India’s food security has become a national concern now. Annual growth in the area of agricultural production has faltered to below 2% level. Grain production stagnated for almost last two decades. Government of India is well aware of the problem and chalked out a strategy to boost agricultural growth to at least 4% level during 2007-12. To achieve that target, diversification to horticultural crops will be a key component. Potato can play an important role in crop diversification. Central Potato Research Institute is targeting annual production of about 30 million tonnes of potato by the end of 11th plan. To achieve that target we have to critically analyze strengths and weaknesses of major potato producing states so as to come out with viable strategies for boosting potato production in specific regions of the country. Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal are the five states where potato productivity is higher than national average (17.73 tonnes/ha). To consolidate and further accelerate potato production in those states, we need to analyze present scenario of potato cultivation in those areas. In the present newsletter, scenario of potato production, limitations, opportunities and priorities in West Bengal has been critically evaluated. The state is presently witnessing high growth rate in potato processing sector. Processing units producing Lay brand chips (M/S PepsiCo Holding Pvt. Ltd.), Pogo chips, King brand flakes etc. have been started by private companies. Besides, a number of small units under un-organized sector are also engaged in potato processing. Therefore, the state can capitalize on this trend by growing processing grade potato varieties. CPRI has conducted extensive evaluation with several indigenous and exotic varieties and concluded that Kufri Chipsona varieties (Kufri Chipsona-1, Kufri Chipsona-2, and Kufri Chipsona-3) bred by CPRI performed best for processing under West Bengal condition. The state is totally dependent on Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh for planting materials. The state cannot produce seed potato in hills due to water problem. In plains also infestation of bacterial wilt seriously jeopardize seed production effort. Therefore, some innovative approaches embracing modern tissue culture techniques should be worked out by the State Department of Agriculture for seed production in selected areas. The majority of potato farmers belong to small and marginal category and is dependent on local moneylenders for seed, fertilizer and other inputs. A strong agriculture cooperative sector or contract farming can mitigate many of these problems. The article also addressed the market opportunities for the table potato produced by the state. I hope the suggestions made by the authors will help the state Government to identify appropriate strategy to make the potato crop a harbinger of prosperity in rural West Bengal.
Research Highlights

CPRI develops a new chipping potato variety for hills

The potato varieties Kufri Chipsiona-1 and Kufri Chipsiona-2 released in 1998 and being grown in Indo-Gangetic plains have become the major source of raw material for the processing industry. But still round the year availability of raw material to the industry could not be ensured, as majority of potato crop is harvested in February/March and stored potatoes remain in acceptable quality only up to June. Therefore, the processors fetch fresh tubers of variety Kufri Jyoti grown in northern hills during these months to run the industry. However the quality of these potatoes is poor because of low solids and inconsistent chip colour. Therefore, there was an urgent need of a variety for hills, which can yield at par or better than Kufri Jyoti along with high solids content.

Central Potato Research Institute has developed a hybrid, viz., MP/97-644, which produces higher total and processing grade tuber yields with excellent white colour chips. Compared to Kufri Jyoti and all the Indian and exotic potato processing cultivars, when grown in hills this hybrid has the best processing quality. The hybrid has established its superiority over the existing cultivars when tested at Kufri, Shimla, Mandi, Almora, Skilloong and Ooty hills. The hybrid has also been tested for its chip making quality on the commercial industrial line and has been adjudged best among all other varieties being grown or tested in the hills. The tubers of the hybrid are oval shaped, shallow eyed with creamy flesh. The hybrid has shown very high degree of resistance to late blight in all the potato growing areas in hills where the disease appears every year in the epidemic form. The hybrid was released as variety Kufri Himsona for the hills of HP by HP State Variety Release Committee. The availability of this variety will be a boon for processing industry as it will fill up the gap of providing potatoes for processing during lean period and will provide extra money to the farmers because of higher total and processing grade tuber yields in this variety. Further, the farmer will save on money also by applying lesser number of fungicide sprays against late blight. It is expected that with the cultivation of this variety and production of potatoes for processing from hills, the potato processing industry, especially situated in north-western plains, will further grow due to year round availability of quality raw material.

CPRI develops a low cost tractor operated multipurpose potato digger

Potato crop is highly labour intensive and requires lot of man power during planting, inter row cultivation, earthing up, chemical application, haulm cutting, harvesting, sorting and grading. Amongst these, digging is the most cumbersome operation where out of 28-32 kg of soil and potato mixture one kg potatoes are separated out. At present, in large potato growing areas digging is done with tractor operated diggers. With tractor, farmers use either low cost plow type diggers or elevator type diggers. Elevator type diggers have high initial cost and are more expensive to maintain as compared to plow type digger. Despite this they are popular amongst progressive farmers as they give better potato exposure compared to plows thereby resulting in less wastage in the form of left over tubers in the fields.

Central Potato Research Institute has been working for developing a digger which should have performance close to elevator digger and cost close to plow type digger and has come out with a multipurpose potato digger with several advantages. This digger can be operated with any type of tractor having 20-50 horse power. It can cover about one acre in an hour which is about three times more than elevator type digger. Tuber exposure as compared to elevator digger is about 4-5% less in normal field conditions but much better (15-17%) in dry field conditions towards the second half of harvesting season. In all the conditions, exposure of this digger is better than plow type digger.

Multipurpose digger can be used for early crop without cutting haulms and main crop after removing haulms. Digger is suitable for crop planted at row spacing from 22 to 28 inches. This can also be used for experimental harvesting where scientists need single plant or single row harvest without any inter-plant or inter-row mixing. Market price of this digger is Rs. 6,000-6,500 vis-à-vis Rs. 38,000-40,000 for elevator type. Multipurpose digger is made up of locally available raw material and maintenance cost per year is about Rs. 400-500 only compared to Rs. 4,000-5,000 in case of elevator digger.

-Sukhwinder Singh
Durable late blight resistance

Late blight is a major threat to potato cultivation. Potato varieties bred for resistance quickly succumb to newly evolved races of the pathogen. Incorporation of durable resistance in potato varieties would minimize the problem of resistance break down. The diploid potato species, *S. bulbocastanum* possesses high level of durable resistance to late blight. However, this source of durable resistance could not be utilized, so far, by classical breeding because of differences in ploidy and Endosperm Balance Number (EBN). Recently, the RB gene responsible for race non-specific, broad-spectrum resistance in *S. bulbocastanum* has been cloned by Prof. John Helgeson and his group at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA. The RB gene technology has been made available to India by the Agricultural Biotechnology Support Project II of the Cornell University, USA. Transgenic lines of the US potato cultivar Katahdin were evaluated under Indian condition and they performed very well under intense late blight pressure.

[Image of Katahdin, Kufri Jyoti, and SP 951]

Late blight response of RB-transgenic

Attempts are now being made to introgress this gene from RB-transgenic Katahdin and to directly transform the Indian potato cultivars Kufri Bahar and Kufri Jyoti with the RB gene.

-SK Chakraborty & SK Pandey

Organic potato production

In view of growing awareness for safe food, there has been a paradigm shift and interest to adopt organic potato production system, which are ecologically safe, economically viable and socially just. The primary goal for organic potato production is to optimize the health and productivity of interdependent communities of soil, plants, animals, and people.

The experiments have shown that irrespective of sources and approaches used for organic potato production, tuber yield with organic treatment was always lower as compared with inorganic fertilizer. However, tuber yields under organic farming consistently increased in succeeding years, when crop was grown on same site without disturbing layout. In addition, tuber quality like dry matter content, specific gravity and chip colour were superior in organic produce. Regarding soil fertility, though the organic carbon content improved in treatments where nutrient requirement was met through organic manures, but the mineral nitrogen, particularly NO3-N content was lower as compared to inorganic treatment. Thus in long run, the organic potato production, using local improved organic manures, could be one of the better options for sustainable yield with better tuber quality and maintenance of soil health.

-NC Upadhyay

Bio-B5 controls neck rot (*Pyricularia grisea*) of rice

No Indian rice variety is resistant to neck rot caused by *Pyricularia grisea* and the fungicides available provide only reduction in disease severity and not the control. Root dip of rice seedlings for 20 minutes @ 0.25% suspension of Bio-B5 at the time of transplant followed by a spray after a month of cropage was highly successful in bringing down the disease incidence by 85.0 to 88.0% and increase in grain yield by 14.58 to 28.0% at Pablikhas, Mawana, Dori and CPRIC, Modipuram farms in Meerut.

-V Sunaina

Yellow trap-A tool for aphid management in potato crop

Potato crop is attacked by *Aphis gossypii* Glover, commonly known as melon aphid or cotton aphid, which is polyphagous in nature. This aphid completes its life cycle on different hosts like tomato, brinjal, cucurbits, weeds (like *bhang*, *chenopodium*, *patthani*, etc.) and is found throughout the year on one crop or the other. This aphid is very hardy and effectively transmits potyviruses, although it is only one of dozens of species implicated in the spread of plant viruses. This fact of vectoring diseases made this aphid more important and calls for its early and effective detection and management on potato crop. It attacks both early (Mid-September planted) as well as main crop (October planted) of potato. Preliminary studies on the use of yellow traps coated with grease in trapping this aphid vector revealed that these traps are very effective and can be deployed on large scale. Consequently bigger traps (45 × 45 cm2) were developed and deployed for mass trapping. It was recorded that *A. gossypii* as well as whitefly could be trapped successfully on yellow colour traps. Even leaf hoppers could be seen glued to the sticky material but their number was low (4-10 per trap). Throughout November to mid-December, *A. gossypii* was trapped in large numbers on yellow sticky traps. Later from December onwards, *Myzus persicae*
CPRI NEWSLETTER

(Sulzer) became dominant aphid species. Data indicated that during the month of November and December, the range of population reduction (per 100 leaf basis) in A. gossypii by yellow traps was 9.0% to 36.7% with an overall reduction of 19.0 per cent. Traps were also prepared with mobile oil (fresh), mobile oil (burned) and Summer oil and all of them were effective in trapping the aphids although degree of trapping differed among various oils. The studies suggest that deployment of medium size yellow traps for mass trapping of aphids may be used successfully, leading to ecologically sound pest management.

-Kamlesh Malik & BP Singh

Low tuber rottage in Kufri Surya is associated with high antioxidants

Antioxidants like ascorbic acid, phenolic compounds, carotenoids, proline, etc. play an important role in protecting plants exposed to abiotic stresses from oxidative damage to cell membranes and cell integrity. A comparison in antioxidant content in heat tolerant cultivar Kufri Surya and heat susceptible cultivar Kufri Ashoka was made in tubers exposed to 40°C. Kufri Surya had higher ascorbate (30.9 mg/100 g fr. wt.) and there was no tuber rottage after exposure to 7 days of heat stress whereas tuber of Kufri Ashoka, which had lower ascorbate (14.5 mg/100 gm. fr. wt.) showed high incidence of rottage. The total phenols were about 65% higher in Kufri Surya (145 mg/100 g fr. wt.) as compared to Kufri Ashoka (85 mg/100 g fr. wt.). Besides, in freshly harvested tubers, the carotenoids, another antioxidant molecule, were three times higher in Kufri Surya (293 mg/100 g fr. wt.) than in Kufri Ashoka (98 mg/100 g fr. wt.).

It was found that non-enzymatic molecules play an important role in mitigating the adverse effect of heat stress in germinating tubers of Kufri Surya, while, such antioxidant defense mechanisms poorly operated in Kufri Ashoka leading to tissue disintegration. However, it remains to be seen whether such antioxidant laden potatoes can be the source of practicable therapies for the management of free radical toxicity in humans.

-Devendra Kumar, BP Singh & JS Minhas

Potato outlook survey 2007

CPRI conducted ‘Quick Survey on Potato Outlook-2007’ in the states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, during January and February 2007 covering 707 farmers. Potato area in the country was estimated to increase by 4.22% to 1.401 million hectares during 2006-07. Last year’s high potato prices influenced potato farmers to go for early potato crop in U.P., Haryana and Punjab. However, the early potato crop was badly affected by high temperature in central and western plains of northern India. Moreover, weather conditions favoured early infestation of crop with the late blight during first week of November in Punjab and second week of November in Haryana and western U.P. Moderate to heavy frost also damaged potato crop during the first week of January in parts of Punjab, Haryana and western U.P. Untimely rains during February 2007 in all major potato producing states inflicted heavy losses on potato crop. Such losses were estimated to 12.17% at national level. Overall potato production in India was estimated to fall up to 22 million tonnes this year against 23.9 million tonnes last year. Hence, potato prices in India are expected to remain firm in the remaining part of this year.

Kufri Bahar was the leading variety in UP (62%) as well as in India occupying about 32% of potato area in the country. K. Jyoti (31.74% at national level) was the predominant variety in West Bengal (73.52%) and Punjab (54.37%). K. Pukraj was the leading variety in Bihar (27%), Punjab (25%), West Bengal (5.93%) and UP (5.06%). K. Sindhuri in Bihar; K. Chandramukhi in West Bengal, K. Badshah in Punjab and K. Chipsiona in U.P. were other important varieties.

-NK Pandey, Rajesh K Rana, Arun Pandit & B Lal

Training & Technology Transfer

Training Programme at Modipuram

A three days training course on potato seed production technologies was organized from 2-4 January, 2007. This training course was sponsored by Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India and aimed at promoting quality seed production in the country.

Inauguration of the training programme

The training was attended by 22 officers from 9 states of the country. It was inaugurated by Dr. B P Singh, Joint Director, CPRI Campus, Modipuram. The officers were trained with the help of well designed lectures and practical demonstrations for quality seed production. Dr. MP Yadav, Vice Chancellor, SVBPUA&T was the chief guest for the valedictory function on the last day of the training programme.
Demonstration of seed treatment

CPRS, Shillong Participated in Farmers Fair

One day farmers’ fair was organized on 20th January 2007 as a part of Meghalaya Day Celebration cum inaugural function of the Year of Farmer (January 2007 to January 2008) by Government of Meghalaya and State Department of Agriculture at Polo ground, Shillong. CPRS, Shillong participated in the fair where more than one thousand farmers from different districts of Meghalaya participated.

In the fair, one hundred exhibition cum sale counter and stalls were put up by different State Agriculture and Horticulture departments, ICAR Institutes, NGOs and Self Help Groups (SHG). There was huge gathering of farmers at the CPRS stall. Farmers showed keen interest in improved potato production, protection and storage technologies and in potato varieties released by CPRS. Free of cost leaflets and extension bulletins were distributed to all the farmers. Honourable Chief Minister, Mr. J. D. Rymbai visited CPRS stall and praised the efforts, various achievements and contribution of CPRS in the region as a whole.

On-farm Farmers’ Training

Three days’ On-farm training on “Improved Potato Cultivation Practices” was organised at Mawniaglah, Mylliem and Laitmysaw village of East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya on 26th to 28th February 2007 under Mini Mission-I Project. All together 120 farmers participated in the training from different villages, viz., Mawniaglah, Sadew, Baniun, Mylliem, Myrkhon, Mawklot, Nongpiur and Laitmysaw. Potato production practices in Meghalaya, in general, are traditional in nature. There is an alarming gap in the level of adoption of various recommended technologies. In order to upgrade the knowledge and skill of the potato growers in Meghalaya and to show them the improved planting method, the training was organised at farmers’ field. Farmers showed keen interest in improved potato cultivation practices like method of planting and use of fertilizer at planting time and they desired to follow the improved cultivation practices demonstrated in the trainings. The training was conducted by Scientists and staff of CPRS, Shillong.

North East Agri. Fair

The North East Agri Fair and National Seminar on Extension Strategies for Optimizing Agricultural Production and Entrepreneurship Development in NE Region were organised at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya on 5th - 7th March, 2007. CPRS, Shillong participated in the fair with a good response from visitors especially from farmers. The fair addressed the need for eco-regional planning to remove poverty and increase production as agriculture is the main occupation of the NE people.

Around 1500 farmers from seven north-eastern states participated in the three days fair. Different research, education, financial and marketing institutes put up stalls to apprise the farming community about the technological and development options for their benefit. Simultaneously, different academicians and extension experts participated in the national seminar organised at the same venue. There was an interactive discussion with the farming community during the seminar to suggest the solutions for the problems faced by the farmers in the region.

During the three day programme a large number of farmers from different states of NE and huge number of farmers of Meghalaya visited the CPRS stall. It was observed that the farmers were very keen to learn about the improved package of practices of potato cultivation and many farmers showed interest on TPS also.

Farmers Training at CPRS, Shillong

A two days’ Farmers’ Training on “Improved Potato Production Techniques” was held at Central Potato Research Station, Shillong from 26th–27th March, 2007 under Mini Mission-I. All together 50 farmers participated in the training programme from different villages, viz., Sanmer, Baniun, Mawklot and Nongpiur. Potato is one of the major crop of Meghalaya. It is well integrated.
in the cropping pattern and the dietary habits of the people of Meghalaya. However, the production practices, in general, are traditional in nature.

Farmers were trained in different aspects, viz., potato varieties and seed and ware production in north-east, diseases and pests and their management, storage techniques and potato production through TPS during the training programme. There was also a practical session to demonstrate the TPS technology. It was observed that the farmers were highly interested to adopt the modern techniques of potato cultivation. The training was given by Drs. PH Singh, VK Chandla, KC Sud and Vinod Kumar from Shimla. Dr. R. Roy Burman, Head, Central Potato Research Station, Shillong facilitated the training programme along with Sh. Dipak Nath, Manoj Kumar, Manab Bikash Gogoi and Bipaul Kumar Das of the Station.

**CPRIC participated in Kisan Mela**

CPRIC Campus, Modipuram participated in 3 days Kisan Mela from 8-10 March, 2007 at SVEPUA & T by putting up a stall and displaying potato production technologies. Package of practices of potato production were displayed with the help of display boards/photographs, specimens and live potato varieties in the stall. CPRIC stall bagged special prize in the Mela among ICAR stalls.

**CPRIC Collaborated with SAIF**

CPRIC, Shimla collaborated with Sophisticated Analytical Instrumentation Facility (SAIF), Panjab University, Chandigarh in the organization of 27th Workshop on Electron Microscopy, January 8-20, 2007. Seventeen participants from various universities, research institutes, industry and colleges participated in the workshop. It was inaugurated at SAIF, Chandigarh on 08.01.2007 by Prof RC Sobti, Vice Chancellor of PU, Chandigarh. Workshop covered various aspects of electron microscopy including applications in bio-medical research. Participants visited CPRIC between 15.1.2007 to 17.1.2007 and were given lectures-cum-practical demonstrations in the immuno-diagnostic applications of electron microscope for the diagnosis of plant viruses particularly potato viruses by Dr. ID Garga, Head and other staff of the Division of Plant Protection, CPRIC, Shimla.

**Trainers Training Organised at CPRS, Jalandhar**

A “Trainers’ training” was organized for the officials of National Seed Corporation (NSC), Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC) Jalandhar and Deptt. of Horticulture, management, nutrient management in crop production, mechanization of production, storage methods and processing. Besides, there were practical demonstration on ELISA testing, storage methods, disease management, potato processing and implements.

**Farmers Training Organized at CPRS, Jalandhar**

A “Farmers training” was organized on 24th March 2007 at CPRS, Jalandhar. About 300 farmers from different parts of Punjab participated in the training programme to acquire knowledge about the improved technologies of potato production. To get the feedback progressive farmers representatives were allowed to present their views. Functioning of the laser leveler was also demonstrated on this occasion.

**Training to Cold Store Owners**

A training programme on “Elevated temperature storage” was organized by PepsiCo India Holding Ltd. for cold store owners of Agra and nearby areas on 22nd April, 2007. The training was attended by 25 cold store owners. Drs. SV Singh and RS Marwaha from CPRIC attended this training programme as experts. The local franchisee of CIPC (UFL), Mr. Vijay Kumar also attended the meeting. The CPRIC experts stressed upon the need to harvest potatoes at the right stage of maturity, proper skin curing in the field and in the heap for healing of bruises, etc. on the potatoes before CIPC treatment and explained the exact method of treatment of CIPC by fogging, dose of CIPC to be used and time of application of CIPC for both short and medium

**Inauguration of the farmers training**

**Trainees of the training programme**

Punjab, Jalandhar from 20-22 March 2007 at CPRS, Jalandhar on potato production and handling. Seventeen officials associated with potato production from New Delhi, Solan, Jalandhar, Etawah and Meerut participated in this programme. The training was organized under the Mega Seed Project. The topics covered during the training were: varietal improvement, breeder’s seed production, INFOCROP model, potato diseases and their

**Participants of the workshop**
dormancy varieties. The discussions were also held on the precautions to be taken at the time of storing the material, CO₂ concentration in the store, methods to measure it and the ways to remove the accumulated CO₂ from the store. The permissible levels of residues of CIPC in the tubers desired for consumption and the minimum time to begin after CIPC treatment after which the tubers should be used for table consumption or for processing were also discussed. The CIPC store owners in general had a chamber capacity of 7,000 bags to 60,000 bags (50 kg capacity). The rent of potatoes for storage in the CIPC stores was about 20 Rs./q higher than the 2.4°C store (cold store). Besides storage, there were enquires about the methods to be followed for obtaining high proportion of large size potatoes in K. Chipsona-1 and the availability of seed of K. Chipsona-3.

On-farm Training on Potato Diseases at Shillong

An on-farm training on the management of potato diseases with special emphasis on late blight and bacterial wilt was conducted during 22nd to 25th May 2007 in East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya. Dr. BP Singh, Joint Director, CPRI, Modipuram and Dr. PH Singh, Principal Scientist, CPRI, Shillong were the resource persons for the training. A total of 162 farmers from Sadew and Banum villages participated at Sadew on 1st day. Similarly, on 2nd day 154 farmers from four villages, viz., Mawklot, Myrkhan, Nongpim and Laitmynaw attended the training at Laitmynaw. On 24th a total of 157 farmers from Myllium village and on 25th, 163 farmers from Mawkhan and Mawniangh village were present in the programme. The farmers were given training with the help of well designed lectures and practical demonstrations about the role of disease free seed, sanitation, resistant varieties, high ridging and earthing up, prophylactic and need based spray schedules and other management practices for late blight, brown rot and other important potato diseases.

Live Phone-in Programme on Doordarshan

The Shimla Doordarshan telecasts live phone-in programme of ‘Krishi Darshan in collaboration with various organizations concerned with agricultural development. In this programme burning issues related to crop, animal husbandry, fishery, etc. are discussed by the expert and the viewers (farmers) put their queries to the studio invited experts by dialing the phone number announced just before the start of the programme. Drs. SK Pandey, PS Naik, VK Chandla, MC Sood, NK Pandey, KC Thakur, VK Dua, Mukesh Jatav and Anil Kumar participated in the programme as experts from CPRI during January to June, 2007 and discussed various aspects of potato production.

CPRI Library and its Activities

CPRI Library the 1st in Asia and 2nd largest library of the world on Potato research and development is continually providing scientific and technical information supports and services towards attainment of research mission of the Institute and acts as a repository and clearinghouse of potato literature and information in the country. This library has distinction of having unique collection of potato Theses submitted throughout the Indian universities and has attained the status of most sought after library of the India for potato R&D. Presently library houses more than 50 thousand documents comprising of books, back volumes of journals, serials, annual reports, theses, standards, maps/atlas, reprints and documents. Besides, library is subscribing 259 journals comprising 162 national and 97 international ones, in addition to agricultural CD-ROM databases like CAB, AGRIS, AGRICOLA & Current Contents on agriculture, environmental and biological sciences. Library has full text search facility for 75 international journals and 1800 plus journals up to abstract level. The library has developed its own web page which has been linked to Institute website (http://cprlernet.in) where different library resources and services like catalogue of books and journals (Online Public Access Catalogue) OPAC, foreign journals, CD net searching, Recent Articles on Potato (RAP) and Current Journals Received. Last Week have been made web enabled to facilitate online desktop access for each scientist of the institute over intranet and internet. The library not only caters information needs of the institute but also provides library information services to neighbouring institutions and generates the revenue.

Important Meetings

Symposium on “A Step towards Brown Revolution with Potato”

To celebrate the Golden jubilee Year of Central Potato research Station (CPRS), Ootacamund, CPRI, Shimla in collaboration with Indian Potato Association (IPA), Shimla organized a one day symposium on “A Step Towards Brown Revolution with Potato” on 19th January, 2007 at Ootacamund. Dr. C. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, was the Chief Guest on the occasion and Dr Sarath Illanganileke, Regional Director, International Potato centre, was the guest of honour. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. SK Pandey.
Director, CPRI and President, IPA, Shimla. The symposium was attended by about 80 delegates from different parts of the country.

This symposium was organized under technical and poster sessions. In technical sessions, seven invited lectures were delivered by eminent scientists working in different fields of potato research and development. The lectures covered a wide range of topics, viz., Use of remote sensing and GIS for management and planning of potato production in India by Dr. KR Manjunath from ISRO, Contract farming and Fritolay's model of contract farming for potato by Dr. Rahul Chaturvedi, Pepsico, Assured food security through sugarcane-potato intercropping in India by Dr. JT Nankan, Aurangabad, Status of potato seed systems in South West Asia by Dr. MS Kadian from CIP-SWCA, Dynamics of nematode management in enhancing potato production by Dr. KS Krishna Prasad of IIHR, Problems and prospects in extending potato cultivation to non-traditional areas by Dr. K Vanangamudi of TNAU and Approaches for breaching yield stagnation in potato by Dr. SK Pandey of CPRI. In the poster session, the posters were screened and the best poster award was also given to the selected presentation. Several recommendations were made during the Symposium which are expected to refine the present potato cultivation and associated activities.

Dr ML Lodha. The members visited CPRI centres, viz., Patna, Ooty and Shillong and AICPIP centres, viz., Hassan, Kota, Deesa, Hisar, Pusa, Kalyani, Faizabad, Raipur, Chhindwara, Pantnagar and Jorhat during the period. The members were accompanied by Dr. SK Pandey, Director, CPRI, Shimla, Dr BP Singh, Joint Director, CIRC, Modipuram and Dr PS Naik, PC, AICPIP at some centres.

IMC Meeting

The IMC meeting was held at CPRI campus on 8-1-2007. Dr SK Pandey, Director, CPRI, Shimla was the chairperson of the meeting. Members who attended the meeting were Dr RP Rai, Head, CPRS Patna, Dr GS Kang, Head CPRS, Jallandhar, Sh Man Singh (Hathras-UP), Sh Devender J Nikam (Puneh-Maharastra), Dr (Smt.) VG Malthi, Principal Scientist, IARI, New Delhi. Sh AK Singh, Senior Administrative Officer, CPRI, Shimla was the Member Secretary. Special invitees in the meeting were Dr BP Singh, Joint Director CPRIC, Modipuram and Smt. Kamlesh Sharma, FAO CPRI, Shimla.

Meeting of Potato Genome Sequencing

Dr SK Chakrabarti, Principal Scientist, Division of Crop Improvement participated in the Potato Genome Sequencing Consortium (PGSC) Workshop held at the Laboratory of Plant Breeding, Wageningen University, The Netherlands from 18-20 April, 2007. PGSC is an international public-sector effort to sequence and annotate the complete 850 Mbp potato genome by 2010. India is participating in the consortium and intends to sequence 61 Mbp chromosome 2 of potato. Partners from USA, Russia, China, India, UK, Poland, Turkey, Ireland, New Zealand, Peru, Brazil, and The Netherlands participated in the workshop.

The workshop imparted training on BAC fingerprinting, construction of physical map of potato chromosome, determination of minimum tiling path, shotgun sequencing of BAC clones, sequence assembly, etc. There was a practical demonstration also on how to search the online integrated map of potato.

Mini Mission-I Meeting held at Palampur

The second annual meeting of Mini Mission-I on Integrated Development of Horticulture was organized at CSK HPKV, Palampur on 12-13th March, 2007 for implementation and monitoring of different programmes. The meeting was attended by all the PIs/Co-PIs. Dr. Jagmohan Singh, Vice Chancellor, University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan was the chief guest of this meeting, which was presided over by Dr. DS Rathore, Vice Chancellor, CSKHPKV, Palampur. The other dignitaries who attended the meeting were Dr. SK Pandey (Nodal Officer MM-I and Director CPRI, Shimla), Dr. Sarjeet Singh (Coordinator MM-I) and Dr. Satish Chander Sharma, Director of Research, CSK HPKV, Palampur. During this meeting the progress of Phase I programmes were discussed in first two sessions and the progress of Phase II was discussed in
session III and IV. Session-I and II was chaired by Dr. Jagmohan Singh, whereas, Session-III and IV was chaired by Dr. DS Rathore. In all, 21 presentations of projects under phase-I and 28 presentations of projects under phase-II were made by the principal and co-principal investigators showing the achievements made in different horticultural crops. The projects were reviewed and suggestions were made for further improvement in the on-going research projects by the various dignitaries present on the occasion.

Invited lectures & Visitors

DDG visits CPRI, Shimla

Dr. HP Singh visited Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla on 10th & 11th February, 2007 just after taking over the onerous responsibility of Deputy Director General (Hort), ICAR. Dr Singh inaugurated the “Seed Village Programme” launched by the Institute on February 10, 2006 at CPRS, Kufri and distributed breeders’ seed to 10 potato growers in the first phase for multiplication into Foundation and Certified Seed under the supervision of the Institute scientists.

During his visit Dr. Singh went around each and every laboratory of the Institute as well as Museum, Library, ATIC, ARIS and Tissue Culture.

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<th>Speaker</th>
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<td>Dr. Smita Sirohi NDRI, Karnal</td>
<td>Issues in Agricultural negotiations under WTO- Indian perspective</td>
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<td>Dr. HP Singh DDG (H)</td>
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<td>Confocal microscopy and its applications</td>
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<td>Dr. SP Tiwari DDG (E)</td>
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<td>Dr. G Korikantimath Director, ICAR Res Complex Goa</td>
<td>Crop diversification and farming systems approach in plantations crops</td>
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<td>Dr. JS Minhas</td>
<td>Global warming</td>
<td>18.5.07</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. R Ezekiel</td>
<td>Evolution-Real or myth</td>
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Scientist meet at CPRI, Shimla

Scientist meet is the regular activity of the Institute, where on Fridays, scientists, technical workers and research associates meet to discuss & deliberate on latest & emerging R & D issues. Following lectures were delivered & discussed in the last 6 months.
Promotions

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<tr>
<td>Khilain Singh</td>
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<td>Partap Singh &amp; Hari Dass</td>
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<td>Rampal Singh</td>
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<td>Mansa Ram</td>
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<td>Babu Ram &amp; Neem Chand</td>
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<td>Jagat Kumar</td>
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<td>Pawan Kumar &amp; Ram Balak Rai</td>
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Transfers

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<tr>
<td>Dr. P Manivel</td>
<td>CPRI Shimla</td>
<td>NRCMAP, Anand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sh. Ashok Kumar</td>
<td>CITH Srinagar</td>
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Retirements

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<tr>
<td>Dr. Bhawani Prasad</td>
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<td>Mrs. Heera Verma</td>
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<td>Sh. Bhoo Ram</td>
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<td>31.03.2007</td>
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<td>Sh. DP Azad</td>
<td>Sr. Clerk</td>
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<td>Sh. Chhote Lal</td>
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<td>Sh. Shet Raj Singh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sh. R. Alagumani</td>
<td>SS Gr. III</td>
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Joining

Dr. S Ramani, Joined as Head, CPRS Shillong on 27.06.2007.

Appointment

Dr. RP Rai, PS appointed as Head, CPRS, Patna on 28.02.2007.

Awards & Honours

Dr. SK Pandey, Director, CPRI has been awarded the prestigious Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award for the biennium 2006-07 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The award has been bestowed upon him for his outstanding achievements and contributions in strengthening and diversification of potato production, storage and utilization for improving productivity and profitability of small farm holdings. The award carries a cash prize of Rupees three lacs (Rs. 3,00,000), a citation and a certificate. This award will be presented to him by the honorable Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar on 16th July on the occasion of Foundation day of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi.

Future Activities

RAC and SRC Meeting

The meetings of research advisory committee (RAC) has been fixed on 25th and 26th of July 2007. The RAC meeting will follow the staff research council (SRC) meeting w.e.f. 27th to 29th of July 2007.

Potato Facts

Are chips the new health food?

Traditional chips are still pretty bad for you. Whereas, the frozen chip is the unlikely recipient of low scores for its levels of fat, saturated fat, sugar and salt.

McCain said its rustic oven chip is the first to score four “green lights” on a new healthy eating labelling scheme, championed by the Food Standards Agency (FSA). The innovation will come as good news to those who resolved to lose weight and eat more healthily in 2007.

Source: Internet

French fries to get Punjabi flavour

CHANDIGARH: A regular complement to the big burger, your favourite French fries will soon taste Indian, rather Punjabi.
Golden potatoes engineered to give beta-carotene boost

A 250 gram serving of “Golden” potatoes, engineered to produce high quantities of the pro-vitamin A beta-carotene, could provide half the recommended daily intake of vitamin A, suggests new research. Writing in the Public Library of Science, researchers from Rome-based Casaccia Research Center and Germany-based Freiburg University report that using the mini-pathway of bacterial origin technique the beta-carotene content of potatoes could be increased 3600-fold.

Source: Internet

Bengal to brand potato varieties

West Bengal will brand its homegrown potato varieties to boost its market in India and abroad. The Potato Development Committee formed by the state has zeroed in on building a Bengal brand, including development of a web site.

Source: Internet

High-energy ionizing treatment for potato sprout control

Sprout control using low doses of ionizing irradiation from Cobalt-60 sources has been extensively evaluated worldwide since the 1960’s. These low doses of irradiation are effective in controlling sprout development for long-term storage providing other storage parameters are maintained. The irradiation dose can also be applied via a linear accelerator where high-energy electrons are substituted for the radioactive cobalt. The electrons easily penetrate the tuber tissue and prevent sprout growth.

Source: Internet

Ukraine: World's oldest man puts it down to potatoes

The world's oldest man, who turned 116 on March 15, puts his longevity down to a diet of potatoes and healthy outdoor living. Hrybyrsy Nestor from the Ukraine is presumed to be the world's oldest living man. His passport, based on Austrian documents, says he was born on March 15, 1891. The Ukrainian attributes his long life to healthy outdoor living, and recommends a diet of potatoes, milk and cheese.

Source: Internet

Scenario of potato production, limitations, opportunities and priorities in West Bengal

Introduction

With per capita highest availability of potato (83 kg/annum), West Bengal with nearly five-fold increase in potato production in last 30 years has emerged as the second largest potato producer in India, accounting for nearly 24% of the area and 30% of the production in the country. Hoogly, West Midnapur, Burdwan and Jalpaiguri are the main potato producing districts accounting for nearly 71% of total production in the State. Though Kufri Jyoti, which has now gone susceptible to late blight, occupies nearly 80% of the area in the State followed by Kufri Pukhraj and the other varieties, slowly processing varieties like Kufri Chipsona-1 and Atlantic are making inroads in potato cultivation in the State following establishment of processing industries like PepsiCo Holdings Pvt Ltd, Pogochips, King Brand Flakes, etc. in the organized sector and several industries in and around big towns in unorganized sector. Several studies on suitability of remunerative cropping systems involving potato as well as varieties for table and processing have been conducted in the last four years. These studies have shown that aman rice-potato-boro rice to be more profitable (11%) than aman rice-potato-sesame cropping system; Kufri Jyoti being the highest yielder and suitable for table purposes, while Kufri Chipsona-2 to be the most suitable for processing.

Suitability of potato varieties grown in West Bengal for processing

In the samples analyzed from potatoes grown in Hoogly, Burdwan, Midnapur West, Bankura and Birbhum from South Bengal and Jalpaiguri and Cooch Bihar of North Bengal for various processing parameters for preparation of chips, French fries, flour, flakes and dehydrated chips showed only Kufri Chipsona-1 and Atlantic to be perfect, while varieties like Kufri Jyoti, Kufri Chandramukhi, Kufri Jawahar and Kachra Bhutan (local variety) produced chips of unacceptable colour. Both Kufri Chipsona-1 and Atlantic gave recovery of over 27% of chips compared to only 20.5 to 23.5% in popular variety Kufri Jyoti. Similarly, recovery of flour was
more (18.2%) from Kufri Chipsona-1 compared to 14.2% in Kufri Jyoti. Dry matter and reducing sugars, the two most important parameters in processing, were above 20% and below 60mg/100gm fresh wt, respectively, in both Atlantic and Kufri Chipsona-1. Both these varieties also had low levels of phenols and free amino acids. For all these important characters, the popular variety Kufri Jyoti as well as other varieties grown in West Bengal failed to meet the required standard. With increasing interest of farmers to grow the processing varieties to meet the requirement of raw material for upcoming processing units in West Bengal, Kufri Chipsona-1 appears to have an edge over American variety Atlantic which is susceptible to late blight.

**Limitations**

Potato in West Bengal is mainly cultivated by small and marginal farmers with very small land holdings. Surveys conducted in districts of Hooghly and Burdwan established the following major impediments in successful and profitable cultivation of potatoes:

- Lack of timely availability of sufficient quantities of good quality seed.
- Un-remunerative market price.
- Inadequate irrigation facilities.
- Non-availability of sufficient credit/bank loans.
- Lack of sufficient cold storage space.
- Malpractices by the traders.
- Some other problems.

**Problems faced by potato growers in West Bengal**

While the seed supplied by the State Department of Agriculture is insufficient to meet the requirement of the State, good quality seed cannot be produced in West Bengal. Therefore, the State is entirely dependent on its seed requirement from North mainly from Punjab thus leading to heavy cost on transportation. Seed potatoes cost as much as Rs.35-40 per kg in some years. The irony is, many a times seed brought from Punjab contains mixture of several varieties and is not even properly graded. To mitigate the high cost, farmers resort to unhealthy practice of planting cut seed at very close spacing. The pernicious practice of buying seed as well as other essential inputs from unscrupulous traders is also a major hurdle for the farmers. Long marketing channel and large number of middle men involved in potato trade corner major share, while farmers get as low as 40% of consumers rupee. Since the poor farmers cannot hold their produce for long as a result they get very low price of their produce at harvest. The traders on the other hand earn as much as 50% of the total price. Lack of irrigation in many areas leaving farmers to the mercy of release of water from canal also leads to late sowing of the crop many a times. Further, the financial capacity of even the medium and large farmers does not permit investment in costly machinery like automatic planter, ridger, digger and graders which even some times are not available in the market. Farmers thus use insufficient and time consuming tools leading to lower production.

Late blight and cut worms particularly in South Bengal are the two important maladies, while delay in soil testing, costly labour, lack of sufficient FYM and awareness about preventive sprays against late blight and above all lack of training about scientific potato production practices adds to the miseries of farmers.
A major problem of potato cultivation is its late planting in most of the areas after 15th November following late harvest of paddy allowing insufficient time for crop. Many a time, this results in harvesting of immature crop as hardly any time is left for haulm cutting and curing with temperatures rising with the onset of summer. This also badly affects the storage of potatoes.

Though West Bengal has capacity to cold store nearly 54% of state's potato production, however, this also often falls short-of and many a time small farmers have to suffer from non-availability of the space in stores due to fictitious booking by cold store owners in connivance with the big farmers.

Post harvest losses are high in West Bengal sometime even reaching to nearly 27% of the produce. These losses occur at different stages of handling, transportation, storage, processing and distribution. In West Bengal since no haulm cutting is done, uncut and immature tubers with soil sticking on them are mostly stored resulting in high magnitude of losses. Immediate storage from high temperatures to low temperatures in the stores also causes physiological break down of the tubers. A big problem in West Bengal is that potatoes are neither sorted nor graded before their storage by the farmers and these un-graded potatoes are used for sale/purchase both by wholesalers and retailers. Use of old gunny bags and stacking of bags one above the other up to the top in cold stores leaving a very small space for potatoes to respire also cause high storage losses.

A common practice of transportation of potatoes by rickshaw, vans and even by bicycle to the cold storage was observed in Hooghly market. This helps in bringing down the post harvest losses compared to long distance transportation by trucks to Kolkata market.

Opportunities

Although, potatoes from WB are sent to neighboring states like Bihar and Assam, but there is lot of scope to send them to other states with low per capita production like Chhattisgarh (2.46), Orissa (2.02), Maharashtra (0.71), Gujarat (0.79) and Rajasthan (0.77) in the west and Karnataka (6.4) and Tamil Nadu (1.21) in the south. West Bengal Government need to promote the village cooperatives to send potato produce to the other states to earn more revenue.

Kolkata being the port city, there are lot of opportunities to export good quality potatoes to the neighboring countries like Sri Lanka, Mynamar, Thailand and Singapore by ships and also to Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh by road.

Several multinational and national level potato industries are operating in the West Bengal, besides, many more are in the pipe line. Government should encourage the local industrialists to set up more processing industries manufacturing starch, flakes and granules and promote cottage level processing for preparing dehydrated products like dehydrated chips, cubes, warris, papads, etc. These industries do not have very stringent tuber quality requirements and can utilize surplus potato of the state by value addition.

All these industries would require large quantities of suitable processing potatoes as raw material. Therefore, there is ample scope to bring more area under the cultivation of processing varieties like Kufri Chipsana-1, Kufri Chipsana-2 and Kufri Chipsana-3 which attract premium price over the table varieties thereby benefiting the farmers.

There are very limited number of cold stores operating at 10-12°C with CIPC for storing processing and table potatoes. The demand for these stores is likely to develop in the near future in WB, because these stores besides saving energy, can provide good quality less sweet potatoes to the consumers from May to November and suitable raw material to the processing industries.

Priorities

The following priorities need immediate implementation for sustainable production and efficient marketing of potato:

• Good quality seed in sufficient quantities need to be made available to the farmers by the government agencies.
• Potato growers need to be imparted training about scientific methods of potato production.
• The crop should be planted by 15th November and harvested before 25th February. In order to avoid delay in planting time of potato, early maturing rice varieties should be grown before potato.
• Whole tubers should be planted as seed. If at all the seed tubers are to be cut into pieces, these should be treated with suitable fungicides so as to protect them from infection.
• Haulm cutting 10-15 days prior to harvest followed by storage in heaps for 10 days with covered straw is advocated for proper setting of tuber skin which will reduce the post harvest losses during storage.
• Potatoes should be harvested at optimum maturity and only after proper curing, wound healing, sorting out for diseased/damaged tubers and grading should be stored in the cold store.
• Harvested potatoes should be pre-stored at 15°C for a short period before the transfer of material to low temperature storage chamber.
• Farmers should be encouraged for cooperative efforts to dig more tube wells.

• An improvement in rural roads is required to reduce the extent of delay in transportation.

• It is necessary to create more cold storage space both for storing seed potato (2-4°C) and table and processing potatoes (10-12°C with CTPC) and make stringent enforcement of laws for smooth running of cold stores.

• Government should accelerate the functioning of potato agri-export zones and make arrangement for export of potato to the neighboring countries.

- RS Marwaha, R Ezekiel, SV Singh, Dinesh Kumar, Ashish Mehta, Parveen Kumar & SK Pandey.

Hindi समाचार

कुकुरी-फारू में किसान मेला

केंद्रीय आयु अनुसंधान केंद्र, कुकुरी-कानू द्वारा पाठ 27 मई 2007 को किसान मेला एवं प्रशिक्षण शिविर का आयोजन किया गया। यह मेले में हिमालय प्रदेश के शिल्प, सौराष्ट्र तथा सिमिन्ड्रिया जिलों से लगभग 400 किसानों ने भाग लिया मेले का उद्घाटन भारतीय कुकुरी और अनुसंधान परिषद के उपसचिव (बागवानी) हों। एच.पी. सिंह ने किसानों तथा समारोह के मुख्य अधिकारियों के रूप में मेले को संबोधित किया। इस उद्घाटन में डॉ। एच.पी. सिंह ने किसानों को सम्बोधित करते हुए कहा कि कृषि श्रेणी में लेनें तो हो रहे बदलाव के मदद से वर्तमान कृषि के प्रशिक्षणक करने का आवश्यकता है। बदली हुई परिस्थितियों में उपलब्ध अवसरों का लाभ उठाने हेतु उन्होंने किसानों को एकजुट होकर कार्य करने की सलाह दी। उन्होंने कहा कि किसानों की आधिक दशा सुधारने के लिए, वैज्ञानिकों एवं अधिकारियों के मिशन के रूप में कार्य करना चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में उन्होंने स्वतंत्र करके "बागवानी मिशन" का कार्यक्रम की भी चर्चा की। उन्होंने अपने कृषि कार्यक्रम की प्रारंभिक अवसरों का उपयोग करके आलू की उत्पादन को और अधिक हासिल करना जा चाहिए। इस अवसर पर मुख्य अधिकारी महोदय ने संस्थान के द्वारा प्रस्तावित को पुरस्कार लिए। उन्होंने किसानों की जीवन की आधारभूत के लिए उन्हें सम्मानित किया।

समारोह के अध्यक्षता करते हुए कुकुरी, हिमालय प्रदेश के निदेशक हों। जे.सी. राग्वान ने कहा कि हिमालय प्रदेश का आलू आग भी सर्वाधिक है जिससे किसानों को अच्छी आग प्राप्त होती है। उन्होंने विविध प्रदेश आलू के उत्पादन पर जोर दिया तथा फसलों के विविधकरण के महत्व को भी उजागर किया। इस अवसर पर बागवानी मिशन, हिमालय प्रदेश के निदेशक हों। गुरू देव सिंह ने देश में भाजाओं जो देश में विविध बागवानी पार्चम की जानकारी दी। इस अवसर पर जानकारी पार्चम की प्रस्तावित क्षेत्र के बारे में विविधता का उत्पादन के बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त करना था जिसे कार्यकर्ता राज्य प्रमाण में भी प्रयोग को तीर पर आयोजित कर दिया। उन्होंने अपनी वित्त अनुसंधान संस्थान में केंद्रीय आयु अनुसंधान संस्थान के निदेशक डा। सुभाष कुमार पार्चव के उत्पादन की उपलब्धियों के बारे में लोगों को जानकारी दी। उन्होंने संस्थान की दिशा निदेशक डा। आलू की तरीकी में तीन अनुसंधान केंद्र हैं।
राज्यपाल के संस्थान भ्रमण

हेतु केंद्रीय आलू अनुसंधान संस्थान के सहयोगी मानी। उस्मानी वह वह कि आराखांड राज्य में आलू एवं इसके शेती को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए हर समय प्रयास करते जारी हैं तथा राज्य के वृत्तान्तिक-जन-साधनों को अधीक्षकों द्वारा दिशा में आगाने का जारी।

संस्थान के निदेशक डा. सुमन कुमार पालडेर ने संस्थान के विभिन्न विभागों एवं शेतकरी के कार्यक्रमों की राज्यपाल महादेव को जानकारी दी। उन्होंने संस्थान की विभिन्न गतिविधियों एवं उपलब्धियों के बारे में भी आदर कराया तथा राज्यपाल महादेव को पूरा सहयोग देने का आश्वासन दिया।

बीज आलू उपादन तकनीक पर किसान प्रशिक्षण कार्यकर्म

केंद्रीय आलू अनुसंधान केंड्र, ग्याललियर में 14 मार्च, 2007 को आलू बीज उपादन तकनीक पर राज्यीय बीज परियोजना के अंतर्गत एक विद्वानों के क्रमश: प्रशिक्षण कार्यकर्म आयोजित किया गया। इस कार्यकर्म की अध्यक्षता दी सी.एस.एस. सुदेर, बांग्लादेश बीजक पत्तन (कूचि), ग्यालियर संस्थान ने की जबकि मुख्य अधिकारी के तौर पर डा. एच.एस. सुकलवाह, अनिश्चित, कृषि महाविद्यालय, सरलियलर एवं संशोधन अधिकारी द्वारा प्रशिक्षण दिया गया जिसमें किसानों को आलू बीज उपादन में प्रयुक्त विभिन्न तकनीक, विभिन्न किस्मों, क्षेत्रों में आलू की प्रमुख बीमारियों, कोट कृषि भी विशेष्यों में दिखाए गए एवं उन्हें प्रक्रिया भ्रमण का आरोप भी किया गया।

संसदीय राज्यमण समिति शिक्षा में

संसदीय राज्यमण समिति की आलू एवं साध्य उपसमिति में शिमला की तीन राज्यमण कार्यस्थल समिति के 30 सदस्य कार्यकर्मियों के विभागों के साथ शिमला के पीटर हार्फ में आयोजित सभा में विचार-विमर्श किया। इस आयोजन में केंद्रीय आलू अनुसंधान संस्थान भी महत्त्व प्राप्त था।

समिति के तीन माननीय संसद संसदीय अनिल बघु, संवेदना, तीनों प्रशिक्षण, संघर्ष गंगवार, सदस्य व शी उद्ध प्रताप सिंह, सदस्य ने 30 मई, 2007 को संस्थान का दौरा किया।

संस्थान के निदेशक डा. सुमन कुमार पालडेर ने उन्हें संस्थान में भी रो हो अनुसंधान कार्यों की जानकारी दी। समिति ने संस्थान में हो रहे कार्यों की रचना करते हुए हिंदी पत्रकार को बड़े लोकों का सुनाव दिया।

हान हिंदी कार्यकर्मियों में भारतीय परिसंचरण द्वारा प्रशिक्षण के आयोजन पर इस वर्ष केंद्रीय हिंदी प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, गांधी वाला के 5 पूर्ण कार्य विशेष धारक हिंदी कार्यकर्मियों में सामान्य लेने के लिए ग्यालियर केंड्र के शी संजय दुरार भाषा, श्री राजेंद्र सिंह व पलना केंड्र के शी हरिकुमार सेन तथा गांधी वाला केंड्र की श्रीमती संघीय कलिया को नामित किया गया।

हिंदी में कम्प्यूटर प्रशिक्षण

राज्यमण विभाग द्वारा राज्यीय सूचना केंड्र, एच.एच.टी.अ.आई. और सी.डी.के के माध्यम से संस्थान के उत्तरी केंड्र की श्रीमती ए.एम. लक्ष्मी, निजी संस्थान, श्रीमती तारा, श्रीमती आई. शी. धर्मशाल, सहायक व श्रीमती एम. राणी, बरिशल फिलेटर ने राजमार्ग: तितरमार्ग, निमों व बंगलुरु में आयोजित 5 पूर्ण कार्यस्थल कम्प्यूटर प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में माहिति लिया। इस प्रशिक्षण में भाग लेने के उपरांत विशिष्ट तीर्थ पर बैठक में दिखाई देने पर भी उत्तरी केंड्र के हिंदी में उपाध्याय करने का योग्य प्रमाण दिया जा रहा है। यह सराहनीय है।

एक छात्र की नींव प्रशासन

संस्थान के मुख्यालय के विभागीय प्रशिक्षित ब्लॉक में संस्थान के सभी प्रशिक्षित ने कार्य करने सुरक्षा करते हैं। इस ब्लॉक में कम्प्यूटरों/आयुर्विज्ञानमें के बैठने व सलाहं रूप से स्वच्छ व्यवस्था में काम करने की आधुनिक व्यवस्था है। इस ब्लॉक में हरताल ब्लॉक कार्यालय के असिस्टेंट डायरेक्टर व भाग्य बैरियों के कार्य, भाग्य पत्तियु व मोजिल पर विशेष प्रशासनिक अधिकारी, समिति का श्री महादेव अनुभाग के बैठने की व्यवस्था है। तस्वीर मॉजिल पर शाखायाचे, महानगरीय एवं समाज व राज्यमण तथा तीसरी मॉजिल.
सामाजिक सदृशता अभियान

हर वर्ष की भाति इस वर्ष भी संस्था वर्ष के क्षेत्रों में सामाजिक सदृशता अभियान संचालित करने की व्यवस्था की गई। राष्ट्रीय संस्था और अन्य स्थानीय अभियान ने संघर्ष के सहकार एवं नवीन संघर्ष को प्रचारित किया।

शिमला में खेत दिवस आयोजित

केंद्रीय आयु अनुसंधान संस्था, शिमला द्वारा बिश्व शिमला जिले के खेतियाँ भारत में एडि 12.6.2007 को एक खेत दिवस के आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में द. के.एयर, धीमन, अध्यक्ष, केंद्रीय आयु अनुसंधान केंद्र, गुफरी, द. शी.के. चंडला, भारत १२५, भारत नींद संस्थान सम्बंधित, द. डेसी. सूद, प्राचीन वैज्ञानिक, फसल उपयोग संगठन, द. एन. के. पार्श्वेय, अध्यक्ष, सामाजिक विशाल संगणं एवं द. आगल कुमार, विश्व वैज्ञानिक, कृषि प्रारंभ द्वारा आयु द्वारा विश्व दिवस संगठन रक्षाक विषयों पर व्याख्यात प्रतिवेदन किया गया। जो भी अवसर पर विवरण को वर्णन करने एवं वैदिक मिश्रण की विद्वान के भाषा में विषयों का विवरण दिया गया। यह अवसर पर दिवस को कहते के कमांड एवं शोध विषयों की विज्ञान की भाषा में विषयों का विवरण दिया गया। यह अवसर पर दिवस को कहते के कमांड एवं वैदिक मिश्रण की विज्ञान की भाषा में विषयों का विवरण दिया गया।