived by MSEB Solar Agro Power Ltd (MSAPL) under Mukhya Mantri Saur Krushi Vahini Yojana 2.0 (MSKVY 2.0) scheme for implementation of feeder level solarisation under Component C of the PM-KUSUM scheme connected to the distribution network.

(Source:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/torrent-power-bags-306-mw-solar-project-worth-rs-1540-cr/articleshow/108307427.cms)

INDIA NEEDS TO USHER IN GREEN REVOLUTION 2.0 TO PROMOTE LESS WATER-INTENSIVE CROPS: GTRI

India needs Green Revolution 2.0 to promote less water-intensive crops, introduce water pricing mechanisms, and address unsustainable practices. Guaranteeing MSP for pulses and oil seeds, promoting eco-friendly farming. It said that awareness among farmers should be increased about adopting water-saving technologies such as drip irrigation, laser land levelling, training on water-efficient techniques, and precision agriculture to improve water use efficiency. India is exploring multiple options to address protesting farmers in the states of Punjab and Haryana. In addition to negotiations with WTO, the Government of India is exploring alternatives including promoting the cultivation of less water-intensive crops.

(Source:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-needs-to-usher-in-green-revolution-2-0-to-promote-less-water-intensive-crops-gtri/articleshow/107905702.cms)

GSK AWARDED THE BASIN CHAMPION AWARD 2024

GSK Pharmaceuticals has been awarded the Basin Champion Award by the Water Resilience Coalition. The Water Resilience Coalition is an industry-driven, CEO-led initiative to address the global water crisis. The award is given to companies for their outstanding contribution to the management of water. GSK was awarded the Water Champion Award for its work on water security in the Godavari basin in India. The award is an extension of the WRC commitment to advancing water security in India.

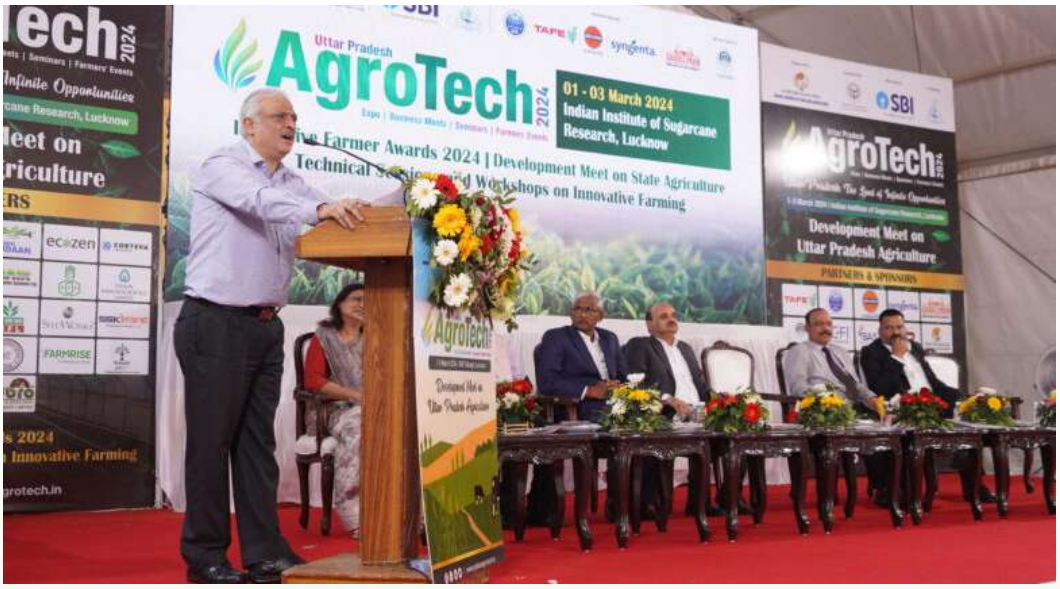
(Source:https://twitter.com/H2O_stewards/status/1758179935343239329)

KERALA SCIENTIST'S E-CROP DEVICE SET TO REVOLUTIONISE FARMING

The Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI) has developed Electronic Crop (E-Crop). E-Crop, an IoT (Internet of Things) device, can simulate crop growth in real-time by calculating nutrients and water requirements in the soil and generating agro-advisory for the crop daily basis. The crop simulation model-based device provides periodical advice as SMS to growers about water and nutrient (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) requirements.

(Source:https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2024/Mar/15/kerala-scientists-e-crop-device-set-to-revolutionise-farming)

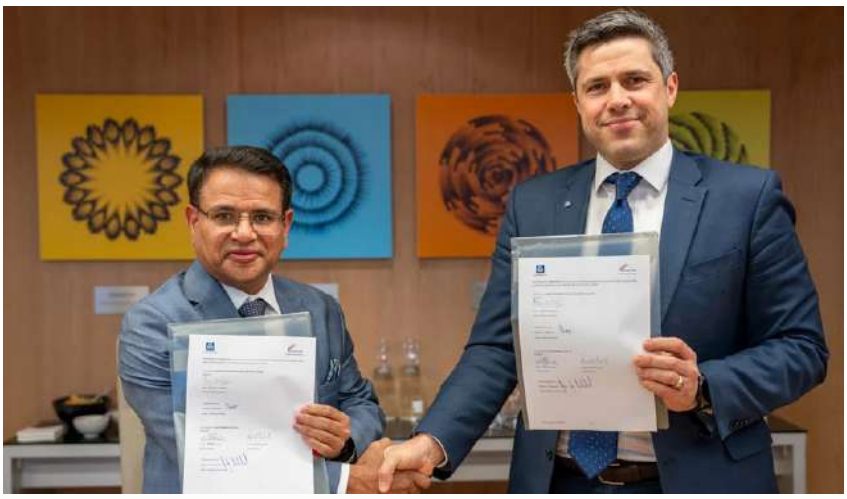
INDIAN CHAMBER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZES UTTAR PRADESH AGROTECH 2024



The Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture organized a three-day exhibition Uttar Pradesh Agrotech 2024 on 1st -3rd March 2024 at the Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow. The exhibition a significant milestone in the agricultural landscape in the state was inaugurated by Shri Davesh Chaturvedi, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh. The Agrotech a beacon of innovation in the state showcased holistic solutions to farmers including post-harvest management, soil testing and options of crop diversification to pulses, oilseeds, millets, and maize. Industry-FPO Partnerships, Public-Private Partnerships, enhancing Market linkages and promotion of exports are keys to future agricultural development in the state.

(Source:https://indianpsu.com/uttar-pradesh-agrotech-2024-providing-comprehensive-solutions-for-farmers/)

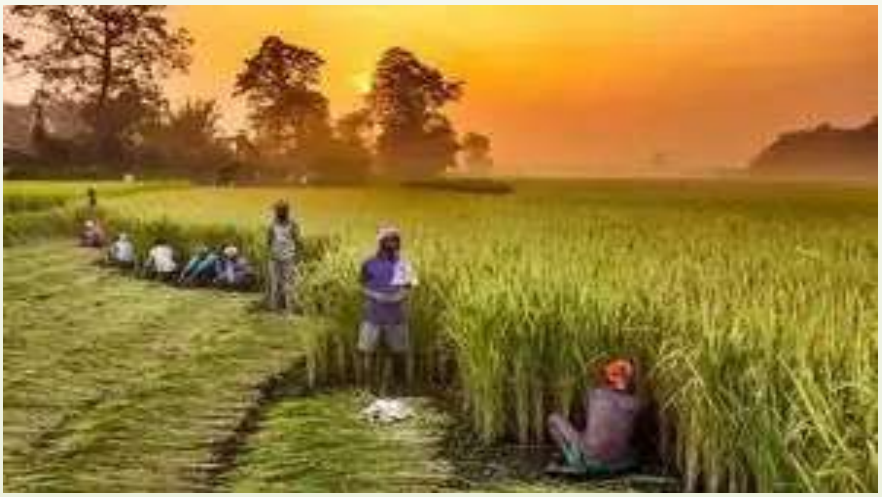
YARA AND ACME SIGNED A BINDING AGREEMENT FOR THE SUPPLY OF GREEN AMMONIA



Yara, a leading Norwegian crop nutrition company and a global leader in ammonia trade and shipping, and GHC SAOC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Acme Cleantech, a leading renewable energy company in India, today signed a firm and binding agreement for supply of ammonia with reduced CO2 emissions from Acme to Yara on a long-term basis. The long-term offtake agreement between Yara and Acme covers the supply of 100 000 tons per annum of renewable ammonia and possibly the world's first arm's length contract for renewable ammonia of this scale and tenure. Over its life cycle, the project will help reduce global GHG emissions by up to 5.0 million tons of CO2 equivalents.

(Source:https://www.yara.com/corporate-releases/yara-and-acme-signed-a-binding-agreement-for-supply-of-green-ammonia/)

GOVT SAYS 5,000 FARMER PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS ONBOARDED ON ONDC



Around 5,000 FPOs have joined the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) portal, accessing market, digital marketing, online payment, business transactions. FPOs facilitate farmers with access to improved technology, credit, better input and more markets to incentivise them to produce better quality commodities. The onboarding is in line with the Central government's objective of providing growers with better market access.

(Source:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/govt-says-5000-farmer-producer-organizations-onboarded-on-ondc/articleshow/108143691.cms)

THE CII FPO BUSINESS SERVICE UNIT ORGANIZED A TRAINING PROGRAMME ON FPO MANAGEMENT

The CII FPO Business Service Unit works towards converging funding from the Centre & state govt infra-related schemes, Ag infrastructure fund, PMFME, etc. to help FPOs bridge the key infrastructure gaps and create economies of scale. The CII FPO Support Unit supported a training programme on

FPO Management. The training programme organized by BIRD Lucknow was held in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, and was attended by state FPO's and representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture Himachal Pradesh, CII-Northern Region and Govt. and Private organizations working with FPO's.

(Source:https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ciiface_farmers-applefpo-agriculture-activity-7168835870874034176-4P9i/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop)

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS IN STATE BUDGETS 2024-2025

The State Governments have released respective State Budgets 2024-2025. Key priorities identified by States governments with regard to the development of agriculture and water resources have been summarized below:

Sector	Key Priorities
Agriculture	• Agri-Input support to farmers • Development of Market Linkages – FPO's, Establishment of Markets, Public-Private Partnerships, • Establishment of Training Centres and Centres of Excellence to provide Agri-Extension and technical support to farmers
Water Resources	• Development of Medium and Minor irrigation • Development of Lift Irrigation Projects • Development of Soil and Water Conservation activities • Development of Pressurized Piped Irrigation Systems • Modernization of Canal Commands

ICAR-CCRI NAGPUR CONDUCTS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON ADOPTION OF GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (GAP) FOR CITRUS FARMERS OF CHHINDWARA, MADHYA PRADESH

2- day training programme organized by ICAR-CCRI in Nagpur provided valuable insights on citrus cultivation practices to growers from Chhindwara district, Madhya Pradesh. Thirty-Five trainees

participated from Sausar, Pandhurna and Mohkhed blocks of Chhindwara districts Madhya Pradesh. The training programme was organized under the APEDA-sponsored project 'Capacity Development Programme on Adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for citrus farmers. Farmers were encouraged to adopt scientific package of practices for citrus cultivation, procurement of good quality planting material. Farmers were also introduced to APEDA Schemes for Citrus Farmers.

IDH AND IFFCO KISAN COLLABORATE TO ENHANCE SUSTAINABLE CHILLI FARMING IN ANDHRA PRADESH

IDH and IFFCO Kisan's collaborative endeavour signifies a proactive approach toward addressing sustainability challenges in chili farming – extensive use of hybrid varieties, fertilizers, pesticides, and water resulting in soil degradation, water scarcity, and increased carbon emissions. The project targeting 1500 small holder farmers aims to implement three digital technology interventions. The program adopts a 'phygital' model, integrating physical and digital elements, where extension service providers translate data insights into actionable strategies for farmers.

(Source:https://krishijagran.com/industry-news/idh-and-iffco-kisan-collaborate-to-enhance-sustainable-chilli-farming-in-andhra-pradesh/)

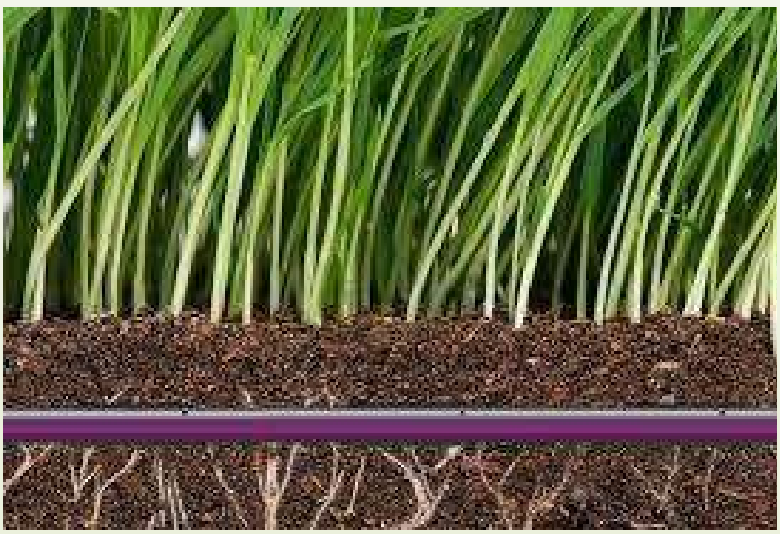
FAO URGES URGENT ACTION TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS

FAO calls for immediate action to revamp agrifood systems in response to climate change indicators outlined in the latest UN State of the Global Climate Report. The Report highlights record-breaking surface temperatures and green-house gas emissions in 2023 with FAO emphasizing the urgency of reversing climate change trends and investing in solutions to enhance resilience, reduce emissions, and safeguarding lives and livelihoods with agriculture and food systems offering abundant and impactful opportunities.

Source:https://krishijagran.com/agriculture-world/fao-urges-urgent-action-to-address-climate-change-impacts-on-agrifood-systems/)

SUBSURFACE IRRIGATION CALLED WAY OF THE FUTURE

Subsurface drip irrigation is a relatively new system to the Prairies, but one of southern Alberta's early adopters is confident it's an effective way to grow crops with water efficiency rates second to none. Subsurface irrigation systems deliver water directly to roots using drip lines and is commonly designed to be spaced between rows to allow for water migration and leave space for moisture that falls in the form of precipitation. The biggest upside for the systems is the potential for more than 95 percent water delivery into crops' root zones with no surface evaporation. The downside is the high upfront costs.



(Source: https://www.producer.com/news/subsurface-irrigation-called-way-of-the-future/)

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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