



Research Unit
Press Information Bureau
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India



G20 Series #72

India's G20 Presidency

3rd Agriculture Deputies Meeting & Agriculture Ministers' Meeting

(Hyderabad, Telangana – June 15 - 17, 2023)

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

July 11, 2023

“We need to empower our farmers with innovation and digital technology. We must also make solutions affordable for small and marginal farmers in the Global South. There is an urgent need to reduce agricultural and food waste, and instead, invest in creating wealth from waste.”

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi

The three-day meeting of the 3rd Agriculture Deputies Meeting along with the Agriculture Ministers under the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) of the G20 was held in Hyderabad from June 15 - 17, 2023. More than 200 delegates from member countries, invitee countries, and international organizations participated in the meeting. The event was graced by Agriculture Ministers from various countries and the Director Generals from International Organizations. The first day of the meeting was dedicated to the Agriculture Deputies meeting followed by Agriculture Ministers' meeting on June 16 - 17, 2023.

3rd Agriculture Deputies Meeting

The first day of the three-day Meeting began with the [inauguration of an exhibition](#) by Union Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Kailash Choudhary. The exhibition included 71 stalls in the fields of Waste to Wealth management, smart & precision agriculture, Agri innovations, value chain management, etc. Of the 71 stalls, 15 stalls were exhibited by ICAR institutes to showcase the recent advancements made by their research institutions /organizations, and the remaining stalls were exhibited by other Ministries, the Government of Telangana, private companies, and Agri start-ups to provide them an opportunity to showcase their activities, achievements, and advancements.

Post the inauguration of the exhibition, the day was dedicated to the Agriculture Deputies Meeting with the delegations from member countries, invited countries, and international organizations, followed by side events in the form of panel discussions.

The **first side event was based on 'Managing Agribusiness for Profit, People, and Planet.'** The panel discussion focused on concrete examples of managing trade-offs between profit,

people, and the planet. They also discussed ways to identify solutions, policies, and programs to achieve greater sustainability for food systems at large.

The second side event revolved around the topic ‘Connecting the Digitally Disconnected:

Harnessing the Power of Digital Technologies in Agriculture.’ The panel discussion was focused on exploring strategies for scaling up and replicating the best practices of digital agriculture initiatives and on discussing the nature of interventions made by the government and

stakeholders in promoting and supporting the bridging of the gap for the digitally disconnected population.



A media briefing was also held by the Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar. He said that the priority areas of the Agriculture Working Group are-

1. Food security and nutrition with a focus on improving social protection systems to promote agro-diversification and enhance food security.
2. Sustainable agriculture and financing green and climate-resilient agriculture with a climate-smart approach focused on climate-resilient technologies and farming system models for sustainable agricultural production.
3. Strengthening infrastructure for small and marginal farmers, women, and youth, sharing technology and investment through increasing economic opportunities inclusive agricultural value chains and food systems to enhance the resilience and efficiency of value chains
4. Digitalization for agricultural transformation with an emphasis on standardized agricultural data platforms as digital public goods and leveraging new-emerging digital technologies to transform the agri-food sector.

These are being discussed in different sessions of the meeting.

Agriculture Ministers' Meeting

Several significant meetings took place earlier, focusing on agricultural matters and spearheaded by agriculture deputies. The details of the earlier held meetings are as follows:

- ❖ The [1st Agriculture Deputies Meeting \(ADM\)](#), was held in Indore from February 13 - 15, 2023.
- ❖ The [2nd Agriculture Deputies Meeting](#) took place in Chandigarh from March 29 - 31, 2023.
- ❖ The final 3rd Agriculture Deputies Meeting was held in Hyderabad on June 15, 2023 – a day prior to the Agriculture Ministers' Meeting.

In addition to the ADMs, the [Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists \(MACS\)](#) was held in Varanasi from April 17 – 19, 2023.

Day 1: June 16, 2023

The Ministerial meeting started on 16 June 2023, with a plenary session with the welcome address by Union Agriculture Secretary, Shri Manoj Ahuja. This was followed by a [video message](#) by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who graciously welcomed the distinguished delegates.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister remarked that agriculture is at the heart of human civilization. He mentioned that the responsibilities of an Agriculture Minister are not only limited to handling one sector of the economy but extend toward securing the future of humanity.

Throwing light on India's contribution to the agricultural sector, the Prime Minister highlighted India's policy of a fusion of 'back to basics' and 'march to future' and said that India is promoting Natural Farming as well as Technology-enabled Farming. "Farmers all over India are taking up natural farming now", said the Prime Minister.

Concluding the address, the Prime Minister said, "India's G20 priorities in agriculture focus on healing our 'One Earth', creating harmony within our 'One Family' and giving hope for a bright 'One Future'". He expressed happiness that work is underway on two concrete outcomes - The '**Deccan High-level Principles on Food Security and Nutrition**', and the '**MAHARISHI**' initiative for millets and other grains. "The support for these two initiatives is a statement in support for inclusive, sustainable, and resilient agriculture", the Prime Minister concluded.



Agriculture Minister lauded the G20 Members for their notable contributions towards making the Agriculture Working Group proceedings successful and historic which resulted in the welcoming of two key outcomes in the “[Outcome Document and Chair’s Summary](#)” during the Ministerial meeting:

(a) Deccan High-Level Principles and

(b) International Millets and Other Ancient Grains Research Initiative.



Later, the ministers engaged in 3 sessions focusing on G20 India's priority areas like mainstreaming women & youth in Agri & Food Value Chains, sustaining biodiversity & ecosystem services for Food Security & cultivating Climate Solutions - Preparing Agri for a changing world.



Day 2: June 17, 2023

After declaring ICAR - Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR) as the ‘Global Centre of Excellence on Millets (Shree Anna)’ at the [Global Millets \(Shree Anna\) Conference](#) which was held on March 18, 2023, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi reiterated the role of the premier institute in the promotion and adoption of millets, in his video message at the G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting in Hyderabad on June 16, 2023.

In order to provide the Agriculture Ministers and delegates from various G20 countries a first-hand experience of ICAR-IIMR, especially during the ongoing International Year of Millets, a [technical excursion to ICAR-IIMR](#) was also arranged. The excursion was planned as part of the G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM).

The excursion and exhibition witnessed an enormous participation of more than 300 people including Agricultural Ministers,



various delegates from G20 countries, international organizations, and several other dignitaries from India.

After a traditional welcome of the Agricultural Ministers, the delegates were taken to the farms at the IIMR campus where the standing crops of eight different millets were showcased. On this occasion, the Agriculture Ministers of G20 planted Millets as a symbolic gesture towards their collective commitment to promoting Millets.

The Agriculture Ministers also visited the various Millet processing units established at the IIMR campus. The processing machinery is equipped to make various millet value-added products such as Millet muffins, cookies, and noodles.

The Ministers and other delegates also visited the Nutrihub. Nutrihub is the Government of India-supported Technology Business Incubator hosted by the Indian Institute of Millet Research, ICAR – IIMR, Hyderabad. The Incubation Program at Nutrihub-IIMR is designed to help Millet start-ups grow in a streamlined fashion by providing them with the required technology and support.



Further, at the Centre of Excellence, the delegates tasted various signature delicacies of their respective countries made with Millets. The Centre of Excellence at IIMR supports in knowledge transfer, technology dissemination and product development around millets.

One of the major highlights of the excursion was the Exhibition on Millets. The exhibition featured 30 unique stalls, by selected FPOs, Millet exporters and Millet-based start-ups from across the country.

Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje launched three books titled 'Milletology', a dedicated Millet cookbook compiled by noted Indian chefs and culinary professionals of Indian Federation of Culinary Associations, 'Culinary Delights: Millets Traditional Recipes and Savouries' by IIMR and a 'A Compendium of Indian Millet Startups' during the event.



Cultural performances in the “City of Pearls”

Post deliberations, the delegates witnessed elaborate cultural performances in the 'City of Pearls' where they got an opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich heritage of India.



Against the backdrop of the magnificent Falaknuma Palace, G20 Agriculture Ministers & delegates witnessed traditional dance performances that showcased the rich artistic legacy of India.

References:

[Hyderabad to host G20 Agriculture Ministerial meeting from June 15 to 17](#)

[Three-day G-20 Agriculture Working Group meeting begins with enthusiasm in Hyderabad](#)

[PM addresses G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meet](#)

[Text of PM's video message at G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meet](#)

[The G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting \(AMM\) was held from 15th-17th June in Hyderabad](#)

[Find ways to make sustainable and inclusive food systems focused on marginal farmers – Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi](#)

[G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting Outcome Document & Chair's Summary](#)

Twitter Links:

[The City of Pearls is all geared up to host the G20 Agriculture Ministers!](#)

[Accelerating global cooperation to achieve sustainable agriculture!](#)

[On the sidelines of the G20 AMM 2023, Ministers & delegates visited an exhibition highlighting India's innovations & achievements in agriculture & allied sectors.](#)

[G20 Agricultural Ministers visited the Indian Institute of Millets Research today & explored the state-of-the-art research centre on Millets.](#)

Video Links:

[Inaugural Session of the Agricultural Ministers' Meeting, Hyderabad](#)

[PRESS BRIEFING On 3rd Agriculture Deputies Meeting and Agriculture Ministers Meeting, Hyderabad](#)

[Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's video message at the Agriculture Ministers Meeting in Hyderabad](#)

Further Reading:

[G20 Series # 21: 1st Agriculture Deputies Meeting \(ADM\)](#)

[G20 Series # 41 2nd Agriculture Deputies Meeting](#)

[G20 Series # 53 G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists \(MACS\)](#)

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