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# Farming and industries will grow equally in state: CM

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**JAMSHEDPUR :** Chief minister Raghubar Das on Sunday said farming sector and industries would go grow equally in Jharkhand. "The government is committed to promote agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, solar farming along with having more number of industries," Das said.

Addressing a presser here the CM said solar farming would be developed as an industry. Surplus solar energy at each residential and bigger units would be purchased by the Jharkhand State Electricity Board (JSEB), the CM said.

He added that with the help of solar energy and other resources the government was planning to ensure electricity supply to all 32,000 villages. "Only solar energy can ensure power supply to 267 villages as electricity through JSEB grids is difficult to reach them due to hilly surroundings," he said.

The CM said the government had identified around 2 lakh hectare barren plots in the state where agriculture was not possible. "These plots will be used for solar farming in order to ensure electricity to each home by 2019," he added. The government has ordered generating solar power at all government buildings and residential schools like Kasturba Gandhi Balika Avasiya Vidyalaya.



• Jharkhand chief minister Raghubar Das laying the foundation of Chhath Ghat and park at Baridih in Jamshedpur on Sunday.

MANOJ KUMAR/HT PHOTO

The CM said the government would give subsidy of upto 90% for dairy production. "Agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry are complimentary to each other and farmers will be given all help for these three farmings with special focus on dairy farming," he said.

Farmers' income through agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry would be doubled soon as the government would provide them loan and subsidy under various schemes, he added.

The CM said in July industry projects worth Rs 16,000 crore would be started. "Within three years small and medium scale industries will start production while big industries like steel industry at Manoharpur will

take seven to eight years for production," he added.

Four boards would be formed under Mukhyamantri Udhyaami Boards which would include silk, lac, handicraft along with small and medium scale industry for better production and marketing in agriculture sector.

Jharkhand has share of 62% of lac production in the country along with 82% in silk.

He said air connectivity from Ranchi to Hazaribag, Deoghar, Dumka and Jamshedpur would be developed for better business. Road communication, including National Highway 33 and Ranchi Ring Road, are of prime importance for the government along with trauma centre and toilet facility at required corners on the NH, the CM said.