

Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture Conferred on Two International Scientists

30 November 2021

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) organized the award ceremony in hybrid mode to confer '**Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture**' at the Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan II, Pusa Campus, New Delhi on 30 November, 2021. The Award Function was very successful and well attended offline and online by a large number of scientists the world over. Dr K. VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser, Govt. of India was the Chief Guest. The dignitaries who graced the occasion included: Dr Raj Paroda, Chairman, TAAS and former Secretary, DAE & DG, ICAR; Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, WHO; Gurbachan Singh, Vice Chairman and former Chairman, ASRB; Prof. RB Singh, former President, NAAS; and Dr Mohan Saxena, former awardee and former ADG, ICARDA, the two awardees Dr Shenggen Fan, Former Director General, IFPRI; and Dr Adel El Beltagi, Former Director General, ICARDA; distinguished Trustees of TAAS; DDGs, ADGs and Directors of ICAR institutes; Vice Chancellors of SAUs; Heads of Regional Offices of CGIAR institutes; and several distinguished invitees from India and abroad.

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) under the leadership of Dr Raj Paroda has instituted this prestigious Award in 2004 in the honor of Dr MS Swaminathan with the objective to recognize life time contributions of eminent persons who have made global impact in the field of agriculture including food security and sustainability of agriculture in India. The outstanding contributions of Dr Swaminathan towards agricultural renaissance of India are indeed very well known world-wide. A great visionary and crusader, he has been the main architect of 'Green Revolution'.



Citation casket



Trophy


TRUST FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
 IARI Campus, New Delhi, India
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award
 for
Leadership in Agriculture
 Presented to
Dr Shenggen Fan
 Citation

Dr Shenggen Fan is an accomplished agricultural economist renowned not only as an author of widely cited journal articles and books but also as a global leader in agricultural and food policies. Through decades of research, he has been playing a crucial role in improving food and nutrition security in several countries and regions.

Dr Fan is currently the Chair Professor at the College of Economics and Management at China Agricultural University (CAU), leading a national innovation team on food economics and policy. Prior to joining CAU, Dr Fan served as Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) from 2009 to 2019. He joined IFPRI in 1995 as a research fellow, and conducted extensive research on pro-poor development strategies in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, especially in China and India. He led IFPRI's program on public investment before becoming the Director of the Institute's Development Strategy and Governance Division in 2005.

Dr Fan's research covers a wide range of issues such as public investment, agricultural and rural development, transition economies, poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, and sustainable food systems. He has been engaged in the agricultural development strategy for developing countries throughout his career. The econometric model he developed to measure public investment and priorities in his early years has been set as a paradigm by international agencies such as the United Nations and the World Bank and adopted by many developing countries in making policies to optimize public spending and eliminate poverty. As the Director General of IFPRI, he led a strong team of researchers to provide cutting-edge evidence-based research to develop policies towards transforming the food systems for human and planetary health. Dr Fan was awarded an honorary life membership of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) in 2018 and became a Fellow of American Applied Economics Association (AAEA) in 2020.

In addition to academic achievements, Dr Fan champions food security and nutrition and innovative food systems through his leadership role on multiple global committees. He has been a member of the Lead Group for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement appointed by the former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, and he served as the Chair, the Vice Chair, and member of the Food and Nutrition Council of the World Economic Forum from 2012 to 2018. He also serves as an adviser to many national governments on agriculture, food security, and nutrition related matters.

Dr Fan has made tremendous contributions to eradicate hunger and to ensure food security all over the world. He received the Hunger Hero Award from the World Food Program in recognition of his commitment to and leadership in fighting hunger worldwide in 2014. In 2017, Dr Fan received a highly prestigious award, recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions in the field of management, is regarded as a "Nobel Prize for Management" in China. As Director General, IFPRI, Dr Fan tried to build a very strong and ambitious program on good policy and nutritional security research in India as well as South Asia.


The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) has great pleasure in presenting the prestigious Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture for the year 2020 to Dr Shenggen Fan for his lifetime outstanding contributions.

30 November, 2021 TRUSTEES OF TAAS
Avenue – II, IARI Campus, New Delhi-110012

The XIth Award for the year 2021 was conferred on Adel El Beltagy, Former Director General, ICARDA for his life time contributions in national, regional and international agricultural research that changed the lives of poor farmers of West Asia, North Africa (CWANA) and Central Asia and Caucasus (CAC) countries.

The award is given every year. TAAS has so far conferred ten (10) such awards in the past to renowned scientists, namely, Drs Norman Borlaug, GS Khush, Surinder Vasal, Rattan Lal, Sanjay Rajaram, Mohan Saxena, William Dar, Thomas Lumpkin, Uma Lele and John Dixon.

Today, TAAS has conferred the **XIth Award for the year 2020 to Dr Shenggen Fan, Former Director General, IFPRI** for his life time contribution in the area of transition economics and rural development in China, and ambitious program on good policy and nutritional security research in India and South Asia.


TRUST FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
 IARI Campus, New Delhi, India
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award
 for
Leadership in Agriculture
 Presented to
Prof. Adel El-Beltagy
 Citation

Prof. Adel El-Beltagy had a long and an effective career in the national, regional and international agricultural research that changed the lives of many resource poor farmers in the dry areas of West Asia, North Africa (CWANA) and Central Asia and Caucasus (CAC) countries.

He immensely contributed towards strengthening agricultural research in Egypt as Co-Chair of the Committee on Development of Egypt Agricultural Strategy for the 1990s with support of World Bank (WB). He also chaired the Committee on Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy towards 2030 in Egypt. This led to the most productive cereal (rice and wheat) production systems coupled with improvement in the irrigation system and human resource development. These initiatives ensured food security for many Egyptians having small farm holdings.

As Director General of International Center for Agriculture in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) from 1995-2006, Dr. El-Beltagy worked diligently to fulfill the global research mandate for dry areas. He also headed the CGIAR Program for the newly formed Central Asia and Caucasus Republics and played key leadership role in transforming their agricultural research systems. He also established a consortium to rebuild agriculture in Afghanistan involving national and international partners (2002-2006).

He did help in establishing a most modern genebank at ICARDA, Aleppo conserving the world's most valuable germplasm of arid land crops, including their wild relatives. He has been a Member of the High-Level Task Force on Resource Mobilization (Benefit-Sharing Fund) of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), 2013-2016. As a Member of the CGIAR Genetic Resources Policy Committee chaired by Dr. Swaminathan (1994-1999) and Vice Chair/Member of the Board of the Global Crop Diversity Trust (GCDT) (2007-2011), he continued to support conservation of agrobiodiversity.

As Chairman of Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) from 2006-2010, he worked with the regional fora to promote both food and nutritional security in the developing world. Dr El-Beltagy has also been a fellow and Board Member of Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and has promoted South-South cooperation in bringing excellence in science. He also served as President of the Governing Board of the Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) from 2011 to 2015. His overall efforts have left lasting impact on research and development of agriculture and food security in the CWANA & CAC region, and also the dry areas in South Asia, including India. These efforts for enhancing food and nutritional security and poverty alleviation in the developing world, in general, and in the dry areas, in particular, have been well recognized by a series of international and national awards.

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) has great pleasure in presenting the prestigious Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture for the year 2021 to Dr Adel El-Beltagy for his lifetime outstanding contributions.

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