

## **17<sup>th</sup> Convocation of National Dairy Research Institute (Deemed University), Karnal organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019**

ICAR-NDRI organized 17<sup>th</sup> Convocation on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 and Hon'ble Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, **Dr Trilochan Mahapatra** graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and gave away the degrees and delivered the Convocation Address.

During his address to students, he congratulated the students and said that NDRI is providing a large number of trained young professionals in dairy production, processing and management to the nation. He said that milk production in the country has increased by about 10 times since independence and at present milk production in the country is around 176 million metric tons. Recalling the success of white revolution in the country, he emphasized that at present the country is again witnessing white revolution as during the last 3 years (2018 data), with annual growth rate of 5.53%, milk production in India has outpaced global milk production rate (2.09%). The per capita availability of milk has gone up to about 375 g per day, which is more than the world average of 294 g per day. He said that this remarkable growth has been possible because of Operation Flood Programme” by Government of India; excellent human resource produced by Institute like NDRI and hard work of millions of dairy farmers. Highlighting the role of livestock sector as well as agriculture in Indian economy, he said that livestock sector alone contributes 4.11% to GDP while contribution of Agriculture in GDP is around 25.6%. About 20.5 million people depend upon livestock for their livelihood. Livestock contributed 16% to the income of small farm households as against an average of 14% for all rural households. Livestock provides livelihood to two-third of rural community. It also provides employment to about 8.8% of the population in India. He however said that low productivity of dairy animals in the country and shrinking fodder cultivation land are some of the areas of concern. He said that while India is self-sufficient in milk production, the key focus areas are: continuing growth in milk production, building scales in processing capacities, and enhancing inclusive growth through the organized sector, thus, benefitting the stakeholders across the value chains.

He asked NDRI scientists and young researchers to work on contemporary issues in dairy sector such as how to increase income of dairy farmers, tools to check milk quality,

means to increase value addition in dairy supply chain, enhancing productivity of dairy animals, mining of milk of various species for its health promoting properties etc. Stressing the need of creating world class universities, he said that Scientists of NDRI should take the opportunity created by project like Institutional Development Project (IDP) to attract more foreign students and also to develop their skill.

Lastly, he advised students to follow the path of Discipline, Determination and Dedication to achieve their dreams.

**Dr. R.R.B. Singh, Director, NDRI** presented the progress report on the significant achievements made by the institute during the past year. He also congratulated all the awardees, teachers and parents. He said that Institute is offering Doctoral and Master courses in fifteen different disciplines. In addition, the Institute also offers the prestigious degree course leading to award of B. Tech. (Dairy Technology). At present, 917 students are undergoing various academic programmes including 338 girl students and 5 foreign students (2 in Doctoral Programme, 2 in Masters Programme and 1 in Graduate programme) from Syria, Ethopia, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Nepal. In the 17th Convocation we are awarding degrees to 80 PhD students, 144 Masters and 25 B.Tech students. In 2017-18, the **average salary** offered was **Rs. 5.04 and Rs. 8.20 lakhs per annum** for UG and PG students, respectively. He further said that has seven collaborative international research projects with UK, USA, Egypt and Kenya. NDRI has filed 4 patents and 4 patents have been granted. He further said that NDRI has commercialized a total of 17 technologies to various dairy industries during the year 2017- 18.

On this occasion, Chief Guest presented **Best Teacher Award** to **Dr. Narender Raju Panjagari**, Scientist in recognition of his academic excellence.

During this occasion, Dr. R.R.B. Singh presented **Gold Medal** for highest Marks during Ph.D, Master and B.Tech programme to Dr. Man Singh, Mr. Digvijay Singh and Mr. Sandeep Baruah, respectively.

**‘Medals for Best Thesis Research Work’** during PhD programme were also presented to Mr. Sushil Kumar, Mr. Mohd Iqbal Bhat and Mr. Sudhanand Prasad Lal in the Production, Processing and Management Group, respectively.

**‘Medal for Best Thesis Research Work’** during Master’s programme were also presented to Ms. Neeru Jaglan, Mr. Shivam Panwar and Ms. Suchandra Dutta in the Production, Processing and Management Group, respectively.

For overall contribution in research and teaching by the faculty, Southern Regional Station (SRS) of NDRI, Bengaluru was adjudged as **Best Division**.

Dr. Dharmendra Kumar, Scientist, Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes (CIRB) received the **Dr. S.K. Sirohi Memorial Award** for his contribution in the research.

**Dr. Lata Sabikhi**, Joint Director (Research), NDRI coordinated the whole programme of convocation.

The other dignitaries who were present include Dr. J.K. Jena, Deputy Director General (Animal Science), ICAR; Dr. Rameshwar Singh, Vice Chancellor, Bihar Animal Sciences University; Academic coordinator; Dr. S.K. Tomar, Academic Coordinator; Heads of different Divisions, etc.

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