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Director General



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### FOREWORD

The issue of food loss and bio-waste has steadily risen onto the international agenda during last decade. The interests in formulating solutions for mapping and preventing food loss and waste including post-harvest losses are growing exponentially. As a result of renewed focus on food loss and waste, as well as its striking significance in global food and nutritional security, SAVE FOOD, an initiative of FAO has estimated that roughly a third or 1.3 billion tons food produced for human consumption globally, each year is either lost or wasted. Food loss and bio-waste represents not only an obstacle to improve global food and nutritional security, but also represents a gross misuse of the planet's limited resources, while contributing to climate change. Numerous initiatives have been developed world-wide to reduce food losses and bio-waste management. However, 2015 has the distinction of being one of the most active years in which seven international conferences addressing food loss and bio-waste reduction were executed with the support of SAVE FOOD. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is carrying out extensive studies on food losses in various districts of India between May and July 2016. Since last year several startups are chasing ways to convert food wastes into other edibles. Obviously, preventing food losses including post-harvest management of agricultural produce has gained prominent position in the FAO agenda to strengthen food and nutritional security and indirectly to face challenges posed by climate change.

It is pleasure to inform that taking these initiatives further, UP Council of Agricultural Research in collaboration with major partner Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology, Integral University, Lucknow is organizing an International Congress on Post-Harvest Technologies of Agricultural Produce for Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security in Indian and global context from 10 to 12 Nov. 2016 at Lucknow. This seminar will focus on present scenario and all strategies to reduce post-harvest losses in all agricultural commodities including cereals, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, animal, and fish products. There will be invited lead speakers renowned in their areas. The scientists/technocrats/administrators/policy makers shall be exposed to whole gamut of issues affecting post-harvest technologies and the congress will provide a forum to chalk out road-map to strengthen research and education on post-harvest technologies and ways and means to reduce these losses so as to ensure more food availability to people.

I wish the congress a grand success.

(Rajendra Kumar)  
International Congress and Programme Chairman