



DR R.S. PARODA

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2020

The Rotary Club of Madras East (RCME) has decided to confer on Dr Raj Paroda, Chairman, TAAAS very prestigious Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2020 for his enormous and significant contributions in the field of plant breeding and genetic resource management.

Dr. Paroda received the Padma Bhushan in 1998, a prestigious civilian award from the President of India. He is also the recipient of several national and international recognitions for his outstanding achievements.

Dr Paroda, under his leadership

of ICAR, established a large number of institutions (more than 30) in the field of crops, horticulture, livestock, natural resource management, fisheries, agricultural engineering, and social science sectors. Besides national Genebank, he established a strong genetic resource management system in India through creation of Bureaux on animal, fish, insects and microorganisms. The gene bank at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad has been named as 'Rajendra S.Paroda Gene Bank' in recognition of his enormous contributions in the field of plant genetic resources.

Dr Paroda will be the first Indian to receive this award. The past recipients of this Award include : Dr Ismail Serageldin, former Vice-President of Sustainable Development at the World Bank and chairman, CGIAR , Dr Jeffrey Sachs, former Head, Earth Institute, Columbia University, Dr. Sartaj Aziz, former Foreign Minister and Principal Advisor to Prime Minister of Pakistan, Dr Bruce Alberts, former President, National Academy of Sciences, USA, Dr David Bergvinson, former Director General, ICRISAT and Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, President, The World Food Prize Foundation.