



*“SRT humming..... Soil enriching, Crops booming and Farmers Empowering”*

## Shri. Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle Honored with Norman E. Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award

Namaskar,

Welcome to the 176th edition of the Saguna Rural Foundation (SRF) Newsletter!

We are thrilled to announce a monumental achievement in the field of agriculture. Shri. Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle, a visionary in sustainable farming, has been awarded the inaugural Norman E. Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award by the Trust for Advancement in Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Delhi. This prestigious award acknowledges Chandrashekhar’s pioneering contributions to innovative and sustainable agricultural practices. Through his innovative techniques—SRT, SVT, SJT, and agro-tourism—Shri. Bhadsavle has revolutionized Indian agriculture. His dedication exemplifies the integration of innovation, environmental stewardship, and respect for farming as a noble profession.

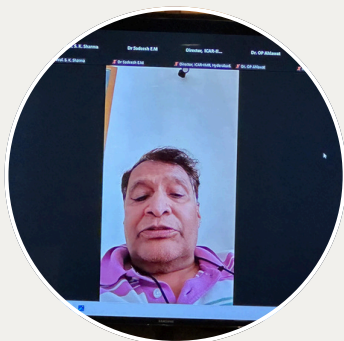


*Shri Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle honored with the prestigious Norman E. Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award by the Trust for Advancement in Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Delhi*

The award ceremony was held on December 20, 2024, at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Pusa, Delhi. The event was graced by the presence of Hon'ble Shri Suresh Prabhu, Former Union Cabinet Minister, who participated online as the Chief Guest. Padma Bhushan Dr. R.S. Paroda, Chairman of TAAS and former Director General of ICAR, delivered the welcome address and set the stage for a ceremony attended by over 100 eminent agricultural experts. The award was presented to Shri. Bhadsavle by Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson of MSSRF, Chennai, and daughter of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, the architect of India's Green Revolution.



*Group Photo TAAS awards 2024*



In his address, Shri Suresh Prabhu emphasized the need for intensive and innovative research to address food, nutritional, and environmental security holistically.



Dr. Soumya Swaminathan highlighted the importance of addressing farmers' challenges, linking them to markets, and ensuring timely inputs for better nutrition and health.

The Norman E Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award was instituted in 2024. This award recognizes exemplary farmers whose innovations significantly impact agriculture and rural livelihoods. Shri. Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle's groundbreaking efforts, particularly in the development of the Saguna Regenerative Technique (SRT), have set a new benchmark for sustainable agriculture.

The other recipients of awards in the function are; Dr MS Swaminathan Awards for: Dr Kamal Bawa, FRS and founder of Ashoka Trust for 2023, and Dr BM Prasanna of CIMMYT for 2024.

The recipients of Dr SK Vasal Award for Excellence in Crop Hybrid Research for 2024 were: Dr Sujay Rakshit, Director ICAR-Agriculture Biotechnology, Ranchi, and Dr Firoz Husain, Principal Scientist, Division of Genetics, IARI, New Delhi.



*Awardees of Dr MS Swaminathan award, Dr SK Vasal Award for excellence in Crop Hybrid Research & Dr Norman E Borlaug innovative farmer award*

*Stay tuned for more updates as we continue our journey towards a greener and more sustainable future.*

*Thank you!*



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For feedback and inquiries: [sagunaruralfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:sagunaruralfoundation@gmail.com)



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