

Indian Society of Seed Technology
XIII NATIONAL SEED SEMINAR – A REPORT
“Innovations in Seed Research and Development”

ISST organized the XIII National seed Seminar in collaboration with UAS Bengaluru, during 08-10 June 2013 at GKVK campus, UAS Bengaluru coinciding it with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of UAS Bengaluru. This being the mega event, preparatory work for the seminar was done where printed published announcement brochure of the Seminar were distributed amongst all the members of ISST and other stake holders. Similarly day-to-day Technical Programme as per Theme of the Seminar “INNOVATIONS IN SEED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT” was also developed for which research papers were invited. Accordingly total technical Sessions were six and each session was having lead speakers, oral presentations and poster sessions. One special session each on Panel Discussions involving public – private organizations on INNOVATIONS through Partnership and Interactive Sessions with Young Researchers: Career options for seed technologists. Each session was chaired/co-chaired by the eminent scientists.

Dr MA Shankar, Director Research UAS Bengaluru, on the outset welcome all the dignitaries, press and public media and expressed that the National Seed Seminar is the First mega event of Year Long Golden Jubilee Celebrations of GKVK campus, UAS Bengaluru.

The three days seminar was inaugurated by **Dr S A Ayyappan**, Secretary DARE and Director General ICAR, by lightening of lamp. During the inaugural session about four hundred delegates comprised galaxy of scientists and other invited dignitaries, policy makers, ISST members, students, farmers were present. Dr Ayyappan highlighted the need to increase seed replacement rates (SRR) for enhanced productivity with a slogan “SEED BREED FEED”. The souvenir on the occasion was released by Padamshree Dr M Mahadevappa, while Dr HS Gupta, Chairman, National Seed Seminar Organising Committee and Director IARI released the ISST publication – Abstracts of XIII Seed Seminar Scientific Papers.

Prof Gautam Kalloo, President ISST, in his address thanked the University Authorities, Dr K Narayana Gowda, VC, Dr MA Shankar, Director (Research), Dr Rame Gowda, Special Officer (Seeds) and Local Organizing Secretary and his team, for hosting the Seminar and further stressed upon inclusion of potential varieties in breeder Seed production chain to enhance SRR. Dr SK Jain, secretary ISST briefed about the background of XIII National Seed Seminar and expressed his sincere thanks for the co-operation received from all for arranging the mega event as well for their overwhelming response received from scientific fraternity.

Dr HS Gupta, also congratulated the Vice Chancellor and the staff of UAS, Bengaluru having completed 50 years of glorious Services to the Farming Community.

Dr SA Patil, Chairman, Karnataka Krishi Mission, in his Key Note address highlighted about the success of ICAR mega seed project and role of seed science in transforming agriculture.

Dr K Narayana Gowda, VC, GKVK, UAS Bengaluru congratulated ISST for having chosen GKVK Campus, UAS Bengaluru for XIII National Seed Seminar, stressed upon utilization of local infrastructure, like milk unions and others for timely quality seed distribution.

During these three days ---- lead papers,oral presentations..... poster presentations were made. The conclusions drawn from these were further summarized in the Plenary Session; and recommendations made as a step for Vision Ahead.

Hon'ble Sri Krishna Byregowda, Minister of Agriculture, Govt of Karnataka, was kind enough to spare his valuable time to be present during Plenary Session and in his address stressed the need to develop climate-resilient new varieties and appealed to the farmers to become self sustained in seed production and not to depend too much on Govt seed supply on subsidy. ISST felicitated the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister on this occasion by presenting the Shawl and Memento.

-Professor SK Jain
Secretary ISST