

# ‘Scientists should strive to infuse more mechanisation in agriculture’

## Our Bureau

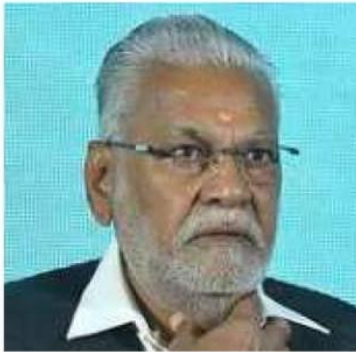
Kochi

In view of the increasing demand for food, environmental degradation and challenges posed by climate change, there is an urgent need to transform agri-food systems into sustainable enterprises through scientific innovations, said Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala.

He was speaking after inaugurating the 16th Agricultural Science Congress (ASC) here on Tuesday.

Rupala said agricultural scientists should strive to infuse greater mechanisation in the agriculture production process, and develop and popularise specialised farm implements for women in agriculture.

The Minister made the observation, during the *Sagar*



Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala at the 3-day Agricultural Science Congress 2023 and Expo, at Le Meridien, Kochi THULASI KAKKAT

*Parkirama*, drive that marine and inland water pollution has seriously affected aquatic life and coastal ecology. He exhorted scientists to find lasting and sustainable solutions to address this perilous threat.

The Minister inaugurated the Agri Expo being held on the sidelines of the event

which showcases innovative agricultural technologies of public and private sector research institutes, universities, agro-industries, extension agencies and NGOs.

## GENOMICS RESEARCH

Himanshu Pathak, Secretary to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), said India's foodgrain demand will rise to 340-355 tonnes by 2033.

Kerala Agriculture Minister P Prasad stressed on ensuring food and nutritional security for all the citizen of the country, while maintaining the health of the ecosystem and environment intact. He was emphatic that the '*Poshaka Samrudhi*' scheme recently launched by the Kerala government will contribute towards this goal.