

## Preface



It gives me immense pleasure in bringing out the Annual Report 2008–09 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 it grew over time and re-designated as the *Institute of Agricultural Research Statistics* (IARS) on 02 July 1959. The

Institute got its present name in the year 1978. It gives me great satisfaction that the Institute is celebrating its Golden Jubilee year and this Annual Report will be released when the Institute will be completing 50 years on July 02, 2009. 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 also a repository of information 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 organizations 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.

To fulfill objectives and mandate of the Institute, the research was carried out under 50 research projects in the Institute. Out of these 50 projects, 08 projects have been completed and 11 new studies/ projects were initiated during the year.

10 training programmes (Four under Center of Advanced Studies, one Winter School, one under NAIP Project, one for ISS Probationers, one for ICFRE Scientists, one International Training programme at ICARDA, Syria, one study visit of Afghanistan nationals) were organized.

As part of Golden Jubilee Celebrations, several seminars by eminent statisticians and agricultural scientists were organized. The Institute also provided consultancy services to various research studies/projects in NARS.

I am happy to note that some of our colleagues received academic distinctions during the year.

Dr. V.K. Gupta, National Professor elected as Fellow of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences; Dr. V.K. Bhatia was elected as President of International Indian Statistical Associations – India Joint Statistical Meeting 2000–Trust; Dr. Rajender Parsad, National Fellow, elected as member of International Statistical Institute and was invited as Consultant Biometrician at ICARDA, Syria; Dr. Hukum Chandra selected for Cochran-Hansen Prize 2009 by International Association of Survey Statisticians, Sh. K.K. Chaturvedi received Scientist of Year Award from the Society for Recent Development in Agriculture; and Dr Himadri Ghosh received best poster presentation Award from Indian Science Congress Association. Dr. Ranjana Agrawal received the Special Prize for scientific article in Hindi from Central Secretariat Hindi Council. Dr Sushila Kaul received Best Education Performance Award-2007 from Economic and Human Resource Development Association.

The scientists of the Institute were deputed for presentation of their papers in various national/ international conferences. This year two scientists were deputed to present their papers to Vietnam and Nepal. Dr. Raj S. Chikara, University of Houston, USA visited the Institute for a period of 3 months on his sabbatical leave.

To promote Hindi, a poster presentation of research papers in Hindi was organized at the Institute and awards were distributed for 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 be immensely benefitted 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.

  
(VK Bhatia)  
Director