



**National Academy of Agricultural Sciences**  
**Annual General Body Meeting**  
**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), a think tank dedicated to agricultural research, education, and extension in India, recently organised its 30th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) on June 4th and 5th, 2023. The event also marked the celebration of NAAS's Foundation Day on June 5, 2023.

The first day of the AGM featured two panel discussions. The first panel, titled "Roadmap for Agricultural Research, Education and Extension for Amrit Kaal – 2047," focused on developing a research agenda to increase farmers' income and improve their welfare during this auspicious era. The second panel, titled "Empowering Agricultural Universities to Meet the Emerging Challenges in Agriculture," explored the evolving landscape of agriculture and redefining the role of agricultural universities in addressing emerging challenges. Both panels were chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, President of NAAS, Secretary DARE and Director General of ICAR.

During the AGM, two special evening lectures were delivered by Dr. William Dollente Dar, Former DG, ICRISAT, Hyderabad, and Dr. Ajay Kohli, DDG (Res.), IRRI, Philippines, distinguished scientists of international repute.

On the second day, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, president, NAAS along with Prof. K.C. Bansal, Secretary, NAAS and other officials of the Academy, led the AGM. In recognition of outstanding contributions to agriculture, NAAS felicitated Padma Awardee Scientists, Farmers, Industrialists, and Media Personalities. Additionally, the Academy honored one of its Fellows, Prof. Rajeev Varshney, Foreign Secretary of NAAS, who was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of London, a rare distinction for an agricultural scientist.

Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, IAS, the Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog, delivered the Foundation Day lecture. He highlighted India's remarkable achievements in agriculture and emphasized their potential to transform India into a global leader.

Prof. Ramesh Chand, a distinguished member of NITI Aayog, graced the event as the Chief Guest and shared valuable insights on the role of agriculture in achieving the goal of *Viksit Bharat* (Developed India).

Dr. Himanshu Pathak presided over the Foundation Day Program, alongside other officials of NAAS, including Dr. A K Singh and Dr. K M Bujarbaruah Vice Presidents, and Prof. K C Bansal and Dr. W S Lakra Secretaries. Past presidents of the Academy, Dr. T Mohapatra, Dr. Panjab Singh, and Prof. R B Singh also graced the occasion.

The 30th AGM organized by NAAS proved to be an exceptional event, fostering collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange among agricultural scientists, policymakers, and stakeholders. The contributions of esteemed individuals present at the event undoubtedly contributed to the continued progress and development of the agricultural sector in India.