

### **Dr RS Paroda Honors Grassroots Innovators with HBNCRIIA Awards 2024**

Padma Bhushan Awardee Dr RS Paroda, Chairman of TAAS and former Secretary of DARE and DG of ICAR, recently presented the prestigious Honey Bee Network Creativity and Inclusive Innovation (HBNCRIIA) Awards 2024. The award ceremony, held on November 29, 2024, at the India International Centre in New Delhi, was a highlight of the People's Festival of Innovations (PFoI) 2024. The HBNCRIIA Awards recognize innovative solutions from grassroots innovators that address pressing societal challenges. This year's awards honored individuals and groups who have demonstrated exceptional creativity and impact.

Dr Paroda, along with other distinguished guests including Dr Renu Swaroop, former Secretary of DBT, Dr Swati Basu, former Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister's Office, and Prof. Anil Gupta, founder of Honey Bee Network, GIAN, SRISTI, and NIF, celebrated the achievements of these grassroots innovators.



Dr Paroda highlighted India's remarkable journey from food deficiency to a food-exporting nation, attributing this transformation to the innovative spirit of scientists, farmers, and breeders. He emphasized the importance of specialized policies like the Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PVFRA) in protecting intellectual property rights and preventing biopiracy. He also stressed the need for collaborative networks to foster innovation and knowledge sharing.

Dr Swaroop commended the HBNCRIIA Awards for recognizing and empowering grassroots innovators. She emphasized the power of networking and collaboration in driving innovation and social impact.



Press Note: <https://eng.ruralvoice.in/national/groundbreaking-innovations-honored-at-the-honey-bee-network-creativity-and-inclusive-innovation-awards-2024.html>