



सुदर्शन भगत
SUDARSHAN BHAGAT

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कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण
राज्य मंत्री
भारत सरकार
MINISTER OF STATE
FOR AGRICULTURE &
FARMERS WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

Traditionally, farmers, pastoralists and fisher folks are the primary users, generators and conservers of genetic resources. They have an intricate knowledge of genetic resources and use a variety of strategies to manage them to suit their needs. For resource-poor farmers in difficult ecosystems, this knowledge provides livelihood security, since mainstream hybrids and varieties often fail in harsh conditions. With such immense importance of genetic resources, it is very heartening to know that the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources and Bioersity International has planned to host the 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress: Science, Technology, Policy and Partnership (IAC 2016) in collaboration with other partners. India is an agrarian country with an extremely rich legacy of agrobiodiversity. I do hope that the outcome of this event would result in a roadmap that would enrich the lives of farmers and addressing the pressing issue of food and nutrition security of the ever-increasing global population in an era of climate change.

I wish the organizers great success and extend my best wishes to all the delegates of IAC 2016.

(Sudarshan Bhagat)

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