



INDIAN CHAMBER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Annual Report | **2019-20**



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Chairman's *Message*



Dear friends,

I am very delighted to share that Indian Council of Food and Agriculture has completed four years and is growing rapidly in both size and its outreach.

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture is working as the apex policy think tank, trade facilitation body and development enterprise for food and agriculture sector in India and serving as global platform for partnerships. With the increasing globalization, there are newer challenges emerging, which need to be proactively addressed for India's Food and Agriculture sector to grow, engage and compete globally and contribute towards food and nutritional security. ICFA through its outreach policy and business agenda and global partnerships is creating opportunities for growth, value addition and trade to help improve the income of farmers. The Council through its sector focused Working Groups, State and District Chapters, National Councils and country specific Joint Business Councils, seeks to represent the interests of all the stakeholders at the national level on one hand and position India's food and agriculture sector globally on the other hand. Besides the trade and industry, ICFA focuses equally on farmers and agri-entrepreneurs towards helping them connect with the market opportunities, while addressing their policy, technology, trade, marketing, financing and partnership related needs. One of the major issues facing Indian food and agriculture sector is the issue of food safety, traceability and certification of GAP and quality standards of food, impacting Indian exports and trade, and consumer safety. ICFA has taken up agriculture stewardship and national certification program, focussing especially on the agriculture produce meant for nutrition and health sectors, retail and processing purpose and for exports. ICFA is also promoting investments, entrepreneurships and technologies in farm sector by forging global partnerships with right institutions and by taking up projects, training and facilitating farmers producer organizations and agri start-up ventures to accelerate growth in farmers incomes, productivity and agribusinesses.

With rapidly expanding opportunities in Indian food and agriculture sector and its growth story in the last one decade, there is increased interest among the major countries of the World to engage with India and explore opportunities for investments, trade and cooperation. There has been long felt need for a dedicated body to facilitate such engagements through Joint Business Councils with various countries while promoting agri-produce from Indian States and guiding them on investments, marketing and policy issues. India also needs institutional mechanism at the States and district levels, wherein various stakeholders could meet and deliberate upon issues and agenda to unleash the potential of agriculture. ICFA promises to provide that mechanism through services platforms, and state and district chapters.

Dr MJ Khan
Chairman

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture was established in the year 2015 backed with a thought process of over 12 years. Given the importance of agriculture in Indian economy as still 50 % of country's population is directly dependent on farm sector for its livelihood and sustenance and the rapid transformation of agriculture throughout the globe and especially developing countries, changing the course of global food and agriculture trade, the council was constituted to represent Indian Agriculture sector globally and take up issues at the national as well as international level.

ICFA is an apex body, which act as a think tank, information bank, advocacy group, watch-dog, development catalyst, trade, technology and investments facilitator and monitoring center for food and agriculture sector at national and global level. It acts parallel to trade bodies like CII, FICCI etc., but is different from them in scope and objectives to represent not only the interests of the industry but also the sector as a whole, including the farming community.

The fast changing trade and economic environment globally requires a paradigm shift in our approach. We have to act proactively and respond positively to the changing dynamics of the global trade and agriculture. The bench-marks are now global and we have to prepare our policies and strategies with global perspective. Though the country has become self reliant in food grains production, its average productivity and quality is low and the cost of production high, which makes Indian agriculture less competitive in the world market. Therefore, there is need for global cooperation in agriculture and much greater need for boosting up trade in food and agriculture. This sector also promises great potential for start-up ventures and entrepreneurship opportunities, which ICFA facilitates.

A paradigm shift is required in our approach to agriculture; from production to marketing, from quantity to quality and domestic to international consumers. Agriculture has to be practiced on scientific lines with the use of best of technologies available to compete globally in cost and quality. A major program on crops shifting has to be implemented, taking in view the global benchmarking and our core competitive strengths in various crops. The importance of internal reforms and direction to the sector is enhanced on account of centrality of food and agriculture in the global trade post WTO.

In the changing global agriculture scenario due to increasing pressure to feed increasing population with shrinking resources in a sustainable manner to retain ecological balance and mitigate the effect of climate change, ICFA envisages to play an important role by making agriculture sustainable and profitable.

VISION

“Unleashing the potential of India's food and agriculture sector and empowering farmers through trade, technologies and partnerships towards achieving global food security and environmental sustainability.”

MISSION

“Acting as the think tank, development enterprise and platform for global partnerships among the stake-holders in food and agriculture sector towards creating opportunities for trade, technologies and investments in agriculture and food value chain; and thus facilitating entrepreneurs development, farmers’ empowerment and enhancing the centrality of farm sector in policy making and economic ecosystem.”

OBJECTIVES

- To be the apex body at the national level, acting as think tank, policy research and trade facilitation body, development enterprise and policy advocacy center for food and agriculture sector; and to give voice to various stakeholders; farmers, agri professionals, trade, industry, research and development sectors.
- To act as the monitoring center and watch-dog for the national and international developments in food and agriculture sector, and to positively influence policies, trade negotiations towards protecting interests of farmers and the industry alike as also to promote the opportunities for small farmers and agri business ventures in this sector.
- To be the global platform for partnerships in food and agriculture to promote trade, investments and technologies and startup ventures in farm sector; and execute programs of GAP, food safety, environmental sustainability and agricultural stewardships towards promoting eco-agriculture and accelerating the growth of agribusinesses and food trade.
- To create awareness and understanding on major issues in food and agriculture sector and promote cooperation among the major stakeholders by organizing business meets and consultations; and promote innovations and adoption of successful farming and agribusiness models on larger scale and facilitate visits of trade and official delegations between India and other countries
- To be the national platform for farmers’ services, and to execute agricultural projects, entrepreneurship programs and farming ventures; and forging linkages with the industry, institutions and development bodies to promote commodity specific professional groups; and to act as apex facilitation body to further the cause of farmers and key stakeholders involved in food, agriculture and agribusinesses.



BOARD MEMBERS

Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture is governed by a Board of Directors, which is comprised of the professionals of national and global eminence from the diverse fields such as policy, development, academic, research, farming, trade and industry. Currently, ICFA has a twenty Member Board, chaired by Dr. MJ Khan.



Prof. Panjab Singh
President
National Academy of
Agricultural Sciences



Salil Singhal
Chairman and MD
PI Industries Ltd



Prof. S Ayyappan
Vice-Chancellor
Central Agricultural University, Imphal



Alok Ranjan
Former Chief Secretary, UP



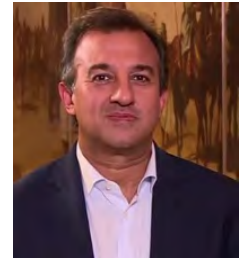
R S Sodhi
Managing Director
AMUL



Ashok Sharma
MD and CEO
Mahindra Agri Solutions Ltd.



Ajit Jain
Managing Director
Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd



Jai Shroff
Managing Director
UPL Limited



Siraj Chaudhry
Director
Tata Global Beverages



B S Soundarajan
Chairman
Suguna Foods Ltd



TR Kesavan
COO TAFE LTD.



N G Hegde
Chairman Emeritus
BAIF Development
Research Foundation



Prof. Karim Maredia
Director
Africa Partnership Program
Michigan State University



Dr. Maharaj Muthoo
President
Roman Forum, Rome



Prof. Kadambot Siddique
Director
Institute of Agriculture,
Western Australia University, Perth



Mr Rakesh Gambhir
Convener
Global Food & Retail Forum

MANAGEMENT TEAM

ICFA, being a think tank, cannot lean too heavily towards either the academic, journalistic or bureaucratic mode of operation, but instead, needed to use the required elements and as a result board of directors came up with a distinctive and customized “business model” for the organization. The management team for the organization for the financial year 2016-17 was:

MANAGEMENT TEAM



DR. MJ KHAN
CHAIRMAN



MR. ALOK SINHA, IAS
VICE CHAIRMAN, ICFA



MR. PRAVIN SRIVASTAVA, IAS
DIRECTOR GENERAL, ICFA

ICFA WORKING AREAS

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture, being the first think tank in the sector of food and agriculture in India focuses on almost all aspects of the agricultural sector of India from farmers to the industry. With this wide view, the council focuses on the following working areas by conducting RTCs, launching Working Groups with respect to various sectors and signing MoUs with various institutes.

1. **Policy Research and Advocacy:** The success of farming or the businesses depend upon the policies of the Governments, which regulate markets, pricing of inputs and outputs and almost everything in the environment in which agriculture and food sector operate.
2. **Global Platform for Partnerships:** With the globalization of trade and economies, and the issue of climate change emerging as major global concern, there is need for collective efforts and cooperation towards achieving food security and environmental sustainability.
3. **Trade and Agribusiness Facilitation:** India has got very large and diverse food production system, growing almost every crop and every animal that is grown in any part of the world. However, share of India in global food and agriculture trade is minimal, which ICFA promises to boost.
4. **Startup Ventures and Projects Consulting:** Indian agriculture promises enormous opportunities for entrepreneurs development and start-up ventures and agriculture and food value chain, but there is need for effective facilitation and quality projects consulting for best results.
5. **Agri Services and Farmer's Empowerment:** Indian agriculture lacks professional services right from farm management and agribusinesses to delivery of programs and schemes and connecting farmers with the markets and technologies and ICFA is committed to address that need.

6. **Food Safety and Agriculture Stewardship:** Access to safe, nutritious and healthy food is a fundamental right of the people. However, a vast population globally is suffering from malnutrition and unsafe food. Towards this end, ICFA has launched GAP Project and Healthy Food Initiative.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

Working Groups, Councils and Alliances

Indian food and agribusiness industry is large and diverse with about a dozen industries offering inputs for agriculture and about three dozen industries involved in output businesses and agri-food value chain. Each major industry has its one or more national level associations, catering to the policy and development needs of that industry. However, need has been felt for a long time to have larger support system to substantiate efforts of each industry with more research and knowledge inputs and institutional, policy and political support system. With this vision, ICFA has institutionalized sector specific working groups, councils and alliances. Till previous year, ICFA had operationalized eight working Groups and during the period of 2018– 19. Also, one state councils, in addition to previous two district councils have been constituted.

Launched India Seed Forum

Date: Sep 18, 2019

Venue: Bangalore



India Seed Forum (ISF) was launched by the Honble Union Minister of State for Agriculture, Mr. Parshottam Rupala at the SeedWorld2019 at Bangalore. The Forum will work on seed production stewardship programs, traceability, GAP Certification, policy advocacy and trade issues, value chain development, exports facilitation and global market access for Indian seeds. Forum had 15 nominated members and 25 more would be nominated to have 40 member forum. The forum would be constituted of 30 members from industry and 10 from other stakeholders.

Round Table Conferences (RTCs)

ICFA initiated a series of round table conferences for all the major sub – sectors and aspects of agricultural sector taking all the stakeholders i.e. government officials, policy makers, corporate heads, heads of academic and research institutions on board with a purpose to create a platform for open discussion about issues and challenges of the sector. RTCs envisage taking up major concerns and bottlenecks for the growth of the sector and coming up with the recommendation to overcome the same. Till last year ICFA has organized 23 Round Table Conferences and two more have been conducted in 2019-20.

Zero Budget Natural Farming

Date: October 1, 2019

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi



National Consultation Meet on Zero Budget Natural Farming was held with important representatives from the industry, scientific bodies and farming community joined the discussions to work out common framework for ZBNF. Farmers from states like Telangana, Maharashtra, Himachal, Haryana and UP claimed that their profits have gone up but almost all the eminent scientists and industry CEOs expressed their doubts that there could be farming with zero budget. It was decided that ICFA would create a National Platform for Farmers Innovations and coordinate with research institutions and policy makers for validation of results and processes and recommendations.

Consultation Meeting on Seed Traceability

Date: April 11, 2019

Venue: New Delhi



A consultation meeting on Seeds Traceability, joined by eminent experts, seed and IT industry CEOs, was conducted to discuss prevailing global practices and deliberate upon various cost effective options in Indian context, using IT tools and block chain technology to put in place foolproof system of tracking seeds at all the stages of supply chain so as to ensure seed quality, transparency and accountability of all players. The meeting was convened by Dr. NK Dadlani and chaired by DG, ICFA, Mr. Pravin Srivastava, IAS (retd 1980 batch).

DISCUSSIONS AND INTERACTIONS

Besides Round Tables, ICFA time to time organises other consultation meetings, interactions and discussions to address new issues and challenges. In year 2018-19, similar discussions were conducted:

Michigan State University delegation

Date: March 5, 2019

Venue: New Delhi



A dinner meeting was hosted for the 7 member visiting Michigan State University delegation to India. MSU and ICFA are the Partners in Africa Program under USAID Feed the Future. MSU delegation explored partnership in India for its Borlaug Youth Program. The two sides discussed hosting a joint event on Africa during the World Food Summit at Des Moines, USA in Oct, 2020.

UP State Agriculture Council Meeting

Date: Nov 29, 2019

Venue: Lucknow



A meeting of ICFA- UP State Agricultural Council was chaired by Sh. Alok Ranjan, former Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh and co-chaired by Mr. TR Kesavan, Chairman, FICCI National Committee on Agriculture and President, Tractor Manufacturers Association. Over 55 representatives, including Directors

of Agri, Horti, AH from the State Government, ICAR system, farmers bodies, development institutions such as NABARD, NHB, Nafed, CIMAP etc and corporate, including ITC, UPL, JISL, DSCL, Bayer, DAL, TAFE, Indogulf, TataTrusts etc. joined the deliberations and finalised the Strategic Action Plan for the State. State President of BKU presented the farmers agenda. Four more districts, Muzaffarnagar, Allahabad, Jalaun and Agra were finalised for launching District Agriculture Councils and pilot testing of ICFA FarmerPlus project.

Consultation Meeting on Asia- Africa Technology and Cooperation

Date: 20-02-2020

Venue: New Delhi



A consultation meeting on on Asia-Africa Technology and Cooperation was organised jointly with African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) to facilitate partnerships among the companies and institutions engaged in agriculture technologies and services. ICFA had signed up MoU with #AARDO in 2016 to launch India Africa Agriculture Partnership Platform to mobilise Indian expertise for African agriculture development.

Consultation meeting on Farm and farmers' Agenda

Date: 12-10-2019

Venue: ICFA HQ, New Delhi



A consultation meeting was hosted with potential partners to discuss the upcoming FarmerPlus project. The project was scheduled to be launched in three districts of Karnal in Haryana, Agra and Lakhimpur in UP in Dec 2019 with 20 industry and institutional partners. The project aims to provide powerful support system to initially 1000 member farmers of ICFA District Agriculture Councils. Prof. A Ginige and Paul Collin from the Western Sydney University, Australia made detailed presentation of their features loaded App, AgriSavvy, which has shown very good results in four States in India. Representatives from Ernst & Young, SourceTrace, Cargill, CropLife India, Sonalika Tractors and others participated in the discussion.

Meeting on farmers' issues and policy push

Date: 20-09-2019

Venue: CM Karnataka Office



A fourteen member delegation of eminent persons met Shri B.S. Yediyurappa and discussed about the farmers issues and the policy push needed to boost the growth of agriculture in the state and especially making the state global hub of seed production. The delegation members also suggested to create an apex body to give boost to agri exports and to agri startups in the state.

ICFA Senior Management

Date: 04-07-2019

Venue: ICFA HQ



ICFA senior management met and discussed the internal survey report on converting the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture into a chamber to better focus on global trade and business opportunities for Indian food and agriculture sector and promoting agribusinesses and Startups and value chain development towards linking farmers with the domestic and exports markets and improving the competitiveness of Indian agriculture. The management accepted the survey report and decided to propose to the ICFA Board for converting it into a chamber and renaming it as the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture. After the Board approval, necessary clearances and legal paperwork to be completed. The formal launch was proposed for Dec 23 on the Farmers Day.

COLLABORATIONS/MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING (MOUS)

ICFA with a view to build a reliable, valuable and rational relationship and to establish friendly and cordial relations between India and other countries signed Memorandum of Understanding with various organi-

zations, including Universities. ICFA has entered into collaborations with organisations across the globe, till previous year ICFA had 16 active collaborations.

Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

Date: 04-03-2020



An MoU was signed with APEDA in New Delhi to work towards realizing the PM's vision of Doubling Agri Exports. Both organizations would work together in bringing better value to the stakeholders and work with the States in improving produce quality, preparing export basket, and promoting commodity specific value chain and GAP certification to boost agro trade. The MoU was signed by DG ICFA Mr. Pravin Srivastav and Chairman, APEDA Mr. Paban Borthakur.

Câmara de Comércio Índia Brasil (India Brazil Chamber of Commerce)

Date: 21-02-2020



An association was made with Câmara de Comércio Índia Brasil | India Brazil Chamber of Commerce by signing an MOU to provide networking platform that offers technological awareness, sharing of best practices and exploring untapped business potential in both

the countries. IBCC objective is to enhance trade relations between two countries, and partnership with ICFA will further strengthen bilateral trade of agro and food sector in their respective target markets.

Tashkent State Agrarian University

Date: 19-07-2019

Venue: ICFA HQ



A collaboration was entered with TSAU to promote education and training in IT, digital agriculture and agribusiness management. The MoU was signed between ICFA Chairman, Dr. MJ Khan and TSAU Rector, Dr. BA Sulaymonov. TSAU is the sole agriculture university in Uzbekistan with 3 campuses and 14,000 intake in different branches of agriculture. All universities in the country are state funded and the only private sector university has been set up by an Indian group, Sharda University. A high level meeting was held with the Ministry of Agriculture to create a joint working group for promoting agro trade and investments and encourage Indian companies to set up businesses for agri inputs, bio products, farm machinery, food, agribusinesses and animal health products, capacity building and agro produce certification.

Baker Tilly

Date: 16-05-2019



An MoU was signed with Baker Tilly, UK for IT and contents services in agriculture and onboarding Baker Tilly as Technology Partner in FarmerPlus project being launched by ICFA in five districts of Karnal and Ambala in Haryana, Muzaffarnagar and Bulandshahr in UP and Alwar in Rajasthan. FarmerPlus project has been designed as a comprehensive support platform for farmers, involving over a dozen industry and institutional partners; to work on the target of doubling farm incomes. The MoU was signed by Dr. MJ Khan, Chairman ICFA and Dr. Swamy Pentyala, MD, Baker Tilly in New Delhi.

VISITORS

Director General, Administrative Staff College of India

Date: 18-02-2020



Mr. SK Pattanayak, Director General, Administrative

Staff College of India and former Secretary of Agriculture, Government of India and Mr. Deepak Singhal, former Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh were hosted at ICFA HQ to discuss farmer-industry-academia partnerships to meet sustainability challenges in agriculture and also connecting farmers to national and global markets through FarmerPlus project of ICFA.

Chairman, NABARD

Date: 20-01-2020



NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) chairman Dr. Harsh Bhanwala was received at ICFA HQ for discussions on the issues concerning farmers and agriculture. He was joined by Mr. Vivek Sinha, GM, NABARD, Delhi office. ICFA chairman, Dr. MJ Khan explained about the ICFA work in promoting agrotrade, Startups and agribusinesses through various specialised platforms, such as India Agri Trade Council, Global AgTech Council, ICFA Startups Facilitation Platform, created in partnerships with apex national and global bodies. Dr. Bhanwala suggested that ICFA should focus more on promoting exports of agrocommodities, which will help in improving the produce quality and value chain development and more stable market prices.

Russian Delegation

Date: 10-12-2019



A six member Russian delegation led by Mr. Boris Chesnokov, President, Altai Chamber of Commerce and Industry was received at ICFA HQ. The delegation was looking to import Basmati Rice, Cinnamon, BlackPepper in Assam and Darjeeling. They want buyers here for honey, wheatbuck and edibleoils.

Representatives of Sichuan Province

Date: 18-06-2019



Special representatives of Sichuan Province, Mr Jiang Chu with a six member delegation visited ICFA and discussed multiple topics related to Farm Productivity, mechanization and Farm Income schemes in India. ICFA shared the scope of connecting with young Indian Startups during AgroWorld2019. Looking towards farm productivity advantages of Chinese equipments, customized solutions for Indian Small & Marginal farmers may get help in reducing cost of production while improving yield. The delegation was received by

ICFA Executive Director Mr. Arvind Saini and Director ICFA Ms Mili Dubey.

INTERACTIONS AND PARTICIPATIONS

Meeting to review COVID-19

Date: 29-03-2019



An important meeting of the Group of Ministers chaired by the Defense Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh at his residence to review the Covid19 situation and the issues arising out of the 21 days lockdown was participated by ICFA Chairman. Dr. MJ Khan, Chairman ICFA spoke to Defense Minister and briefed him of the issues faced by the farmers, startups, dealers and agri food industry. Dr Khan also told him that the top Government officers were responding very well and taking decisions even on whatsapp messages, as ICFA had coordinated with almost 10 states in past last few days. Minister ensured is support to farmers and those serving the farmers.

Additional Secretary, Development Partnership Administration, MEA

Date: 06-03-2020

Chairman ICFA met Sh. Akhilesh Mishra IFS, Additional Secretary, Development Partnership Administration, MEA and discussed important developments in agricultural sector under Honb'le PM Modi.

Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Date: 28-08-2019



Dr. MJ Khan, Chairman, ICFA met with Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath in Lucknow to discuss the initiatives for revitalising agriculture sector in the State and making it exports oriented. Strategies to boost precision agriculture, seed production programs, and tapping exports market for organic food, medicinal plants and spices. The CM appreciated the idea of creating institutional mechanism for boosting the potential of the districts by adopting ICFA model of District Agriculture Councils and sought a plan of action. The meeting was also joined by the Principal Secretary to CM, Sh. SP Goyal, IAS.

Belgium Ambassador

Date: 20-08-2019



Chairman Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture met the Ambassador, Mr Francois Delhaye and discussed visit to Belgium and observations on agro trade and business cooperation between the two countries.

Hydroponics and Aeroponic project of Chairman, Dabour Group

Date:



Chairman ICFA visited hydroponic and aeroponic project observing production of leafy vegetables and micro greens. In recent years a large number of such projects are coming up in the metro cities and outskirts, supplying nutrition rich exotic variety leafy vegetables, cherry, tomato and capsicum etc. to the hotels and super markets establishing hydroponic, aeroponic especially in vertical farming setup.

World Bio stimulants Congress

Date: 21-11-2019



Dr. MJ Khan, Chairman, Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture attended World Biostimulants Congress at Barcelona and visited stalls of different international companies and learnt about range of products available in market as a result of extensive research.

Kazakhstan

Date: 21-11-2019



Chairman, ICFA on a five day visit to Kazakh Republic, met the Vice Minister of Agriculture, Ms Gulmira Issayeva in the beautiful capital city of Astana. Also had delegation level talks at National Agrarian Scientific Centre, which is the apex body of all 3 agri universities, 14 research institutes and 150 agri extension centres. He also met National Council of Enterprises, which is apex body of all industry associations in the Republic, including 26 agri food related industry bodies. Kazakhstan has big market for vegetable seeds, bio-stimulants, spices, animal feed, commodities, MAP products from India and can export edible oil and grains.

30 years of MSSRF and 95th birth anniversary of Prof. Swaminathan

Date:



Dr. MJ Khan, Chairman, ICFA joined 3 day long event

at Chennai to mark 30 years of MSSRF and 95th birthday of Prof. Swaminathan. The event was inaugurated by the CM and Dy CM Tamil Nadu, the event marked the presence of very eminent persons from across the World. Dr. Khan further discussed the details of the 2nd World Agriculture Prize 2019. As the Laureate of the 1st World Prize, Prof. Swaminathan was the Global Jury Chair of 2019 year's prize. ICFA started this award in 2018 with the prize money of \$1,00,000.

Europe

Chairman ICFA in his visit to Europe visited Terra Research Centre, Brussels, research sites of Wageningen University, International Fertiliser Association, and French Chambers of Agriculture, Paris, European Landholders Organisation, Brussels, Agriculture Minister Mr. Rene Collin at Wallonia Agri Fair, Belgium, Belgium and French Livestock Institute. He also visited Global Headquarters of Bayer CropScience, Monheim, Germany, Messe Berlin, German Agribusiness Alliance, German Association of Food and Agri Products and the Ministry of Agriculture and Global Food Policy, Berlin. Further, he went to the headquarters of Danish Food and Agriculture Council and DI - Confederation of Danish Industry - Confédération des Industries Danoises at Copenhagen as well as Ministry of Agriculture in Tashkent. He witnessed different world class research sites and learnt various developments in agricultural research, policies, associations, events and collaborations.

Union Minister and Minister of State for Agriculture

Date: 03-07-2019



Chairman ICFA met with Agriculture Minister, Sh. Narendra Singh Tomar at his office and discussed the broad issues concerning farmers and Indian agriculture. The Minister shared about the steps Ministry is taking towards making Indian Agriculture more competitive and linking it effectively with domestic and exports markets. He sought policy inputs for water management, quality inputs, improving food safety, post harvest management, storage and creation of value chain in agriculture. He was joined by his Deputy, the Minister of State for Agriculture, Mr. Kailash Chaudhary.

Dubai, UAE

Date: 21-06-2019



Dr. MJ Khan, on visited Dubai for a presentation to Her Excellency, Ms. Mariyam Bint Mohammad Mehraimi, Minister of Food Security, UAE on digital agriculture and making Dubai as Hub of Global Food and AgTech Innovations and also today visited Advanta Seeds Global HQ and met Mr. Vikram Shroff, ED, UPL Group and Global CEO, Mr. Bhupen Dube. Later visited Baker Tilly office for discussions with the global team on FarmerPlus project.

ICFA Flagship Event: Global Agriculture Summit and Award 2019

Date: November 5, 2019

Venue: Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi



The 4th Global Agriculture Summit 2019 was the annual event aimed to provide the platform towards facilitating farmers connect with the technologies, markets, industry, institutions and the Governmental programs. The theme for this year was “industry farmer partnership for growth”. It provided a platform to discuss the constraints and opportunities for a global momentum towards making agriculture high-tech, market linked and value added for best returns to farmers and to all stake-holders across the food value chain. ICFA brought together eminent personalities of Indian and global agriculture, food and agribusiness sectors on one platform. This spectacle was combined with the presentation of Global Agriculture Awards and the launch of Agriculture Year Book 2019. Important individuals and institutions, who played pivotal role in building new faiths and ambitions in agriculture were presented with the Global Agriculture Awards 2019. The Agriculture Year Book 2019 provided an exhaustive appraisal of activities in food and agriculture round the year. The event observed the participation of everyone anyhow associated with food and agriculture via business, research, academics, media, farming, trade, development, policy making, implementation and any other medium across the globe.

During the two days, discussions on different aspects of agriculture as well as agribusiness were conducted with eminent personalities from research, industry

and administration and policy making in attendance who shared their views and experience with the august gathering. In all total seven technical sessions were carried out revolving around different aspects like Finance, technologies, role of state, ICT etc.

Global Agriculture Awards were also presented to the individuals and organisations for their outstanding work under different categories. In all 18 awards were presented in different categories. The awards were given away by Director general of Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra. The awards are presented to recognize the excellent work done and to inspire the others to continue their efforts. (For detailed report, please visit <http://icfa.org.in/sou-venirs.php>)

ICFA Flagship Event: AgroWorld - 2019

Date: November 6 to 8, 2019

Venue: IARI, New Delhi



In a bid to introduce contemporary agriculture –agri and allied sectors with their best practices, technologies, processing and marketing that could inevitably help countless farmers and platform owners, Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture with the support of the Government of India and several States and in technical collaborations with a large number of industry associations and international bodies, put up AgroWorld 2019.

The mega event comprised of exhibition (sector specific pavillion, agri-inputs, food and food processing, animal husbandry and aquatic products, agro-technology and agro machinery, agri-infrastructure, value chain,

marketing and trade and agro-products), National Conference of Doubling Agri Exports, World AgTech Congress, and AgTech Startups meet. AgroWorld also recognised the performance of organisations as well as individuals in agri space and presented the awards in various categories for Global CEO and India Agri-business. Also farm power awards were presented to recognize excellence in farm power industry.

The sessions discussed different aspects of agriculture as well as agribusiness with eminent personalities from research, industry and administration and policy making in attendance who shared their views and experience with the august gathering. The event witnessed the participation of over 1000 farmers, 250 researchers and academicians, 300 research scholars and students, and 250 industry personnel. Around 50 organisations exhibited their products and services and spread awareness about innovations in agriculture amongst participants.

The event was inaugurated by Agriculture Commissioner, GOI, Dr. SK Malhotra.

OTHER MAJOR EVENTS

Seed World 2019

Date: 18-21 September 2019

Venue: Bangalore



SeedWorld2019 was organised by ICFA with an aim to discuss different issues faced by seed industry in the country. The event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare with other dignitaries, Dr. NK Dadlani, Advisor, ICFA,

Mr. Michael Keller, Secretary General, ISF, H.E. Mr. Gabriel Sinimbo and Dr. Ashok Dalwai, Chairman, PM's Task Force on Doubling Farmers Incomes. The event discussed various topics such as seed production, traceability, GAP Certification, policy advocacy and trade issues, value chain development, exports facilitation and global market access for Indian seeds


All India Progressive farmers Convention 2019

Date: December 17, 2019

Venue: Constitution Club, New Delhi



All India Farmers Alliance supported by ICFA convened 3rd All India Progressive Farmers Convention to discuss the issues, challenges and opportunities for Indian farmers. Over 300 farmers from 14 States participated in the convention, chaired by Dr. Ashok Dalwai, Chairman, PM Task Force on Doubling Farmers Incomes. Shri Ashok Bajpai, Member of Parliament and Shri Rapolu Ananda Bhaskar, Member of Parliament presented ICFA Progressive Farmer Awards to 15 farmers for their commendable work in farming and agriculture sector. The aim was to foster partnership among the key stakeholders and promote backward as well as forward linkages.



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