

Weekly Agri Policy & Trends August 07- August 13, 2015

1. Here's why we need to focus on agriculture in India!, Business Insider, August 13, 2015

Agriculture is a very important sector of the Indian economy. It is because it provides employment to roughly half of India's workforce and contributes to 17% of India's GDP. Since independence, a lot of changes have been observed in the sector. Post-independence India was dependent on imports of agricultural produce.

Read more:

http://www.businessinsider.in/Heres-why-we-need-to-focus-on-agriculture-in-India/article/show/48468689.cms?utm_source=ten_minutes_with=Referral=Content_Partnership

2. Modern agriculture can boost Chhattisgarh's economy: Minister, The Economic Times, August 13, 2015

Introduction of modern day best practices of agriculture, adapted to Indian needs, has potential to boost Chhattisgarh's economy in a big way, a senior minister from the state has said. The BJP government is working towards providing latest agricultural equipment's, and increase cold storage facilities in the rural areas so as to jump agricultural productivity in the state, visiting Chhattisgarh Minister for Water Resources and Agriculture Brijmohan Agrawal told PTI.

Read more:

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2015-08-13/news/65523889_1_farmers-chhattisgarh-minister-cold-storage-facilities

3. Drone Rain: Startups like Carving Notions Tech exploring diverse usages of drones in India, The Economic Times, August 13, 2015

It was in May, this year, that Maryala Srinivas decided to bring together his engineering and entrepreneurial sides to start his own drone manufacturing venture Carving Notions Technologies, in a bid to develop drones or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for various commercial purposes. It took two months for Srinivas, who simultaneously runs a training institute for engineers in Hyderabad, to research and develop a range of commercially applicable drones at affordable costs, soon after which he raised Rs 15-lakh funding from angel investment network Hyderabad Angels.

Read more:

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2015-08-13/news/65523938_1_drones-uavs-edall

4. Moody's links India's credit rating to drought vulnerability, August 11, 2015

India may avoid drought this year, but its economy remains vulnerable to fluctuations in annual rainfall, a factor that continues to constrain the country's sovereign credit, Moody's Investors Service said on Tuesday. But India's vulnerability to drought will come down if the government's efforts to improve infrastructure, food distribution and non-agricultural employment opportunities were successful.

Read more:

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-moody-s-links-india-s-credit-rating-to-drought-vulnerability-2113308>

5. Nitish offers Rs 30,000 annual stipend to lure students to agriculture colleges, The Times of India, August 10, 2015

Bihar CM Nitish Kumar on Monday said his government would provide an additional stipend of Rs 30,000 per annum to each boy and girl of state-run agriculture colleges to enhance number of students in such colleges. Of the total amount, Rs 2,000 per student will be paid on monthly basis while the rest Rs 6,000 on annual basis for purchasing books. Addressing a public meeting after inaugurating newly-constructed buildings of Bhola Paswan Shastri Agriculture College at Purnia, about 300kms east from the state capital, the CM also said that livelihood of 76% population of Bihar is based on agriculture and sustainable development of the state was not possible without maintaining proper growth in agriculture sector. He also unveiled a statue of ex-chief minister Bhola Paswan Shastri in the main building of the college.

Read more:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Nitish-offers-Rs-30000-annual-stipend-to-lure-students-to-agriculture-colleges/articleshow/48427642.cms>