



The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University, Jharkhand

Press Release

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Seminar on 'Creating a Sustainable Road Map for FPOs in India' held at ICFAI University

A two days National Seminar on "Creating a Sustainable Road Map for FPOs in India" was conducted at ICFAI University, Jharkhand. Guests of Honour that were present at the inaugural session included Dr. Onkar Nath Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Birsa Agricultural University, Dr. G. Narendra Kumar, Director General, National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad, Dr. Amar KJR Nayak, Professor, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar and Sri Subrat Kumar Nanda, General Manager, NABARD, Ranchi Regional Office. A number of research papers were presented during the seminar. The best paper award went to Dr Sangappa and Ms Manue Sri Sandhya, from Indian Institute of Millet Research.

Welcoming the participants during the Inaugural Session, Prof O R S Rao, Vice Chancellor of the University said, "Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, contribution of agriculture to GDP increased from 17.8% in 2019-20 to 19.9% in 2020-21. In order to sustain this momentum, it is essential to increase the farmers' income substantially so as to make agriculture profitable. Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO) can be game changer to transform Indian agriculture by reducing cost of inputs, improving farm productivity and enhancing price realizations." Referring to the FPO impact study reports by PWC and TARINA, he said, "While the FPOs set up so far, benefited the farmers, there is need to improve the functioning of the FPOs by making it more attractive for farmers to join them and improving leadership of FPOs, by drawing lessons from co-operative movements in milk and sugar".

Highlighting the success of India in becoming a country with surplus of food grains, Dr. Onkar Nath Singh said, "Jharkhand has tremendous potential to triple farmers' income by scaling up production of Agri products like fruits, vegetables and Tusar Silk, through collective efforts." Dr. G. Narendra Kumar, DG, NIRD & PR impressed on the participants on the importance of nurturing leadership among the members of the FPO in order to sustain the FPO movement. Dr. Amar KJR Nayak, focused on enhancing the transaction efficiencies by better design of farm products and services, coupled with more intense social connections and business interactions.

Explaining the efforts of NABARD to ensure success of FPOs in Jharkhand, Sri Subrat Kumar Nanda said, "NABARD has linked the FPOs NABKISAN for better credit linkage and plan to link with APEDA and ENAM for information sharing on important aspects like pricing. We are keen to work with partners like ICFAI University for consulting projects and capacity building for leadership".

During the valedictory session, Swami Antaranadanji, Asst Secretary, Rama Krishna Mission Ashram highlighted the need for the FPO members to work with values. Dr Arun Kumar, Director, ICAR, Eastern Region and Dr Ramesh Mittal, Director, NIAM, Jaipur also addressed the valedictory session.

Prof Arvind Kumar, Registrar, proposed Vote of Thanks. Faculty members of Faculty of Management Studies, led by Dr. Bhagabat Barik, Asst Dean, co-ordinated the seminar.

About the ICFAI University Jharkhand: The ICFAI University, Jharkhand (IUJ) belongs to the ICFAI University Group (IUG), which pioneered Professional Education in India. More details on IUJ can be found by visiting its website at www.iujharkhand.edu.in or its Face Book page at www.facebook.com/icfaijharkhand.