



GLIMPSES

32nd International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) Seed Congress-2019

June 26 - July 03, 2019
Hyderabad, Telangana State



Organised by
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation
Government of Telangana

in collaboration with
**International Seed Testing Association
(ISTA)**
Switzerland

with the support of
**Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation
and Farmers Welfare**
Government of India

International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)

International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) is an inter-governmental organisation established in 1924 at Zurich, Switzerland. ISTA develop, adopt and publish standard procedures for sampling and testing of seeds and provides standards for domestic & international seed trade.

ISTA standards have been adopted across the world including India to ensure the supply of quality seeds to the farming community. Currently, 81 countries around the world are the members of ISTA.

Around the world ISTA has international community of approximately 400 experienced, competent and energetic seed scientists and analysts. ISTA is committed to developing seed standards and promoting uniform application of these standards for domestic and international seed trade.

ISTA works in coordination with the international organisations like FAO, UPOV, OECD, ISF etc.

Mission of ISTA is to work together to achieve 'Uniformity in seed quality testing worldwide' by:

- Internationally agreed rules for seed sampling and testing;
- Accreditation of seed testing laboratories;
- Promotion of Seed Science Research;
- Provides trainings and disseminates knowledge in seed science and technology
- Facilitate seed trade at nationally and internationally and also contributes to global food security.

ISTA is managed and directed by a nine members Executive Governing Board, who are the representatives of the government from different countries across the World.



ISTA conducts Seed Congress once in 3 years to provide a global platform for exchange of knowledge in seed related aspects by involving world renowned stake holders from public and private seed industry. ISTA Seed Congress has been conducted in Europe, America, New Zealand and Australia.

The 32nd edition of ISTA Seed Congress was held in Hyderabad, Telangana State, India for the first time in Asia.

Inaugural Ceremony



Inauguration of 32nd ISTA Congress by **Shri Kailash Choudary**, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, **Shri S. Niranjan Reddy**, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Telangana, **Shri Md. Mahamood Ali**, Hon'ble Minister for Home, Prisons, and Fire Services, Government of Telangana, **Shri Gutta Sukendar Reddy** Chairman Raithu Samanvaya Samithi, Telangana State and other officials from Government of India, Government of Telangana, ISTA and ICRISAT at HICC, Novotel, Hyderabad.



Shri Kailash Choudary, Honourable Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India address the gathering regarding the importance of seed in agriculture and the Indian Seed Industry. He also commended the role of ISTA and thanked the Government of Telangana for organising the ISTA Seed Congress as a global event that would helps to strengthen the Indian seed sector.

Shri S. Niranjan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Cooperation, Marketing and Civil Supplies, Govt. of Telangana Stressed on the Telangana State initiatives for farmers welfare and seed sector development and also informed that conducive weather conditions for quality seed production and presence of several national and international agriculture research institutes, Public Seed Organizations and more than 400 seed companies are making Telangana a global destination for seed production



Shri Md. Mahamood Ali, Hon'ble Minister for Home, Prisons, and Fire Services, Government of Telangana emphasised the importance of seed, agriculture, Telangana agriculture and the seed Industry. He also informed that Indian seed industry today is one of the leading seed industries in the world and producing all most all kind of seeds for domestic as well as international market owing to its geographical and climatic advantages.



Shri Sanjay Agarwal, IAS, Secretary (Agriculture), Government of India thanked ISTA for providing this unique opportunity to host the 32nd edition of ISTA Congress in India for the first time in Asia. He stated that quality seed being a carrier of technology is inevitable to meet the challenges of food and nutritional security for the ever-growing global population

Shri Parthasaradhi, IAS, APC & Principal Secretary to Govt. Govt of Telangana, stated that Government of Telangana has brought several policy reforms to strengthen public seed organisations and also encouraging private seed industry to produce and supply quality seeds to farming community.



670 delegates from around 75 countries including policy makers, scientists, researchers, representatives of international organisations like International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), International Union for Protection of Plant Varieties (UPOV), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Seed Federation (ISF), Asia-Pacific Seed Association (APSA) and other regional seed associations were participated.

The ISTA Seed Congress provided a platform for all the delegates, the opportunity of global interaction, network building and the deliberations were made on the several issues related to Seed production and quality under the theme “Seed Technology and Quality in a Changing World” in five different sessions.

The Indian seed industry in general and Telangana Seed Industry in particular has benefitted much from this congress, in terms of updating the knowledge, skills and understanding of the recent advances in seed production, testing and seed science research, that in turn leads to improvement in the seed production and quality seed supply system in the State as well as country.



VALEDICTORY SESSION

His excellency the Governor of Telangana State, Shri ESL. Narasimhan highlighted the Hyderabad as the city of pearls, centre of agriculture, seed hub and source of happiness and has special role to play in Indian seed sector as well as in global seed market.

Also he mentioned about the need for seed revolution in line with other agriculture revolutions that took place in India. His Excellency mentioned that ISTA is not just about ensuring uniformity in seed testing with standardised methods to assure supply of quality seeds but in doing that it is providing happiness to farmers' life and off course for all across the worldwide.



Election of Dr. K. Keshavulu as Vice-President / President of ISTA:



The election of the Governing Board of ISTA for the year 2019-22 was held as per the constitution of ISTA during the 32nd ISTA Seed Congress on July 02, 2019 with voting franchise exercised by the government representatives from different countries across the World.

Dr. K. Keshavulu, Director and Managing Director, Telangana State Seed and Organic Certification Authority and Seeds Development Corporation, Hyderabad has been elected as Vice-President of ISTA for the year 2019-22 and he will be taking over the presidentship of ISTA as per the norms of ISTA for the year 2022-25 in the 33rd ISTA Seed Congress.

Dr. Keshavulu is the first ever person from Asian Continent to become the Vice-President/ President of the prestigious International body on Seed Testing in its 95 years of History.

It is a great opportunity for contribution towards development of Indian Seed Industry in general and Telangana seed sector in particular by improving the share in international seed market, improving the efficiency of seed certification agencies and seeds corporations, accreditation of seed testing labs, and improves global networking of seed companies through OECD, UPOV, FAO, ISF and SAARC in seed production, quality control and marketing globally. Further scope to accomplish the actions required for sustainable and globally competitive seed sector in the country as well as state.

Events Held in Connection with 32nd ISTA Congress-2019

Workshop on “Seed production, Quality Control & Marketing” under South-South Cooperation of FAO & Government of Telangana (June 24-25, 2019):



The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Pocharam Srinivasa Reddy, Hon'ble Speaker of Telangana State Legislative Assembly, Dr. Chikelu Mba, Team Leader, Seeds and Plant Resource division of FAO, Mr. C Partha Sarathi, APC and Principal Secretary to Government, Dr. Criag Mc Gill, Immediate past president of ISTA, Dr. K. Keshavulu, Vice-President of ISTA and other dignitaries from Government of India, Government of Telangana and Seed Industry.



Forty seven (47) participants from twenty six (26) countries of Africa and Southeast Asia and 68 participants from India including seed policy makers, government officials, scientists, seed analysts, technologists, small and medium seed enterprises (SMEs) and seed industry personnel were attended the workshop.

Workshop helped to establish professional relationships and exchange of expertise among the participants and international seed experts which will hopefully promote seed trade between African countries and Telangana State.

International Seed Exhibition (June 26 – 28, 2019):

The Exhibition was held for three days in conjunction with ISTA seed symposium. Wherein, 65 stalls from both public and private seed companies involved in seed production, processing, biotechnology, seed testing laboratories and related organisations across the world were participated.



Inauguration of International Seed Exhibition by Shri Kailash Choudary, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI., Shri S. Niranjan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Shri Md. Mahamood Ali, Hon'ble Minister for Home, Prisons, and Fire Services, Government of Telangana Shri Gutta Sukendar Reddy, Chairman, Raithu Samanvaya Samithi, Government of Telangana



Dignitaries visiting the stalls at International Seed Exhibition



Telangana State Seed & Organic Certification Authority (TSSOCA) and Telangana State Seed Development Corporation (TSSDC) Stall at International Seed Exhibition.

Seed Farmers Meeting (June 27, 2019):



Inauguration of Seed Farmers Meeting by Shri Pocharam Srinivasa Reddy, Hon'ble Speaker of Telangana State Legislative Assembly, Shri S. Niranjan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Telangana and Shri N. Shivashankar Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Karnataka and other officials from Government of Telangana.



1600 seed farmers from all the districts across the Telangana State and 100 seed farmers from AP & Karnataka were attended the meeting.

In the meeting, various issues related to quality seed production and management of seed quality at various levels of seed production were covered. The skills, knowledge and competence acquired by the seed farmers would help to realise the seed production potential of the Telangana State

ISTA Workshop on "Seed Morphology and Seed Identification for Purity, and OSD Test (June 22-24, 2019)



25 participants from 13 countries- Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, China, India, Japan, Kenya, South Korea, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Thailand and Uganda have participated in the workshop.

This workshop provided knowledge about seed identification in a range of species of weeds at both the theoretical and practical level.

ISTA Workshop on “Seed Sampling, Purity, Germination and Moisture” (July 05 -12, 2019)



Inauguration of workshop by Shri C. Parthasarathi, IAS, APC & Principal Secretary to Government, Govt. of Telangana. Dr. K. Keshavulu, Director TSSOCA & Managing Director TSSDC and Seed experts from UK and South Africa.



Hands-on training to participants



Twenty three (23) participants from 7 countries – Bangladesh (3), Ethiopia (2), India (8), Iraq (5), Malaysia (1), Philippines (1), Tanzania (2) and Uganda (2) – attended the workshop. They were from governmental seed testing stations and the seed industry.

The workshop provided an overview of seed sampling, purity, germination analysis as well as testing of seed moisture content of a range of species, and also provided a forum where questions relating to seed sampling and testing methodologies were discussed.

Workshop on “Post-Harvest Technologies for Better Seed Quality” (June 21-22, 2019)



About 60 participants from both public and private seed industry have participated in the workshop. The workshop imparted capacity building on seed quality management at various stages, post-harvest seed handling, seed drying, processing, seed storage and advanced seed treatment technologies

Glimpses of 32nd ISTA Congress-2019









Telangana State towards “GLOBAL SEED HUB”

Dr. Keshavulu Kunusoth

Vice-President, ISTA

Director, Telangana State Seed & Organic Certification Authority
and Managing Director, Telangana State Seed Development Corporation
Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad.