



S.K. PATTANAYAK
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय
कृषि, सहकारिता एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation
& Farmers Welfare

MESSAGE

It is a matter of great pleasure that **1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress (IAC 2016)** is being organized in New Delhi, India from 6-9 November, 2016. India is an agrobiodiversity rich country where farmers are engaged in diverse agricultural systems and farming situations to meet the local demand and also cater to the domestic and international market. Government is promoting both on-farm and off-farm activities, including farmers' rights and public-private partnerships for pushing a dynamic evolution of Indian agrobiodiversity *vis-à-vis* trade in agriculture. I am happy that the Congress will provide opportunity to also share corresponding experiences and concerns of other countries.

I am happy to note that eminent researchers like Prof. M.S. Swaminathan and Dr. R.S. Paroda are the torch bearers of this important initiative. I compliment the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, the Bioversity International, ICAR, PPV&FRA and all other agencies jointly organizing the 1st Agrobiodiversity Congress.

I wish IAC 2016 a grand success.

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S.K. Pattanayak