

# Global Warming Set to Lower Crop Production in State

**Express News Service**

**Kottayam:** The threat of the global warming and climate change could be seen in Kerala in the form of decline in crop production and quality of grains, said Dr GSLHV Prasad Rao, the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University consultant professor, on the second day of the Kerala Environment Congress being organised by the Centre for Environment and Development here on Thursday.

He was presenting a paper on the theme 'Climate Change in Agriculture and Food Security'.

He said that the crop growth simulation models indicate that crop yields and crop area are likely to decline

in the ensuing decades under the projected global warming and climate change scenario.

The second theme paper was presented by Rubber Research Institute of India director Dr James Jacob, who talked on the impact of changing climate and socio economic conditions on the natural rubber landscape of India. He said the increase in temperature would adversely affect the rubber production in Kerala and Konk-an regions.

Dr Hebbar of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), who presented the third paper, talked on the adaptation strategies of coconut to overcome climate changes. He said that studies conducted at CPCRI indi-

cated that the coconut-based farming approach is the best adaptation strategy to overcome the effect of climate change.

The second day's programme began with young scientists' award presentations, chaired by MG University School of Bioscience director Dr J G Ray and attended by CED programme director Dr K P Thrivikramji and Rubber Research Institute of India joint director Dr R Krishnakumar.

Eight research papers were presented in the session by young scientists. The third session was on Climate Change, Ecosystems and Biodiversity. The poster presentation session of the Congress was also conducted on Thursday.