



Uttar Pradesh Agritech Innovation Hub

Why in News?

The Union Education Minister inaugurated the **Uttar Pradesh Agritech Innovation Hub** and the **Agritech Startup and Technology Showcase** at **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology (SVPUAT)**, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points

- **Integration of Technology and Natural Farming:**
 - The importance of chemical-free, [natural farming](#) was highlighted, with a call for technology to bridge the gap between the field and the market.
 - This initiative seeks to enhance sustainability and precision farming through technology such as [IoT-enabled sensors](#), [smart irrigation](#), and [automation technologies](#), which can significantly contribute to the agricultural economy, especially in North India.
- **Focus on Skill Development and Rural Youth Empowerment:**
 - The event also stressed that the Agritech Innovation Hub is a collaborative ecosystem where farmers, technologists, and [startups](#) can co-create solutions for the future.
 - The hub aims to empower rural youth and farmers to embrace the [agritech revolution](#).
- **Technological Collaboration:**
 - An MoU was signed between IIT Ropar and SVPUAT for collaboration in agritech research and innovation.
 - The hub is equipped with advanced data analytics platforms and **real-time monitoring systems to facilitate data-driven decision-making for farmers.**
- **Training and Capacity Building Initiatives:**
 - The initiative will also focus on training and capacity building through workshops and sessions for farmers and rural youth.
 - [Krishi Vigyan Kendras \(KVKs\)](#) and [Farmer Producer Organizations \(FPOs\)](#) will play an essential role in training the farming community, ensuring effective technology adoption and knowledge transfer.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)

- KVK is an integral part of the [National Agricultural Research System \(NARS\)](#).
- The **mandate** of KVK is technology assessment and demonstration for its application and capacity development.
- It aims at assessment of location specific technology modules in agriculture and allied enterprises, through technology assessment, refinement and demonstrations.
- KVKs also produce quality technological products (**seed, planting material, bio-agents, livestock**) and make it available to farmers.
- The KVK scheme is **100% financed by the Government of India** and the KVKs are sanctioned to Agricultural Universities, ICAR institutes, related Government Departments and [Non-Government Organizations \(NGOs\)](#) working in Agriculture.

Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs)

- An FPO is a type of **producer organisation (PO)** with **farmers** as its members, and its promotion is supported by the **Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)**.
 - The **FPOs** were inspired by economist **YK Alagh's recommendation (2002)** to amend the **Companies Act, 1956**.
 - FPOs can be registered under the **Companies Act, 2013**, the **Societies Registration Act, 1860**, or as Public Trusts under the **Indian Trusts Act, 1882**.
- A Producer Organisation is a group of **producers, agricultural, non-farm, or artisan**, that can take **legal forms** like producer companies or **cooperatives**, **sharing profits** among members.

FPO Objectives

