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Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
(Horticulture Division)**

**Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 2nd June, 2014**

**Subject: Minutes of first DAC-ICAR and State Governments interface held on
15th & 16th May, 2014 at National Agriculture Science Complex, Pusa,
New Delhi – reg.**

A copy of Minutes of first DAC-ICAR and State Governments interface held on 15th & 16th May, 2014 at National Agriculture Science Complex, Pusa, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C) is enclosed for information and necessary action.

Encl.as above.


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Distribution to:

All participants as per list.

MINUTES OF DAC-ICAR AND STATE GOVERNMENT INTERFACE HELD ON 15TH & 16TH MAY, 2014 AT NASC, PUSA, NEW DELHI.

An Interface meeting of DAC-ICAR and State Governments was held on 15th & 16th May, 2014 at National Agriculture Science Complex (NASC) New Delhi, to discuss modalities for blending research and development in horticultural sector, particularly fruits and vegetables. Secretary (A&C), DAC, Additional Secretary (A&C), DAC, Horticulture Commissioner, DAC and other Officers, DAC, Deputy Director General (Hort.), ICAR, Scientists from ICAR, Directors and Officers of Agriculture/Horticulture Departments of various States participated in two days deliberations. The list of participants are given in **Annexure-I**. The interface comprised of three technical sessions besides inaugural session and valedictory session.

The Interface started with welcome address by Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Horticulture Commissioner. He also made a presentation on "strategies to enhance productivity and production of vegetable crops with special focus on abiotic stress". In his presentation, he elaborated upon R & D efforts made by ICAR through its institutes for enhancing production and productivity of fruits and vegetables, particularly under abiotic stress conditions.

Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Secretary & Mission Director (MIDH) in his address emphasized the need for pooling available resources for overall development of horticulture sector for which, it was necessary that the Department of Agriculture Cooperation (DAC), State Govts and ICAR work in close synchronization. He stated that, although funds and technologies are available, but there is wide gap in transferring the technologies at farm level. He added that the interface was convened to have a fair and frank discussion in carrying forward this goal.

Shri D.K. Jain, Additional Secretary (A&C) in his key note address observed that there is lack of coordinated efforts between ICAR and field agencies. He cited the example of Centre of Excellence (CoE), Citrus, Nagpur, wherein there was no interaction between ICAR and Development Department, though they were situated nearby. He also informed that the feedback of farmers is not reaching to the research institutes to address their problems. Due to shrinking land for agriculture, there was an urgent need for enhancing the productivity. The important bottleneck was inadequate availability of quality planting material. This situation has to be addressed quickly, so that timely availability of seeds and planting material to the farmers is ensured. Disease and pest management are also areas needing attention for enhancing productivity. He called upon the scientists and officials to discuss the issues and draw out an action plan.

Dr. N.K. Krishna Kumar, Deputy Director General Horticulture, in his opening remarks, informed the house that phenomenal research has been carried out by ICAR to develop technologies for increasing the production and productivity of horticulture crops. He remarked that state extension machinery was lagging behind in disseminating latest technologies. He mentioned that dry land horticulture needs focus, it has great potential to bring revolutionary changes in the horticulture sector. He also added that

ICAR will be willing to extend whole hearted support in overall development of horticulture in the country.

Technical Session I

The first technical session, which deliberated issues of vegetables production, was Chaired by Shri D.K. Jain, Additional Secretary (Hort.), DAC. There were three presentations in the session, which are as follows:-

1. Technologies for Vegetable Crops and organic vegetable production by Dr. P. S. Naik, Director, IIVR, Varanasi.
2. Integrated disease management of Vegetable crop by Dr. P Chowdappa, IIHR, Bangalore.
3. Recommended varieties of vegetables crops and production of breeder seeds by Dr. B. Singh, Project Coordinator, IIVR, Varanasi.

Based on the deliberations and discussions, the following recommendations emerged:-

- Technologies developed by IIVR, Varanasi need to be disseminated widely for the benefit of vegetable growers. Treatment of the media used in portrays with microbial consortium has proved to be helpful in vigorous growth and disease free vegetable seedlings production, both under organic and inorganic cultivation. Hence this technology could be promoted. (action: IIVR).
- Efforts should be made to grow off season vegetables, particularly to meet the demand during the lean period between July to September. For this seedlings need to be raised during December- January months under protected structure. (action: State Governments).
- Protected cultivation has been found to be helpful in getting better yield, quality and productivity. Use of simple structures with locally available material like wood and bamboo is helpful in reducing cost of cultivation thus generating better returns to farmers. Hence such structures need to be promoted extensively. (action: State Governments).
- Since drip irrigation along with mulching help in improving water use efficiency, this technology needs to be promoted extensively (action: DAC and State Governments).
- Use of agriculturally important microbial technology need to be promoted for vegetable cultivation. (action: IIVR).
- Hut technique of vegetable seedling production need to be promoted, in which vegetable seedlings are raised on elevated platforms inside low cost green houses. For this, farmers need to be allowed to purchase poly films as cladding material at subsidized rates. (action: DAC and State Governments).
- Grafting technology for selected vegetables like brinjal, tomato and cucumber has been standardized by IIHR, Bangalore and TNAU, Coimbatore. This needs to be promoted. On request of DAC, IIHR can organize training programmes for officers of states. (action: ICAR and SAUs).
- There is need to promote organic cultivation of vegetables to reduce chemical residue. Farmers need to be provided assistance to compensate reduction in

productivity during conversion stage of organic cultivation. (action: State Governments).

- Indiscriminate use of fungicides needs to be discouraged. Farmers need to be educated on this. (action: State Governments and ICAR).
- Apart from availability of liquid fertilizer for fertigation of vegetables, there is lack of information about its application. Hence, scheduling of liquid fertilizer need to be standardized and disseminated. (action: ICAR).
- A number of diseases affect the yield of vegetables. Some disease like late blight in the case of potato got introduced due to import of contaminated planting material without proper check and quarantine. Strict quarantine measures to be followed. (action: D/o Plant Protection & Quarantine).
- Use of recommended package of practices can help in increasing productivity, as in the case of Tamil Nadu. This need to be disseminated widely. (action: ICAR).
- There is slow progress in conversion of breeder seeds into foundation and certified seeds. Moreover, there has been poor participation by the States in placing indent for breeder seeds. Horticulture Division, will henceforth coordinate the matter with the States for ensuring timely placement of indent on seed portal. All state mission directors will place the indent for ensuing rabi season, in a week's time. (action: DAC and State Governments).
- Newer and promising varieties need to be included in the seed chain. (action: ICAR and DAC).

Technical session-II

In this session specific issues of onion and potato, besides mushroom were covered, which was chaired by Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Secretary (A&C) and Co-Chaired Dr. N.K. Krishna Kumar, DDG (Hort.)

The chairman observed that there was a need for development of a system for realistic assessment of area and production of onion and potato, as these two crops contributed an important segment of vegetables, which are greatly influenced by weather fluctuations. He stressed upon the need for developing location specific packages for enhancing production and productivity of these crops. The following presentations were made during the session:-

1. Presentation on current scenario regarding production of onion with focus on studies undertaken in this regard by Ms. Arundhati Singh, Director (Hort.).
2. Strategies for production of onion and garlic by Dr. P.K. Gupta, Joint Director (NHRDF).
3. Strategies for production of Kharif potato by Dr. Govind Krishnan, PC, CPRI Shimla.
4. Integrated pest management for vegetable crops by Dr. A.B. Rai, Scientist, IIVR.
5. Technologies for Mushroom Production by Dr. Manjit Singh, Director, DMRC, Solan.

Based on the discussions, the following recommendations emerged:-

- There should be a regular system of assessing area and production of onion and potatoes. Assessment should be on major producing districts- season specific

Based on the discussions, the following recommendations emerged:-

- There should be a regular system of assessing area and production of onion and potatoes. Assessment should be on major producing districts- season specific and areas specific. Agri-watch need to provide information wherever there is gap in availability of data. (action: NHRDF and DAC).
- There should be realistic assessment of post-harvest losses of onion. (action: ICAR and NHRDF).
- ICAR, NHRDF and states should identify specific location for seed multiplication of onion on cluster basis. Periodic training programme need to be organized. (action: ICAR and NHRDF).
- A master plan need to be developed for seed production of onion. (action: ICAR and NHRDF).
- Private sector need to be encouraged for TC based multiplication of potato seeds. Assessment need to be made about the performance of TC units to whom protocol has been provided by CPRI. (action: ICAR).
- Extensive programme for multiplying onion and potato seeds need to be taken up on priority basis. Healthy potato seed with certification programme to be developed region wise. (action: ICAR and NHRDF).
- Storage capacity for onion to be enhanced in all producing states. Demand of annual onion seed / potato seed to be given by state well in advance. (action: State Governments).
- MOU regarding breeders seed to be signed with SAU's and CPRI. (action: State Governments).
- Import of potato varieties need not be recommended due to arrival of new races of Late blight and viral diseases. (action: DAC).
- Road map of seed production programme need to be submitted by CPRI to DAC for consideration. (action: CPRI).
- One or two good IPM models on vegetable crops need to be demonstrated in each states. (action: IIVR, IIHR).
- IPM schedule developed by IIHR/IIVR need to be demonstrated to get rid of pest and residue problems. (action: IIVR, IIHR).
- Coastal states may take up for mushroom production programme in coordination with DMRC, Solan. (action: State Governments).

Technical session-III

The technical session III, which was held on 16 May, 2014 was Chaired by Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Secretary & Mission Director (MIDH) and Dr. S.K. Malhotra, ADG (Hort.) and Horticulture Commissioner. In this session, four presentations on the following topics were made as follows:

1. Production of quality planting material of recommended varieties for Tropical and Sub Tropical fruits by Dr. S. Rajan, CISH
2. Production technologies recommended for sub tropical fruits by Dr. H. Ravishankar Director, CISH
3. Production technologies recommended for tropical fruits by Dr. B.N.S Murthy, IIHR.

4. Integrated disease management for Tropical and Sub Tropical fruit crops by Dr. P. Chowdappa, IIHR.

The following recommendations emerged from the deliberation during the session:

- The SHM's may contact directly the concerned ICAR Institutes for any information pertaining to quality planting material of recommended varieties, Production technologies and integrated disease management recommended for different tropical and sub tropical fruits (action: State Governments).
- The information pertaining to planting material of fruit crops and their recommended varieties for different agro climatic regions are to be uploaded on MIDH website and also published in Newsletter (action: DAC).
- The planting material pertaining to TC banana should be procured only from the registered TC Labs (action: State Governments).

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session was chaired by Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Secretary & Mission Director (MIDH). In his remark, he mentioned that two days deliberations has been useful not only in developing closer ties between DAC-ICAR-state government and also sharing of latest developments in fruits and vegetables sector. He mentioned that such interface need to be held periodically at different localities in smaller groups. private sector can also be involved in deliberations. He stressed upon the need to have a coordinated effort, as was done during the Green Revolution era. He also stressed upon the need for skill development in horticulture sector, as farm employment opportunities are to emerge from horticulture sector in future.

The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks of Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Secretary & Mission Director (MIDH).

ANNEXURE – I**List of Participants in DAC-ICAR Interface held on 15 & 16th May, 2014 at New Delhi**

S.No.	Name of Officer	Officer Address	Designation
DAC			
1	Shri Ashish Bahuguna	DAC	Secretary (A&C)
2	Shri D.K. Jain	DAC	Additional Secretary (A&C)
3	Shri N.K. Krishna Kumar	ICAR	DDG (Hort.)
4	Shri Sanjeev Chopra	DAC	JS & Mission Director (MIDH)
5	Dr. S.K. Malhotra	ICAR/ DAC	ADG (Hort.)/ HC
6	Shri S.K. Singla	DAC	Director
7	Smt. Arundhati Singh	DAC	Director
8	Smt. Anuradha Vemuri	DAC	Additional Commissioner (MIDH)
9	Shri Om Prakash	DAC	Addl. Commissioner (Hort.)
10	Dr. M. Tamil Selvan	DAC	Additional Commissioner (MIDH)
11	Shri S. Selvaraj	DAC	DC Seed
12	Dr. N.K. Patle	DAC	Deputy Commissioner (MIDH)
13	Shri R.P. Meena	DAC	AC, NBM
14	Smt. Sadhna Khanna	DAC	US (Hort.)
15	Smt. Jyoti Singhal	DAC	US (Hort.)
16	Shri N. Sanatomba Singh	DAC	US (Hort.)
17	Dr. Jose Samuel	DAC	CC (MIDH)
18	Dr. Om Prakash	DAC	CC (NHM)
19	Dr. H.V.L. Bathla	DAC	CC (MIDH)
20	Shri P.Mishra	DAC	Chief Consultant
21	Sh. R.K. Chawla	DAC	S.O.
22	Smt. Krishna	DAC	Assistant
23	Shri Pankaj Sharma	DAC	STA
ICAR			
1	Dr. N.K. Krishna Kumar	ICAR	DDG
2	Dr. B. Singh	IIVR, Varanasi	Project Coordinator
3	Shri P.S. Naik	IIVR, Varanasi	Director
4	Shri A.B. Rai	IIVR, Varanasi	Head
5	Shri H. Ravishankar	CISH, Lucknow	Director
6	Shri P.M.G. Krishna	CPRI, Shimla	Project Coordinator, Potato
7	Dr. M.M. Rq	CAZRI, Jodhpur	Director
8	Dr. B.N.S. Murthi	IIHR, Bangalore	P.S.
9	Shri B.P.Bhatt	ICAR, Patna	Director
10	Shri Vishal Nath	NRC, Litchi, Muzaffarpur	Director
11	Shri S.K. Sharma	CIAH, Jodhpur	Director
12	Shri Dr. Ranvir Singh	ICAR, New Delhi	Principal Scientist
13	Dr. V.Pandey	ICAR	Principal Scientist
14	Dr. Manjit Singh	DMR, Solan	Director
15	Dr. P. Chowdappa	IIHR, Bangalore	Principal Scientist
16	Dr. T. Jankiram	ICAR	ADG (Hort.I)

17	Dr. S.D. Sawant	NRC, Grapes, Pune	Director
18	Dr. M.M. Mustaffa	NRC, Banana, Trichy	Director
19	Dr. S.Rajan	CISH, Lucknow	Principal Scientist
20	Dr. A Dhuchche	NRC, Citrus, Nagpur	Principal Scientist
STATE GOVERNMENTS			
1	Dr. Prabhakar Singh	NHM Jharkhand	Director
2	Dr. Arjun Singh Saini	Deptt. of Hort. Haryana	Director
3	Shri Dharam Dhar Paty	Deptt. of Hort. Odisha	Dy. Director
4	Dr. K.K. Sharma	NRCP, Solapur	Pr. Scientist
5	Shri L. Venkat Ram Reddy	Arunachal Pradesh	Executive Director
6	Dr. P. Bhaudary	Kolkata	Director
7	Shri Animesh Biswas	Kolkata	DDA (SC) WB
8	Shri S.K.Sen	Kolkata	Asst. D.A.
9	Shri T. Baswaraj	NHM	Executive Director
10	Shri C.M. Patil	Gujarat	Joint Director
11	Shri A.J. Jagadeesh Kumar	Chennai	Deputy Director
12	Shri G. Kandasamy	Chennai	Joint Director
13	Shri Anurag	Madhya Pradesh	Commissioner
14	Shri K. Chakraborty	West Bengal	Dy. Director
15	Shri S.P. Joshi	Uttar Pradesh	Director
16	Dr. Atar Singh Meena	Jaipur	Dy. Director
17	Dr. H.D. Nandwate	SHM Pune M.S.	Director
18	Shri Arjun	SHM Pune M.S.	Project Manager
19	Dr. Gurkanwal Singh	Chandigarh	Mission Director
20	Shri R.K. Das	MFPI	Joint Director
21	Shri Kaushik Chakraborty	WB	Dy. Director
22	Dr. D.G. Bakwad	Shivaji Nagar	Director
23	Shri R.K.Das	Assam	Joint Director
24	Shri S.T. Bhutia	Sikkim	Joint Director
25	Shri S. Jhabah	Shillong	Joint Director
26	Dr. Gurudev Singh	Himachal Pradesh	Director
27	Shri R. Hotawan	Mizoram	Director
28	Shri K.Ngachan	Manipur	Director
29	Shri K.Jogesh Chandra	Manipur	A.O. (MIDH)
30	Shri U.S. Sudan	Jammu	Potato Dev. Officer
31	Shri C.M. Sharma	Jammu	Dy. Director
32	Shri Gurdev Singh	Deptt. of Hort. Shimla	Director
33	Dr. B.S. Negi	Uttarakhand	Director
NLA's			
1	Shri R.K. Yadav	NHRDF, Delhi	Joint Director
2	Dr. P.K. Gupta	NHRDF, Nasik	Joint Director
3	Dr. K.C.	NHM/NHB	Dy. Director
4	Brajendra Singh	NHB	Joint Director
5	K.M. Tripathi	NHB	Dy. Director