PARTICIPANTS
1,000 delegates comprising of farmers, Scientists, Policy Makers and Sugar Industry Representatives.


INDIA’S 1ST NATIONAL SUGARCANE GROWERS CONFERENCE

Date: 25th May, 2013, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Organizers
The GOI has taken steps to decontrol the Sugar sector and this has come as a boon to over 5 million Sugarcane farmers across the country. However, there are many unresolved issues and CIFA, to bring together various proponents of Agriculture & Industry, is organizing the 1st National Sugarcane Farmers Conference on the 25th of May at Bengaluru, Karnataka.

A. Technological Advancements in improving cane productivity, recovery and production of Ethanol and Power Generation has made sugar sector highly profitable for the farmers, industry and investors including FDI. In addition it will generate employment and save Foreign Exchange etc..

B. Increased investments (Private/FDI) in Agriculture Sector: Sugar sector is an area which will attract private investments including FDI. The investments are in the shape of Agriculture Research, Sugar Factory, Sugar Refineries, Ethanol/ Spirit, Power Generation, Organic Products and many other products. The Government will generate huge revenue on various products mentioned above.

C. Every farmer confronts the problem of non availability of fertilizer or quality seeds, or pesticides. Also, It has become very difficult to get agriculture labor due to MGNREGA. Availability of electricity is extremely erratic and in many places is limited to 5 hours and available in the middle of the night. Soil analysis is rarely done and farmers do not know the micro nutrient deficiency. Credit availability and crop insurance are the biggest challenges to the farmers. The modern technology of ‘Bud Chip’ nurseries is available in India but not accessible to farmers. Sugarcane planting and harvesting machine available are highly taxed.

D. Benefits of Harmony between Sugarcane Growers and Sugar Industry: In Sugar sector, there is need for long term partnership between the sugarcane growers and the sugar industry. A healthy relationship between both will result in Win-Win situation. In factories wherein this harmony exists, the productivity, recovery, extension services and payments are prompt.
An efficient industry constantly strives to provide latest and best technologies to the growers. For example, it will establish ‘Bud chip’ method nurseries, so that the farmer will save 1 month plantation expenditure and ensure 100% plant population. It will introduce water conservation, drip irrigation and Fertigation. It will help improve productivity and recovery.

The industry, by introducing mechanization, will reduce physical drudgery, dependency on labor and enable timely operations which will improve the profitability to the growers. Farmer has to understand the changing quality parameter of consumers including industrial customers of food & beverages, pharmaictals etc., and change accordingly.

Long term understanding between growers and industry will lead to faster adoption of technologies such as new seed variety, drip mechanization will be beneficial to both.

The futuristic opportunities in Sugar Sector: Hence forth Sugar cane is called “Kalpavruksha”. Technologies will enable KALPAVRUHKSHA to produce Ethanol directly and generate huge electricity. All these can lead to pioneering developments in remotest parts on India, be it in Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh or Madhya Pradesh. Also, Ethanol can used, mixed with Petrol, by the local consumers of autos, two wheelers, cars or buses. Electricity will be made available without transmission loses throughout the year.

**Challenges ahead**

*The sugar sector comprising of farmers and industry with the advice from experts should work to develop global competitiveness.*
THE AGENDA

1. Study on impact of GOI recommendations on the new Sugar Policy
2. To prepare a program for identifying further issues at National and State level and prepare plan of action.
3. Establishing Nation level and State level Committees between Farmers and Sugarcane Industry for identifying common issues.
4. The program will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Karnataka and distinguished guests will include the State Agriculture Minister, Commissioners of Agriculture of State and GOI, Central and State Govt. and other participants.
5. A detailed Technical session on productivity issues such as reducing the cost of production, water conservation, mechanization etc. State Policies on molasses and other will be discussed.
6. The National conference will prepare a program of action at the National and state committees on various issues. It will also identify necessary infrastructure facilities by establishing a office and full time research personnel for implementing.
7. Preparing India to compete at Global level.
8. Issues for Discussion by Delegates:
   a. Minimum distance issue
   b. Cane area reservation
   c. State policy on molasses
   d. MOU between farmers and industry
   e. Responsibility for extension services
   f. Revenue sharing formula
   g. Suggestion on State level and National level farmers Industry Committee
   h. Activities and Infrastructure Network

P. Chengal Reddy, Secretary General
CONSORTIUM OF INDIAN FARMERS ASSOCIATIONS (CIFA)
8/32, South Patel Nagar, New Delhi - 110 008. Ph : 011-25842111, Fax : 011-25842123
E-mail : cifa_delhi@yahoo.com Web : indianfarmers.org