**PROCEEDING OF THE ELEVENTH COMBINED JOINT AGRESCO MEETING OF STATE AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITIES OF GUJARAT HELD AT ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND DURING 7-9 APRIL,2015.**

The Eleventh Combined Joint Meeting of Agricultural Research Council (AGRESCO-2015) of SAUs of Gujarat was held at Anand Agricultural University, Anand during April 7-9,2015. Dr.K.B.Kathiria, Director of Research, AAU, Anand welcomed the dignitaries, invited guests, conveners of various sub-committee and scientists. In his welcome speech, he high-lighted the research activities carried out by different AGRESCOsub-committee and way of recommendations prepared for farming as well as scientific community. Dr.N.C.Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU, Anand welcomed the dignitariesby offering the rose flowers a symbol of love and affection. The Combined Joint AGRESCO meeting of SAUs of Gujarat was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture Shri Babubhai Bokhiriya and other dignitaries. Then Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture was felicitated by Dr.N.C.Patel, Hon'ble Vice chancellor of AAU, Anand. During the auspicious occasion, Shri Babubhai Bokhiriya launched the revamped AAU web site as well as mineral mixture developed by the scientists of Anand Agricultural University. Two informative publications in vernacular language *viz;Aaushadhiy Vanaspatio*: Olakh and Upyog (Medicinal plants: identification and use) and *Khedutopyogi Bhalamano* 2004 to 2014 (Recommendations for farming community 2004 to 2014) were also released by the Hon'ble minister. Moreover, exchange of MoU between Anand Agricultural University and Vasundhara Agribiotech, Rajkot for transfer of technology of tissue cultured date palm was also made in august presence of all the dignitaries.

The august gathering was addressed by Dr.A.J.Kachhiya Patel, Director of Animal Husbandry and Dr.B.R.Shah, Director of Horticulture, Govt. of Gujarat, Gandhinagar. Dr.C.J.Dangariya, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of NAU, Navsari, Dr. Ashok A. Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of SDAU, Sardarkrushinagar, Dr.A.R.Pathak, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of JAU, Junagadh, Prof.M.C.Varshneya, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Kamdhenu University, Gandhinagar and Dr.N.C.Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU, Anand. Shri Jaswantsinh Solanki, President District Panchayat, Anand and Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture Shri. Babubhai Bokhiriya also addressed the gathering.

Dr. A. J. Kachhia Patel, Director of Animal Husbandry emphasized the importance of animal diseases in the field of animal husbandry. He narrated the scheme of state government for free medical treatment to animals.

Dr. B. R. Shah, Director of Horticulture informed the house about the new technologies required to sustain the protective cultivation in Gujarat state. He urged the scientists to solve the problem of nematodes in crops grown in green house and poly-house.

Dr. C. J. Dangariya, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of NAU, Navsari explained that knowledge based farming system instead of input based farming system is advisable. He also stressed the importance of conservation of natural resources in sustainable agriculture. He also stressed upon research on market intelligence for better price to farmers.

Dr. Ashok A. Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of SDAU, Sardarkrushinagar expressed his sincere thanks to the Government of Gujarat for sanctioning the various posts in SAUs of Gujarat. He also suggested to sign the MoU among the SAUs of Gujarat state for exploring the ideas and thoughts

Dr. A. R. Pathak, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of JAU, Junagadh expressed his views about the research work carried out by the scientists. He stressed the importance of farming system approach and to work in co-ordinated manner rather to work in isolated condition. Moreover, on behalf of SAUs of Gujarat, he expressed thank to Shri. Babubhai Bokhiriya for his sincere efforts for giving the permission to fill up the vacant posts in the agricultural universities.

Prof. M.C. Varshneya, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Kamdhenu University, Gandhinagar highlighted the progress made in newly established Kamdhenu University and expressed thank to Govt. of Gujarat for giving necessary sanction to fill up the various posts.

Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU, Anand congratulated all the scientists who have contributed recommendations for farming community as well as entrepreneurs. He emphasized on target oriented research work and stressed the importance of molecular marker assisted biotechnological work for the development of crop varieties.

Shri Jasubha Solanki has stressed the importance of quality seeds in agriculture production. He emphasized to produce more amount of certified seeds by SAUs so that farmers can not rely on seeds of private organizations. In this context, State Agricultural Universities are producing certified as well as labeled seeds of different mandatory crops from the available land resources. Gujarat State Seed Corporation, GUJCOMASOL and other government organization are producing certified seeds to fulfill the state requirement.

Shri BabubhaiBokhiriya, Hon'bleminister of Agriculture and co-operation, Animal husbandry, Fishries and cow-breeding expressed his views about the development of Agriculture in the state. He emphasized on working as per the need of the farmers. In addition to above, Hon'ble minister explained the activities to be carried out during the Krishi Mahotsav-2015.

Dr.M.K.Jhala, Associate Director of Research (Animal science), AAU, Anand proposed the vote of thanks at the end of inaugural session.