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विशेष सचिव (भारत सरकार)
कृषि अनुसंधान और शिक्षा विभाग एवं
निदेशक, तेलहन
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-११००१

Special Secretary, Government of India

Director, Technology Mission on Oilseed Production
Department of Agricultural Research and Education
Ministry of Agriculture
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001 (India)

D.O.No. /Spl.Secy./TMO/87

July 16, 1987.

Dear Shri Devaki Nandan Ji,

I received your letter of June 30, 1987 and noted with pleasure your great admiration for Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.

Dr. Swaminathan recently received the "World Food Prize" for his outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture and food management and it is a great honour for any body to get this award. I am sending some of the newspapers cuttings on this subject, as requested by you.

There is a Liaison Officer of IRRI in Hotel Samrat, New Delhi. This office would be very happy to send any of your letters to Dr. Swaminathan.

With my best wishes and regards,

Yours sincerely,

(M.V. Rao)

Encls: as above.

Shri Devaki Nandan Prasad Singh,
Ratwara (PO) viz-Piar
Muzaffarpur (Bihar).

Most Personal letter

Ratwara (P.O.) Via- Piar
Muzaffarpur, Bihar

July 31, 1987

7th Aug 1987

Dear Respected Dr. Rao Saheb ji,

I am extremely grateful to you for your most kind reply as well as responding to my sincere request for sending some news paper's photo copy about the recent declaration of International honour and Prize which has been bestowed upon to the Great Indian son Scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.

I am also very highly obliged to you for sending me the 17 copies of different Press clippings which speak a bit elaborately about the world Food Prize to be received by Dr. Swaminathan on Oct. 6, 1987 at Washington D C. U.S.A.

Our most respected and great learned scientist Dr. Rao Saheb ji, it is not that I speak but our great Epic like Rig Veda and Great Upnishad speak that Annam Brahma (अन्नं ब्रह्म) and Anna Sadhana is the greatest Brahm Sadhana (अग्नि साधना सबसे बड़ा ब्रह्म साधना है)

I only speak that Dr. Swaminathan the great Viswamitra of 20th century has very succesfully reached to the last end of that Sadhna and hence he is face to face with God. So in my clear eyes he is the real and honest messenger of God and hence I worship him as my idol. I am a farmer by birth, by profession and by thought and so according to the habit of every Indian Farmer I must look to him spiritually also. So I proclaim him as the next to God for we farmers.

It is true and the real fact that I was overwhelmed to read your kind letter and all the Press clippings you sent to me except one. I took your all papers and touched my eyes, head and forehead with those papers with overjoy say emotional joyful tears in my eyes.

One clipping touched my heart also which speaks about the silent unfortunate, frustrated, prejudished men among the family of Indian scientists say about whom I have always suspected who recommended the names of others to win this prestigious Prize and honour which is no less important than Nobel Prize.

If one will excuse me I can say that who so ever he may be and what so ever position he may be enjoying in our country, he is a ~~made~~ thief, a man suffering from inferiority complex and a sad example of our great country who recommended the names of other scientists only to defeat and

defame our so highly loving great scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.

I pity on those few persons because in the eyes of Scientist's oceanic society those few have proved to be the smallest men and dwarf thinking scientists of India. Kindly go through the Press clippings No. 12, Economic Times (New Delhi) from Amrit Kakaria New-York June 20 dated (India) 21.6.87 in the paragraph 4 which speaks like this "Dr. Swaminathan was chosen as the first recipient from among 74 candidates in 22 countries some of whom were recommended by the Indian scientist himself" This news hurts me.

I also wish to visit Washington D.C. on that great occasion of my life that is on Oct. 6, 1987 and participate to have the glimpses from near and the grand decoration which will be made to our great Indian Scientist Dr. Swaminathan and as described by the Nobel Prize Winner Dr. N.E. Borlaug that Dr. Swaminathan is a Crafts man of highest order and architect of Green Revolution in India.

When the time comes I shall try to request our Hon. Prime-Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and also to our respected Shri P. Ventakata Subbaya ji Honourable Governor of Bihar and also a great farmer leader of Andhra Pradesh to send me U.S.A. to participate in the decoration function of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan as their personal farmer roaving Ambassador or Visiting representative.

I can hope to get their support only then if they find time to catch the feelingful imagination and look to my humble request. I may write to you again for floating some pen help to fulfill my very pious ambition if it is needed. I think that you can also think to write to the Prime-Minister and Governor Bihar in your personal capacity if it does not effect to your official position. Any help from poor fellow like Dr. G. Trivedi, Vice-Chancellor, Rajendra Agricultural University I do not expect rather I fear the sebotage of my cause because he belongs of Sardar ji group to save his service and all know it fully well that Sardarji group of Soil Scientists in India are anty Swaminathan from top to bottom even to-day.

I shall do according to your kind advice and send my congratulation letter to the Liason Officer of IRRI at Delhi though I prefer to send it at IRRI head quarter Manila Philippines

Our Association is thinking to bring ~~out~~ a public congratulation card in the honour of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan on the eve of 40th celebration of our Independence day 1987. It will be most occassionful and very good if it comes out in any form. As the convener of our Association I am trying to convince all to support this novel idea. Let us see what is decided.

I hope yourgoodself might have received envelop full of papers which I sent through the R.A.U. Chief Scientist Maize- Dr. L.B. Chaudhary who was on way to Korla Via- Krishi Bhawan Delhi. He according to all came to take my blessings on July 25, 1987 as he was going out from this country. He might have handed over those papers to your goodself. All papers are worth reading.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

Devaki Nandan Prasad Singh
(Devaki Nandan Prasad Singh)

Enc. Some old papers cuttings
speaking about Dr.M.S.Swaminathan.

To

Dr. M.V. Rao Saheb ji
Special Secretary, Govt. of India
& Director, Technology Mission on Oilseed
Production, Dept. of Agril. Res. & Education,
Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan,
New Delhi - 110001 (India)

1/c.c. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Saheb ji
Director General
International Rice Research Institute (Post Box 933)
Manila, Philippines.

D. N. P. Singh

Convener

Bihar State Progressive Farmers Association

Copy to: - Dr. M. S. Swaminathan Samb Ji.

For community leadership

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Director of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, has won renown at home and abroad for his varied contributions as scientist, educator and as a leader who has generated confidence in India's agricultural capabilities.

Last week, Dr. Swaminathan had one more award conferred on him. He received the 1971 Ramon Magsaysay Award for community leadership at a colourful ceremony held in Manila, Philippines.

Established in 1957 to honour the ideals of the Philippine leader and former President Ramon Magsaysay, the Award is given each year to five persons in Asia who distinguish themselves in the fields of community service, government service, social service, international understanding, and journalism and literature. Each prize carries a cash award of Rs. 75,000. The Award is financed by a \$500,000 (Rs. 37,50,000) grant from the Rockefeller Foundation.

In a speech accepting the distinction conferred upon him, the 45-year-old director of IARI said he considered the Award "a tribute which the Magsaysay Foundation would like to pay to the entire community of agricultural scientists in India, who have helped to provide a breakthrough spell during which efforts can be made to prove the prophets of doom false."

India's achievement in wheat production leading to a near

September 8, 1971

doubling of total production from a little over 12 million tons to over 23 million tons in four crop seasons. Dr. Swaminathan said, had few parallels in recorded agricultural history.

Dr. Swaminathan said he proposed to use the Rs. 75,000 Magsaysay Award in encouraging young men and women



Dr. M. S. Swaminathan

—Photo by Avinash Pasricha.

in the universities and scientific institutions of developing nations to seize the opportunity and power given them by science to make real the possibilities of a truly human and meaningful life for millions of their fellow beings.

After taking his degree in agricultural sciences in India, Dr. Swami-

nathan got his Ph.D. in Cambridge University, England. He was a research associate in genetics at Wisconsin University, Madison. He has been director of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi for the past five years.

Better irrigation for more land

THE high priority given to foodgrain production by India has begun paying dividends. The output for the year 1969-70 reached a record of 100 million tons, an increase of five per cent over the previous year.

The record yield has been made possible mainly through the use of high-yield seed varieties in combination with fertilizer, pesticides, water and better incentives to farmers. To attain self-sufficiency in food, greater efforts are being made for more effective utilisation of water resources through additional investments and better on-farm usage.

The Pochampad scheme in Andhra Pradesh is one of the many irrigation projects in the country that reflect this approach to bring more land under better cultivation methods.

The Pochampad irrigation project at the Godavari river is expected to irrigate 250,000 acres in its first phase. Subsequent phases will ultimately

enable nearly 9,88,000 acres to be irrigated.

Though begun in 1964, progress on the scheme has been slow because of scarcity of funds. The total cost of the first phase alone is estimated at Rs. 95.25 crores, of which about Rs. 27 crores have already been spent.

To help speed up the first phase of the programme, the International Development Association (IDA) has announced an aid of \$39 million (Rs. 29.25 crores). The remaining costs will be met by the Andhra Pradesh Government.

The IDA is an affiliate of the World Bank. And the United States is a major contributor to the World Bank.

The first phase of the Pochampad scheme is scheduled for completion by June 1976. The work to be carried out includes the completion of the construction of a dam on the Godavari river to create a storage reservoir, a main canal and a distributory system to serve 2,50,000 acres.

Bihar State
Progressive
Farmers'
Association
India



THE AMERICAN Reporter

Devaki Chandan Prasad Singh (Basant Babu)

Concern

Bihar State Progressive Farmers Association

Ratwara - Piar - Muzaffarpur - Bihar - India

Swaminathan, A Green Revolution

Green revolution is the talk of the day. Since 1960, however, there was frustration everywhere in so far as our cereals are concerned. We had to depend on American, Canadian and Mexican wheat to fill our hungry stomachs and pessimism was discernible in respect of our decreasing food yield against consistently increasing population burden.

In this shocking background a sudden shift from pessimism to optimism really suggests a wonder. A mood of self confidence in matters of food self-sufficiency has been generated which dynamited the most horrible prediction of Dr P. and W. Paddock in their 'Famine 1975' and Prof. G. Myrdal in his 'ASTAN DRAMA' that we Indians would be in the same position as sheep being led to a slaughter house.

The Green revolution is not a slogan to boost up our morale but it is a fine solution to our befitting food problem. It has not

By Pankaj Prasoan

only shown to our farmers the use of modern technology in our fields but has provided them with high yielding varieties of our important food crops too.

This complete programme is the outcome of hard labours of Dr M.S. Swaminathan, the architect of green revolution in India, through his scheme 'High yielding varieties programme' in 1963-66. Dr Swaminathan had to work very hard in introducing the system of modern farming to our farmers who are superstitious and believers in old methods of agriculture. He has developed several wheat, maize and rice varieties suitable for our country. He has released them to our farmers and the high yield which these new varieties provided satisfied our farmers. In 1968 Swaminathan's wheat yielded 17 million tonnes but the critics gave credit to the favourable weather that year. The year 1968-69 was very dry in wheat season but our wheat yield was 17.5 million tonnes suggesting and proving with certainty that SILENCE CAN HELP TO DELINK OUR DESTINY FROM WEATHER.

Dr. Swaminathan uses several things including Rays (X-rays, beta-rays, gamma-rays, fast and thermal neutrons etc.) and chemicals on his experimental plants. He is such a pioneer in this field of radiation botany that the Swaminathan School of radiation genetics is widely known home and abroad.

Dr. Swaminathan was the first man to warn our country of the danger of 'intellectual dwarfism' awaiting to halt the development of the brains of our preschool children. This is due to the deficiency of essential amino-acids in the protein of those food crops which they are accustomed. Realizing this problem of protein-malnutrition he initiated a programme of research on the genetic upgrading of protein quantity and quality in cereals. The varieties thus he has developed are really encouraging. The wheat variety sharbati sonora contains 16.5 p.c. protein. A maize variety which is under scientific finalisation has a protein similar to milk protein. A rice variety which is due to be released contains not only more protein (14 p.c. as against 8 p.c. in the common cultivated varieties) but also the protein uniformly distributed in the grain.

Dr Swaminathan has developed a new rice variety which has a stimulating history also. When in 1964 the Taiwan dwarf rice variety Taichung Native-1 was introduced into India Dr Swaminathan realised it will not be popular in our country because of the poor cooking quality of the rice and high disease susceptibility. So Dr Swaminathan made a research programme to evolve a new variety having 3 considerations in mind: (a) high yield (b) disease resistance and (c) excellent food quality. The result is that Sabarmati will become a milestone in the history of Indian rice cultivation. Due to the fact that in this research the approach was SWADESHI Dr Swaminathan chose the name Sabarmati associated with the pleasant memories of Babu-the father of Swadeshi principle.

Besides these major works there are much more to Dr Swaminathan's credit. When in 1960 he became the director of the IARI (Indian Agricultural Research Institute) he began to organize this institution with all his vigour. As a result within a short period, the IARI is well known all over the world. Over fifty students, Indian and foreign have worked for their Ph. D. under his excellent guidance. Many of his students are intensifying his works today in their respective institutions.

In 1961 the CSIR awarded The Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Memorial Award to Dr Swaminathan for his works in the Biological Sciences. The year 1965 was very auspicious for him because he was this year chosen as the only Asian to receive Mendel Centenary Award of the Czechoslovakia Academy of Sciences. That year the Indian Journal of Genetics Medal also went to him.

The Indian Botanical Society recognised his tremendous research efforts by awarding him its only gold medal The Birbal Sahni Medal in 1966. The President of India gave him the Padma Shri Award in 1967. This year the fortune awaited him on the Macarthur Award of Philippines for his intensive efforts for community development. (P.S)

Bihar State
Progressive
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India



Indian Nation 1971 (Patna)

Bihar

Devaki Nandan Prasad Singh
Convener (Basant Babu)

Muzaffarpur - Bihar

Copy to

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan

Sehab Ji

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