

Rubber board's mobile app–CRISP

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In news– Rubber Board has launched a mobile app–CRISP to inform growers about rubber cultivation and provides solutions online.

About the app-

- **CRISP (Comprehensive Rubber Information System Platform)** has been **developed by the Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII)** in collaboration with the **Digital University of Kerala**.
- The **RRII established in 1955 is located on a hillock in the eastern suburb of Puthuppally, Kottayam**, eight kilometres from the town.
- With the help of CRISP, the farmers will now be able to receive recommendations of RRII on production and productivity enhancement, reduction of cultivation cost, maintenance of soil fertility, disease control measures, etc.
- Currently, these facilities are reaching the farmers through traditional extension methods.
- Many of these recommendations are location specific and can be linked to geo-information systems and delivered directly to the farmers.

The Rubber Board-

- It is **a statutory body constituted by the Government of India**, under the Rubber Act 1947, for the overall development of the rubber industry in the country.
- **Head Office is in Kottayam, Kerala.**
- **It functions under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry** of the Government of India.

- The Board has a **Chairman appointed by the Central Government.**
- The Chairman of the Board presides over every meeting of the Board at which he is present and in his absence, the Vice Chairman shall preside, but when both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman are absent from any meeting, the members present shall elect one of their own member to preside at that meeting.
- The Board shall, in every year, elect a member to be a Vice Chairman for a period of twelve months commencing from the date of his election or, if the election is held before expiry of the term of office of an existing Vice Chairman, from the date on which such Vice Chairman would vacate office.
- The Central Government may appoint an Executive Director to exercise such powers and perform such duties under the direction of the Board as may be prescribed or as may be delegated to him by the Chairman.
- The Executive Director shall be responsible for the proper functioning of the Board and the implementation of its decisions and discharge of its duties under the Rubber Act, 1947.
- The Executive Director shall be the principal executive officer of the Board and shall exercise administrative control over all departments and officers of the Board.

Note:

- Commercial cultivation of natural rubber was introduced in India by the British, although the experimental efforts to grow rubber on a commercial scale in India were initiated as early as 1873 at the Botanical Gardens, Calcutta.
- The first commercial Hevea plantations in India were established at Thattekadu in 1902.