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News: Punjab to supply straw to meet fodder shortage in Kerala

- Punjab has agreed to supply paddy straw to Kerala for using a fodder for live stocks through Kisan Rail.

Kisan Rail

- Kisan Rails are the **first ever multi commodity trains**.
- Earlier, Indian Railways had run single commodity special trains like Banana Specials etc.
- These **trains with refrigerated coaches will help in bringing perishable agricultural products like vegetables, fruits to the market in a short period of time**.
- These will ensure that **agro products reach from one corner to another corner of the country**.
- These trains are a step towards realising the goal of doubling farmers' incomes by 2022.
- These are expected to be a great help to the farmers, as **freight of these trains will be charged as per parcel tariff of normal trains**.
- The Kisan Rail consists of 10 parcel vans as well as one luggage cum brake van and operates on a weekly basis.

- Announcements regarding modernising agriculture were made in the Budget 2020-21 which had envisaged the Kisan Rail service and the Krishi Udaan scheme.

Operation Green

- Operation Green is a 500 crore project to stabilize the production and infrastructure including transportation and cold storage of Tomato-Onion-Potato (TOP) vegetables. It has been by providing additional 500 crore.

Market Intelligence and Early Warning System (MIEWS)

- Market Intelligence and Early Warning System (MIEWS) Dashboard and Portal is a 'first-of-its kind' platform for 'real time monitoring' of prices of tomato, onion and potato (TOP) and for simultaneously generating alerts for intervention under the terms of the Operation Greens(OG) scheme.
- The portal would disseminate all relevant information related to TOP crops such as Prices and Arrivals, Area, Yield and Production, Imports and Exports, Crop Calendars, Crop Agronomy, etc in an easy to use visual format.
- The MIEWS portal is an initiative of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.