

with replacement. For the purpose, there is quick need for evolution of technologies to this dimension and simultaneously, strengthening of processing industries with their modernization. Efficient technology for, not only better output but, for the best output will have to be employed to compete and to be dominant in the world market.

There are a number of companies, organizations and groups moving in this direction. They should be highly supported from all angles i.e. morally, legally and financially to achieve a goal, treating a goal for country. to earn the revenues and socio-economic development as a whole.

Krushi Mahotsav - 2008

To a common man Mahotsav means ceremonial functions and marry making at best for a day or few days but “Krushi Mahotsav” is an exceptional festival of culture and agriculture celebrated for a period of one month beginning from Akhyaya Tritya. This is perhaps the longest festival period in the world being designed in Gujarat with the prime objective of preaching and teaching the farmers about modern techniques of agriculture and its dissemination.

The fourth annual Krushi Mahostav was celebrated during May 07 to June 06, 2008 involving agricultural scientists, agricultural extension officers, development officials and agencies and all those who influence and accelerate the activities of agricultural development and the farmers.

The mahotsav in the JAU jurisdiction was inaugurated by shri Narendrabhai Modi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat state at Junagadh on 9th May with mammoth gathering of state, district and taluka delegates, progressive farmers and agricultural scientists, representatives from



Hon'ble Chief Minister Inaugurating the Function of Gujarat Gaurav Deen

developmental departments, agencies and NGOs. During the mahotsav 73 Kisan Raths equipped with exhibition panels, VCD, TVs, drip sets, scientific literature and allied exhibits visited 4767 villages that fall in the JAU jurisdiction. Agricultural scientists, post-graduate students, extension officers from the State Department of Agriculture, Bank officials, Department of education, health etc. accompanied the Raths.



The great and noble idea behind the new concept and approach was to educate the farmers about the new developments of agricultural technology to enhance crop production and increase the profit range by reducing the cost of production. The programme was conducted in a systematic manner at district, taluka and village levels by appointing district Nodal Scientists, Taluka Nodal officers and scientists.

More than 73 khedut shibirs in seven districts of Saurashtra region were organized in collaboration with Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee, cooperative societies, NGOs etc. and the shibirs were addressed by research scientists, ministers and MLAs of the respective areas. When the team of governmental officials and Agricultural Scientists reached a village along with the Raths the villagers gave a traditional wel come to the officials. One lakh 79 thousand farmers were benefitted by the Shibirs.



Dr. B. K. Kikani Hon'ble V.C. and Shri Dilipbhai, Sanghani Hon'ble Minister Garlanding Hon'ble C.M. of Gujarat



The festival was marked by 3534 agricultural implements exhibition, 350 essay competitions, 1000 traditional songs, diors and bhajans programmes were organized during the month long mahostav.