

'All should work together to make agriculture viable option'

TNN | Feb 18, 2019



CHANDIGARH: On Sunday, President of India Ram Nath Kovind said that farming should be seen in a wider entrepreneurial context. He also insisted that traditional farming should be linked to the agricultural value chain.

The president was speaking on the concluding day of the fourth Agri Leadership Summit-2019 at India International Horticulture Market, Gannaur, in Sonipat district.

Appreciating the farmers in Haryana who were adopting new methods to manage stubble and crop residue, he expressed confidence that they would succeed in finding a solution to the problem of pollution caused by stubble-burning.

The president also exhorted the stakeholders to work jointly to create an atmosphere in the country for making agriculture a viable option and attract entrepreneurs to make investment in agriculture sector. "This would inspire farmers' children to take up farming enthusiastically. It would also make the farmers prosperous and enable Haryana to play a leading role in the efforts being made all over the country in the field of agriculture," he added.

Condemning the attack on the CRPF convoy in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, in which many brave soldiers were martyred, he said the attack was an act of cowardice. "I, on behalf of the country, express gratitude to our brave soldiers and pay tributes to them," he added.

Chief minister (CM) Manohar Lal Khattar said that the state government had set a target to ensure that farmers earned an income of at least Rs 1 lakh per acre. For this, besides the traditional farming, farmers are being encouraged to diversify by adopting activities such as bee-keeping and dairy farming.

Describing Haryana as the food basket of the country, the CM said Haryana contributed 45% paddy and 65% wheat to the central pool. Although Haryana has made significant achievements in the field of agriculture, the CM said that there are challenges that need to be met. Shrinking landholding is one of them, he added. He also expressed concern over falling water table.

Agriculture and farmers' welfare minister Om Parkash Dhankar talked about successful schemes that led to agricultural growth. Governor Satyadeo Narain Arya, finance minister Capt Abhimanyu, urban local bodies minister Kavita Jain and MP Ramesh Kaushik, were also present.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/all-should-work-together-to-make-agriculture-viable-option/articleshow/68041348.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst