



Chairman, PNASF Speaks

We celebrated the dawn of the new millennium with great excitement building the hope of bright future with quality and healthy life. The hope has been for the better future of agriculture with the availability and application of improved technology leading to food, nutrition and health security with enhanced economic accessibility. But within the first decade of the twenty first century, the hunger and malnutrition persists with 230 million in India alone out of the global figure of 815 million. The marginal and subsistence farming of the millions of farmers is becoming unremunerative so much so that the cropping of the common crop like paddy has become non-paying and the farmers are either shifting to other crops or migrating from rural to urban areas. Moreover, our land has become unproductive, and we have resorted to erode our natural resource base. Who will feed a billion of Indians if rice or wheat is not produced on the Indian soil!? No country(s) could feed Indians even if India is willing to pay; however, if India determines, it can feed the globe !!

There is a dire need of serious policy consideration, of long-term planning and implementation of programmes and projects with the changed mind set that would enhance the productivity and production of food without eroding natural resource base, of availability and application of improved and appropriate technologies leading to improved soil and plant health, of measures mitigating the food prices hike, of improving the supply chain and marketing channels; and of undertaking measures which will improve food distribution system. Our present policies and programmes have not been able to address adequately and overcome the issues highlighted above.

The development of improved technology alone would not overcome the problems mentioned. The need of the hour is to apply the appropriate technology available. There is deployment of millions of extension agents for agriculture and rural sectors only all over the nation but the outcome seem to be minimal. A serious examination of the sub-systems - technology generation, transfer and utilization will go a long way in effectively disseminating the technology among the farmers.

It is also important that the emerging scenarios and issues are well understood, recognized and measures found. It seems the issue of food and nutrition security has not been understood well both by the policy makers and at the grass root level. Moreover, the health security is growing in its importance that needs to be understood well and implemented appropriately. To begin with, the education centers should begin educating on food, nutrition and health security followed by the policy makers to let it happen on the ground among the masses.

The growing awareness on 'climate change' is welcome in order to undertake possible steps to protect our natural resource and human life coupled with crop production and human health. Either natural or man made, the effect of climatic change on natural resource is significant for which precautionary measures possible should be initiated without delay. One such standing example is the huge Hesaraghatta lake in Bangalore, which was full with water all the year round, attracted the establishment of the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research during 1969, which I had experienced and seen myself as the founder member of the new institute. It provided source of irrigation water to our experimental fields and was the life-line of our farm. Our new vegetable varieties developed had the name prefixed with 'Arka' after the Arkavati river emanating from the permanent lake Hesaraghatta. This year i.e. after 30 years, I happened to visit the Hesaraghatta Lake and was shocked to find no water and people walking on the so called lake bed. No lake! No river! Most of the catchments area of green fields were converted into concrete buildings!!!

Prem Nath
 (Prem Nath)

EVENTS

International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009), Bangalore

The Technical Advisory Council(TAC) of the PNASF met number of times during the period and debated on the proposal of holding International Conference or Symposium and recommended unanimously to organize the International Conference on Horticulture with theme objective of "Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth" during November, 2009 at Bangalore. The Board of Trustees of the PNASF approved this proposal with the suggestion to nominate VEGINET, Bangalore as the partner.

Chairman, PNASF Visits Department of Horticulture, Lalbagh, Bangalore

The Chairman, PNASF visited Department of Horticulture, Lalbagh on March 06, 2008, and held discussion with Dr. K. Ramakrishnappa, Director of Horticulture, Government of Karnataka who appraised him of latest developments in horticulture in the State. An interesting and very useful discussion on issues of mutual interest in horticulture was held with him and his colleague Dr. S.V. Hittalamani.

On behalf of the PNASF, Dr. Nath informed the meeting of the proposed International Conference entitled "Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth" being planned during November 2009 in Bangalore and sought for the support and participation of the Department of Horticulture, which was welcomed and supported in the interest of the horticultural growers and consumers alike.

The newly published book entitled "Vegetable Crops - Improvement and Production" by the PNASF was presented to Dr. K. Ramakrishnappa and Dr. S. V. Hittalamani who appreciated the publication, which would be very useful to the scientists, professionals and farmers and showed interest in procuring some books for distribution.



Dr. Prem Nath presenting the publication to Dr. K.Ramakrishnappa, Director of Horticulture

EVENTS

Visit to the Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd., Channasandra, Bangalore

On March 26, 2008, the Chairman PNASF visited the Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore, and held discussion with the Chairman, Dr. Manmohan Attavar, Managing Director, Dr. Santosh Attavar and other senior colleagues viz., Dr. K.P. Vasanth Shetty, Dr. K. R. Bhandari, Mr. R. T. Hegde and Mrs. Rashmi at their office at Channasandra. Dr. Prem Nath was pleased to learn the excellent progress made with regard to the development of improved varieties particularly in basmati like rice, chilli, capsicum, some gourds and other vegetable crops and its multiplication and distribution within the country and abroad. The visitor was very appreciative that the organization continued to meet the high quality seeds of national and international standards. The seed testing and biotechnology laboratories are equipped with infrastructure facilities of international standard and also recognized for certification (IAHS-ISTA) and imparting training to technicians and students of graduate and post graduate levels.

On behalf of the PNASF, Dr. Nath informed the meeting of the proposed International Conference entitled "Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth" planned during November, 2009 in Bangalore and sought for the support and participation of the Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd., which was welcomed, appreciated and supported.. The newly published book entitled "Vegetable Crops-Improvement and Production" by the PNASF was presented to Dr. Manmohan Attavar. Dr. Attavar also presented the booklet entitled "Vegetable Production" published by the Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd., to Dr. Prem Nath, which was appreciated.

Dr. Attavar also confirmed that the Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd., will participate in the Second International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2008) being held in Fortaleza, Brazil being organized by the EMBRAPA and others in collaboration with VEGINET, FAO, WHO, AVRDC, PNASF and others, during late 2008.

Dr. Vishnu Swarup Visits PNASF

Dr. V. Swarup, a renowned vegetable scientist of national and international repute who developed first tropical cauliflower in India several years ago and developed number of improved vegetable and flower varieties, visited the PNASF, Bangalore on April 1, 2008. He held detailed discussion with Dr. Prem Nath on the vegetable development in India with its future prospects in relation to domestic and international demand. Dr. Swarup appreciated the initiative of the PNASF in organizing the upcoming International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) and extended his strong support towards its successful implementation.



Dr. Prem Nath with Dr. Vishnu Swarup during his visit

Chairman, PNASF Called Upon the Director General, ICAR, New Delhi



Dr. Mangala Rai

Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman, PNASF made a courtesy call on Dr. Mangala Rai, Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in his office in New Delhi on 25th April, 2008. Both of them deliberated on the issues of the latest developments in agricultural education, research and development in India. Dr. Rai highlighted the steps undertaken at the ICAR, on streamlining the procedures towards increased efficiency in administration and reporting, research priority setting, and research management. Dr. Nath emphasized the dire need of creating outstanding leaders / manager of agricultural research institutions and of upgrading the agriculture university curricula to meet the present demand of the nation and Dr. Rai was pleased to explain the steps initiated in this regard.

The chairman, PNASF informed the DG, ICAR of the upcoming International Conference on "Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth" scheduled during 9th -12th November, 2009 in Bangalore organized jointly by the PNASF, VEGINET, UAS and ISHS, and made submission for the ICAR to collaborate and participate fully which was supported by the Director General in the interest of horticultural science, research and development. The PNASF expresses its appreciation to the kind gestures extended by the ICAR.

TAC Member Honored

Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman accompanied by Ms. Latha S. V, the Technical Officer visited the senior citizen and the PNASF Technical Advisory Council member, Dr. H. A. B. Parpia at his residence in Mysore on May 09, 2008 and exchanged the views with him on the upcoming International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) scheduled for November 9 -12, 2009. Dr. Parpia emphasized the importance of the participation of the food industry in this conference and expressed his support to this event. Dr. Prem Nath presented a bouquet and a copy of the new book entitled "Vegetable Crops-Improvement and Production" to Dr. Parpia who could not participate in the Book-Release Ceremony because of the health reasons. Mrs. and Dr. H. A. B. Parpia welcomed the guests and extended excellent hospitalities.



Dr. Prem Nath presenting the publication to Dr. Parpia

EVENTS / RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Chairman, PNASF Visits the Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman, PNASF and Convener, VEGINET held discussion with Dr. P. G. Chengappa, Vice Chancellor University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore on 10th May 2008. Dr. Chengappa apprised the visitor of the development plans undertaken by the University and the progress made since he took over as Vice Chancellor of the University. The development of infra-structure to accommodate large conference and massive farmer's fair would be a step forward in bringing state, national and international scientists and farmers



together to debate on issues of the farmers. The Krishi Mela-2007 held was recognized as the first mega event ever held at the GKVK campus, where the PNASF participated in releasing the publication entitled "Vegetable Crops-Improvement and Production", among lacs of farmers on 18th November 2007.

Dr. Prem Nath briefed Dr. P.G. Chengappa regarding the development on the proposed International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) for the benefit of agriculture and horticulture sector initiated by the PNASF and VEGINET. Dr. P. G. Chengappa was pleased not only to participate but offered the support of the university in undertaking this exercise in the interest of the scientists and the farmers.

ISHS 4th Balkan Symposium on Vegetables and Potatoes, Bulgaria

Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation (PNASF), Bangalore represented by Dr. Prem Nath would be participating in the ISHS 4th Balkan Symposium on Vegetables and Potatoes to be held from 9th - 12th September, 2008 at Sadovo, Bulgaria. Dr. Prem Nath would be presenting an oral paper entitled "Vegetables for Food and Nutrition Security" in the symposium.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Visit to the Project: PNASF/SUN/WD-SHG/2005: Promotion of Rural Women Self Help Group through Dairy Development Project at I.D. Halli, Madhugiri (Tq), Tumkur (Dist)

A technical team consisting of Dr. Prem Nath, Dr. P. A. Sarma (Animal Husbandry), Dr. K. R. M. Swamy (Project Management), Mr. P. B. Gaddagimath (Self Help Group) and Ms. Vanita N. Shetty visited the project site at I. D. Halli on Thursday, June 19, 2008 and held detailed discussion with the Project Management Committee (PMC) led by Mr. Chandrashekar and with the ten women beneficiaries of the project at the campus of the M/s Namadhari Fresh Farms Ltd. Later, the team visited the two beneficiaries in the village.

It was reported that, presently, out of the ten cows eight had already conceived and two have already given birth to female calves. Out of the ten first calves handed over with the mother cows to the beneficiaries during March, 2007, one male was disposed off and nine showed good growth. The visit to one of the beneficiaries demonstrated good health of mother cow, good growth of first calf becoming ready to be conceived in another two months and a



The visiting team discussing with the members of PMC and the beneficiaries



The visiting team inspecting the cows and calves of the beneficiaries at the project site



Group photo of the beneficiaries with PMC members and the visiting team

two-month old healthy calf. Each beneficiary maintained the milk card showing the milk yield and the quantity sold to the local Milk Corporative Society. The beneficiaries reported that they earned about Rs. 400/- to Rs. 500/- per week depending on the milk yield. The beneficiaries continued to receive fresh feed of fruit and vegetable flesh and seed waste from M/s Namadhari Fresh Farm Ltd., and there was no major health setback as reported by the Veterinary Expert, Dr. Nagbushan. On the whole it was found that the ten beneficiaries seemed to be committed to the project, and satisfied with the income generation and looked for further expansion.

The visiting team emphasized on further training on cattle and feed management, Self Help Group commitment and simple data management which would be organized during the upcoming months.

PNASF/MHPS/2005 - Biological Science and Nutrition Project

An introductory meeting of the new members of the technical team of the project PNASF/MHPS/2005 - Biological Science and Nutrition Project was held on May 24, 2008 at the PNASF office. The members present were Dr. Prem Nath, Dr. B. S. Prabhakar and Dr. Shivaleela H. B. (Professor and Coordinator, Bakery Training Unit), Professor Dr. Neena Joshi (Dietics Information-Education), Mr. Manjunath Patil (PhD. Fellow), Ms. Shilpa Yatnatti (M.Sc. Fellow), all from UAS, Bangalore and Ms. Vanita N. Shetty. The new members were briefed about the project activities. Dr. Shivaleela H. B. volunteered to guide the project on nutritional aspect. The new scholar Ms. Shilpa Yatnatti would assist in the implementation of the nutritional aspect whereas, Mr. Patil will continue to assist on the vegetable production aspect. The meeting ended with commitment to the project and its successful implementation.

Dr. Prem Nath along with the TAC members visited Model Higher Primary School, Geddalahalli, Bangalore on June 21, 2008 and approved the new project site provided by the school for continuing the PNASF/MHPS/2005 - Biological Science and Nutrition Project at the school. Further, the TAC also approved the proposal of implementing this project at a new private school.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

The Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation (PNASF), Bangalore in association with Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET), Bangalore and University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore would be organizing International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009), "Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth" from 9 - 12 November, 2009 at Bangalore. The details of the conference are given below;

First Announcement

International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) "Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth"

Invitation

The Organizing Committee has a great pleasure in inviting all the scientists, students, policy makers and progressive farmers to the International Conference on **Horticulture for Livelihood Security and Economic Growth**, which will be held in Bangalore from November 9-12, 2009. The conference will be organized by the Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation (PNASF), Bangalore; Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET), Bangalore and University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore in collaboration with Department of Horticulture, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore ; Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore ; Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore; Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi; Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi; Food And Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome; International Centre of Underutilized Crops (ICUC), Colombo; International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), Belgium.

The Conference

Many developing countries are facing the problems of decelerated agricultural growth at macro level coupled with falling real prices of farm products, and contributing declining share to GDP without any considerable shift of population from agriculture to non-agricultural sector. Added to these problems is the problem of depleting and degrading natural base for farming, threatening the very livelihood security of a majority of subsistence farmers. The farming industry is getting unremunerative in many countries of the developing world.

In India, the policies and programmes designed and implemented in farming sector have not addressed the problems of agricultural sector either. The failures of identifying right growth priorities within farming sector, and design and implementation of appropriate agricultural development policies and programmes have culminated in farmer's distress. At this juncture horticultural crops are new hope in providing economic security and further growth.

It is imperative for the developing world with about 815 million people suffering from hunger and malnutrition to realize that the production and consumption of horticultural products could play a key role in providing nutrition and health security to the people. Further, given the high degree of agricultural development segmentation with a small percentage of commercial farmers and a great majority of subsistence farmers, horticultural development could provide an opportunity to bring the subsistence and bypass farmers into the development orbit; if the appropriate technological, institutional and policy designs are identified and implemented.

The Conference is designed to provide a common forum for all stake holders to share their experience and expertise so as to suggest much needed technology-institution-policy package for sustainable production and marketing of horticultural products to augment employment-income generation to ensure livelihood security of the subsistence farmers without further depleting and degrading the natural resource base.

Objective

To identify key factors and elements influencing the sustainability of horticulture sector in developing countries and suggest remedial measures to issues and problems confronting this in achieving livelihood security and increased economic growth, through participatory dialogues, exchange of knowledge, genetic materials and human resources among all the stake holders.

Theme Areas

The main theme areas identified for the Conference are;

I. Technological Domain

1. Improved crops
2. Crop management
3. Crop protection
4. Underutilized crops
5. Crop diversification
6. Seed production
7. Post-harvest management

II. Institutional and Policy Support: Socio – Economic Domains

1. Technology Generation, Transfer and Utilization: An Examination of Three Subsystems
2. Screening Technologies for Horticultural Development in Socio-Economic and Agro climatic perspectives

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

3. National Agricultural Policy and Programmes
4. Economic Growth
5. Food, Nutrition and Health Security
6. Nexus between Livelihood Security and Economic Growth
7. Technology-Institution Policy Support for preventing the depletion and degradation of natural resource base.

III Producer- Consumer's Domain

1. Market and Supply-Chain Management
2. Strategies for value addition: Employment and Income Generation to Farmers.

IV. Opportunities and Future Thrusts

V. Technological Cooperation Among Developing Countries (TCDC) - including VEGINET.

Presentation of Papers

Papers are invited from scientists/researchers, professors, development personnels, policymakers, technocrats, progressive farmers and other stake holders of horticultural sector. The results of the projects should demonstrate its positive impact on the living conditions of farmers and its economic growth, particularly, the food, nutrition and health security and income generation.

Language

The official language of the Conference will be English.

The Programme

The programme will include;

1. Country reports by invited speakers
2. Oral presentation on selected topics
3. Poster presentation
4. Panel discussions
5. Professional Tours
6. Social events

Preliminary Time-table – Key Dates

1. First announcement -**May, 2008**
2. Second announcement-**November, 2008**
3. Submission of abstracts and Invited papers - **April, 2009**
4. Acceptance of presentation as Oral or poster - **June, 2009**
5. Registration/accommodation/Exhibition, demonstration etc - **July, 2009**
6. International Conference - **November, 9-12, 2009**

Venue

The Conference will be organized in Bangalore, the capital city of Karnataka (India), which is formerly known as the Air Conditioned City of India. The climate during November will be very pleasant with moderate temperature and clear sky. The green city is well connected by Road / Rail / Air. The airport is approximately 35 Km from the city. Arrangements for transportation and stay of delegates will be made on request.

Adhoc Organizing Committee

Chairperson:

Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman, PNASF and Convener, VEGINET, Bangalore

Vice Chairperson:

Dr. P.G. Chengappa, Vice-chancellor, UAS, Bangalore

Secretary:

Dr. O.P. Dutta, Director (R & D), NSPL, Bangalore

Additional Secretary:

Dr. T. K. Prabhakara Setty, Director of Research, UAS, Bangalore

Joint Secretary:

Dr. K. R. M. Swamy, Former Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Vegetable crops IIHR, Bangalore

Members:

Dr. Vishnu Swarup, Advisor (R&D), IAHS (India) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

Dr. C. Prasad, Former Deputy Director General, ICAR, New Delhi

Dr. Anupam Varma, Former National Professor, IARI, New Delhi

Dr. V.K. Srivastava, Former Director of Extension Education, HAU, Hisar

Dr. Brahma Singh, Former Director, Agriculture and Life Sciences, DRDO, New Delhi

Dr. K.P. Vasanth Shetty, Director, IAHS (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore

Ms. Shyamla Nath, Trustee, PNASF, Mumbai

Dr. M.J. Chandre Gowda, Additional Commissioner (Extension), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi

Mr. Vinod K. Huria, Senior Scientist, CFTRI, Mysore

Dr. S.V. Hittalamani, Additional Director of Horticulture, Lalbagh, Bangalore

Dr. V. Chikkasubbanna, Professor and Head, Dept. of Horticulture, UAS, Bangalore

Dr. D.P. Kumar, Professor of Horticulture, UAS, Bangalore

Advisors

National

Dr. Kirti Singh, Former Chairman, ASRB, ICAR, New Delhi

Dr. P.V. Shenoi, Former Special Secretary to the Government of India, Bangalore

Dr. H. A. B. Parpia, Former Director, Planning and Evaluation, United Nation University, Tokyo

Dr. S. Bisalaiah, Former Vice Chancellor, UAS, Bangalore

Dr. M. Mahadevappa, Former Vice Chancellor, UAS, Dharwad

Dr. S. S. Negi, Former Vice Chancellor, YSPUH&F, Solan

Dr. H.P. Singh, DDG (Horticulture), ICAR, New Delhi

Dr. M.L. Choudhary, Horticulture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi

Dr. V. Prakash, CFTRI, Mysore

Dr. K. Ramakrishnappa, Director of Horticulture, Lalbagh, Bangalore

Dr. C. Kempanna, Former DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, Bangalore

Dr. K.V. Peter, Former Vice Chancellor, KAU, Kerala

Dr. G. Eshwarappa, Director of Extension, UAS, Bangalore

Prof. U.V. Sulladmath, Former Prof. and Head, Department of Horticulture, UAS, Bangalore

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION / SOCIAL COMMITMENT

Prof. R.S. Deshpande, Professor and Head, ADRTC, ISEC, Bangalore

Dr. Manmohan Attavar, Chairman, IAHS (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore

Shri Thakur Uday Singh, Managing Director, NSPL., Bangalore

International

Prof. Charles V. Hall, USA

Mr. Wilfried O. Baudoin, FAO, Rome

Dr. B.K. Nandi, FAO, Bangkok

Ms. Jaenicke Hanna, ICUC, Colombo

Dr. M. L. Anothai Choomsai, Thailand

Dr. R.K.N. Singh, Canada

Dr. K.G. Ahuja, USA

Dr. Sundari Velu, USA

Dr. Bijoyendra Nath, USA

Please indicate you are interested in:

- i. Attending the Conference
- ii. Presenting a paper-oral/poster
- iii. Theme Area
- iv. Attending professional tour
- v. Attending social events
- vi. Trade exhibitions
- vii. Sponsorship to the Conference

Registration of Interest

To have further information on the conference please complete and return the information sought.

Name.....

Designation.....

Postal Address.....

City.....PIN.....

Phone.....

Fax.....

Email.....

Please send all correspondence to

The Chairman,
Organizing Committee,
International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009),
Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation,
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SOCIAL COMMITMENT

Noble contributions

The PNASF continues to put efforts to fulfill the mission of food and nutrition security for the people who most need it. In this noble task, the individuals with outstanding scientific knowledge and life-long experience have humbly contributed significantly either through their rich knowledge or life-saving funds or both for the benefit of the people through the PNASF programmes and projects. The continued valued voluntary expert contributions of Dr. O.P.Dutta, Dr. K. R. M. Swamy, Mr.P.B.Gaddagimath, Mr. Vinod Huria, Dr. B. S. Prabhakar and Dr. M. Sudha are gratefully acknowledged by the PNASF.

The Trustees of the PNASF have made substantial contribution fulfilling the mission of the organization in terms of expertise contribution as well as financial resources. During 2007-2008, Dr. Prem Nath contributed Rs. 5 lakhs, Dr. Bijoyendra Nath USD. 2,000/- and Ms. Shyamla Nath Rs. 50,000/-, which are gratefully acknowledged.

Dr. C. Kempanna, Dr. S. Bisalaiah, Prof. R. S. Deshpande and Prof. U. V. Sulladmath have volunteered their valuable guidance in the programme development from time to time which is recognized humbly.



Shilpa

• PNASF/Dharmasheela Nath Scholarship/2006

On the recommendation of the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore, Ms. Shilpa Yatnatti, a student of M. Sc. (Food and Nutrition) at UAS was awarded the PNASF/Dharmasheela Nath

Scholarship for two years. Ms. Shilpa will also assist the Project PNASF/MHPS/2005- Biological Science and Nutrition Project.

• Gold Medal PNASF/UAS/2001

The PNASF Gold medal was awarded to the Ph.D student Ms. Pankaja N.S. for the highest grade point average at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore. The award was presented during the University's 42nd Convocation held on 28th April, 2008.

SOCIAL COMMITMENT / INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

PNASF Congratulates Mrs. Latha S.V.

In the series of social events which PNASF organizes from time to time for the benefit of staff and the expert members, one major event was the get-together arranged on the occasion of the marriage



The newly wed couple been felicitated by the PNASF family

of the Technical Officer, Ms. Latha S.V. with Mr. Vinayak G. Kurdekar, a Software Engineer. The PNASF family congratulated the couple on their marriage and also of their departure to the USA on his foreign assignment. The get-together consisted of the dinner and presentation of the bouquet to the newly wed couple by the PNASF at the Windsor Manor Towers in the presence of about twenty members of PNASF family on March 02, 2008.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Publication

- * The article entitled "Improving Indian agriculture using new generation sciences" by Dr. Prem Nath was published in the magazine Plant Horti Tech., Bangalore Vol.8 No. 1, page 25-27, 38.

Meetings

Board of Trustees Meet

- The Board of Trustees of the PNASF met and reviewed the progress of the activities undertaken and approved of the further plans at the office of the PNASF, Bangalore on June 2, 2008.

The members present were Dr. Prem Nath (Bangalore), Dr. Bijoyendra Nath (USA) and Mrs. Shyamla Nath (Mumbai). Following were the decisions made;

- It was approved that the PNASF takes the lead in organizing the International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) and also approved that the VEGINET joins as the partner. The seed money for this exercise was allocated.
- A temporary post of a Conference Assistant was approved for the ICH-2009 Secretariat.



The members of Board of Trustees, Dr. Prem Nath, Dr. Bijoyendra Nath and Mrs. Shyamla Nath during the meeting

- The meeting agreed with the nomination of Ms. Shilpa Yatnatti for the PNASF/Dharmasheela Nath Scholarship as recommended by the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore.
- Periodical PNASF Gold Medal Award for outstanding scientists of the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research for the year 2008 was approved.

National Group Meeting of Tomato Workers

On invitation by the Dr. G.S.R.Murti, Acting Director, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, H e s s a r a g h a t t a Bangalore, Dr. Prem Nath attended the National Group Meeting of Tomato Workers organized at the IIHR campus on 14th



Dr. Prem Nath and Dr. P.G. Chengappa, VC on the dais as Guest of Honor with Dr. H.P. Singh, DDG (Hort.) as Chief Guest on the podium.

June, 2008 as the Guest of Honour. During the inaugural session, Dr. H. P. Singh, Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR addressed the gathering of about 250 scientists, from the research institutions and universities and professionals from the private sector. Dr. G.S.R.Murti spoke on the purpose and scope of this meeting.

Publications of PNASF

Publications on shelves

Description	India(In Rs.)	Foreign(In US \$)
** Book – Vegetable Crops : Improvement and Production (Pages :398) 2007	125.00 + Rs. 55.00 (extra postage charge) – PB type	
* Book – Food Security and Vegetables- A Global Perspective (Pages:437) 2004	400.00 + postage extra - PB type 500.00+ postage extra – HB type	50.00 including postage for both PB and HB type
* ICV-2002 Proceedings – CD (Pages:931) 2003	250.00 including inland postage	10.00 including foreign postage
* VEGINET Booklet (Pages: 22) 2003	35.00 including postage	5.00
* ICV-2002 Abstract Book- (Pages:445)2002	600.00 including inland postage	35.00 including foreign postage
* ICV -2002 Souvenir (Pages:124) 2002	575.00 including inland postage	25.00 including foreign postage

* 35% discount given to PNASF and VEGINET members, Professors, Students and Libraries.

**15% discount to PNASF and VEGINET members and libraries.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

How to Order?

Making online order to pnasf@vsnl.net and sending Bank Demand Draft or Cheque in favour of Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation, A/C No.: 37688, payable at Canara Bank, Vyalikaval, Bangalore – 560 003, India.

Plans on Hand

While the ongoing activities will continue, the PNASF proposes to undertake new programmes and activities;

☞ Participation in conferences

- Organizing the International Conference on Horticulture (ICH-2009) scheduled to be held in November 9-12, 2009 in Bangalore, India.

- Host the VEGINET Secretariat ;
- Participate in upcoming national and international conferences; Participation of PNASF in ISHS 4th Balkan Symposium on Vegetables and Potatoes at Sadovo (Bulgaria) scheduled on September 09 – 12, 2008.

☞ Awards/grants to university students and researchers to continue ;

☞ Collaborate with the national and international institutions/ associations in the area of food and nutrition security etc.,

OPPORTUNITIES

Awards/Scholarships

PNASF encourages universities/institutions to institute PNASF Medal Awards for outstanding post-graduate students/young scientists working on research problems augmenting food and nutrition security and invites them to support these activities through funds.

Field Projects

PNASF invites societies/associations/NGOs interested in implementing small rural community projects on self help income generation augmenting food security, for any assistance.

Publications

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