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#### MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST), Lucknow is organising an International Congress on Post-Harvest Technologies of Agricultural Produce for Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security jointly with Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research (UPCAR), Lucknow during 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Food is essential for both physical and mental well being of human beings and therefore, its importance in life is second to none and all possible care should be taken to minimise food losses. There may be Food losses due to reasons like lack of resources, damp weather at harvest time, premature harvesting, poor processing facilities/ use of outdated technology, poor production practices/ planning, lack of access to good quality packaging materials and technology, transportation facilities, consumer preferences/ attitudes, unavailability of financial markets, inadequate market systems etc., and are painful as a significant fraction of human beings suffer from malnutrition due to unavailability of adequate food.

It gives me immense pleasure to know that this Congress is inviting researchers around the globe to discuss new trends on postharvest technologies in agriculture and link them with sustainable food and nutritional security. Technologies aimed at reducing harvest and postharvest losses exist but they are not sufficiently adopted by farmers in many countries. Even though a number of these technologies have proved to be successful in some countries, more research and propagation are needed to identify and popularise interventions that are adapted to local environments. I am sure; this Congress would provide a platform for the participants to share the new findings and disseminate among the people.

I am also glad to know that on this occasion, the organisation is bringing out a Souvenir.

I would like to congratulate and thank the organisers for their endeavour to bring researchers around the globe to discuss on the topic through this Congress and wish the event a grand success.

(R. V. Raja Kumar)  
11<sup>th</sup> July 2016