Man with a Vision
Dr. Himanshu Pathak
appointed as Secretary-DARE cum DG-ICAR

On 28th July, 2022, Senior Scientist Dr. Himanshu Pathak was appointed as the Director General (DG) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE). He took over the charge of Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR from Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra on 1st August 2022. Prior to his appointment as DG ICAR and Secretary DARE, Dr. Pathak was working as the Director of the ICAR-National Institute of Abiotic Stress Management in Baramati, Maharashtra. Previous to that, Dr. Pathak served as the Director of the ICAR-NRRI in Cuttack, India.

About
Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE)

The Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) was established under the Ministry of Agriculture in December, 1973. It coordinates and promotes agricultural research & education in the country. It has the following four autonomous bodies under its administrative control:
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal
- Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar
- Rani Laxmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, UP

DARE provides the necessary government linkages for the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the premier research organisation for co-ordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country. With over 97 ICAR institutes, 53 agricultural universities, 6 Bureaux, 18 National Research Centres, 25 Project Directorates, and 89 All India Coordinated Research Projects spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural research systems in the world.

DARE is the nodal agency for International Cooperation in the area of agricultural research and education in India. The Department liaises with foreign governments, UN, CGIAR and other multilateral agencies for cooperation in various areas of agricultural research. DARE also coordinates admissions of foreign students in various Indian agriculture universities/ ICAR Institutes.
About
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous organisation under DARE. Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was established on 16 July 1929 as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in pursuance of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The headquarters of ICAR is situated at National Capital, New Delhi. The Council is the apex body for co-ordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country. With 111 ICAR institutes and 71 agricultural universities spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural systems in the world. The ICAR has played a pioneering role in ushering Green Revolution and subsequent developments in agriculture in India through its research and technology development that has enabled the country to increase the production of foodgrains by 5.6 times, horticultural crops by 10.5 times, fish by 16.8 times, milk by 10.4 times and eggs by 52.9 times since 1950-51 to 2017-18, thus making a visible impact on the national food and nutritional security. It has played a major role in promoting excellence in higher education and research. It is engaged in cutting edge areas of science and technology development and its scientists are internationally acknowledged in their fields.

About
Dr. Himanshu Pathak

Dr. Himanshu Pathak was born in Purulia, West Bengal, India on 2 February 1965. He completed his school education from Gopalpur Swami Gyanananda Vidyapith, Purulia, West Bengal and Dubrajpur Uttarayan Vidyayatan, Bankura, West Bengal. Dr. Pathak obtained BSc (Ag.) from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, and MSc and PhD in Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. His research areas include soil science, climate change and environmental pollution.

Professional Background

Dr. Pathak joined as Director of ICAR-National Rice Research Institute (NRRI), Cuttack, Odisha on August 1, 2016. Earlier from 2009 to 2016 he served as Principal Scientist, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. Professor, Discipline of Environmental Sciences, IARI from 2013 to 2016; Co-Facilitator, Rice Wheat Consortium, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI-India, New Delhi from 2006 to 2009; Humboldt Fellow, Institute of Meteorology and Climate Research, Germany from 2004 to 2006, Senior Scientist, IARI from 2001 to 2004; Scientist (Sr. Scale), IARI from 1999 to 2001; Scientist, IARI from 1997 to 1999, Visiting Scientist, University of Essex, UK from 1996 to 1997 and Scientist, IARI from 1992-97. He worked as a visiting scientist in University of Essex, United Kingdom; IRRI, Philippines; CSIRO Land and Water, Australia and Institute of Meteorology and Climate Research, Germany. He was engaged in teaching and guiding MSc and PhD students since 1993 at IARI, New Delhi.
Awards and Recognitions
Dr. Pathak is a Fellow of Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Sciences, India; National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology and Indian Climate Congress, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. He is the recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship of Germany, Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA) Young Scientist Award, Silver Jubilee Commemoration Medal of INSA, Golden Jubilee Commemoration Young Scientist Award of the Indian Society of Soil Science, BOYSCAST Fellowship of Department of Science and Technology (DST), Dr. BC Deb Memorial Award, Prof SK Mukherjee Commemoration Award and Platinum Jubilee Award Lecture by Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA) and Recognition Award of NAAS. He served as the President of Association of Rice Research Workers, Cuttack, Odisha and Agriculture and Forestry Sciences Section of ISCA. He also acted as Executive President of Society for Conservation of Nature, New Delhi and Dr. Pathak is the member of many professional societies. He was the Lead Author of the Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 5th Assessment Report. He is also the Lead Author of Refinement to the IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. Dr. Pathak was the Coordinator for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Dept. of Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India and received IRRI, Philippines Outstanding Administrative Support Award.

Publications
Dr. Pathak has published more than 170 research papers of which 105 papers are in journals with more than 6.0 NAAS score, 30 review papers, 25 popular articles, 13 books, 15 technical bulletins and 75 book chapters. He has h-index of 68, i10-index of 212 with about 11,239 citations in international literature. Hence with his vast experience and expertise, Dr. Himanshu Pathak will surely take Indian Agriculture to new heights of success. Team Just Agriculture congratulates and wishes Dr. Pathak all the best for his tenure as Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education.