



# TOUR REPORT

## AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> 2016

### AGRICULTURE STUDY TOUR TO USA



## HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION FROM GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA



Siddharth Gautam, Director

Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD)

HO Address : 306 Rohit House, 3 Tolstoy Road, New Delhi-110001

Ph: 011- 23731129 & 43595456, Fax: 011- 23731130, Handheld: +91-9810585797 & 9810832838

Email: siddharth.card@gmail.com, Visit us at: www.card.org.in||



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Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development

WWW.CARD.ORG.IN

**DAY 1** 4<sup>th</sup> August 2016

All the delegates along with Mr. O.P. Dhankar, Agriculture Minister, Government of Haryana assembled at New Delhi Airport to depart for San Francisco, Post check-in the delegates headed towards their first visit to UC Davis where they closely observed the Agriculture, horticulture, Animal Husbandry and food processing units. After the extensive field visits, the delegates attended a scheduled meeting with the Government official and a late-night dinner meeting with the Indian Officials. Ending the hectic day, the delegates went to their hotels for the night.



**DAY 2** 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Next Day, early morning, a field visit took place at Guadaulpe, Santa Maria to visit Apio INC. factory where once again various aspects of the Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing units were extensively explored.



**6<sup>th</sup> August 2016** **3** DAY

On Day 3, delegates checked-out from the Santa Maria Hotel and headed towards Los Angeles to board a flight to Des Moines, IOWA State. Upon reaching Des Moines, the delegates visited the Local places around Des Moines. After a relaxing day, the delegates met with some American- Indians for Dinner and after that checked- in to their hotels for the day.



**DAY 4** 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Next Day, the delegates had an early start to the day and visited the Agriculture Fields, Seed Farms, and had a close look at the Farm Mechanization and soil conservation methods. Horticulture fields and Animal Husbandry units were also examined. The Delegates tried to understand the intricacies of a Female Calf Sex Technology unit installed in the factory they were visiting.



**DAY 5** 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Day 5 was an important one as the delegates attended a meeting with the Governor, the Secretary and the Minister of IOWA state wherein an extensive discussion regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) took place. Post meeting the delegates headed towards the IOWA State University. After a long day, the delegates had dinner with various government officials, where official, Agriculture leaders and a few fellow Indians.



**DAY 6** 9<sup>th</sup> August 2016

The next day the delegates checked-out from the hotel early in the morning and boarded a flight to Atlanta, Georgia where they first attended the American Society of Horticulture Science (ASHS) Conference and then paid an extensive visit to Agriculture & Horticulture units, animal husbandry and dairy fisheries, and the food processing units nearby.



**DAY 7 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

On 10th August, 2016 the delegates presented an important report representing the State of Haryana, India in a conference held at the Sheron Hotel, Atlanta. As the conference got over the delegates met some Horticulture Experts and discussed about the horticulture issues and methods employed in their State. After the brief meeting, the delegates again visited the nearby Agriculture/Horticulture and food processing units.



**DAY 8 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

The delegates had an early start the next morning as they boarded a flight to Washington. Upon reaching Washington and checking in to their hotels, they went to Washington DC to attend an important meeting with the India US Business Council FOOD and Agriculture Members, The World Bank Agriculture Official and Crop Life International, and later attended a late evening dinner hosted by the India Agriculture Group. At night, an invitation for Dinner with Official, Agriculture Leaders and a few Indian within the region was accepted and attended.



**DAY 9 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

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**Memorandum of Cooperation  
Between the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Haryana  
and  
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**

As a result of Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey's visits to India in 2013, and the subsequent visit to Iowa by Mr. Om Prakash Dhankar, Minister of Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Haryana, in August 2016, the two leaders met and agreed to formalize a relationship in which Haryana and Iowa can work more closely together to promote collaborations and partnerships in agriculture with the ultimate goal of enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of Haryana, Iowa and the world.

- I. Both parties to this Memorandum of Cooperation agree that agriculture comprises all aspects of food and feed production and processing including but not limited to: human, animal and plant sciences, bio-renewable technology and supporting technologies and industries.
- II. Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Haryana have an abiding interest in the development and promotion of agriculture and believe there are many areas of interest and collaborative business opportunities to mutually benefit both parties. Both sides agree to support cooperative academic research, exchanges and development efforts.
- III. IDALS and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Haryana agree to work through academic, private sector, associations/organizations and private industry to create linkages and opportunities that will lead to initiatives where the strengths of the two parties are brought together for the greater benefit of both of them.
- IV. Both parties agree this Memorandum of Cooperation is an instrument to expand existing exchanges, cooperation and collaborations, enhance existing Memorandums between Iowa and Haryana entities and develop new areas of partnerships.
- V. This Memorandum of Cooperation conveys no financial or program obligation from either side.
- VI. This Memorandum of Cooperation is valid through December 31, 2018, but can be cancelled by either side by written, 30-day notice. The agreement can be extended by mutual consent. IDALS and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Haryana will each constitute a Working Group that will jointly prepare a plan of action in furtherance of this Memorandum of Cooperation.

Signed in Des Moines, Iowa, USA on August 8, 2016

**The Honorable Bill Northey,  
Secretary  
Iowa Department of Agriculture &  
Land Stewardship**

**The Honorable Mr. Om Prakash Dhankar,  
Minister Department of  
Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Haryana**

## PRESS RELEASE

### Business Standard

#### Haryana delegation to visit US

IANS | Gurgaon August 03, 2016 Last Updated at 23:36 IST

Haryana Agriculture Minister O.P. Dhankar on Wednesday said that a delegation under his leadership will visit the United States from August 4.

The delegation includes MLAs Bhagwan Das Kabirpanthi (Nikohen) and Jasbir Singh Deswal (Safidon), Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture) V.S. Kunda, Horticulture Director Arjun Singh Saini and Animal Husbandry Director Dr Gajender Singh Jakhar.

The delegation will share best practices in agriculture, farm technology, systems and experience. Haryana is a sister-state of Iowa in implementation of agri-techniques.

According to Dhankar, the delegation will also participate in a conference on horticulture in Atlanta and visit the University of California for studying new researches and techniques adopted in the field of agriculture and horticulture.

--IANS

pradeep/bsb

**PRADEESH 18**

Haryana delegation led by OP Dhankar to visit US

A delegation led by Haryana Agriculture Minister OP Dhankar will visit the United States from August 4.

The delegation includes MLAs Bhagwan Das Kabirpanthi (Nikohen) and Jasbir Singh Deswal (Safidon), Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture) V.S. Kunda, Horticulture Director Arjun Singh Saini and Animal Husbandry Director Dr Gajender Singh Jakhar.

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Op Dhankar Minister @MinisterOpd · Aug 13

OP Dhankar US visit Special coverage by Mh One news

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**CARD**  
Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development

Press Release Dated: August 4<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2016

**Haryana and Iowa State, US to sign up as Sister States**

Delegates from Government of Haryana led by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of Haryana, Shri O P Dhankar undertakes an agriculture study tour to IOWA State, USA to meet with companies and officials to begin building relationships for future business growth and collaboration.

IOWA State, US has agreed to sign up as Sister state with the Haryana State for cooperation in the agriculture sector. The process of cooperation was initiated by Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) and the memorandum of understanding was also facilitated by it. Ambassador Islami Siddiqui, Senior Advisor, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington DC, who then as the Chief Agriculture Negotiator, US Administration had initiated this process during his visit to India in July 2015 after meeting with the Haryana Government officials. IOWA State has strong technological advancement and expertise in seeds R&D and production, natural resource management, agri-business incubation, environmental sciences, mechanization and frontier areas of agriculture and thus the collaboration would prove to be an important link in the chain for disseminating the same.

**About IOWA Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is responsible for a wide range of programs that affect the quality of life of every Iowan. Both Iowans living on the farm and those in our towns and cities are impacted almost daily by the work of the Department.

Land stewardship is central to the work of the Department. The Division of Soil Conservation provides farmers with expertise and funds to help them install practices that preserve our highly productive soil, prevent erosion and protect our critical waterways. The Department is focused on making sure future.

The Consumer Protection & Industry Services Division and the Food Safety & Animal Health Division are responsible for a wide variety of consumer protection and agriculture promotion programs including regulating meat processing, commercial feed and fertilizer, pesticide application, and dairy production and processing. The State Climatologist, Entomologist, and Veterinarians are also all part of the Department. Other areas of responsibility for the Department include Agriculture Statistics, Homeland Security and the Iowa Hound and Dog Breeding Program. The Department helps promote the more than 170 farmers markets located across the state and administers the Farmers Market Nutrition Program for seniors and residents participating in the WIC program. It also is very involved in agricultural diversification and organic production.

**About Department of Agriculture, Haryana**

The Department of Agriculture, Haryana as country's premier department that has developed considerable expertise in different areas of agriculture extension, soil conservation, agri-mechanization, plant protection, quality control, sugarcane development, integrated watershed development in hills and reclamation of saline land in Haryana. The department formulates various schemes on Sustainable Agriculture practices, soil conservation, soil testing, agriculture engineering, ground water management and IPM. It also has various support services including Haryana seeds development corporation, Haryana agro industries corporation, Haryana land reclamation and development corporation, Haryana state cooperative supply and marketing federation, Haryana warehousing corporation, Haryana state agricultural marketing board, Haryana state cooperative banks, Agricultural research and education, Federation of cooperative sugar mills Ltd (sugarfed), Haryana state cooperative agriculture and rural development bank Ltd, and Haryana land reclamation & development corporation Ltd.

Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of Haryana, Shri OP Dhankar, Addl. Chief Secy - Agriculture, Mr. Kunda and other high level delegates from Government of Haryana along with Mr. Siddharth Gautam, Director, Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development and other delegations. The exposure visit to IOWA state is managed by CARD.

## OUTCOMES / FEEDBACKS OF THE EVENT

The US tour opened various opportunities which could possibly be delved into and explored.

The minister and the high level officials have already started helping the farmers to shift from rice cultivation to horticulture and dairy farming in order to meet the increasing demands in Delhi metro. It was indicated that 5% of Haryana area is already under these high value productions. They are keen to cover at least 25% of area in the next 5 years under diversified agriculture. They are interested in climate smart technologies, peri-urban agriculture; controlled agriculture and plan to cover all aspects from production to the entire value chain to the consumer. They had a vision and preliminary strategy, and the visit to California, Georgia and Iowa allowed exploring the available technologies and possible cooperation.

In Washington, due to the efforts of Drs. Suresh Babu, Madhur Gautam and Ambassador Siddiqui, a fruitful and productive discussion took place at IFPRI, The World Bank and USDA. They requested support in acquisition of technologies, skill development and particularly investments from the World Bank to realize this transformation. It was agreed that the Government will share their efforts and thoughts if they require Bank's technical assistance in further developing the strategy, action plans and investments to implement the strategy. The Bank representatives appreciated Haryana Government's vision and strategy for transformative agriculture from green revolution rice, wheat production which is facing new challenges. The Bank indicated its willingness to help the Government in this transition.

IFPRI promised to share their global knowledge and experiences with Haryana Government if requested.

The meetings and discussions promised a positive result and it was unanimously agreed that it is an important agenda and opportunity to cooperate.

