

(17 March, 2024)

47th Vice-Chancellors' Convention of the Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA) on "Food and Nutritional Security and Farmers' Welfare: Vision India – 2047 and Beyond" at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana

Padma Bhushan Dr. R.S. Paroda, Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Former Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Government of India, was invited as Chief Guest to deliver Address during 47th Vice Chancellors' Convention of Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA) on " Food and Nutritional Security and Farmers' Welfare: Vision India – 2047 and Beyond", held at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana on 17-19 February 2024.



Dr. R.S. Paroda delivered the inaugural address entitled as "Ensuring Food and Nutritional Security and Farmers' Welfare – Vision India 2047." He discussed the significant developmental impact of the Green, White, Blue, and Rainbow Revolutions in India. Dr. Paroda then outlined key strategies to ensure farmers' security. These included: Maintaining healthy soils and good water quality, Ensuring the timely supply of agricultural inputs, Providing efficient extension services to disseminate knowledge, Facilitating access to low-interest credit, Creating strong market linkages to improve farmers' income, Promoting respect and dignity for farming communities.

As Special Guest, Dr G.S. Khush, World Food Laureate, emphasized the importance of recruiting professionals with strong leadership qualities and ethical values to build world-class agricultural institutions.

47th Vice-Chancellors' Convention kicks off at Vet Varsity

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The 47th Vice-Chancellors' Convention with the theme 'Food and Nutritional Security and Farmers' Welfare: Vision India-2047 and Beyond' under the aegis of Indian Agricultural University Association (IAUA) was commenced at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana on Sunday.

The inaugural function was decorated by dignitaries including Padma Bhushan Dr R S Paroda, Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi, and Former Director General,



Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) as Chief Guest, Padma Shree Dr G S Khush, Father of Rice Revolution and World Food Prize Awardee as Special Guest; Dr RC Agrawal, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi as Guest of Honour; Dr Rameshwar Singh, President, IAUA and Vice Chancellor, Bihar Ani-

mal Sciences University; Dr Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor of Vet Varsity and Patron of the event and Dr Dinesh Kumar, Executive Secretary, IAUA.

Dr Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor welcomed dignitaries on the dais, as well as the Vice Chancellors and other officials representing various agricultural Universities in India. He said

that this convention would serve as a podium for drafting the recommendations and policies to uplift agriculture and livestock farming communities of our nation. In his keynote address, Dr R S Paroda discussed the manifold developmental impact of Green, White, Blue and Rainbow revolutions in India. He suggested strategies for farmers' security, for example, healthy soils and good water, timely supply of inputs, good knowledge and efficient extension services, access to low-rate credit, linking to markets for better income and respect and dignity of farming communities. Dr

G S Khush in his address stated that we should recruit professionals with high leadership qualities and morals to develop world class institutions.

Dr R C Agrawal informed that the trend to get higher education in agriculture has been on rise, and most of the startups in India are from the agriculture and livestock background. He also emphasized the need for digital initiatives in agriculture education. Dr Rameshwar Singh described the role of IAUA in providing a common place for various Agricultural universities or other bodies (national or international) in matters of their common interest.