

Innovation, tech key to farm productivity: Prez

AGRO TECH Calls for increased cooperation with Israeli govt

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President Pranab Mukherjee today emphasised on the optimum utilisation of resources in enhancing productivity and said the successful implementation of schemes like Clean India, Digital India and Make in India would drive the economy.

He was speaking at the inaugural session of CII Agro Tech 2016 here today. The Guest of Honour was Reuven Rivlin, President of Israel.

He said: "There is much to learn from Israel, a country which has converted its disadvantages to advantages with conviction and fortitude. I am happy to share the platform with the President of Israel, a country that has made a mark in agriculture through innovation, technology solutions and converting its knowledge into value addition."

"I was a part of the decision making team in 1992 that entered into a partnership for defence equipment with Israel, and I am happy we can do so in the field of



(From left) Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh, Punjab Governor VP Badnore, President Pranab Mukherjee and Israeli President Reuven Rivlin at the inaugural session of the CII Agro Tech in Chandigarh on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MANOJ MAHAJAN

agriculture as well."

The President applauded the efforts of the CII towards initiatives like Agro Tech.

Reuven Rivlin said: "We in Israel were concerned about homeland security, but India taught us to think about food security. And this is why we are all here today. We both know that building a home means being able to provide food for your family, and that building a nation means to be able to produce and provide food for its people. It is about taking care of your home with

“It is special that such an event (Agro Tech) is being organised in Punjab and Haryana where the first Green Revolution started. As we stand on the cusp of the second Green Revolution, we can take inspiration from this land.”

-Pranab Mukherjee, PRESIDENT

your own two hands.”

Referring to Agro Tech, Radha Mohan Singh, Union Agriculture Minister, said such events provided a platform for many stakeholders—farmers, innovators, business leaders and investors. Other dignitaries present were Kaptan Singh Solanki, VP Singh Badnore, Governor Punjab and Haryana and UT Administrator; Naushad Forbes, president, CII; Chandrajit Banerjee, director general, CII; Abhay Firodia, chairman, Agro Tech; and Rumjhum Chatterjee.