

Preface



It gives me immense pleasure in bringing out the Annual Report 2005-06 of the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI). The Institute made a modest beginning in the year 1930 as a statistical section under

ICAR and grew over time into a full fledged Institute headed by a Director in the year 1970. The Institute got its present name in the year 1978. IASRI is a premier Institute in Agricultural Statistics and Computer Application in the country and has been identified as a Centre of Advanced Studies in Agricultural Statistics and Computer Application. The Institute has made many important and original contributions in the disciplines of Agricultural Statistics and Computer Application and because of its blend towards applications, it has made its presence felt in the National Agricultural Research System. The Institute has started becoming a repository of information on Agricultural Research Data. The Institute has taken a lead in the country in developing a data warehouse on Agricultural Research Data.

The present report highlights some of the glimpses of the research achievements made, new methodologies developed, significant advisory and consultancy services provided, dissemination of knowledge acquired and human resource development, linkages cultivated/nurtured with various ICAR Institutes, SAUs and other research organisations in India and abroad. The scientists, technical personnel, administrative, finance and other staff of the institute have put in their best efforts in fulfilling the mandate of the institute and also in achieving the targets set during the year.

The Institute initiated various new studies/projects during the year. These are- 'Crop forecasting using state space models', 'Development of PERMISnet-II' and 'Effect of selection and incomplete model specification on heritability'. The Institute also initiated some outside funded projects on - 'Assessment of survey capabilities of private sector' and 'Pilot study to develop an alternative methodology for estimation of area and production of horticultural crops'. The Institute also undertook a CSO sponsored project on the preparation of manuals on 'Area and crop production statistics'; 'Animal husbandry statistics'; 'Agricultural prices and marketing'; 'Cost of cultivation surveys', and 'Horticulture and spices statistics'.

A Brain Storming Session on 'Statistical Issues in Rapeseed-Mustard Trials' in collaboration with National Research Centre on Rapeseed-Mustard was also

organised. The Institute also provided consultancy services to various research studies/projects in NARS.

A lead paper entitled 'Fertiliser Response Ratios' analysing the crop-fertiliser ratios for various crops in different regions of the country, was presented during Brain Storming Session on Declining Crop Responses to Fertilisers.

In a bid to evolve efficient design of experiments for quality agricultural research, a comprehensive catalogue of A-efficient α -designs was prepared.

I am happy to note that some of our colleagues received academic distinctions during the year. Dr. VK Gupta received ICAR National Professor Award for his contributions in the field of Agricultural Statistics to work in the project entitled 'Designs for single factor and multi-factor experiments and their applications in agricultural systems research'. Dr. VK Gupta was also awarded Prof. PV Sukhatme Gold Medal Award for outstanding contributions in Agricultural Statistics from Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, New Delhi. Dr. Rajender Parsad, National Fellow was awarded Dr. DN Lal Memorial Lecture Award from Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, New Delhi.

The scientists of the Institute were deputed for presentation of their papers in various national/international conferences.

To promote Hindi, a poster presentation of research papers in Hindi was organized at the Institute and scientists were also awarded for their outstanding contributions in preparation of Hindi posters.

This report has been compiled through collective efforts rendered by Heads of Divisions, scientists and other staff of the Institute. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all of them for their sincere and whole-hearted support and cooperation in carrying out various functions and activities of the Institute.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all my colleagues in Research Coordination and Management Unit for coordinating various related activities and Hindi Section for Hindi Translation of the required material.

It is expected that the scientists in NARS will benefit immensely from the information contained in this publication. I shall look forward to any suggestions and comments on the information contained in this publication, which would prove to be very valuable for our future publications.

(SD SHARMA)
Director