

डा० रमेश चन्द्र श्रीवास्तव
कुलपति

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Message

I am delighted to learn that an International Congress on *Post-harvest Technology of Agricultural Produce for Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security* is being jointly organized by Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research (UPCAR), Lucknow and Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST), Integral University, Lucknow on 10th – 12th November, 2016 at Integral University, Lucknow.

Agricultural development has two major aspects – production and post harvest processing. Post harvest technology, management and value addition is half the story of agriculture. Proper technological interventions can save the post harvest losses (3-18%) and thus increase the product availability more than increase by production alone. Similarly, it will increase the profitability in rural catchments by increasing the farmers share through value addition and providing gainful employment in rural areas. The efficient and stronger post harvest sector is needed for increasing the GDP from agriculture. Post harvest technologies will play an important role in achieving Government of India's goal of doubling farmers' income, as well as increasing rural employment. With rising aspiration and quality consciousness of consumer, it is essential that post harvest technologies ranging from development of product to maintaining quality, shelf life and packaging are developed to satisfy the need and desired standards of consumers.

The organization of this Congress is very timely and it will have a greater impact at national and international level in view of our commitment to ensure food and nutritional security to the ever increasing population without putting a strain on natural resources.

I compliment the UPCAR and IIAST for shouldering the responsibility of organizing this important Congress. Hope that deliberations in Congress will help in devising new strategies for achieving goals of modern Indian Agriculture.

I wish it all success.

R. C. Srivastava

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