

Ryots awarded for growing tobacco in AP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Guntur: The agriculture minister, Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy, presented the best tobacco growers awards to the progressive farmers at a function organized by Tobacco Institute of India (TII) on Friday. Appealing tobacco growers to switch over to organic farming mode to reduce the cost of cultivation, agriculture minister Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy has promised to extend the subsidies granted to other crops. He said the government is ready to sanction financial assistance for digging up farm ponds and purchasing organic manure for tobacco growers.

The minister said that the state government has dedicated ₹4,000 crore for providing financial assistance to the farmers under market intervention scheme. The state has been implementing pro-farmer policies by providing subsidies and direct financial assistance. "We have waived off crop loans to the tune of Rs.24000 crore in the last four and half years despite facing serious financial challenges," claimed minister.