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NEWS

75th Annual Conference or Platinum Jubilee of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics

The 75th Annual Conference or Platinum Jubilee Celebration of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics will be held under the auspices of Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab), from November 19-21, 2015. Dr. R.S. Deshpande, Former Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore has been elected to preside over the Conference. The following three subjects have been selected for discussion at the Conference.

- (1) Disadvantaged Regions and People: Is There a Way Forward?
- (2) Role of Technology, Institutions and Irrigation in Agricultural Development.
- (3) Economic Contribution of Women in Agriculture .

The Indicative Outlines on the three subjects would be circulated to the members and member institutions. **The Outlines on all the three subjects have been made available in our Society's website www.isaeindia.org.** Research papers not exceeding 10 pages each (typed in double space – A4 size – on one side only) including tables, annexures, reference, etc., are invited for discussion at the Conference. Three copies of the papers along with Summaries (not exceeding 250 words) should reach the Society's office not later than May 15, 2015. In the case of papers accepted for publication in full length in the Conference Number of the Journal, the authors should email a copy each of their papers at: isae@bom7.vsnl.net.in or send the CD of their papers in Microsoft Word for quick conversion.

Thematic Seminars as Part of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Indian Society of Agricultural Economics

It has been decided to organize one day thematic seminars in the subject areas or any other suitable events at institutions of repute in the realm of teaching and research in agricultural economics in different parts of India and neighbouring countries throughout the Society's platinum jubilee year **2015**. In this context various institutions/universities were requested to hold this event during any month of 2015. About five institutes have agreed to hold these events. It has also been decided to consolidate the proceedings of these events in the form of compendium which will be released at the inaugural function of the Platinum Jubilee Conference.

Inter-Conference Symposium of International Association of Agricultural Economists

The Society organized an Inter-conference Symposium of International Association of Agricultural Economists jointly with National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Professor Jayasankar Telangana State Agricultural University and Acharya N.G.Ranga Agricultural University at MANAGE, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad from October 12-13, 2014. The broad theme of the Symposium was “Revisiting National Agricultural Policy in the Light of Globalisation Experience: The Indian Context”. A brief pre-Conference proceedings has been published and Dr.A.Janaiah has been requested to expedite the finalization of the papers for eventual publication. A copy of the report has been published in the October-December 2014 issue of the Journal.

Professor Ramesh Chandra Agrawal Prize Award

The Indian Society of Agricultural Economics has instituted in 2004 Professor Ramesh Chandra Agrawal Award of Excellence for contribution to Agricultural Economics. The Society is pleased to announce that Dr. M.G. Chandrakanth has been chosen for the fifth Dr. Ramesh Chandra Agrawal Prize Award for his outstanding contribution in the field of Agricultural Economics. The Award of Rs. 25,000/- is funded by an endowment of Rs. Two and half lakhs, given by his family.

The announcement of the Prize Award was made at the Award Ceremony held at the inaugural function of the 74th Annual Conference of the Society at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad on December 18, 2014.

ISAE Fellow Award

The Society has instituted in 2011 for awarding ISAE Fellows each year for Senior Scholars who have made continuous outstanding contribution to the profession. The honour of Fellow, to be given annually, to an Indian Scholar who has made outstanding contributions to the field of agriculture and rural development. For this purpose nominations were invited from the past Conference Presidents and Presidents of the Society. The Fellow Selection Committee of eminent economists considered the nominations received during the year 2014 and unanimously awarded the ISAE Fellow for the year 2014 to Dr. Uma Lele, Dr. N. Nagaraj and Dr. R.S. Sidhu.

Dr. D.K. Desai Prize Award for the Best Article published in the IJAE in 2013

Under Dr. D.K. Desai Prize Award Scheme instituted by the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics, eight articles published in the three regular issues of the Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics during the year 2013 were considered for prize by the Prize Awards Committee. On the recommendations of the Prize Awards Committee, the Society awarded a prize of Rs. 5,000/- to the following full length article which was adjudged the best :

“Did Crop Insurance Programmes Change the Systematic Yield Risk?” by Dr. Shaik Saleem (published in the January-March 2013 issue).

Dr. Anamitra Saha Prize Award for the Best Article published in the IJAE in 2013

Under Dr. Anamitra Saha Prize instituted by the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics eight articles published in the three regular issues of the Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics during the year 2013 were considered for prize by the Prize Awards Committee. On the recommendations of the Prize Committee, the Society awarded a prize of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) to the following full length article which was adjudged the best:

“Economic Impact of Institutions on the Consumption of Forest Products in India” by Kiran Kumar R. Patil, G.R. Manjunatha and M.G. Chandrakanth (published in April-June 2013 issue)

The announcement of these awards was made at the 74th Annual Conference of the Society held at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad on December 18, 2014.

Guidelines for Organisation of Regional Seminars

The Indian Society of Agricultural Economics has a scheme for organising Regional Seminars, from time to time, on topics of current importance. Senior agricultural economists working in agricultural universities/social science research institutions would be assigned full responsibility to hold such Seminars under the auspices of the sponsor University/Department of Agricultural Economics and Indian Society of Agricultural Economics. The organisers will need to submit a detailed synopsis of the subject selected for the Seminar and identify persons in the region who will be able to submit research-based papers on the subject. This preparatory work is essential before the Society could consider financial assistance. The idea is

to promote analysis of region-specific issues supported by field level research ongoing in the region on selected subjects. The guidelines for the organisation of the regional Seminars can be had from the Honorary Secretary of the Society.

1. The scholars/institutions proposing to organise such Seminars are at liberty to select the subjects but the focus should be on aspects of importance to the region; and on giving an opportunity to scholars in the region to discuss their work among themselves and with select senior scholars.

2. The scholars proposing to hold such Seminars should submit to the Society well structured and focused synopses on regional themes along with a list of the proposed paper-writers from the concerned region(s). On the basis of this information the Society would be able to decide on the financing of the Seminar.

3. The number of papers invited for discussion at a Seminar should be restricted to about 10 to 12 and the number of participants be limited to about double the number of papers accepted for discussion but not exceeding 25. The duration of the Seminar shall be limited to 2-3 days. The organisers of the Seminar would have the freedom to decide about the selection of paper-writers from the region concerned as well as the participants.

4. Abstracts of the proposed papers on the subject selected for the Seminar should be submitted within three months after they are solicited by the organisers so that they can form the basis for selection of the paper-writers/participants. Besides, some invited papers may also be commissioned.

5. The scanning of the Abstracts, and the selection of paper-writers on the basis thereof will be the responsibility of the scholars/institutions proposing to organise the Seminar. Copies of the Abstracts and the list of selected paper-writers will be submitted to the Society by the Organisers. The Society will then publish the detailed synopsis of the proposed Seminar in the ensuing issue of the Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics.

6. It is desirable to ensure that the invitation to paper-writers is issued well in advance, say about one year in advance of the holding of the Seminar.

7. A first draft of the paper should be submitted by the selected paper-writers to the organisers within three months of the approval of the Abstracts. The draft papers would be peer reviewed and returned to the paper-writers with the comments of the referees, if any, for revision. The reference of the first draft of the papers will be made to the senior scholars experts by the organisers.

8. The revised papers should reach the host institution before two months of the date fixed for holding the Seminar, so that they can be circulated well in advance to all participants. Copies of the revised papers will be sent to the Society by the organisers as soon as they are received from the paper-writers.

9. The Society would nominate a senior scholar from the region to guide the organisation and conduct of the Seminar. The organisers of the Seminar and the nominated expert should conduct, guide, and monitor the discussions at the Seminar, advise the authors to revise their respective papers in the light of the comments made

at the Seminar and the comments offered by the nominated senior expert for possible publication by the Society.

10. The organisers of the Seminar should also prepare a summary of the Proceedings of the Seminar and send it to the President of the Society, immediately after the holding of the Seminar.

11. The Society would provide financial assistance to the host institution, the proposal of which is accepted by the Society, to the extent of Rs. 50,000 to meet the expenses of the Seminar. The organisers of the Seminar should send to the Society item-wise statement of accounts duly certified by the head of the Department of the host institution or its auditors.

12. The Society may consider publication of the papers submitted at the Seminar along with the proceedings within five months of the Seminar. In such an eventuality, the editing of the papers and proceedings will need to be done by the organisers. The copyright of the publication will rest with the Society.

Information on Completed Ph.D. Theses in Agricultural Economics: 2014-2015

The Society publishes a list of approved Ph.D. Theses in Agricultural Economics in the last issue of the Journal every year. The Chairman/Heads of the Department of Economics/Agricultural Economics in Universities and other institutions in India are requested to kindly send us a list of completed Ph. D. Theses in their Departments/Institutes during the academic year 2014-2015 giving the details about the titles of the Ph.D. theses, name of scholars and Supervisors, University to which the thesis was submitted and the year of acceptance of the thesis for the Ph.D. award.