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Recommendations and Issues discussed at the ISAE Convention at BHU, Varanasi January 28-30, 2019

1. In the Inaugural session, following issues emerged:

- a) ISAE made a strong request to the Vice Chancellor of BHU to establish a B.Tech. degree programme in Agricultural Engineering. BHU offers M.Tech. and Ph.D. degree programmes in Agricultural Engineering.

The Honorable Vice Chancellor Dr. Rakesh Bhatnagar of BHU agreed to the request of ISAE and made a statement about this in his address in the Inaugural Session of the ISAE Convention on 28th January 2019.

- b) ISAE President, Patron and other representatives had met the Honorable Agriculture Minister of U.P. in Lucknow and invited him to attend the ISAE Convention. During this visit, position of Agricultural Engineering education was also discussed. The Minister in his address at the Convention at BHU strongly supported the establishment of B.Tech. degree programme at BHU, Varanasi. He also stated that the Government of Uttar Pradesh would try to provide all necessary support to this new B.Tech. Programme.

- c) A proposal to establish B.Tech. programme at BHU should be submitted at the earliest.

2. During the industry session, following issues emerged :

- a) Interaction among academician, industry and field engineers should be promoted.
- b) Engineers from industry and field should be encouraged to become life members of ISAE and they should participate in ISAE conventions and other activities.
- c) Contributions of ISAE members from industry and field should be duly recognized by giving suitable awards and electing as fellows.
- d) A position of Vice President of ISAE representing industry should be created, modifying ISAE constitution accordingly.
- e) It was emphasized that the position of Agricultural engineer in each district should be created at the earliest. Similarly, the establishment of the Directorate of Agricultural engineering in every State was also emphasized.

The ISAE Chapters members in respective States were reminded to take up these issues with concerned authorities. ISAE HQ would provide necessary back-up support as needed.

3. During the education session, following issues emerged

- a) Universities/Institutes should involve industry in the development of curriculum.



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- b) Industry should support the academic programmes by funding research projects, and jointly organizing training programmes for faculty, staff and students. As a start, Dr. Syed Ismail of SIFA Limited (ismail@sifa.com) agreed to provide one week training in Basic Electronics to be held at IARI. This training course will be for the teachers of Instrumentation/Electronics.
- c) TIFAN (Technology Innovation Forum for Agricultural Nurturing) a collaborative activity of many industries was explained. One design & development project is identified and teams from various institutions develop prototypes of machines and demonstrate its working in a competition. This competitive activity needs to be promoted at various agricultural engineering institutions.
- d) Industries were requested to provide more seats for training of students as a degree requirement. Under fifth Deans Committee Curriculum up to 4 months time can be used for training in an industry. Industry agreed to work out feasible arrangements with individual institutions.
- e. The names of Colleges/Faculties should be revised to “College/Faculty of Agricultural & Food Engineering”. The existing nomenclatures as “College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology” may suffice for the time being. This College/Faculty should be responsible for offering B.Tech. in Agricultural Engineering and B. Tech. in Food Technology degree programmes, as well as, M.Tech. and Ph.D. degree programmes in Agricultural Engineering and Food Technology related fields/specializations.