

Peru-based potato centre to set up its branch in Agra

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: The Peru-based International Potato Centre (CIP) is set to establish a branch in Agra, with an investment of approximately Rs 120 crore on a 10-hectare site, a state govt spokesperson said on Monday.

The spokesperson said that the establishment of international and national-level centres will benefit farmers in Uttar Pradesh, the country's leading potato-producing state. Neighbouring states like Bihar and West Bengal, as well as other South Asian potato-growing nations, will also reap significant advantages.

The CIP centre in Agra will provide access to high-quality potato seeds, leading to better crop yields and increased farmer incomes. Additionally, it will address the shortage of potato seeds and focus on developing highly productive and processable potato varieties.

While Uttar Pradesh leads the nation in total potato production, West Bengal surpasses it in per-hectare yield, producing 29.9 metric tonnes compared to UP's 25.48 metric tonnes.