Preface

It gives me immense pleasure in bringing out the Annual Report 2006–07 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 is 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 – 'Neural network based forecast modeling in crops', 'A statistical investigation on production, economic and energy potential of crop sequences in different agro-ecosystems' 'Planning, designing and analysis of experiments relating to AICRP on STCR'and 'A statistical study of rainfall distribution and rainfall insurance'.

A Brain Storming Session on 'Expectation of Various Divisions of ICAR from IASRI' was organised.

Several training programs of different categories like trainings under Center of Advanced Studies, Summer School, Ad-hoc and sponsored National and International training programs were organised.

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

An International Conference on Statistics and Informatics in Agricultural Research ICSI-2006 was organized.

I am happy to note that some of our colleagues received academic distinctions during the year. Dr. VK Sharma received Best Teacher Award of IARI for his outstanding contribution to teaching in the discipline of Agricultural Statistics for the year 2006. Dr. Rajender Parsad, National Fellow was elected as Associate Fellow of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, 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