

## Annual report of Agricultural Sciences Forum of Kodagu for the year 2017—18

Good evening ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset I wish to place on record that our forum has successfully completed nineteen years. Currently the forum consists of 236 members, of which 21 are patrons.

I take this opportunity to present before you the annual report of the forum for the year 2017-18 from the time the present committee took over the management responsibility.

During 2017-18, seven executive committee meetings were held.

- The first combined EC meeting was held on 14-08-2017 at College of Forestry, Ponnampet for handing over of charges to the incoming EC members.
- The second EC meeting was held on 29-08-2017 at Anugraha, Lions Seva Bhavan, Pollibetta. The main agenda was to discuss about the Man- Animal conflict issues in Kodagu and put a representation to the Prime Ministers office, MoEF (both Central and State), and PCCF, Bengaluru in the form of a letter. A letter requesting for office space in the Forestry College premises was sent the Dean, College of Forestry, Ponnampet. A tentative programme schedule for the year 2017-18 was also worked out.
- Third EC meeting was held on 27-10-2017 at Anugraha, Lions Seva Bhavan, Pollibetta. The main agenda was to finalise the dates for Foundation day, ASFK Gold medal for topper in Forestry College and updating the members list.
- The foundation day was organized on 27-11-2017 at Palm Valley Resort, Pollibetta Road, Gonikkoal. **Prof. K Byrappa**, Hon. Vice Chancellor of Mangalore University was the chief guest. **Mr. Ravi Narayan from E-Thota** made a presentation on their activities especially focusing on a software application “*plantation task management application*” which could be used in managing the Coffee Plantation.
- The fourth EC meeting was held on 11-01-2018 at Anugraha, Lions Seva Bhavan, Pollibetta. The main agenda was to finalise the proposed Irrigation seminar, sponsored by Rivulus India.
- The Fifth EC meeting was held on 09-02-2018 at Kodava Samaja, Ammathi to review the progress of organizing the seminar “More crop per drop: A seminar on Irrigation and Nutrient management on coffee and Black Pepper”.
- The Sixth EC meeting was held on 27-03-2018 at Anugraha, Lions Seva Bhavan, Polibetta, to compile the success of the Irrigation seminar and to decide on the future course of action. The committee members also decided to organize an On-farm training programme on Nutrient management in Pepper and Coffee involving Dr. Sunil Tamagale from Scientific Agro Solutions.
- The Seventh EC meeting was held on 30-05-2018 at College of Forestry, Ponnampet to finalize the date and Venue for the On-farm training on Nutrient management in Pepper and Coffee. The idea of initiating a commercial venture with regard to establishing a ASFK Agro-Input shop was discussed. The EC members have approved the same. It was decided to put up the same at AGM for approval. The **Sub Committee for ASFK commercial venture consists of the following members:**

1. Mr. P S Subramani
2. Mr. AA Chengappa
3. Mr. N M Ponacha
4. Dr. Ayappa
5. Dr. G M Devagiri
6. Mr. K R Babu

The dates and Venue for AGM was discussed and finalised.

### **A seminar on Irrigation and Nutrient management in Coffee and Black pepper – adopting Innovative Israeli Technology:**

A one day seminar “More Crop Per Drop” was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> march 2018 at Kodava Samaja, Ammathi. This event was financially supported by Blossom Irrigation and John Deer India Pvt. Limited. More than 250 planters along with representatives from government departments, scientists, faculty and students from College of Forestry, Ponnampet participated in the programme. An exhibition cum sale was organized wherein more than 15 stalls exhibited various aspects on nutrient management, irrigation, essential oils, value addition of farm products, apiculture, nursery plants etc. During the workshop the following presentations were made by the experts from various organizations:

- *ZindagiKa best Decision* by Mr.SwamyManjunath, John Deere India Private Limited.
- *Product Profile and Israeli Drip Technology* by Mr. L.B. Joshi, India Head (Products) Rivulis
- *Sustainable management of Black Pepper and Coffee with special emphasis on DNA, Water and Shade* by Dr. Sunil Tamagale, Scientific Agro Technologies
- *Essential oil crops of South India* by a Team from Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Bangalore.

### **ASFK Gold medal:**

The forum has been awarding a Gold medal to the topper in B.Sc.(Forestry) degree programme since 2000. Two students were awarded gold medal for the year 2016-17. Mr. N M Poonacha, past president and a permanent advisor to ASFK sponsored one of the gold medals. Ms. Navyashree and Ms. Bhavika Kadur were the two students who qualified for the Gold Medal by scoring highest marks in the batch.

### **Newsletter:**

Finally, I thank the President and all the EC members for giving me the opportunity to present this report before you all.