

Reminiscences and Reflections





Dr RS Paroda receiving third highest civilian award *Padma Bhushan* by then President of India Shri KR Narayanan



Reminiscences and Reflections

Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)

Avenue II, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) Campus,
New Delhi 110012, India

Phone No +91-11-25843243; +91-8130111237

Email: taasiari@gmail.com; Website: www.taas.in



Progress Through Science

Compiled and Edited by:

Bhag Mal and Umesh Srivastava

Cover Design: Yashi

©Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this book are personal by the individual contributors. The TAAS and Editors don't take any responsibility for the same.

For copies and further information, please write to:

Secretary

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)
Avenue II, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) Campus,
New Delhi 110012, India

Phone No +91-11-25843243; +91-8130111237

Email: taasiari@gmail.com; Website: www.taas.in

Printed : November 2022

Printed at:

Malhotra Publishing House
B-6, DSIDC Complex, Kirti Nagar - 110015, New Delhi
Tel.: 011-41420246, E-mail: vinay.malhotra@gmail.com

Contents

1. Preface	v
2. Dr Raj Paroda- An Architect of Indian Agriculture	vii
3. Impressions	xxi
4. Messages from Colleagues and Friends on Dr Raj Paroda’s 80th Birthday	107
5. Messages from colleagues and Friends of Dr Raj Paroda elected as “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE”	137
6. Contributors’ List	149

Preface

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) was established when the then Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, during 88th Session of the Indian Science Congress in 2001, exhorted the scientists to interact with people to create required scientific temper in the society so as to stimulate a positive change for faster agricultural growth in the country. To fulfil the aspirations, the Trust was formed under the able leadership of Dr RS Paroda in October, 2002 with its headquarters at the ICAR-IARI campus, New Delhi.

In a span of over two decades, the TAAS has emerged as a vibrant neutral 'Think Tank' under the visionary leadership of Dr Paroda. Since its inception, the TAAS is deliberating on thematic issues around agricultural research and innovation for development (ARI4D) and catalysing the policy makers for implementation of important recommendations. During the period, TAAS has organized a series of national, regional and international conferences, symposia, consultations, workshops, seminars, brainstorming sessions and stakeholders' dialogues. Besides, it has brought out number of strategy papers, success stories, policy briefs, lectures of eminent scientists on topics of national interest. TAAS is also recognizing scientists across the world by conferring 'Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture' in recognition of their outstanding contribution in the field of Agriculture. TAAS disseminates the information generated to various organizations, scientists, stakeholders, its members and all those in the network of TAAS throughout the world ensuring needed diversification in agriculture, improve both productivity and sustainability and for creating needed awareness among farmers for judicious use of natural resources. While TAAS has made outstanding contributions for the welfare of the society, it continues to strive for diversified activities, with greater emphasis on scaling innovations for impact on the smallest and farthest tucked smallholder farmers across India (Reaching the unreached) to improve their production and profitability.

Different organizations, scientists, policy makers from within India and abroad have responded with their impressions from time to time about the activities of TAAS and Dr RS Paroda. We appreciate and thank all of them for their responses and impressions. Dr Paroda has enormous admirers across the world. We thank all those also who somehow due to their busy schedule couldn't respond. We thought to compile these impressions in the form of a book entitled "*Reminiscences and Reflections*" which can instil peoples' interest in the activities of the TAAS. It is an initiative of TAAS on the occasion of 80th Birthday of Dr Paroda. The impressions are placed with first name of contributor. Some editing has been done for the sake of brevity or language; the onus of the text lies with each contributor. We

profusely thank Ms Yashi, granddaughter of Dr Paroda for designing the cover of the book and Ms Simmi Dogra for providing needed information.

It is hoped that the book “*Reminiscences and Reflections*” will insemminate invaluable source of inspiration to young scientists to suitably equip themselves to meet the challenges of achieving social, economic, and environmental sustainability, and also to remember and celebrate the accomplishments of TAAS, in general and of Dr Raj Paroda, in particular.

28 November 2022

Editors

DR RAJ PARODA

An Architect of Indian Agriculture



Born on 28th August, 1942 at Saradhna near Ajmer (Rajasthan), Dr Raj Paroda is the eldest of the five siblings of his parents, late Shri Ram Karan Singh and late Smt Indira Devi. He obtained his school education in his village and in Government High School, Ajmer. Then he pursued BSc (Ag.) from DAV College, Ajmer. Later, he moved to Udaipur to get his Master's degree in Genetics and Plant Breeding in 1964. For his PhD, he got selected at the prestigious ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), where he worked under the able guidance of late Dr AB Joshi, on genetic architecture of wheat. After obtaining his doctorate degree in 1968, he proceeded to University of Wales, Aberystwyth, UK on a Commonwealth Post-doctoral Fellowship (1968-70) (See Box 1). One day while he was working in the glass house, a gardner, who used to water his plants, commented, "If persons of your calibre will move out of India, how will your country progress in agriculture?". This he took very seriously and decided to return and work for his country, despite good job offers that he had. Dr Paroda's pursuit of agriculture reflects his desire to give back something to society. Scion of agriculturalist's family, Dr Paroda was inspired to help family members 'do agriculture a bit better than what they had been able to do, because of lack of knowledge and new options.'

Padma Bhushan Dr Raj Paroda is a visionary leader, agricultural research scientist, architect of several research institutions, policy advisor, educator, networker and above all, a very humble human being. Dr Paroda ably spearheaded and modernized the national agricultural research system (NARS) in the country as Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Government of India during the period 1994-2001. During his leadership of ICAR, more than 30 new institutions were created in different sectors of agriculture like crops, horticulture, livestock, natural resource management, fishery, agricultural engineering and social science. The most impressive state-of-the-art National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex (parallel to *Vigyan Bhawan*), located at the Pusa Campus, was built mainly due to his vision, initiative and dedication. The prestigious National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP) of the World Bank was conceived and developed by him to reorient agricultural research, education and extension system to meet new challenges. Dr Raj Paroda is well known for initiating and strengthening many visionary programs at the national level such as: i) special hybrid research program leading to new hybrids of rice, single-cross maize, *rabi* sorghum,

Box 1- Dr Raj Paroda – At a Glance

- ◆ Early education in his village Saradhna & Government High School, Ajmer.
- ◆ BSc (Ag.) from DAV College, Ajmer (Rajasthan) in 1962
- ◆ MSc (Genetics and Plant Breeding), University of Udaipur in 1964.
- ◆ PhD from ICAR-IARI, New Delhi in 1968
- ◆ Commonwealth PD Fellowship at University of Wales, Aberystwyth, UK (1968-70)
- ◆ Head (Plant Breeding), CCSHAU, Hisar (Haryana) (1979-1983)
- ◆ Head, Division of Plant Studies, ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur (Rajasthan) (1977-1979)
- ◆ Associate Director of Research, CCSHAU, Hisar (1983-1985)
- ◆ Director, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi (1985-1987)
- ◆ Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences), ICAR, New Delhi (1987-1992)
- ◆ Executive Secretary, Asi-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), Bangkok (Thailand) (1992-2014)
- ◆ Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, New Delhi (1994-2001)
- ◆ Plant Production and Protection Officer, Bangkok (Thailand) (1992-1994)
- ◆ Assistant Director General (Intl. Cooperation), Regional Coordinator-ICARDA for CAC and Head, PFU-CGIAR, ICARDA Office, Tashkent (Uzbekistan) (2001-2007)
- ◆ Chairman, Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR) (1997-2001)
- ◆ Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi

pigeonpea and castor, ii) special food grain production program leading to an increase in the national food grain production by five million tons annually, iii) initiation of new seed policy to promote public-private partnership, iv) drafting for enactment of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPV&FRA), and vii) promotion of biotechnology, including Bt cotton, tissue culture in banana, sugarcane, potato and citrus, and promotion of IPM through official procedure of release of biopesticides. He once said *"Since I was myself a student of plant breeding, I recognized the importance of partnership with the private sector, without which quality seeds of improved varieties – especially the hybrids – would not reach end-users (mainly resource-poor farmers). In retrospect, I am pleased that the Indian seed sector has grown and is playing a significant role in increased production and productivity."*

He has made significant research contributions in the field of plant breeding and genetic resource management, as evident from release of 10 improved crop varieties at the national



Late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (the then PM) inaugurating National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex (upper); and NASC Building (lower) located at the Pusa Campus, New Delhi

level, 250 research papers in journals of repute, 10 books and more than 45 proceedings of national/ international conferences/expert consultations held in India and different parts of Asia-Pacific, Europe and Latin America. He had also been the President of more than a dozen Agricultural Scientific Societies. Both American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America had conferred their prestigious 'Honorary Membership' on Dr Paroda in 2001. Dr Paroda has been acknowledged internationally for his scientific leadership. He had served as Chairman (the only Indian so far) as well as Vice-Chairman of ICRISAT Governing Board, member of Board of Trustees of IRRI, member of WMO High Level Task Force on Climate Services, member of Advisory Council of Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), member of Finance Committee of CGIAR, a member of the Governing Board of the Commonwealth Agriculture Bureau International (CABI) and currently, he has been made a member of Strategic Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (SIMEC), an Apex Committee of CGIAR.

He had the foresight to bring together diverse range of leaders, thinkers and scientists to promote dialogue and strengthen partnership amongst stakeholders in agricultural

research. He has organized a number of symposia, conferences and seminars, to promote the cause of science nationally, regionally and globally. He successfully organized the 2nd International Crop Science Congress in New Delhi in November, 1996. He presided the 88th session of the Indian Science Congress (2001) as its President, wherein the then Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, announced a 'Vision Statement' on Food, Nutrition and Environmental Security. This resulted in the establishment of Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Science (TAAS), of which he is the Founder Chairman. He has been championing the cause of women in agriculture, as evident from the First Global Conference on Women in Agriculture (GCWA), organized by him in 2012, in New Delhi. The GCWA was graced by the then President of India Mrs Pratibha Patil. In November 2016, he spearheaded the organization of the '1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress' (IAC 2016) in New Delhi very successfully, which was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. Few years ago, as Chairman, *Haryana Kisan Ayog* (HKA), and as a Member of the Rajasthan Planning Board, Dr RS Paroda worked profusely for the general welfare of farmers.



Office of TAAS (left); TAAS Founder members

A Known Genebank 'Guru'

Across cultures and continents, Raj Paroda works to unite countries and institutions into working together to safeguard the world's prized genetic resources. People look at India and cringe at its speedy loss of agrobiodiversity, several crop species disappear from the farmers' fields as farmers turn to monocropping, or planting the big four – rice, wheat, maize and sorghum. The agrobiodiversity loss spells trouble to about 70% of Indians who depend on it for food, nutrition, medicine, fodder, fuel and jobs. He recognised the threat and initiated what is now one of the world's most advanced genebanks-India's ICAR-NBPGR (National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources) genebank which houses over 4,50,000 accessions of different crop varieties and wild relatives. He is the main architect of this most modern National Genebank, second largest in the world today. Next to building a genebank, Raj launched a National Action Plan on PGR management in 1999, which spur collection and

evaluation of genetic resources throughout the country. Apart from NBPGR, he has created four more Bureaux on Animals, Fish, Microorganisms and Useful Insects. These Bureaux act as custodian of huge *in situ* and *ex situ* collections of genetic resources. He was also a staunch supporter of two laws on biodiversity: i) Protection Plant Variety and Farmer's Rights Act, and ii) Biodiversity Act, which were ratified by the senate in 2001 and 2002, respectively. To satisfy Indian scientists' thirst of knowledge for PGR, Raj founded the 'Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources' in the year 1987 and organised the first National Symposium on PGR in 1987-88-a feat during the time when PGR was still unheard of.

Outside India-his native land, Dr Paroda continued to lead agricultural institutions towards achieving productivity and sustainability while safeguarding agrobiodiversity. As Head of CGIAR Consortium for Sustainable Agriculture in Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC), travelled from one country to the next to build genebanks. In total, eight more countries in



Five Bureaux act as custodian of huge *in situ* and *ex situ* collections of genetic resources of crops, animals, fish, insects and microbes.

cooler central Asian countries such as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have established their genebanks due to his constant efforts and persistence. International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru and Agriculture Research Institute of Kazakhstan have named their Gene Banks after Dr Paroda in recognition of his notable contributions in the field of genetic resource management. His CAC team won the prestigious “King



Inauguration of ‘Rajendra Singh Paroda Gene Bank’ at ICRISAT, Patancheru

Baudouin Award” of CGIAR for these efforts. In 1993, the Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was established, where Raj was then, Executive



Dr Paroda with Dr Hari Upadhyaya at ‘Rajendra Singh Paroda Gene Bank’



Inside view of Kazakh Gene Bank (left), Inauguration of ‘Raj Paroda Gene Bank’ in Kazakhstan (right)

Secretary. APAARI-a well-known regional forum fostered by him for long, promotes the development of NARS in the Asia-Pacific region through inter-regional and inter-institutional cooperation. Working with NARS in the region, Dr Paroda spearheaded various networks and research consortia such as on: rice (CORRA), maize (TAMNET), cotton (INCANA), cereal and legumes (CLAN), genetic resources (four sub-regional networks), rice-wheat, and fisheries (GoFAR), APARIS for information system and APCoAB for biotechnology.

At global level, under his chairmanship of the program organizing committee, the 2nd Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD 2) was held in Punta del Este in Uruguay leading to the endorsement of GCARD Road Map. He has also been actively involved in establishing links and partnerships amongst agricultural institutions at state, national, regional and international levels. As founder Chairman of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) from 1998-2002, Dr Paroda encouraged partnership building among NARS and the Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) stakeholders.



Signing MoU between GFAR and President of Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Dresden in 2000



With Ismail Serageldin, Chairman CGIAR during Indian Science Congress in 2001

His leadership provided GFAR the much-needed visibility. In 2000, he organised the first Global Conference in which “Dresden Declaration on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture was adopted, which clearly defines a road map for strengthening PGR activities. Besides, he was instrumental in bringing out ‘Delhi Declaration’ in 2016 during the First International Agrobiodiversity Congress (IAC-2016) wherein Congress discussed various aspects of conservation, management, access and use of agrobiodiversity and unanimously agreed to the above Declaration, which is being used now for defining a ‘Road Map’ for future management of agrobiodiversity. Also, he was instrumental for the Suwon Framework on Agrobiodiversity in 2010 catalysing all stakeholders in Asia-Pacific Region to accelerate activities related to conservation through use of valuable genetic resources. To date, he continues to advocate for PGR conservation at the local, national and international levels. In fact, he is often called a “**Genebank Guru**” by his friends and admirers!

Dr Paroda has been working on the ground throughout the past eight decades to give Indian Agriculture a great boost. He is not only a living legend but iconic in world agricultural sciences as well. Even at the advanced age of 80 years, he is still working round the clock to fulfil his dream -taking the benefit of his vast experience to the smallest and farthest tucked across India-**Reaching the unreached**. Globally and within India as many as 19 universities decorated him with DSc Degrees, including Ohio State University, ICAR-IARI, Scientific Council of Agricultural Academy, Republic of Azerbaijan and State Agricultural Universities at Pantnagar, Kanpur, Jorhat, Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Udaipur, Srinagar, Meerut, Bhubaneswar, Ludhiana, Dharwad and BHU, Varanasi (see Box 2).

Box 2- Doctor of Science (*Honoris Causa*)

- ◆ CS Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur (1993)
- ◆ GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar (1996)
- ◆ Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat (1997)
- ◆ Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore (1998)
- ◆ Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad (now in Lam) (1998)
- ◆ Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (2000)
- ◆ Ohio State University, Columbus, USA (2000)
- ◆ Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur (2003)
- ◆ SVBP University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut (2003)
- ◆ Scientific Council of Agricultural Academy, Ministry of Education, Republic of Azerbaijan (2004)
- ◆ Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Srinagar (2010)
- ◆ ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi (2012)
- ◆ Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar (2012)
- ◆ Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (2012)
- ◆ University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad (2013)
- ◆ Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur (2018)
- ◆ Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad (2018)
- ◆ Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Ayodhya (2019)
- ◆ Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner, Jaipur (2020)

Acknowledged Scientific Leadership

The exemplary work of Dr Paroda in PGR conservation earned him many awards and recognitions. Among them are the *Padma Bhushan Award*, the third highest civilian award by the Government of India. He is recipient of prestigious awards, such as Borlaug Award (2006), and Dr MS Swaminathan Award (2020). Other awards conferred on him are: Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Prize (1982-83), ICAR Team Research Award (1983-84), FICCI Award (1988), Om Prakash Bhasin Award (1992), Asia-Pacific Seed Association Special Award (1995), CGIAR Award for Outstanding Partnership (2000), Life Time Award by Association of Agricultural Scientists in America (2001), Dr Harbhajan Singh Memorial Award (2001), Dr BP Pal Memorial Award (2003), ISCA Gold Medal for Excellence in Science (2006), Gold Medals from Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia (2006) and Vietnam (2012), Life Time Achievement Award of 'Agriculture Today' (2008), Dr AB Joshi Memorial Award (2012), Prof. Kanniyam Memorial Award (2012), and *Krishi Shiromani Samman* by Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd. (2013). He has been conferred Fellowship of several National Science Academies like, Indian National Science Academy (INSA), National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) and was elected as General President of the prestigious Indian Science Congress in 2000-2001. Among international recognitions, he was elected as Fellow of Agricultural Academies of Russia, Georgia, Armenia, Tajikistan and the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). (See Box 3).

It is rather unfortunate that his story is not chanted in Indian homes, schools and colleges which he deserves so much. India really should remember the man who has been credited with creation of massive network on over 30 research institutions, including the iconic the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) which he founded out of his conviction.

A Forward Thinker

Addressing a lack of interest in farming among millennials and the latest generation of 'youth and women', Dr Paroda expressed himself to Asian Seed: *"All the time I have been telling young students to embrace agriculture as a science. Don't consider it only a way of life."* Science must be in place to deal with forthcoming agricultural and environmental challenges. For that we need knowledge and better competence. *"In that context, we need to motivate youth. I have always believed that. Look, your farmers are always looking for better knowledge, better seed, better technology, hand-holding, technical back-stopping, and that is what agricultural science and we scientists can provide. So, I have no regret. I feel satisfied today that India, from begging-bowl status has emerged as one of the major agricultural exporting countries"*.

Behind every successful man, stands a very supportive family. So is the case with Dr Paroda! He is lucky to have his graceful wife Shashi Paroda as a proverbial pillar of strength, and his very lovely and supportive children; daughters Anju and Sonal and son Prashant.

Box 3- Important Awards and Honours

- ◆ *Padma Bhushan Award* (1998)
- ◆ *Borlaug Award* (2006)
- ◆ *Dr MS Swaminathan Award* (2020)
- ◆ *Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Prize* (1982-83)
- ◆ *ICAR Team Research Award* (1983-84)
- ◆ *FICCI Award* (1988)
- ◆ *Om Prakash Bhasin Award* (1992)
- ◆ *Asia-Pacific Seed Association Special Award* (1995)
- ◆ *CGIAR Award for Outstanding Partnership* (2000)
- ◆ *Life Time Achievement Award by Association of Agricultural Scientists in America* (2001)
- ◆ *Dr Harbhajan Singh Memorial Award* (2001)
- ◆ *Dr BP Pal Gold Medal, NAAS* (2003)
- ◆ *ISCA Gold Medal for Excellence in Science* (2006)
- ◆ *Gold Medals from Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia* (2006) and *Vietnam* (2012)
- ◆ *Life Time Achievement Award of 'Agriculture Today'* (2008)
- ◆ *Dr AB Joshi Memorial Award, IARI* (2012)
- ◆ *Prof. Kanniyam Memorial Award* (2012)
- ◆ *Krishi Shiromani Samman by Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.* (2013)
- ◆ *US Awasthi-IFFCO Award through FAI for outstanding contribution in the field of Agricultural Research and Development* (2017)
- ◆ *Dr AB Joshi Award by NAAS, New Delhi* (2022)
- ◆ *Foreign Fellow of Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE)* (2022)
- ◆ *Fellow, Indian National Science Academy (INSA)* (1986)
- ◆ *Fellow, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)* (1990)
- ◆ *Fellow, National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI)* (1998)
- ◆ *Fellow, Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)*
- ◆ *Fellow, Rumia Academy of Agricultural Sciences (RAAS)*
- ◆ *Fellow of Agricultural Academy of Azerbaijan*
- ◆ *Fellow of Agricultural Academy of Georgia*
- ◆ *Fellow of Agricultural Academy of Armenia*
- ◆ *Fellow of Agricultural Academy of Tajikistan*
- ◆ *General President, Indian Science Congress* (2000-2001)
- ◆ *President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences* (1997-2000)
- ◆ *Honorary Member of American Society of Crop Science*
- ◆ *Honorary Member of American Society of Agronomy, and*
- ◆ *Fellow of many scientific societies located in India*

All his colleagues, friends, well-wishers and family members join together in wishing a very happy 80th birthday to Dr RS Paroda. May God bless him with a long, healthy and prosperous life and continue to remain a torch bearer for achieving highly sustainable 'Evergreen Revolution' in India and continue serving the global farming community with human face.

Dr Paroda still has big dreams working on his vision, thinking continuously on India's agricultural problems, organizing 'Dialogues' and 'Consultations' involving world leaders and providing 'Way Forward' to Govt of India/ concerned departments for needed actions; and constantly guiding young generation scientists a great deal. Currently as Chair, TAAS, he is extremely busy round the clock linking science with society. Dr Paroda did serve India with great distinction. He is undisturbed by public adulation but still away from public glare.

**Bhag Mal
Umesh Srivastava**



***Greetings from Karashukeyev E Minister of Agriculture of
the Republic of Kazakhstan along Djumakhanov Bitore***



Dear Dr. Raj Paroda!

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, scientists of the agricultural system congratulate you with a wonderful anniversary!

You are a world-renowned scientist, as a regional representative of ICARDA, you have made an invaluable contribution to the development of agricultural science in Kazakhstan, and hence to agriculture in the country.

Thousands of valuable gene pool samples of legume, grain forage, and fodder crops from ICARDA collections served as a basis for creation of new varieties.

Two local gene banks at scientific institutions of the country were established on your initiative.

Hundreds of scientists and farmers have improved their scientific, professional competence by participating in conferences, trainings, field days, English language courses with the assistance of ICARDA.

Thus, you have contributed to entering of Kazakh scientists into the world scientific community, introduction of new technologies, creation of new productive varieties, training of modern scientific approaches.

We wish you an active, creative life, good health and family welfare!

***Minister of Agriculture of the
Republic of Kazakhstan***

A blue ink signature of Karashukeyev E. is written over the printed name.

Karashukeyev E.



**O‘ZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI QISHLOQ XO‘JALIGI VAZIRLIGI
QISHLOQ XO‘JALIGIDA BILIM VA INNOVATSIYALAR MILLIY
MARKAZI**

111909, Toshkent viloyati, Yuqori Chirchiq tumani, A.Yassaviy MFY, SH.Rashidov ko‘chasi, 1-uy
www.iim.uz, e.l.manzil: iim@agro.uz, info@iim.uz



**National Center for Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation
Ministry of Agriculture
Republic of Uzbekistan**

Ref. 05/08-04-767

26 August 2022

Dr. Raj Paroda

Chairman
Trust for the Advancement of
Agricultural Sciences

Dear Dr. Paroda,

On behalf of the National Center for Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, please accept our sincere congratulations on your 80th birth anniversary.

Anniversaries are a wonderful peak, allowing you to evaluate the path you have traveled. And this path is a vivid example of service to science, the country, loyalty, and devotion to the chosen ideals.

As an accomplished plant breeder and geneticist and research administrator, you have made a significant contribution to crop science research. Under your leadership, National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) have been modernized and strengthened in India, as well as in the countries of Central Asia and the South Caucasus. You have played a key role in establishing the largest and most modern National Gene Bank in New Delhi (that has more 250,000 valuable germplasm accessions of different crops).

In the period from 2001 to 2007, you headed the Regional Office of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas for Central Asia and the South Caucasus (ICARDA-CAC) in Tashkent, the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Under your leadership, the Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia and the South Caucasus of the Consultative Group for International

Agricultural Research (CGIAR) has significantly expanded and strengthened its activities. Visible results have been achieved in the field of conservation of plant genetic resources, crop variety improvement, seed production, management of natural resources and, above all, the professional development of scientists. More than two dozen new varieties of agricultural crops were released. Gene banks were opened in most countries of the region. In addition, several efficient and affordable technologies for integrated natural resource management have been developed and demonstrated in the farm fields.

It should be noted that you have made an invaluable contribution to the development of world agricultural science. Your long-term and productive scientific, pedagogical and research work, numerous scientific works, in a word, your entire biography is a whole era in the formation and development of agricultural science in India.

Your highest professionalism, deep academic knowledge, inherent intelligence deservedly enjoy the respect of your colleagues and friends.

On this day, I would like to sincerely wish you good health, strength of mind, inspiration, new ideas and long, long years of fruitful work.

Sincerely yours,



Alisher Turaev
Deputy Minister
Director General



Impressions

MS Swaminathan

Chairman,
MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, 3rd Cross Street,
Taramani Institutional Area, Chennai – 600 113 (Tamil Nadu),
Res.: 'Dharini', 11, Rathna Nagar, Teynampet,
Chennai – 600 018 (Tamil Nadu)
Tel.: O: 044-22541229/ 22542790; 011-23731688;
R: 044-24345312; F: 044-22541319;
Email: chairman@mssrf.res.in; msswami@vsnl.net; swami@mssrf.res.in]



You built up TAAS to international standards. I look forward to discussing with you the further development of TAAS. I hope all the members of your family are keeping well.

On Dr Paroda's Book

"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"

Thank you very much for your letter and for the copy of your timely book on "Reorienting India Agriculture. You have made a great contribution to the shaping of the future of our agriculture through this book. I wish you and your family continued good health and happiness

Dr Paroda Committee's Report Entitled *"Report on Policies and Action Plans for a Secure and Sustainable Agriculture"* to Govt of India

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your excellent report on policies and action plans for a secure and sustainable agriculture.

The report is very comprehensive and I am sure will help Government to promote sustainable advances in agriculture productivity, profitability and sustainability. Please convey my warm regards and congratulations to all the members of your committee.

On Different Policy Briefs

Thank you very much for your kind letter. I congratulate and thank you on the fine publication policy framework. I hope these will have a good impact on government policies. With all good wishes

His Comments on *"Dr Shenggen and Dr Adel El-Beltagy with Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture"*

Thank you very much for your kind letter giving the happy news that Dr Shenggen Fan and Dr Adel El-Beltagy will be receiving the award bearing my name. It is an

excellent choice and I wish both Dr Shenggen Fan and Dr Adel Beltagy many more years of professional success.

Unfortunately, I am not keeping well and hence I may not be able to attend the virtual meeting.

His Comments on "Brainstorming Meetings"

Thank you very much for your kind letter. I am very happy to read the proceedings of the brainstorming meeting. I thank you for all that you are doing to promote agricultural growth. I look forward to meeting you soon.

On "Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA)"

Thank you very much for your kind letter. I have read the papers relating to attracting youth in agriculture. It contains practical and implementable suggestions.

Thank you for all that you are doing to attract and retain youth in farming.

On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Thank you very much for your kind letter and for the publication on Building Trust - the Journey of TAAS. This is a beautiful publication and you have shown how the Trust has become very trustworthy. The record of contributions is most impressive. I wish TAAS continued success and growth under your visionary leadership.

With all good wishes for the New Year,

On "Strategy Papers on Achieving SDGs"

Thank you very much for your kind letter and for the strategy paper. The strategy paper has come out very well and is an important input for achieving sustainable development goals.

I thank you for this timely contribution.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

I am very happy that your monumental contributions have been recognised by the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. I am sure many more recognitions will come. I pray for your continued good health and happiness. Please convey my regards to your wife and the other members of the family.

About Dr Raj Paroda

While Dr Raj's contributions to science and society are many and varied, I would like to draw attention to two of his unforgettable creations. First, is the excellent, world-famous

National Gene Bank (NGB) he built at Pusa, New Delhi, under the auspices of ICAR. Secondly, he has established the very valued National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex, which has now become a mini-universe in agriculture. The NASC complex is the home of major national and international scientific institutes, particularly of CGIAR. It also provides the home for the National Academy of Agriculture Sciences (NAAS). He is also well-known for his organizational abilities. When he was with the FAO, he organized the Asia Pacific Association for Agricultural Research Institutes (APAARI), a creation which he nurtured for 22 years as its Executive Secretary. After retirement, Dr Paroda established the 'Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)' where he is currently serving as the Founder Chairman. The TAAS has been doing very valuable work, organizing discussions, and is also famous for prompt publication of proceedings of the meetings organised by Dr Paroda. The publications of TAAS are sought the world over.

Dr Paroda has made enormous contributions to genetic resources conservation and sustainable and equitable use. He saved precious genetic resources in the Middle East and the former Soviet Union and helped them to establish gene banks. The Gene Banks of the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and of the agriculture research institute in Kazakhstan have been named after him. Dr Paroda's works have been widely acclaimed as national and international importance. He has been awarded *Padma Bhushan* in 1998. He has been the Fellow of many Academies. Dr Paroda takes pride in performance but at the same time he is very modest. The monumental contributions he has made will always remain among the brightest period in the evolution of agriculture research and education in our country. Even today, he continues to contribute through discussion, publications, demonstration and above all through ideas for the welfare of the country. I pray for his long and happy life, so that he can continue to guide the growth and evolution of national and global research and food security systems, as well as public policies which will ensure the well-being of our farm and tribal families.

Ismail Serageldin

Former Chairman, CGIAR
Former Vice President, The World Bank, Washington
Founding Director Emeritus Library of Alexandria,
Shatby 21526 Alexandria, Egypt
Mob.: +20-100-522-8899; Email: is@bibalex.org



On Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday Celebration

Let me wish my dear friend Raj many happy returns on this milestone of a birthday. I regret that for medical reasons, I will not be able to come in Person, but do pass on my warmest affectionate regards...

About the Book

"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"

"Reorienting Agriculture" is a tour de force.

It neatly encapsulates in one, well-structured volume, the entire array of India's impressive strides in improving its agriculture sector, while offering incisive commentary on how sustainable agriculture can deliver the next generation of development dividends to end hunger, malnutrition, poverty and environmental degradation in our lifetime. Using evidence-based approaches, the book's menu of policy reforms offers fresh insights on boosting productivity, revitalizing education, fighting climate change, and more.

The book will find broad appeal among academicians, scientists, policy makers, business leaders, civil society and others who are working to grasp the opportunities for accelerating growth in India's farming sector and placing it on a pathway of environmental and social sustainability.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations my dear friend.

His Impressions about Dr Paroda

Dr Paroda was the Executive Director of the APAARI, a task which he handled with remarkable vigour but still with great delicacy to maintain the commitment of all these various national agricultural systems to a regional organization. It was

the fore-runner of many other efforts elsewhere to create south-south cooperation, an oft-invoked slogan that seldom lived up to its promise except under the deft handling of Raj Paroda. I had the good fortune of meeting Dr Paroda during my early years as Chairman of the CGIAR. At that time, the CGIAR was going through a profound financial crisis and I launched a bold campaign to rescue it financially and institutionally. Dr Paroda was one of the pillars of the renewed CGIAR. Dr Paroda was central to many initiatives that the CGIAR – and the World Bank – would support: the Rice-wheat initiative of the Indo-Gangetic plain, a favourite program of my close colleague at the World Bank, Dr Michel Petit. But for me, as Vice-President of the World Bank, it was the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) of India that we financed and that was jointly developed with our Indian partners, led by Dr Paroda, that would be an enormously valuable template on how the World Bank should work with the national authorities of giant nations like India and Brazil. Dr Paroda again showed his enormous talents in recognizing the institutional problems in India and the means to ensure a merit-based allocation of resources to research institutes as well as designing imaginative ways to develop centers of excellence around exceptional researchers so that they could nurture a new generation of scientists as well as push the envelope of research in their field.

During the many fights that I undertook during the many years that I was Chair of the CGIAR, I was always delighted to have Dr Paroda on my side. We shared the same beliefs and pursued many of the same objectives. We became friends, and after Dr Swaminathan, he has been my closest colleague in India. One of those momentous efforts was the creation of the Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR), an important institution that Dr Paroda chaired.

Finally, although our paths diverged in the last few years, I am very happy that I was able to welcome him to an event at the Library of Alexandria, before I retired from heading that distinguished institution. I look forward to the pleasure of meeting him again and I seize this opportunity to join all his loving colleagues and friends in wishing him many years of health and happiness.

Adel El Beltagi

Dr MS Swaminathan Awardee (2012)
Former Senior Advisor,
The World Bank, Washington
Former Director General, ICARDA, Aleppo, Syria
Chair, International Dryland Development Commission (IDDC)
19 Abu EL-Feda, Zamalek, Cairo 11211, Egypt
Email: elbeltagi@optomatica.com



Adel El Beltagi Writes on Receiving "Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture"

It is with great modesty and humbleness that I thank The TAAS for conferring this honour on me of awarding Dr MS Swaminathan Award for the advancement of agricultural research. It is great privilege to be included in the list of those astound achievers who have received this prestigious award in the past including Peace Laureate Dr Norman Borlaug. This award ties me even more intimately with Dr MS Swaminathan, with whom I have been associated in one form or the other, for the last 35 years. His pivotal role in ushering in Green Revolution in South Asia, especially India, had been great inspiration for me even before I entered the arena of International Agricultural Research for Development. My research, teaching and administrative working the national program in Egypt in the service of small-scale farmers struggling a earn living under harsh environment, was much influenced by the sense of dedication that Dr Swaminathan for the poor and the women farmers of the developing world. He said his association with Dr Swaminathan on the international scene has been long and very rewarding... I was member of CGIAR Genetic Resources Policy Committee (1994-1999); Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005-2006).

India has also played a very important role in the history and performance of ICARDA. A cadre of well-trained professionalists from India have been instrumental, with the partners from other parts of the world, in developing a strong research and technology transfer infrastructure and program at the Center. The names of those involved are well known to you all and for the sake of saving the time I would restrain myself from naming them. But the fact is that most of the Indian scientists and research administrators have been a 'crop' of the 'field' that Dr. Swaminathan has so diligently nurtured over the years in the country. They have enabled me to achieve my goal of advancing scientific research in agriculture in the dry areas globally and Central Asia and South Asia region in particular. Therefore, I would like to thank them most sincerely at this occasion.

The mission of advancing scientific research and developing innovations to improve the lot of poor farmers is a noble one and the Dr MS Swaminathan award continues

to sincerely serve the mission. With the global climate change threatening the agriculture sector, not to mention other sectors, this mission assumes a new importance. I therefore congratulate the TAAS for being a torch bearer in the effort through Dr MS Swaminathan Award.

“A shift of consciousness” on the part of **‘have’** and the **‘have not’** and a new understanding of **‘Oneness of Humanity’**.

Some Glimpses of Interactions with Dr Raj Paroda

Both of us come from the Dry Areas- Egypt and Rajasthan and we have related to University of Wales, Aberystwyth, UK. I met him while he was the Director General, ICAR and the Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research Education (DARE), GoI. We were introduced by the late Dr Hamdi Eisa, who led the World Bank programs of India. At that time, I was heading the Agriculture Research system in Egypt and we were keen to enhance the cooperation with Indian institutions. I have found Raj to be a pleasant and decisive person with great understanding for what Agriculture could offer for small farmers and the economies of developing countries. My first impression during that time was that he will contribute a lot nationally, regionally and internationally. His vision to link a national system through a networking platform has led him to establish the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR). He worked continuously for two decades as Executive Secretary of Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) with numerous successful programs not only for Asia, but to extend the relationship between different members of GFAR globally.

As Chair of the Central Asia and Caucasus (CAC) of the Consultative Group for International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) program, I invited Raj to lead the CAC program which he very ably did from 2001 to 2007. During this period, we travelled together and visited the political and research leaders of different countries. I have witnessed his high level of performance and dedication to connect the Research systems in CAC with global activities and institutions which resulted in the empowerment of the national systems. His keen interest to modernize and optimize performance of the whole system (R4D) is remarkable.

The great support which Raj has enjoyed from his wonderful



Thank to the
Son of Rajasthan, who is still contributing to his
community, nation, region and globally.
Happy Birthday, you are blessed by Dr Shashi and
a wonderful warm family
From the Dry Area
Adel El-Beltagy

wife and family was the best blessing to enable him to endure many difficulties which pioneers face to implement visions and dreams for better future. I treasure my friendship with Raj and wish him continued success in all future activities.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Thanks to the son of Rajasthan, who is still contributing to his community, nation, region, and globally. Happy Birthday, you are blessed by Dr Shashi and a wonderful warm family from the Dry areas

Suresh P Prabhu

India's Sherpa to the G7 Countries, Gol
President, Global Forum for Farmers, New Delhi
Former Minister of Civil Aviation, Railways,
Commerce & Industry, Govt of India
Res.: 78, Lodhi Estate, Birla Lane, New Delhi-110003
Email: spprabhu1@gmail.com



Impressions on "*Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS*"

It's not surprising, knowing you do well, that you have come out with such an invaluable compilation. We need to climate proof our agriculture, key part of our climate adaptation strategy

We need to thus, move towards knowledge-based practices, which again needs Agri scientists and others working together.

Great job done!!

Joachim von Braun

President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences www.pas.va
Distinguished Professor for Economic and Technological Change
Center for Development Research (ZEF), Bonn University
Genscherallee 3, 53113 Bonn, Germany
+49 228 731800 www.zef.de



About the Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"* and *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Thank you for this excellent publication.

With TAAS and elsewhere you were leading change and development in agriculture with big lasting effects.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

I hereby send you my warm congratulations to your 80th birthday and your lifetime achievements. I am delighted to learn that there is going to be an appropriate birthday celebration for you. I regret that I am not able to join.

The Celebration at the NASC Complex will be a great occasion to not only look back, but also look into opportunities in the future - as I see there is importantly a "Response by Dr RS Paroda" on the program.

Please share your remarks with us after the event. The ongoing complex food systems crisis needs your continued engagement.

Raj, your impact on agricultural development in India, Central Asia and globally is tremendous and everlasting. Not only us, your friends, but implicitly millions of farming families congratulate you. Best wishes,

T Mohapatra

Former Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW), GoI,
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110001
Email: tmnrpcb@gmail.com



Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Dr Mohapatra expressed his gratitude to Dr RS Paroda and emphasised that it is not just we were discussing on various aspects of food system, but more importantly, we are celebrating the life and achievement of a visionary who has transformed agriculture in this country and also very significantly contributed to agricultural development globally. He further expressed his sense of gratitude to him for contributing very passionately even today with the same zeal at the young age of 80 years for the development of agriculture both at the national and global level. He wished he wouldn't repeat which has already been spoken. He mentioned that we know what are our problems and where our deficiencies exist and we also know what is to be done. I know the TAAS publications are so fantastically synthesised and brought out that those who go through them will learn many things new and will definitely enjoy. In these publications, certainly there will be many take-home messages for all of us including as to how we improve on our nutritional outcomes and meet the target of SDGs by 2030. He wished that anything done under the leadership of Dr Paroda definitely comes out so well. He expressed heartiest congratulations on this most auspicious day and May God bless him with all that he ever desire so that he can serve the humanity forever.

Bayan Alimgazinova

Associate Professor/Senior Researcher,
Laboratory of the Genefound of Crops
of Kazakh Research Institute of Agriculture and Crop Production
Former Member, Higher Scientific and Technical Commission
Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan
4a, Korgalzhyn Road, Astana, 010000 (Kazakhstan)
Email : bayan_sulu55@mail.ru



Letter of Gratitude to Dr Raj Paroda

Scientists of the agrarian system of Kazakhstan congratulate Dr Raj Paroda on a wonderful anniversary!

Dr Raj Paroda is a worldwide famous scientist! Dr Raj Paroda as a regional representative of ICARDA, has made an invaluable contribution to the development of agricultural science in Kazakhstan and, consequently, to the agriculture of the country. Thousands of samples of the valuable gene pool of legumes, forage, fodder and other crops from the ICARDA collections served as the basis for the creation of new varieties.

By the initiative of Dr Paroda two local gene banks had been established in scientific institutes of Kazakhstan. Hundreds of scientists and farmers have improved their scientific and professional competence by participating in conferences, trainings, field days, English language courses with the assistance of ICARDA. Thus, Dr Raj Paroda contributed to the entry of scientists of Kazakhstan into the world scientific community, the introduction of new technologies, the creation of new productive varieties, training in modern scientific approaches.

I am personally also “the result of cooperation” with ICARDA and other centers of CGIAR, with Dr. Raj Paroda! My experience of cooperation with international centers had a big influence on my professional growth as a scientist and becoming the Head of the National Agrarian Research System.

In fact, this was the discovery of a new world of science, a new way of thinking! My doctoral dissertation on the genetic resources of barley included the results of joint research with ICARDA. International scientific connections improved my professional knowledges, my English. too.

Participation in international symposia, conferences and seminars helped not only to expand scientific collaborations, but also to find friends in the international scientific community. It is should be mentioned that Dr Raj Paroda paid special



During Inauguration of 'RS Paroda Gene Bank' in Kazakhstan

attention to professional growth of women in science. I wish Dr Raj Paroda an active creative life, health, family well-being!

On Kazakhstan Genebank Inauguration

Let me mention your great contribution as Regional Head of ICARDA to the development of agrarian science in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan scientists very appreciate your significant efforts to support plant genetic resources, breeding of barley, legumes and upgrading trainings they attended in leading scientific centers.

Among of the other your merits we especially thankful for two local genebanks have been built at the institutes of Kazakhstan with your support and participation. I know that Dr Bitore is going to take part on official celebration of your 80th Birthday. We- Kazakhstan scientists also congratulate you! Wish you long active life, happiness and prosperity to the family.

K Kasturirangan

Padma Vibhushan Awardee

Chancellor of Central University of Rajasthan and NIIT University

Former Member, Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog), Gol,
New Delhi-110001

Email: k.rangan@nic.in



On TAAS Publication

"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

I would like to express my warm appreciation for the excellent work that is being carried out under your leadership on Expanding, Enhancing and Consolidating many dimensions of Indian Agricultural endeavour. Knowing you over a long period, as Chairman, ISRO and subsequently at Member, Planning Commission, I had a close understanding of your activities and admired all the positive outcomes emanating from your dedicated initiatives.

Going through the report relating to two decades of TAAS, I find the enormous efforts put in by you and your colleagues in shaping the agricultural system for this country. Needless to emphasize, India enjoys a pre-eminent position in terms of being a food basket of the world, because of the continuous improvements that agricultural pioneers like you have brought to bear in the use of science for agriculture. I will certainly go through carefully the contents of the report, but even a cursory glance at the contents clearly brings up the enormity of the work done and the role played by you in the same.

I wish you the very best Raj in the coming years. I am sure you continue to guide and support the most important national endeavour in ensuring food security not only for this country but for the substantial part of the world.

Fernando Chaparro

Former Executive Secretary, GFAR, FAO Rome
Senior Research Director,
Centro de Investigaciones para el Desarrollo (CID)
Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Carrera 13 No. 122-34, Apt. 310 Bogotá DC, Colombia
Tel.: (+57 1) 316 5000 Ext 10347; Email: f.chaparro01@gmail.com



Best Wishes for Raj Paroda on his 80th Birthday

Greetings from Bogotá, Colombia. I am sending to you attached the Video Clip I prepared, sending my best wishes to Raj Paroda for his 80th Birthday. The written version of the video is as follow:

First of all, I would like to express our sincere Greetings to the participants in the National Symposium that is taking place, and especially in the Felicitacion Function organized to celebrate the 80th Birthday of Dr. Raj Paroda.

The purpose of this message is to participate in the celebration of Dr. Paroda´s Birthday, even if at a distance from Colombia, South America, expressing our wish not only for a very Happy Birthday, but also for many more years of Good Health and accomplishments in the area of Food Production and Sustainable Development.

With Raj Paroda I have a long-standing friendship and close collaboration in International Agricultural Research. At the end of the XXth century, between 1996 and 1999 we collaborated very closely in the design and establishment of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), which continues to be very active specially through the Regional Fora.

We were very conscious of the important role being played by the international research centers of the CGIAR, in assuring food security and fighting rural poverty. But we were also very much aware of the importance of strengthening the other key actor in this endeavor: the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of the developing countries. They play a key role in assuring that we really reach the farmer, especially the small agricultural producer.

The strategic alliance we established between ICAR of India and CORPOICA of Colombia played an important role in the creation of GFAR, although all NARS of the Global South participated very actively, through the Regional Fora that were organized in the various regions of the world: APAARI, FORAGRO, FARA and AARINENA.

Looking at the great challenges we are currently facing in terms of Food Security, mitigation of Global Climate Change, assuring a sustainable agriculture and improving rural livelihoods, I think, Raj, that we must continue strengthening the GFAR initiative we initiated with your leadership 25 years ago.

Thus, I would like to end this brief message by first of all, expressing to you our very best wishes for a very Happy Birthday along with your Family and Friends. And beyond this very special day, our best wishes for many more years of Good Health and continued accomplishments in the area of International Agricultural Research, based on a strong collaboration between GFAR and the CGIAR. And you can continue to count on all the support and collaboration of the Colombian NARS, which today is called AGROSAVIA.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE” in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations for this great recognition, as the 2022 Foreign Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). This is a very well-deserved recognition.

My best wishes for many more years of very productive work and accomplishments.

About Paroda

It is really a great pleasure to be in touch with you again. In fact, I greatly enjoyed sitting down and thinking back on those years when we worked together as a team. I pointed out, the construction of complex social processes, such as the process of constructing a Global System for Agricultural Research for Development, depends on the commitment and motivation of key social actors that can envisage the world in which we want to live, and are able to inspire others to join the process of constructing that world. This is the type of experience we helped to construct, in the long hours of work we jointly put together.

In recent years I have been quite occupied in which we share common objectives and interests. I certainly hope that we can continue to construct what we initiated in the context of GFAR, with our colleagues from NARS around the world, and with our friends from the CGIAR and from CIRAD and other ARIs.

With my very best regards to you and to Mrs Paroda, from Adriana and myself.

Raghunath A Mashelkar

Padma Vibhushan Awardee,
Former Director General, CSIR and
Secretary, DSIR, Government of India, New Delhi - 110001
National Research Professor
3rd floor, Adams Court Above Bank of Baroda, Baner Road,
Baner, Pune 411045 (Maharashtra), India
Res.: Raghunath, D-4 Varsha Park, Baner, Pune 411045 India



On the Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

“**R**eorienting Indian Agriculture” provides comprehensive and skilful review of the historical development of Indian agriculture and its overarching contribution to socioeconomic development of the country from the Green to Blue and Evergreen Revolutions with the aim of ending poverty, hunger, malnutrition, and environmental degradation.

The 32 intuitive and well-structured chapters demonstrate the unique ability, global knowledge and wide- experiences of the author, Dr Raj Paroda to scrutinize various subsectors of the agriculture sector and appraise the future challenges ahead and opportunities available for promoting the productivity of the complex and multidimensional pathway for food and nutrition security through the changes needed in policies, mind-set, institutions and research portfolio.

He highlighted in various chapters the scientific and advancement made in India in different areas such as seed industry, plant genetic resource management, biotechnology, integrated natural resource management, linking public research institutions and universities to the private sector and farmers’ organizations to enhance the productivity of agriculture and food industry.

This book is a must read for the students, researchers, policymakers and international research and development community who are interested in the Indian agriculture and would like to benefit from the Indian experiences and expertise to enhance the global and regional partnership in agricultural research and innovation for sustainable development.”

On *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

Many thanks for your letter of 22nd December and sending me a publication titled “Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS”. I immensely enjoyed the publication. It truly gives a comprehensive account of wonderful achievements during the past 15 years. My heartiest congratulations to you for providing such a visionary leadership.

All my best wishes to you for a glorious journey ahead.

Gurdev S Khush

Member US National Academy of Sciences
Adjunct Professor Emeritus
University of California, Davis, CA 95616
Former Head Plant Breeding Genetics and Biotechnology,
IRRI, Manila (Philippines)
Tel. & Fax.: (530)750-2440



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

I am very happy to learn you have brought out a publication which summarizes various activities of TAAS during last fifteen years. This is a valuable and timely publication. You need to be congratulated for hard work for putting together all activities in a systematic manner.

On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"

Many thanks for preparing the comprehensive publication "22 years of APAARI" APAARI has played very important role in addressing the issues of agricultural development in the Asia Pacific region during last two decades. Your initiative to organize APAARI and provide leadership for more than two decades are admirable. I hope you will continue to provide leadership to APAARI for few more years.

His Impressions about Dr Paroda

Dr Paroda will always be remembered for his contribution in establishment of National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, one of the finest institutes in the developing world. He created a new Wheat Research Institute and National Research Centers on rapeseed, soybean and groundnut. Dr Paroda is the main architect of the Indian National Genebank, one of the most modern facilities for *ex situ* conservation of germplasm housing a quarter million accessions of various crops. He also advanced the cause of biodiversity conservation by helping prepare the Act on Plant Variety Protection and Farmer's Rights (PPV&FR) enacted by the Indian government. As the Chairman of working group of FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, he facilitated the long-drawn discussions towards adoption of International Treaty on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITGRFA). He carried out his passion for conservation of PGR to central Asia and helped establish gene banks in 6 Central Asian Countries where none existed before. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the cause of plant genetic resources, gene bank at ICRISAT, Hyderabad has been named RS Paroda Genebank.

Dr Paroda has been a key player in the International Agriculture. He founded Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutes (APAARI). This brainchild of Dr Paroda has provided a platform for leaders of Asian agricultural research institutes to meet and discuss problems of mutual interest. He served as an executive Secretary of APPARI for over 20 years. His international appointments include membership of IRRI's Board of Trustees, Chairmanship of ICRISAT's Board of Trustees, Regional Plant Production and Protection officer of FAO for Asia-Pacific in Bangkok, Chairman of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), membership of the Governing Board of Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau International (CABI) and as head of CGIAR Facilitation Unit in CAC Tashkent.

It has been my honour to enjoy Dr Paroda's friendship and support for over 45 years.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Harwant and I send you our warmest and affectionate greetings on your 80th birthday. On this special day I salute you for your outstanding contributions to the development of our country. I can not think of any other person who has made as many contributions in advancing the frontiers of agriculture in the country. During your leadership of ICAR you built many new institutes most prominent of which is the genetic resources center and gene bank. These are living monuments to your hard work and wisdom. Your prominent leadership in International agriculture is the envy of many.

It is with great regret that I am unable to be with you on this special day but I am with you in spirit.

Herath Gunasena

Former Chairman, CARP and, APAARI
Former Chairman, Coconut Research Board
Colombo, Sri Lanka



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Thanks a lot for sending TAAS. As you usually do it's a valuable document of very high quality. I am currently at the Faculty of Agriculture; University of Peradeniya and they may like to contribute to TAAS. Please inform the possibility.

Hope you are keeping well and busy as usual.

David Hemming

Commissioning Editor
CABI, Nosworthy Way
Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8DE
United Kingdom; Follow Emerging ag on LinkedIn
Tel.: +44 (0) 1491 829428; Email: d.hemming@cabi.org



About TAAS Publications

Thank you very much for forwarding the TAAS publication and the comments. It would be great to see your work being the focus of a UN summit dialogue and this is excellent. Of course, we would be interested in publishing the output of the summit, if appropriate, and please do let us know if we can help further.

On the Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"* Showcasing by CABI at COP26 in Glasgow, UK

We just wanted to let you know that your book, *'Reorienting Indian Agriculture'* is one of the four books, we have chosen to showcase at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in November in Glasgow, UK, in a partnership with ExactEditions. COP26 will attract a huge audience of delegates, in person and online. You can see a link to the four titles we selected here, in the demo form of what will be presented at the conference.

<https://bit.ly/3wx6kn7>

The aim of this display, which involves several other publishers, is to select books that have particular relevance to the ongoing principles that the conference is seeking to address, and we know that your book points to the need to adapt Indian agriculture to a range of challenges, including the impacts of climate change.

Thank you again for publishing your important book with us.

Mahmoud Solh

Former Director General,
International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)
PO Box 5466, Aleppo, Syria
Tel.: 963 21 2213433;
Email: icarda@cgiar.org; m.solh@cgiar.org



Message on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

The honorable Dr Raj Paroda has been a very dear close friend and colleague to me whom I know for many years. I have been witnessing his remarkable and outstanding contributions at national, regional and international levels.

I also hope you and Shashi are keeping in good health. Shadia and I always remember the good time spent together.

I will always remember your remarkable leadership and commitment to CAC ICARDA programs. The countries of the region have high regards for the achievements you made in the region. Certainly, has been collective efforts to strengthen the national agricultural research systems.

I wish I could be in New Delhi on the very special occasion but unfortunately for health reasons I cannot.

With warm regards and best wishes for a very successful celebration.

About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

I have worked with Dr Raj Paroda in different capacities in ICARDA and outside ICARDA including his extra-ordinary vital role in building APAARI as one the strongest regional national programs forum. His vision and perseverance were remarkable in lightening the way forward for South-South and North –South cooperation through APAARI. On behalf of ICARDA colleagues and my personal behalf, I would like to thank Dr Paroda for his exceptional dedication and commitment to APAARI wishing him all the best in his new endeavour. With his several other responsibilities, we know Dr Paroda never retires.

In his capacity as ICARDA's Assistant Director General for International Cooperation (ADG-IC), Dr Paroda did a remarkable job in many important roles. He was responsible for ICARDA's relations with national programs in 44 developing countries in the non-tropical dry areas as well as donor relations and coordinating

the Center's resource mobilization. He developed excellent relations with donors who supported ICARDA over many years. He was also instrumental to initiate and develop bankable projects with ICARDA Deputy Director for Research and ICARDA's Regional Coordinators in different Regional Programs. These financial resources helped ICARDA to achieve its mission in dry areas.

Throughout his professional career; before, during and after his ICARDA days Dr Paroda has been a close friend before being a colleague. I always admired his professional vision, wisdom and high-level commitment.

Ibrahim Hamdan

Former Executive Secretary, AARINENA
26720 Hass Str, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127-3932
1110 Willbraham Rd, Springfield, MA
Email: ihamdan@link.net



On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"

Congratulations for the excellent document on APAARI during the past 22 years. Another warm congratulations for handing over the responsibility to our friend Dr Ghodake hoping that he will continue following your path in advancing APAARI in the future.

The outstanding achievements of APAARI will always be associated with Raj Paroda name in the future in which you have dedicated a lot of time and efforts for promoting agricultural development in the APPARI Region. Mission well done and accomplished. I am copying this message to Dr Ajlouni (more than one address) hoping that he will circulate the excellent APAARI document (attached) to all AARINENA members and urging him to follow your steps in documenting AARINENA achievement in the last two decades in which I did not have the chance to do while in office working as a part time secretary. Good luck and let us keep in touch.

Prabhakar Tamboli

Adjunct Professor and
Director of International Training Programs, University of Maryland
01103 C H.J. Patterson Hall. College Park, MD 20742.
Tel.: 301 405 1315;
Email: ptamboli@umd.edu; Email: pmtamboli@verizon.net



On TAAS Publication

"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

I know that TAAS and NAAS are trying to their best to help the country. I do have a very very special admiration and respect for you, because you have fought the system and made monumental contribution during your tenure as DG ICAR, and then working tirelessly for over 20 years after retirement by establishing TAAS and making it a great success.

This act of patriotism is unique and worth recognition. You did not leave the country looking for greener pastures. (Unlike NRIs like me-who left the battle field). It is very easy to criticize India sitting outside the system. But to work your way out through the system is very difficult. Requires dedication and determination.

Your dedicated patriotism for the country comes first, next comes support, cooperation and good wishes from colleagues, which you had earned due to your modesty and most friendly behaviour. You are God's gift to India and to humanity at large. God bless you and your loved ones. Very happy to know that you have postponed your departure to India. Please do not go back until the storm is over. Take care.

Many thanks for sharing this excellent presentation of your life's achievements. You are God's gift to India and to humanity at large. May god bless you with happy, healthy, productive long life.

I am proud of you and pray to God for your good health, peace and all the best in life.

Yoginder K Alagh

Vice Chairman
Professor Emeritus and
Former Minister of Power, Planning and Science & Technology Govt of
India, New Delhi
Email: ykalagh@gmail.com



On TAAS Publication

"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

Thank you for the Collection Volume of the Jubilee of TAAS. What a great description of important milestones in the history of India. Congratulations and we must all use it to work for the next Volume. With sincerely good wishes.

His thoughts about Dr Paroda

Professor Rajendra Singh Paroda is an iconic figure in the field of Agricultural Technology, Rural Development and Agricultural Research. When I was in the Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog), I was working on requesting the then Prime Minister on the RAX to give a special fund for Industrial Research. Paroda requested the PM for a special fund. The Prime Minister was impressed by this audacious young man, gave him the asked for money. He is a great team builder, supports task-oriented science and its application and enforces the discipline of time bound research.

His career is full of examples of autonomous scientific research and fighting for the independence of science. I have no regrets in admitting that I took on an agriculture minister, who incidentally is a friend, taking strong exception to his Office creating problems for a younger head strong Paroda, not agreeing to some vendors. His contributions to the FAO are well known and folks there with whom I worked in the FAO's Global Models have the highest respect for him.

I wish him good health for many years and look forward to more of his devoted services to Agricultural Science and to India and the World which he has served with great distinction.

RB Singh

Former President, NAAS
Former Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal
Res.: D1/1291, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070
Tel.: +91-011- 26136450, Mob.: +91-9810230037
Email: rbsingh40@gmail.com



About TAAS Proceedings

"Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food grain Production: A Way Forward"

Thanks for sharing the Proceedings and Recommendations on Bridging Yield Gaps. These have come out extremely well. Congratulations to you and to Dr Bhag Mal for a great job done. I am grateful to you for having me associated with this exercise. Stay safe and healthy.

His Impressions about Dr RS Paroda

During my 18 years with FAO, at Bangkok and Rome, I had the opportunity to closely interact, collaborate and partner with Dr Paroda at India, Asia and global levels in agriculture and food systems. At my request, he accepted the position of FAO Regional Plant Production and Protection Officer, Asia-Pacific Region, Bangkok. Very often, we travelled together and organized joint meetings in different countries, such as the hybrid rice meetings in China, which in those days were often well attended by Indian scientists, mutually sharing successful Indian and global experiences. As Chairman GFAR, through his dynamic leadership and advocacy, he laid a strong foundation of a unique multi-stakeholder global forum for generating and supporting research, technology, and innovation towards sustainable development. I must express my gratitude to Dr Paroda for associating me with the very first Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD).

Through his outstanding leadership at the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), he continues to enrich the partnerships.

More personally, in him, I possess the treasure of "Rajendra Bhai", which he warmly reciprocates as "RB Bhai"

Alisher Tashmatov

Executive Secretary, The Central Asian and Southern Caucasus
Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI)
International Center for Agricultural Research in
the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Email: a.tashmatov@cgiar.org



About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

Greetings from CACAARI

As it was learned from the message, Dr Raj Paroda after 20 years of work as an Executive Secretary has contributed to the process of the developing and strengthening the Global platform of the AR&D within the participation of the National platform of India, which indicates the platforms between two regions in Asia - APAARI and CACAARI. As an ideologist of the developing strategy, he always pays attention to the supporting and creating initiatives for the partnership and collaboration on this arena. I would like to wish him and his lovely family good luck and life prosperities.

On behalf of CACAARI Secretariat, we express gratitude to Dr. Raj Paroda for his outstanding contribution to our CACAARI development from the crucial beginning of the work of establishing our regional Association since 2000 when he was Regional Coordinator of CGIAR PFU in Tashkent and Regional coordinator of ICARDA - Tashkent office. We hope to continue our close friendship and collaboration with two regional fora.

With best wishes and forthcoming success for APAARI under his leadership.

Prabhu Pingali

Professor of Applied Economics &
Director,
TataCornell Institute, Cornell University,
Ithaca, NY
Email: plp39@cornell.edu



On the Book : *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

Reorienting Indian Agriculture is the most comprehensive and insightful assessment of India's agricultural development experience over the past five decades. It is a must read for the agricultural research and development policy community. Dr Paroda has devoted his entire career - as a research scientist, senior administrator and policy maker - towards increasing agricultural productivity and the enhancing farmer livelihoods. That in-depth knowledge and experience comes through in every chapter of the book.

The book discusses the successes of the Green Revolution, but does not shy away from presenting the limitations, such as the persistence of low productive systems in the lagging regions of the country. Opportunities for enhancing the convergence of these regions with the more progressive parts of the country are discussed in detail. Dr Paroda provides a clear agenda for addressing the challenges ahead, including sustainably doubling productivity growth even while tackling climate change, and achieving the SDG goals of zero hunger and poverty reduction.

While this book is focused on India, I believe it provides valuable lessons and insights for other developing countries, particularly countries in sub-Saharan Africa, on the role of agriculture as an engine of overall economic growth and rural poverty reduction."

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations Dr Paroda. Well-deserved recognition.

T Ramasami

Former Secretary,
Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt,
New Mehrauli Bhawan, Kutub Institutional Area
New Delhi 110016



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Thank you for copying your article in Agriculture Today.

I enjoyed reading it. It is a timely call to the youth of the country. Transformational changes in any system rest in the hands of those who dare and act without the fear of failure. Most experienced people I find including myself err on the side of abundant caution and worry about what others would say and think. Youth is liberated from that baggage.

Let me wish that Indian Agriculture moves into the hands of empowering leaders who change things the way that you have portrayed.

On the Book "Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities" Showcasing by CABI COP26 in Glasgow, UK

I enjoyed reading the report. It is a treat to both eye and mind. I do wish and hope that our leadership makes the best use of the thought-based study and report.

The book is evidence of a monumental effort by Dr Raj Paroda. The effort is of high value to the development process of India at this critical juncture. It provides a fine balance of technological means and the required policy imperatives. Its centre-stages an effective way forward for Indian agriculture. None in India could have delivered a product better than Dr Raj Paroda at this time. Both poise and purpose are hallmarks of the product.

I hope that several valuable directions provided in the book would offer food for thought by policy bodies and actions by the agricultural R&D systems. Contents of the book are relevant to many other nations in the Lower Middle- and Low-Income groups which are in need of affordable solutions and policy directions to food and nutrition related challenges in 21st century. I salute the contribution.

About Publication - "Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

Thank you very much for the mail and a copy of the exhaustive report of TAAS covering a period of 20 years since its inception. I have only browsed through the report. It does present a coherent story of the work of the think tank and its diverse contributions.

The work done is not only mammoth but also deep and all encompassing. I convey my very best wishes to TAAS and all those associated with you. I will certainly read it carefully at a later date. Thank you again for spring a copy of the valuable report.

Prem Lal Gautam

Former Chairperson, PPV&FRA, Former Chairperson, NBA
Former Vice Chancellor, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar (Uttarakhand)
Res.: 118, Housing Board Colony, Bindraban,
Dist. Kangra, Palampur 176061 (Himachal Pradesh)
Mob.: +91-9459376233, 7018322344;
Email: plgautam47@gmail.com



A Few Words about Dr Paroda

During his leadership, the ICAR witnessed an era of expansion, rejuvenation, empowerment of scientists, delegation of powers, modernization, creation of NASC complex, launching of NATP, new national and international partnerships, reforms, etc. Vision documents of all institutes and SAUs were also expedited and published.

In fact, Dr Paroda had strong likes and dislikes and had conviction and courage to say spade a spade. This might have earned exasperation from some corners. Hence, in order to fulfil the mission and gruelling tasks, he had to encounter problems, obstacles, bottlenecks, criticism, etc. Knowing it well that occasionally your performance invites ire of some overzealous elements; Dr Paroda played his cards with brevity, dignity and humility in fulfilment of the slated agenda. The council will ever remain grateful to him in times to come for his great services to the science and society.

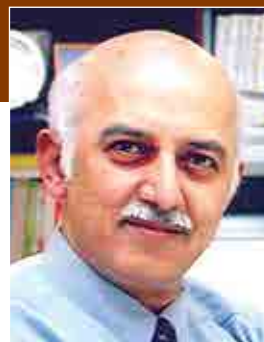
I wish him a long, happy, peaceful, productive, satisfying and healthy life.

Greeting on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Thank you very much for sharing the film and video covering your personality and perception of great personalities. We are very proud of your works and services to humanity. We wish many years of your patronage to the scientific community in particular. Your journey has been full of successes and satisfaction.

Prakash Vish

Vice President of IUNS and Adjunct Professor
Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru (Karnataka)
Former Director,
CSIR-Central Food and Technological Institute (CFTRI),
Mysuru (Karnataka)
Email: prakashvish@gmail.com



About TAAS Proceedings - "Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food Grain Production: A Way Forward"

Thanks for the speed post, Copy of the Proceedings of the National workshop on Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food grain Production: A Way forward. I appreciate it indeed.

This is indeed a distilled wisdom of agricultural Scientists World Over to increase Productivity and Production. I congratulate TAAS and other Organisations as organizers of this Discussion and the Publication with your Leadership. I immensely liked your Concluding remarks on page 28 and of Course the Key Recommendations. The whole document is very Professionally brought out especially the collage in Cover pages says it all.

The real gap is also the Postharvest losses which are perhaps the Fifth Take home lesson as unless that is minimized any amount of production will only result in more losses due to storage and in the whole chain. That's where Infrastructure has to Double in capacity in the next ten years. The government is doing but requires a war footing with Public-Private partnerships. It is possible. Mega Technologies must change the way Food grains and Agri commodities are handled and the model is milk in a practical way for India. India has shown the way to the world in many crops. The food losses not only are a loss of the hard labour of farmers but also energy, economy, nutrition loss, etc to the national bowl.

Unless Prevention of Post-harvest losses in the Chain and in markets at the terminal end including cooked food being wasted is addressed and in toto, this bane will be looming large. The word FOOD LOSSES and WASTES PREVENTION must be a movement of its own like the Vaccination movement.

I am sure I have sent this document (as in the attachment) to you earlier. Even though it is about 7 Years old on CFS and HLPE which I steered as Team leader, it gives some of the practical solutions for the Prevention of Food Losses and Wastes which different Countries can adopt by a minor recalibration.

Once again, my Congratulations on this Document Dr Paroda with your steering especially and coming from you is always a pleasure to read and learn for me.

On an Article *"Youth Can Link Farmers to Markets Effectively"*

Thanks, Dr Paroda, Very Correct timing of the article Just in Time for the Monsoon, of course, delayed more than a month. Makes excellent reading. It must also reach all Universities and IITs, IIMs etc, and the High schools in their own languages.

In ICAR or NAAS or TAAS, there must be a mechanism to translate this article to major Indian Languages. That will be very useful to the Panchayats and Farmers Pools and farmer Cooperatives to bring to their notice the facts. Lest it will be in the emails of those who do not grow crops but are Consumers only.

Reaching the ground level of the agricultural field is important.

His Earlier Impressions about Dr. Paroda

Some excerpts from a meeting organized by INSA on IPR at CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru in early 2000

As I was receiving most of them at the entrance of the main building, I saw Dr Paroda walking towards the main building of CSIR-CFTRI from Guest House and rushed towards him leaving some of the VIPs to reach the venue by themselves and those couple of steps of walking along with Dr Paroda to the meeting hall is still in my memory, when he said, *"The King of CSIR lives here in this Palace and none of us, either in ICAR or ICMR or other Scientific Organizations have our offices in a Palace. This is unique and I congratulate you for decorating it"*. This sincerely moved my moods to higher orbits and there he was with his honest expression in the most straight forward fashion even though he was heading ICAR as DG and Secretary, DARE and was so simple in his approach. I was elated but touched by his comments.

When he was the President of APAARI, I was an invitee at Bangkok, Thailand for a two-day meeting, I was taken aback by his gesture in parking me in the first circle of the speakers and his very generous introduction, *"This is Dr Prakash, a leading Food Scientist, Technologist, and Nutritionist of the world and his words will be final for us in our deliberations on these subjects. We only wish we had such expertise in all the subjects as then the meeting would not have been for two days, but perhaps less than half a day!"* This just shows the way he would play the role as a leader in a global platform with pride and without any air would go out of the way to make the person extremely comfortable and elevate the image of India and the person enabling a permanent networking ambience with other global scientists and organizations. This shows Dr Paroda's commitment to the country's science and personalities and for which he always has had the highest regard, even today and forever.

I would, specially like to mention my close interactions with him at NABI at Mohali, as he was the Chairman of the Research Council of NABI and I happened to be the Chair of Food Science and Nutrition Group. His chairing the meeting gave a huge support to the youngsters of the Institute and encouraged them to come out with innovation and he never worried for any small mistakes in the process. His forever smiling face would beam in the meetings to gently mention - *“This approach may be revisited as you go forward in this area!”* The success was evident in the first 3 years of the Institute, where an excellent teamwork output of science emerged with only about 4-5 scientists, limited space and facility. The credit goes to of course, the scientific fraternity of the institute and mostly to the leadership of Dr Paroda for a start-up Institute, needing nurturing.

On NASC Complex, He Writes...

Further, I would like to mention that the sturdy buildings of the NAAS complex that one sees today is simply the leadership Dr Paroda has shown not only during the Science congress at the same venue, but also the ICAR Green Fort built for its infrastructure which is now used by almost all the NAAS and ICAR scientists. Every time I walk in the corridors, pathways and the roads around the complex with peacocks, stepping with you slowly, I wonder how he was able to masterly plan and build it and it just shows his capacity as a Science Administrator and a Visionary. Thanks to Dr Paroda for that monumental effort called National Agriculture Science Centre. These are only a few anecdotes which show Dr Paroda’s personality as a scientist, as a human being and as an achiever and I wish him all the best with plenty of good health and activity and would like to say - *“The best of Dr Paroda is yet to come!”*

We know he has to take the scientific pedestal up in his multi dreams for India and its Agriculture with Borderless Science Interface. Cheers Dr Paroda!!

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

The video is of 2 hrs and 7 minutes and I enjoyed seeing it all through in one sitting and then I am sending this mail. Every second of the Video is indeed a compressed zip file of many things you have done for society, farmers, science and national agenda and global reach and more importantly you are a teacher for 1000s of students and yesterday Nation celebrated Teachers’ day.

You are still so active and that's Dr Paroda! May God bless you. It's a wonderful documentation in a glimpse of your superb contribution to the National and International agenda of Agriculture. Very warm Greetings from Jamuna and myself to you and family.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE” in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

My very very warm Congratulations to you on this unique distinction conferred on you through this fellowship.

You make us all Proud. Your contributions richly deserve many more such recognitions and Fellowships from a number of Countries. Wishing you the best on this very special occasion.

Impression on Strategy Paper “Towards Secure and Sustainable Agriculture”

My Very warm congratulations to you on the Strategy Paper “ Towards Secure and Sustainable Agriculture” which I received in print both English and Hindi versions from TAAS.

You have rightly addressed the farmer at the epicenter, the Tsunami of new Challenges, the Rain of Opportunities, the GVAs and dismal funding for Agri R&D in India (Australia topping the the list i), the nostalgia of Green Revolution and the future embracing water scarcity, sustainable energy and doubling the farmers PROFIT more than income (corrected to inflation), diversify and bridge all inclusive crops with top level yields, youth innovation and scale up, game changing reforms in agriculture for India, regulations, marginal farmers plight must have a plan for the flight in their income, Paroda Committee reports and its effects and the way forward brilliantly penned down.

All these will cascade with the aim of ensuring 4 billion meals a day in India and that’s the way forward to make this BIGGEST INDUSTRY liberate more jobs in all related sectors from restaurant to regulations, from solar energy tapping to clean rain water in the tap, from school syllabus of agriculture to high end research in labs, Half acre plot for a school so that children can grow many crops per drop of water and are trained to love agriculture before they endorse IT, BT and FT and NT !

I received it yesterday (7th November 2022) and finished reading the 32 page document with 4 pages plus Bibliography and References. A *Ramayan* in hand to follow for any body!

Laurie Goodwin

Vice-President Public Affairs and Communications
CropLife International aisbl
C +1 202 365 5059
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22203
Email: laurie.goodwin@croplife.org



On Independent Food Systems Dialogue on *"Unleashing Innovation to Transform Local Food Systems"*

Thank you again for your interest in our Independent Food Systems Dialogue on "Unleashing innovation to transform local food systems," with a focus on Africa and the Middle East, North Asia, and South Asia.

The discussions that were held in the breakout sessions shed light on the challenges and opportunities facing the regions, as well as some innovative solutions and interventions aiming to address these. It was also clear there were overarching takeaways around innovation success stories and future opportunities at the global level, but also some important nuances at the regional and local levels. As promised, we would like to share with you the outcomes of the session, available through this link, which also includes the outcomes of the second session we held covering North America, Latin America and Europe. This feedback form has been fed directly into the UN Food Systems Summit secretariat.

We are also pleased to let you know that we have kicked off our social media campaign for the Dialogue. Please check out CropLife International's Twitter profile for the latest activity, and join the conversation using the hashtags #Innovation #SummitDialogues #FoodSystems.

Based on the outcomes of the Dialogue it's clear that innovative technologies, as well as innovative approaches, can and must play a central role in delivering future food systems that continue to meet society's expectations and sustain the livelihoods of agri-food chain actors, while also respecting planetary boundaries.

By working together with partners and stakeholders, we can all be part of the solution to ensuring sustainable food systems. We look forward to staying engaged with you on this important topic!

Jitendra P Srivastava

Chairman, Agricultural Thematic Team of the World Bank's 1818 Society Former, Lead Agriculturist at the World Bank, Former Director General, ICARDA, Aleppo, Syria
Tel +1 301 229 1419, Mob.: +1 240 603 1293;
Email: jitendras573@gmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Thank you very much for sending me the publication, Building Trust : The Journey of TAAS' covering its activities and achievements over the last 15 years. I went through the publication with interest and attention and found it most informative, concise and topics are very pertinent to the current needs . Indeed , it is among the best publications of its kind and TAAS is certainly playing an important role in promoting science and knowledge-based agriculture in India- its officers, Trustees and yourself deserve congratulations for an outstanding job.

My request to you and TAAS would be to also consider why these good concepts and suggestions are not being implemented . I am truly impressed with identification of constraints and suggestions for way forward for the sector and you may I agree that it is equally important for the country to take notice and take necessary action. Poor or no implementation remains a real problem.

In the last two weeks I had opportunities to spend some time with Dr Swaminathan and Dr RB Singh and raised these questions with them as well. Raj, I will be in Delhi from November 25 through 27 and have been invited to participate in the celebration of Golden Jubilee of Green Revolution at IARI on the 27 as well as again from December 12 through 15. If you have time, I would love to have an opportunity to meet and discuss with you many of the issues as well as how our association in Washington, India Agriculture Group can cooperate with TAAS.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Karuna and I join your family, friends, colleagues and the grateful beneficiaries from India and globally in felicitating you on this very special day and wishing you continued productive, healthy and happy life. Your vision, contributions, leadership, support and commitment to agricultural development, food and nutrition security and services to humanity in India and around the world are outstanding and inspirational to all.

I still remember the day in 1965 when we first met at PG hostel, IARI for lunch with Debo Brat Guha and am proud that we have remained friends and had opportunities to collaborate with you.

I wanted to greet you on this occasion in person but look forward to meeting you in mid October. Cheers and many more.

Iftikhar Ahmed

Former Chairman,
Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC)
Islamabad (Pakistan)
Email: guzniabbas@gmail.com



About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

Greetings from PARC!

As informed by Dr Simon Hearn Chairman APAARI, that after twenty years of work in APAARI Honourable Dr Raj Paroda is calling it a day and handing over the post of Executive Secretary to Dr Raghunath Ghodake to whom PARC also know to all of us as the former Director General of NARI in PNG.

Dr Raj Paroda, a very humble, honest and visionary Head of APAARI, has taken APAARI from nowhere to a very well-organized forum in the Asia-Pacific. His pleasing personality has brought memorable memories wherever he visited during his long career as Executive Secretary APAARI and for us in Pakistan, it was a great honour to hold two back-to-back workshops under his guidance in October 2013 that will considered as one of the successful events we have ever held besides many others in last many years.

PARC wishes Dr Raj Paroda a very happy and successful "tenure" after retiring from APAARI and hope that he and his family would visit Pakistan and PARC will be very happy to receive him and his family.

We also welcome Dr Raghunath Ghodake as the new Executive Secretary and shall extend all support that will be needed to keep the momentum of APAARI activities in the region.

John Dixon

Former Principal Adviser (Research)
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
(ACIAR), Canberra, Australia
Email: john.dixon@aciar.gov.au, john.dixon@uq.edu.au



Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Hello. Raj at this wonderful and joyous occasion. Dear Raj as one of my friends I wish you a very happy birthday among family, your friends, and eminent scientists at national centers in New Delhi. You are absolutely one of the emerged active, productive and innovative 80 years old that I know. Your leadership in agriculture science and development has deliberately means and measures in and around the world including India. It is widely appreciated in all corners of India and the part of the world and we owe your further recognition, which just you deserved. His strategic view, pragmatic advice and support for innovation led to widespread respect through the Asian region. My agriover of the words of sizes and say that my eventual leadership of progressive years which you can't count at the age by your friends, not the years. I count your life by your smiles and not tears. Also, I say that the 80 is the new 60, so may I wish you many many more healthy and happy decades.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

It is wonderful that you have joined the Fellowship of the Australian ATSE Academy.

We will gain immeasurably from your wisdom and strategic vision, and I look forward to listening to your remarks to the Fellowship next week. I hope there will be more opportunities to learn from your thinking in the months and years to come.

Rita Sharma

Former Member Secretary,
National Advisory Council, PMO,
Former Secretary, Rural Development, GoI
Member, Board of Trustees, TAAS
Res.: 1/462, Vardhan Khand, Gomti Nagar Extension
Lucknow – 226010 (Uttar Pradesh)
Mob.: +91-9818332555; Email: ritasharma@gmail.com



On the Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

“**R**eorienting Agriculture” is an insightful treatise on the agriculture sector in India. Raj Paroda has very skilfully woven the narrative of past performance and present status of Indian agriculture, keeping centre-stage the socioeconomically vulnerable communities of smallholders, livestock keepers and fisher-folk. In a panoramic view of the sector, challenges and opportunities thrown up by the multidimensionality of food, nutrition, livelihood and environmental security, are highlighted.

The Book conveys an informed optimism in our ability to address the challenges through a mix of scientific advancement, technological and institutional innovation, enabling public policies and sustainable practices.

It is a must read for those who would like to see Indian agriculture on a pathway of higher, sustainable and inclusive growth.

On *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

It is indeed an excellent documentation of the decade-and-half growth trajectory of TAAS, an institution that you have built up characteristically and painstakingly as a “labour of love”.

Browsing through the contents of the publication I find that the outcome and discussions of various workshops, dialogues, brainstorming sessions chronicled therein provide a thoughtful and reflective canvas of contemporary issues and challenges that confront Indian Agriculture.

My good wishes for the continuing journey.

Renu Swarup

Former Secretary
Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and
Chairperson,
Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC),
Govt. of India, New Delhi
Email: swarup@dbt.nic.in



On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Under your leadership and with the involvement of senior experts, TAAS has truly delivered some very key recommendations and I hope many of these will be implemented with the involvement of all concerned Stakeholders.

It is a pleasure for me to be associated with TAAS. I look forward to working with you for some of the key recommendations.

ML Jat

Global Research Program Director
Resilient Farm and Food Systems (RFFS)
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
Patancheru, Hyderabad-502324 (Telangana) India
Mob.: +91-91549 91956; Email: M.Jat@cgiar.org



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

Many thanks Sir. You are an inspiration to billions. You are an icon to new generation. You are rarest visionary leader of world agriculture. I wish we could do a little fraction of what you have done for the humanity.

Thanks God, we have fortunate to get your blessings, guidance and mentorship.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

This is a great news. Heartiest congratulations for this prestigious recognition. The whole scientific fraternity around the world is proud of your recognitions.

Mojtaba Rajab-Baigy

Associate Professor,
Institute of Applied Scientific Education of Jahad-e-Agriculture,
Tehran (Iran)
Tel.: +98-21-66430448; Email: rajbbaigy@gmail.com



About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

On behalf of HE Dr Zand and all of my colleagues in AREEO, I would like to express our thanks and appreciations to Dr Paroda who we always looked him as one of AREEO's colleagues and best friends.

He always presented us his brilliant thoughts and ideas during every meeting or through each message we received from him.

We wish him all the best for his next plans of his life that he has already decided.

Shiv Yadav

Division of Seed Science and Technology,
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI),
New Delhi 110012



Sir,

"व्यस्तव में, जितना आपने किया और कर रहे हैं, उतना करना तो बहुत दूर की बात है। आज के कदरदानों के लिए सोचना भी मुश्किल है। वह आपने जो इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर बनाया, उसे मेंटेन कर लें तो भी बहुत है।"

Wishing you a very Happy B'Day in advance. May the Almighty keep you healthy and happy. Hope you will keep us guiding to build a better Nation.

Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Many thanks for sharing this special issue where a write up on your contribution to Indian agriculture in general and science management in particular is highlighted.

We all have benefited from your leadership and guidance.

Rattan Lal

Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science
Director, Carbon Management and Sequestration Centre,
President, International Union of Soil Sciences
Adjunct Professor, University of Iceland,
The Ohio State University, Columbus 43085, Ohio USA
Email: lal.1@osu.edu



Impressions on *"Dr RS Paroda's Specific Contributions in the Area of Genetic Resource Management"*

Wow! Thank you for sharing this. It is an impressive record, better than anyone else's that I know. I feel pride in knowing you. I am sure more and bigger honours will come your way. I very much liked the sequence of four photos in Asia Seed. I am also impressed with the present level of activities, which is exemplary and iconic.

With great admiration and appreciation for what you have done.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations for extremely deserving recognition of being elected as the 2022 Foreign Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE).

I am sure that more prestigious awards will come your way. You make us very proud of your contributions to agriculture.

Kundhavi Kadiresan

Former Assistant Director-General and
Regional Representative,
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific,
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Bangkok (Thailand)



Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Hi Raj, I am back in the US and trying to adjust to the new time zone. I want to wish you a happy 80th birthday and for many more years of health and happiness. The contribution you have made and continue to make to the world's knowledge of and practices in food and agriculture is simply remarkable. Thanks for everything you do.

On the Book : *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

"Reorienting Indian Agriculture" is a triumph. It makes a convincing argument that agriculture remains central to the lives and livelihoods of the great majority of households in India in the foreseeable future. The book masterly navigates the agricultural transformation evolution, current and future challenges as well as opportunities. It is remarkably comprehensive in its coverage and a testimony to the author's vast knowledge and experience of the agricultural sector in India. Taking cue from transformational experiences, the book critically analyses challenges and opportunities with regard to agricultural research and innovation, biotechnology, plant genetic resources, the seed sector development, integrated natural resource management, innovative extension and the role of women and youth in the next phase of agricultural transformation in the context of climate change.

The policy recommendations and the depth of analysis is not only relevant to the Indian agriculture but to researchers, policy makers and practitioners around the world.

ME Tusneem

International Agriculture Development
Former Chairman, National Agriculture Education Accreditation
Council of the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, Islamabad
Former Chairman, Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC);
Former Director General, Asian Development Bank, Manila
Email: mtusneem@gmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Many thanks for sharing the excellent publication 'Journey of TAAS' covering its activities and achievements over the last 15 years! It is amazing to see you as committed to agriculture research and development as ever.

Our sincere congratulations and best wishes for your good health and happiness! Stay blessed!

Dhruva Joshy

Former Chairman/Executive Director,
Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC)
PO Box 1135 Khumaltar, Kathmandu Nepal



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Thank you for sharing the article. While going through the article it gave me an impression that the new generation research scientists will be greatly inspired to take agricultural research as their career.

My congratulations !

Marco Ferroni

Chair, System Management Board, CGIAR,
Montpellier, France
Former Executive Director
Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture
Email: marco.ferroni@syngenta.com



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

Thank you for sharing this article which dignifies your exceptional contributions to food security and agricultural development and growth over a long and stellar professional career- a wonderful tribute to you on the occasion of your 80th birthday which, I believe, is occurring this month.

Hearty congratulations and best wishes!

On Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

Dr Paroda's magnificent book 'Reorienting Indian Agriculture' will inspire policymakers, researchers, the media and many others for years to come as they study the primary sector and agri-food value chains, and design and implement policies and programs for sustainable agriculture and food security for all. The book offers one of the most comprehensive treatments of its subject in print today. It explains multiple aspects of sector performance and links them to underlying 'fundamentals', including natural resource endowments, integrated natural resource management practices, agricultural research and extension, the conservation of genetic resources, and the seed sector's growth. The book covers policy and institutional reforms for accelerated, 'inclusive' agricultural growth, ending with a thought-provoking chapter entitled 'Change We must – But Change is Difficult'. A rewarding read, warmly recommended.

About Dr Paroda

My friend, Dr RS Paroda is a towering figure in national and global agricultural research, research planning and management, and the progression of research results to farmers' fields and the wider market. During decades of patient and inspired leadership, Dr Paroda played key roles and made pivotal contributions to the modernization and transformation of Indian and Asian agriculture. Farming became diversified and more commercial during this period. Agriculture sectors grew. Agri-food value-chains expanded. Rural poverty declined. Technology and improved crop yields played essential roles. Dr Paroda can take credit for having energized this process. I wish him well.

Mohammad H Roozitalab

Former Chairman
Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR),
FAO, Rome and Chairman, AARINENA
Soil and Water Research Institute, Tehran (Iran)
Email: mroozitalab@gmail.com



About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

I would like to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to Dr Paroda for the great accomplishment and success of APAARI in the last two decades to enhance the regional partnership in alleviating poverty and improving food security. His valuable contribution and deep commitment will not be forgotten by the colleagues and friends. He was really the main pillar of APAARI's success and achievements.

I was blessed to enjoy his friendship during these long years and worked together at the regional and global level. I am sure he will continue his contribution to enhance AR4D at the regional and global level.

On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"

I would like to congratulate you for the great accomplishment and success of APAARI in the last two decades and to enhance the regional partnership in alleviating poverty and improving food security. Your valuable contribution and deep commitment will not be forgotten. You were really the main pillar of APAARI's success and its achievements.

I was blessed to enjoy your friendship during these long years and working together at the regional and global level. I am sure we will continue our friendship and collaboration to enhance the ARD issues around the region and the globe.

I will be circulating the "22 Years of APAARI" and arrange with Taraneh to put the publication on the AARINENA website.

May God bless you and the family with good health, happiness and prosperity.

On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

I sincerely congratulate you and your esteemed colleagues for preparing a good publication illustrating achievements and activities of TAAS in India over the last 15 years. The publication provides valuable information on the activities carried out by TAAS in promoting agricultural sciences, alleviating poverty, improving food security and livelihoods of the rural communities and managing natural resource

in a sustainable manner. I express my best wishes to you and your esteemed colleagues and wishing you all more success in achieving the noble mission, goals and objectives of TAAS.

About TAAS Publication - "Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

Thanks a lot for sending this very nice and comprehensive publication titled "Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS".

This publication provides a very good example of how a national think tank and devoted scientists could advise the policy makers and contribute to sustainable development of agriculture in a country.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

With my warm greetings. Congratulations on your 80th birthday. Your contribution and commitment to agricultural development and the food system in India and around the world are indeed outstanding and remarkable. I wish you good health, prosperity and continued services for many years to come.

I am very grateful and delighted to have a chance to know you and have your friendship and support to strengthen the regional and global partnership on agricultural research for development and food system, especially in "Asia and Pacific", Near East, Central Asia and North Africa regions. Thanks a lot for sharing the links of the messages and videos sent by friends on your 80th birthday.

May Almighty God bless you and your family with good health and happiness for many years to come to continue your great contribution and services on ARD and the Food System. Please take care.

With my best wishes and personal regards

Karimbhai Maredia

Director of the World Technology Access (WorldTAP) Program,
Professor and Senior Associate to the
Dean in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
416 Plant & Soil Sciences Building
1066 Bogue Street, Michigan State University (MSU),
East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA.
Email: kmaredia@msu.edu



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Thank you for sharing the article published in Agriculture Today.

Congratulations on all your achievements! We are very proud of all your achievements and wish you a greater success and continued good health. Your motto and mission to serve the society inspires all of us to more for India and the world.

You have been a great mentor to all of us. Thank you for your exemplary leadership. Look forward to more collaboration with TAAS.

Greetings on Dr. Paroda's 80th Birthday!

The short videos you have shared with us are excellent testimony of your exemplary and lifelong contributions and leadership for institution building and human capital development for agricultural research, education and extension in India and other regions of the developing world. You opened doors for us to develop long-term collaboration with countries and institutions in Central Asia. You have been a great mentor to all of us.

We pray for your continued good health and a greater success in the future. We are very proud of your achievements.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition! We are very proud of your achievements. May you have continued greater success, good health, and happiness. I just got back from Iowa after attending the World Food Prize Symposium in Des Moines.

Please accept our best wishes for a Happy Diwali. I very much miss Diwali Celebrations here in Michigan.

Ravindra Chandra Joshi

Senior Consultant, Philippine Rice Research Institute, Philippines
Visiting Professor, Central Bicol State University of Agriculture, Philippines
Pacific Coordinator, Tropical Agriculture Association (TAA), UK
Pacific Islands Coordinator, SAFE Network, Indonesia
Mobile/WhatsApp: +63-998 578 5570;
Email: rcjoshi4@gmail.com; ravindra.joshi23@yahoo.com



On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"

Thank you for your e-mail. Early this week, I have received the e-copy of the "22 Years of APAARI" from you and your colleagues at APAARI. This is an important publication that every agricultural scientist must read. Thus, I have circulated it to all my colleagues. We all recognize and value your excellent leadership and support over the year in the Asia Pacific Region. Please accept our congratulations and sincere best wishes for the future. I am very confident that we all will continue to seek for your wisdom, knowledge and wide experience. You are a great mentor, leader and a visionary.

I have already provided my comments on the "22 years of APAARI" and the request of the PICTs/SIDS countries is for APAARI to have more agricultural research for development (AR4D) activities for the South Pacific Region as the challenges faced by such countries are immense and unique as compared to other continents/regions, but they also have great opportunities/potentials which are least explored.

I wish you good health, happiness and please let me know your contact address to your new location. Please, I like to keep in touch with you as I still have a lot to learn from you. Thank you once again.

This is an excellent compilation and I can see a lot of hard work put into it. Congratulations to all the authors.

As I quickly browsed through the publication, I could easily see APAARI has great outcomes mostly concentrated in research centers in Asia Pacific, on a wide range of important topics. This is what we lack in Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICTs). For examples: National Dialogue on Prioritizing Demand-driven Agricultural Research for Development in PICTs/ SIDS of Pacific is of paramount importance. I have not seen this happen at least in Fiji or Solomon Islands. Most PICTs just do research on what funding agencies fund for. In short there is also lack of capacity to do research prioritization within NARS and even within South Pacific Commission (SPC) on integration of research and extension in all agricultural programs. NARI-PNG is the most organized research for development institute in the region. In whole of the PICTs, there is so much relevance for workshops on Conservation Agriculture, Post-harvest and Value-Addition of Horticultural Produce, etc., but I doubt such workshops have been organized in PICTs. Please correct me if I am wrong.

I am aware of the Workshop on Moving Beyond Strategy to Improve Information and Knowledge Management for Agricultural Development in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories, at Nadi, on 21-14 November, 2011 organized by APAARI. It would be useful to document the impacts from this activity.

I wish to congratulate you and the co-authors for this very useful publication-it gives in nutshell everything about APAARI that one would like to know. You all at APAARI are doing a great job with member countries and organizations, but you need funding support from donor partners. I request for your kind consideration that in future more efforts to strengthen AR4D in PICTs be given a priority please. Thank you very much Sir.

Ravish C Maheshwari

Former Vice Chancellor
Sardarkrushinagar-Dantiwada Agricultural University
Dantiwada-385506 (Gujarat)
Former Assistant Director General (Tech. Cooperation),
Indian Council of Agricultural Research, KAB-II, New Delhi 110012
Mob. +91-9868140301; Email: ravish.maheshwari@gmail.com



Impressions about Dr Paroda

It may sound bizarre, but it is a fact that I still see you in my dreams discussing from these dreams and remember them quite vividly for some time. It was this training and grinding that I could plan and implement quite an agenda that was never thought of or undertaken. It was actually Peer Review Committee recommendations under Dr Kirti Singh that was taken to the General Body of the university for implementation.

Sir, it was your guidance and training that at the SD Agricultural University, we could also implement NEP 2020 during 2007-2010 itself by establishing five new colleges, six polytechnics and rejuvenating 22 Off-campus regional stations with new 'Office-cum-Laboratory' buildings. The TAAS that you have so assiduously established is a living testament to your grand vision for the Indian Agricultural Sciences. Salutations for your leadership unmatched qualities.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Celebrating your 80th birthday was unique in many ways. The tribute poured from the so many eminent personalities. You not only served India with great distinction, but also central Asia and the world at large.

Salutations to your acumen and great talent.

Mohan C Saxena

Former Assistant Director General, ICARDA, Aleppo, Syria
Executive Secretary, International Dryland Development
Commission (IDDC)
Res.: A-22/7, DLF City, Phase I, Gurugram 122002 (Haryana)
Tel.: +91-0124-4105071; Mob.: +91-9560855894;
E-mail: m.saxena@cgiar.org;mohan.saxena@yahoo.com



Appreciation for an Article *'A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence'*

Great reportage at the occasion of your 80th birthday!

Makes us very proud of you! God bless you with many more years of happy and healthy life dedicated in the service of humanity at large!

On *"Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"*

Thanks for the soft copy of the APAARI's 22 years. Shall read it when back in Gurgaon as my internet connection is rather slow here. The APAARI has been a model for the regional forums because of your leadership. Now that you have decided to move on and let the forum be led by someone else, the members of the forum will greatly miss you. You should be happy and we are proud that you have brought the forum to such great heights.

A Few Words about Dr Paroda

While our contacts kept on increasing as I stayed on in ICARDA, the opportunity of having Raj Paroda as a colleague came when the CGIAR Program for Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC), managed by ICARDA, selected him in 2001 as the head of that program. He led the program with distinction, earning fast the confidence of the scientific community and policy makers of the national agricultural research systems of the CAC countries, giving new direction to the program and enlisting effective participation of all the relevant IARCs and Advance Research Institutions. No wonder, ICARDA invited him in 2007 to take up additional responsibility at the Center as its Assistant Director General (International Cooperation). I retired from ICARDA in 2006, but by that time I had gained a very dear colleague and friend in Raj. Since then, our friendship has grown even stronger. He and Mrs Paroda have also brought me and Mrs Saxena in their inner social circle making us close family friends. We wish him continued good health, happiness and success in many more years to come.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Great video! Beautifully captures your accomplishments! We are proud of you and wish you many more in the years to come! Love and blessings!

Mohan Joseph Modayil

Former Member (Animal Sciences), ASRB
Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan-I, Pusa Campus,
New Delhi-110012
Email: mohanjosephmodayil@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

It covers most of your inspirational leadership and India is proud of your vision and initiatives. I had opportunity to work under your leadership only for one year when I left my professorship in UAS and joined ICAR-CMFRI as Director. During that one year your positive outlook, ability to take fast decisions and fearlessness captured my soul and I am humbly submitting that I could follow your example and bring CMFRI to a world class organization in my 7 years of responsibility as Director and receive the Best ICAR Institute Award in 2007 before I left to join ASRB. From year 2000 onwards till today CMFRI has the single distinction for achieving 100 per cent utilization in plan and nonplan. I would request you to visit CMFRI any time to see how it still remains at the top in ICAR to receive the Best Institute award for the second time last year. Hats off to you for your motivation, support and guidance for enabling me to work as fearlessly as you had demonstrated. Dr Mangala Rai also fully supported my initiatives and the results of both of your support remains visible even today.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Great tribute to you Sir from the top international scientists describes how grateful the world is for your inspirational career, contributions and leadership. May you continue to inspire us for decades. We need change Masters like you for a better India.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

This is wonderful news and exciting. I join the TAAS family in sharing the joy and congratulating Dr Paroda ji on this unique achievement. As I said earlier, he is a *Yugapurush* and our national pride. Being associated with him itself is absolutely amazing and gratifying.

May his contributions benefit the entire world and Agricultural community without national boundaries. TAAS must celebrate this adequately.

Om Prakash Dhankher

Professor
Stockbridge School of Agriculture
161 Holdsworth Way
University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA 01003, USA
Tel: 413-687-2177; Email: parkash@umass.edu



About Dr Paroda

When I met Dr Paroda, I deeply admired his friendly and encouraging nature. I considered myself incredibly lucky to be in the presence of so great a scientist, for whom I had the highest regard. Yet, when he spoke to me, he did so with tremendous respect and interest for my research work. Perhaps the most admirable engagement in which Dr Paroda partakes is that he always encourages people-especially young people-to be engaged in research and advocacy. In the conversations I've had with him, he never ceases to pursue this form of outreach.

Although he is now retired, Dr Paroda still continues to impact agricultural policy. He founded a 'Trust for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)' which works in his chairmanship for the "growth and advancement of agriculture through scientific interactions and partnerships". He wrote an open letter, signed by 60 other prominent agriculture scientists, to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji in support of adopting GM crops and modern approaches in Indian agriculture. Knowing him, he will certainly continue his drive to make the world a better place through science and advocacy. Even now, he is working to modernize his native village by building drinking water systems, sanitation, and tree plantation, and providing scholarships, books, and clothing to children.

On "*Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS*"

I have gone through the attached publication. It is a very nice compilation of the TAAS achievements from its inception till now. It is your vision and hard work that is paying off for this organization. You have nurtured this with dedications.

Appreciation for an Article "*A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence*"

Thanks , Wonderful article on your life. Congratulations and wishing a happy birthday in advance,

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Hearty congratulations to Dr Paroda for the prestigious ATSE Fellowship. It's a proud and inspiring moment for the Agriculture Scientific community.

Ren Wang

Former Head, National Gene Bank, China
Former Deputy Director General
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila (Philippines)
Former Chief Executive Officer, CGIAR, Washington DC, USA
Senior Advisor, International Cooperation, Chinese Academy of
Agricultural Sciences at Shenzhen Agricultural Genomics Institute, China
Email: wangren@cngb.org, renwang@caas.cn



Appreciation for an Article Entitled “*Lord Thinking-The Remarkable Man of India’s Agriculture*”

Thanks for sharing the article which is a rather humble description of what you have done. You are indeed not only a remarkable man of Indian agriculture, but “an iconic name in world agricultural sciences”. You are an inspiration for me and my fellow agricultural scientists in China.

I recall vividly the opening ceremony of the gene bank in Tashkent, when I had the opportunity of attending at your side. That is only one of the numerous occasions and initiatives with your leadership and contribution benefiting the world agricultural community.

Thank you, my dear and respected friend, Dr Paroda, with my highest respect.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE” in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Warm congratulations!

This is a well-deserved recognition for your life-time commitment and contribution to the global food security and sustainable development. We are very proud of you, Raj.

Vibha Dhawan

Director General,
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI),
Former Vice Chancellor
TERI University, New Delhi, India
Email: v.dhawan@cgiar.org
Email: dg@teri.res.in ; vibhad@teri.res.in
Phone: 91-11-2468 2151; Fax: 91-11-2468 2144



On *"Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"*

A PAARI had become a well-respected forum under your dynamic leadership and in years to come will also show path to agricultural scientists in the region and you will keep on guiding it.

Looking forward to seeing you.

About *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

Thanks for sharing the excellent publication. Under your leadership, TAAS has been put on very firm footing and has emerged as an organization that will show path for the future agriculture.

Achievement and wish you with my blessings to continue with the same spirit and dedication.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected **"2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE"** in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Greetings from The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)!

We are very delighted for your appointment as the 2022 Foreign Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE), a globally acclaimed institution. This reflects your outstanding contributions in the agriculture world.

Your proven research will definitely result in pioneering effect in the field of agriculture in general, and plant genetics and breeding in particular.

Our heartiest congratulations to you on your outstanding

Rudy Rabbinge

University Professor Emeritus
Sustainable Development and Food Security
PO Box 102, 6700AC, University of Wageningen,
Wageningen (The Netherlands)
Droevendaalssteeg 4,
6708PB, Wageningen (The Netherlands)
Tel.: +31314783988; Email: rudy.rabbinge@kpnmail.nl



About TAAS Publications

Thank you for the extensive publication. Very informative and impressive to see what you have achieved. Congratulations.

I would be very interested to discuss the next steps in your activities and the way we may use that in the collaborative activities between TAAS and IFDC.

Robynne Anderson

President
Address History: 3015 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90018;
3340 Florecita Drive, Altadena, CA 91001;
Burbank, CA 91501; Canoga Park, CA 91304; Gardena, CA 90247
Tel.: +1-204-227-4611; Email: robynne@emergingag.com;
Twitter @Robynne_A; www.emergingag.com



On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

First of all, congratulations for extraordinary work over the past two decades. This report shows how much you have done at TAAS.

This is a stray thought, but I wonder if some of this could be adapted to be a Food Systems Summit Dialogue as the UN is discussing the future of agriculture and food?

<https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/dialogues/independent>

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

My sincere congratulations and very best wishes for this very well-deserved recognition.

Syed Ghazanfar Abbas

National Consultant (Innovation, E-Agriculture & E-Learning)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
NARC Premises, Park Road, Shahzad Town,
Islamabad (Pakistan)
Email(s): guzniabbas@gmail.com;ghazanfar.abbas@fao.org
Skype: guzniabbas1



Impressions about TAAS Publications

Thank you for sharing a very valuable document. Let us join hands and pray that the current pandemic diminishes ASAP and we start enjoying our *NORMAL LIFE* once again.

About Dr Paroda when in APAARI

I have the honour of having official working relationship with Dr RS Paroda for over 15 years. Initially, as Executive Secretary, APAARI, he invited some officials from Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) to attend some meeting(s) in Bangkok. Chairman, PARC nominated my name to represent PARC in these meetings. My first encounter with him in Bangkok was the first word that I write above in the subject line. Meaning “serious” in his attitude, work, discipline, and in time management. Thus, believe me, I was a bit “scared” to face him during 2-3 days encounter during these meetings. However, as time passed by, and I had more chances to meet him in official dinners, musical evenings etc., I realized his “down to earth” and smiley face and character. I came to know about his “zero-tolerance” on any mistake(s) towards official tasks. But, on the other hand, he would also guide you to achieve certain targets in the most amicable and economical ways.

His vision in organizing various events, and surely, he must have organized in hundreds from APAARI platform, was very minutely and delicately thoughtful. From seating arrangements, name plates, opting for heading various sessions, make-shift arrangements due to non-availability of any committed senior official, distribution of small gifts to participants, or any other matter, he would have complete authority and control of each and every aspect.

I have the honour of organizing mega back-to-back events in Islamabad, Pakistan in 2013 and I recall the complete support and guidance of his and his staff in dealing with all international delegates. I also recall that I had lots of issues in following up Visa(s) for many international delegates, specially arriving from India, but our continuous telephonic conversation helped us to finally make the Islamabad back-to-back events a great success.

With the passage of time, Dr RS Paroda and I became much more familiar with each other and on one occasion, while attending a Conference in Bangkok, I took my wife and son to Thailand as well. It was this time, when I observed the best of the “human loving character” of Dr RS Paroda when he invited my son and wife for almost all official dinners and ensured that their stay in Bangkok remained enjoyable. Thus, it is not only me who admires Dr Paroda but it is my family that is also very impressed with him.

Technically, administratively, and on the managerial front Dr RS Paroda is a complete person. He remembers his current and past colleagues very well. For example, he would always ask me the well-being of almost all former Chairmen, PARC or any other PARC Officials who may have met him in the past. His memory in remembering their names is very sharp. Scientifically, he was one of the most talented researchers in his field area. To my belief, he would lead any team in any scientific discipline, be it be plant breeding, plant genetics, agronomy, farm mechanization or agricultural economy.

Once, Dr RS Paroda left as ES-APAARI, he still continued his email contacts with me and I am so grateful to him for this. I always cherish his company, and I will always pray for his health and “serious smiley face” flourishes at all times.

Kirti Singh

Chairperson, WNRF, President, Intl Soc Noni Science
Former Chairman, ASRB, Gol, New Delhi
Former Vice-Chancellor, ANDUAT, Ayodhya; CSK HPKV, Palampur & IGKV,
Raipur; Former Secretary, NAAS, New Delhi
Res.: C9/9766, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi – 110 070 /
38 G, Maruti Nagar, Husenabad, Jaunpur - 222 002 (Uttar Pradesh)
Mob.: 094156 87597; Email: kirtisigh 1934@hotmail.com



On TAAS Publications

Thank you for sending me a copy of the document “Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS”. I have gone through each page of this publication and I find it most useful. In a short period, TAAS has done remarkable work under your dynamic leadership. I congratulate you and your wonderful team for the dedicated service to the nation.

I congratulate you and your team for the great.

Suri Sehgal

Founder and Chairman of Misr Hytech Seed, Egypt;
Hytech Seed, India.; Sehgal Foundation, USA, and
SM Sehgal Foundation, Gurugram (Haryana)
Email: suri76@aol.com



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

Enjoyed reading the article in honour of your 80th birthday. It nicely covers your life and your numerous accomplishments, awards and recognition's. An informative article that is inspiring to read.

On Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

I am trying to catch up with my pending mails and I found that so far, I did not get around to even acknowledge this mail of yours. I downloaded the book now and glanced through it. I read the excellent reviews by so many distinguished experts in this field. As the reviewers have said, it is comprehensive compilation of the past successes, current status and a way forward in each discipline of agriculture.

For me the book will serve as a comprehensive reference book on Indian agriculture. I think Dr Swaminathan in the past and you now, are the two pillars of Indian agriculture. It has been great knowing you for over 3 decades.

On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Many thanks for the TAAS publication. It is an impressive compilation of symposia and conference organized under the banner of TAAS by you. I glanced through it just now. I plan to read it more closely over the next few months. There is much material to read and digest. Once more thanks and kindest regards...

Dr Raj Paroda Receiving "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

One more honor to add to numerous others that you received already!

Heartiest congratulations!

About Dr Raj Paroda

As a life long seedsman and agriculturalist, I appreciate Dr Paroda's many contributions to Indian agriculture—a full list of which would be difficult to enumerate. As head of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India, he strengthened the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) and made it responsive and effective to the needs of farmers. As an active participant in the International Agricultural Research System, he helped strengthen the international agriculture system. His interest in biodiversity and conservation of genetic resources led him to establish a modern and most up-to-date gene bank in India. Similarly, he was instrumental in helping Central Asia and Caucasus in setting up their NARS and gene banks. In 1996 he organized a highly successful second congress of the Crop Science Society of America in New Delhi, which was attended by many national and international scientists. I had the privilege of attending the congress and participating in the inauguration of the gene bank at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

My wife Edda and I used the bulk of the proceeds from the 1998 sale of the Pro-Agro Group to Hoechst-Schering AgrEvo of Germany (now Bayer) to found two philanthropic organizations with the goal of making a positive difference in the lives of the rural poor in India: Sehgal Foundation based in Des Moines, Iowa, in the US, and SM Sehgal Foundation based in Gurugram, Haryana, in India. Dr Paroda served for a time on the board of trustees of SM Sehgal Foundation in India where his counsel was always very welcome and greatly appreciated. The foundation's key programs, in water management, agricultural development, and good rural governance, address the most pressing concerns of the rural poor: water security, food security, and social justice, with emphasis on the empowerment of women. Seventeen years after the work started in four villages in the Mewat district of Haryana, the work is now being done in more than 550 villages in five states: Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh—with local, regional, national, and international partners in government, business, academia, etc. We thank Dr Paroda for the part in played in our growth and development.

In 2016, Dr Paroda organized a highly successful first international agrobiodiversity congress in New Delhi where India's Prime Minister Modi and other many dignitaries from sixty countries around the world participated. The Delhi Declaration made at that event called upon all nations to “accord top priority” to agrobiodiversity conservation and the sustainable use to achieve the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals related to poverty alleviation, food and nutritional security, health, gender equity, and global partnership. Dr Paroda continues to play an important role in crop science research through his association with Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) and as President of the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR) in New Delhi.

I appreciate, respect, and congratulate Dr Rajendra Singh Paroda for his role in furthering the cause of Indian agriculture throughout his life. The entire Sehgal family and the Sehgal Foundation teams in the US and in India are grateful for his support for our work to further rural development in India, for all our collaborations over the years, and for our shared understanding of the importance of agrobiodiversity and the conservation of the genetic resources of our planet.

Dr Paroda has attained the most valued place in life where he can be assured that he has made the world a better place by his work and by the way he has led his life.

Simon Hearn

Senior Adviser
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)
Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia
Email: simon.hearn@aciar.gov.au; perardua.hearn@gmail.com



On *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

Many thanks for providing a copy of 'The Journey of TAAS' publication which is a clearly presented exposition of the range of scientific and policy activities undertaken over the last fifteen years. Congratulations to you and your colleagues on progressing such a diversity of undertakings of high relevance to agricultural advancement in India and beyond. The issues addressed will continue to be of importance in the future, but in dynamic world settings the emphases are likely to change, and the challenge will be to keep pace or even ahead of those inevitable changes as TAAS has done in the past. Three overarching matters that come to mind for increased future attention are:

- The means to maintain and enhance government and private sector partnerships in research funding and the execution of research and adoption endeavours with national budget austerity disciplines likely to continue in the region
- Achieving a more multi-disciplinary approach in agricultural research institutions to harness the synergies of various disciplines
- Working to improve the funding and application of research extension services, which continue to be a bottleneck in many regional countries, including an increased role for both public and private sector service providers.

These are not new subjects, but remain areas where there is still much scope for improvement to underpin the important scientific research issues being supported by TAAS.

On *"Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"*

Thanks Raj-did you receive my open message of appreciation on behalf of the Executive Committee and myself yesterday. Good to hear Brussels went well. Our views on MTR seem relevant. This publication on "22 Years of APAARI" is very timely particularly given your stated intention to relinquish the position of Executive Secretary of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) after two decades of achievement in the position.

As Chairman of APAARI and on behalf of the Executive Committee and membership, I am writing to express our individual and joint appreciation and gratitude for your remarkable leadership, guidance and management over these years. In the last twenty years APAARI has developed from small beginnings to a highly recognised research partnership, coordination and advocacy forum. Membership is now at its highest levels, and APAARI's contributions to agricultural research for development not only in the important Asia-Pacific region, but also in a wider global context, is receiving wide ranging acknowledgement and acclaim at all levels. These achievements bear witness to your extraordinary commitment and determination over all your time as Executive Secretary. We congratulate and thank you for your monumental contributions, professionalism and hard work.

Your forthcoming retirement from the position of Executive Secretary will be a major event for APAARI. We also welcome your successor Dr Raghunath Ghodake, who has had a distinguished agricultural research and management career, including as the former Director General of the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) in PNG. Dr Ghodake has also worked closely with you and APAARI, and is well aware of the challenges and opportunities ahead to build onto the very high standards and achievements you have established. We all wish him well and will support him in his new role.

Your role as Executive Secretary will not end until early January 2015, but I thought it appropriate to convey our highest collegiate respects and sincere best wishes while you are still in the position. As the outgoing Chairman, I look forward to working with you in the next few weeks to facilitate the transition, and we look forward to your sound counsel and expertise to assist APAARI in the future. For me it has always been a very enjoyable and rewarding experience to work with you on APAARI matters. I thank you personally for your support in the role.

Simon

About Dr Raj Paroda

Dr Paroda's many distinguished scientific, research and leadership achievements and awards are well documented and acknowledged not only in his home country, but also across the Asia-Pacific Region and in the wider global agricultural community. This extensive recognition bears witness to his extraordinary contributions to both agricultural science and policy development, including his important work to improve the alleviation of poverty and hunger over the years. I know well that he remains committed to these goals for the future in his ongoing professional roles.

As a former Principal Adviser to the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), I was privileged to work closely with Dr Paroda over a period of eight years in his capacity as Executive Secretary of the Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI). This included my time as Chairman of APAARI for two years in 2013-14, and as Chairman of The Asia Pacific Agricultural Research Information System

(APARIS) Steering Committee from 2008-14. His professionalism, diligent leadership and friendship made this association with Dr Paroda both productive and enjoyable.

It is well known that Dr Paroda was Executive Secretary of APAARI for over twenty years. His length of service while impressive, is superseded by his achievements in consolidating APAARI as leading regional agricultural research for development forum. Under his leadership and co-ordination both public and private sector research and representative institutions joined together to meet common goals and aspirations. This was a tremendous achievement given the very diverse nature of the large region and its multifarious agricultural institutions. It is also noteworthy that this was achieved by APAARI on a very modest budget each year. Dr Paroda's aptitude and experience in agricultural research, education and extension was instrumental in enabling this to happen.

Under his guidance, APAARI focused on policy advocacy; research partnerships; regional networking; and human capacity building. He also placed a strong emphasis on communications and consultations to underpin these activities encapsulating both public and farmer organisations.

While the regional focus of APAARI was central to its activities, the organisation participated actively in wider inter-regional and global agricultural research activities and initiatives during Dr Paroda's tenure as Executive Secretary. These manifold international networks which are also well documented, enabled APAARI to present the Asia-Pacific perspectives on the range of global agricultural challenges and opportunities facing the world at present. Dr Paroda's guidance and active personal involvement in global forums over the years has directly facilitated APAARI's contributions to both scientific research and policy formulation in a timely and constructive manner. At a personal level I have always valued my time working with Dr Paroda in APAARI, and particularly during my two years as Chairman. His commitment was exemplary, and APAARI owes its previous and ongoing successes to the foundations and platforms established during his term of office.

I once again congratulate him on his enormous achievements and dedication to the agricultural and food industries of the region and beyond. I wish him every success in his current and future endeavours.

Uma Lele

Former Senior Advisor,
World Bank 700
New Hampshire Ave, Apt 304
Washington, DC 20037
Email: umalele1@gmail.com, uma@umalele.org



On the Book *"Reorienting Indian Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities"*

“**R**eorienting Indian Agriculture” is a tour de force. Every policymaker and researcher interested in India’s development should want to read it and explore its implications for policy and action. It is comprehensive in coverage ranging from agricultural education and research to seed industry, intellectual property and value chains. The book is based on scientific principle and its panoramic view combined with all the specific details is well worth taking in. I wish the book every success.

Raj Paroda, its author as former Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been one of its most dynamic leaders. His knowledge of Indian agriculture is encyclopaedic and his dedication to Indian agricultural development total.

Her Impressions about Raj Paroda

I consider Raj Paroda’s leadership in the establishment of the National Gene Bank, the largest in the world, to save India’s rich biodiversity as a singular achievement, besides the establishment of the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) funded by the World Bank of which the National Agricultural Research Information System (NARIS) was an important infrastructural system, and developing National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex at the Pusa Campus, New Delhi. These are few of his many singular achievements for which he will be remembered for a long time to come.

Raj has never allowed setbacks to come in the way of his forging ahead with the pursuit of his activity and expressing his views fearlessly as Dharma, without regard to its outcome or credit to himself, e.g., organizing a national conference in 2001 which Prime Minister Vajpayee inaugurated, even with a falsely created cloud over Raj’s head, which eventually went away, or his courageous paper on India’s GMO policy, after receiving considerable resistance from his fellow committee members.

It is an honour and a pleasure to know and work with you. I wish you a long healthy and productive life.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

A very fitting Birthday celebration indeed. I am sorry I will miss this grand occasion, Congratulations and enjoy every minute of it.

I wish you a Happy Birthday and a continued productive healthy life which has already contributed so much to Indian agriculture. As I have said on numerous occasions before, the NASC Complex, Pusa Campus which you built, with such leadership and fortitude, needs a plaque to commemorate your contribution on this occasion for the future generations to know your contributions.

It is a coincidence that we share the same birthday, The birthday of my only son precedes mine by a day. Over the years we have celebrated our birthdays together.

My 15-year old twin grandchildren (a boy and a girl) came to pick me up at the train station today. They have planned two grand parties, with a choice of their own. They propose to prepare - an Indian vegetarian feast for me and a fully meaty meal for their father on another day. They have become expert chefs. We are both blessed.

Deepak Pental

Professor of Genetics, UDSC, and
Former Vice Chancellor,
University of Delhi, Delhi-110007



Impressions on "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

I have read many reports that have emanated from the Trust and I have found these to be very useful. I take this opportunity to wish you and your colleagues many more creative and productive years of multifarious activities in the field of agriculture and nutrition.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

I come to know today that there was big event and invitation has been sent, but unfortunately I don't receive most of invitations. As I requested earlier, please ask TAAS team to include my email in the TAAS Address address list. It was indeed a pleasure. I could meet so many common friends. This shows how popular you are.

Wais Kabir

Former Executive Chairman
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
Address: Aristo Gulnagar, 1300 East Manipur,
Mirpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Mob.: +880-1715036732; Email: waiskabir@hotmail.com



Congratulations for your great success to bring APAARI to such a height. I am circulating it for greater awareness amongst the communities.

About Dr Raj Paroda

While visiting his creation, National Agricultural Science Complex during 2006, I could measure his height in visioning agriculture of large and diverse India. Establishment of Agriculture Science Museum is one of the many examples that carries his footprints of creativity and devotion.

I met him for the first time at an international event for which I was waiting for long. Meeting Paroda ji and to know him personally has been great for me. It appeared to me as if he knew me for many years. Since then, I used to see him often, mostly in scientific conferences and continue discussing with him on contemporary development of agriculture.

I found myself lucky to work with him in a steering committee of CIMMYT regional project. While working with CIMMYT policy formulation meeting, I saw Paroda ji sharing his wisdom on regional agriculture and advocating inclusiveness of all actors in the region. He feels that science has no boundary and for the sake of accelerating and intensification of agriculture in the whole region, all nations should be aligned with their capacity. That reflects in Tagore saying, “*We will offer, we will accept and nobody will be left out in this wholly land of Indian Subcontinent*”. That made me more attached to this great person.

Dr Paroda values others, his smiling face, soft and loving words are inspiring for those who are growing professionally- for which he is respected and admired. I wish him a long and healthy productive life for the benefit of the scientific community particularly for the South Asia.

I sincerely acknowledge to have his affection that will remain a treasure in my life.

Sant Singh Virmani

US-based Indian Plant Breeder,
Rice Scientist and a Former Principal Scientist,
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila, Philippines
Currently Freelance Consultant, International Agriculture 4425,
Partney Court, Plano, Texas 75024, USA
Email.: sant@fastmail.fm



About Dr Paroda

I have found Dr RS Paroda a man of distinction, vision, resourcefulness and accomplishments at national and international levels and above all, a good friend. As Deputy Director General and Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), he was instrumental in establishing and supporting the Hybrid Rice Research Program in India in collaboration with IRRI where I had the responsibility to develop and disseminate this technology in countries outside China.

As member of Board of Trustees of IRRI, he provided useful research guidelines to the institute from a national perspective and selected appropriate rice technologies from IRRI for introduction and collaborative evaluation in India. He has achieved success at various positions despite prevailing odds. His numerous awards and distinctions, earned nationally and internationally speak of him adequately and eloquently. India owes him a lot for his multifarious contributions in ICAR-NBPGR, ICAR, NAAS and TAAS before retirement and after retirement. His recognition as a *Padma Bhushan* awardee by the President of India is a good testimony of his diversified contributions to Indian agriculture.

Ashok Kumar Singh

Deputy Director General (Argil Extn)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
KAB-I, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012
Mob.: +91-9582922324; Email:aksicar@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

Very well-presented Sir. Yet, there are numerous facets of your journey which need to be brought before. This could be inspirational for many of us.

On *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

I cannot dare to make any comments on the Journey of TAAS contents. I hope that you would continue to provide the whole Agriculture Fraternity with your invaluable guidance, wisdom and experience through the various activities that TAAS is renowned for. We will continue to look up to you as always.

About TAAS publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

The document contains the efforts of TAAS in promotion of Science in agriculture sector, in my close association with TAAS during last one decade, I have seen the uniqueness and broadness in perceiving the issues of national importance and organising scientific debates and bringing out its outputs to have better public connect. I heartily congratulate you for this effort and for serving the science and the society in the best possible manner.

AN Mukhopadhyay

Former Vice Chancellor
Assam agricultural University,
Jorhat-785013 (Assam)



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Very thoughtfully prepared documentation of life of a great visionary like you. I personally feel your foresightedness and human touch played a vital role in shaping Agric. research & development in India.

My heartfelt prayers for your happy and healthy life.

CLL Gowda

Former Deputy Director General (Research)
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
(ICRISAT), Patancheru (Telangana)
Email : c.gowda@cgiar.org



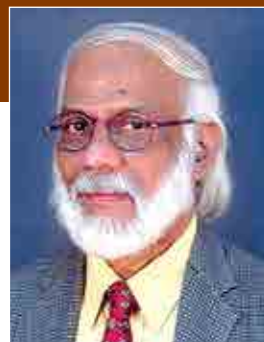
About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

I have known Dr Paroda for nearly 3 decades (from 1983). I have been involved in the formation of APAARI where I participated in the meetings to create APAARI with both Prof RB Singh and Dr RS Paroda. He has been one of my guides and mentors, and over the years we have become good friends. I admired the meticulous planning and hard-working nature, and most of all pleasing manners and personality.

I wish him and the family good health and happiness.

G Padmanaban

Former Director, Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
Bengaluru-560012
Chancellor CUTN; NASI Honorary Scientist;
Department of Biochemistry, IISc, Bengaluru-560012 ;
Senior Science Innovation Adviser, BIRAC,
Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Gol,
Email: geepee@alumni.iisc.ac.in



On TAAS publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Thank you very much for sending me a soft copy of the TAAS publication, describing two decades of its contribution to Science-Led Growth in Agriculture. We are all aware of your outstanding contribution to science and technology-based future for Indian Agriculture. I do hope the country will benefit by your wisdom and vision. I will definitely go through the TAAS publication, which you have been using as a 'Think Tank'. I am doing Okay, although age is catching up.

I do hope you are keeping well in this terrible time of pandemic and I wish your effort all success and good health to sustain all your goals.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Please accept my hearty congratulations for election as a Fellow of ATSE. You richly deserve this and many other awards for your massive contribution to World Agriculture. I am also happy that you have supported the commercial trials of GM-Mustard.

It will make a big impact on the decision making process of the agencies, including the Supreme Court.

Anupam Varma

Former President, World Society for Virology; INSA Emeritus Scientist
Former National Professor
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi
(Res.: Jai Maa Apartment, Sector 5, New Delhi 110075)
Mob.: +91-9810217141; Email: av.acpv@gmail.com;



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Greetings. Heartiest congratulations for the publication of a very valuable document, very appropriately titled 'Building Trust'. This will be an important resource for policy development for a long time. I feel proud to have been associated with the TAAS and you.

Impressions about Dr RS Paroda

Dr RS Paroda is one of the most decorated and internationally acclaimed agricultural scientists of the country. His monumental contributions in strengthening and creating world-class infrastructure for the NARS will be remembered and reflected for a long time. In particular, development of academic programs and infrastructure of the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, which has become the world's leading institution for conserving plant genetic resources, and building of the 'National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC)' are landmark contributions. Dr Paroda is a great visionary. He is a perfectionist. An outstanding example is the Millennium Indian Science Congress he organized in 2001 as General President of the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), which raised the bar for ISCA meetings to greater heights. In this meeting, he outlined the "Panch Sutra" strategy, to realize India's vision of freedom from poverty, hunger and malnutrition. I'd also like to take advantage of this opportunity to thank him for readily accepting ICAR-IARI's proposal to establish the 'Advanced Centre for Plant Virology (ACPV)'.

It has always been a pleasure to have academic discussions with him as reason and logic always triumphed, and I take this opportunity to extend warm thanks for his continued valuable personal and professional support.

Ashok Patel

Former Vice Chancellor,
SDAU Agricultural University,
Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University (SDAU),
Sardarkrushinagar, Dantiwada 385506 (Gujarat)
Mob.: +91-9898198220; Email: vc@sdau.edu.in



About "Dr RS Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI"

I have come to know that after doing incredibly distinguished services to alleviate hunger, poverty and spurring sustainability of natural base, you have decided to demit office of the Executive Secretary of APAARI from January, 2015. It is overarching due to your vision and commitments of over two decades in APAARI that it has become synonym of wide accolades and recognitions. What we are more elated is that you, an institution in itself, have made your mentorship and expertise available to APAARI as ever for countering challenges ahead. The widely acclaimed global status of APAARI is in fact the comprehensive account of your achievements and vision in policy making.

We in SDAU are thankful to you and congratulate you for your vision and accomplishments that have consummated in overall converged development of agriculture as a profession and farming community in particular. Now, when you are relieved from other responsibilities, we are sure to receive bigger share of your time and intellect for this university.

BS Dhillon

Padma Shri Awardee
Former Vice Chancellor,
Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab)
Res.: Villa 27, Sector 106, Mohali-160055 (Punjab)
Phone: +91 987 2871033; Email: dhillonbaldevsingh@gmail.com



On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Thanks for sending me a copy. It has come up well. Moreover, it (the recommendations therein) is going to serve as a useful repository to those who are concerned and are working on the development of a 'Road Map' for sustainable progress. I congratulate and thank you and TAAS for this,

His impressions about Dr Paroda

Dr Paroda's outstanding organizing ability was more than evident when he held the Indian Science Congress at the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi as its General President. I was closely associated with the arrangements. Everything was very meticulously planned and executed. As a result, the funds he generated proved to be more than required. Out of the savings, he gave a part to IARI and with the rest, established the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS). I had the fortune of being founder treasurer of the Trust. Working with TAAS proved to be an amazing experience. TAAS has organized numerous discussions and, in the process, has developed an independent 'think tank' on matters of agricultural importance.

As Director, ICAR-NBPGR, Dr Paroda built the new campus, which used to be considered as the most elegant building of the ICAR. In fact, Dr AB Joshi, Former Director, ICAR-IARI and DDG (Crop Sciences), referred to this building as the "Red Fort" of the ICAR. I had good fortune of working at the NBPGR and sitting in that building for about five years. Dr Paroda established the National Gene Bank, which now has the second largest holding of germplasm accessions in the world. His services to PGR were honoured by various institutions, of which I would like to mention International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and Agriculture Institute of Kazakhstan, both these institutes named their gene banks after Dr RS Paroda. PAU also had the honour to confer the honorary degree on Dr Paroda in 2012.

He is also the person who perceived, conceptualized and gave practical shape to the impressive and much needed National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC) at Pusa Campus, New Delhi. As usual in our society, when NASC was under construction, there was some criticism, but all those critics became great admirers once the building was completed. He took so keen interest that one day he discussed the type of taps to be installed in NASC. I was lucky to be one of the early occupants of the residential complex adjoining the main building. It is a world class facility and the days are not far off when it will also be recognized, beyond its current utility, for its architectural elegance and design.

I salute Dr Paroda for his contributions to the nation and wish and pray for his long, healthy and productive life.

Khageswar Pradhan

Chancellor
Shiksha-o-Anusandhan University, Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
Former Vice Chancellor,
Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology (OUAT),
Bhubaneswar (Odisha) & SK Rajasthan Agricultural University (SKRAU),
Bikaner (Rajasthan)
Email: ks_pradhan@yahoo.com



On *"Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"*

The establishment of APAARI and its contribution in promoting agricultural research in the region is a well thought of program of FAO. For this, all credit goes to you for its establishment and continued involvement and support, which is reflected in the attached publication.

I congratulate you for your serving APAARI for such a long period in the initial stage and leaving a mark which will be remembered by the FAO and the Scientists associated with NARS of Asia Pacific region.

Gurbachan Singh

Vice Chairman, TAAS New Delhi; Chairman, GSFRED, Karnal;
Former Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi &
Former Agriculture Commissioner, Govt. of India
Res, Basant Villa, Adjacent Adarsh Public School, Kunjpura Road,
Karnal 132001 (Haryana)
Mob.: 9971167767; email: dr.gurbachan@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

I have read the article with great interest. It is highly thought provoking and editors of the magazine did a great job in highlighting your unparalleled contributions to Indian and global agriculture and farmers welfare. Your vision for 21st century agricultural research, education, development and policy cited in the magazine will serve as road map for future food, nutrition and environmental security around the world.

Salute to your service to the nation. We pray to the God for your happy, healthy long life.

HS Gupta

Chairman, Assam Agriculture Commission &
Ex-Director General, Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA)
Former Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
Res.: Kalypso Court, Tower 3, Unit 1601, Jaypee Greens Wish Town, Sector
138, Noida- 201304 (Uttar Pradesh)
Mob.: +91-9654494989; Email: hsgupta.53@gmail.com



About TAAS Proceedings *"Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food Grain Production: A Way Forward"*

Heartly greetings to team TAAS for bringing out the Proceedings and Recommendations of the 'National WorkshopYield Gaps' held in August last year. I would also like to congratulate Dr Paroda, President, TAAS for his guidance without which it would not have been possible to bring out such an outstanding publication. I am confident that this publication will be a guiding force in maintaining food security of the country in time to come.

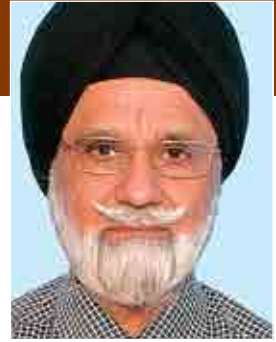
My Impressions about Dr Paroda

After I moved to ICAR-IARI in 2009, Dr Paroda had returned from Central Asia and was working from his TAAS office in the IARI campus. When I visited him, I was appalled to see that a person who had created huge structure like National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC) and had modernised ICAR with great efforts, was sitting in a small chamber. It was his greatness that he preferred to keep his TAAS office in IARI rather than anywhere else. I, then and there decided to do my bit and got TAAS office expanded and created a chamber for him commensurate to his status. This gave me a great satisfaction of paying back to someone who had contributed enormously to the system and was not being taken care of the way he deserved. I take pride in this step of mine and still cherish the memory of our association.

Another way of recognizing his services to NARES (in a small way though), was to confer upon him the inaugural Dr AB Joshi Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to agricultural education in the country. This award was conferred upon Dr Paroda by the then Prime Minister of India Dr Manmohan Singh Ji in the Golden Jubilee convocation of the ICAR-IARI. I continue to cherish the memory of our association and wish him a healthy and happy times ahead.

JS Samra

Former Chief Executive Officer
National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), GoI
NASC Complex, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012
Email: jssamra2001@yahoo.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

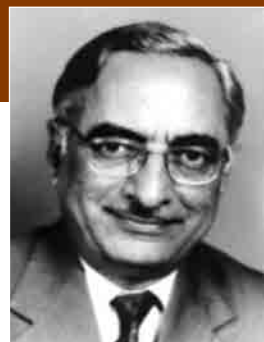
Thanks very much for sharing an excellent journey of TAAS and congratulations for the same. Dr R S Paroda has always been very innovative with out of box leadership and steered National Agriculture Research System to the Himalayan peaks. He toiled hard to link India with the International Institutions of repute. Visionary infrastructure created by him is going to sustain R&D of India for many decades. He is continuing his stewardship through TAAS and should include pulses also in the agenda.

Free Trade Agreement with ASEAN countries will throw many challenges including indirectly those of China, Australia, New Zealand etc.

Very high priority has been accorded to grid quality solar power generation whereas localised non grid generation for agriculture will be cheaper and low hanging fruits should be harnessed first to realize inclusive growth with attractive carbon footprints.

GL Kaul

Former Vice Chancellor,
Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat-785013b (Assam)
Res.: KA 59 (FF), Kaushambi, Ghaziabad-201012 (Uttar Pradesh)
Mob.: +91-9899586252; Email: glkaul@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Thank you for sharing the article through which I came to know about your auspicious 80th birthday. I profusely apologise for the inexcusable delay in responding. Lalita joins me in sending our warmest felicitations on this occasion, and pray for your good health, happiness, and success in your pursuit of working on national as well as international issues connected to agriculture science and technology. We look forward to seeing you enhancing your leadership role in the coming years. I personally feel privileged to have worked with you, and contributed my bit under your able guidance. Thank you for all the support provided.

On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"

Thank you for sharing the publication, which I find well compiled and illustrated. My congratulations to you and your Team for the efforts put in in making APAARI a dynamic institution with focus on inter-regional cooperation among various NARS of the subcontinent. I would like to place on record my sincere appreciation for the untiring efforts put in by you in particular all these years in making it what it is today.

I am sad to learn that you would be laying down your office in APAARI, thus ending a long and a very productive association with this organization. I am sure your successor will derive required inspiration from you to keep it going as before.

SM Paul Khurana

Former Vice Chancellor, Rani Durgawati Vishwa Vidyalyaya, Jabalpur
Former Director, ICAR-CPRI Shimla;
Founder Director, Amity Institute of Biotechnology, AUH
Dean, Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology,
Prof of Bio-Technology, AIB & Head-Univ. Science Instrumentation Centre,
Amity University, Gurgaon-Manesar-122413 (Haryana)
Mob: 09650663197; Email: smpaulkhurana@gmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Hats off to you, Sir for such an incredible service to the nation, a wonderful compilation and setting the example to follow for ensuring the pace for Agriculture and food development in India. Congrats !

On TAAS publication "Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

It has come up so beautifully with many lovely pictures, including your portrait. I have always been appreciative of your thinking & working for Indian Agriculture. The very development of NASC is a 'living' creation by you without which many things would have never happened at all, like in the last two decades. TAAS is the most vibrant example of your selfless services to the motherland. I don't have suitable words to express the limelight you gave to ICAR & "Accelerating Science-led Agricultural Growth in India on so many facets.

Congrats to you and your team. Let me also add that these words are genuine & very true expressions of my feelings.

About Dr Paroda

"Most revered *Padma Bhushan* Dr RS Paroda, is the prominent Indian Agricultural Scientist & Former DG, ICAR/ Secretary, DARE, responsible for reorientation and accelerating agriculture research under Agricultural Research Institutes. Also enhancing the action plans and implementing them for achieving sustainable agriculture that improved the livelihood of small farm holders as well as helped India to get rid of poverty, hunger and malnutrition by adoption. Further scaling of new technologies and innovations of his 'Action Plans for Secure and Sustainable Agriculture' by adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and achieve the growth and income of the agriculture sector accelerated to help achieve SDGs at a much faster rate through both a missionary zeal.



Dr SM Paul Khurana receiving Fellowship of CHAI from Dr Raj Paroda

He also brought about key institutional reforms by reviewing the then agricultural policies and a new way of (agricultural) development for farmers' welfare to annul emerging challenges; adopting new missions/national programs; strengthening of NARS: ICAR/SAUs/KVKs/PRI, with urgency for doubling current public funding for research. Recommended establishment of a new National Agricultural Development and Farmers' Welfare Council (NAD&FWC) through the Scientific Advisor to GOI under the chairmanship of Prime Minister to ensure coordination and convergence for agriculture, establishing Farmers' Welfare Commissions both at the Centre and State level with Independent Strategic Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation Units for empowerment and motivation of women and youth to remain in agriculture and become important game changers.

ML Madan

Padma Shri Awardee
Former Vice Chancellor, DUVASU
Res.: 'Anugrah', Madan Lodge, House No 842/6,
Urban Estate, Karnal-132001 (Haryana)
Mob.: +91- 9896017878; Email: mlmadan@hotmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

The TAAS publication is just not only 'Building Trust' but 'Delivering Trust', a rare trait seen in agricultural scientific research and development. This volume presenting global dimensions in agriculture reads more as a 'chronicle' of the last decade and a half of agriculture research innovation than mere 'Journey'.

Any journey in agriculture with vision, activity milestones and goals are bound to take a traveller on a sound path to his ever-changing dynamic destination, and the saga of the research and development initiatives taken by you and TAAS are no exception to the above. In fact, comprehending so much could be achieved in these 15 years, led and spearheaded by you, speaks of the tremendous dedication, zeal, capacity to think and deliver which you possess and personify.

The voluminous information, insights and policy directions on issues of high National Interest in agriculture and animal science which have been deliberated during past years have been excellently put together. What is needed is that several issues highlighted to augment production are yet to catch the eye of powers who are responsible for direction and implementation. TAAS has truly come out as a think tank with global reach on agriculture policy and innovation.

Congrats to you for having achieved so much and also to have put forth this valuable treasure information together.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

This gives me greatest pleasure in conveying our hearty congratulations on the eve of your birthday which is touching a landmark in calendar years and more so bringing in its wake the decades of your excellence in agriculture sciences, immaculate leadership, a forest of trust, love, respect and affection you have been able to muster around you. I for one, who has had the privilege of your association and leadership look at your 80th birthday as a day of great accomplishment and reminder of your charming persona.

Sarla joins in wishing you many more decades of health and happiness and we pray that let the STAR Paroda continue its shine and keep on the path of illuminating others. God bless you on your birthday with happiness, health and success. Our congratulations to Shashi ji and children. Not being present to personally talk to you and wish you and family is a feeling which the circumstances have put us to. We regret not being able to join but we will look forth-for a special celebration.

MP Yadav

Former Vice Chancellor, SVBUA&T, Modipuram,
Meerut 250110 (Uttar Pradesh)
Res, 12C, Tower 7, Central Park II, Bellevue, Sector 48,
Sohna Road, Gurugram-122018 (Haryana)
Mob.: +91- 9810820093, 8920750043;
Email: Yadav_mp@hotmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

It is indeed an excellent compilation of the multifarious activities of TAAS over the last 15 years under your able leadership and support of all those who have appreciation and concern for science and scientific fervour for the development of the society. So much has been done by TAAS in very short span of time.

The TAAS has not only conducted International and National Symposia/Workshops/BSS and Foundation Day Special Lectures by eminent speakers, it has recognized the science leaders of today by awarding them with the coveted Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture. Important personalities including Former President of India Dr APJ Kalam, Dr Manmohan Singh, Dr Balram Jakhar, Dr MS Swaminathan, Dr R Chidambaram, Dr MGK Menon, Dr MS Ahluwalia, Dr K Kasturirangan blessed as Chief Guest of the Award Function.

In fact, the present publication is a treasure for future direction to Indian and world agriculture and will serve as reference source for Policy Planning, Policy Advocacy, Public Awareness, Role of Extension and women in agriculture, Market Linkage and Intelligence. I had the opportunity to attend some these programs organized in *Vigyan Bhavan*, Ranchi, NASC, NAAS and other places. Some of these were centered on livestock related themes.

My deep regards and congratulations to you and worthy Board of Trustees of TAAS for the quality achievements.

About TAAS Proceedings "Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food Grain Production: A Way Forward"

As yield gaps due to lower yields by farmers than the anticipated ones, are one of the handicaps in our agriculture, this publication will be very useful to address this issue.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

We send our highest regards for mentoring and shaping the future of thousands of people and institutions in India and abroad. Today is also 'Teachers' Day'. We remember our teachers with great respect and regards.

Sir you have contributed so much for development of agriculture nationally and internationally. May God grant you long life and sound health.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Kindly accept our heartiest congratulations on being elected as Foreign Fellow 2022 of ATSE (Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering for the year 2022 in recognition of your outstanding contributions in world agriculture.

Wish you more laurels in times to come.

Impressions about Dr Paroda

While an administrator of par excellence, Dr Paroda equally cares for his family, friends and colleagues. He is an epitome of quick decision, action, accuracy and faith in his subordinates. Realising the need for change, he gave the dictum "Change we must, but difficult to make". Realizing the need for documentation, data base and recognition of the performers, he created data base on ICAR institutes and all the scientists working under ICAR, and enlarged the scope of awards and recognitions to cover entire spectrum of activities in the Council. Dr Paroda has great affection and bonding with rural India and its people. As Chairman, Haryana Farmers' Commission, he received tremendous love and affection from the farmers and people he met/interacted, and received highest regards and felicitations. He remains connected with his roots, coming from a village in Rajasthan.

One great quality I observed in Dr Paroda is his frankness. If he is unhappy or not satisfied with the behaviour or performance of his colleague, he expresses then and there often with a benign worded.

I wish Dr Paroda a very healthy and productive life ahead so that he continues to guide and aspire the younger generation of scientists for overall development of agriculture in India and abroad.

Rajeev Varshney

International Chair in Agriculture & Food Security,
Director, Centre for Crop & Food Innovation,
Director, WA State Agricultural Biotechnology Centre
Murdoch University, Perth , Australia
Mob.: +91-9949994070; Email: rajeev.varshney@murdoch.edu.au



A Few Words about Dr Raj Paroda

Over the years, I had the privilege to invite him and have his presence in conferences/ meetings organized by me at ICRISAT to share his experiences in the field of genomics and biotechnology. It is always a pleasure to listen to him, as he is one of the very few visionaries who have embraced new tools and technologies that could contribute to agriculture for improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. In particular, he has always stressed on the need to explore and exploit the contemporary biotechnology tools and applications to address the most pressing issue of our time, which is, to help smallholder farmers to have reduced inputs cost, increased productivity and better income.

I recall an instance when I shared one research paper on molecular breeding leading to development of superior lines for resistance to foliar diseases in peanut with him. He congratulated ICRISAT team and me for this work and also shared that paper in his network including high profile personalities in Indian agricultural fraternity and mentioned that we need to have similar kind of work in the Indian agricultural system. Such words coming from an agriculture stalwart really inspire and encourage young people like me.

I am highly impressed with Dr Paroda being an intellectual geneticist and very able administrative researcher. Dr Paroda is a man of head and heart and personally, for me he has been great source of inspiration. I am sure he will keep inspiring the younger generation of researchers and I look forward to being a fortunate recipient of his knowledge and wisdom in future.

On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – a Retrospective"

The achievements of APAARI have been just impressive and remarkable. Many thanks for your dynamic leadership and able guidance that made APAARI (and Asia) shining in International Agriculture for the cause of farmers in Asia.

TR Sharma

Deputy Director General (Crop Science)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi 110 001
Phone: (Off.) 91-11-23382545; E-mail: ddgcs.icar@nic.in



On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

It contains useful information about the journey of TAAS since its inception and would be a valuable information resource.

His Impressions about Dr Paroda

Although I had many formal and informal interactions with Dr Paroda during the past 23 years, but more intense and serious meetings happened when I joined as Executive Director at the National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI) at Mohali (Punjab). Being Chairman of Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of NABI, he is always concerned with the establishment of the Institute. He made special efforts to bring out the 'Vision 2030' document of NABI. He has personally seen that this document should become a guideline for the future of the institute. He is always concerned that we should have high quality, skilled and trained Human resource, and state-of-the-art infrastructure. He desired that NABI should start flagship programs at the institute to make it different from the existing institutions in the country. God may bless him all happiness in the years to come.

MS Chauhan

Vice Chancellor,
GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar (Uttarakhand)
Former Director,
ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI),
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)
Mob.: +91-9991652455; Email: dir.ndri@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Great contribution by you in Indian Agricultural System. You are a Great Scientist with very effective leadership and a great human being. We all wish you a very healthy, prosperous life.

BM Prasanna

Director, Global Maize Program,
CIMMYT, Nairobi, Kenya
Res.: C-115, First Floor, Inderpuri, New Delhi 110012
Mob.: +91-9540293287; Email: b.m. prasanna@cgiar.org,
bmprasanna@gmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

I read with delight the journey of TAAS in the last 15 years! The yeoman service you have rendered to agricultural research and development, both nationally and internationally, is indeed an inspiration for all of us, and for generations to come.

The depth and breadth of topics covered in this document are undoubtedly useful for any policy maker involved in agricultural R&D not just in India, but abroad too. I congratulate you and the TAAS team for this timely publication!

May God bestow on you continued good health and strength to steer us for years to come! Your leadership and guidance are extremely important for the country to achieve greater heights in agriculture, while successfully tackling various challenges.

Bhag Mal

Former Coordinator, IPGRI (now Bioversity International)
Former Executive Secretary, APAARI
Currently Secretary and Trustee,
Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)
ICAR-IARI Campus, Pusa, New Delhi 110012
Mob.: +91-9810318187; Email: bhagml@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Heartiest congratulations for sharing this excellent article which perfectly describes your academic journey citing numerous landmark achievements. You are indeed borne leader, institution builder and a great reformist. Your contributions are unparallel in the national, regional and world agriculture. I am fortunate to have been associated and worked under your guidance and mentorship for several decades.

I sincerely wish that you continue serving the society through science with same zeal and vigour.

Impression about Dr RS Paroda

I also had an opportunity to work closely with Dr RS Paroda in the Institute building activities when he made me the Head, Project Implementation Unit of USAID Project at the ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi and was responsible for implementing the project activities and organizing monthly meetings under the chairmanship of Director, NBPGR and quarterly review meetings under the chairmanship of Dr Paroda when he was DDG (Crop Sciences), ICAR. The project resulted in the construction of new NBPGR building including national genebank for long-term conservation and various laboratories, medium-term conservation facilities at 30 active germplasm sites and training of over 100 scientists and technicians in different US laboratories.

Once, it so happened in a Seed meeting convened by the Additional Secretary(AS) DAC, all participants from the seed companies were criticizing ICAR's role and I was the lone defender from ICAR side but I boldly and frankly defended the role and contributions of ICAR which was not only highly appreciated by the AS but he also informed Dr Paroda about my performance in the meeting. Dr Paroda then congratulated me and asked me not to let ICAR down on technical matters in all such meetings and assured me of his full support. This is an excellent example of high degree of trust he has in his colleagues.

During the First Crop Science Congress organized at the Iowa State University, Ames in 1992 which I happened to attend along with Dr RS Paroda, Prof MS Swaminathan, and several other Indian Scientists, one evening when we were walking through the campus of Iowa State University, Dr Paroda remarked “*what a beautiful campus and why cannot we make such a campus in India*”. I then responded and said “*it all depends on people like you who are at the helm of affairs in ICAR*”. I think, Dr Paroda determined and started working on this idea, generated resources and executed his plan to achieve the goal and as a result what we see today is the NASC, a beautiful complex housing a large number of CG Center offices, national institutes/centers, scientific societies, with excellent facilities of symposium hall, conference hall, committee rooms, scientific museum and international guest house. This world class complex is a great contribution of Dr RS Paroda.

Ajit Shasany

Director
ICAR-National Institute of Plant Biotechnology (NIPB),
Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012



Appreciation for an Article “*A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence*”

Good morning, Sir. Gone through the Chapter. Very nicely presented. Personally, I feel that it is difficult to present about you within a chapter. I follow you from my student days and have drawn inspiration and blessings from you.

You are at different level, which other can't think. I am always a back bencher from a remote village. I can't speak, only appreciate you.

Shivaji Pandey

Former Director Plant Production and Protection Division,
Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Rome (Italy)



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

What a piece on you, your contributions your achievements! Excellent write-up. Congratulations and personal regards!!

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations! The Academy has greatly honored itself by this action.

P Das

Former Deputy Director General (Agril Extn)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan II
Pusa Campus, New Delhi -110012



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

I have gone through instantly, wonderful article truly depicting your personality and the key achievements. Always inspiring to go through your biography. We feel much privileged to have personal blessings from you Sir.

Prem Mathur

Honorary Research Fellow,
Bioversity International, National Consultant (Agrobiodiversity),
FAO-India Consultant (Agriculture, Policy & Extension),
CPE-Myanmar, FAO-OEDD
Former Regional Director, Central and South Asia, Bioversity International
Mob.: +91-9811167404; Email: mathur.prem@outlook.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

We are very proud of you Doctor sahib. Your achievements are a testimony of your hard work and dedication. Moreover, being an Ajmerian myself, I am extremely excited to see your rise to the international level. I pray the God to grant you many more productive years of happiness and prosperity. Very well covered your achievements. Many congratulations.

About Dr Raj Paroda

Dr RS Paroda has a great vision with positive thinking that has helped Indian agriculture research and education programs to achieve greater heights and is considered as one of the best agricultural research and development infrastructure in the world. I still remember when we were together at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA to participate in the First Crop Science Congress in 1992, when he represented as DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, and during our discussion we mentioned the significance of Crop Science Congress and appreciated the facilities for the organisation of such events at Iowa State University Campus. His response was that given an opportunity, we would make a better campus in India where we could organise such international events. His dream came true when India organised the Second Crop Science Congress under his leadership and the building of National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC), where we recently organised the 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress. NASC complex has now become the most popular facility in the country for the organisation of such events. Another significant contribution is to bring 10 out of 15 CGIAR Centers under one roof and this has helped strong partnership between CG Centers and Indian national programs. There is no end to describing his contributions to Indian agriculture, however, due to limitation, I will say that his contributions are never ending and he is still contributing to strengthen our national system and in achieving food and nutrition security of the growing Indian population. To me, he has always been a great supporter and advisor from time to time, that helped me to achieve my targets. I learned so much from him and continue to do so.

Bushan L Jalali

Former Director of Research,
CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (Haryana)
#601, Neelkanth Apartments, Sector 21-C Part III,
Faridabad (Haryana)
Email: bljalali@gmail.com



On *"Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – A Retrospective"*

Thank you so very much for the publication on '22 years of APAARI'.

I have gone through this comprehensive and yet beautifully documented publication, with great interest. Hearty congratulations for the remarkable efforts put in, over the years, by you and your dedicated team in this focused endeavour in the Asia-Pacific region.

However, to keep the qualitative momentum of APAARI activities moving, you need to continue to shoulder the responsibilities at least for few more years.

For our future ready reference, I would appreciate if a hard copy of this publication is made available. Thanking you once again.

On *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

Hearty Congratulations for this outstanding accomplishment. It was indeed a sheer joy to see the wide spectrum of pivotal issues addressed by TAAS over the years. And, the 'journey' has been aptly chronicled. Congratulations once again.

S Bala Ravi

Former Assistant Director General (IPR), ICAR
Mob.: +91- 9891106093;
Email: sbala2001in@yahoo.com



On an article "Food System in India Challenges, Performance and Promise" - For the United Nations Food System Summit 2021'

I got an opportunity to read your joint paper with Dr Gulati & others on Indian Food Systems written on auspices of Scientific Group for the UN Food Systems Summit. The paper provides crisp and incisive analysis of multifaceted advances made by the Indian agriculture from the Green Revolution period with very impressive insightful analysis of pathways pursued along with foresightful perspectives, very useful for policy makers. For all concerned in agriculture, it provides an enlightening reading.

KC Bansal

Secretary, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)
Former Director, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (ICAR),
New Delhi 110012
Res.: A81, Carlton Estate 4, DLF Phase 5, Sector 53,
Gurugram-122001 (Haryana)
Mob.: +91-9999105667; Email: kcbansal27@gmail.com



On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – a Retrospective"

Thanks for this opportunity to me to have this comprehensive document on APAARI. It will act as an excellent source of information for us on agricultural research for development in the region, with an extraordinary valuable input and guidance of a world science leader of your stature.

Looking forward to your continued support and guidance.

Hari D Upadhyaya

Head, Rajendra S Paroda Genebank
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT),
Patancheru (Telangana)
Adjunct Professor in the Department of Agronomy,
Kansas State University, USA and University of Western Australia
Email: h.upadhyay@cgiar.org



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Many thanks for sharing the TAAS publication 'Building Trust' on activities of TAAS. It is indeed a document of truly great efforts indicating your vision and commitment to advancement of agriculture. The publication presents a truly global dimensions of a decade and half of journey. Splendid, but as we all know you, it is never, even a fraction, less than Splendid.

We all are happy that a *Karmyogi* like you is guiding TAAS and a broader spectrum of activities under The Trust. Congratulations for this and with best regards

Reminisces about Dr Paroda

During December 2002, in recognition of his immense contributions, ICRISAT's Genebank was named as 'Rajendra S Paroda Genebank'. This was a moment to cherish, I, as Head of the Genebank welcomed Dr Paroda and Mrs Paroda during plaque unveiling ceremony. This was a first instance that an important facility such as Genebank of a CGIAR center was being named in honour of Dr Paroda. He truly deserved it. In my speech at that time, I described him as a '*Karmayogi* par excellence'. Since then, our relationship became much stronger and Dr Paroda made it a point to come to genebank and get a first-hand information on not only the regular genebank activities but on research that ICRISAT's Rajendra S Paroda genebank was conducting. He was particularly fascinated with our research on concept of mini core collection, where in 1% of germplasm accessions represents diversity of entire collection that can be used to identify germplasm to meet needs of the breeders for traits of economic importance. He always encouraged me to do first class science. In one such interaction, he asked me in my office "Hari why don't you apply for DDG's post in ICAR, as people like you can contribute significantly to agricultural research in India". I thanked and told him that due to my straightforward nature, I will not be a fit person. This gave another glimpse of his personality and constant thinking about good of organization and people.

BK Sharma

Professor of Physics & Dean R&I, Manipal University-Jaipur
Dahmi Kalan, Jaipur - Ajmer Expressway Jaipur (Rajasthan) Email:
balkrishna.sharma@jaipur.manipal.edu



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

What a remarkable achievement. Sir, hats off to you for bringing out such an important, interesting and knowledge enriching document. Even a person like me who has little background in the field of Agriculture could easily realise how useful contribution this is for all classes of people from Agri scientists to common man. The vast amount of work done in TAAS in the last 15 years has been brilliantly show cased. Only a person, with huge enthusiasm and thorough commitment that you have, could achieve this. I could read in the last few hours, I found it an amazing treasure. I am sure the coming generations will be greatly benefitted by it.

Sir, you are truly a trend setter. My very best personal regards and best compliments to you and your team.

Dr RS Paroda- A Great Administrator and Scholar Par Excellence

I came in very close contact with him during 2013-14, when the Third Rajasthan Science Congress was being planned. It was to be organized at Manipal University, Jaipur during Feb. 28 to March 2, 2014. Since, I was the Dean, Faculty of Science at MUJ at that time, the responsibility fell on me. I was appointed Organising Secretary. Dr Paroda was the General President and so we had lot of personal interactions and also on telephone and internet. I found him a very amazing person. He was full of energy and would respond to everything addressed to him. He never hesitated in advising, providing solutions instantly and even going a step further by taking over the problems by himself. Whether it was an issue of finances or inviting speakers or any other matter, he was the best solution provider. In him, I found the most dependable friend, philosopher and guide. Although, he is much taller in accomplishments, he did not hesitate to descend to my level, if needed. I found it most enjoyable working under his guidance. I would always cherish those few days which we spent together during the Rajasthan Science Congress. Later also, we had a few occasions to meet and it was with the same warmth and openness. I salute him for all these extraordinary qualities

and have learnt from him what leadership truly means. I often wonder and sometimes even envy as to how could one person achieve so much academically and professionally. One incident I would like to mention - during that period, I was late in responding and I wrote a mail to him at 4.30 am and to my shock, his response came within five minutes. Such was his sense of responsibility. I sincerely pray to God to give him good health, a satisfying and purposeful life so that he can continue to motivate young minds and serve the society for a long, long time.

KD Kokate

Former Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan-I, Pusa, New Delhi, India
Email: kdkokate@gmail.com



An Experience with Dr. Paroda in the *"Global Conference on Women in Agriculture"*

It is a wonderful experience to work under your guidance for organizing Global Conference on Women in Agriculture. I am grateful to you for conceiving, meticulously planning and guiding us for making this Conference as a mega event at global level with significant participation from international organizations and sharing the global experiences. It has given a boost towards achieving the goal of empowering women for inclusive growth in agriculture and also motivated learning to our team members. I apologize for shortfalls in organizing the Conference. Further we look forward for Gender in Partnership and I will discuss with you personally at your convenient time to move forward.

I request your continued support for the cause of Agricultural Extension.

JL Karihaloo

Trustee and Treasurer, TAAS
Former Director (Acting), ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi
Former Coordinator, APCoAB, APAARI, New Delhi
Res. : B1/15, Agrasen Apartment, Plot No 10, Sector 7,
Dwarka, New Delhi 110075
Mob.: +91-9818872624; Email: jlkarihaloo@rediffmail.com



My Association with Dr RS Paroda

My familiarity with Dr RS Paroda goes back to late 1970s when I joined ICAR as a scientist and came to hear about his dynamism and leadership qualities. I became more closely aware of his personality and contribution after joining ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi (NBPGR) in 1988 where Dr Paroda had served as Director and had just left for ICAR headquarters to serve as Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences). My association with him became closer when I joined Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) and personally experienced his multifarious qualities of dedication, hard work and compassion. As Executive Secretary, APAARI from 1993 to 2015, Dr Paroda nurtured and expanded the organization across Asia and the Pacific a great deal. He initiated wide ranging discussions to identify and address agriculture related policy, R&D and outreach issues relevant to this region. Dr Paroda's global recognition helped APAARI to collaborate with several international and regional organisations like CGIAR, FAO, CABI, FARA, CACARRI and ARINNENA.

Dr Paroda is now deeply involved in national agricultural research and development scenario and the welfare of farmers. Through the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), he has been bringing together world's brightest minds on Indian agriculture to chart the course of policy, research and extension advances required to enhance productivity and nutritional quality of Indian crops, and benefits to resource poor farmers. He has been passionately championing for adoption, upgradation and farm-level implementation of modern technologies of crop improvement and resource conservation. While assisting him in his submission as a technical expert to the Hon. Supreme Court in a case related to GM crops, my impressions about Dr Paroda's commitment, hard work and meticulous application were further strengthened.

I wish Dr Paroda a very happy birthday and the family many more years of togetherness.

Mruthyunjaya

Former National Director,
National Agricultural Innovation Project (World Bank)
Res.: G-502, NCC Urban, Meadows 2, Doddaballapur Road,
Bengaluru 560064 (Karnataka)
Mob.: +91-7899802241; Email: mruthyunjaya@gmail.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Thanks for sharing the valuable document which contains diversified contributions of TAAS to Indian Agriculture. You have the maida's touch, whatever you touch becomes gold. Whether you touched ICAR, APAARI (22 years of APAARI another great document from you sir) or TAAS, they speak volumes of your stature, sincerity, seriousness, management acumen, dedication. All the activities reported in the Volume are important and provide directions for a new strategy for agricultural research for development in India and all the developing countries.

Your vision in building and managing institutions will always be remembered by present and future generations. NASC Complex was your dream and today it is the pride of ICAR, Indian Agricultural Scientists! We wish you many more years of life and service to TAAS, Indian and global agriculture.

M Velayutham

Former Director,
ICAR-NBSS & LUP, Nagpur-440033 (Maharashtra)
Former Executive Director,
MS Swaminathan Research Foundation
3rd Cross Street, Institutional area, Taramani, Chennai-600133
(Tamil Nadu) ; Email: velayutham42@yahoo.co.in



On TAAS Proceedings - "Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food Grain Production: A Way Forward"

The well pointed recommendations are a Blue-print and 'Road Map' for the Researchers and Extension personnel in the NAR&ES for achieving the required food grain targets at the National level and for realising the aspiring and expected crop yield target at the individual farmer's fields at large.

Narayan Rishi

Advisor, Amity Institute of Virology and Immunology,
Amity University, Noida (Uttar Pradesh)
Former Professor,
CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (Haryana)
Mob.: +91-9560097725; Email: narayan.rishi@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Many thanks Sir, for an interesting article in Agriculture Today. In an earlier issue, I had seen details of Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2020 conferred upon you. My all the best wishes for the untiring services you are rendering to Agriculture. May God always bless you and your family.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Our sincere respect, regards and all appreciation for your incredible contribution to revolutionise Agriculture in India and elsewhere. My all esteemed colleagues and research students were spell bound while listening to your enormous all round contributions.

Nawab Ali

Former Deputy Director General (Agril. Engg.),
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR),
KAB-II, Pusa, New Delhi 110012
Email: alinawab11@gmail.com



On *"Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"*

It is an excellent account of TAAS activities and achievements over the last 15 years. Various recommendations and suggestions that evolved through different activities of the TAAS are very relevant to Indian Agriculture and its people. The present need is that of its implementation and follow up programs. TAAS in near future, may like to organize a Brain Storming Workshop on Food and Nutritional Security of India, by 2050 and beyond, in view of the limited and dwindling availability of fresh water and fossil fuels; global warming and environment pollution; degrading soil and forest cover resulting into poor quality deficient nutritional profile of agricultural, horticultural and livestock producers, and thereby poor human health and more chronic diseases.

Sir, we congratulate you and the other officials of TAAS for doing relevant activities for the Indian agriculture, leading towards a sustainable food, nutritional, environmental security of not only for the people of India but for all human beings on the beautiful and dynamic planer Earth, a unit of the Solar System of the Galaxy, Milky Way of the Universe which is infinite and still expanding.

On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Thank you very much for the Publication- Two Decades of TAAS. It contains very appropriate and relevant recommendations related to the Indian Agriculture. Wish you all the best in life including the safety from COVID-19.

Pramod K Joshi

Former Director, South Asia SAR
International Food Policy research Institute (IFPRI)
New Delhi Office, DPS Marg, New Delhi 20012
Mob.: +91-9818506753; Email: pkj.in@outlook.com



On "Building Trust: The Journey of TAAS"

Please accept my heartiest congratulations. 'The Journey of TAAS' has come up very well in terms of its role and influencing policies.

Dr Paroda in My Own Words

When I was Director at the ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), he asked me to think how leadership could be built in the NARS. We organized a conference on 'Building Leadership in National Agricultural Research System'. He personally helped in developing the program, identifying outstanding resource persons and monitoring the whole program. The conference was a grand success and we prepared recommendations for implementation by the ICAR. We jointly organized various programs together. Every program was a great learning experience for me.

After I joined International Food Policy Research Institute, I could see that he is not only respected as a leader at national level but also globally recognized by top leaders. His views are seriously received at various global forum. At global forums, he has made strong arguments on the challenges the South and Southeast Asian countries are facing. He argued for more research resources for agricultural research. His selfless service for promoting agricultural science for human welfare is praiseworthy. There are very few leaders like him. I have many more reminiscences working with him and learning something new at every time.

I found in him a great and visionary leader, outstanding human being and most caring personality. I wish him a long, healthy and peaceful life.

Umesh Srivastava

Consultant, TAAS & Global Forum for Farmers (GFF)
Former Assistant Director General (Horticulture), ICAR
(Res.:A-503, Arvind Apartment, Plot No 9, Sector 19B,
Dwarka, New Delhi-110075)
Mob.: +91 9312508848; 8076387876;
E-mail: srivastavaumesh@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Thank you for sharing the article. It reads well and I found it most interesting. Actually, Anjana ji has done very good job to touch almost all facets of your life. It depicts your personality and key achievements. Your enormous contribution will strengthen and empower scientists not only within India but the world at large. The title of the article is most befitting.

On the occasion of your 80th birthday, Chitra also joins me in greeting you and pray Almighty to bless you along your family with many more years of happy, healthy and cheerful life so that you may serve the humanity at large.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

I am overwhelmed to know that you have been elected as Foreign Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) which is extremely rare and unique. Although it is highly competitive (only one from the whole world) but you really deserved. This enhances not only your stature but of India as a whole.

Chitra joins me in conveying her heartiest congratulations to you for this great honour. We are extremely proud of you Sir.

My Perceptions about Dr RS Paroda

At the first instance, I visualized that *Padma Bhushan* Dr RS Paroda happened to be a hard task master but has very kind heart. He is an internationally renowned eminent agricultural research scientist and an undisputed leader of the agricultural scientific community in the country. He is known internationally for his contribution towards promotion and conservation of biodiversity. He is known for modernization and strengthening the National Agricultural Research system (NARS) in India as well as in Central Asia and Caucasus. His achievements are numerous and difficult to mention.

My association with him for a short period in the ICAR-NBPGR (2½ years) during eighties and more afterwards and until now where I found him a very sincere, dedicated, hardworking and systematic person par excellence with extreme dynamic leadership quality and ‘down to earth’ nature and an unassuming person. Despite a heavy work load, I found him executing and completing large number of assignments in no time. It has been a great opportunity for me to work with him closely as ‘Consultant’ earlier in *Haryana Kisan Ayog* camp office in Gurugram (where he was Chairman); and now at TAAS office. I derive from him so much strength that I could develop my personality in terms of high level of strategic judgement, adaptability, inter-personal relationship, motivation techniques, negotiation skills, communication ability, persuasive power and skills for win/win relationship with network of senior contacts as well as peers and junior workers. I remember him on this account so much. He has been a role model for many scientists including me. I am one of his real admirers.

MVR Prasad

Former Director,
ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR),
Hyderabad-500030 (Telangana)
Email:manohar.maddipatla@gmail.com;mvrprasad@yahoo.com



On TAAS Proceedings - "Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food grain Production: A Way Forward"

Thank you for the soft copy of the Proceedings and Recommendations of "National Workshop on Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Food grain Production: A Way Forward" recently published by TAAS. I had gone through the Proceedings quickly and I find it very useful and could be guidelines for further action in this regard.

I shall read it again in detail for my own information. I am taking the liberty of forwarding it to the Members of RICAREA.

Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Excellent presentation with pictures about Dr R S Paroda. Congratulations, Sir. I read the article twice. Makes an interesting reading.

Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

I take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and memorable 80th Birthday and many happy returns of the Day. It is my good fortune to have been associated with you in one way or the other. Your remarkable services towards reorientation of agricultural research and extending strong support to strengthening ICAR system are monumental.

You have won numerous laurels and distinguished awards, which are too well known. I may say that the awards acquired a special shine and glory by being conferred on you.

Your contributions to Indian and international agriculture are indeed epoch making. Being the "Gene Bank Guru" you have created a new positive dimension to Genetic Enhancement of Crop Plants. Your concern for small farmers is exemplary and your services towards reorienting policy of agriculture are unique.

Indian agriculture is fortunate to have a Visionary and Leader of your eminence. We pray God Almighty to bestow you excellent health to serve Indian Agriculture and be a source of inspiration to all those engaged in agriculture.

Randhir S Dalal

Adjunct Professor
Bihar Animal Science University (BASU), Patna-800014 (Bihar)
Former Member Secretary, Haryana Kisan Ayog, Panchkula (Haryana)
Former Registrar, CCS HAU Hisar, Haryana
Email: rsdalal1@gmail.com



On "Twenty-Two Years of APAARI – a Retrospective"

Thanks for sharing this important publication. We will go through the success story of APAARI depicted in this publication, with interest. We have hosted it on our website also.

Appreciation for an Article "A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"

Published in an impressive way. Your photo with Vajpayee and the US President would have added further value.

His Impressions about Dr Paroda

Besides a great academician and proven leader in science, he is equally a great administrator. He handled the bureaucracy and politicians in the government with ease. He kept a watchful eye on all the activities and work of the staff and sorted problems in minutes. Many times, he went out of way to help and support his subordinates, be it a scientist or a peon. I can never forget an incidence when a person having personal issues with me and occupying an important position in Haryana started feeding the Chief Minister against me. I was told by another officer how Dr Paroda snubbed the person before the Chief Minister. He always spoke his mind without mincing words to higher ups as well as his subordinates. Many times, we also faced his ire, but we soon realized that it was always for our improvement and would not harm anybody, professionally. He is an excellent human being. Even during crisis and problems that he faced in his life, he exhibited unmatched courage with coolness and came out of the crisis as a stronger man. All these gave us great lessons for moral, ethics and values in life, which go beyond science, agriculture and the profession.

In the *Haryana Kisan Ayog*, he followed and implemented the policy of "Farmers FIRST" which he introduced earlier in the ICAR. The farmers still remember him as their mentor and patron.

RB Srivastava

Former Professor (Plant Breeding),
CCS Haryana Agriculture University, Hisar (Haryana)
Ex Consultant, Haryana Farmers' Commission,
Gurugram (Haryana)
Mob: +91 9416388650; Email: rbsri52@gmail.com



Impressions on Paroda Committee's Report *"Report on Policies and Action Plan for a Secure and Sustainable Agriculture"*

I attended Webinar chaired by you on May 6, 2021. During deliberations on "India Agriculture- Challenges and opportunities" you referred to the report "Policies and Action Plan for a Secure and Sustainable Agriculture". I downloaded it and had gone through this report two times. Today I finished my second reading. I found it a highly valuable report for GoI and all other stakeholders. The critical analysis of problems, focused suggestions and clear road map to solve them are very interesting and time appropriate.

I am sure this report would certainly lead to the next generation agriculture. Salute to you and the team members for putting mammoth efforts in bringing out this report on agriculture.

Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

Sir, Today evening I went through Anjana's article appeared in "Agriculture Today" on page 16-19. The title of the article itself speaks everything perfectly

on your lifetime accomplishments and contributions to strengthen and empower agriculture sector by transforming it in a science & technology led occupation.

The article is highly inspiring. The next generation of scientists would surely be benefited. I always feel fortunate for having worked with you.

Salil Singhal

Chairman & Managing Director
PI Industries
503-505, Tower A, Millennium Plaza, Sector 27,
Gurugram 122002 (Haryana)
Mob.: 95-1244159114; Email: sls@piind.com



On TAAS Publication *"Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"*

Many thanks for sharing the excellent work presentation done by TAAS in the last two decades. There is so much knowledge and experience available with TAAS under your leadership based on which excellent suggestions for agriculture growth are made.

However, my biggest concern remains whether the Babus of Krishi Bhawan really understand these suggestions and give serious thought for their implementation.

DK Yadav

Assistant Director General (Seeds)
Indian Council of agricultural Research,
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110012
Mob.: +91-9868537641; Email: adgseed.icar@gmail.com



Appreciation for an Article *"A Reformist and Institution Builder Par Excellence"*

A very precise sketch of your personality covering all spheres starting the journey from village to the stature of a Global Leader in Agriculture. The article will inspire the younger generation for development of leaders for future agriculture.

Sangram Chaudhary

Executive Director,
National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
New Delhi - 110016
Email: sangram@nddb.coop



On "Global Conference on Women in Agriculture"

Please accept my congratulations for successfully organizing a grand event as Global Conference on Women in Agriculture. It was wonderful experience and good learning for me though I could attend only one and half day due to certain other engagements. Please also accept my apologies, since I could not meet you in person. In any case you were very busy in taking care of the hectic activities. I look forward to see you on any other occasion. Once again conveying my good wishes and congratulations to you and your team for organizing a truly international knowledge sharing event successfully and I am sure this will go a long way in influencing the policies towards improving the quality of life especially of women and in general.

T Marimuthu

Secretary, National Academy of Biological Sciences
NABS-Secretariat, Room No. 209, Second Floor, CAS in Botany,
University of Madras, Guindy Campus,
Chennai – 600 025 (Tamil Nadu)
Email: secretarynabs@gmail.com



On TAAS Publication "Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS"

Greetings from NABS. Hope, everyone in your family is safe and fine. I thankfully acknowledge the receipt of your mail along with the publication entitled "Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS". Congratulations sir for thoughtfully bringing out the achievements of TAAS over two decades. I will be circulating this soft copy to our EC members. Thank you once again.

Suman Singh

Emeritus Professor ICAR,
Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology,
Udaipur-313001 (Rajasthan)
Mob.: +91- 9314131215; Email: sumanfrm@gmail.com



On "Global Conference on Women in Agriculture"

Congratulations! for roaring success of GCWA!

The conference was truly international in every sense, be it the brainstorming sessions, briefing on how to conduct sessions, the market place, rejuvenating cultural evenings, the exotic world class venue, the cheerful organizing team full of vigour and ever ready to assist, scintillating Inaugural and Valedictory etc; everything was just fabulous and wonderful. The impression of this conference would remain down the memory lane in years to come.

Sir, I had the opportunity of attending a few international conferences abroad but I feel so delighted and fortunate to be short listed to act as Rapporteur in one of the sessions in GCWA. I want to take this opportunity to express my gratefulness to you and the organizing committee for bestowing this opportunity to me.

I would like to bring to your kind notice that currently I am implementing a project entitled "Mitigating Hardship of Indian Women Farmers through Technology Interventions" funded by John Deere Foundation of USA. The CEO of John Deere Co; Mr Sam Allen and President of Foundation Ms Mara Suvy along with team of 20 members also visited our project last year in September and were very excited to work with farmers on their fields. I suggest you can also contact John Deere Co /Foundation for future collaboration. The media coverage was in Economic Times and Forbes India magazine.

I want to express my personal regards and congratulations for successful organization of the conference to your kind self and also to Prof Ayyappan DG; Prof Kokate DDG and Madam Krishna Srinath Director DRWA, Dr PN Mathur, Dr NN Singh. I would also like to thank Dr Suman Agarwal, Dr Shukla, Ms Ruma, Dr Gayatri from DRWA, Namita Marwah and all the unsung invisible heroes whose incessant efforts have made the Conference a Big SUCCESS. Sir, I have already sent the reports and recommendation of session 1.2 to Mr Jurgen on 16-03-12, I shall send the same to Dr PN Mathur as per your instructions.



*Messages from
Colleagues and Friends
on
Dr Raj Paroda's
80th Birthday*

Ramesh Chand

Member (Agriculture),
NITI Aayog, Gol, New Delhi



Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

I congratulate Dr Raj Paroda on his 80th Birthday. It is to see that that at the 80 years of age, Dr Paroda is so active both physically as well as mentally. I consider Dr. Raj Paroda as an intellectual giant of our country. He doesn't miss any important development and issue related to agriculture, be it smallholder farmers' problem, sustainability, or future of agriculture. He regularly organizes debates around these issues by involving best minds in the country. Then we all know that he come out with very impressive and high quality publications to sensitize stakeholders and policy makers to take appropriate action in addressing those challenges and to chalk out a bright future for agriculture and Indian farmers. I must say that various publications brought out by Dr Paroda from the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) which he chairing right now, are not descriptive, they are rather prescriptive and they are full of policy recommendations which need to be followed. Dr Paroda has a special concern for welfare of smallholder farmers and keep them in the center of focus for improving the future of agriculture. Most of us know Dr Paroda as a very able administrator and research leader with a difference. I have several opportunities to interact with Dr Raj Paroda when he was Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research. I found that he took entire NARS including ICAR to new heights. In fact, he possesses a totally different kind of work culture. He created new kind of infrastructure although and uplifted entire ICAR and NARS in almost all aspect. I also observed that Dr Paroda established supremacy of scientific knowledge over bureaucratic knowledge whenever it came to taking any decision related to agriculture research, policy and farmers. This could be made possible because his intellectual ability, his conviction and also his 'out of box' thinking. Dr Paroda did not stick himself to claim of Green Revolution as many people have defined achievement of agriculture through Green Revolution. Dr. Paroda use to talk about 'Rainbow Revolution' which include Milk revolution in livestock sector, horticulture, fishery, poultry and many other areas. I would again say that as Director General of the ICAR, he showed a new kind of confidence especially in the new breed of agriculture scientists in ICAR. After his superannuation, Dr Paroda became quite active in policy debates. I think this was based on his realization and conviction that policy is an important pillar for R&D. He is always quick in identifying right kind

of talent and promoting it. He always motivates people saying that ‘Change is difficult but Change be must’ . Also, rather than talking about ‘lab to land’ he talked vice versa i.e., ‘land to lab’. Even at the age of 80, Dr Paroda keep track of development related agriculture and agricultural science around the globe. Dr Paroda is linked to several, influential ‘global think tank’ led by people with hard core knowledge of agricultural policy and farmers. His network is very vast and includes global thinkers across Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Africa. I benefit a lot from the research papers and articles that Dr Paroda generously shared with me from time to time on regular basis. Friends, I feel that such minds are really rare and they are even getting the rarest. I learned a lot from him and process is still on. As a social scientist, I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge contribution of Dr Paroda in mainstreaming agricultural economics in ICAR. On a purely personal note, I also want to say that my future wouldn’t have shaped if Dr Paroda has not created NCAP (now NIAP) in the ICAR. Friends, I wanted to join all of you in this celebration but today also birthday of my granddaughter and I promised to her that I will be celebrating her birthday with her. At the end, I wish Dr Paroda a very healthy and long life and hope he will continue to benefit the society through his valuable ideas and wisdom.

Shenggen Fan

CGIAR Board Member
Chair Professor at the College of Economics and Management,
China Agricultural University, Beijing (China)
Former Director General, IFPRI, Washington (USA)
Email: s.fan@cgiar.org



Greetings on Dr. Paroda's 80th Birthday

My hearty congratulations to you on your 80th birthday.

Your contribution to Indian and global agricultural S&T is highly recognized by many. As we discussed, once the COVID situation improves, we will launch an effort to share the lessons between India and China on agricultural S&T, food security, rural development and food systems transformations.

We look forward to your continued contributions for many years to come.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE” in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Let me also add my congratulations to you. Your contribution to Indian agricultural research and agricultural and rural development is immense.

William Dar

Secretary (Agriculture),
Govt. of Philippines, Manila
Former Executive Director PCAARRD &
Director General, ICRISAT, Patancheru (Andhra Pradesh)



Friend and colleague Dr. Raj Paroda a gem of crop science and research management. Many happy returns on your special day. The ICRISAT owns for much of your name. Indeed, you have addressed on agriculture for several economies of the world on the challenges of agricultural productivity. I would say that you worked whole-heartedly throughout your life for plant genetics, genetic resources, and agricultural science especially for addressing problems of the developing economies. It is the right time that your home country is celebrating you at this juncture but I would say you deserve more from other parts of the world as well. My friends and colleagues join me in congratulating you on this auspicious day when you are celebrating your 80th birthday.

Jacqueline Hughes

Director General,
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT),
Patancheru, Andhra Pradesh



Greetings on Dr Paroda's 80th Birthday

Dr Raj Paroda, Raj. Wishing you many many more glorious years to moving on the 80th birth anniversary. We interacted many many years when I was in World Vegetable Center (AVRDC) in Taiwan. I clearly remember the meeting in Ting Tong with APAARI and experienced your strong leadership there. I remember your interaction with me when I was in IRRI and there was more and frequent interactions when I joined ICRISAT including one at CGIAR where we were having tremendous exchanges and I gained lot of experience from you. I have seen the part of glory of your 80 years and I am looking forward to continuing such interactions. I desire I am able to spent time with you and learn so much. I know you as special friend. So I wish you from my heart a very happy 80th Birthday and many many happy returns. Happy Birthday Raj.

Himanshu Pathak

Secretary DARE & Director General,
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110001
Tel.: 91-11-23388991-9; email: dg.icar@nic.in



Agriculture is foundation of the civilization, culture and heritage of India. Indian agriculture is unique, diversified and vast, providing livelihood and income to more than half of our population. During the last 75 years, agriculture has transformed India. From 'ship to mouth' to 'self-sufficiency' and to a food export nation. Many stars and luminaries have served and illuminated the sky of Indian agriculture contributing very significantly for the achievements. In the vast and limitless sky of Indian agriculture, Dr Paroda is one of the brightest star. He has illuminated the sky of Indian agriculture for the decades and will continue to do so for the decades to come. He represents Indian agriculture and also the culture of India. Friends, research is the search for the truth. The truth which is always supreme always beautiful and permanent. Satya is Shivam, Sundaram and Shaswatam. Dr Paroda has searched and served the truth throughout his life and inspired hundreds and thousands to follow that. He has been extremely successful that his voice in India and global agriculture, his name is taken with dignity and with full respect. Whenever Indian agriculture research and education face challenges either from research front, development front, policy front or innovation front, he has provided guidance and leadership. Agriculture community in India look after him for showing the direction or *margdarshan*. I thank him for his dedicated services to the national and international agriculture.

On his 80th Birthday, on behalf of Department of Agriculture Research and Education, and Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the whole National Agriculture Research Extension Education System (NARES), the whole agriculture family, I congratulate him and wish him all the happiness and joy. I pray to God for his good health so that Indian agriculture continues to get his blessings and guidance.

Raj Kachru

Former Assistant Director General (PHT)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110001
Mob.: 9981549217



It is indeed a consummate pleasure and a God given opportunity for me as an Octogenarian to congratulate another Octogenarian on his 80th Birthday. I believe you are no longer just a Vintage, now you're a Classic, if I may say so.

Yet another milestone in your journey of life, have had a remarkable and touched innumerable lives thru' your many decades of service to NARS, farming community, colleagues, friends and above all to your family. You have always done well, meant well and have accomplished things throughout the expanse of your life that one could only dream of. To encapsulate all the achievements of 80 years span is not difficult but, impossible and perhaps needless.

It is a special good to see that you continue working for the betterment of the society even at this age, but you make it seem easy and effortless. You definitely wear 80 well. For that, you may thank your genes and the blessings of all the well-wishers, seniors and above all your mother!

I also believe in that ! On a positive note, you have 80 reasons to smile, think twice the fun of 40 !

Enjoy your Special Day and celebrations with your family & friends suitable for the occasion tonight and tomorrow evening. Thank you so much for imparting your 80 years of knowledge and wisdom to many of us. Once again, many happy returns of the Day. My wife, Madhu is joining me in extending best wishes on this memorable D-Day Happy Birthday. Our regards to Dear Shashi ji.

KM Bujabaruah

Former Vice Chancellor,
Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat (Assam) &
Former Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110001
Mob: 9868245370, 9435050050
Email: km_bujarbaruah@rediffmail.com



Salute to such a visionary agriculturist the country produced. He is the one to transform his vision into action within a reasonable period, the fruits of which are being relished by all of us including the juvenile brains in the system.

I had an opportunity to work as Director when he was the DG, ICAR. Such a foresight and organization first, country first and beneficiary first mindset filled programs and strategies, we all owe you a lot Sir. May he be amply blessed by the Almighty to keep on guiding Indian NARS.

He Further Writes

Pranam and my apology for being late to respond to the 'Thanks' note coming from a personality of your stature for which I am much obliged. The short video captured the significant milestones that you crossed over Sir. Similarly, the short article in Agriculture Today also nicely projected your versatile personality and diverse contribution to national, regional and global agriculture. But howsoever beautifully one writes, one cannot fully depict and describe you because you are one in billions. I am fortunate that I had an opportunity to work under your guidance and command. May God be always with you Sir giving you the wisdom and strength to keep on engineering innovations in innovation in the field of agriculture and beyond.

AK Mishra

Former Chairman
Agricultural Scientists' Recruitment Board (ASRB),
Gol, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012
Mob.: +91-8888873830;
Email: profmishra@gmail.com; prof_mishra@hotmail.com



Your achievements are great and unparalleled in all the spheres of agricultural sciences in this country and this video will certainly be a great source of inspiration for all.

Anil Bawa

Former Principal Scientist (DG Office)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110001
Former Executive Director, NAAS, New Delhi 110012
Res.: S 380, Greater Kailash-I, New Delhi 110048.



Very comprehensive and well documented film on your enormous contributions to the growth and development of agriculture in general and research and education in particular, both at national and international level.

May God bestow you with good health and energy to guide future agricultural developments.

OP Toky

Former Dean PG Studies,
CCS HAU, Hisar (Haryana)
Mob.: 9896173626



Thanks for sharing the awesome information on the achievements of a great teacher, scientist and administrator in the field of agriculture Dr RS Paroda. His contributions globally and particularly for India are beyond description. I salute such a great visionary.

Claudia Sadoff

Executive Managing Director
CGIAR
Email: c.sadoff@cgiar.org



Let me add my personal best wishes to you on this auspicious occasion.

I would have loved to join this celebration but I am sure that friends and colleagues will all express the gratitude we, as a global community, share for your tremendous contributions.

Many happy returns of the day.

Bitore Jumakhanov

Project Executor,
Kazak Research Institute of Soil & Agrochemistry,
Kazakhstan
Mob.: +7(702)435-07-93
Email: dbitore@maul.ru



Thank you very much for your kind hospitality. I would like to say special thanks for driver Mr Rahul Sharma who made my travel comfortable and safe, he was very kind of me !

My special thanks for Office Secretary Ms Simmi Dogra. She did lot of efforts to get visa in a short period of time. Without her hard work, it was impossible to get visa. The same time she arranged me meetings with many organizations. Thanks to Ms Simmi Dogra and Mr Rahul Sharma for arranging my visit to other organizations which were completed in time. Thanks again!!! During my visit to the TAAS office Dr Bhag Mal and Dr Umesh Srivastava welcomed me like a friend. Really, I was very happy to see very kind people around me. I told in front of many people that I feel proud that God gave me chance to meet you and work under your leadership.

Thanks to God, I meet with you again. May God bless you and all Indian people.

DP Singh

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (Haryana)
Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Agriculture University,
Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh)
Ex-VC, Jawaharlal Nehru Agriculture University, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh)



We are very proud of you and your contributions in development of enormous infrastructure and multifarious activities in the field of agriculture within and outside the country which always be remembered by present and futuristic generations for sustainable development of Agriculture.

Alisher Turayev

Deputy Minister of Agriculture
Republic of Uzbekistan, and
General Director
National Center for Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation
Tashkent, Uzbekistan



On behalf of the National Center for Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, please accept our sincere congratulations on your 80th birth anniversary. Anniversaries are a wonderful peak, allowing you to evaluate the path you have traveled. And this path is a vivid example of service to science, the country, loyalty, and devotion to the chosen ideals.

As an accomplished plant breeder and geneticist and research administrator, you have made a significant contribution to crop science research. Under your leadership, National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) have been modernized and strengthened in India, as well as in the countries of Central Asia and the South Caucasus. You have played a key role in establishing the largest and most modern National Gene Bank in New Delhi (that has more than 250,000 valuable germplasm accessions of different crops).

In the period from 2001 to 2007, you headed the Regional Office of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas for Central Asia and the South Caucasus (ICARDA-CAC) in Tashkent, the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Under your leadership, the Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia and the South Caucasus of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) has significantly expanded and strengthened its activities. Visible results have been achieved in the field of conservation of plant genetic resources, crop variety improvement, seed production, management of natural resources and, above all, the professional development of scientists. More than two dozen new varieties of agricultural crops were released. Gene banks were opened in most countries of the region. In addition, several efficient and affordable technologies for integrated natural resource management have been developed and demonstrated in the farm fields.

It should be noted that you have made an invaluable contribution to the development of world agricultural science. Your long-term and productive scientific, pedagogical and research work, numerous scientific works, in a word, your entire biography is a whole era in the formation and development of agricultural science in India.

Your highest professionalism, deep academic knowledge, inherent intelligence deservedly enjoy the respect of your colleagues and friends. On this day, I would like to sincerely wish you good health, strength of mind, inspiration, new ideas and long, long years of fruitful work.

Akmal Akramkhanov

Regional Manager for Central Asia and the Caucasus
Senior Scientist | Resilient Agrosilvopastoral Systems (RASP)
ICARDA - Science for Better Livelihoods in Dry Areas
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Tel: +998 909989883



On behalf of ICARDA Colleagues at Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan

On behalf of colleagues of ICARDA Central Asia and the Caucasus office, who worked in different periods since 2001, I take this opportunity to congratulate you for the 80th anniversary. Happy Birthday Dr Paroda ! We wish you more great achievements in the years to come, and may all your birthday wishes come true!

You're great supporter of the CAC region. We enjoyed your continuous engagement and consideration of all scientists to share and update with news and achievements from India. It's a great honor to know you, we always receive very positive feedbacks from many national partners in the region, admiring your hard work and visionary leadership as the Head of CGIAR PFU and ICARDA CAC.

Botir Dosov

CEO/Executive Secretary
Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of
Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI)
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic



Though, I joined CACAARI in 2011, I know you since 2005. In 2005-2009 I worked in Asian Development Bank Grain Improvement Project in Uzbekistan. We were facing with challenge of organizing foreign travel for Uzbek Agricultural scientists. In 2006 we visited you in ICARDA-CAC office with the request to help us with organizing the travel. And, you helped us with visiting ICRISAT. I was so marvelled with your generosity, dedication and support to Uzbek scientists.

Later, I had been witnessing your outstanding role in GFAR, and how you were dedicated to views, challenges and needs of NARS(s), regional agricultural networks. Now, I am a member of GFAR Steering Committee, member of High-Level Advisory Panel to CGIAR, and still I see how do you contribute to GFAR and CGIAR by defending and promoting the voices and needs of NARS regionally and globally. To be honest, you are my Hero! I always wished to be like you, dedicated, bold ! I am happy, that I know you! I will do my best to promote the regional fora to new heights.

Edward C Cocking

Centre for Crop Nitrogen Fixation
School of Biosciences (Life Sciences Building)
University of Nottingham, University Park
Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK
Tel +44 115 9513056; Fax +44 115 9513240
e.cocking@nottingham.ac.uk



Heartiest Congratulations on your 80th birthday on 28th August, and thanks for all you have done for Indian agriculture over the many years, and also helped international agriculture in so many ways. Have a wonderful celebration!

Laziza Gafurova

Centre of "AgroEcoBiotechnology" Soil Science Department,
National University of Uzbekistan (named after Mirzo Ulugbek)
The Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent City, Universitet str, 4, 100174
E-mail: glazizakhon@yandex.ru; la.gafurova@nuu.uz
Tel: +99897-7678182



Thank you very much for the short videos and your multifaceted activities.

In general, you could make multi-part films about your activity, so your activity is multifaceted. We have always admired you and were proud that we worked together for the benefit of agricultural science, education and production. I wish you and your beautiful family well-being, good luck, happiness and health. I really hope to meet you on our sunny land.

PS Sirohi

Former Head, Division of Vegetable Science
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI),
New Delhi 110012
Mob.: +91- 8527319590; E-mail: pssirohi 2005@yahoo.com



Extremely happy to hear great, true and befitting messages about your personality both from within the country and abroad. We all countrymen are proud of your unparalleled, outstanding and all-round significant contributions in world agriculture.

I congratulate you and wish you very happy 80th birthday. We pray God for your good health, happy long life, continuous guidance, and leadership. In spite of my keen interest, I could not attend the grand celebrations held on 29th August 2022 due to my health problems. I always feel myself very lucky to have your concern and blessings.

V Rajagopal

President, Society for Hunger Elimination (SHE)
Tirupati - 517 501, (Andhra Pradesh)
Former Director
ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI),
Kudlu, Kasaragod-671124 (Kerala)
Mob.: +91-944 120 0217; E-mail: rajvel44@gmail.com



Enjoyed the videos and your lecture on the most relevant topics in agriculture. I hope a positive transformation in agriculture will take place under your dynamic leadership with active team members. Unless the success of this transformation in agriculture in toto is taken to the plates of poor hungry people we will not be able to achieve zero hunger India.

I am confident about your vision with missionary approach to fight the hunger monster. We offer our services for this noble cause.

Ruchira Pandey

Former Principal Scientist
Tissue Culture & Cryopreservation Unit
ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR)
New Delhi 110012
Mob: +91-9811457044; Email: 1958ruchira@gmail.com



Thank you very much for sharing the excellent write up, the magnificent short film and wonderful messages, a real treat to ears, eyes and mind.

I would further add that it was my great fortune to have worked under your tutelage during our formative years in ICAR-NBPGR. The learning never stopped since then and till date, we are continuing with that.

My prayers to Almighty to let your guidance continue in a big way on Indian Agricultural Research System. May we all celebrate your 90th birthday with a Big Bang!!!

SN Puri

Former Vice Chancellor
Central Agricultural University, Imphal-795004 (Manipur)
Mob.: +91-9923654400,9999637566; E-mail: snpuri04@yahoo.co.in



We salute you for your contributions to Indian agriculture over a period of more than 50 years. I am specially indebted to you for creating a dedicated Institute for development of IPM in India of which you were the Founder Director. I had an opportunity to lead this Institute for more than four years under your visionary guidance. We could create first IPM Village at Ashta in our country on your initiative. Entry and subsequent developments of research in the field of Biotechnology in ICAR Institutes started during your stewardship on a large scale.

Creation of National Agriculture Science Centre at New Delhi is testimony to your visionary thinking both in planning and execution. I can only offer my humble prayers to God to bless you with many more years of sound health in the service of this country.

Chirantan Chattopadhyay

Former Vice Chancellor
Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya,
Pundibari, Cooch Behar-73736165 (West Bengal)
Mob.: +91-9582289566; Email: charantan_cha@hotmail.com



Yes, the way you nurtured the system was something to be seen to be believed..... the ball rolled faster than ever....we are still taking advantage of the same inertia....

Sir, Dr SN Puri and Dr KM Bujarbaruah have narrated the gist of your grand contributions.....more youngers alike me and further are just enjoying all that you created..... Yes, our best and most humble prayers to the Almighty are to provide you with sustained sound health so that the nation and people like us continue to remain safe in your hands.....

Profound regards and best wishes for a safe healthy and happy 80th Birthday and wonderful day ahead.

SK Vasal

Millennium World Food Prize Winner (2000)
Former Distinguished Scientist, CIMMYT, Mexico
Res.: C2-2394, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070
Mob.: +91-9773948354; Email: svasal12@yahoo.com, skvasal@gmail.com



Great appreciation for your contributions will always keep pouring and I am proud and confident that visionary excellence will keep guiding us in years ahead. Pray for your long happy and healthy blissful life ahead. Both videos were superb and remind us of old memories.

Bram Govaerts

Director General,
CIMMYT, Apartado Postal 041
C.A.P. Plaza Galerías, Col. Verónica Anzures
11305 Ciudad de México, México
Email: b.govaerts@cgiar.org



When I was a big boy, I want to be like you. This applies here, while it is an impossible wish. Your vision, your strength, your contribution is unique. 80 years and still with this energy, we are proud of your great strength.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE” in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Hearty congratulations Dr Paroda for your election as ASTE foreign fellow. It is always a matter of pride for all of us when an Indian scientist gets international recognition. Thanks and best regards.

This is fantastic news indeed and a simple expression of the achievements of impact and transformational power of Dr Raj’s efforts throughout his brilliant career.

You are an example to follow for many of us.

VK Baranwal

National Professor
Division of Plant Pathology,
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)
New Delhi 110012
Mob:- +91-9818756899;
Email: vkbaranwal@iari.res.in; vbaranwal2001@yahoo.com



It is just overwhelming to see the beautiful words expressed by great stalwarts on your 80th Birthday. I truly admire your great wisdom, vision and leadership provided to Indian and world's agriculture.

I missed the event of 80th Birthday celebration, but I pray to God not only for your good health and wellness but also for your continued visionary role for global farming fraternity.

RK Jain

Emeritus Scientist
Division of Plant Pathology, and
Former Dean and Joint Director (Education)
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)
New Delhi 110012
Mob: +91-9810887248; Email: rakeshjain56@yahoo.co.in



Thanks for sharing the video film along with messages and Agriculture Today magazine. If you ask me, I would say you are Greatest of All Time (GOAT) as far as infrastructure development and institution building is concerned .

Kaushik Mazumdar

Director General
African Plant Nutrition Institute (APNI)
M6P Experimental Farm, Benguéir 41350, Morocco
Mob.: 9871794242; Email: k.majumdar@apni.net



Accept my heartfelt good wishes and respect on your birthday. Your evergreen personality and your continued contributions to agriculture and for global good is truly inspiring and motivational for all of us who have the good fortune to know you. My respect and pranam to you.

Arvind Kumar

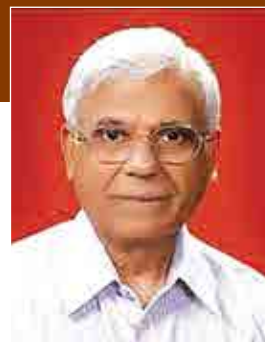
Former Vice Chancellor,
Rani Laxmi Bai Central Agricultural University
Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh)
Mob:- +91-9899232409



The country is proud of your immense contributions towards attaining food and nutritional security and make India surplus in food production. The short film is an eye opener and shall serve as a wonderful source of inspiration for the young generation. We wish you a very happy, healthy, prosperous and long life to mentor the NARES and make India a 5 trillion economy.

Rai S Rana

Former Director
ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR)
Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012
Mob: +91-9899232409; Email: rairana2006@yahoo.com



I am overwhelmed by your kind consideration in keeping me well aware of the events related to your 80th Birthday Celebration providing me thereby an opportunity for associating myself with the on-going festivities on this happy occasion. Thank you very much. I again pray to the Almighty to bless you with a healthy, happy and fruitful long life.

I also take this opportunity to convey my high appreciation of your helpful gesture of sharing with me the Special Issue of the Indian Journal of Plant Genetic Resources Vol. 35 (3), brought out on this happy occasion, along with August 2022 issue of Agriculture Today. Its contents in 415 pages are very informative presenting updated overviews on the selected titles. I have taken special note of the paper contributed by Sunil Archak and Himanshu Pathak, as recommended by you. Commendable, indeed. My sincere congratulations to all the authors and also to the brilliant editorial Team. You fully deserve all this acclamation and much more.

My high appreciation of the Short Film and Video Messages, projected on this well managed and outstandingly successful event, were conveyed to you earlier.

Neil C Turner

UWA Institute of Agriculture and School of Agriculture and Environment
The University of Western Australia, M082
35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009, Australia
Tel: +61 418 286 487
Email: neil.turner@uwa.edu.au



Congratulations on an important milestone and celebration of a life of service. The well-deserved celebrations today recognise your significant contributions to Indian and international agriculture and I endorse the many compliments that others have expressed in messages to you.

I would also take this opportunity to thank you for your contributions to my research career and the assistance that you gave at critical stages.

Andrew Bennett

Former Chief
DFID, London, UK
Email: andrewj.bennett@btinternet.com



Congratulations. My very best wishes for your 80th Birthday and may you enjoy many happy and healthy returns.

I am sorry that I will not be able to join you for the celebration of your many achievements and your long and productive life of national and international service. It has been a great privilege to have worked with you over many years.

Very many congratulations on a well-deserved recognition of your huge contribution.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected “2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE” in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Very many congratulations on a well-deserved recognition of your huge contribution.

Ismahane Elouafi

Chief Scientist
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Email: ismahane.elouafi@fao.org
Website: www.fao.org



I cannot agree more with everybody's comments and recognition of your contributions to agricultural development in India, Central Asia and globally.

With my sincerest congratulations for your 80th Birthday. A life to be celebrated and a career to be applauded. Very proud of you,

Rameshwar S Kanwar

Member European Academy of Sciences and Arts,
FNAAS, FASABE, FISAE
C. F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agricultural and
Water Resources Engineering
Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering
Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011
Email: rskanwar@iastate.edu



Happy birthday!! Today is the day of celebration. Although I will miss attending this mega celebration at NASC Complex in New Delhi (which you built during your tenure as DG ICAR) but I will be thinking about you and your family.

I wish you the very best on this occasion and congratulate you for many accomplishments of your career to this date and service to humanity, especially in the field of agriculture. Please enjoy the day, and always stay happy and blessed. We are fortunate to be associated with you.

Dr Raj Paroda Elected "2022 Foreign Fellow of ATSE" in Recognition of his Outstanding Contributions in World Agriculture

Congratulations to Dr Paroda for a well-deserved recognition of your service and scientific contributions to the global community.

We are proud to be associated with you.

William Erskine

Former DDG (Research)
ICARDA, Aleppo (Syria)
Email: william.erskine@uwa.edu.au



Congratulations on an important personal milestone. It's a moment on your journey to stop, turnaround and reflect on the vistas behind you.

You've opened up new scenes and hope for many. Best personal wishes

Purvi Mehta

Deputy Director, Agriculture – Asia
Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation (BMGF), India,
New Delhi



I have been meaning to send you this note of greetings since your birthday and I had to wait till Diwali.

Sending you a small gift to remind you of the influence you have had on me and how inspiring your journey has been.

With my best regards to you and Shashi Ji. Looking forward to meet you soon.

Mario Allegri

New Mexico State University (NMSU) - Gerald Thomas Chair, and Former National Director, National Agricultural Research Institute (INIA), Uruguay, President of the Forum of the Americas for Agricultural Technology Research and Development (FORAGRO)
Acda. Brasil 2806, ap. 101, 11300 Montevideo, Uruguay
Email: mario.allegri@gmail.com



Thanks for sharing this special celebration for your 80th Anniversary, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, your valuable contributions devoted to agricultural research and innovation for sustainable development, and your productive life, building a strong circle of family, friends and colleagues.

I will be celebrating from here with all of you this well-deserved event on August 29th. Thank you for always being there.

Looking forward to seeing you as soon as possible.

Our sincere wishes for a Happy Birthday !!

Ravi Khetarpal

Executive Secretary, APAARI
Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
182, Larn Luang Road, Klong Mahanak Sub-District,
Pomprab Satturpai District, Bangkok 10100, Thailand
E mail: ravi.khetarpal@apaari.org; Mob: +66 987844464



Thank you for the invitation for the program slated to celebrate your 80th birthday.

At this auspicious occasion I wish you a very happy and healthy life going forward and hope to see your never ending contributions to agricultural science globally.

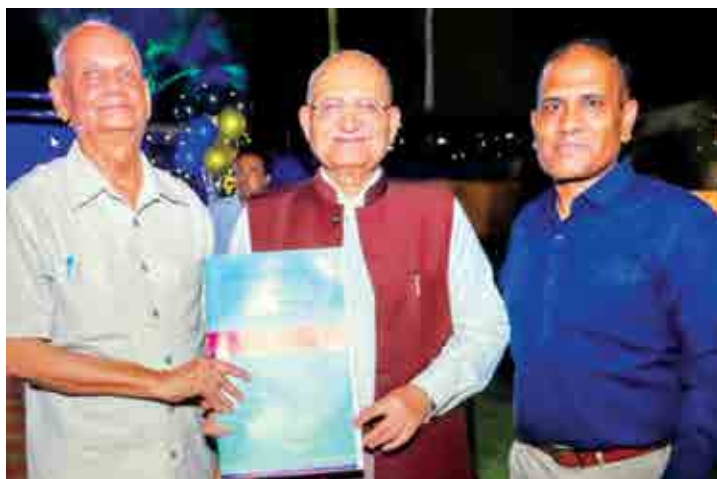
APAARI is proud of you also for what you have done in its earlier years to make it grow for serving the Asia-Pacific countries. Warm regards and a happy birthday.

TC Jain

Former ADG (Agron.), ICAR and
Chief Agril. Officer, World Bank, Delhi
Mob.: 9810072837
Email: drtcjain@rediffmail.com



It was a pleasure to be a part of celebration of your 80th birthday which I fully enjoyed including some pleasant time with you, Shashi ji, Prasant and lovely grand daughters. My wife missed this opportunity and we hope to compensate it by soon getting together.



I must congratulate you and express my appreciation for the excellent video. I knew about most of these great achievements made by you, but to compile them and explain in such a brief video is superb. I am proud to have a friend of your stature.

Balwinder Singh Sidhu

Former, Secretary,
Punjab Farmers' Commission &
Former Director (Agriculture), Punjab
Punjab Kheti Bhawan, Institutional Site No. 204 Phase 6,
Mohali (Punjab)



I never had an opportunity to meet and have words with this renowned and world famous agriculture scientist who touched millions of lives in farming community not only in India but across the globe! May be my words will not reach to him, however, I salute and pay my utmost respect to him while he is celebrating his 80th birthday!

I too would like to join the world community for his healthy and long life to serve the country and it's farming community in the years to come! I have also seen an another video where countless number of world scientists conveying their best wishes and kind words on his birthday! That speaks what kind of person and personality Dr Paroda has led throughout his life!

At the end I must say that we are so proud to have someone from our community whose contribution and services will be remembered by the world! Happy Birthday Dr Paroda.

Mark Holderness

Former Executive Secretary
GFAR, FAO, Rome
Email: m_holderness@hotmail.com



Many congratulations on your 80th Birthday tomorrow and I am delighted to see your long and illustrious career being recognized in such a way. You remain an inspiration to us all! Very best wishes,

Abdirakhman Ombaev

National Project Coordinator and Director,
Livestock Institute, 4a, Korgalzhyn Road,
Astana, 010000 Kazakhstan
Contact number: 8 (7172) 72-86-44

Congratulations on your the 80th anniversary. Dr Bitore informed me about the trip I am grateful to fate that I was closely acquainted with you. Thanks to you very necessary and important scientific projects for the countries of Central Asia and Kazakhstan were solved and implemented during your work in Tashkent.

We are Kazakhstan agrarians at the meeting we remember you how you were able to mobilize us into science how you established scientific relations between the participants of projects for their implementation in the ICARDA system.

Thank you for not slaughtering your friends. Send my best wishes to your wife and your children Good health, Happiness and Prosperity.

Rajinder Malhotra

Former Principal Scientist (Chickpea)
ICARDA, Aleppo (Syria)
Mob.: 1754 207 1579
Email: malhotra_drrs@yahoo.com

Congratulations Dr Sahib for the very interesting video. God bless you. Your contributions will be remembered for times to come. The scientists in India and throughout the world wish you a wonderful time ahead and excellent health.

Balbir Singh Chaudhary

Regional Coordinator
Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE)
Lawrence Village, Georgia, USA

I never had an opportunity to meet and have words with this renowned and world famous agriculture scientist who touched millions of lives in farming community not only in India but across the globe! May be my words will not reach to him, however, I salute and pay my utmost respect to him while he is celebrating his 80th birthday!

I too would like to join the world community for his healthy and long life to serve the country and it's farming community in the years to come! I have also seen an another video where countless number of world scientists conveying their best wishes and kind words on his birthday! That speaks what kind of person and personality Dr Paroda has led throughout his life!

At the end I must say that we are so proud to have someone from our community whose contribution and services will be remembered by the world! Happy Birthday Dr Paroda.

Mustafa Pala

Former Chief Agronomist
ICARDA, Aleppo, Syria
Email: mustafapala1948@gmail.com

First of all, Esen and I wish you a very healthy, happy and prosperous 80th birthday (as we have just heard) together with your beloved ones and many more years to come. We also thank you so much for sharing with us the videos indicating your lifetime successful contribution to agricultural research as a visionary scientist that you have received on the occasion of your 80th birthday.

I am so proud working with you at ICARDA to take part in some of your outstanding achievements. I join all what was said in the videos and do not know how to spell out more than these to applaud you from my heart. Actually, you deserve the best of everything Raj. Let God bless you and your family. With best regards wishing you healthy, happy, joyful and peaceful years ahead.



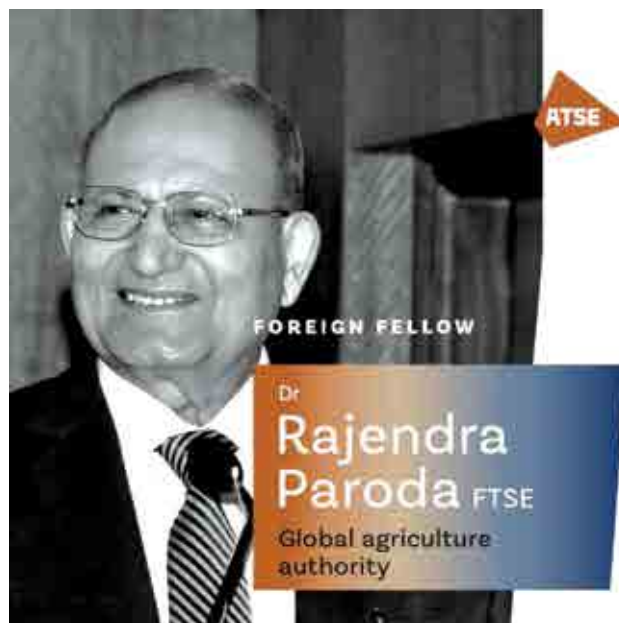
Messages from

*Colleagues and Friends
of Dr Raj Paroda elected as*

***“2022 Foreign Fellow of
the Australian Academy of
Technological Sciences and
Engineering (ATSE)***

*in recognition of his outstanding
contributions in world agriculture”*

Foreign Fellow



Dr Rajendra Paroda FTSE

Chair, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (Delhi, India)

Dr Rajendra Paroda is an acclaimed agricultural scientist specialising in plant genetics and breeding. His contributions to plant breeding and genetic resource management are globally recognised and include establishing the first modern national genebank in India.

As Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, he modernised India's agricultural research system, creating more than 30 new research institutes. The resulting innovations doubled India's food grain production from 130 million tons in 1980 to 260 million tons in 2011, underpinning food security for a rapidly growing population.

Rajendra's outstanding contributions have strengthened agricultural research and innovation internationally, particularly in Asia and the developing world. He established and then led key international bodies, including the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) and the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI).

Rajendra has a long association with Australian scientists and organisations, including CSIRO. He served on the Advisory Council of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.

The 2022 new ATSE Fellows represent extraordinary expertise across engineering, applied science and technology



Peter H Raven

President Emeritus (Research)
George Engelmann Professor of Botany,
Washington University - St. Louis
Adjunct Professor of Biology, University of Missouri –
St. Louis and at St. Louis University
Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63110, USA
Office phone: + 1 (314) 577-9577; Fax: + 1 (314) 577-9596
email: peter.raven@mobot.org



Very best wishes on this significant honor, which in your case is richly deserved. We thank you for everything that you have contributed to human welfare over the course of your most productive life!

With all best wishes for health and happiness.

Albin Hubscher

President and Chief Executive Officer
Office of the President, IFDC
P.O. Box 2040
Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662
office: +1 (256) 381-6600 | cell: +1 (256) 303-1090



My heartfelt congratulations, also on behalf of IFDC, for being elected as Foreign Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). This is one more trophy in your long list of recognitions and I assume is a very special honor.

In case you visit Australia to receive the honors please give my best regards to Dr. Nick Austin FTSE. I had the pleasure to work with him at the CGIAR Secretariate in Montpellier. A wonderful person.

Stephan Weise

Managing Director, Asia
Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT,
Rome, Italy
Email: s.weise@cgiar.org



Allow me to chime in and send you my heartiest congratulations to this recognition for all the contributions you have made and are continuing to make to national and regional food security!

TG Reeves

AM FTSE
Professor in Residence Dookie Campus
Professor of Sustainable Agriculture
Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences
The University of Melbourne, Australia



It's an honour to welcome you into our Academy. We look forward to your contributions on the many important opportunities and challenges that we are facing in the agri-food sector, globally and in both Australia and India. Congratulations!

TV Sampath

Former Agriculture Production Commissioner, Gol
6112, River Road,
BETHESDA, MD. 20817, USA
E-Mail: TVS273@yahoo.com
Tel: 301-221-3269 (Mobile)

Heartiest congratulations on your being elected as “The 2022 Foreign Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) in recognition of *your outstanding contributions in the World Agriculture.*”

Please accept our hearty congratulations for this great honour being conferred on you.

Ashutosh Sarkar

Former Head, ICARDA Food Legume Research South Asia &
China Regional Program ICARDA,
NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi - 110012
Email: asarker2000@gmail.com



Heartiest congratulations Sir!

This is due to your significant contribution to world agriculture, food and nutritional security, most particularly in the developing world.

We pray for your good health and happiness.

Ramesh Deshpande

CEO at IAG International
Bethesda, Maryland, United States
<rbertram@usaid.gov>



Hearly congratulations Dr Paroda upon your election as ASTE foreign fellow. It is always a matter of pride for all of us when an Indian scientist gets international recognition. Thanks and best regards.

Kamal Bawa

Former Distinguished Professor of Biology
University of Massachusetts, Boston
Founder President, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and
Environment (ATREE)
Bengaluru - 560064 (Karnataka)
Email: kamal.bawa@gmail.com



This is thoroughly deserved! Congratulations! You make us all extremely proud. All the best,
Congratulations to Dr Raj Paroda for continuing recognition of his work by the global community. Richly deserved.

Kuldip Singh

Former Director,
ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR),
Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012



Heartiest congratulations Sir!

This is due to your significant contribution to world agriculture, food and nutritional security, most particularly in the developing world.
We pray for your good health and happiness.

Our heartiest congratulations to Dr RS Paroda Sahib. Another proud moment for all of us. Our wish, that he continues leading us for decades to come.

Joykrushna Jena

Deputy Director General (Fisheries Science)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan-II, Pusa, New Delhi-110 012, India
Res.: B7, NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi 110012
Tel.: 0091-11-25846738 (Off), Mob.: +91-9453019735
Email: jkjena2@rediffmail.com, jkjena2@gmail.com



It is heartening to know that you have been conferred with the Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) in recognition of your outstanding contributions to world agriculture, which you truly deserve.

Hearty Congratulations Sir!

It is another feather on your Cap, for which we are really proud of. Wish to see many more laurels of yours in days to come.

Rameshwar Singh

Vice Chancellor
Bihar Animal Science University,
Patna-800014 (Bihar)
Tel.: 91-612-2222221 (Off), Mob.: +91-947284654
Email: vc-basu-bih@gov.in;vicechancellorbasu@gmail.com



कृषि शिक्षा व अनुसंधान के लिए आपका अतुलनीय योगदान विश्व स्तर पर सराहा गया है। आप के कुशल नेतृत्व व दूरदर्शिता से आज हम खाद्य सुरक्षा प्राप्त कर पोषण सुरक्षा कि ओर अग्रसर हुए हैं। देश-विदेश में हम सब का मान बढ़ाने के लिए हम सदैव आप के ऋणी रहेंगे।

आप को हार्दिक बधाई और शुभकामनाएं, आप इसी तरह हमारा मार्गदर्शन करते रहें।

JS Sandhu

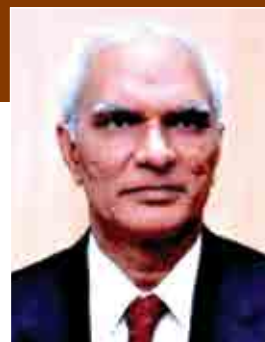
Vice Chancellor
Sri Karan Narendra Agricultural University,
Jobner-Jaipur-303329 (Rajasthan)
Mob.: +91-9582898978
Email: vcsknau@ac.in



Heartiest congratulations Sir for well-deserved fellowship. It is the recognition of your extraordinary achievements in field agriculture. We feel proud of you.

Ved Prakash

Former Chairman
University Grants Commission,
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi 110002



Heartiest congratulations Sir!

This is due to your significant contribution to world agriculture, food and nutritional security, most particularly in the developing world.
We pray for your good health and happiness.

Our heartiest congratulations to Dr RS Paroda Sahib. Another proud moment for all of us. Our wish, that he continues leading us for decades to come

Congratulations on your incredible achievements. I can't think of anyone who deserves it more you. Among others tens of thousands, I am one of the great admirers of your hard work and magnificent contributions.

May you always be surrounded with the blessings of God. Wishing you the very best.

MJ Williams

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
University of Technology, Sydney NSW, Australia
Former Director General, World Fish Centre
Jalan Batu Maung, Batu Maung, Malaysia
Email: meryljwilliams@gmail.com



Congratulations Dr Paroda on this well-earned recognition!

It has been an enormous pleasure knowing you and your work for over 3 decades. I believe we met for the first time in Dec 1992 in Kuala Lumpur at an APAARI expert consultation on sustainable development. As I came from a “fishy” background I did not know the luminaries of the agriculture world (except in Australia) at the time!

1992 seems like just yesterday but you have achieved so much even since then, as well as before. Hope our paths will cross again in the future, but in the meantime modern communication lets us stay in touch.

डॉ. राजेंद्र परोदा को ऑस्ट्रेलिया की फैलोशिप

कृषि क्षेत्र में अहम
योगदान को सराहा

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
patrika.com

अजमेर: कृषि क्षेत्र में अहम योगदान देने वाले प्रख्यात कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. राजेंद्र परोदा को ऑस्ट्रेलिया एकेडमी ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजिकल साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग की फैलोशिप प्रदान की गई है।

कृषि क्षेत्र में नवाचार, पौधों की नई किस्म, शोध और अनुसंधान में योगदान के लिए उन्हें फैलोशिप दी गई। डॉ. परोदा भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद के पूर्व महानिदेशक तथा कृषि अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा विभाग के सचिव रहे हैं। उन्होंने राष्ट्रीय कृषि अनुसंधान पद्धति के आधुनिकीकरण और सशक्तिकरण में कई नवाचार किए। इन्हें पद्म भूषण से अलंकृत किया गया है।

डॉ. परोदा रोम स्थित विश्व खाद्य संगठन में वैश्विक कृषि अनुसंधान फोरम के संस्थापक अध्यक्ष, भारतीय विज्ञान कांग्रेस, राष्ट्रीय कृषि विज्ञान अकादमी के अध्यक्ष रहे हैं। थर्ड वर्ल्ड विज्ञान अकादमी, रूसी कृषि अकादमी, अमरीका फसल विज्ञानसमाज, अमरीका शस्य विज्ञान, एशिया-प्रशांत कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान एसोसिएशन और अन्य संस्थानों में भी वे सेवाएं दे चुके



डॉ. आर. एस. परोदा।

हैं। डॉ. परोदा के कार्यकाल में भारत में राष्ट्रीय अनुसंधान परिषद के अंतर्गत कीजीय मसाला अनुसंधान केन्द्र तबीजी सहित करीब 30 नए केन्द्रों की स्थापना की गई। वहीं कई पुराने अनुसंधान केन्द्रों को विकसित किया गया।

उन्होंने अनुसंधान केन्द्रों के साथ विश्वविद्यालयों को वन टाइम ग्रांट दिलाने का महत्वपूर्ण कार्य किया एवं करीब 500 करोड़ रुपए प्लानिंग कमीशन से दिलवाए। उन्होंने वर्ष 2009 सुरक्षित एवं सतत कृषि की ओर विषय पर कार्यनीति पत्र लिखा, भारत सरकार की ओर से उनकी रिपोर्ट व निष्कर्ष पर कार्य शुरू किया है। कुछ पर काम चल रहा है।

डॉ. परोदा ने बताया कि ऑस्ट्रेलियन एकेडेमी की ओर से उन्हें एग्रीकल्चर क्षेत्र में रिकोकनाइज किया है। उनका मकसद है कि इन्टरनेशनल पार्टनरशिप को बढ़ाया जाए एवं कोल्लेब्रेशन हो। साइंस का लाभ समुदाय तक पहुंचाया जाए।

Contributors' List

1. Abdirakhman Ombaev, 134
2. Adel El Beltagi, 6
3. Ajit Shasany, 86
4. AK Mishra, 115
5. Akmal Akramkhanov, 119
6. Albin Hubscher, 140
7. Alisher Tashmatov, 25
8. Alisher Turaev, 118
9. AN Mukhopadhyay, 67
10. Andrew Bennett, 128
11. Anil Bawa, 115
12. Anupam Varma, 69
13. Arvind Kumar, 126
14. Ashok Kumar Singh, 66
15. Ashok Patel, 70
16. Ashutosh Sarkar, 142
17. Balbir Singh Chaudhary, 135
18. Balwinder Singh Sidhu, 133
19. Bhag Mal, 85
20. Bitore Jumakhanov, 117
21. BK Sharma, 92
22. BM Prasanna, 84
23. Botir Dosov, 120
24. Bram Govaerts, 124
25. BS Dhillon, 71
26. Bushan L Jalali, 89
27. Chirantan Chattopadhyay, 123
28. Claudia Sadoff, 116
29. CLL Gowda, 67
30. David Hemming, 19
31. Deepak Pental, 63
32. Dhruva Joshy, 42
33. DK Yadav, 104
34. DP Singh, 117
35. Edward C Cocking, 120
36. Fernando Chaparro, 14
37. G Padmanaban, 68
38. GL Kaul, 76
39. Gurbachan Singh, 73
40. Gurdev S Khush, 17
41. Hari D Upadhyaya, 91
42. Herath Gunasena, 18
43. Himanshu Pathak, 112
44. HS Gupta, 74
45. Ibrahim Hamdan, 21
46. Iftikhar Ahmed, 35
47. Ismahane Elouafi, 129
48. Ismail Serageldin, 4

49. Jacqueline Hughes, 111
50. Jitendra P Srivastava, 34
51. JL Karihaloo, 94
52. Joachim von Braun, 9
53. John Dixon, 36
54. Joykrushna Jena, 144
55. JS Samra, 75
56. JS Sandhu, 145
57. K Kasturirangan, 13
58. Kamal Bawa, 143
59. Karimbhai Maredia, 46
60. Kaushik Mazumdar, 126
61. KC Bansal, 90
62. KD Kokate, 93
63. Khageswar Pradhan, 72
64. Kirti Singh, 56
65. KM Bujabaruah, 114
66. Kuldip Singh, 144
67. Kundhavi Kadiresan, 41
68. Laurie Goodwin, 33
69. Laziza Gafurova, 121
70. M Velayutham, 96
71. Mahmoud Solh, 20
72. Marco Ferroni, 43
73. Mario Allegri, 131
74. Mark Holderness, 133
75. ME Tusneem, 42
76. MJ Williams , 147
77. ML Jat, 38
78. ML Madan, 79
79. Mohammad H Roozitalab, 44
80. Mohan C Saxena, 49
81. Mohan Joseph Modayil, 50
82. Mojtaba Rajab-Baigy, 39
83. MP Yadav, 80
84. Mruthyunjaya, 95
85. MS Chauhan, 84
86. MS Swaminathan, 1
87. Mustafa Pala, 137
88. MVR Prasad, 101
89. Narayan Rishi, 96
90. Nawab Ali, 97
91. Neil C. Turner, 128
92. Om Prakash Dhankher, 51
93. OP Toky, 116
94. P Das, 87
95. Peter H Raven, 140
96. Prabhakar Tamboli, 22
97. Prabhu Pingali, 26
98. Prakash Vish, 29
99. Pramod K Joshi, 98
100. Prem Lal Gautam, 28
101. Prem Mathur, 88
102. PS Sirohi, 121
103. Purvi Mehta, 130
104. Raghunath A Mashelkar, 16

105. Rai S Rana, 127
106. Raj Kachru, 113
107. Rajeev Varshney, 82
108. Rajinder Malhotra, 134
109. Ramesh Chand, 109
110. Ramesh Deshpande, 143
111. Rameshwar S Kanwar, 129
112. Rameshwar Singh, 145
113. Randhir S Dalal, 102
114. Rattan Lal, 40
115. Ravi Khetarpal, 131
116. Ravindra Chandra Joshi, 47
117. Ravish C Maheshwari, 48
118. RB Singh, 24
119. RB Srivastava, 103
120. Ren Wang, 52
121. Renu Swarup, 38
122. Rita Sharma, 37
123. RK Jain, 125
124. Robynne Anderson, 54
125. Ruchira Pandey, 122
126. Rudy Rabbinge, 54
127. S Bala Ravi, 90
128. Salil Singhal, 104
129. Sangram Chaudhary, 105
130. Sant Singh Virmani, 65
131. Shenggen Fan, 110
132. Shiv Yadav, 39
133. Shivaji Pandey, 87
134. Simon Hearn, 59
135. SK Vasal, 124
136. SM Paul Khurana, 77
137. SN Puri, 123
138. Stephan Weise, 141
139. Suman Singh, 106
140. Suresh P Prabhu, 8
141. Suri Sehgal, 57
142. Syed Ghazanfar Abbas, 55
143. T Marimuthu, 105
144. T Mohapatra, 10
145. T Ramasami, 27
146. TC Jain, 133
147. TG Reeves, 141
148. TR Sharma, 83
149. TV Sampath, 142
150. Uma Lele, 62
151. Umesh Srivastava, 99
152. V Rajagopal, 122
153. Ved Prakash, 146
154. Vibha Dhawan, 53
155. VK Baranwal, 125
156. Wais Kabir, 64
157. William Dar, 111
158. William Erskine, 130
159. Yoginder K Alagh, 23





Recent TAAS Publications

1. Resilience in Dairy Farming- A Success Story by Nikki Pilia Chaudhary, November 2022.
2. National Dialogue on Innovations in Agricultural Extension: A Way Forward - Proceedings and Recommendations, 8-9 April, 2022 (September 2022).
3. Towards Secure and Sustainable Agriculture - Strategy Paper by Dr. R.S. Paroda, August, 2022.
4. Expert Consultation on Promoting Efficient Irrigation Technologies for Water Saving Across Scales and Sectors, 25 February, 2022 (May 2022).
5. Expert Consultation on Accelerating Export of Seed Spices: Challenges and Opportunities - Proceedings and Recommendations, 22 November 2021 (January 2022).
6. National Workshop on Bridging the Yield Gaps to Enhance Foodgrain Production: A Way Forward - Proceedings and Recommendations, 26 August, 2021 (December 2021).
7. Report on Policies and Action Plan for a Secure and Sustainable Agriculture in Hindi, October, 2021.
8. Youth as Advisory Agents, Input Providers and Entrepreneurs – Article by Dr. R.S. Paroda, September, 2021.
9. Brainstorming Session on Regenerative Agriculture for Soil Health, Food and Environmental Security - Proceedings and Recommendations, 26 August, 2021.
10. Stakeholders Dialogue on Enabling Policies for Harnessing the Potential of Genome Editing in Crop Improvement - Proceedings and Recommendations, 17 March, 2021 (June, 2021).
11. Harnessing Genome Editing for Crop Improvement – An Urgency : Policy Brief, May, 2021.
12. Accelerating Science-Led Growth in Agriculture: Two Decades of TAAS, May, 2021.
13. A Road Map on Stakeholders Dialogue on Strategies for Safe and Sustainable Weed Management, January, 2021.
14. Fish Farming in North India-A Success Story by Dr Sultan Singh, December, 2020.
15. Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture - A Compendium, October, 2020.

16. A Road Map on Stakeholders Dialogue on Current Challenges and Way Forward for Pesticide Management, September, 2020.
17. A Road Map on Stakeholders Dialogue on Way Forward for the Indian Seed Sector, June, 2020.
18. Biofertilizers and Biopesticides for Enhancing Agricultural Production – A Success Story by Dr Basavaraj Girenavar, June, 2020.
19. A Road Map on Policy Framework for Increasing Private Sector Investments in Agriculture and Enhancing the Global Competitiveness of Indian Farmers, December, 2019.
20. Crop Biotechnology for Ensuring Food and Nutritional Security – Strategy Paper by Dr J.L. Karihaloo and Dr R.S. Paroda, December, 2019.
21. A Road Map on Efficient Land Use and Integrated Livestock Development, November, 2019.
22. National Dialogue on Land Use for Integrated Livestock Development - Proceedings & Recommendations, 1-2 November, 2019.
23. Horticulture for Food & Nutritional Security - Strategy Paper by Drs. K.L. Chadha & V.B. Patel, October, 2019.
24. Urgency for Scaling Agricultural Innovations to Meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – Strategy Paper by Dr. R.S. Paroda, April, 2019.
25. Regional Workshop on "Youth as Torch Bearers of Business Oriented Agriculture in South India", Hyderabad – Proceedings and Recommendations, 21-22 October, 2019.
26. 13th International Conference for Development of Drylands – Proceedings and Recommendations, 11-13 February, 2019.
27. Regional Conference on “Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA) - Proceedings and Recommendations, 30-31 August, 2018, (December, 2018).
28. Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture – Road Map (2018).
29. Brainstorming Meeting Harnessing Intellectual Property to Stimulate Agricultural Growth- Proceedings and Recommendations, 27 July, 2018.
30. "Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture" by Dr. R.S. Paroda (November, 2018).
31. "Women Empowerment for Agricultural Development" by Dr. R.S. Paroda (May, 2018).
32. Agricultural Policies and Investment Priorities for Managing Natural Resources, Climate Change and Air Pollution (April, 2018).



Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)

Avenue II, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research
Institute (IARI) Campus, New Delhi 110012, India
Ph.: +91-11-25843243; +91-8130111237
Email: taasiari@gmail.com; Website: www.taas.in