

Report

All India Seminar on 'Varietal Improvements and Emerging Technology Tools for Enhancing Sugarcane Productivity'

28 April 2015, Hotel Country Inn, Indore

Sugarcane is one of the important cash crops grown in India & cultivated in about 4.2 million ha producing about 281 million tonnes of cane with an average productivity of 66.7 t/ha. The sugarcane yield/recovery has been stagnant in most of the sugarcane growing regions for the past decade. The sugar mills are presently suffering from shortage of labour and there is fear that in the near future, there will be dearth of labourers even for the planting and inter-culture operations. With this idea **The Sugar Technologists' Association of India (STAI)** organized **All India Seminar on 'Varietal Improvements and Emerging Technology Tools for Enhancing Sugarcane Productivity'**, on **28 April 2015**, at **Indore**.

Dr GSC Rao, President, STAI & **Mr Narendra Mohan**, Director, National Institute Kanpur & **Vice President, STAI** welcomed the delegates and thanked attending the first ever STAI seminar in Madhya Pradesh Region, on a very important issue of Varietal Improvement & Technology Tools for Enhancing Productivity.

The Inaugural Session of the Seminar was addressed by **Mr Hemant Kumar Soni**, Chairman and Managing Director, Aakriti Sugars Ltd., **Mr Kishore Maheshwari**, Director, Ramdev Sugars Ltd., **Mr B S Mondloi**, Chairman, Jawaharlal Nehru Sahakari Agricultural Produce Processing Society, **Mr S C Agarwal**, Joint Director-Agriculture, Government of Madhya Pradesh, **Mr N Vijayan Nair**, Advisor, Global Cane Sugar Services Pvt Ltd. & Ex Director Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore.



Dignitaries during the Inaugural Session of the Seminar

The Technical Session of the programme was chaired by **Dr. N Vijayan Nair**, Ex Director Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore and Co-Chaired by **Dr S R Sharma**, Ex Cane Commissioner, Government of Madhya Pradesh. **Mr R L Tamak**, Vice President, STAI & Business Head-Olam Sugar Ltd. delivered Keynote Address in the Session on “**Varietal Improvements & Emerging Technology Tools for Enhancing Sugarcane Productivity**”

Leading scientists and experts submitted & presented 7 papers on following topics during the seminar:

1. Organic Farming for Sustainable Quality Production of Sugarcane by Dr S R Sharma
2. Future Challenges & Present Scenario of Sugarcane in Madhya Pradesh by Dr. Animesh Chatterjee, Incharge Project, AICRP Sugarcane ZARS, Powarkheda
3. Sustainable Sugarcane Mechanization by New Holland Tractors Pvt Ltd.
4. Complete Sugarcane Mechanization by Tirth Agro Technology Pvt. Ltd.
5. Skillful Crop Management with Minimum Cost and Maximum Production by **Mr A K Bhati**, Chief Executive Officer, Jawaharlal Nehru Sahakari Agricultural Produce Processing Society
6. Ecofriendly Sugarcane Ratoon Management Technology by **Dr.D.H.Phalke**, Soil Physicist, CSRS, Padegaon
7. Presentation on Varietal Improvement & Enhancing Sugarcane Productivity by Mr Mane Patil, Ex Scientist, Vasantdada Sugar Institute, Kanpur

The seminar was attended by 80 delegates from sugar industry of Madhya Pradesh and surrounding states.