



**Dr Suri Sehgal, Chairman, SM Sehgal Foundation appreciates Dr Paroda's
Speech Delivered at 55th ANGRAU Convocation**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KA3bX1IELX0>

Dear Paroda_Ji,

I did receive the link of your interaction with the Quad fellows. It is indeed very informative interaction.

I was impressed to hear the remarkable contributions you have made to improve India's agriculture from agronomic crops to horticulture, to dairy and fisheries and so on. Hardly anyone else in India can make this claim ! My hats off to you.

I agree with you on all points that you have made. I was impressed to learn how you managed to get funds from USAID to build the gene bank, and from the World Bank to build research infrastructure and from Rajiv Gandhi to create the new seed policy and begin implementing it.

On why Borlaug efforts to bring about green revolution in Africa had failed. The failure was because of lack political will (policy), lack of agricultural research institutions and lack of trained human resource. To this one must add lack of genetics. The HYVs of wheat and rice were not adapted to Africa. The corn varieties that were then available did not offer quantum jump in productivity. Hybrid corn, or hybrid sorghum seed was not available because there was no seed industry. to multiply them.

I agree with you on people. The promising young people need to be encouraged and provided with resources to excel. India's space program is an example. Good people if supported with even modest resources can create miracles. Look at ISRO. CV Raman set the stage for excellence in physics in India and people like Satish Dhawan and APJ Abdual Kalam set the stage for success of space mission of Chandrya-3 much later.

I am pleased that TAAS is focused on policy and creating awareness on agricultural issues.

Warmest regards.

Suri.