

## Press Note

Celebrating the International Millets Year 2023, Dr Himanshu Pathak, DG ICAR and Secretary Dare inaugurated the Dosa King outlet, a startup by Agricultural graduates from UAS Dharwad, at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa Campus near Mother Dairy on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 in the august presence of Dr SK Chaudhari, DDG (NRM), Dr Joykrushna Jena, DDG (Fisheries), Dr DK Yadav, ADG (Seeds), Dr Ashok Kumar Singh, Director, IARI, Dr RN Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), Dr Anupama Singh, Joint Director (Education), Dr V. Chinnaswami, Joint Director (Research) and other esteemed dignitaries.

Dr AK Singh welcomed all the dignitaries and briefed about different programmes to be carried out in IARI to celebrate International Millets Year 2023. He also announced that IARI will soon be celebrating food festival at IARI which will be exclusively dedicated to different food items prepared with millets and will involve scientists, their families and students of the institute.

Earlier Dr DK Yadav (ADG, Seeds) highlighted the importance and role of millets in maintaining the health of human beings. He also pointed that after green revolution the area under millet cultivation reduced drastically that accounted for 40-50% reduction. But as the millets are full of nutrition, so we need to promote millets production. He highlighted and appreciated the efforts of different ICAR institutes especially IIMR, Hyderabad in improvement and development of different varieties of millets. He also said that we need to make the millets popular among the youth by telling them the benefits of nutrition and benefits of these foods.

Dr SK Chaudhari, DDG (NRM) highlighted the foresightedness of our ancestors regarding land use and said that the millets had been integral part of our food. But as the area under irrigation increased, people migrated towards cereals and millet production took backseat. But the millets are necessary to develop the immunity and maintain our health so we need to promote millet production.

Dr Himanshu Pathak, DG ICAR and Secretary Dare in his address highlighted that the millets need to be popularized like other fast foods at international level by doing value -addition to millets and their products. He also said that we should have at least one dish made of millets in our plate daily. He gave best wishes to Mr Dhruva, the owner of Dosa King outlet for his start up and appreciated his efforts to start as entrepreneur and being the motivation for young fellows.





