

**The Second Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award
for
LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE
Presented to
Dr. Gurdev S. Khush
by
Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh**

**October 9, 2006
Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**

A Brief Report



Hon'ble Prime Minister presenting the Award



TRUST FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
AVENUE-II, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa Campus
New Delhi-110012, INDIA

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) has instituted an Award in honour of the renowned agricultural scientist, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, whose pioneering contributions to Indian Agriculture led to the Green Revolution in late 1960s, which resulted in food self-sufficiency and enormous national pride.

The Award is given annually to a person, for providing outstanding leadership in agriculture as demonstrated by his/her significant contributions towards overall agricultural growth in the developing world.

First Award

The First Award was presented to Dr. Norman E Borlaug, by the Hon'ble President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on March 15, 2005, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Dr. Borlaug is recognized, the world over, as a great leader in agriculture whose contributions have changed the face of agriculture in the developing world. He is the only agricultural scientist who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his services to human welfare. The Highlights of the First Award Ceremony are available on TAAS website (www.taas.in).

Second Award

The Second Award was presented to another distinguished agricultural scientist, Dr. G.S. Khush, an eminent rice-breeder and the World Food Laureate by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, on October 9, 2006 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, during the Inaugural Session of the International Rice Congress attend by over 1300 delegates from all over the world. Dr. Khush is currently the Adjunct Professor, University of California, Davis, USA.

The brief ceremony comprised reading of the citation (Annexure I), followed by presentation of the Award Trophy and the citation scroll.



Dr. G.S Khush receiving the Citation from the Prime Minister in the presence of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and Dr. Robert Zeigler, Director General, International Rice Research Institute

In his address, the Hon'ble Prime Minister lauded the contributions of Dr. Khush and congratulated him on receiving this prestigious Award. He also wished that Dr. Khush would continue receiving many such laurels in future for his contributions towards betterment of society in the developing world.



**TRUST FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
(TAAS)**

IARI, New Delhi, India

**Dr.M.S. SWAMINATHAN AWARD
for
LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE**

**Presented to
Dr Gurdev Singh Khush**

Citation

Dr. Gurdev Singh Khush, a world renowned plant breeder, has made enormous contributions to the development of more than 300 high yielding rice varieties that played significant role towards achieving 'Green Revolution'. A worthy son of a farmer, Dr. Khush graduated from the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana in 1955 and received Ph. D. degree from the University of California, Davis in 1960. He joined the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila, in 1967 as plant breeder and was appointed Head, Department of Plant Breeding in 1972. In 1986, he was promoted as Principal Plant Breeder and Head, Division of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biochemistry. He provided excellent leadership for the global rice improvement program benefiting millions of resource poor rice growers in the world. A semi-dwarf rice variety IR36, developed by him was one of the most widely grown rice varieties in the world during 1980s. IR64 developed during 1980s is the most widely planted rice variety in the world.

Dr. Khush is one of the most decorated agricultural scientists in the world. He received honorary Doctorate degrees from nine universities, including University of Cambridge, England. He is one of the five Indian scientists who have been elected to the membership of the Royal Society as well as US National Academy of Sciences. For his monumental contributions to rice improvement he received Japan Prize (1987), the World Food Prize (1996), the Wolf Prize from Israel (2000) and the China International Scientific and Technological Cooperation Award (2001). He was honoured by the Government of India with the prestigious "Padma Shri" Award in 2000.

In India, Dr. Khush has been actively involved in the development of plant breeding and agricultural biotechnology. He has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee (Overseas), of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, for over a decade. He worked closely with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for enhancing human resource development for improving rice productivity in India. He retired from IRRI in 2002 and joined the University of California, Davis as Adjunct Professor.

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences salutes this great son of India and takes pride in honouring Dr. Khush with the prestigious Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture on this ninth day of October, 2006