

Launch of KISAN Project and Hailstorm App

Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, **Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan** today launched KISAN Project [C(K)rop Insurance using Space technology And geoinformatics] of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & FW, Ministry of Agriculture and FW. The project envisages use of Space Technology and geoinformatics (GIS, GPS and Smartphone) technology along with high resolution data from UAV/Drone based imaging for improvement in yield estimation and better planning of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs), needed for crop insurance programme.

The Pilot Study is proposed to be launched in one District each of Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra during Kharif season of 2015 and two Districts each of these States during Rabi season of 2015-16. While launching the project Hon'ble MoS informed that once the Pilot Study is successful, it will be extended to the other parts of the country. The KISAN project will be implemented by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), an attached Office of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & FW, in collaboration with ISRO Centres (Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad & National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad), India Meteorological Department, CCAFS, State Agriculture Departments and State Remote Sensing Centres.

Dr. Balyan also launched an Android App. Designed by ISRO (National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad). This App will help real time data collection about hailstorm occurrences along with photographs and geographical coordinates (longitude and latitude). The Minister informed that App will help Government to get real time data about the Hailstorms which will be collected through the Agriculture Department officials of different States. This will support in deciding the crop loss more objectively and in a very fast manner.

The launch programme was attended by Shri Avinash Kumar Srivastava, Special Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & FW; Dr Ashish K. Bhutani, Joint Secretary, DACFW. Officials/scientists from Indian Space Research Organization, India Meteorological Department, State Agriculture Department, State Remote Sensing Centres of the concerned States, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & FW and MNCFC also participated in this programme.



Hon'ble Minister Launching KISAN project



Hon'ble Minister Launching Hailstorm App