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Indicative Outlines of Subjects Selected for Discussion at the 74th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics

The 74th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics will be held under the auspices of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Marathwada (Aurangabad), Maharashtra from December 18-20, 2014.

The following subjects are selected for discussion:

(a) Livestock Marketing and Supply Chain Management of Livestock Products.
(b) Labour Scarcity in Agriculture and Mechanisation.
(c) Subsides in Agriculture and Their Implications on Trade and Environment.

Research Papers on the above themes are invited from members and other paper-writers for discussion at the Conference. The scope of each of the three themes is spelt out in the enclosed Indicative Outlines below. The Indicative Outlines are also available on the Society's website www.isaeindia.org.

Three copies of each paper (not exceeding 3500 words or 10 pages), with its Summary in triplicate not exceeding 250 words need to be submitted. The last date for the receipt of the papers at the Society's office is May 15, 2014.

SUBJECT I

LIVESTOCK MARKETING AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS*

India witnessed an impressive demand-led growth of over 4 per cent in its livestock sector in the past three decades. This contributed toward sustaining agricultural growth, reducing poverty and managing adverse effects of crop failures on food and nutrition security. For past one and half decade, India has retained its position as the largest producer of milk in the world, and has now emerged as the largest exporter of beef, mainly buffalo meat. Milk is now the largest agricultural commodity in physical as well as value terms.

* Prepared by Dr. P.S. Birthal, Principal Scientist, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NCAP), New Delhi-110 012.

Rising incomes, a fast-growing urban population, and globalisation are opening up new market opportunities for livestock products. Market opportunities, however, are being accompanied by many complex challenges. Livestock producers lack access to resources, technologies, and markets. Markets for livestock and livestock products have by and large remained unorganised, traditional and fragmented even after decades of economic development. Livestock production is dominated by small-scale producers, and because of small scale production they are often unable to establish market linkages with processors and marketing firms. For example, about 60 per cent of the milk produced is marketed, of which only about 25 per cent is handled by the organised sector comprising co-operatives and private processors. The rest 75 per cent flows to the consumers through informal channels. Livestock products are perishable and need to be transported immediately to the demand centres or converted into less perishable forms. It is therefore essential to understand the markets or supply chains for livestock and livestock products – from production to consumption- in terms of activities, participation of different stakeholders and their relationships, institutional arrangements, financial and technical support, and the critical constraints that limit growth of livestock production and consequently the competitiveness of small-scale livestock producers.

The paper writers may focus on the following issues:

- Both formal and informal markets for live animals, especially ruminants, are not well analysed and understood. An analysis of structure, conduct and performance of formal markets will enrich our understanding about their functioning, and suggest appropriate policy measures for efficient functioning of the existing markets, and to develop new markets for live animals. Potential contributors may focus on in-depth case studies of selected regulated markets for live animals. In the informal market segment, farmer-to-farmer exchange (mainly of large ruminants) and aggregation of animals (goats, buffalo calves) by the itinerary traders have remained important channels. Contributors may map the existing market channels and associated activities. Pricing live animals in formal as well as informal markets comprise an important topic for research.
- India's 'white revolution' spearheaded by the National Dairy Development Dairy (NDDB) is as celebrated as 'green revolution'. Village level dairy co-operatives promoted by NDDB have played an important role in providing farmers an access to markets at their doorstep, and in supplying inputs and services including credit and insurance. Contributors may examine these value chains in terms of efficiency, inclusiveness and benefit sharing. It would worth studying the economic and social dimensions of dairy producers' companies, the new form of linking farmers to markets.

- Unfolding of economic reforms has provided a fillip to private sector investment in livestock value chains. Most private dairy processors have now their plants in well-endowed dairy regions, and have developed linkages with the farmers through one or another form of contract farming. It would be interesting to compare different models of contract farming in respect of their terms and conditions, that is selection of partners, exclusionary criteria, and provision of technology, inputs, and services, price fixation, sharing of benefits, social and economic impacts, and governance mechanisms. It is also important to (i) study how the dairy value chains are financed, and (ii) how these have scaling- up and – out?
- Led by private sector there has been a rapid transformation in the poultry value chains. The introduction of contract farming has turned subsistence production into a commercial venture. The contract farming in poultry, however, is different than in dairying. Fixed income contracts are common in broilers. Under such contracts, processors share sizeable share of cost by providing critical inputs such as chicks, feed and medicines to the farmers. This in a sense is financing of the value chain. Farmers for their contribution to cost receive fixed growing charges on body weight basis, which in a sense an insurance against market risks. These provisions have led to scaling up of the broiler production. The authors may examine these issues?
- Other forms of institutions linking livestock producers to markets are self-help groups and producers' associations, though these are not much noticed in the livestock sector. Being collectives, these generate scale economies and strengthen farmers' bargaining power vis-à-vis large agribusiness firms. Contributors may examine their role in enhancing farmers' access to markets, technologies, inputs and services.
- Informal value chains are still important to serve the local markets. These include milk vendors and peri-urban dairies which locally procure or produce milk and sell directly to the consumers or institutions in the locality or nearby cities and town. Many a times, vendors operate inter-linked transactions by advancing credit to the producers. These chains may be studied for their efficiency, sustainability and impact.
- With multiple stakeholders markets for livestock and livestock products are expected to be more competitive. This is likely to influence prices of livestock products, and consequently the welfare of the farmers. It is thus important to study the likely impacts of increased competition on welfare and farmers and benefit sharing among other stakeholders on the value chain.
- Bulk of the labour demand in animal husbandry especially in dairying is met by women. How the women would be impacted by development of supply chains is worth examining.
- Expanding demand for livestock products is being accompanied by increased demand for safety and hygiene. Food safety and quality issues are becoming

more important in export-driven value chains. Now food safety regulations are in place in order to ensure that consumers get safe and quality foods. The issues that may be examined in this context are: How formal and informal value chains comply with food standards? What are the costs of compliance at different stages of the value chain? Is there any premium on price for safe and quality food? Are the benefits due to improved safety and quality shared with farmers?

In general, the paper writers should focus on (i) understanding the operations of formal and informal markets for livestock and livestock products, (ii) opportunities for small livestock producers to benefit from value chains, (iii) policies and institutions that reduce transaction costs and facilitate small producers' participation in modern value chains.

SUBJECT II

LABOUR SCARCITY IN AGRICULTURE AND FARM MECHANISATION*

Labour in agriculture is becoming scarce in most parts of India. High economic growth, fast infrastructure development and more wages are pushing farm labourers to migrate to urban areas or find alternative job opportunities. The labour scarcity in rural areas is leading to increase in farm wages and adding to the cost of production of agricultural commodities. Farm machinery is the possible option for substituting labour and improving the productivity of labour, land and other inputs. Introduction of machinery to substitute labour (labour saving) is a common phenomenon associated with the release of labour for employment in other sectors of the economy. The purpose of mechanisation is also to produce more from the existing land, using machinery as a complementary input, required to achieve higher land productivity. Similarly, machines are required to reduce post-harvest losses and improve processing of agricultural commodities. The added benefit of mechanisation is associated with a reduction in the drudgery of farm work, greater leisure, or reduction of risk, etc.

Consequent upon the transformation of agriculture in terms of technological advancements, change in cropping pattern, cropping intensity, mechanisation of field operations, and use of inputs such as high-yielding variety seeds, fertilizers, irrigation and pesticides, the employment of human labour has undergone various structural changes in Indian agriculture. Though, India has abundant labour force in agriculture, non-availability of manpower during peak crop season is a growing problem. One of the serious problems concerning labour employment is its seasonality which has caused under-utilisation of the available labour in some seasons and over-utilisation

*Prepared by Dr. D,K, Grover, Director, Agro-Economic Research Centre, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana-141 004 (Punjab)

in other periods. The peak and troughs are pronounced more in recent years due to specialised kind of farming especially in green revolution belt of the country. To cover up the gap between supply and demand of farm labour in a specific season, migration from labour abundant (especially from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh) to labour scarce states (like Punjab and Haryana) is a common phenomenon. During recent years, continuous shift of rural population towards service sector for better working conditions, increasing urbanisation and migration of villagers in search of greater opportunities, rise of rural entrepreneurs, etc. has resulted into the shortage of agricultural labour. The implementation of MGNREG scheme in 2006 has further aggravated the problem of labour scarcity in rural areas. The 2011 census points towards the movement of labour away from agriculture in recent years. Indian agriculture now needs to infuse technologies, including mechanisation, to overcome the labour scarcity.

The future of agriculture is dependent on penetration of scale-neutral technologies; trends of which have already begun in some ways. According to the Department of Agriculture, the share of agriculture workers and draught animals (farm power sources in agriculture) has come down from 63.5 per cent in 1971-72 to 13.67 per cent in 2009-10, whereas the share of tractors, power tillers, and motors has gone up from 36.51 per cent to 86.33 per cent during the same period. With newer farm techniques such as combined harvester, irrigation equipments (sprinklers/drip), plant protection equipments (high clearance self-propelled sprayer, blast/aero sprayer), crop/operation-specific machines (rice planter, pre-germinated-paddy seeders, cotton pickers, sugarcane harvesters, wheat straw reaper/loader, paddy straw bailers, maize planter/dehusker/thresher, etc.), resource conserving technologies (zero-till-drill, raised-bed planter, laser leveller, happy seeders, etc.) , the dependence on farm mechanisation has substantially increased. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation has been proposed for the Twelfth Plan, which includes custom-hiring facilities for agricultural machinery as one of its major components. Its focus is on increasing the reach of farm mechanisation to small and marginal farmers and to the regions where availability of farm power is low.

Though the country has been witnessing considerable progress in farm mechanisation, its spread across the country still remains uneven. Introduction and adoption of agricultural machinery in the recent past has mainly been confined to some of the northern states and some parts of coastal India. However, with the increase in the irrigation facilities and modernisation of the cropping practices, the demand for agricultural machinery has shown an increasing trend in the southern and western parts of the country. The eastern and the north-eastern states have been less responsive to adoption of agricultural machinery. While the farm power availability of Punjab has reached to over 3.5 Kw/ha, it is still less than 0.90 Kw/ha, in many states like Odisha, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Tractors are mainly used in the states like Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh,

and Gujarat. These six States together account for around 80 per cent of the total tractors in the country. Punjab has the highest density of tractors in terms of gross cropped area. Empirical data confirmed that availability of farm power has a direct correlation to agricultural productivity.

Indian agriculture is dominated by small and marginal farmers. Smallholding is one of the major constraints in adoption of farm mechanisation. In this context, establishing custom hiring or farm service centers facilitated use of farm machines in north-west India. Need for efficient but less costly agricultural tools and equipment suitable for small farmers coupled with government assistance in the form of subsidies, easy/soft credit availability, trainings and awareness will always remain there.

The paper contributors may focus on the following issues/themes for discussion:

- A detailed analysis on spatial and temporal use of rural labour may be undertaken using the NSSO data. The analysis will provide deep insights on inter-sectorial shift of labour in rural areas. The analysis may further explore the drivers of emerging shifts. The studies may test few hypotheses, such as (i) how economic growth is contributing the shifts in labour use? (ii) how non-farm wages, education and infrastructure development are responsible for labour use pattern? and (iii) how changing patterns of labour use is affecting agricultural wages?
- Seasonality in employment is the key characteristics of agriculture. The increase in seasonality of agricultural employment has led to frictional unemployment and under employment of labour in agriculture especially during lean months and unwarranted wage hikes during peak months. The gaps in availability and requirements of farm labour in different states/crops overtime and across the seasons (labour seasonality) needs to be analyzed to suitably augment the alternative sources of agro-based employment both within farm sector to make optimum/profitable use of available farm labour during the lean period and also to assess the need of farm mechanisation during labour- scarce months/seasons. To what extent the shift of rural population towards services sector, increasing urbanisation and migration in search of better opportunities, rise of rural entrepreneurs, etc. has resulted into the shortage of agricultural labour?
- MGNREGS wages are providing choice of work to casual labour in rural areas. How far employment provided under MGNREGA has resulted in agricultural labour scarcity? Which season, crops/farm operations are the most adversely affected, calling for their mechanical solutions? The extent of labour scarcity by crops/enterprises, seasons, regions, types of labour, farm operations, gender, rain-fed and irrigated areas, peri-urban and rural, seasonal/annual/ plantation crops etc. needs to be estimated. What is the

coping strategy practised by the farmers in the event of non-availability of labour? Is there any evidence of changing production pattern in the event of labour non-availability?

- In the context of growing agricultural labour scarcity, the specific crop(s) and farm operations in a particular agro–climatic region (area/location) and during specific month/season, needs to be identified to assess the nature and extent of various mechanical solutions required in Indian agriculture. The successful or otherwise, experiences of different existing/recently introduced farm machineries along with their impact on labour saving and productivities is required to be documented with empirical evidence. Is there any instance where farm mechanisation has resulted into unemployment/ underemployment among workers in rural areas?
- Despite the availability of many labour saving devices like rice planters and cotton harvesters, these could not be successfully adopted for want of compatible mat type rice nursery and compact/synchronized cotton varieties. Such incompatibilities need to be highlighted, if any, for appropriate research and development efforts in terms of various crops – specific agronomic practices as well as evolving suitable new crop (s) varieties for mechanical – friendly operations.
- Uneven availability and adoption of farm mechanisation across location/farm sizes calls for the need to understand various factors/determinants responsible for such phenomenon. What may be the potential areas for mechanisation in labour-scarce as well as labour-abundant areas? How have the dynamics of land ownership affected the availability of agricultural labour and potential for mechanisation? Supply constraints of various agricultural machines in term of availability, quality standards, repairs/maintenance facilities etc. should also be studied for suitable infrastructural development.
- Estimation of future demand for mechanisation will be helpful for production/maintenance capacity building. The role of custom hiring system on co-operative basis/owned and operated by cooperative societies or private agro- service centres etc. in the adoption of farm mechanisation especially among small and marginal farmers needs to be evaluated. Can government assistance in the form of direct/indirect subsidies for the purchase of selective agricultural equipments/machineries, awareness creation and imparting requisite trainings, etc. be helpful for effective and balanced development of agricultural mechanisation in varied technological, agro-economical, sociological environments/ agro-climatic zone of the country?
- An analysis of historical trends of farm mechanisation across different regions and/or states may be undertaken in the context of changing farm wages in labor-scarce and labour-surplus regions. How organised sector is entering the farm mechanisation and how effective impact they are making in promoting farm mechanisation. It will also be interesting to develop an

inventory of government programs and policies to promote farm mechanisation and assess their implications on efficiency and employment. What sort of support is needed from the government to promote smallholder-friendly farm mechanisation will help to evolve future policies. Can the public – private partnership (PPP) model be supportive to promote inclusive farm mechanisation in the country?

These are some of the indicatives issues/themes. Other dimensions on the farm mechanisation are also encouraged from the paper writers.

SUBJECT III

SUBSIDIES IN AGRICULTURE AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT*

Indian government provides a whole host of subsidies to agriculture in the country. Agricultural subsidy has grown phenomenally over time and has averaged around 1.7% of the country's GDP during the last decade. A large part of this subsidy is in the form of input subsidy provided to fertilizer, irrigation, electricity and to a lesser extent credit and insurance. Indeed, the provision of input subsidies has been one of the cornerstones of the agricultural policy package that was instrumental in the rapid spread of the Green Revolution since the mid-1960s.

Over the years the amount of subsidy as well as the number of agricultural activities that receive subsidy has expanded drastically. Currently there are subsidies for several activities within agriculture, such as for transportation of seeds, capital subsidy for seed banks, investment subsidies for the construction of storage facilities, general and commodity-specific marketing subsidies including for exports, etc., to name just a few. Besides Central government subsidies, most states also provide subsidies to the sector such as for export promotion, agricultural research and extension, etc. The focus and relative importance of these subsidies have been varying over time.

The provision of these subsidies has attracted a fair share of research attention and has been a subject of policy debates for several years. In particular some of the large items such as input subsidy for fertilizer, irrigation and electricity have been studied by several researchers and research organisations including wings of the government. Many of these studies have focused on the macro level impacts of such subsides on aggregate agricultural productivity, resource use efficiency, operational / administrative aspects of subsidy provision, farm size distribution of subsidy provision, their externalities on the environment such as on soil quality, water table, etc. In contrast, much of the output and marketing subsidies including for exports remain under-researched.

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* Prepared by Dr. A. Ganesh Kumar, Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Gen. A.K. Vaidya Marg, Goregaon (East), Mumbai 400065.

The following are some issues that the paper writers could focus upon:

- Despite some well researched studies, there is still no comprehensive documentation of the various direct and indirect subsidies provided to agriculture in the country by the Central and State governments. Even the few available studies need to be updated with the latest available information. The evolution in the structure and amount of these subsidies over time needs to be studied in order to assess their costs and benefits.
- The effect of subsidies on agricultural productivity could be positive, neutral or negative, and is not straightforward. Further, these impacts could vary across particular crops, across geographies, and also over time. Quantifying these would be useful to assess the efficacy / desirability of these subsidies. Further, it would be pertinent to understand the channels – direct or indirect – through which subsidies affect agricultural productivity.
- Agricultural subsidies can affect resource allocation in several ways. Output subsidies, whether direct or in the form of a minimum support price over and above the market price, and input subsidies for fertilizer, irrigation, electricity, credit, insurance, etc., could affect the relative profitability of different crops and hence could be a factor affecting cropping pattern. Similarly, investment subsidies for agricultural infrastructure and capital equipment could affect investment decisions with attendant implications for agricultural development spatially and diversification across commodities. Large gaps remain in the current state of knowledge on the relationship between agricultural subsidies and resource allocation.
- Fertilizer subsidies were part of the policy package that helped promote Green Revolution. Over time it has become highly skewed in favour of nitrogenous fertilizers despite several attempts at reforming the subsidy regime to correct this imbalance across different types of nutrients. What are the environmental fall out of the large subsidy for nitrogenous fertilizer, in terms of soil health and productivity in different parts of the country? Which are the districts / states where the environmental problems have become acute or could turn so in the not so distant future? What is the impact of fertilizer subsidy on cropping pattern, and crop diversification towards high value commercial crops? What is the scope for subsidy reduction here without threatening food security in terms of a broader set of commodities that includes pulses, vegetables, fruits, and oilseeds and not just the two main cereals, rice and wheat? As the country is 100% dependent on imports for potassic fertilizers, it is susceptible to changes in their world market conditions and also the movement of the exchange rate. It is worth examining the policy options that could ensure a degree of stability in their availability in the country, which is a pre-condition for balanced use of various fertilizer types.
- Irrigation subsidy is one of the large items of input subsidy. What are its implications for water use efficiency in general in various states? Does irrigation

subsidy result in the (over)use of water? How do subsidies for surface water from large-scale irrigation projects compare with subsidies for micro-irrigation in terms of productivity levels and water use efficiency? Should the government subsidise "water" or "water conserving irrigation technologies"?

- A closely related issue is the subsidies for electricity that many states provide for agriculture. The experience of states such as Punjab and Haryana show that there is a strong relationship between power subsidies and (over)use of groundwater. What is the experience of other states that provide power subsidies? Is there a similar tendency for overuse of groundwater in these states as well? If not, what are the reasons? Is it due to some complementary measures that these states have taken to ensure groundwater is not overused? Or is it related to the cropping pattern prevailing in a state? Given that the cropping pattern itself may be influenced by other elements of government policy such as the relative efficacy of the system of MSP and assured public procurement, it also raises the issue of interaction amongst different elements of policies / subsidies and their implication for environment in general and groundwater use in particular. This is especially relevant in the case of subsidies provided for rice cultivation and sugar (and hence sugarcane) production that eventually cater to export markets.
- India does not provide direct export subsidies for individual commodities. However, agricultural exporters do receive several subsidies such as tax exemptions on profits, subsidies on domestic freight cost for specific commodities, credit subsidy, etc. What has been the impact of such subsidies in promoting exports of various commodities? Do the benefits outweigh the fiscal costs? Besides these indirect export subsidies, the government also has several programmes that aim to build export competitiveness such as those that help producers/exporters adhere to Sanitary and Phytosanitary standards, certification requirements, etc. The cost effectiveness of such programmes is by and large unknown. How do they compare with some of the indirect export subsidies mentioned above?

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

The new economic policy of India (1991) included three elements – Globalisation, Liberalisation and Privatisation. India is considered as one of the fastest growing economies in the world. However, the problems of globalisation have not been seriously addressed by the government policies and strategies, especially with regard to agricultural sector. The experience of the economic reforms in the last 16 years indicate while there have been improvements in economic growth, foreign exchange, IT revolution, export growth etc., the income distribution has been unequal and only some sections of the population benefited more from higher growth and prosperity.

One of the excluded sectors during reform period was agriculture which showed low growth and experienced more farmers' suicides due to various factors. The post- reform growth was led by services. Commodity sector growth (agriculture and industry) has not been higher in the post reform period as compared to that of 1980s. Particular worry is agricultural sector which showed lower than 2 per cent per annum in the last decade.

The primary goal of this proposed Inter-Conference Symposium is to facilitate an interaction among researchers and key stakeholders on agricultural policies in the context of globalisation.

CORE ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR DISCUSSION (FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS)

- The nature and depth of policy issues presented above calls for more enlightened discussion so that the outcomes of discussion can be useful to closely look into the agricultural policy issues and go for corrections. With this in view, the following key issues and policy areas have been identified:
- Economic viability of farming in India as a consequence of policies pursued for the past two decades (Is farm profitability declining? Is an Indian farmer under distress today? What are the policy-instruments/factors affecting the farm profitability?)
- Role of frontier technologies such as biotechnology (including promotion of GM crops), nanotechnology, ICT, etc. in accelerating agricultural growth and Government's responsibility in formulating and pursuing clear cut and well defined technology policies
- Role of public support systems to improve productivity and incomes of farmers with emphasis on small and marginal farmers and dry land areas – past performance and future strategies

- Rural employment guarantee programmes such as MNREGA vs labour shortage in agriculture. How to address the policy conflict?
- Growing scarcities of land and water consequent to globalisation and expansion of the economy and strategies for management of these resources?
- Has investment made on infrastructure including irrigation, natural resource management, and research and extension delivered the benefits to the farmers adequately?
- Food security is still a concern for India? Given further globalisation in the future, what should be the policies to ensure food security and also in the background of growing population?
- Has agricultural trade liberalisation a part of globalisation of affected terms of trade in agriculture and benefitted domestic agriculture? How far the reforms in import-export and currency/foreign exchange market policies impacted agriculture? And approach and strategies to resolve WTO related issues with particular reference to Indian agriculture
- What are the marketing issues affecting the agriculture growth? How to resolve varying responses from different states of India to agricultural market reforms (such as revision of Agricultural Produce Marketing Act (APMC) and allowing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in multi- product retailing, etc.,).
- Does current policy environment promote agro-industrialisation /agribusiness growth in India? Needed policy environment to support both private sector and PPP in order to promote agribusiness development to acquire more gains in the context of globalisation
- Farm subsidies (credit, fertilizer, water and product price support programmes) and their impact on agricultural development and famers' quality of life and needed policy changes on farm subsidies (as farms subsidies considered as one of the causes for higher fiscal deficit)
- Agriculture policies for addressing increasing production and market risks and uncertainties faced by farmers, which occur more frequently due to climate change and volatility in global markets respectively
- Adequacy of public investment in Indian agriculture and approach to encourage increasing the rate of private sector investment

WHO ARE THE PARTICIPANTS?

The professionals of agricultural economics, agribusiness, policy analysis; and key policy makers–both from India and outside India- will be expected to attend and present their empirical work on core themes. It is expected that about 60 to 80 participants including keynote speakers, oral paper presenters and poster exhibitors will attend.

REGISTRATION FEE:

- For Indian professionals: INR 1800 per participant
- For foreign participants: US $ 200 per participant
- For students/research scholars: INR 900 per participant

KEY DATES AND DURATION:

- Deadline for submission of abstracts: 01 June 2014
- Announcement of decision on submitted abstracts: 10 July 2014
- Deadline for submission of full papers/posters of accepted abstracts: 01 September, 2014
- Registration: commences 05 September 2014

NOTE: The organizers of the Symposium will make all efforts to provide limited financial assistance to the paper / poster presenters of accepted papers for their participation at Symposium especially for young professionals and research scholars.

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For submission of papers

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Obituary

Dr. G.K. Chadha (1940-2014)

The Indian Society of Agricultural Economics deeply mourns the sad demise of Dr. G.K. Chadha on March 1, 2014 at the age of 73. Dr. Chadha was an eminent economist and academician who made outstanding contributions in the field of agricultural research and development.

He was the first president of the SAARC established South Asian University and continued to serve in this capacity till 2014. He was also the former Vice Chancellor and Professor Emeritus of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and he also served as member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and chaired the UGC Pay Review Committee.

Apart from being a visiting fellow and Honorary Professor in many Institutes and Universities across the world, including the University of Mauritius and Shenzhen University, he was also a Consultant to several international development organisations including United Nations agencies like FAO, ILO, UNCTAD and ESCAP.

Dr. Chadha was life member of the Society. The ISAE had special close and intimate relationship with him and he made significant contribution to the research activities of the Society. He presided over the Sixty-Second Annual Conference of the Society held at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi in 2002. The theme of his Presidential address was “Indian Agriculture in the New Millennium”. He was the Chairman of Dr. S.R. Sen Prize Award and Dr. Ramesh Chandra Agrawal Prize instituted by the Society in 2004. He was also member of Jury for selecting ISAE Fellow for the year 2013. He has published a number of books and research papers in academic journal.

The microFINANCE REVIEW

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