



'Need tech to reduce post-harvest losses'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kochi: Agriculture scientists should look for technologies that could reduce the post-harvest losses and also help farmers make a small earning even out of the wasted crops in the wake of challenges posed by climate change, said Union fisheries minister Parshottam Rupala on Tuesday.

AGRI SCIENCE CONGRESS

Speaking after inaugurating the 16th Agriculture Science Congress in Kochi, Rupala said scientists should strive to introduce greater mechanisation in agriculture production and develop specialized farm equipment for women. He said during the Sagar Parikrama drive, he had noticed high levels of plastic pollution which wo-

uld affect marine life.

"Traditional farming systems like pokkali rice need to be promoted and measures are to be taken to ensure profitability for the farmers," Rupala said.

State agriculture minister P Prasad stressed on ensuring food and nutritional security for all, while maintaining the health of the ecosystem and environment intact. He said state has introduced 'Poshaka Samrudhi' scheme to ensure nutritious food for people in the state.

Speaking on the sidelines of conference, Himanshu Pathak, director general of Indian council of agriculture research and secretary, department of agricultural research and education, said around 2,000 varieties of climate resilient grains and horti crops have been introduced to help farmers in the wake of climate change.