



TRUST FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (TAAS) IARI, New Delhi, India

Dr.M.S. SWAMINATHAN AWARD for LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE Presented to Dr Norman E Borlaug

Citation

Dr Norman E Borlaug, an epitome of agricultural research and development, dedicated to the alleviation of world hunger and poverty, was born in Cresco, Iowa on March 25, 1914. He received B.S. degree in forestry and the M.S. and Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of Minnesota, USA.

In 1944, he was appointed geneticist and plant pathologist assigned to organize and direct a Cooperative Wheat Research and Production Programme in Mexico. Due to his dedicated efforts, the programme became an outstanding success. It eventually made Mexico self-sufficient in wheat production by 1956 and laid the foundation for wheat improvement and increased production in other parts of the world.

In 1963, Dr Borlaug became the leader of the Wheat Programme of newly established International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT). In this position, he directed his efforts to wheat research and production problems in Asia. The high yielding, fertilizer-responsive. disease resistant and widely adapted dwarf wheat varieties developed by him laid the foundation for the 'Green Revolution' in various parts of the world, especially in India. He has been visiting India regularly since 1963 and has been a source of great inspiration to all Indian agricultural scientists and scholars.

Dr Borlaug, Fellow of Science Academies of 15 countries, including the Indian National Science Academy and National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, India, has been conferred honorary doctorates by 51 Universities from all over the world. He is a recipient of numerous academic, scientific and civic awards. He is the only agricultural scientist in the world who received Nobel Peace Prize on 1970.

Dr Borlaug currently divides his time as a Senior Consultant to CIMMYT, as a Distinguished Professor of International Agriculture, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, at Texas A&M University and as President of Sasakawa Africa Association. He also serves as ex-officio consultant on wheat research and production problems to many governments in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Since 1980, he has been working hard to bring about a Green Revolution in Africa.

In appreciation of his monumental contributions to Indian agriculture and for being a great motivating force of propel agricultural research for world food security, the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi, India has great pleasure in honouring Dr Norman E Borlaug with the 'First Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture' on this Fifteenth day of March, 2005