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Message

I am happy to learn that Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research (UPCAR) and Integral University, Lucknow are organizing an International congress on "**Post-Harvest Technologies of Agriculture Produce for Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security**" in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences (SHIATS) and Uttar Pradesh Academy of Agricultural Sciences (UPAAS) Lucknow, from 10-12th November, 2016.

Agriculture is still the lifeline and soul of majority of the people in India and continues to be the mainstay of Indian economy. It contributes 16 per cent of GDP, provides 52 per cent of employment and sustains more than 60 per cent of population, produces all the food and nutritional requirements of the nation. Uttar Pradesh accounts for 7.3 per cent of total geographical area of the country. Presently agriculture is on crossroads due to the challenges posed by the shrinking and degrading natural resources, changing climate and post harvest losses. The loss of foods in the post-harvest system is not new; it has always been a problem for mankind. In these days of rapidly increasing population in the poor countries of the world where food is already short, there is an increasing urgency to do a better job of conserving mankind food supply in order to alleviate hunger and malnutrition. The main objectives of the congress is to bring together researchers, administrators, policy makers, traders, media persons, NGOs and social activists on a common platform to initiate meaningful dialogue relating to initiation of steps to reduce post harvest losses of agriculture produce.

I send my best wishes to the organizers of the Congress for its grand success.

(Rajneesh Gupta)
Principal Secretary,
Agriculture, U.P