What Experts have to say about the Book "Reorienting Indian Agriculture" by Dr. R.S. Paroda

Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Former Chairman, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and Vice President, The World Bank, Washington



"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. (Ms.) Uma Lele, Former Senior Advisor, The World Bank, Washington



"Reorienting 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. 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 encyclopedic and his dedication to Indian agricultural development total. The book is based on scientific principle and its panaromic view combined with all the specific details is well worth taking in. I wish the book every success."

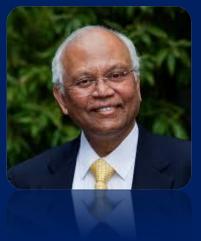
Dr. (Mrs.) Rita Sharma, Former Member Secretary, National Advisory Council and Secretary, Rural Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi



"Reorienting 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 multi-dimensionality 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."

Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, *Padma Vibhushan*, Former Director General, CSIR and Secretary, DSIR, Government of India, New Delhi



"Reorienting 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."

Dr. Mohammad H. Roozitalab, Former Chairman of Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), FAO, Rome



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pathway for food and nutrition security through the changes needed in policies, mindset, 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."

Dr. Marco Ferroni, Chair, System Management Board, CGIAR, Montpellier, France



"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."

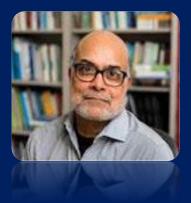
Dr. T. Ramasami, Former Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi



"The book is an 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. It 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."

Dr. Prabhu L. Pingali, Professor of Applied Economics & Director, Tata-Cornell Institute, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY



"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. Kundhavi Kadiresan, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Bangkok



"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. The book is a call to informed-action and a manifesto to sustainable agricultural development."