Welcome

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and
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Presentation to AGRITERRA
22/11/2008
Consortium of Indian Farmers Associations
New Delhi; India

Consortium of Indian Farmers Associations
CIFA in 2008
- CIFA as an organisation came into existence in 2003, registered in 2006
- Conducted 4 National Farmers Conferences until now. 5th Conclave to be held in December 2008
- CIFA presently in 5 states; is expanding to another four states in 2008
Present structure of CIF

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number of States</th>
<th>4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP; Karnataka; Tamilnadu; Pondicherry and Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<th>New States taken up in 2008</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gujarat; Rajasthan; Chattisgarh Punav and Haryana</td>
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<tr>
<th>Commodities being dealt actively</th>
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<td>Paddy; Pulses; Sugar cane and Horticulture</td>
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<th>Commodities taken up this year</th>
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<td>Wheat; Cotton; Oil seeds</td>
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<th>State offices being opened this year</th>
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<td>Karnataka; Tamilnadu and Punjab</td>
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Activities Taken up from 2008 April

Commodity Associations
- State level Sugar cane Commodity activities in Tamilnadu; Karnataka; Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh
- Paddy Commodity Association activities in A.P; Karnataka; Tamilnadu and Punjab
- Pulses Commodity Association activities in Karnataka, A.P; Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Madhya Pradesh;
- State level Wheat Commodity Association Punjab and Madhya Pradesh;

Policy and Advocacy
- CIFA involved in protracted struggle at various levels for enhancement of MSP for Paddy; successful to an extent with an increase of Rs. 100/-
- CIFA instrumental in evolving Loan waiver for farmers; lobbied in various forums
- CIFA organized interactive session with Parliament Member Farmers Forum
- CIFA delegation met Ministers and officials in the Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce and others in GOI on various agri related issues
- CIFA prepared Status papers on 5 commodities
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Policy and Advocacy

- CIFA regularly participated in the deliberations organized by Planning Commission, NABARD, WB, ICAR etc.
- The 5th National Farmers Conclave is scheduled for December 2008
- CIFA’s interaction with Scientific community and institutions
- CIFA’s activities with Industry; Agro processing and Retail chains

Past achievements

- CIFA instrumental in reducing the interest rate for agricultural credit to 7 %
- Excise Duty on Tractors reduced from 16 % to 0 % in three phases.
- CIFA EC members are part of various GOI committees on Agriculture (Biotechnology committee; 11th Five year plan; BIS, NIRD; Planning Commission; ICAR

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Trainings conducted

- South Indian Pulses Farmers technical workshop during October 08 in Gulbarga of Karnataka
- Sugar cane associations meeting in Chittoor of A.P for the states of Tamilnadu; Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
- Wheat and Paddy commodity meeting in Madhya Pradesh during October 08 in Hoshangabad
- Paddy commodity Associations meeting in Karnataka in October 08;
- Online commodity trading workshops held in AP; Tamilnadu and Pondichery
- Technology Transfer Training on Wheat in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh
- Horticulture workshop (for banana) in Salem of Tamilnadu
- Leadership trainings in Karnataka
- MOU between CIFA and MANAGE (Ministry of Agriculture) for trainings to ATMA groups (WB Programme) is in advanced stage; will fructify in a month
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Market Linkages:
- Coca cola agreed to buy Mangoes from Mango Farmers of Tamilnadu from the areas of Vellore and Krishnagiri abetting Chittoor of AP.
- Cotton farmers marketing linkage programme with Marks and Spencer is in advanced stage in Andhra Pradesh.
- Vegetable Farmers linkage with retail chains will be taken up in Punjab and Haryana abetting Delhi; talks with MORE are in progress.
- Market yard – Industry linkage being planned in AP for Paddy and Cotton.
- Turmeric and Chilee Farmers linking to Commodity Online trading is in progress; Cooperative societies are being made.

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Publications; Magazine & Website:
- Published 4 books in 2008;
  - Pepper and its problems
  - ICAR and its effectiveness
  - Pulses
  - Horns of Dilemma
  - Why weaker sections are ignored

- Website revamped; professionals inducted;
- Magazine – Agro Policy & Advocacy published monthly