SriLanKoRAA NEWSLETTER

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Executive Committee- 2015/2016

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10th Annual General Meeting and Field Excursion

The 10th Annual General Meeting of SriLanKoRAA was held on 28th February, 2016 at Uva Management Development Centre at Thalagahathenna, Passara. The event was graced by Hon Ms. Ji Sun JUN, Deputy Chief of Mission, Consular, Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Korea as the Chief guest. Thirty eight members and representations from KOPIA Centre participated the event





Prior to the Annual General meeting, members visited Rahangala Agriculture Research Station and Lipton Seat at Dambetenna Estate.



University Scholarship Programme

Scholarship programme initiated by SriLanKoRAA for Undergraduate students of the Faculties of Agriculture of the University of Peradeniya, University of Ruhuna, Rajarata University and Jaffna University is continuing. Total no of 20 students are benefitted from the programme each year. The executive committee handed over the cheque to the Dean ,Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University on 26th August 2016.



Development Projects

Several members of the SriLanKoRAA continued their development projects.

Seed Onion Production programme

True seed production of red onion program Project commenced last year is successfully continued with another 40 farmers in 2 cluster villages. Executive Committee members visited Jaffna on 27th August with Provincial Director and staff to observe the project activities and found that the project was a very successful one and there are 40 farmers produce red onion seeds in collaboration with Northern Provincial Department of Agriculture with the financial assistance from SriLanKoRAA. SriLanKoRAA appreciates Mr. S. Sivakumar, Provincial Director of Agriculture and his staff for making this project a great success.



SriLanKoRAA donates Seed cleaning Machine

The true seed production of red onion program was very successful and farmers were able to produced true seeds and sell the excess quantities either as nursery beds or as seeds. They have identified the problem of seed processing manually and during the field inspection, farmers and the Northern provincial Department of Agriculture requested an onion seed cleaning machine. SriLanKoRAA donated a seed cleaning machine to the Northern Provincial Department of Agriculture at the cost of Rs. 178000 and the facility is now available at the District Training Centre, Thirunanweli. Farmers bring their un cleaned seed harvest to DTC and clean them using the facility paying on weight basis.



Community Development Programme

This project is at Surukkulama village, in Anuradhapura and coordinated by Mr P B Dayaratne. Vice President ,Executive Committee members visited the location on 26th August 2016 and met the members of the women organization who are very active in project work. SriLanKoRAA assisted to build 3 agro-wells of the area to irrigate the crops.



High level KoRAA meeting

The KoRAA High level Officials workshop was held in Jeonju ,Korea from 10th to 14th Oct 2016,. High Level Officials from 8 Countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea (Mongolia absent)) participated. The Theme of the workshop was Rural Community Transformation for sustainable Agriculture. Emphasis were given sustainable development Goals declared by the United Nation development Programmme. Dr WMW Weerakoon the President & Mr Shantha Emitiyagoda Secretary participated representing SriLanKoRAA. Members had a chance to visit the new RDA Headquarters in Jeonju. They also visited the old RDA headquarters at Suwon and Gyeonggido Agriculture Research & Extension Services office. It was also revealed at the High level workshop that High and middle level workshops will be continued while RDA will gradually reduce the funds for development program as KOPIA & AFACI are active in most of the KoRAA member countries.



'2016 RDA Training Workshop for Middle Level Officers' - Bangkok, Thailand - 25th to 31st of October, 2016

Mr. A.S.M. Roshan and Mr. R.A.C.J. Perera of the Department Agriculture representing SriLanKoRAA participated in the above training programme. They had the opportunity to learn and share the knowledge and experiences among other participated countries on important aspects on novel technologies used, new research avenues, technology dissemination strategies, entrepreneurship and marketing in agriculture sector with respect to their countries under KoRAA programmes. They participated in field visits on some of the selected farm ventures with success stories in agriculture in Thailand, where there were many take home messages that could be beneficial for Sri Lankan context as well.
Further, the training programme was a juncture to strengthen our relationships among participated countries as an effective and active association in the region.

Lifetime ASDA Award

Lifetime ASDA award sponsored by the SriLanKoRAA was continued this year as well. The recipient for year 2016 was, Former Director General of Agriculture Dr SBDG Jayawardena. The award was presented to Dr Jayawardena by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture at the inauguration session of the ASDA which was held on 8th September 2016.



Executive Committee Meeting

Six Executive Committee meetings were held during the year 2016 and discussed and took decisions on various issues of the society activities.



Evaluation of the Projects.

During the past 11 years SriLanKoRAA and its members implemented 12 different projects for the benefit of the farming community of Sri Lanka. The RDA have requested SriLanKoRAA to evaluate the projects and submit a report. Therefore SriLanKoRAA recruited an expert to accomplish the assignment and Dr Canute De Silva former Director of SEPC, is now working on the assignment and expected to submit his report within three months. Initial workshop has been held on 19th and 20th January 2017 at the Natural Resources Management Centre, Peradeniya in this regards.

New Membership

During the year 6 new members enrolled and there are 48 life Members in this association out of total membership of 140.

Upcoming Event

11th AGM will be held at ISTI, Gannoruwa on 18th February 2017