

## **Policymakers discuss role of technology in agriculture**

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Referring to "Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav" programme, the agriculture minister, Mr Radha Mohan Singh urged experts of the agriculture universities and Indian Council for Agriculture Research ( ICAR) led institutes to create awareness about new technology to farmers, which will help farmers in knowing about new farming practices.

He also suggested a thought towards an institutional mechanism of linkage between the KrishiVigyan Kendras ( KVKs) and Agriculture Technology Management Agency ( ATMA ) at district level.

While addressing the annual general meeting of the ICAR Society, he emphasised about communications technologies ( ICTs ) for creating awareness about agriculture practice by using M - Kisan portal for sending information through SMSs, providing e - connectivity to KVKs, Kisan Chaupals, farmer's portals and Kisan Call Center.

Dr Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, union minister of state for agriculture urged the scientists to strengthen the Lab - to - land programmes and enhance communication with the farmers. Mr Balyan expressed confidence that scientists and farmers through interactions, will develop new technologies.

Mr Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundariya, union minister of state for agriculture emphasised about technological and knowledge empowerment of farmers through awareness creation via. Knowledge of latest know - how of technologies.

The director general of ICAR, Dr M Ayyappan presented vote of thanks and highlighted the role of ICAR in creation of new technologies to improve agriculture practices.