

Recommendation of 37th Annual Convention of VCs held at Jaipur during 27-28 December, 2012

Theme: "How to make agriculture more remunerative for small farmers"

1. Small and marginal farmers all over the country should be encouraged for growing of fruits and vegetables along with livestock and fisheries with the help of incentives from the government in terms of subsidies and/or cluster approach for marketing and strengthening of supply chain to ensure maximum price of their produce.
2. The small farmer's area may be demarcated for specific crops, diversification and they be helped in post-harvest technology with processing of crops and animal products with the help of mechanization in farming system where animal component should form an integral part.
3. Efforts are also needed from the government involving self-help groups or farmers co-operatives to create animal hostels by providing infrastructure and financial support for small farmers.
4. ICT should be popularized by the governments to reach to the individual small farmers more prominently to the interior areas for technology transfer and trainings at village level.
5. There is need to develop various processing and value addition models applicable to the small farmers where food processing and marketing should be encouraged through small farmers self-help group (SHG) and co-operative societies.
6. Special livestock and fisheries packages be given to the small farmers in the suicide prone district of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and in general to be popularized all over the country.
7. Special weather based crop insurance policy should be developed for small farmers all over the country to protect them in case of any crises and disasters.
8. Through the development of SAU's extension centers at tehsil and village level e-Kios may be installed for timely and speedy dissemination of knowledge.
9. Refinement and up scaling of technologies particularly for efficient irrigation system and green house cultivation be encouraged to mitigate the effect of climate change in vulnerable areas of the country.
10. For every agricultural and livestock products value addition at farmers level and bottom up marketing is the need of the hour for enhancing profitability of the small farmers required to be vigorously promoted.
11. The issue of private agriculture colleges including veterinary may be resolved by ICAR through the IAUA initiatives and interventions.
12. Specific efforts should be made for conservation of traditional breeds in animal and crop varieties through the support of the government.

13. A network supported by government of India, ICAR and NABARD etc, may be developed for small farmers in agricultural education system with a dedicated curriculum specifically addressed to small farmers productivity, problems and viability issues. One SAU concept may be developed through networking. It should prove the milestone in agriculture for the benefit of small farmers in the country.