



FEDERATION OF SEED INDUSTRY OF INDIA

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To

28 September 2023

Dr. Sowmya Swaminathan, D/o. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
M S Swaminathan Research Foundation
3rd Cross Street, Taramani,
Chennai - 600 113

To the beloved family of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan,

We, at Federation of Seed Industry of India, are writing this with profound sadness to offer our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy on the demise of the great scholar, unmatched scientist, and above all, a wonderful humanitarian, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. It is a great loss to the humanity. We are writing this to extend our thoughts and prayers to you and your family during this time of immense loss.

His extraordinary life and legacy will live in the hearts of billions of people for his immense contributions in agricultural research particularly, during the Green Revolution. He was not just a luminary in the global agricultural community. The world will remember and draw inspiration from Dr. Swaminathan's altruistic life, which was characterized by an unwavering dedication to improving the lives of billions as the **Father of the Green Revolution in India**. His pioneering work in agricultural science brought about transformative changes in food production, saving countless lives from hunger and malnutrition.

His scientific accomplishments were nothing short of extraordinary. His research in crop breeding and genetics led to dramatic increases in crop yields. For instance, between 1965 and 1970, the introduction of high-yielding wheat varieties in India resulted in a staggering 1,000% increase in wheat production. Similarly, his innovations in rice cultivation led to a remarkable 300% increase in rice yields during the same period. Averting food crises and famines, these exponential gains ensured that India attains self-sufficiency in food and eventually turn a net exporter of food.

Internationally, Dr. Swaminathan's influence was equally profound. His leadership as the Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and later at the International Rice Research Institute helped shape global agricultural policies. His influence resulted in the development and dissemination of high-yielding crop varieties worldwide, contributing significantly to augment food security and poverty alleviation. To this day, over one billion people rely on the rice varieties developed under his able stewardship.

But impacts of Dr. Swaminathan's works extended far beyond the labs and fields. His vision for a hunger-free world materialized through the establishment of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, an institution dedicated to sustainable agriculture and rural development. Under his guidance, it reached out to countless farmers and played a pivotal role in reducing poverty and malnutrition. Hence, it is an understatement to say Dr. Swaminathan's passing has left a void not only in the field of agriculture but in philanthropy too. He was a beacon of hope and a voice for the marginalized, his commitment to social justice and equity inspired many to join the fight against hunger, and poverty.

We reiterate that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. The incredible legacy he leaves behind will be remembered forever and it will radiate in the countless lives he touched and transformed. Dr. Swaminathan's life was that of a lighthouse. It was complete, fulfilling, and bountiful one. While we will dearly miss him, his indomitable spirit will always inspire us and drive us to work tirelessly toward a more equitable and hunger-free world.

With heartfelt condolences,

For Federation of Seed Industry of India

Aja Raha
Chairman