

First Circular

**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
AGRIBUSINESS
POTENTIAL OF MANIPUR**

on 27th and 28th February 2019
at Manipur Technical University, Imphal

Organised By

**Indian Society of Agricultural Marketing
Hyderabad
and
Manipur Technical University
Imphal**

Themes for the Seminar

- I. Status of Agri-marketing and agribusiness of Manipur
- ii. Success stories, innovations and development models in the areas of horticulture, livestock, fisheries, sericulture, forest produce and organic farming
- iii. Policy options to augment the economic contribution of agri-marketing and agribusiness

Concept

Manipur is predominantly a rice growing state (80 % of the cultivated area). The State is blessed with suitable Agro climatic endowments, which can support a number of horticultural and plantation crops which can give higher returns to the farmers. There are other high value crops such as ginger, turmeric, walnut etc. are grown in the state. Some of the commercial crops grown in Manipur are raw silk varieties such as eri, muga and tasar, oilseeds and sugarcane which are very essential for enhancing the growth of agro-based industries in the state of Manipur. Passion fruit and mushrooms have now attained special significance in the agro-economy of the state. Similarly, bamboo shoots, medicinal and aromatic plants, pineapple contribute to the farm economy. Cultivated varieties mainly the white button mushroom including pleurotus and volvariella can be marketed either in form of dehydrated, canned or pickled form. Products from bamboo shoots and lotus roots are novel products for which there is scope for export. Dried bamboo shoots have potential for interstate marketing. More-over there is good market for this in hotels, restaurants and clubs. The products have thus indicated the commercial possibilities in the country where the canned products are becoming increasingly prohibitive. Many vegetables such as French bean, Cucurbits, Tomatoes, Brinjal, Bhindi, Colocasia, Alocasia, capsicum, broccoli, lettuce, radish are grown in the state. King Chilli is an important crop in Manipur. Over 2 lakh hectares of land suitable for horticulture crops is still left untapped. The state has a fruit preservation and manufacturing factory at Mantripukhri, near Imphal, trademarked as MAGFRUIT. In the valley region, fruits such as papaya, banana, mango, jackfruits, guava, walnut, palm, lime, arecanut, pomegranates, apricot etc. are grown abundantly. The State has vast potential of fisheries resources such as ponds, tanks, natural lakes, marshy areas, swampy

areas, rivers, submerged cropped land, low lying paddy fields etc. The largest source of fish is the Loktak Lake. The swamp areas can be profitably utilized for culture of various indigenous fishes like Ukabi (*Anabas tesdudineus*), Ngamu (Lata fish), Ngaton (*Labeo bata*) etc. Even with high potential, the state imports fish from the main land. The main categories of livestock reared in Manipur are cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, pig, etc. Cattles and buffaloes provide motive power in wet cultivation. Rearing of pigs and poultry farming are found to be very important sources of income generating activities. The farmers in the state perform livestock rearing with a view of sustainable development & self sufficiency in livestock products. But there is still a huge gap between demand and supply of these livestock products in the state. Farmers should be organised to diversify to commercial and high value crops to improve their economy. In the areas growing spices, fruits and vegetables, value addition through primary processing should be encouraged. Farmer Producer Companies need to be promoted in the state. There are initiatives to establish agri-export zone in for passion fruit. India's "Look East" Policy and several new measures taken by both the Central and State Governments to promote and enhanced trade link with SE Asia, provide Manipur with a competitive advantage. In recognition of the potential of Moreh, the Government of India has notified an ICP at Moreh.

Looking at the vast potential of agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, livestock and forest produce in the state, paper writers may focus on their economic role and value addition, keeping the objective to augment the farm economy through agribusiness.

PARTICIPATION

All individuals and institutions concerning technology, credit, marketing and processing of agricultural produce of Manipur may participate in the seminar.

About the submission of papers for presentation and discussion at the seminar:-

- a. Papers should be original in their findings and prepared exclusively for the seminar
- b. Papers should not normally exceed ten pages , typed in double space on one side of A- 4 size paper.

- c. All papers should have the summary , strictly not more than in 200 words
- d. Papers should bear the title below which name and addresses of the authors. All text/figures / graphs should be in black and white.
- d. Two hard Copies of the paper, along with a soft copy in word file through CD or email should reach the Society Office at Hyderabad, positively before 31st December, 2018.
- e. Only one paper will be accepted from each author, on any one of the themes.
- g. Papers supported by data will only be considered for the seminar.
- h. Papers running beyond 10 pages, and with long summaries, not relevant to the themes, and submitted beyond the due date will be summarily rejected.
- j. Communication of acceptance of papers for the conference will be sent to the respective senior authors well in advance.
- k. All correspondence regarding the submission of the papers for the Conference should be addressed to the Secretary and Managing Editor of the Society at Hyderabad.
- l. Details of the Seminar schedule will be provided in the second circular issued by the Local Organising Secretary , Ms. G. C. Sapna, Assistant Professor (Economics for Engineers), Manipur Technical University. Imphal, email sapnarose2001@yahoo.com Phone: 08416066166.

(T. SATYANARAYANA)

Secretary and Managing Editor
Indian Society of Agricultural Marketing
PJTS Agricultural University Campus
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030
email: secretary.isam.ngp@gmail.com
Phone; 040 24014884; Mob: 8333836351

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Hyderabad-500 030

