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Modi at the 86th ICAR Foundation Day function in New Delhi on Tuesday.

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## To increase farm output, income, take lab to land, says Modi

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 29

PM Narendra Modi on Tuesday emphasised on "lab to land", urging Indian agricultural scientists to work towards the dual objective of enabling farmers to "feed India and the world" while earning a "good income". Through the slogan, he indicated the need of scientific research for successful interventions.

"We have to prove two points. One, our farmers are capable to feed the whole country and the world, and second, agriculture is capable of filling the pockets of our farmers," Modi said, addressing the 86th foundation day of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Focussing on "more crop" with "less land" and "less time", Modi pushed

for the use of science and technology to increase agricultural production and said scientists must convince farmers about the efficacy of new products. "Since demand is increasing, and land available will not rise, the focus has to be on soil fertility," he said.

Modi also called for a blue revolution, similar to the green and white ones, referring to the fisheries sector and its potential. He urged agricultural universities to set up radio stations for the benefit of farmers.

The PM talked about increasing production of pulses and oilseeds. "Production of pulses and oilseeds is a challenge. There is a need to increase production," he said.

He emphasised on the need for water conservation through measures such as rainwater harvesting.

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