

AWARD OF THE R.B. BENNETT COMMONWEALTH PRIZE FOR 1984

to

DR. M. S. SWAMINATHAN, FRS

Director General of the
International Rice Research Institute
Los Banos, Philippines

Dr. Swaminathan has held his present position since April 1982. The Institute in Los Banos in the Philippines is internationally renowned and has done pioneering work in developing new strains of rice which have helped to enhance agricultural progress and human nutrition in a number of developing countries in the Far East. Previously Dr. Swaminathan took a major part in helping his own country, India, to reap the benefits of the Green Revolution, as researcher and teacher at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and later as Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Agricultural Research and Education. He was Permanent Secretary with the Ministry of Agriculture and later served as a Member of the Planning Commission in charge of agriculture, rural development, science and technology. He is currently President of the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding and was the President of the XV International Congress of Genetics held in New Delhi in December 1983. From 1981, he has been the Independent Chairman of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London in 1973. Twenty universities in India and abroad have conferred on him Doctor of Science degrees (honoris causa).