

त्रिलोचन महापात्र, पीएच.डी. एफ एन ए, एफ एन ए एस सी, एफ एन ए ए एस सचिव एवं महानिदेशक

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## Dear Colleagues,

At the outset I Greet and Congratulate you all on the 90<sup>th</sup> Foundation day of our great organization the "Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)". Nine decades ago this organization was established to provide desired impetus to agricultural research and education in India. On this auspicious day we remember our founders and subsequent leaders whose vision and commitment towards agricultural research and development brought us to this great moment.

Today, I feel proud and honoured to be leading ICAR which has passed through various testing times during this long and incredible journey. Together we feel proud and fortunate that we could successfully delivered the desired output to our stakeholders in making our nation self-sufficient in food and other commodities. When we remember our successful past joyfully, we need to commit ourselves to meet the future challenges to Indian agriculture, which are far more formidable than the past. Therefore, I urge my team of scientists, technical, administrative and supporting staff to come together and contribute to further intensify our efforts to meet the newer challenges.

I especially urge my scientists to come out with new research outputs and technologies with an element of innovation and use of modern tools. We should be clear in our minds that future agriculture would be driven by innovations. It is the time our new generation of researchers understand the need of the nation and takes advantage of strengths in our intellectual, infrastructural, digital and biological wealth. Our scientific programmes should be forward looking with an aim to develop the products to meet targets in coming decades. It is the right time for all of us to collaborate, innovate and commit to our targets.

I am hopeful and optimistic that with the earnest zeal and strength of all of us and with our shared vision and leadership, ICAR would continue to attain heights in future agriculture research, extension and education to meet future challenges of food and nutritional security despite the threats of climate change and declining resource base. Let us commit ourselves to work for doubling the farmers income as desired by honorable Prime Minister.

I once again convey my best wishes and congratulate all the ICAR family on the occasion of 90<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day.

(T. MOHAPATRA)

Mugnito