Kochi to host *BusinessLine*, MCX Agri Conclave tomorrow

BL RESEARCH BUREAU
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BusinessLine, in association with commodity bourse Multi Commodity Exchange of India, is organising the Agri Conclave 2018 on Thursday, March 15, in Kochi.

Key stakeholders of the physical pepper and cardamom market — producers, traders, exporters and industry bodies — will discuss the changing dynamics of business at the event.

A panel discussion on the theme 'Market Dynamics in Pepper and Cardamom — Associated Risks and Management' will be held with renowned speakers from the industry.

These include V UnniKrishnan, Vice-President, AV Thomas Group of Companies; Prakash Namboodri, Chairman, All India Spices Exporters Forum; Remashree, Director, R&D, Spices Board; Deepak Mehta, Head, Agri & Energy, MCX; and G Chandrashekhar, an independent commodities expert.

Teeka Ram Meena, Principal Secretary of Kerala's Department of Agriculture, will also be leading the panel discussion and answering questions from the audience.

The key note speech will be delivered by industry leader Philip Kuruvilla, who has 40-plus years of experience in the spices industry. The special address will be delivered by Shaji Varghese, President, Cochin Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Rajalakshmi Nirmal, Deputy Editor, *BusinessLine*, will moderate the discussion. Speakers will discuss the challenges facing the trade focussing on the changing market scenario in the pepper and cardamom industry – the growing output in the domestic and global markets, handling of price volatility through hedging for the physical market participants and the issues with regard to productivity.

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