

Agricultural Research Scientists Fraternity Celebrates Conferment of Bharat Ratna on Prof. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), and the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), jointly organized a function on Tuesday, the 13th February 2024 at Dr. B.P. Pal Auditorium, IARI, New Delhi, to celebrate the conferment of apex civilian award Bharat Ratna on Prof. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.



The gathering was welcomed by Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Director, ICAR-IARI and Secretary, NAAS. Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR) and President, NAAS gave a reflection on the life and achievements of Prof. M.S.

Swaminathan. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai and the daughter of Prof. Swaminathan also gave a reflection being a daughter. Renowned Members of the Academy (NAAS) like Dr. R.B. Singh, Dr. T. Mohopatra, Dr. Panjab Singh, Dr. Mangala Rai, Dr. S. Ayyappan, Dr. KV. Prabhu, Dr. V.P. Singh, Dr. R.P. Sharma remembered Prof. Swaminathan and his invaluable contributions to the agricultural sciences.

Padma Bhushan Dr. Raj Paroda, Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences and Former Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR also addressed the gathering.



While thanking Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for the conferment of Bharat Ratna on Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, Dr. Paroda cherished his long association with Dr. Swaminathan since the time he joined IARI to do Ph.D. in 1964. He recalled that he had started raising the demand for Bharat Ratna to Prof. Swaminathan since 1999 when he was conferred with Padma Vibhushan.

Dr. Paroda also made a plea for approval of National Farmers Welfare Policy, for which Dr. Swaminathan had been pleading. He remembered Dr. Swaminathan as a guide, mentor, reformist and a true son of India. He also mentioned that Dr. Swaminathan was the architect of National Food Security Act, 2013. His complete address can be accessed/viewed through video link provided below.:

[VIDEO LINK](#)