



4th SEA -AICOSCA Cottonseed, Oil and Meal Conclave – 2023

WELCOME ADDRESS

BY

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7th July 2023, Aurangabad

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Good Evening !!

on behalf of The Solvent Extractors' Association of India and All India Cotton seed Crushers' Association, It gives great pleasure to warmly welcome

our Chief Guest; -

- Dr Bhagwat Karad, Minister of State for Finance, Government of India;**
- and Guest of Honor Shri Abdul Sattar, Honorable Minister for Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra,**
- and Honorable guest Smt. Nandita Mishra, Senior Economic Advisor, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Government of India**

and our very own Shri Pasha Patel, the Former Chairman of Maharashtra Agriculture Cost & Price Commission.

I also welcome

- Shri Priyam Patel, C.E.O. of N.K. Proteins Pvt. Ltd.**

I also welcome the senior government officers, distinguished technocrats, every Speaker who have so willingly agreed to share their knowledge & expertise for the greater good of the Cotton Complex and

also each and every Delegate, Exhibitors and Patrons who have enabled us to make this Conclave a success.

India is the second largest producer of cotton, next to China, producing about 62 lakh tons of cotton sown on about 120 Lakh Hectares, which is the world's highest acreage which is constituting around 36 percent of the world's total acreage But Indian yield is low- 510 Kg/ ha.

Cottonseed oil is a unique oil with the goodness of frying property. Its production in India is about Twelve Lakh tonnes. Cottonseed oil is the preferred Oil by the organised food industry for its unique frying properties, and oxidative stability which maintains good flavour and keeps fried snacks / namkeens fresh for a long period of time.

Cottonseed cake has relatively low rumen degradability and is therefore a good source of bypass protein in dairy and can be used more in cattle feed formulations.

Our country which is deficit in production of edible oils, and importing around 65% percent of its edible oil requirement at around 140 Lakh tonnes and costing the foreign exchange of around Rs. 1.2 lakh crores, is a big threat to India's self sufficiency in edible oil requirement.

Edible Oil consumption is a marker of prosperity; Considering 2 % population growth and 3% per annum increase in per capita consumption of edible oil which is presently about 17 kg per capita and very low compared to the developed countries. We need at least 10 lakh tonnes of additional edible oil every year to meet the growing demand.

To tackle this urgent situation, we would like to draw the kind attention of our esteemed guests towards the possible solutions in this context.

Create edible oil mission with :

- 1. A targeted and sustainable approach to make India near self-reliant in edible oil requirement by 2030 so that import requirement to be below 30% as compared to 65% at present.**

Focus to increase acreage and yield of major oil yielding crops i.e. Mustard, Groundnut and Palm by addressing the bottlenecks of assured MSP to farmers and also by increasing domestic consumption of oil meal and expanding export market of de-oiled meal in case of Mustard.

In regard to Palm, acreage expansion, farmer support in regard to providing saplings of high yielding varieties and assured price for Fresh Fruit Bunch (FFB).

Efficient use of secondary source of edible oil like cotton seed, rice bran & Tree borne Oilseeds.

- 2. By creating sustainable model farms to showcase best agri practices including selection and treatment of seed and establishing modern weather stations to support the farmers.**

Here I am pleased to share with you that SEA along with Solidaridad have done over 2000 model farms in UP, MP, Punjab and Gujarat for mustard & castor in the last FY 2022-23.

The results of these model farms are very encouraging with a rise in yield of about 30% along with up-skilling the farmers in crop management with less resources.

- 3. By involving the institutes and R&D centres jointly with industry for troubleshooting, support and value addition. In this context to acknowledge and encourage R&D work in the field of Cotton seed, we at SEA felicitating the techno grads academia, students & Industry in this conference.**
- 4. To encourage “Make in India” in this oilseed sector by establishing conducive trade/ import policies enabling trade and industry to grow smoothly.**

Also by creating an eco-system for dynamic agriculture i.e. creating informed and skilled farmer with trust and continuous support of the government and industry where shifting of acreage - crops can be achieved smoothly as per need of the hour.

- 5. In cotton seed complex, We need solution for gossypol free oilmeal so that its usage can be increased in feed formulations.**

I once again thank our Hon'ble guests for their august presence here today.

I just want to mention, Mr. Sandeep Bajoria, Chairman of AICOSCA lost his beloved Father, just few days back but today he is here, which shows his dedication to the cause of Cottonseed Industry. We all convey our heartfelt condolence to him and his family and pray eternal peace to the departed soul. I would request all to please standup for a minute of silence to pay respect.

Now I would like to invite Shri Sandeep Bajoria, to give you a deeper insight on this unique Cotton Seed Oil.

I am sure that all of you will have many “take-aways” insights and information to enhance your business acumen at the end of this Conclave tomorrow.

Thank You & Jai Hind

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