PRESS NOTE

C. P. College of Agriculture, S. D. Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar organised a National Workshop on Export Procedure and Promotional Schemes for Agricultural Commodities in India on 25-26 February, 2016 in collaboration with NABARD, DGFT and GAAS. In the inaugural session Mr. A. K. Singh, Joint Director, DGFT gave brief account of share of agriculture commodities in world trade and explained the pricing mechanism to stay in international markets and to promote export of agriculture products. Dr. M. R. Prajapati, Dean, College of Agriculture, briefed the theme of the workshop and its relevance for farmers, academicians, market regulators and policy makers. Shri. Ramanbhai N. Patel, Chairman, Gujarat Agricultural Marketing Board, emphasised on value addition of agriculture produces and efficient marketing mechanism to ensure high returns to farming community. He focused on future needs of packaging and processing expertise to cope up with consumers’ demand and changing scenario of global food industries. The Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Ashok A. Patel, in his presidential speech requested farmers and scholars to come up with initiatives for promoting value addition of agriculture products for augmentation of profitability in farming. He also focused on changing consumers’ concerns for food quality and safety and that will be advantageous opportunity to be exploited for mutual benefits of consumers and farmers. He insisted for developing scientific packaging and processing of raw agriculture produce which could provide traceability and ensure quality and safety to agriculture produce. This was followed by release of workshop compendium and book on Simaruba by dignitaries. At the end of inaugural session the Organizing Secretary, Dr. K.P. Thakar extended Vote of Thanks.

In first session, Mr. Mihir Shah, Expert Faculty, Federation of Indian Export Organisations, Mumbai delivered a very interesting lecture in Gujarati on “How to starts export and stay in the export market of agriculture commodities”. Mr. Alok Dwivedi, Dy. Director, DGFT, Ahmedabad gave a detail explanation of different promotional schemes of the governmental departments for farmers and traders and procedural requirements to start the export of agriculture commodities. The farmers enthusiastically participated and freely interacted with experts by asking many questions to enrich their knowledge. The workshop provided a common platform to all stake holders involved in export, agriculture, trade teaching and research area. The technical session would be continued on next day also. In this workshop 330 farmers, 250 students and 200 faculty members and traders participated. The entire
workshop comprised of 3 technical sessions included 15 lectures on the subject related to export of agriculture commodities, its regulations and procedural protocols and promotional schemes by experts.

On 26th February, 2016 distinguish speakers from banking, finance, international trade and business sector delivered series of lectures on the topics related to export finance, credit and insurance for export of agricultural commodities. Mr. Parit Bhadoria, ICICI bank deliberated on different banking products for agricultural commodities and various means for financial assistance to start export business. Mr. Pyush Pankaj, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation Limited (ECGC) briefed on crucial role of ECGC to overcome risk involved in the export business. Dr. Vinod Kumar, DGM, NABARD, Ahmedabad, delivered lecture on issues related to export finance, insurance and potential for export credit with reference to Gujarat State. Mr. Tanuj Bist, OSD, Kandla Special Export Zone, discussed importance of logistic and customs in export business of agricultural commodities.

The workshop was concluded with plenary session chaired by Dr. R.R. Shah, Director of Research, SDAU, Sardarkrushinagar. Interesting panel discussion witnessed many question from students, faculty, farmers and exporters to experts.