

Preface



It gives me immense pleasure in bringing out the Annual Report 2007–08 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 emphasis on 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 National Agricultural Resources 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 28 new studies/projects during the year. These projects have been formulated under the six broad thrust research areas of the Institute to fulfill objectives and mandate of the Institute. During the year 13 research projects have been completed and 12 projects have been continuing.

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

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

In order to assess the national priorities of research teaching and training in Agricultural Statistics and Computer Application a National Conference of Agricultural Research Statisticians in NARS is held once in three years. This year the XV National Conference of Agricultural Research Statisticians of ICAR was organized at Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi during 03-04 December, 2007.

I am happy to note that some of our colleagues received academic distinctions during the year. Dr. Rajender Parsad, National Fellow received the NAAS-Associateship, and Dr. Cini Varghese, Senior Scientist received the Lal Bahadur Shastri Young Scientist Award for the Biennium 2005-2006 in the field of Social Sciences.

The scientists of the Institute were deputed for presentation of their papers in various national/international conferences. This year 3 scientists were deputed to present their papers to USA, China and Canada.

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