

# Kisan Sarathi initiative

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## In news

Kisan Sarathi was launched jointly by the Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare with the Minister for Electronics and Information Technology recently.

## About Kisan Sarathi initiative

- It is a digital platform which facilitates farmers to get '**right information at right time**' in their desired language.
- It was launched on the occasion of 93rd ICAR Foundation Day.
- With the digital platform, the farmers can interact and avail personalised advisories on agriculture and allied areas directly from the respective scientists of KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVKs).
- 'KisanSarathi' initiative will be highly valuable not only in addressing the location specific information needs of the farmers but also in Agricultural Extension, Education and Research activities of ICAR.

## About the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

- It was established on 16 July 1929 and was formerly known as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.
- It is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- It is headquartered at New Delhi.
- It is the apex body for coordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country.
- ICAR is responsible for coordinating agricultural

education and research in India.

- The Union Minister of Agriculture serves as its president.
- It is the largest network of agricultural research and education institutes in the world.
- It has entrusted the responsibility of conducting All India Entrance Examinations for admission to UG, PG & Ph.D Courses in AUs, and award of scholarships and fellowships to the NTA from 2019 onwards.

### **Krishi Vigyan Kendra(KVK)**

- KVK is an integral part of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).
- KVKs aims at assessment of location specific technology modules in agriculture and allied enterprises, through technology assessment, refinement and demonstrations.
- KVKs have been functioning as Knowledge and Resource Centre of agricultural technology supporting initiatives of public, private and voluntary sectors for improving the agricultural economy.
- KVKs are sanctioned to Agricultural Universities, ICAR institutes, related Government Departments and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) working in Agriculture.
- The first KVK was established in 1974 at Puducherry.