

Forest goods certification to enhance export

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Raipur: Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh said that to enhance the export of agricultural, horticultural and minor forest produce items from Chhattisgarh, the state government would extend all possible help to the exporters, ensuring the quality of the exported products and fulfilling the criteria of export.

Singh added, “Establishment of Phytosanitary Lab in Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, farmers, traders and produce exporters of the state would get the facility of certification of their agricultural products.”

Addressing the Export Awareness Meet-2022 organised by Phytosanitary Lab of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University on Monday, Dr. Girish Chandel, Vice Chancellor of the varsity said that due to lack of testing facilities for agricultural products in Chhattisgarh, the exporters here faced difficulty in exporting. In view of this, a phytosanitary lab has been established here by Indira Gandhi Agricultural University with the help of the state government, where facilities for the investigation of pesticide residues, heavy metals, microbes and genetic modification have been available in agricultural and minor forest produce items.

He said that it is necessary to get these tests done for export of any agricultural product.

Dr. Chandel said that the phytosanitary lab has been accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and is provided to the exporters at low rates. This lab has also been recognised by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).