

National Consultative Convention on Seeds

Organized by

Bhartiya Agro-Economic Research Centre

New Delhi

In Collaboration with

GH Rasoni University, Madhya Pradesh

Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar

Bhartiya Kisan Sangh

Prologue

Seed forms the foundation of agriculture and thus have paramount importance. In Indian context the production and supply of quality seeds makes it more prominent as 70% population gets its livelihood from agriculture. Seed production and its supply in agriculture and allied sectors such as horticulture, fishery etc. have been in vogue in our country since time immemorable. However, in recent decades the Seed Act 1966 with some amendments has been in practice. It has been subject to various external pressures due to economic liberalization policies especially after promulgation of WTO regime. The hybrid seed production which was dominated by Indian seed companies, was let loose. Seed industry further prone to multinational monopolization due to hefty investments for biotechnical interventions. In Indian context, farmers, who primarily used to produce seeds, and less often used to procure seeds from market, have eventually become market dependent. Indian agriculture is a gamble of monsoon. Therefore, sowing in monsoon for double or triple incidences is a routine phenomenon. Nevertheless, earlier due to seed sovereignty, farmers used to manage it easily. On the contrary, in the market driven scenario, farmers have to buy seeds for each wash out phase of monsoon for sowing twice or thrice, which eventually increases the cost of production. It may be accepted that quality seed production and supply may be totally vested to farmers and so the role of private partners needs to be drafted clearly. Attempts in these directions were culminated into drafting of a Seed Bill in 2004, but dearth of consensus left it in vain. Furthermore, Seed Control Order (Amendment) 2006 and some more orders were released. Still a comprehensive scenario is to be emerged as yet. Albeit, it should be ensured that in the process of quality seed production and supply by private firms, the farmers' and national interest is not compromised.

Theme of National Consultative Conclave on Seeds

Present conclave has been designed to discuss the ramifications of seed production and supply in India on the backdrop of Indian Seed Act 1966. It envisages a discourse on present seed legislations that mandates the quality seed supply to farmers through public and private entities along with a huge unorganized sector. Indian farmers are often being deprived of their

legal compensation on account of failure of tall claims of private companies under the pretext of international obligations. Therefore, ways to curb the threats and vested interests of multinational players should be identified and elaborated so that the sovereign rights of hapless farmers are protected. Implications of loopholes in the existing legislations which could be harnessed to monopolize the seed trade need to be addressed urgently. Since rich biodiversity in our country will be subject to environmental stresses by the processes of hybridization, biotechnological interventions and monoculture of economically potential varieties, measures for its conservation becomes imperative. Attempts to be made to provide fair turf to stakeholders of seed industry vis-à-vis uninterrupted and quality supply of seeds. Conclave should also discuss to promote indigenous entrepreneurs development among farming fraternity and ways to sustain the endeavors along with existing market trends.

National Consultative Convention on Seeds

November 21 – 22, 2018

Inauguration

In the welcome address Shri Pramod Cahudhary, General Secretary BAERC extended warm welcome to all the dignitaries, experts etc. He introduced BAERC to audience and elaborated the successful journey of BAERC in these about thirty years since its inception. Shri Dinesh Kulkarni, All India Organization Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh elaborated the need and theme of the National Consultative Consultation on Seeds. He said that in the present day context the dependency of farmers on market for agricultural inputs including seeds has been a major cause of increase in cost of production. He opined that if seeds are produced by farmers individually for straight varieties and in groups for hybrid varieties the cost of production would immensely be reduced even if the farmers have to go for second sowing in case of failure of monsoon onset. Dr. K.P. Singh, Vice Chancellor, Chaudgary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University welcomed the audience and briefed about the challenges the farmers are facing in the era of globalization. He emphasized that in many agro-based sectors, the self sufficiency of Indian corporate is well-acclaimed globally. However, seed industry is different from other sectors and farmers have to prepare for self reliance for quality and timely seed availability and supply. Dr. Vandana Shiva, a renowned social worker expressed that multinational corporate giants are monopolizing the seed industry in the name of patents by virtue biotechnological interventions. However, she said, that Indian biodiversity and famers' land races have been competent enough to address the quality production issues and there is no need of transgenic crops. Dr. Shiva demanded that proper training and infrastructure should be provided to farmers to produce quality seed at their own places. She also advocated seed village concept for production of seed by the farmers for the farmers to maintain seed sovereignty. Dr. Rajan Welukar, Vice Chancellor GH Raison University Madhya Pradesh delivered the presidential address. While expressing the concerns on the present conditions of farmers and agriculture in large he said GHRU has been working to develop a model about providing urban facilities in rural area. He extended a proposal for possible collaboration with Navdanya, an NGO formed by Dr. Vandana Shiva to develop area near and around GHRU. Proceedings of the inaugural

session was done by Dr. Mrunalini Naik, Project Officer Rasoni Group of Institutions and also proposed vote of thanks.

Session I: Seed availability

Chairman: Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner, GoI

Co-Chairman: Dr. N.C. Gautam, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Chitrakut Gramoday Vishwavidyalaya

Lead Speaker: Dr. Sain Das, Ex – Director, Indian Maize Research Institute

Rapporteur: Dr. Paliwal, Director HRD, SK University

- There are reports that productivity seed production is stagnated and declining slowly. Thus, there is acute shortage of prescribed standard's seed during cropping season.
- There is no provision of seed certification of seed material produced by farmers. Thus, in spite of quality, it is not made available to other farmers.
- In general the quality of seed is deteriorating. The quality seed is going beyond reach as there is shortage at State seeds corporations.
- Hybrid seed production is mainly controlled by private sector and cost is very high. Moreover, there is no guarantee if the seed fails to get the claimed results.
- Digitization of seed production vis-à-vis seed for all firms should be made mandatory Production area so that actual seed availability in real time and authenticity of production may be ensured.
- Branding of name of improved versions of existing seed material may be streamlined. Many good seeds just due to change in name creates confusion. Therefore instead of new brand names, a series with same name may be brought in force.
- In border areas the unauthorized seed material is being circulated many a times these seed material contain transgenic also. Therefore, a mechanism for surveillance and phytosanitary tests may be formulated.
- Seed production facilities of SAU's and ICAR institutes may be strengthened by providing required funds.

Session II: Seeds supply

Chairman: Dr. Ramesh Yadav, Chairman Haryana Farmers Commission

Co-Chairman: Shri Govind Bhardwaj, Chairman, Haryana Agro-Industries Association

Lead Speaker: Shri. V.K. Gaur, Chairman and MD, National Seed Corporation

Rapporteur: Dr. Sunil Pareek, Professor, NIFTEM

- There are many seed companies in existence, which do not have any research wing and minimum required R&D or production infrastructure. They are just fly by night companies who generally procure seed material from local markets and sell in digital packaging. To check these fraudulent seed companies Seed Company Accreditation Legislation may be contemplated.
- A mechanism for self certification and appropriate marketing may be established and promoted so that quality seeds produced by farmers or their groups may be supplied to as per requirement at a reasonable cost.
- SAUs may be given a mandate to maintain a record of seed production units of farmers or group of farmers and provide necessary facility for grading, packaging etc. as incubation units at minimal costs. State govts may also bear the processing costs of farmers seeds processed at SAUs
- Wherever possible geo-tagging of seed material may be encouraged.
- Compensation clause in case of failure of seed material to perform as per specifications may be introduced and implemented effectively.
- Attempts be made to promote production and supply of climate resilient crop varieties.
- Patenting of seed material in any form to be banned with immediate effect.
- Mechanism of capping of prices of seed material may be envisaged.
- National Seed Corporation may be mandated for production of hybrid seeds mainly.

Session III: Self sufficiency

Chairman: Dr. S.K. Rao, Vice Chancellor, Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwavidyalay

Co-Chairman: Dr. U.S. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology

Lead Speaker: Shri Kapil Shah, Director, JATAN Trust

- Appropriate training to the identified individual/ groups of farmers for seed production may be streamlined.
- Provision of infrastructure at affordable costs and financial assistance for maintaining the seed stocks may be made
- Marketing mechanism and promotion of marketing of seeds produced by farmers may be promoted.
- Effective implementation of PPVFRA for land races and streamlining of production of land races by farmers where technical difficulties in registration are evident.
- Mechanism for seed production for organic cultivation may be evolved, strengthened and streamlined.
- Seed saviors may be trained about maintaining purity of seeds.
- A mechanism may be developed for production of hybrid seed production by farmers.

Plenary and Valedictory

Plenary and Valedictory session was graced by Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, DG ICAR and Secretary DARE as Chief Guest. On the onset Shri Pramod Chaudhary, All India Secretary BAERC extended warm welcome to dignitaries on dias and presented salient observations of different sessions and recommendation. Dr. Jalapathi Rao, President BAERC hoped that the proceedings of the national convention would be a guiding document for policy makers. Dr. Rajan Welukar, VC Rasoni University urged that with articulation the discussions and recommendations to be drafted and presented in time to policy makers at an appropriate level in time to facilitate expected output. Shri Badri Narayan, All India General Secretary, BKS elaborated the objectives and disciplined organizational growth of BKS, which is at present the largest farmers' organization in India. He expressed that the research and developmental schemes and output is still far from reach of common farmers. He said that the quality seed production should be by the farmers and for the farmers and all efforts to be made to imbibe and facilitate at ground

level. He opined that unless seed sovereignty is aimed at farmers' level, holistic development of agriculture is not possible. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra in his address elaborated the ramifications of seed industry in Indian context. He stressed that we will have to make policies for futuristic and unforeseen developments in science to safeguard interest of Indian farmers. In the era of globalization the multinational companies will be overwhelming market including seed industry and we shall have to train farmers to face the changing market scenarios along with government initiatives. He also cautioned about exploitation of intellectual rights and patent laws by international stakeholders and the contemporary science and technology developments. He urged that farmers' organization such as BKS and BAERC may work in tandem with government to provide inputs to strengthen the policies and perpetuate the benefits to the end user. Proceedings of the session was done by Dr. Ashutosh A. Murkute, Principal Scientist, ICAR – CCRI, Nagpur and Convener of the national convention and expressed formal vote of thanks to dignitaries and experts.

National Consultative Convention on Seeds

November 21 -22, 2018

Programme Schedule

Day I: November 21, 2018

Registration

9.30 am – 9.50 am

Inauguration

Lighting of lamp

10.00 am – 10.05 am

Invocation – Saraswati Vandana & Floral welcome

10.05 am – 10.10 am

Welcome & About BAERC - Shri Pramod Chaudhary, General Secretary

10.10 am – 10.15 am

Theme of Convention– Shri Dinesh Kulkarni, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh

10.15 am – 10.20 am

Address by Dr. K.P. Singh, VC, CCS HAU, Haryana

10.20 am – 10.25 am

Address by Chief Guest Dr. Vandana Shiva, Navdanya

10.25 am – 10.45 am

Presidential address by Dr. Rajan Welukar, Vice Chancellor, GHRU

10.45 am – 10.55 am

Vote of thanks

10.55 am – 11.00 am

Hi Tea

11.00 am – 11.30 am

Session I: Seed availability

11.30 am – 1.30 pm

Chairman: Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner, GoI

Discussion leader: Shri V.K. Gaur, CMD National Seed Corporation Ltd.

Session moderators: Dr. Ashutosh A. Murkute, ICAR/ Dr. Mrunalini Naik, GHRU

Rapporteurs: Prof. Ravindra Paliwal, Director (HRD) SKN Agriculture University, Jobner & Mr. A Surender Reddy, BAERC

Lunch

1.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Session II: Seed Supply

2.30 pm – 5.00 pm

Chairman: Dr. Ramesh Yadav, Chairman, Haryana Kisan and Agricultural Costs and Prices Commission

Discussion leader: Shri Prabhakar Rao, Chairman National Seed Association of India & CMD Naziveedu Seeds Ltd.

Session moderator: Dr. Sunil Pareek, Professor NIFTEM

Rapporteurs: Dr. Yogeesha, IIHR, Bengaluru & Mr. A Surender Reddy, BAERC

Tea

5.00pm – 5.30 pm

Day II: November 22, 2018

Session III: Self-sufficiency of farmers for seeds

9.30 am – 11.00 am

Chairman: Prof. S.K. Rao, Vice Chancellor, RVSKVV, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh

Discussion leader: Dr. B.N.S. Murthy, Horticulture Commissioner, GoI

Session moderator: Dr. Ashutosh A. Murkute

Rapporteurs: Dr. Ajay Singh Yadav, Registrar, Maharana Pratap Horticulture University, Karnal & Mr. A Surender Reddy, BAERC

Tea

11.00 am – 11.30 am

Plenary and Valedictory

11.30 am – 1.30 pm

Welcome of Dignitaries

11.30 am – 11.40 am

Presentation of session wise proceedings

11.40 am – 12.10pm

- Shri Pramod Chaudhary

- Address by Dr. Jalapathi Rao, President BAERC

12.20 pm – 12.30 pm

Address by Dr. Rajan Welukar, VC, GHRU	12.10 pm – 12.20 pm
Address by Shri Badri Narayan Chaudhary, General Secretary, BKS	12.30 pm – 12.50 pm
Address by Chief Guest Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secy DARE & DG ICAR	12.50 pm – 1.20 pm
Vote of thanks	1.20pm – 1.30 pm

Lunch

1.30pm

**List of Participants for
National Consultative Convention on Seeds, NAAS Complex, New Delhi,
November 21 – 22, 2018**

Sr. No.	Name	Designation & Organization	Email
1.	Dr. N.S. Rathore	DDG (Education), ICAR, New Delhi	ddgedn@gmail.com
2.	Dr. Abhay Kumar Vyas	ADG(HRM), ICAR	adghrm.icar@gmail.com , akvyas.icar@nic.in
3.	Dr. Sain das	Ex- Director, ICAR – DMR, Ludhiana	sdass2010@gmail.com
4.	Dr. P.K. Gupta	Director NHRDF	drpkgupta@gmail.com
5.	Dr. Yogeesha	Principal Scientist and Incharge Seeds ICAR – IIHR, Bengaluru	director@ihr.res.in director.ihr@icar.gov.in
6.	Dr. A.A. Murkute	Principal Scientist ICAR – CCRI, Nagpur	ashutoshmurkute@gmail.com
7.	Dr. Nafees Ahmed	Senior Scientist Incharge CATAT, ICAR – IARI, New Delhi	
8.	Dr. Amit Goswami	Scientist ICAR – IARI, New Delhi	
9.	Dr. Pratibha Joshi	Scientist ICAR – IARI, New Delhi	
10.	Dr. V. Lenin	Principal Scientist ICAR – IARI, New Delhi	leninextn@gmail.com
11.	Dr. Sukanya Varua	Scientist ICAR – IARI, New Delhi	sukanyabarua@iari.res.in
12.	Dr. S.K. Yadav	Principal Scientist ICAR – NBPGR, New Delhi	sk_yadav@yahoo.com
13.	Dr. S.K. Malhotra	Agri. Commissioner, GoI	ag.comm@nic.in
14.	Dr. K.P. Singh	Vice Chancellor, Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar	vc@hau.ernet.in
15.	Prof. S.K. Rao	Vice Chancellor, RajmataViyayarajeScindiaKris hiVishwavidyalaya, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh	vcrvskvvgwl@gmail.com , skrao_jnau@yahoo.co.in
16.	Prof. U.S. Sharma	Vice Chancellor MaharanaPratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur	vc@mpuat.ac.in , vc_mpuat@yahoo.co.in
17.	Prof. N.C. Gautam	Vice Chancellor MGCGVV, Chitrakut	gautamnc@yahoo.co.in
18.	Dr. Vasudevappa Chindi	Vice Chancellor, National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management	vc@niftem.ac.in
19.	Sh VK Gaur	Chairman cum MD	cmd@indiaseeds.com

20.	Dr. Ramesh Yadav	Chairman Haryana Farmers' Commission	rameshyadava53@gmail.com
21.	Dr. S.K. Sehrawat	Director of Research Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar	drcshau@gmail.com
22.	Shri Bhaskar Pant	DGM, NABARD	bhaskar-pant@nabard.org
23.	Mr Ramesh Deshpande		ramesh@deshpande.name
24.	Shri Alok Gupta	President Surabhi Foundation	shreshthabharat@gmail.com
25.	Shri Naresh Sirohi	Vice President Kisan Morcha	nnareshsirohi@gmail.com
26.	Shri Shivaji Sarkar		shivajisarkar@yahoo.com
27.	Shri Rudra Pratap Singh	Managing Director Fresh - O - Veg Pvt. Ltd, Indore	rudra.pratap@freshoveg.com
28.	Dr. Sunil Pareek	Professor, National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management	Sunilpareek.niftem@gmail.com ,
29.	Dr. Prakash Shastri	ICAR Governing Body Member & Dean, College of Agriculture, Khandwa, MP (Gwalior Ag University)	shastrippy@yahoo.com
30.	Dr. Ajay Singh Yadav	Registrar, MaharanaPratap Horticulture University, Karnal	regimhu.hry@gmail.com
31.	Dr. Ravindra Paliwal	Advisor to Agriculture Minister, Rajasthan, Director (HRD) and Professor (Horticulture) at SKN Agriculture University, Jobner	director.hrd@sknau.ac.in
32.	Shri Govind Bharadwaj	Chairman Haryana Agro-Industries Corporation	
33.	Dr. Sunita Farkya	Professor, NCERT	sfarkya@gmail.com
34.	Mr. Binod Anand	President, Confederation of NGCs of Rural India	cnrugreenworld@gmail.com
35.	Dr. Sangeeta Mendiratta	Federation of Seed Industry of India Registration and Regulatory Affairs Manager, Bayer Crop Science	sangeeta.mendiratta@bayer.com
36.	Dr. Rajani Jaiswal	Manager Intellectual Property, Plant Variety Protection, Bioseed Research India	Rajani.jaiswal@bioseed.com
37.	Mr Kapil Shah	Director, Jatan	jatantrust@gmail.com
38.	Shri Nath Sukhadev	Sagar Krishnanagar Swami	nathasukdev@gmail.com

		Vivekanand Youth Cultural Society, West Bengal	
39.	Shri Mohanish Mondal	Baharampur Dyne Foundation, Murshidabad, West Bengal	dynefoundationbhm@gmail.com
40.	Dr. B.K. Sahu	Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi	bksgps@gmail.com , bksahu@iift.edu
41.	Dr. L.K. Pandey	CEO & Director Ananya Seeds Pvt. Ltd.	salil.srivastava@ananyaseeds.com
42.	Dr. S.K. Pahuja	HOD, Genetics and Plant Breeding, CCS HAU, Haryana	pahujask66@gmail.com
43.	Dr. R.C. Punia	HOD Seed Science and Technology, CCS HAU, Haryana	
44.	Dr. Neeraj Kumar	Principal Scientist, CCS HAU, Haryana	neerajhau@yahoo.co.in
45.	Shri R.K. Trivedi	Director – Technical, National Seed Association of India	rk.trivedi@nsai.co.in
46.	Dr. Deepanker Pandey	Asstt. Director – Technical, National Seed Association of India	deepankaerpandey@nsai.co.in
47.	Shri. Tarak Dhurjati	Vice President NSL	tarak.d@nslindia.com
48.	Dr. S.K. Chandel	Vice President NSL	sanjeevkumar.chandel@nslindia.com
49.	Dr. S.K. Tripathi	Sr. Vice President Nuziveedu Seeds	
50.	Ms. Neha Raj Singh	Project Coordinator, Navdanya	neha@navdanya.net
51.	Dr. Rajan Velukar	Vice Chancellor, GHRU	
52.	Dr. Mrinalini Naik	Project Head, Raison Group of Institutions	
53.	Dr. Kevin Gawali	Dean of Agriculture, GHRU	
54.	Mr. Prafulla Sahare	PR Dept GHRU	
55.	Mr. Gautam Wankhede	PR Dept GHRU	
56.	Shri Badri Narayan	All India General Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh	badri.narayan60@gmail.com
57.	Shri Dinesh Kulkarni	All India Organizing Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh	dinesh.kulkarni1@gmail.com
58.	Shri. K. Sai Reddy	Governing Body member of ICAR Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh	saireddybks@gmail.com
59.	Shri L. Jalpathi Rao	All India President, Bhartiya Agro-Economic Research Centre	jlopelly@yahoo.com
60.	Shri Vilas Sonawane	All India Vice President, Bhartiya Agro-Economic Research Centre	vilas.sonawane09@gmail.com

61.	Shri Pramod Chaudhary	All India General Secretary, Bhartiya Agro-Economic Research Centre	pramod.c.bks@gmail.com
62.	Mr. A Surender Reddy	Member, Governing Body NIPHM, Hyderabad	ayyengarisurenderreddy@gmail.com
63.	Shri Rahul Shinde		rmshinde2011@gmail.com
64.	Shri. Kanwal Singh Chauhan	President, Bhartiya Agro-Economic Research Centre, Haryana	kanwalsingh62@gmail.com