



Progress Through Science

Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences

कृषि विज्ञान उन्नयन ट्रस्ट



Genesis, Vision, Goal & Mission

Genesis

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) has its genesis in the 88th Session of Indian Science Congress held at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi on 3-6 January 2001. It was presided by Dr RS Paroda, being General President of the Congress. The then Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee exhorted in his inaugural speech, "Our goal to make India a leading nation in the world in the new century hinges critically on how successfully we take science to the people and create a stronger scientific temper in our society".

In response, the National Organizing Committee of the Congress decided to establish a neutral Think Tank, namely, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS). The Trust was established on 17 October 2002 with its Headquarters at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi.

Vision

India becomes a prosperous nation through harnessing agricultural sciences while addressing concerns of poverty, hunger and malnutrition

Goal

Harnessing the potential of agricultural sciences for the welfare of people of India

Mission

Promoting growth and advancement of agriculture through science based policy advocacy, public awareness and effective research and development partnerships

Strategy

TAAS to act as a neutral Think Tank to debate on issues relating to strengthening agricultural research and innovation for development (ARI4D) and catalyze policy makers, research leaders and farmers for needed reorientation and strengthening of systems for faster scaling-up of innovations and growth of national agriculture

Objectives

- To act as a Think Tank to deliberate on key issues relating to agricultural research and innovation for development (ARI4D) and to influence policy decisions.
- To organize workshops, conferences, brainstorming sessions, seminars, policy dialogues and special lectures on emerging issues and new developments in agricultural sciences.
- To disseminate knowledge among stakeholders through publication of proceedings, strategy papers, policy briefs and success stories.
- To confer awards on the scientists and farmers of Indian and foreign origin for their outstanding contributions.
- To facilitate scientific interaction and partnerships of non-resident Indian agricultural scientists with Indian scientists.

Membership

The membership of TAAS in different categories- Life, Institutional, Corporate, and Reciprocal- is available to institutions/individuals engaged in agricultural research and development activities. Currently, TAAS has 20 Corporate Members, 27 Institutional Members, 4 Reciprocal Members and 163 Life Members.

Awards

1. Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture

"Dr MS Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture" was instituted in 2004 in honour of Bharat Ratna Awardee, late Dr MS Swaminathan, the Father of Green Revolution, to recognize the life time contributions of eminent persons who have made global impact in the field of agriculture, especially towards food, nutrition and environmental security. The award carries a cash prize of INR one lakh, a citation and a plaque.

2. Dr SK Vasal Award for Excellence in Crop Hybrid Research

"Dr SK Vasal Award for Excellence in Crop Hybrid Research" was instituted in 2024

Significant Achievements

- TAAS was instrumental in getting maize included in the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to ensure increased maize production. Also, TAAS has created greater awareness of soybean as a food crop and for use of soya milk and tofu, being rich in protein.
- The National Advisory Board for effective coordination and convergence of all genetic resources Bureaux has been constituted and the guidelines developed for their effective management.
- For a single window clearance of regulatory processes for testing and release of GM crops, TAAS was the first to recommend the creation of Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI), and the draft of BRAI Bill - 2013 is under consideration for approval of the Parliament.
- On the recommendation of TAAS “Ranchi Declaration” was brought out which resulted in developing a national plan of action on management and conservation of farm animal genetic resources with special focus on valuable indigenous breeds and the establishment of a “National Mission on Livestock”.
- Through various expert consultations and dialogues, the stakeholders have been sensitized for diversification of agriculture in a “farming systems” mode; soil test based use of fertilizers; efficient use of water through micro-irrigation systems and laser leveling, and promotion of IPM through use of biopesticides.
- Considering the current challenge of motivating and attracting youth in agriculture (MAYA), TAAS through national and regional conferences has catalyzed the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) to initiate the program on attracting and retaining youth in agriculture (ARYA).
- Researchers, policy makers, and development officials have been sensitized through success stories to promote farmer led innovations, adopt cost-effective and sustainable regenerative agriculture (RA) and climate-smart agriculture.
- To strengthen public-private partnerships, using different PPP models and train enterprising farmers, especially women and youth, an Agriculture



in honour of Dr Surinder K Vasal, a world-renowned maize breeder and recipient of World Food Prize. The award consists of a cash prize of INR one lakh, a citation and a plaque.

Dr Norman E Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award

“Dr Norman E Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award” was instituted in honour of the enormous contributions of Dr Norman E Borlaug to the global food security. Dr Borlaug was a true friend of farmers of South Asia. This award has been instituted through the voluntary contributions made by the members of TAAS. The award consists of a cash prize of INR one lakh, a citation and a plaque.

TAAS Publications

TAAS has published a large number of publications which include: (i) Proceedings of conferences, symposia, workshops, expert consultations, stakeholder dialogues, brainstorming sessions, and seminars, (ii) Strategy papers, (iii) Policy briefs, (iv) Success stories and (v) Status reports. The publication “Two Decades of TAAS” covers details concerning various achievements of TAAS undertaken during the period 2001-2021. Soft copies of all TAAS publications are available on the website: www.taas.in



Innovation Fund has been created by the ICAR to scientifically validate new technologies that can reduce cost of inputs, and increase production and income of farmers by linking directly to markets.

- Based on recommendations of national conferences organized by TAAS, the government has initiated National Mission on Seeds (with emphasis on hybrid seeds), National Mission on Cotton, and approved the process for developing genome edited crop hybrids/varieties.

- UN Food Systems Summit had recognized TAAS as a vibrant neutral Policy Advocacy Think Tank and suggested the need for establishing similar Think Tanks in other developing countries for both policy advocacy and public awareness.
- The conference proceedings, strategy papers and success stories published by TAAS on diverse topics have drawn wide-spread attention of the farmers and other stakeholders to embrace new innovations around sustainable agriculture.



Board of Trustees

CHAIRMAN

Dr RS Paroda

Former Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR, Govt. of India, Avenue-II, IARI Campus, New Delhi - 110012
 Telefax: +91-11-25843243 (O); +91-8130111237
 Email: raj.paroda@gmail.com; taasiari@gmail.com

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Dr T Mohapatra

Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110012
 Tel: +91-11-25848127; +91-11-25841696
 Email: chairperson-ppvfra@nic.in

SECRETARY

Dr Bhag Mal

Former South Asia Coordinator, Bioversity International and Former Director, IGFRRI, Jhansi Avenue-II, IARI, Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110012
 Telefax: +91-11-25843243 (O); +91-8130111237
 Email: bhagml@gmail.com

TREASURER

Dr JL Karihaloo

Former Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB), APAARI Avenue-II, IARI, Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110012
 Mob.: +91-9818872624
 Email: jlkarihaloo@gmail.com

MEMBERS

Dr ML Jat

Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR, Govt. of India
 Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001
 Tel.: +91-11-23382629, 23386711 (O);
 Email: dg.icar@nic.in

Dr Renu Swarup

Former Secretary, Department to Biotechnology, MoST, Govt. of India
 Apartment No. 11031, ATS Pristine, Sector 150, Noida - 201310, Uttar Pradesh
 Email: reनुswarup01@gmail.com

Dr BS Dhillon

Former Vice-Chancellor, Punjab Agricultural University
 Villa 27, Sector 106 (EMAAR), Mohali - 140307, Punjab
 Tel: +91-9872871033,
 Email: dhillonbaldevsingh@gmail.com

Dr Raju Barwale

Chairman, Mahyco Private Ltd
 Veer Nariman Road, Mumbai - 400020, Maharashtra
 Tel: +91-22-67573007 (O)
 Email: raju.barwale@mahyco.com

Dr Ch Srinivas Rao

Director, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110012
 Tel.: +91-11-25843375; +91-11-25733367
 Email: director@iari.res.in



Corporate Members

National Dairy Development Board

Anand - 388001, Gujarat
 Tel.: +91-2692-260148/149,
 Email: anand@nddb.coop

Rasi Seeds (P) Ltd.

Attur - 636102, Salem District, Tamil Nadu
 Tel.: +91-4282-241007, 242007
 Email: rasimail@rasiseeds.com; ramasami@rasi.in

National Seed Association of India

Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi - 110001
 Tel.: +91-11-43533241-47
 Email: rk.trivedi@nsai.co.in

Bayer CropScience Ltd

DLF Cyber City, Sector 24, Gurugram - 122002, Haryana
 Tel.: +91-9910472728, Email: rajvir.rathi@bayer.com

Nuziveedu Seeds Pvt. Ltd.

12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500034, Telangana
 Tel.: +91-40-30514444
 Email: mprmd@nslindia.com

SM Sehgal Foundation

Plot No. 34, Sector-44, Gurugram - 122003, Haryana
 Tel.: +91-124-4744100
 Email: smsf@smsfoundation.org

Bioseed Research India

Kavuri Hills, Hyderabad - 500033, Telangana
 Tel.: +91-40-67066666, 67066604
 Email: paresh.verma@bioseed.com

PI Industries Ltd.

Sushant Lok, Phase-1, Gurugram - 122009, Haryana
 Tel.: +91-124-6790200, +91-124-6790000
 Email: sls@piind.com

Mahyco Private Limited

Veer Nariman Road, Mumbai - 400020, Maharashtra
 Tel.: +91-22-67573007 (O)
 Email: raju.barwale@mahyco.com



Corporate Members

Semillas Fito India Pvt. Ltd.

Yelahanka, New Town,
Bengaluru - 560064, Karnataka
Tel.: +91-80-40903852/9655
Email: fito.india@semillasfito.com

Kaira District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Limited

Amul Dairy, Anand - 388001, Gujarat
Tel.: +91-269224022
Email: amuldairy@amuldairy.com

Advanta Enterprises Limited

Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500034, Telangana
Tel.: +91-40-66284000
Email: prashant.belgamwar@advantaseeds.com

FMC India Pvt Limited

MG Road, Gurugram - 122002, Haryana
Tel.: +91-124 6479100
Email: raju.kapoor@fmc.com

Federation of Seed Industry of India

11 Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi - 110001
Tel.: 011-23731127
Email: ed@fsii.in

National Bank for Agricultural & Rural Development

Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East),
Mumbai - 400051, Maharashtra
Tel.: +91-22-26539895/96/99
Email: fsdd@nabard.org

Kaveri Seeds Company Limited

Minerva Complex, SD Road,
Secunderabad - 500003, Telangana
Tel.: +91-41-27842398
Email: info@kaveriseeds.in; pmreddy@kaveriseeds.in

Hytech Seed India Pvt. Ltd.

Medchal Malkajigiri - 501401, Telangana
Tel.: +91-8418350099, +91-8374916333
Email: hytechseed@hytechseed.in

Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.

Near Virwani Industrial Estate, Goregaon (East),
Mumbai - 400063, Maharashtra
Phone: +91-22-42522200
Email: anil.kakkara@sumichem.co.in

Crystal Crop Protection Limited

Wazirpur Industrial Area
Delhi - 110052
Tel.: +91-11-49007100
Email: satyender.singh@crystalcrop.com

Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd.

DLF Cyber City, Phase-2, Gurugram - 122002,
Haryana
Tel.: +91-124-4546410
Email: shashikant.bhende@mosaicco.com



Institutional Members

University of Agricultural Sciences

Dharwad - 580005, Karnataka
Tel.: +91-836-2447783
Email: vc@uasd.in

Rajasthan University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences

Bikaner - 334001, Rajasthan
Tel.: +91-151-2543419; Email: vcrajuvas@gmail.com

Central Agricultural University

P.O. Imphal - 795004, Manipur
Tel.: +91-385-2415933
Email: vcofficecau@yahoo.in

Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT

NASC Complex, New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-11-25849000
Email: j.rana@cgiar.org

Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences

Allahabad - 211007, Uttar Pradesh
Tel.: +91-532-2684290
Email: vicechancellor@shiats.edu.in

Birsa Agricultural University

Ranchi - 834006, Jharkhand
Tel.: +91-651-2450500
Email: vc@bauranchi.org

Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University

Rajendranagar - 500030, Hyderabad, Telangana
Tel.: +91-40-24015122
Email: vc@pjsau@gmail.com

Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology

Udaipur - 313001, Rajasthan
Tel.: +91-294-24711010
Email: vc@mpuat.ac.in; vc_mpuat@yahoo.co.in

Bihar Animal Sciences University

Patna - 800014, Bihar
Tel.: +91-612-2222221
Email: vc-basu-bih@gov.in

Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University

Hisar - 132001, Haryana
Tel.: +91-1662-231238/231640
Email: vc@hau.ernet.in

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

NASC Complex, New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-25847500/7505
Email: sk.agrawal@cgiar.org

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

NASC Complex, New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-11-66166565
Email: s.rashid@cgiar.org

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

NASC Complex, New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-11-25840294; Email: s.agarwal@cgiar.org

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology

Meerut - 250110, Uttar Pradesh
Phone: +91-121-2888522
Email: vc2016vpuat@gmail.com

Agriculture Skill Council of India

Gurugram - 122004, Haryana
Tel.: +91-124-4670029 / 4814659/73
Email: ceo@asci-india.co

International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

NASC Complex, New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-11-25842940
Email: b.m.prasanna@cgiar.org

U.P. Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya Evam Go-Anusandhan Sansthan (DUVASU)

Mathura - 281001, Uttar Pradesh
Tel.: +91-565-2470199 (O)
Email: duvasvc@gmail.com

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University

Ludhiana - 141004, Punjab
Tel.: +91-161-2553320
Email: vegadvasu@gmail.com



Institutional Members

Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU)

Guntur - 522034, Andhra Pradesh
Tel.: +91-863-2347011
Email: vicechancellor@angrau.ac.in

World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF)

NASC Complex, New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-11-25847885
Email: m.dabas@CIFOR-ICRAF.org

Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition

Cornell University, USA
Tel.: +1-607-255-4416
Email: tci.cals@cornell.edu

Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology

Kumarganj, Ayodhya - 224229, Uttar Pradesh
Tel.: +91-05270-262161
Email: vcduat2018@gmail.com

Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University

Pusa, Samastipur - 848125, Bihar
Tel.: +91-06274-240226
Email: vc@pcau.ac.in

Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth

Rahuri, Dist. Ahmednagar - 413722, Maharashtra
Tel.: +91-02426-243208
Email: vcmpkv@gmail.com; vcmpkv@rediffmail.com

GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology

Pantnagar, Udham Singh Nagar - 263145, Uttarakhand
Tel.: +91-05944-233333
Email: vcgbpuat@gmail.com

Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth

Krishi Nagar, Akola - 444104, Maharashtra
Tel.: +91-0724-2258419
Email: director_res@pdkv.ac.in

Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth

Parbhani - 431402, Maharashtra
Tel.: +91-2452-22012
Email: drvnmkv@gmail.com; vcvnmkv@gmail.com



Reciprocal Members

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions

182 Larn Luang Road, Bangkok - 10100, Thailand
Tel.: +66-80-8499985
Email: ravi.khetarpal@apaari.org

MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF)

Chennai - 600113, Tamil Nadu
Tel.: +91-44-22541229/22542699
Email: doctorsoumya@yahoo.com

National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)

New Delhi - 110012
Tel.: +91-11-25846051, 25846052
Email: naas-mail@naas.org.in; naasindia@gmail.com

SM Sehgal Foundation

Institutional Area, Gurugram - 122003, Haryana
Tel.: +91-124-4744100
Email: anjali.makhija@smsfoundation.org



Life Members

One hundred sixty three Eminent Scientists
as Life Members (163 as on 25 July, 2025)

For details, please see TAAS website: www.taas.in



Progress Through Science

TRUST FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (TAAS)

Avenue II, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) Campus, New Delhi - 110012, India
Phone: +91-11-25843243; +91-8130111237; E-mail: taasiari@gmail.com; Website: www.taas.in