

## VOTE OF THANKS

S.K. Roy

*Organiser, Local Organising Committee  
Thirtyeighth Annual Conference of the  
Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics*

Mr. J.C. Sengupta, Professor Kapur, Professor Prem Narain, Professor P.K. Bose, Professor B.P. Adhikari, Professor Ashok Maitra, delegates to the conference, guests, colleagues and friends !

It is indeed my privilege and pleasant duty to propose vote of thanks to those who have graced this inaugural session of the conference by their presence and to my colleagues who have worked hard to make the conference a success.

First of all, on behalf of all us, I express our gratitude and thanks to Mr. J.C. Sengupta, Vice-Chancellor of Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya for kindly accepting our invitation to inaugurate the conference and for delivering the inaugural address by taking the time from his very busy work schedule. I feel, and I am sure you also do, that this gracious gesture on his part indicates the importance he attaches to the development of agricultural statistics in India and indeed throughout the world.

We have listened to an interesting technical address from the Sessional President, Professor J.N. Kapur of IIT, Kapur. His participation and deliberation of the address undoubtedly give a testimony of the importance he attaches to the conference and the Society. On behalf of all of us I propose a hearty vote of thanks to you Sir.

In his stimulating address Professor P.K. Bose Vice-President of ISAS has very rightly drawn the attention of the agricultural statisticians to their role in-correct execution of the plan programmes at the block level framed for rural development which is possible only through generation of dependable data base which hardly exists now. He has also asked the agricultural statisticians to accept

this challenging task and to contribute their share to the planning process for rural development. I feel, and I believe you also do, that this has been a timely pointer and hope this task will be well attended. On behalf of all of us I wish to convey our grateful thanks to you, Sir, for your valuable guidance.

The success of any scientific conference lies, in my opinion, in the wealth of scientific content of its proceedings. Several leading agricultural statisticians, crop breeders, agronomists, crop physiologists, soil scientists and agricultural economists from various research institutes, Central and State Government departments of agriculture, agricultural and conventional universities from all over the country have assembled here and will contribute to the conference by sharing their findings and projecting new ideas. The interaction thus generated will, I believe, inspire the participants to solve some of the unsolved problems. On behalf of the Local Organising Committee it is my special privilege to propose a hearty vote of thanks to all the participants and delegates to the conference who have come from near and distant places of India to enrich the proceedings of the conference.

It is not a random event that the Executive Council of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics should have thought it fit to hold this conference in eastern India having special problems of agricultural productivity which will be adequately reflected in Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Lecture' to be delivered by professor S.K. Mukherjee this evening. It is also not a random choice to have chosen the venue at Indian Statistical Institute an institute having a distinguished record of pioneering work in the field of design of experiments and crop surveys. Professor Maitra, Mr. Sengupta, Professor Bose and Professor Prem Narain in their addresses have already mentioned about it. On behalf of all my colleagues I record our appreciation and convey our thanks to the Executive Council of ISAS for its appropriate decision of holding the conference at ISI.

Every conference needs finance and this one is also not an exception to this requirement. The Local Organising Committee had to function under great financial constraints. But for the financial support of ISI, ISAS and Sutton & Sons Pvt. (Ltd.) and the assurance given by the department of agriculture it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to organise the conference. I would be failing in my duty if I do not record our special thanks and convey the same to them.

The success of organisation of a scientific conference of this magnitude depends entirely on the whole hearted cooperation of many workers most of whom remain invisible. The Local Organising Committee not only enjoyed great freedom of work and full cooperation from colleagues of the Institute in matters of organisation but also carried out a considerable responsibility. I do not want to say anything if the committee has fulfilled its obligation—it is for the distinguished delegates and the office bearers of ISAS to make a judgement in this respect. But I would be failing in my duty if I do not thank my colleagues who have worked, so hard over the past few weeks, and are still working to make the conference a success.

Arrangement of suitable accommodation for the delegates became a difficult task. But when we approached the Director, Department of Tourism, Government of West Bengal and the Director, BARC, they immediately agreed to extend to us all possible help for resolution of the accommodation problem. Accordingly, We have been able to arrange accommodation in Udyachal Tourists Hostel and in guest house of BARC. It is my special duty to record our great appreciation and convey to both of them our grateful thanks for their cooperation and help.

The musicians of Suradhuni by their vocal recital of Vedic Hymn have helped us to conduct the inaugural session in the line of ISI tradition. I record my special appreciation for their spontaneous response to our request as they always do when approached by us for any function of ISI. I thank the performing musicians for their excellent recital.

It is extremely difficult to move around on Calcutta roads. But our guests have come through their difficult way to grace this conference which clearly shows their keen interest in and goodwill for the cause the Society stands for. To all our guests I therefore extend our most sincere thanks.

I am not sure if it is appropriate for me to propose vote of thanks to our Director Professor A. Maitra who is also the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee of which I am the Organiser. But I would be failing in my duty if I do not mention at least how much the organisation owes to his support, understanding and guidance.

Friends, once again I thank you all.