

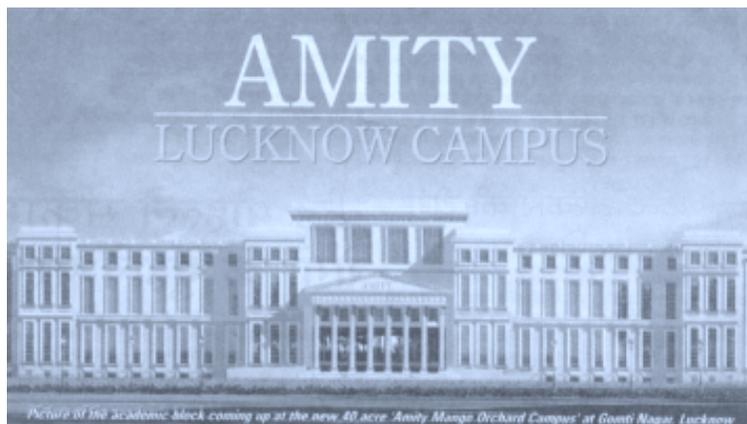
# **Announcement**

**AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (INDIA)**

## **16<sup>th</sup> Annual AERA Conference**

### **Changing Market Environments and Supply Side Constraints in Indian Agriculture**

**21-23 November, 2008**



*Organised by*

**Amity School of Rural and Agriculture Management (ASRAM)  
Amity University, Lucknow Campus  
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**

## About the Association

**Agricultural Economics Research Association (India)**, a registered society which came into being in 1987, has on date more than 580 life members, 50 ordinary members, 90 institutional members and 15 honorary life members from all over the country and abroad. The mandate of the Association is to promote the study of agricultural economics in particular and socio-economic problems in general. The Association has been regularly publishing a six-monthly research Journal “*Agricultural Economics Research Review*” since 1988. Besides refereed research articles, abstracts of M.Sc. and Ph.D. theses in agricultural economics are also published in the Journal. The Association has been successfully organizing national conferences regularly on topical policy issues, the proceedings of which are published. The Association undertakes sponsored research studies also. Over the years, the Association has attained a wide visibility and professional credibility. The official journal of the Association, namely, *Agricultural Economics Research Review* has been highly rated (3 points out of maximum 4) by National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi.

### Address for Correspondence:

Secretary  
Agricultural Economics Research Association (India)  
National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research  
Dev Prakash Shastri Marg  
Pusa, New Delhi 110012, India  
Email: aeraindia@gmail.com

### Membership Tariffs (annual)

Particulars	Print copy	E-publication	Print + Online (E-publication)
Institutional Membership	Rs 1000/-	Rs 1000/-	Rs 1500/-
Individual Membership	Rs 300/-	Rs 300/-	Rs 450/-
Student Membership	Rs 250/-	Rs 250/-	Rs 375/-
Life Membership	Rs 3000/-	Rs 3000/-	Rs 4500/-
Overseas (Institutional)	US \$ 100	US \$ 100	US \$ 200
Overseas (Individual)	US \$ 50	US \$ 50	US \$ 100
Overseas (Life membership other than institutions)	US \$ 500	US \$ 500	US \$ 1000

### Executive Committee

President : Dr S.S. Acharya  
Vice President(s) : Dr Mruthyunjaya, Dr V.P.S. Arora and Dr H S Vijay Kumar  
Secretary : Dr P. K. Joshi  
Treasurer : Dr P. Kumar  
Joint Secretary : Dr B. C. Barah and Dr R. P. Singh  
Members : Dr Alagumami, Dr Mundinamani, Dr R.S. Tripathi, Dr Virendar Kumar,  
Dr A. Suresh, Dr V. Thorat, Dr R. P. Singh, Dr S. Mandel

### Editorial Board

Chief Editor : Dr K. C. Hiremath  
Managing Editor : Dr Praduman Kumar  
Members : Dr (Mrs) Anuva Saikia, Dr U.K. Pandey, Dr D. K. Marothia,  
Dr P. G. Chengappa, Dr R. L. Shiyani, Dr Suresh Pal, Dr Karam Singh,  
Dr V. C. Mathur, Dr K. Palanisamy  
Foreign Members : Dr R. C. Agarwal, Dr Suresh Babu

## About the Conference

Agriculture sector in India is undergoing rapid transformation. Increasing per capita income and urbanization; increasing population, changing consumer's tastes and preferences; altering national and global business environment and increased liberalization and integration with the global economy are some of the factors that are catalyzing this transformation in the agriculture sector. Consequently, the contours of Indian agriculture have been changing over time and have been steadily diversifying towards high-value commodities like fruits and vegetables, livestock and fisheries products. The changing nature of agriculture accompanied with the changing market regime is influencing the nature of agricultural markets and trade considerably. Different technological requirements and the need for inputs and other supports services for accelerating agricultural growth and development have cropped up. Several policy initiatives have been taken to respond to these changing needs. Many innovative institutional frameworks have evolved in the delivery of technologies, inputs and other supportive services. Amendments in the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Acts, introduction of Integrated Food Law 2006, and emergence of contract farming arrangements and organized retail chains are some of the policy responses which will significantly influence the supply side requirements for Indian agriculture.

While new emerging market opportunities are becoming more and more demanding for agricultural and food products, the production pattern is not able to respond due to various reasons. There has been a trend of deceleration in agricultural growth, which has serious implications for food security, farmers' income and rural poverty. The stagnating/decelerating productivity growth and decreasing resource-use efficiency in agriculture have raised serious questions on the resilience of the agriculture sector to meet the challenges of a more market-driven and competitive regime. The performance of agriculture is influenced by a number of factors like infrastructure (road, markets, irrigation, etc.), technology, inputs, price environments and institutions, besides agroclimatic factors.

The emerging market regimes, particularly after 1991, are offering several opportunities as well as posing challenges for agricultural growth and development. The situations being faced by the farmers presently are more complex in nature. Further, more than 80% of agricultural holdings in India are of less than 2 ha in size. How would these small and marginal farmers be integrated with the process of agricultural growth and development as a result of integration of markets due to globalization and liberalization? How would they adapt to the changing technological development and cope with the new institutional environments, the majority of which are market-driven? Improving the viability of small farm holdings and enhancing the competitiveness of small holders by improving access to new technology, inputs, credit, and insurance through appropriate institutional framework still remain a critical challenge. In the changing market environments, the behaviour of supply side constraints in Indian agriculture also needs a critical appraisal. Viable strategies and approaches for ensuring adequate and efficient supply of inputs and services for accelerated agricultural growth and development are going to be quite challenging. In this backdrop, the following sub-themes will be discussed in the ensuing conference:

### Sub-themes of Conference

1. **Technology status:** Regional analysis of adoption, pre-requisites for adoption of different technologies and their relationship with agricultural performance, innovations required for better performance, new emerging technologies and their potential.
2. **Agricultural inputs and services (seed, feed, fertilizer, credit, irrigation, plant protection services, animal breeding services, veterinary health services, supply of fish seeds, insurance, etc.):** Availability, role in productivity enhancement, gaps in input supply and demand, required innovations for better technology adoption, extension education; future demand for support services based on the emerging trends and strategies for meeting the gap.

3. **Institutional mechanisms for delivery of inputs and services:** Strengths and weaknesses of different mechanisms of delivery systems like public sector funded and public sector delivered; public sector funded but delivered by the NGO or private sector; private sector funded and delivered; cooperative model; contract farming and its implications for input supply, linkages between markets and farmers through private corporate sector and risk sharing.
4. **Investments and subsidies:** Trends in public and private investments, subsidies on inputs supply and services; national/sub-national, regional pattern and its relationship with agricultural development; changing profile of investment portfolio, particularly after the initiation of new economic reform measures; implications of withdrawal of input subsidies; and price support programme.
5. **Changing marketing scenario:** Innovations in agricultural marketing, trends in agricultural retailing, new formats evolved, commodity markets and future marketing, success of various formats, public-private partnership, policy support and requirements and their implications for mitigating supply side constraints; and trends in profitability of agriculture, farmers' incomes, and terms of trade.

The delineation of sub-themes is indicative and suggestive rather than restrictive. The contributors can focus on any one or a combination of more than one group of issues listed so long as the paper remains within the prescribed size limit of 15 pages.

**Last Date and Mode of Submission of Papers:** 30 August, 2008

Research papers (in duplicate) typed in double space and accompanied invariably by a summary not exceeding 200 words along with a floppy (MS Word) may be sent to the *Secretary, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NCAP), Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa, New Delhi-110012 before 30 August, 2008*. The soft copies should also be sent at [aeraindia@gmail.com](mailto:aeraindia@gmail.com). The length of the paper should not exceed 15 pages in double space 12 point font, including tables, annexures, etc. Selected papers in full and Abstracts of all other recommended papers will be published in the Conference Issue of the Journal, *Agricultural Economics Research Review*.

#### **Dr D.T. Doshi Awards**

It may be noted that **two prizes (1st and 2nd)** instituted by Dr. D. T. Doshi Foundation, Pune, will be awarded to the best presentation of submitted papers (papers submitted only in abstract form are not eligible) during the annual conference. The presentations should preferably be in power point. Dr. Doshi Foundation also awards **two prizes** every year to the best articles published in the *Agricultural Economics Research Review*. Members are advised to take advantage of these initiatives.

#### **Venue and Date of Conference**

**Date:** 21-23 November 2008.

**Venue:** Amity University, Lucknow Campus, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

#### **Boarding & Lodging**

Participants are requested to report at the Reception Counter located at the University Guest House. They will be provided accommodation in the University Hostel. Delegates will also be received at the airport/bus stand/railway station, if informed earlier. The reception camp will be functional during 21-23 November, 2008.

#### **Climate**

The winter weather of Lucknow starts from October and lasts till February. During November, Lucknow has very pleasant weather with temperatures ranging between 18 and 28 °C. The participants are expected to bring light warm clothing during November.

### Registration Fee

Members	:	Rs. 700/-	each
Non-members	:	Rs. 1,000/-	each
P.G. students	:	Rs. 500/-	each
Accompanying Persons	:	Rs. 500/-	each

Members must send the Registration form by the end of October, 2008 to make the necessary arrangements.

### Correspondence may be addressed to:

#### **Prof. R.P Singh**

Director

Amity School of Rural and Agriculture Management (ASRAM) and  
Organizing Secretary, 16th Annual Conference of AERA (India)

Amity University, Lucknow Campus

5 Viraj Khand, Gomti Nagar

**Lucknow 226 010**

Phones: (0522) 2720971-74, 2721931-32 Extn. 291

Cell No. 09935754970

E-mail: rpsingh@lko.amity.edu

### About Amity University

**The Amity University:** About 15 years back, the university was established under the aegis of Ritnand Balved Education Foundation, a non-profit educational trust. Today, in India, it is one of the leading educational institutions in the private sector, spread over 18 campuses, and has more than 35,000 students pursuing over 130 programmes. Hi-tech Lucknow campus of Amity University, operational from August 2004 brings the global standard in education and modern residential facilities to give students a 'home away from home' experience.

Amity has been ranked No. 1 private B-School in India and South Asia. Amity is passionate about grooming leaders who are not only thorough professionals but also good human beings with values and sanskars. It has **Rich Intellectual Capital** (2,500 strong faculty led by 11 former Vice Chancellors, former Chairman of UGC and Vice Chairman of AICTE with leading corporate professionals, as visiting faculty). It is India's first wireless campus with over 4,000 networked HP/IBM machines. Amphitheatre style, air-conditioned classrooms and state-of-the-art labs act as training grounds for budding professionals. Modern Auditoriums are platforms for regular corporate events. It has **Excellent Residential Facilities. Modernity Blends with Traditions:** Supreme emphasis is laid on providing the most modern and sophisticated learning environment along with Indian heritage, value system and sanskars. Finally, at Amity "**Talent is Nurtured**".

## **Programme**

### **Day 1: 21 November, 2008**

- 0900:1000 Registration
- 1000:1130 Inaugural Function
- 1130:1200 Inaugural Tea
- 1200:1330 Technical Sessions
- 1330:1430 Lunch
- 1430:1730 Technical Sessions
- 1800:2000 Executive Committee Meeting
- 2100:2200 Dinner

### **Day 2: 22 November 2008**

- 0900:1030 Technical Sessions
- 1030:1100 Tea
- 1100:1330 Technical Sessions
- 1330:1400 Lunch
- 1400:1600 Symposium
- 1600:1630 Tea

### **Day 3: 23 November 2008**

- 0900:1000 Valedictory Session
- 1000:1130 General Body Meeting of AERA
- 1130 Tea

### **AGENDA for General Body Meeting**

1. To approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Body Meeting held on 25-26 October, 2007 at College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad (Karnataka).
2. To approve the reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Association for the Year 2007-2008, as approved by the Executive Committee.
3. To elect office bearers of the Association for the next year.
4. To finalize a new Editorial Board for the Journal.
5. To decide about honorary Life Membership of the Association.
6. To finalize topic for next year's AERA conference.
7. To decide the venue for the next AERA conference.
8. Any other item with the permission of the Chair.
9. Vote of thanks

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

**Agricultural Economics Research Association (India)**

**Theme: Changing Market Environments and Supply Side Constraints in  
Indian Agriculture**

**21-23 November, 2008**

**Amity School of Rural and Agriculture Management (ASRAM)  
Amity University, Lucknow Campus, Lucknow-226 010, Uttar Pradesh**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (O): \_\_\_\_\_ (R) \_\_\_\_\_ (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation needed (Please Tick)

From Organizers \_\_\_\_\_ Your Own \_\_\_\_\_

No. of accompanying members \_\_\_\_\_

	Name	Relation
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____

Arrival Information

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Expected time: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Information

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Expected time: \_\_\_\_\_

Place:

Date:

Signature

*Note:* Members are requested to send their Registration Form by **15th November 2008** to **Prof. R.P Singh**, Director, Amity School of Rural and Agriculture Management (ASRAM) and Organizing Secretary, 16th Annual Conference of AERA (India), Amity University, Lucknow Campus, 5 Viraj Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow 226 010, Uttar Pradesh