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किसानों का हमसफर
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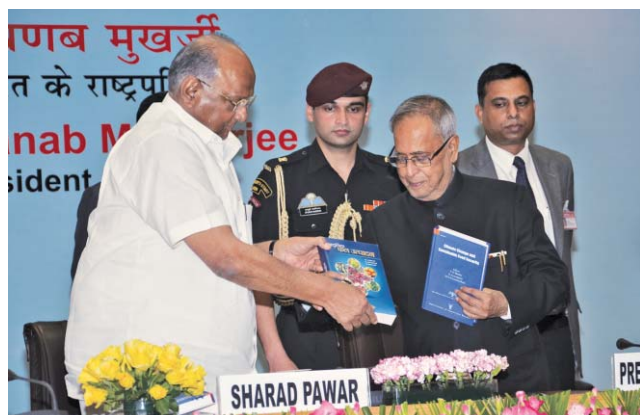
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85th ICAR Foundation Day



New Delhi, 16 July 2013. Hon'ble President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, delivered Foundation Day Lecture on 85th ICAR Foundation Day, held at A.P. Shinde Auditorium, NASC Complex. He said, "In our economy, agriculture retains its primary importance in value creation and employment generation. There are millions of

farmers tilling on small- and-marginal holdings. Our challenge is to reach out to the last farmland and equip them with the best cultivation methods". He recalled the era of 'ship-to-mouth existence' before Green Revolution, and added that now India is a leading producer of essential food commodities like wheat, rice, fresh fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs and fish. It has transformed from being a food-deficient to food surplus country and an exporter of agricultural produce. He added, "I compliment the agricultural research and development system of our country for their untiring efforts". Hon'ble President of India launched 'Kissan SMS Portal', created by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India. The portal is capable of sending messages in regional languages on preferred crop and activity giving information and advisories.



Shri Sharad Pawar, Union Minister for Agriculture and Food Processing Industries and President, ICAR Society, presented new publications, 'Climate Change and Sustainable Food Security' in English and 'Aadhunik Phal Utpadan' in Hindi to Hon'ble President of India who earlier released these titles.

Shri Sharad Pawar emphasized upon various challenges before Indian Agriculture. These challenges call for a paradigm shift in our research approach to harness the potential of modern science, encourage innovations in technology generation, and investment environment. While complimenting ICAR Institutions for taking several worthy

initiatives, he advised, "of course the real test of ICAR lies in the farmers' field. If farmer is able to produce more with less input and earn better, I will consider ICAR's interventions are successful". Shri Ashish Bahuguna (Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture) presented a brief on 'Kissan SMS Portal'.

Dr S. Ayyappan (Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR) presented glimpses of ICAR achievements and the way forward.



ICAR Awards 2012

New Delhi, 16 July 2013. Hon'ble President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, conferred Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award, Jagjivan Ram Abhinav Kisan Puruskar and N.G. Ranga Farmer Award for Diversified Agriculture to ICAR Institutions of different categories and progressive farmers on the occasion of 85th ICAR Foundation Day at NASC Complex.



Shri Sharad Pawar conferred various categories of ICAR Awards along with Shri Tariq Anwar and Dr C.D. Mahant (Union Ministers of State for Agriculture & Food Processing Industries) on 70 awardees under 15 different categories comprising three Institutions, one AICRP, 55 scientists (10 women), nine farmers and two journalists.

DARE, ICAR get Quality Management Systems Certification ISO 9001:2008

New Delhi, 5 July 2013. The DARE and ICAR are one of the first among all Government Departments in the country in obtaining the certification by implementing the Quality Management System in the organization as per the ISO 9001:2008 standards.



Shri S.K. Khanna (Deputy Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards) presented the certificate to Dr S. Ayyappan (Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR). Acquiring ISO 9001:2008 certification is one of the performance monitoring indicators to be complied with by all Government Departments in the country as per the Result Framework Document (RFD) requirement by Performance Management Division, Cabinet Secretariat.

The implementation of ISO 9001:2008 as per the approved action plan of Result Framework Document 2012-13 is the success indicator of mandatory objective under administrative reforms of all the Government Departments. It testifies the commitment towards assuring quality services to its customers with continual improvement of its delivery system. As per the quality policy DARE and ICAR are committed to continual improvement for achieving excellence in agricultural research, education and frontline extension. This is achieved through systematic knowledge management, sense of ownership, responsive approach, human resource development, technological upgradation, conducive work culture and implementation of effective Quality Management System ensuring compliance with applicable requirements.

Agri-Tech Investors Meet, 2013



New Delhi, 19 July 2013. Dr S. Ayyappan (Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR) inaugurated a 2-day 'Agri-Tech Investors Meet, 2013', jointly organized by ICAR-NAIP and ICRISAT, on 18 July 2013 at NASC Complex. In the ICAR system we are moving ahead from the primary to secondary agriculture offering advisories and services from seed to market, said Dr Ayyappan.

Elaborating various successful partnerships with private sector, Dr Ayyappan reiterated upon the integration of innovation with incubation of technologies. In partnerships, we transfer trust and confidence along with the technologies.

Dr D. Rama Rao (National Director, NAIP) informed that about 60 technologies were presented for commercialization in the six technical sessions. Shri Arvind R. Kaushal (Additional Secretary, DARE and Secretary, ICAR) appreciated the work under NAIP for catalyzing basic and strategic research with innovation as an integral part of the process. Shri Deepak Ahluwalia (Task Team Leader and Senior Economist, World Bank) appreciated the innovative approach of BPD units and advised the ICAR to also move towards making Indian Agriculture visible on global platform. Dr Kiran K Sharma (Chief Executive Officer, Agri-business and Innovation Platform, ICRISAT) appreciated the role of ICAR in bringing different stakeholders together.

Regional Initiation on Improvement of Pulses and Adaptive Trails in SAARC Countries

New Delhi, 13 July 2013. Dr S. Ayyappan (Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR) inaugurated the inception meeting on 'Regional Initiation on Improvement of Pulses and Adaptive Trails' in SAARC Countries, jointly organized by the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi and SAC, Dhaka on 12 July 2013 at NASC Complex.

Dr S. Ayyappan said that germplasm resource conservation is the key to enhance the productivity of pulses in the SAARC region. He also emphasized upon the collaborative programme of research and extension and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in machinery and seed development to augment production of pulses in the region. Delegates from SAARC countries, scientists and officials of ICAR participated in the meeting.



National Fish Farmers' Day

Mumbai, 10 July 2013. Padma Bhushan Prof. R. B. Singh (President, NAAS) inaugurated National Fish Farmers' Day at the Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Versova. Prof. R. B. Singh emphasized on the importance of entrepreneurship for addressing employment issues of the country. He also highlighted the need to bridge the gap between acquired and required knowledge for generating qualified human resource. Dr M. L. Madan highlighted the pressing issues that need to be addressed by fisheries scientists. Dr S. D. Tripathi congratulated the award winners on being able to translate the knowledge acquired from the training programmes into successful ventures. The award winners narrated their success stories and urged the students to become the employment generators rather than job seekers.

On this occasion Dr W. S. Lakra (Director, CIFE) emphasized on the need for a culture of innovations and quality research and teaching with a focus on newer skills FARMERS' FIRST and STUDENT - READY.

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