

Republic Day message from the Director

Dear Colleagues:



On the eve of the Republic Day, I wish to offer my heartiest greetings to all of you. You will recall that fifty-nine years ago, on this day, Constitution of India came into effect and our Constituent Assembly came into force. Republic Day reminds us of the fulfillment of the pledge that was made on the midnight of Independence as a "tryst with destiny". The Constitution is future-oriented, a vision of India that we nourish, an acceptance of responsibility and making of promises as well as recapitulation of the achievements. For preparing such a unique document, all credit goes to our freedom fighters, our great leaders and visionaries of that time. It is astonishing to visualize their untiring labour and sharp insights that helped in preparing the invaluable document.

This day also reminds us our commitment, role and responsibility towards our own nation. On this day, we must commit, as an intellectual class in the society, our responsibility towards nation building. We are fortunate ones that we could get good education and are well placed to serve the nation. As a public servant, our intellect and knowledge must be useful for the society. You will agree with me that knowledge without its use has no relevance. Therefore, I shall urge to all of you for planning your programs in such a way that your vast pool of knowledge benefit one or other way to those who are underprivileged and not as fortunate as we are. Your every small (even very minute) action will help in nation building if your vision and commitments are clear.

We can begin our commitment from our Centre. I mentioned it earlier that the Centre is uniquely placed to provide us an opportunity to offer policy solutions for the growth of agriculture and welfare of the farming community. You must assess how your outputs are useful for accelerating agricultural growth and benefit farmers. Those who work and think mechanically need to change and do things differently. You are aware that expectations from the Centre, both from within and outside the agricultural research system, are growing rapidly. We need to come up to the expectations of our donors, peers, and well wishers. For that we need to prioritize our portfolio and emphasize on quality and timely outputs with greater depth and strong empirical analysis. Working together, building on synergies and doing things differently are the keys for accomplishing our vision. I feel that we can do this as we have the best intellectual and knowledgeable team in the country. Only thing is to gear our energies together to fulfill our commitment for delivering output that makes positive impact.

Let us commit to join hands for building a vibrant, responsive and dedicated team at the Center.

P K Joshi

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RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Demand for food grains towards 2011 and 2020

Total demand (direct and indirect) for food grains in India towards 2011-12 and 2020-21 was estimated. The estimates revealed that total demand for cereals would grow to 218.9 million tonne by the end of 11th Plan and it would reach to 261.5 million tonne by the year 2020-21 (Table 1). Demand for pulses in the same period would grow to 16.1 and 19.1 million tonne. Domestic demand for food grains is projected to reach 235.4 million tonne by the end of XI Five Year Plan and 280.6 million tonne by the year 2020-21. Demand for cereals and pulses is projected to grow at about 2 per cent per year on account of increase in population and growth in indirect demand.

Table 1. Demand for food grains (million tonne)

Food item	Base year 2004-05	End of XI Plan	By 2020-21
Cereals	192.8	218.9	261.5
Pulses	14.2	16.1	19.1
Food grain	207.0	235.4	280.6

Farmers' perceptions on national agricultural insurance scheme

Views of sample farmers in Andhra Pradesh were solicited on their experiences with agricultural insurance, opinion on premium rates, and suggestions for improving the crop insurance. The

salient findings are: (i) an affordable premium would be up to 2 per cent of the sum insured; (ii) rural agent should facilitate insurance services; and (iii) a majority of the farmers want quick settlement of claims.

PUBLICATIONS

Research Papers

Adhiguru, P, Suresh Pal and P K Joshi. 2008. Agricultural research and technology transfer to farmers. *University News*, 46(05):65-74.

Birthal, P S. 2008. Linking smallholder livestock producers to markets: Issues and approaches. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 63(1):19-37.

Chand, Ramesh and S S Raju. 2008. *Instability in Indian agriculture during different phases of technology and policy*. Discussion Paper NPP 01/2008, NCAP, New Delhi.

Chand, Ramesh. 2008. International trade, food security and the response to the WTO in South Asian countries. In: Basudev Guha Khasnobis and Shabd S Acharya and Benjamin Davis (edited), *Food security: Indicators, measurement and the impact of trade openness*, Oxford University Press, UK.

Ganesh Kumar, B and K K Datta. 2008. Growth of fisheries sector in India: Drivers for future. In: *Proceedings of national workshop on development of strategies for domestic marketing of fish and fishery products*. College of Fishery Science, Muthukur, Nellore, A P and Professional Fisheries Graduates Forum, Mumbai, pp 7.

Jain, Rajni, Goutami Chattopadhyay and Surajit Chattopadhyay. 2008. Forecasting winter shower in India: A comparison between artificial neural network and regressive approach. In: *Data Management*, Eds: J Ranjan and Poonam Garg, Macmillan Advanced Research Series, New Delhi, pp 877-885.

Raju, S S. 2007. Indian livestock products and their global competitiveness. *Outlook on Agriculture*, 36(4): 281-284.

Sirohi, Smita and Axel Michaelowa. 2008. Implementing CDM for the Indian dairy sector: Prospects and issues. *Climate Policy*, 8(1): 62-74.

Papers Presented in Conferences/ Workshops/ Symposia

Agricultural R&D and crop technologies. In: National Workshop on Impact Assessment of New Agricultural Technologies, organized under VPAGE at NCAP, 30-31 January 2008 (Sant Kumar).

Role of government policies and programs in poverty alleviation and employment generation. In: Babu Jagjivan Ram Birth Centenary Celebration organized by IFFCO Foundation and Babu Jagjivan Ram Trust, New Delhi, 7 February 2008 (P K Joshi and P Shinoj).

Role of price and trade policies for agricultural growth, In: Babu Jagjivan Ram Birth Centenary Seminar on Agricultural Revolutions, Inclusive Growth and State Policies, New Delhi, 7 February 2008 (Ramesh Chand).

Rough sets driven data mining: Case studies using agriculture datasets. In: National Conference on Application and Trends in Data Warehousing, Data Mining and Data Modeling (DWDM2008), organized jointly by Computer Society of India and Forest Research Institute (FRI), at FRI, Dehradun, 9-10 February 2008 (Rajni Jain).

Rice research policy in India, In: IRRI Rice Policy Forum, International Rice Research Institute, Philippines, 19 February 2008 (P K Joshi and Suresh Pal).

Forecasting winter shower in India: A comparison between artificial neural network and regressive approach. In: International Conference on Data Management at Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad, UP, 25-26 February 2008 (Rajni Jain).

Prospects of diversification for increased income and food security, In: Science-based agricultural transformation towards alleviation of hunger and poverty in SAARC Countries, IFFCO Foundation, ICAR, MoA and IFFCO, New Delhi on 5 March 2008 (P K Joshi).

Globalization, regional trade and food security in South Asia. In: South Asian Conference on Science-based Agricultural Transformation towards Alleviation of Hunger and Poverty in SAARC Countries, Organised by IFFCO Foundation, ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI, 5-7 March 2008 at NASC Complex, New Delhi (Ramesh Chand).

Climate change and food security in the Indo-Gangetic plain. In: High level briefing organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the GCAFS at Commonwealth Secretariat, London, UK, 26 March 2008 (P K Joshi).

Opportunities for trading carbon credits from dairy sector. In: Seminar on Climate Change: Opportunities and Challenges for Corporate, IIM, Lucknow, 29-30 March 2008 (Smita Sirohi).

PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOP / SEMINAR / SYMPOSIUM

Committee meeting on "State of Indian Agriculture" to be published by National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, on 9 January 2008. (Anjani Kumar).

Consultative conference on "APMC Model Rules", FICCI Federation House, New Delhi, 18 January 2008 (Ramesh Chand).

Seminar on "Women Empowerment/Rights", NASC, New Delhi, 4 February 2008 (Rajni Jain, Sonia Chauhan and Usha Rani Ahuja).

Workshop to launch the "World Development Report 2008", IFPRI-World Bank, New Delhi, 7 February 2008 (P K Joshi and Suresh Pal).

Expert consultation meeting of the Ministry of Environment and Forest on "Cartagena Protocol", New Delhi, 7 February 2008 (Suresh Pal).

International conference on "Universalizing Socio-Economic Security in South Asia", IHD, New Delhi and ISS, The Hague, 17-20 February 2008 (Anjani Kumar).

UNCTAD conference on "Moving towards Gender Sensitization of Trade Policy" at Hotel Le-Meridian, New Delhi, 25-27 February 2008 (P Shinoj).

Launch of "Grameen Vikas Rath", Inter Continental Hotel, New Delhi, 4 March 2008 (S S Raju).

Show of seven movies on "Women Empowerment", British Embassy, New Delhi, 6 March 2008 (Usha Rani Ahuja).

Discussion on "Union Budget, 2007-08", ASSOCHM House, New Delhi, 7 March 2008 (M B Dastagiri).

LECTURES DELIVERED

India's Seeds Policy and New Seeds Bill: An Assessment. In: Orientation workshop on "India's Seed Policy, Genetically Modified Crops and Farmers' Rights", Directorate of Research, College of Horticulture, Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, Thrissur, 22 January 2008 (Harbir Singh).

Economic Implications of Climate Change. In: Winter School on "Climate Change, Crop Yield and Sustainability", Division of Environmental Sciences, IARI, New Delhi from 15 February - 7 March 2008 (Smita Sirohi).

Management Reforms in Agricultural Extension. In: Training Program on "Management Development in

Agricultural Extension", IARI, New Delhi, 3 March 2008 (P Adhiguru).

Status of Livestock Sector and its Role in Agriculture Growth during XI Plan. In: "National Seminar on Dairy Education", organized by NDRI and Alumni Association of Dairy Science College, 13 March 2008 (Ramesh Chand).

Contemporary Issues in Agricultural R&D Policy. In: Training programme organized by Division of Extension, IARI, New Delhi under the scheme of Centre of Advanced Studies, 17 March 2008 (Suresh Pal).

Food and Nutrition Security Concerns in South Asia. In: Training course on "Income, Prices and Nutrition", organized by School of Agri-business Management, ANGRAU, Hyderabad, 24 March - 03 April, 2008 (Ramesh Chand).

Changing Market Structure and Policies in the Context of Globalization and its Implications on the Food and Nutritional Security, In: Training course organized by School of Agri-business Management, ANGRAU, Hyderabad, 24 March - 03 April, 2008 (Ramesh Chand).

VISITS ABROAD

The workshop on Rice Policy Support and Impact Assessment, IRRI, Los Banos, Philippines, 18-19 February, 2008 (P K Joshi).

The Commonwealth Foundation Briefing on Climate Change and Food Security, London, UK 26 March 2008 (P K Joshi).

TV TALK

Special Economic Zone in trouble. People's Forum, Lok Sabha TV, 1 January 2008 (P K Joshi).

Cess for agriculture. NDTV, 14 February 2008 (P K Joshi).

Agriculture in Budget 2008-09, Panel Discussion, E-TV, 29 February 2008 (P K Joshi).

NEW INITIATIVES

Estimation of Marketing Efficiency of Horticultural Commodities under Different Supply Chains in India

Exploring Market Opportunities for Fisheries Sector in India

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Training programme on "Classification and Segmentation Technique Using SPSS 16.0 Version" at Institute for Integrated Learning, Lodhi Road, New

Delhi, 28 February 2008 (M B Dastagiri, P Shinoj, Rajni Jain, Shiv Kumar and Usha Rani Ahuja).

PERSONNEL

Awards/Recognitions

Ramesh Chand, National Professor was inducted as NAAS Fellow w.e.f. 01 January 2008.

Anjani Kumar, Senior Scientist was inducted as NAAS Associate w.e.f.01 January 2008. He was also recognized as a reviewer for 18th Annual IAMA World Symposium.

P Shinoj, Scientist was invited as a special guest on the occasion of the inaugural function of the 82nd foundation course for Agricultural Research Scientists, NAARM, Hyderabad, and 7 January 2008.

P K Joshi was nominated as a Trustee and the Treasurer of the Trust for Advancement of Agriculture Science (TAAS), New Delhi.

POLICY ADVOCACY

Accelerating Agricultural Growth in India

The Centre organized a consultation workshop on “Accelerating Agricultural Growth in India” in collaboration with Agricultural Economics Research Association (India), FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture on 9 February 2008. It focussed on the need for developing effective mechanisms and actionable strategies for tackling the issues raised in the report prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization (Rome). Nearly seventy participants from various organizations including distinguished policy advisors and policy makers put their views on much wider canvas of agricultural growth dynamics and made useful suggestions for further researchable areas.



Workshop on Impact of Agricultural Research in India

The Centre organized a national workshop on “Impact Assessment of New Agricultural Technologies” on 30-31 January 2008. Sixty

participants from ICAR institutes and State Agricultural Universities attended this workshop. Some recommendations of the workshop are:

- Need for careful selection of indicators for measuring research impact
- Need for national level studies in addition to commodity and region specific studies
- Need for technical back stopping on the studies on research impact assessment.



SAARC Meeting of 4th Technical Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (TCARD)

India hosted the 4th TCARD meeting on 8-9 January 2008 at NASC Complex, New Delhi. The meeting was attended by the delegations from member SAARC countries. Dr Mangala Rai, DG, ICAR and Secretary, DARE inaugurated the meeting, and emphasized for raising water use efficiency, combating impact of climate change on agriculture and greater cooperation on quarantine issues and regulatory aspects on seed quality. Among important programs reviewed were related to the perspective vision for SAARC countries, milk grid among SAARC countries, inter-boundary disease control, seed production and capacity strengthening in entrepreneur development and bee keeping.



Market Opportunities for Fisheries Sector in India

The inception workshop of the project ‘Exploring Market Opportunities for Fisheries Sector in India’

was held on 3 January 2008 at NCAP. The chief guest of the function was Dr V V Sugunan, ADG, (Inland Fisheries). Dr Ganesh Kumar, Principal Investigator of the project presented a detailed account of the project in the first session. In the second session, all the regional partners presented their work plans. Dr P K Joshi, Director, NCAP suggested for detailed study on demand and supply responses, case studies on innovative models to be under taken and the implications of trade in the domestic market prices. Dr Sugunan concluded the session by stressing on the need for a systematic approach in conducting the study and that the study should be limited within the objectives listed.

Innovations in Rural Institutions: Driver for Agricultural Prosperity

Rural institutions play critical role in translating agricultural production to profit, which is a *sin-qua-non* for equitable societal development. India has a rich tradition of people's institutions for managing common natural resources and stable production practices. These institutions however need to be rejuvenated and reformed to create enabling environment for spreading technology, increasing production and ensuring income entitlement to the rural population.

With a view to understand the path ways of rural development and suggest institutional mechanism to effectively reach-out the target group, NAAS Policy Paper 39 on "Innovation in Rural Institutions: Driver for Agricultural Prosperity" (authors: Dr B C Barah, Principal Scientist, NCAP; Dr R K Singh, Secretary, NAAS; Dr Punjab Singh, Vice Chancellor, BHU, Varanasi), attempts to develop innovative model institutional frameworks. Dr Mangala Rai, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR released the policy paper and presented to Dr R K Singh, Vice-President, NAAS and Dr B C Barah, Principal Scientist, NCAP.



Dr. Mangala Rai, President NAAS alongwith Dr. R. S. Paroda, releasing Policy Paper : 39 and presenting to Dr. R.K. Singh, Vice-president, NAAS and Dr. B.C. Barah, Principal Scientist, NCAP

The paper synthesizes six selected models namely, Farmers' Club Programme, Tata Kisan Sansar, Hariyali Kisan Bazaar, Field Management Committee, REACH India: A Business model for fighting poverty and Panchayati Raj Institutions. The lessons derived from these models will be useful for up-scaling rural institutions for wider impact among the communities. Thus, inclusiveness is the core of the suggested model.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Dr Pasca Kaumbuth, CEO Kendat, Crop and Grassland Service, AGPC, FAO, Rome on 23 February 2008.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF PROF D JHA

The Centre observed the 68 birth anniversary of late Professor Dayanatha Jha, the former Director of NCAP and ICAR National Professor. The Centre organized an in-house meet to pay tributes to Professor Jha on 10 March 2007 and organized a debate on Union Budget 2008-09. On this occasion, the Centre also organized a sports meet of table tennis and badminton. Tree plantation was also done by NCAP staff.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Short training programme on 'Quantitative Techniques for Agricultural Policy Analysis' (9-13 June 2008)
- Extended meeting of the Institute Research Council (19-21 June 2008)
- Training programme on 'WTO issues, Codex Standards and SPS Measures, Implications for Agricultural Producers and Exporter' (Patna, 24-25 June; Bangalore, 1-2 July; Kanpur, 8-9 July; Jaipur, 15-16 July; Trichur, 22-23 July; Shilong, 29-30 July 2008)