

**National Workshop
on
“Enhancement of Farmers Income through Post-Harvest Management”**

Total food grains production in India is adequate, however, around 40 percent of the food produced gets wasted every year in the country. The loss is almost three times as high as the new budget for the agriculture sector, which has seen an increase of 44 percent. Post-Harvest losses and quality deterioration of food can be prevented through processing and value addition to augment the income of farming community /entrepreneurs. The government has accorded high priority by providing fiscal relief and incentives to encourage value addition to agricultural produce for minimizing pre and post-harvest wastage and generating employment and export growth. Considering the importance of awareness about the latest and advanced developments in this important area, Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers (ISAE), Anand Chapter & Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Anand organized a National Workshop on “Enhancement of Farmers Income through Post-Harvest Management” on August 28, 2018 at Anand Agricultural University, Anand.

The inaugural session of the workshop was presided by Dr. N. C. Patel, Honorable Vice Chancellor, AAU, Anand and was graced with the august presence of Chief Guest, Dr. S. N. Jha, Assistant Director General (Process Engineering), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi; Guests of Honour, Dr. K. B. Kathiria, Director of Research and Dean PG Studies, AAU, Anand and Dr. Nachiket Kotwaliwale, Principal Scientist & Head, Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal; and Chairman, ISAE Anand Chapter, Dr. D. C. Joshi, Dean, College of Food Processing Technology & Bio Energy, AAU, Anand. This national workshop was attended by about 300 delegates including progressive farmers, more than 50 district agriculture and horticulture officers, industry representatives and students besides high ranking officials from ICAR and Government of India.

Dr. N. C. Patel has recalled the recent consultation workshop for doubling farmers’ income by 2022 organized by Government of Gujarat and highlighted the requirement of sensitization of all the stakeholders and demonstration and training for crop specific post harvest technology. Dr. S. N. Jha stressed on requirement of sparing time with farmers and extending already available research in the field of post harvest technology to the fields. Dr. K. B. Kathiria emphasized the need of evaluation of existing machines for different crop varieties and development of varieties suitable to mechanization. Dr. Nachiketa Kotwaliwale mentioned about increasing calorie consumption and nutritional awareness. He stated food security,

remunerative prices, post harvest management and efficient energy utilization as four major factors to be taken care of.

Industrialists from perishable supply chain management, cold dried fruits and vegetable and cold storage systems presented their views and challenges ahead. Progressive farmers, who already benefitted from innovative practices of post harvest processing and management in banana, ginger and turmeric, have shared their experiences.

The workshop was successful in providing a platform to all the stakeholders to discuss and be aware about the present status, recent developments, new technologies, new machineries and equipments, new business ideas and paved the way for further improvement in post harvest management and thereby enhancing the farmers' income.

