

## Strategies to enhance India's agri exports

India's exports of rice, other cereals, spices, oil meals, oil seeds, fruits and vegetables, and cereal preparations and miscellaneous processed items witnessed positive growth between Apr'20- Nov'20 over the corresponding period in the previous year.

India is one of the top crop-producing countries in the world. However, crop yields in India are 30-60 per cent lower than other top crop-producing countries. Other challenges facing Indian farmers include soil health and water scarcity.

Soil erosion, biodiversity loss and pollution have led to soil degradation, whereas farming without adequate replenishment of nutrients has led to productivity losses. Similarly, agriculture is highly water-intensive in India with farming activities consuming about 90 per cent of the available ground water. Digital technologies can help farmers make informed decisions on irrigation, fertilisers and harvesting schedules.

India also lags behind several countries in registering fertilizers. Delay in fertilizer registrations prevents Indian farmers from accessing the latest developments in the arena of crop nutrition, undertaken globally. Proactive government policies and private sector initiatives that increase farm efficiency are, therefore, the need of the hour. Further, improved mechanization and efficient market linkages in the form of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) can lead to better remuneration for farmers.

Improved agricultural output in terms of yield and quality can help Indian agri exporters compete globally. Further, improvement in agri infrastructure in the form of cold storages and faster transportation to ports can help Indian agri exporters secure a better position on the world map, as also increase farmer incomes.

## **Notifications**

## PIB

AP and MP take the lead in undertaking Urban Local Bodies reforms

https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1682876

APEDA organizes virtual Buyer Seller Meeting with Thailand

https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1682701