



# ALL INDIA SPICES EXPORTERS FORUM

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## ISC 2019

[www.internationalspiceconference.com](http://www.internationalspiceconference.com)

Down load IPC-AISEF  
Farmers App



Dear Members,

As planned, we conducted the International Spice Conference 2019 (ISC 2019), which was our fourth edition, at Hyderabad International Convention Centre from 28 Jan 2019 to 31 Jan 2019. The theme of ISC 2019 was ***Challenges of Change: Redefining the Value Chain***. We had a record attendance of 837 delegates of which 260 were Overseas delegates. Our member's attendance was 384 and we are grateful for the overwhelming response from you all in making ISC 2019 a great success.

Some of our members experienced repeated notices from State Biodiversity Boards instructing them to register themselves as per the State Biological Diversity Rules, and have represented that it is not a requirement as Spices form an exempted category for registration as per the Biological Diversity Act. A case has been taken up with the Kerala State Environment Department through the offices of Spices Board for finding a solution to this issue.

Since our launch of Mobile App for Pepper farmers in India in November 2018, we have made efforts to popularize the use of App by more farmers and the Price Information in the App has become very popular and the farmers are being benefitted by it.

GIZ, (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (*GIZ*)) launched their Biodiversity program in the Western Ghats. The selected companies underwent the training and the follow up action on the same is in progress. The members have appreciated the Initiative and are taking active interest in ensuring that they derive the best benefit from the programme.

The Forum was concerned about the illegal import of pepper through various channels, resulting in the Indian Farmers not getting their due remuneration for their produce. We have taken up cases with the Ministry of Commerce, DGFT, and the Spices Board to check this trend and bring defaulters to book at the earliest so that the interest of the farmer is looked after. A press meet was also held at Kochi , to explain our views ,which got a wide news publicity .

We launched our Kisan Pragati Yojana , a farmer development initiative on 17 Mar 2019. We had invited a group of farmers from the North East States , to visit Kerala who toured Kerala from 17-21 Mar 2019 and familiarized themselves with the good agricultural practices followed by the farmers in Kerala as also had an exposure to the processes in value addition for spices by visiting spice factories .

As we go along , we plan for more member related activities and you can look forward to more value adding programmes. I take this opportunity to seek suggestions from Members on what you desire from the Forum , so that we can work on those issues to make the Forum providing more services to our members and benefit from being a member of AISEF

Rajiv Palicha  
Chairman

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## IPC-AISEF Farmers Mobile App

International Pepper Community (IPC) and All India Spices Exporters Forum (AISEF) launched a personalized mobile application for pepper on 14 Nov 2018. In the last 4 months after its launch, there has been increase in the farmers and traders downloading and using the App on a regular basis .The price discovery process is

being done daily and the daily traded prices are informed to all the farmers through the App

We would be carrying out training of farmers at various locations in use of the App so that more and more farmers are able to derive benefit from it.

The App can be downloaded by all farmers and traders from the App Store. The link given in this newsletter can be used to download the same.

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## Private Business Action for Biodiversity

As stated in the earlier Newsletter , Private Business Action for Biodiversity' (PBAB) project, under GIZ has partnered with AISEF for building capacities for the implementation of Biodiversity Action Plans in Spice Producing Regions in the Western Ghats of Kerala.

After the Pilot Training, conducted for selected members of our Forum, the Team visited all the Sites and carried out evaluation. Thereafter detailed briefings on how to evolve a sustainable Biodiversity programme for the selected companies was discussed in detail. We found that the interest shown by the Members has been very encouraging and we have recommended for extending the programme so that the members derive maximum benefit from this initiative.

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## Kisan Pragati Yojana



All India Spices Exporters Forum has launched Kisan Pragati Yojana, which is a farmer development Initiative. Through this, AISEF has set a clear agenda to work more closely with Farmer Groups all over India and extend this programme to all parts of the Country. The objective of this Farmer development Initiative is to enable the farmers to cultivate spices meeting global standards and there by earn more than otherwise. On our invitation, a team of 16 farmers from North Eastern States under the initiative of Dr Akali Sema, Professor , Horticulture Dept , Nagaland University, toured in Kerala from 17 Mar to 21 Mar 2019. They visited ginger and turmeric farms and had an exposure to the good agricultural practices. They visited Spice and Oleoresin factories wherein they were familiarized with the processes involved in converting the spices to end products. They also had an opportunity to interact with experts on various processes and systems which are followed to meet the standards for exports. An interaction with the experts at the Indian Institute Spice Research, Kozhikode, to learn about new R&D in various facets of their crops, about the new varieties and facilities that are provided to farmers and how they can avail them was also arranged. We intend to continue this process further in the days to come

## International Spice Conference 2019



The fourth edition of International Spice Conference was held at Hyderabad International Convention Centre from 28 Jan 2019 to 31 Jan 2019. The theme of ISC 2019 was ***Challenges of Change: Redefining the Value Chain***. The conference was attended by a record 837 delegates from over 50 countries and was a resounding success. Over 40 speakers kept the audience enthralled with their talks and the evenings provided lot of opportunity for networking and fun. Over 70 Exhibition stalls gave opportunity to companies to display their products. The Innovation Pavilion drew lot of attention.

Please visit the International Spice Conference website for full details. The link is provided in the first page.

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## Flood Relief in Kerala

The AISEF had adopted East Kadungallur Government Primary School, which was totally destroyed by the floods, to be rebuilt. We have supplied PC, benches, desks and black boards to the School and the remaining Work is subject to completion of some projects by other agencies, which is in progress, and, we hope to complete it soon

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## Road to Revitalize Spices in India

AISEF was actively involved in preparing the roadmap for revitalizing Spices in India and we prepared the Approach paper for Energizing the Spice Cultivation and the Spices Sector and provided a roadmap in respect of the major spices like Cumin, Chilli, Pepper, Turmeric, Coriander, and Mint for general guidance and consideration by the Agricultural Ministry for their planning for future.

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## Codex Committee

AISEF has been representing the Spices forum during the meeting of Codex Committee deliberating on the specifications for the Spices.

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## World Spice Organization Initiatives

World Spice Organisation (WSO), our technical arm, has been involved with the PBAB organized by GIZ for Biodiversity Initiatives in Western Ghats. They were

involved in imparting training to the Companies for Biodiversity Initiatives. The programme is still continuing and it is likely that there would be scope for more members to be trained in this venture in the future programmes planned by GIZ.

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## Closing Remarks

We intend to reach out to our members and seek their views in how the Forum should proceed to be of help to the members and look forward to more interactions with our members. We request the members to suggest the programmes and topics which our Forum can take up. You may communicate with the Executive Director, AISEF, with your suggestions and we assure you that we would strive our best to meet the requirements of our members.

*Col Deric Sebastian*  
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*AISEF*  
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