



भारतीय कृषि एवं खाद्य परिषद् INDIAN COUNCIL OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Annual Report 2015-16





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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear friends,



It gives me immense pleasure to present the first annual report of Indian Council of Food and Agriculture, highlighting the journey so far. ICFA is six months old and still in its nascent stage, yet the council has been able to contribute meaningfully in such a short span of time.

ICFA was born out of the long felt need for having an apex body, which could bridge the gap and take up farmer and industry issues at national as well as international levels. Therefore, while constituting ICFA, it was felt that it should work as a policy think tank, trade facilitation body and development enterprise for food and agriculture sector in India and to serve as global platform for partnerships. With the increasing globalization, the new challenges are emerging, which need to be proactively addressed for India's food and agriculture sector to grow, engage and compete globally and contribute towards food and nutritional security at the national and global level. I am delighted to inform you all that ICFA through its outreach policy and business agenda and global partnerships is creating opportunities for growth, value

addition and trade to help improve the income of farmers. Also, the council is working for farmers and agri –entrepreneurs towards helping them connect with the market opportunities, while addressing their policy, technology, trade, marketing, financing and partnership related needs.

ICFA is also promoting investments, entrepreneurship and technologies in farm sector by forging global partnerships with right institutions and by taking up projects, training, farm services and agri start-up ventures to accelerate growth in farmers' incomes, productivity and agribusinesses. During the year in review the council has successfully launched two working groups, organized three national level round table conferences and signed four MoUs with organizations of international repute. The council participated and made meaningful interventions at various meetings of national and international level.

In future, the council through its sector focused Working Groups, State and District Chapters, National Councils and country specific Joint Business Councils, seeks to strongly represent the interests of all the stakeholders at the national level on one hand and position India's food and agriculture sector globally on the other hand.

Amidst a volatile environment and changing climate pattern, it is important to have not only consistent but increasing agricultural production with better returns to farmers and industry. In order to strongly position India in global food and agriculture market, it is essential to have more and more youth and private firms in the agriculture with public sector support to make it a profitable venture and ICFA envisions to do the same for growth of farmers, agriculture and nation as a whole.

Dr. MJ Khan

Chairman



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Establishing an organization with the mandate, participation and stature of ICFA was not easy. It took more than twelve years' time from its first consultation meeting in April, 2003 at the residence of the then Power Minister, Mr. Suresh Prabhu, which was joined by 15 plus eminent persons. The need was underscored for creating a FICCI and CII like organization, exclusively devoted to food and agriculture sector to act as Think Tank and Policy Research & Advocacy organization, representing the interests of all key stake-holders at the national level and also positioning India globally in food and agriculture sector through trade and agribusiness facilitation. It was also felt that farmers need voice at the national level and their issues and agenda needed to be developed through proper research. After long deliberations, I was tasked to hold more discussions and formalize the registration of a not-for-profit legal entity.

Subsequently, several meetings took place at the residence of Prof. MS Swaminathan, at Haryana Bhawan in New Delhi, chaired by the Governor, Dr. AR Kidwai and at India Habitat Centre, chaired by former Agriculture Minister, Ch. Ajit Singh. In the meantime, global models were studied. I led delegation to China and studied Chinese Chamber of Food, Agriculture and Livestock Products, French Chamber of Agriculture, US and Canadian Commodity bodies and finally in Copenhagen I was given detailed presentation by the Danish Council of Agriculture and Food. DCAF model was most appealing, in the sense, that it was outside the Government purview and it had broad representation on its Board, comprised of 50% from the industry and the rest 50% included policy makers, experts, farmers and institutions. After studying these global models, we also analysed the mandate, pattern and composition of national level associations and various industry bodies, while holding consultations with eminent persons, connected with food and agriculture sector. Finally, a formal consultation was organized on April 27, 2015 at India International Centre, New Delhi, which was participated by 40 plus eminent persons and the final decision taken to launch ICFA at the forthcoming Agriculture Leadership Summit.

Accordingly, the registration was done, preparations were made and extensive communication as sent, board members were invited and finally on Sept 18, 2015, the Indian Council of Food and Agriculture was launched. The launch was done by the Union Home Minister, Mr. Rajnath Singh, who as the number two in the Government, was acting as Prime Minister on the day, due to the PM Mr. Modi being away to USA. He was joined by the Governor of Haryana State, Prof. KS Solanki, eminent Scientist, Prof. MS Swaminathan and Ministers of UP, Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar besides a galaxy of people, including several Secretaries of Government of India, over a dozen Ambassadors, Secretaries from the State Governments, 25 plus Farmers Organisations, Vice Chancellors, ICAR DG and Directors and CEOs of over 200 companies.

In the journey of ICFA formation from its 1st meeting in 2003 to its launch and operationalization, we received whole hearted support from a large number of people. I would specifically like to mention the support received by Prof. MS Swaminathan, Pioneer of India's Green Revolution, Mr. Rajnath Singh, Home Minister of India, Mr. Suresh Prabhu, current Minister of Commerce & Industry, H.E. Mr. S Freddy, Ambassador of Denmark, Mr. OP Dhankad, Agriculture Minister, Haryana, Dr. RB Singh, Chancellor, CAU, Mr. Salil Singhal, Chairman, PI Industries Limited, Mr. Alok Sinha, DG, ICFA, Mr. RD Shroff, Chairman, UPL Limited, Siraj Chowdhary, Chairman, Cargill India Limited, Dr. Rita Sharma, Board Member – ICRAF and former Secretary, GOI, Mr. Ram Mudholkar, President, DuPont India, Mr. RS Sodhi, MD, AMUL, Dr. PK Joshi, Director – South Asia, IFPRI, Ambassador Islam Siddiqui, Chief Agriculture Negotiator, Executive Office of the US President and many others. I am deeply indebted to all of them, who helped in making a thought into a reality, and a small beginning into an institution of repute in no time.

BACKGROUND AND GENESIS

Agriculture continues to be a powerful engine for rural prosperity, economic growth and social transformation world over and especially for the developing countries. In India, Africa and in many Asian countries agriculture holds critical importance to the economy as in the developing world 40% - 70% of the population directly depends on farm sector for its livelihood and sustenance. Agriculture in India and globally is undergoing a rapid transformation post WTO regime, governing the global trade in food and agriculture.

Indian agriculture and farmers as well as agro industries are passing through a critical phase but lack a credible body to articulate its views and take up issues at the national and international level. In this context, there was a long felt need of having an apex body, which could act as a think tank, information bank, advocacy group, watch-dog, development catalyst, trade, technology and investments facilitator and monitoring center for food and agriculture sector at national and global level. This should act as parallel to trade bodies like CII, FICCI etc., but be different from them in scope and objectives to represent not only the interests of the industry but also the sector as a whole, including the farming community.

The fast changing trade and economic environment globally requires a paradigm shift in our approach. We have to act proactively and respond positively to the changing dynamics of the global trade and agriculture. The bench-marks are now global and we have to prepare our policies and strategies with global perspective. Though the country has become self reliant in food grains production, its average productivity and quality is low and the cost of production high, which makes Indian agriculture less competitive in the world market. Therefore, there is need for global cooperation in agriculture and much greater need for boosting up trade in food and agriculture. This sector also promises great potential for start-up ventures and entrepreneurship opportunities, which the new body can facilitate.

A paradigm shift is required in our approach to agriculture; from production to marketing, from quantity to quality and domestic to international consumers. The agriculture has to be practiced on scientific lines with the use of best of technologies available to compete globally in cost and quality. A major program on crops shifting has to be implemented, taking in view the global benchmarking and our core competitive strengths in various crops. The importance of internal reforms and direction to the sector is enhanced on account of centrality of food and agriculture in the global trade post WTO.

There are however, contradictions in our policies with compartmentalized approach due to absence of a dialogue mechanism among various stake-holders. The Government, policy makers, research bodies, extension agencies, industry, development institutions and farmers groups think in different directions, often with contradictory approach for the same ultimate cause. Within food and agro industry also there are different bodies for specific interest areas.

This underlines the need for such body, which encompasses the compartmentalized approaches and strives for consensus on major issues and reconciliations of approaches by creating proper understanding and opinions on major issues that concern Indian agriculture, farmers and agri-food industry. And at the same time it works on policy issues, promotes investments and agribusinesses, facilitates cooperation in trade and technologies and unleashes the potential of food and agriculture globally.

With this background Indian Council of Food and Agriculture was created in 2015, after prolonged consultations and global studies over a period of 12 years. ICFA promises to address all the above concerns and needs of the food and agriculture sector and unleash the potential towards empowering the farms and farmers.

Vision

“Unleashing the potential of India's food and agriculture sector and empowering farmers through trade, technologies and partnerships towards achieving global food security and environmental sustainability.”



Mission

“Acting as the think tank, development enterprise and platform for global partnerships among the stakeholders in food and agriculture sector towards creating opportunities for trade, technologies and investments in agriculture and food value chain; and thus facilitating entrepreneurs development, farmers’ empowerment and enhancing the centrality of farm sector in policy making and economic ecosystem.”



Objectives

- To be the apex body at the national level, acting as think tank, policy research and trade facilitation body, development enterprise and policy advocacy centre for food and agriculture sector; and to give voice to various stakeholders; farmers, agri professionals, trade, industry, research and development sectors.
- To act as the monitoring centre and watch-dog for the national and international developments in food and agriculture sector, and to positively influence policies, trade negotiations towards protecting interests of farmers and the industry alike as also to promote the opportunities for small farmers and agri business ventures in this sector.
- To be the global platform for partnerships in food and agriculture to promote trade, investments and technologies and startup ventures in farm sector; and execute programs of GAP, food safety, environmental sustainability and agricultural stewardships towards promoting eco-agriculture and accelerating the growth of agribusinesses and food trade.
- To create awareness and understanding on major issues in food and agriculture sector and promote cooperation among the major stakeholders by organizing business meets and consultations; and promote innovations and adoption of successful farming and agribusiness models on larger scale and facilitate visits of trade and official delegations between India and other countries
- To be the national platform for farmers services, and to execute agricultural projects, entrepreneurship programs and farming ventures; and forging linkages with the industry, institutions and development bodies to promote commodity specific professional groups; and to act as apex facilitation body to further the cause of farmers and key stakeholders involved in food, agriculture and agribusinesses.



BOARD MEMBERS

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture is governed by a Board of Directors, which is comprised of the professionals of national and global eminence from the diverse fields such as policy, development, academic, research, farming, trade and industry. Currently, ICFA has a twenty Member Board, chaired by Dr. MJ Khan.



Dr. R B Singh
Chancellor
Central Agricultural University



Salil Singhal
Chairman and MD
PI Industries Ltd



Dr. P K Joshi
South Asia Director
IFPRI



R S Sodhi
Managing Director
AMUL



Dr. Purvi Mehta
Head – Agri (South Asia)
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



Ajit Jain
Managing Director
Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd



Jai Shroff
Managing Director
UPL Limited



Ram Mudholkar
President
EI DuPont India Pvt Ltd



Siraj Chaudhry
Chairman
Cargill India Ltd



Dr. Maharaj Muthoo
President
Roman Forum, Rome



RPS Gandhi
Chairman
Green Valley Biotech Pvt Ltd



Dr. K L Chadha
President
Horticulture Society of India



Prof. Karim Maredia
Director
Africa Partnership Program
Michigan State University



B S Soundarajan
Chairman
Suguna Foods Ltd



Prof. Kadambot Siddique
Director
Institute of Agriculture,
Western Australia University, Perth



N G Hegde
Chairman Emeritus
BAIF Development
Research Foundation

MANAGEMENT TEAM

ICFA, being a think tank, cannot lean too heavily towards either the academic, journalistic or bureaucratic mode of operation, but instead, needed to use the required elements and as a result board of directors came up with a distinctive and customized “business model” for the organization. The management team for the organization for the financial year 2015-16 is as follows:

Management Team



Alok Sinha
Director General



Dr. MJ Khan
Chairman



NS Randhawa
Executive Director



Formation of ICFA

The proposal for the formation of think tank and trade facilitation body – Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) was presented by Dr. M.J. Khan with a view to unfold the opportunities for growth, value addition and trade to improve the income of masses, which have not been appropriately tapped due to lack of an appropriate body which could represent the interests of all the stakeholders at the national level while position India's food and agriculture sector globally.

In this regard, a pre – launch consultation meeting was held in April 2015.

Pre-Launch Consultation Meeting

Date: 27 April, 2015

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi

Chaired by: Mr. RD Shroff, Chairman, Crop Care Federation of India

This meeting was attended by various eminent personalities to provide an input for the formation of ICFA as an apex body for agricultural sector of India. The participants of the meeting were largely from various agricultural associations such as Crop Care Federation of India, Medicinal & Herbal Plant Grower Federation, All India Poultry Association and etc.; universities such as Central Agricultural University; research organizations such as International Food Policy Research Institute. The basic agenda of the meeting was to deliberate upon various activities to be undertaken by ICFA and come up with concrete activities.

It was decided in the meeting that the new body-Indian Council of Food and Agriculture will be launched in next 3 months time which will act as the policy research, trade facilitation & advocacy body for Indian farmers, food & agriculture and the council would forge linkages with various bodies and organizations in the farm sector, hold meetings with them and dialogues with the government facilitate visits of delegations with various countries and take up research and advocacy work towards furthering the cause of farmers, Indian agriculture and agribusiness. The national body would also give voice at global platform on trade, multinational negotiations and AOA etc. as also analyze the developments in various countries of the world and monitor their impact on Indian agriculture and food trade on one hand and influence policy decisions, reforms progress and direction to agriculture on other hand.

It was suggested that ICFA management committee should comprise of about 15 persons and governing body of about fifty distinguished persons in the country from policy making, farming community, research, academia, trade, agri-industries, finance and developmental institutions etc.

With the above mentioned objectives and vision for the council, the ICFA was launched in September 2015.

Launch of ICFA

Date: 18 September 2017

Venue: Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi



Union Minister Rajnath Singh launched the council by releasing ICFA brochure and its website www.icfa.org.in, during the Eighth Agricultural Leadership Summit. On this auspicious occasion, he marked the fulfillment of a long felt need of having an apex body which could effectively represent the interests of all stakeholders in India's food and agriculture sector at the national and international level particularly articulating the view point of farmers who do not have their advocate either at State or National level. He gave a call to ICFA to the district level by enrolling farmers and rural institutions to make it broad based, while exuding the confidence that the Council will do Justice to the cause and address the concerns of the farmer and agriculture community.

The launch of INDIA'S Apex Think Tank and Trade Facilitation Body – ICFA was attended by various government officials and other eminent personalities in the field of agricultural sector of India. The core objectives of the council were listed during the meet.

Thus, ICFA with its proactive farmer centric policies will create opportunities for trade, technology and investments in farming and food value chain, facilitating the growth of agribusinesses, sets up growth agenda and implements programs of food safety, sustainable production system and certification for creation of greater marketing and agribusiness opportunities.

Soon after the launch of the council, first meeting of Board of Directors was organized in November 2015.

ICFA Board Meeting

Date: 20 November 2015

Venue: Indian International Centre, New Delhi

Dr. M.J. Khan, Chairman, ICFA welcomed all the Board of Directors and emphasized the importance of this first ever board meeting of ICFA to discuss and finalize various operational aspects. He pointed out that initial activities have already started and few recruitments being done including one Executive Director. He also highlighted the future aim of forming Institutional collaboration and creation of National Councils, and State and District chapters for expanding the reach of ICFA. International offices in the initial years may be cost prohibitive, but ICFA can always go for Joint Business Councils with different foreign bodies.

After all the discussions and everyone presenting their view point, the meeting was concluded with the following suggestions:

1. ICFA to be known in the food and agriculture sectors as an organization for
 - Policy, research and advocacy
 - Business and trade facilitation
 - Platform for partnership
2. ICFA should be in pursuit of protecting the interest of the farmers and the consumers. Food certification should be included to add value to both the stakeholders.
3. Initially, two regional Working Groups would be launched besides other national Working Groups:
 - a. WG on North East Development under the chairmanship of Mr. PL Thanga, IAS 1974 batch, Vice Chairman, Mizoram State Planning Board
 - b. WG on Uttar Pradesh under the chairmanship of Dr. Anis Ansari, IAS 1973 batch, Chairman, Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development
4. First event that ICFA would organize should be the Round Table Conference of Policy WG under Dr. Rita Sharma on the recent renaming of the Ministry of Agriculture by Govt. of India, which is planned to be organized around last fortnight of December or first fortnight of January 2016.

Further, the major working areas identified and laid down during the formation of ICFA are discussed in the next section along with the activities undertaken in the same respect.

Review of Operations

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture, being first think tank in the sector of food and agriculture in India focuses on all most all the aspects of the agricultural sector of India from farmers to the industry. With this wide view, the council focuses on the following working areas by conducting RTCs, launching Working Groups with respect to various sectors and signing MoUs with various institutes.

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture Working Area



ICFA Working Areas

- **Policy Research and Studies:** The success of agriculture or the businesses depends upon the policies of the Governments, which regulate markets, pricing of inputs and outputs and almost everything is governed by the policies. ICFA focusses on research based policy advocacy and development agenda.
- **Platform for Global Partnerships:** With the globalization of trade and economies and the issues of trade and climate change emerging as common global concern, there is need for collective efforts and cooperation towards addressing the key global issues. ICFA aims to bring on one platform all the key stake-holders.
- **Trade and Agribusiness Facilitation:** India has got very large and diverse food production system, growing almost every crop and every animal that is grown in any part of the world. However, share of India in global food and agriculture trade is minimal, which ICFA promises to boost.
- **National Resource and Monitoring Centre:** Agriculture and food sector is vastly diverse and now globally integrating. There is hectic pace of happening in policies, trade, technologies and markets world over, which need to be studied and monitored and its implications analysed and shared with farmers, Governments and other key stake-holders.
- **Global Policy and Dialogue Forum:** In an increasingly globalized world, there is need for continuous dialogues and discussions on trade and policies, technologies and knowledge sharing for farmers, industry, entrepreneurs and policy makers to get updated knowledge and global perspective. ICFA aims at organizing regular dialogues and deliberations.
- **Crop Stewardship and Agri Services:** Indian agriculture lacks professional services right from GAP certification to farm management and agribusinesses to delivery of programs and schemes. ICFA is committed to addressing this need by organising farmers to connect them with services, technologies and national and global markets



Working Group

ICFA constituted working groups for all the major sub sectors of the agriculture industry with comparatively small number of population under the chairmanship of an prominent personality from food and agriculture sector. In the fiscal year 2015-16, ICFA constituted two Working Groups which are as follows:

ICFA Working Group on Policy Affairs

Launch Date: March 14, 2016

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi

Chaired by: Dr. Maharaj Muthoo, Chairman, Roman Forum, Rome

In order to realize the market potential by reforming agriculture and making its produce internationally competitive in quality and food safety, innovative farming practices need to be incorporated along with the concept of globally accepted Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) within the framework of commercial agricultural production for long term improvement and sustainability. In recent years, the concept of GAP has evolved to address the concerns of different stakeholders about food production and security, food safety and quality, and the environmental sustainability of agriculture. In this context, ICFA launched a Working Group “ICFA Working Group on Food Safety and GAP Certification” and held its first meeting on March 14, 2016 regarding role of ICFA in food certification and GAP and discussed various dimensions of implementing GAP. It was also expressed that ICFA could become a certification body.

Round Table Conferences (RTCs)

ICFA has initiated a series of round table conferences for all the major sub – sectors and aspects of agricultural sector taking all the stakeholders i.e. government officials, policy makers, corporate heads, head of academic and research institutions on board with a purpose to create a platform for open discussion about issues and challenges of the sector. RTCs envisage taking up major concerns and bottlenecks for the growth of the sector and coming up with the recommendation to overcome the same.

The round tables were initiated from February 2016 and three RTCs have been successfully organized in such a short span of time.

Round Table Conference on “Farmers; Welfare – Identifying Issues”

Date: February 10, 2016

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi

Chaired by: Dr. Rita Sharma, IAS (retd.), former Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development

The seven decade old Ministry of Agriculture has been recently renamed as the ‘Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare’. In the light of the prevailing agrarian distress in the farming community, especially among smallholder farmers in ecologically stressed regions, instances of farmer suicides have come to light and the issue of farmer’s welfare has acquired greater importance. The renaming of the Ministry was a clear signal to the farming community that the government proposes to focus not only on increasing agricultural production and productivity but also bringing issues of farmers’ welfare to centre-stage. It is in this context that the ICFA organized a meeting on “Farmers’ Welfare – Identifying the Issues”, chaired by Dr. Rita Sharma, IAS (retd.), former Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development in New Delhi on February 10, 2016 to discuss with various stakeholders these issues and to identify further the critical aspects of what encompasses Farmers’ Welfare.



It was felt that there is need to map out various interventions and what schemes in various ministries relate to the various dimensions and then see in the conceptual framework what need to be done in term of priority. It was suggested to develop a framework for putting up the suggestions. Also the need of having farmers collective for their social strengthening and forming subgroups who can look at the whole issue of farmers' collective, pension, economic and social matters related to farmer welfare was emphasized.

Round Table Conference on “Preparing for Climate Resilient Agriculture – Policies, Programs and Project Interventions”

Date: March 21, 2016

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi

Chaired by: Mr. Martien Van Nieuwkoop, South Asia Director, World Bank, Washington DC

Climate change impacts on agriculture are being witnessed all over the world, but countries like India are more vulnerable in view of the huge population dependent on agriculture, excessive pressure on natural resources and poor coping mechanisms. The warming trend in India over the past 100 years has indicated an increase of 0.60°C. The projected impacts are likely to further aggravate field fluctuations of many crops thus impacting food security. Significant negative impacts have been projected with medium-term (2010-2039) climate change, eg. Yield reduction by 4.5 to 9%, depending on the magnitude and distribution of warming. Enhancing agricultural productivity, is critical for ensuring food and nutritional security for all, particularly the resource poor small and marginal farmers who would be affected most. In the absence of planned adaptation, the consequences of long-term climate change could be severe on the livelihood security of the poor. In this context, ICFA hosted a RTC on “Preparing for Climate Resilient Agriculture – Policies, Programs and Project Interventions.”

Round Table Conference on “Doubling Farmers’ income by 2022”

Date: March 30, 2016

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi

Chaired by: Prof. MS Swaminathan

Indian agriculture is passing through difficult times due to two consecutive drought situations in several parts of the country, thereby resulting into wide spread distress among farmers. The rural areas in these parts are facing food and livelihood crisis, more specifically the shortage of fodder and drinking water. Thus, based on the recommendations of National Commission on Farmers, Government announced measuring agricultural progress by real income of farmers and not by gross production of agricultural commodities. The Finance Minister in his Budget 2016 Speech mentioned about doubling farm incomes. Later the Prime Minister of India gave a call to the nation of doubling farm incomes by 2022 by spelling out 6 points strategy. Accordingly a Task Group has been formed by the Ministry of Agriculture to come out with a detailed plans and its operationalization. In this context, ICFA organized a national consultation on in New Delhi, involving top experts from the Government, industry, research and academic bodies, farmers' organizations, parliamentarians and NGOs. The meet was chaired by Prof. MS Swaminathan and co-chaired by the Secretary – Agriculture, Government of India.

However, there is almost unanimity that the net income of farmers can surely be doubled well within the period of six years. A total of 40 recommendations for increasing incomes of farmers, have been divided into five parts as, increasing incomes by improving productivity; water and agri-input policies; integrated farming system; better market price realization and special policy measures.



Collaborations/Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs)

ICFA with a view to build a reliable, valuable and rational relationship and to establish friendly and cordial relations between India and other countries signed Memorandum of Understanding with various organizations, including Universities.

MoU with India Agriculture Group, Washington DC

Date: 8 Jan, 2016

IAG International and ICFA signed an MoU to work on programs and projects in India with expertise mobilized by India Agriculture Group, Washington DC. The MoU was signed between Mr. Alok Sinha, DG and Mr. Ramesh Deshpande, Convener, IAG in New Delhi. IAG is comprised of experts of Indian origin settled in Washington DC and other cities in US, and who are keen in contributing their learnings and expertise to the betterment of Indian agriculture.

MoU with Michigan State University

Date: January 18, 2016

ICFA and Michigan State University signed the MoU for collaborating to establish integrated programs to organize joint studies, seminars, market surveys and study tours on major segments of research through information processing along with jointly initiating cutting-edge research projects in the agricultural sector to boost sustainable agriculture by validating and analyzing new technologies that significantly improve produce possibilities.

MoU with TERI

Date: January 18, 2016

TERI and ICFA signed MoU with an objective for working on technology transfer, training and entrepreneurs development in Africa and conducting global studies on trade, technology and food security related issues. Also, provide a meaningful platform towards lessening the hardships of the farmers.

MoU with University of Maryland, United States

Date: February 25, 2016

The MoU was signed between ICFA and University of Maryland in order to conduct food safety training, engage in joint research and studies; Collaborate and mutually organize Workshops, Conferences and Discussions on latest areas of knowledge and advances in the agricultural sector and enhance cooperation to share the information by conducting strategic and effective awareness and extension programs; and Jointly facilitating communication with policy makers, both in governments and development organizations and promoting collaboration in the agricultural sector in India and in the United States.

MoU with The University of Western Australia

Date: March 12, 2016

The University of Western Australia and ICFA signed the MoU with an objective to collaborate for exchange of students and faculty, as well as researchers between India and Australia for short and medium term projects, learning and study visits; and mutually facilitate demand driven 'Human Resource Development' to meet the requirements of Food security and livelihood for a larger section of society.

Visitors to ICFA

ICFA hosted African Delegation

Date: January 18, 2016

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture hosted a 14 member African delegation from eleven countries in New Delhi January 18, 2016, mounted by African Union and led by Michigan State University, US. The visit in India was coordinated by TERI, which is the Consular General of Michigan State University in India. ICFA Chairman, Dr. MJ Khan also announced the launch of ICFA Working Group on Africa to be hosted by ICFA in India and co-hosted by MSU and AU with 15 members each from India and Africa and five members from US.

Interventions

Meeting with French Chamber of Agriculture

Date: October 8, 2015



Dr. M.J. Khan, Chairman, ICFA attended a meeting with French Chamber of Agriculture at Paris led by FCA head of International relations so as to gain a better understanding of French agricultural scenario and techniques and for deeper insight of various marketing models.



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