

**Maize Technologists Association of India
Cummings Laboratory, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012**

Proceeding of the Executive committee meeting held on 13th May, 2020

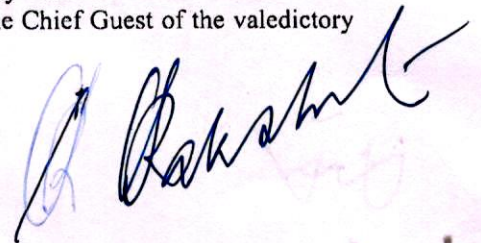
The Executive Committee meeting of Maize Technologists Association of India (MTAI) was held through Video conferencing at 12:10 PM on 13th May, 2020 under the chairmanship of Dr. Sujay Rakshit, President, MTAI and Director, ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana. The following members attended the meeting:

1. Dr. Ishwar Singh, Vice-President, MTAI and Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Delhi Unit
2. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Secretary, MTAI and Principal Scientist, ICAR, New Delhi
3. Dr. Ramesh Kumar, Joint Secretary, MTAI and Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR Ludhiana
4. Dr. Ganapati Mukri, Treasurer, MTAI and Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
5. Dr. S.K. Gularia, Executive Member NHZ, MTAI and Principal Scientist, CSKHPKV, Bajaura
6. Dr. J.P Shahi, Executive Member NEPZ, MTAI and Professor, BHU, Varanasi
7. Dr. Vijay Paradkar, Executive Member, MTAI, CWZ and Professor JNKVV, Chindwara
8. Dr. Bijendra Pal, Executive Member, MTAI, PZ and Deputy Director Research, Bio-seed, Hyderabad
9. Dr. Suby S.B, Executive Member NWPZ, MTAI and Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Delhi Unit
10. Dr. Pradyumn Kumar, Editor in Chief, MTAI and Ex-Director, ICAR-IIMR, New Delhi

At the outset Dr. Ashok Kumar, Secretary, MTAI welcomed Chairman and all the members of the Executive Committee and briefed about agenda items to be discussed. After confirmation of minutes of Executive Committee meeting held on 8th February, 2020 other agenda items were discussed and following decisions were made.

1. Organization of National Seminar:

The National Seminar on "Maize for Crop Diversification under Changing Climate Scenario" was successfully organized on 9-10 February, 2020 in collaboration of ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana and PAU, Ludhiana at PAU campus, Ludhiana. The seminar was conducted in five sessions and 200 delegates from different parts of the country participated in the Seminar. The seminar was inaugurated by Sh. Suresh Kumar, Chief Principal Secretary, Govt. of Punjab on 9 February, 2020. Each session has one lead presentation by the eminent researcher/scientist followed by oral presentations by the 4-5 speakers in each theme/session. In each theme, separate poster presentation session was organized and 174 posters were presented by the delegates of different parts of the country. Each sessions was chaired by stalwarts (Dr B. S. Dhillon, Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana, Dr Sujay Rakshit, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana, Dr Sain Dass, Ex-Director, ICAR-IIMR, New Delhi, Dr B. M. Prassanna, Director, Maize Program, CIMMYT, Dr S K Vassal, World Food Laureates CIMMYT, Dr. P.K. Chuneja, Head, Department of Entomology, PAU, Ludhiana, Dr. R. K. Singh, Director, CIPHET, Ludhiana and Dr. Rajbir Singh Brar, Director, ATARI, Ludhiana), who are recognized both nationally and internationally for their contribution in maize research and development. The valedictory function was convened on 10 February, 2020 and Dr. B.S. Dhillon, VC, PAU, Ludhiana was the Chief Guest of the valedictory



function along with Dr. N.S.Malhi, former VC, Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Saboo was Guest of Honour. The seminar was conducted with a grand success and came up with important scientific decisions/recommendations on maize improvement, production, protection, value addition and post harvest technologies to meet the future demand of maize and doubling the farmers' income under changing climatic scenario and policy issues.

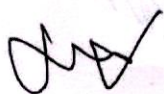
Besides, MTAI awards, viz. Dr. NL Dhawan Life Time Achievement Award, Dr. Joginder Singh Outstanding Research Award, Dr. NN Singh Young Scientist Award, Manihar Best PG Research Award for PhD, Manihar Best PG Research Award for MSc, MTAI Fellow, Honorary MTAI Fellow, Best poster presentation award and Innovative Farmers, were also distributed to the different awardees (researcher, students and farmers) as finalized by the respective committees. The Executive Committee congratulated the awardees and also appreciated the efforts made by various organizing committees and local committees for successful organization of the seminar.

2. Financial approval:

- To organize the seminar a sum of ₹ 4.69402 lakhs was generated from registration fee, sponsorships, advertisement charges etc and ₹ 3.83780 lakhs were incurred on organization of the seminar with a saving of ₹ 0.85622 lakhs to MTAI. The Executive Committee approved expenditure of ₹ 3.83780 lakhs incurred in organization of the seminar.
- MTAI received a sum of ₹ 50,000.00 as sponsorship of Manihar Best PG Research Award for PhD and Manihar Best PG Research Award for MSc from Dr. Sujay Rakshit, President, MTAI. The committee decided that this sponsorship amount will be deposited as term deposit bank so that the basic amount may remain intact and interest earned from this deposit may be utilized to provide these two awards in terms of plaque and cash incentive.
- Secretary, MTAI informed the committee that a sum of ₹ 17,700.00 (₹15000.00 +GST) is to be paid to Chartered Accountant for professional services rendered in connection with auditing of MTAI accounts for 2017-18 and 2018-19. The Committee sanctioned ₹17,700.00 and directed to make the payment of auditing and also advised for preparing and auditing the accounts and filing the income tax for the financial year of 2019-20.

3. Publication of Maize Journal:

Dr. Ishwar Singh, Vice-President briefed the present status of publication of Maize Journal. He stated that MTAI has updated publication of all issues of the journal during 2019 and is in process of publication of issues for 2020. Maize Journal will contain full length papers from the oral presentations made during National Seminar on "Maize for Crop Diversification under Changing Climate Scenario" on 9-10 February, 2020. The Committee appreciated the efforts made by the Editorial Board on one hand and also suggested to explore the possibilities of inviting good quality research papers from the scientists and researchers working at national and international level. To attract good quality research paper, it was agreed and decided by the committee to initiate the "Best Paper Award" from the published articles in "Maize Journal", which will be yearly in nature. The committee suggested to select one best paper each year for



award. The award will contain a certificate only. It was also suggested to get approval of this proposal by the MTAI members during next GB meeting.

4. Development of Mobile app on Maize:

Considering the significance of maize as food, feed, special purpose and industrial crop presently and in future, there was a proposal from the President in order to link all stake holders a Mobile App may be developed to link the seed chain, supply chain and value chain in maize. The Executive Committee agreed to the idea to develop mobile app in collaboration of ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana. In order to develop Mobile app a committee with the following members is proposed and agreed by the MTAI Executive Committee to develop the modalities and coordinate the activities for developing the app in consultation of Dr. Sujay Rakshit, Director, ICAR-IIMR and President, MTAI.

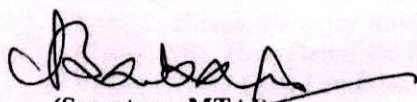
- i. Dr Bijendra Pal, Bio-seed, Hyderabad-Chairman
- ii. Dr Ramesh Kumar, ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana-Member
- iii. Dr S. L. Jat, ICAR-IIMR, Delhi Unit-Member Secretary
- iv. Dr Priyajay Kar, Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana-Member

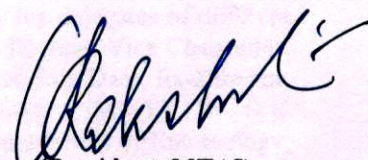
Towards this endeavour an interface meeting with various stake holders may be organized by MTAI and ICA-IIMR, jointly in coming months.

5. Extension of term of Executive Committee and nomination of returning officer:

The three term of present executive committee was up to 22 April, 2020 but it was extended up to 30 May, 2020 as under the looming threat of Covid19 the elections for new MTAI executives was not possible to be held. However, it was further found that under the prevailing conditions of pandemic due to Covid19, the election cannot be organized immediately. Therefore, The EC as a very special case took a decision to initiate the process organization of the elections for MTAI executives at the earliest. For this purpose it nominated Dr Ashok Kumar, Head, Division of Germplasm Evaluation, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi as Returning Officer to conduct the elections on behalf of MTAI. Since it may take some time the EC approved an interim extension of the present executive committee for four months, i.e. till September, 2020 or the date of completion of the election process and declaration of results, whichever is earlier.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the members.


(Secretary, MTAI)


(President, MTAI)