



**OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY**

**President's Secretariat,  
Rashtrapati Bhavan,  
New Delhi - 110004**

**No. F.2-M/98**

**9th September, 1998**

**Dear Prof. Goel,**

The President of India, Shri K.R. Narayanan, is happy to know that the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, New Delhi is bringing out a Souvenir in memory of Late Prof. P.V. Sukhatme, an eminent statistician who is responsible for popularizing statistical methods among the agriculturists, veterinarians and scientists working in related fields.

On this occasion, the President offers his tributes to the memory of Prof. Sukhatme and wishes the publication of the Souvenir all success.

**With regards,**

**Yours sincerely,**

**(P.P. Kaushik)**

# **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

## **MESSAGE**

I am very happy to learn that the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics has decided to bring out a memorial volume perpetuating the memory of Prof. Pandurang Vasudeo Sukhatme. Prof. Sukhatme joined FAO in 1952 and became the first Director of the Statistics Division. During his service in FAO, he has strived to upbring the image of the Organization by contributing to various fields of data collection and analysis. The pioneering studies of Prof. Sukhatme in connection with the assessment of food inadequacy and the estimation of the incidence of undernutrition as well as the objective assessment of crop yields stand out even today in the field of food and agricultural statistics. Although Prof. Sukhatme retired from the FAO in 1971, his active involvement in studies on the methodology of assessing nutritional inadequacy and the related debate has continued to demonstrate his zeal and attachment to this subject.

It goes without saying that we hope that this volume containing invited articles connected with his ideology, will continue to guide and develop work in future also.

Sd/-

(H. de Haen)

Assistant Director-General  
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**DR R.S. PARODA**  
SECRETARY  
&  
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### MESSAGE

I am very happy to learn that the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics is bringing out a Memorial Volume in the name of Late Professor P.V. Sukhatme. The significant contributions of the Society in promoting the cause of Agricultural Statistics are well known.

Prof. P.V. Sukhatme contributed significantly towards research in Statistical Theory of Sampling, such as bipartitional functions under the guidance of world authorities like Sir R.A. Fisher and 'Contributions to the theory of the representative method' under the guidance of J. Neyman and E.S. Pearson. The latter paper laid solid foundation for his subsequent pioneering research in the theory of surveys and improvement of agricultural statistics which ushered in what may be appropriately termed as the Sukhatme era in the development of agricultural statistics in the world.

He served as Regents Professor, University of California at Berkeley and thereafter he settled in Pune, carrying out valuable work on nutrition at the Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science. Prof. Sukhatme was well known in this field especially for the Sukhatme-Margen hypothesis that at low levels of calorie intake, energy is used with greater metabolic efficiency and efficiency decreases as the intake increases over the homeostatic range.

Prof. Sukhatme rendered distinguished service to the cause of Statistics and its application to agriculture and allied fields. He was conferred with the honour of Sankhyiki Bhushan in 1989 by the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, New Delhi for his valuable contributions. He was the President of the Society during 1991 and the Executive President of the Society from 1970 till January 1997.

I am sure, this publication of the Society will not only make a valuable contribution to the Scientific fraternity in India and abroad, but shall also be an appropriate tribute to an eminent agricultural statistician of India.

I wish the Society all the success.

(R.S. PARODA)