

डॉ हिमांशु पाठक  
Dr HIMANSHU PATHAK



सचिव कृषि अनुसंधान और शिक्षा विभाग एवं  
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद  
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली 110 001  
Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research  
and Education (DARE)  
and Director General, Indian Council of  
Agricultural Research (ICAR)  
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001

## FOREWORD

Agriculture, the bedrock of our nation's sustenance, thrives on a foundation of information. It is a fertile ground where data blossoms into growth, and knowledge ripens into sustainable development. In this vital role, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) stands tall as a guiding force. ICAR, tirelessly cultivates a rich harvest of research, education, and extension services in agriculture. This dedication generates a wealth of information, a vibrant ecosystem of data that empowers various stakeholders, policymakers, researchers, students, and even farmers, all flourish in the sunlight of this knowledge.

Agricultural Research Data Book (ARDB) is ICAR's signature publication, offering a comprehensive annual compendium. It serves as an indispensable reference, a trusted almanac for agricultural data across the spectrum. From land use statistics to the bounty of horticulture and animal husbandry, the ARDB provides a reliable snapshot of our agricultural landscape. This 2024 edition, meticulously updated with the latest information, ensures its continued relevance. This book is more than a static collection of figures and a dynamic tool for informed decision-making. It empowers us to chart a course for a more sustainable, productive agricultural future. I have full faith that the ARDB will continue to be a cornerstone of knowledge.

My deepest appreciation goes to the ICAR Education Division, especially the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (ICAR-IASRI), for their tireless efforts in bringing forth this invaluable publication. Let the ARDB continue to be a beacon, guiding us towards a brighter agricultural horizon.

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(Himanshu Pathak)