

# Indian Prime Minister's Visit to ICRISAT Center

29 Aug 1992



I am glad to visit ICRISAT after several years. It has grown very well since my last visit as its activity has expanded both in substance and coverage.

We are all proud of this institution. I compliment all those who are running it so successfully and wish them greater success in the years to come.

P.V.Narasimha Rao  
29/8/92

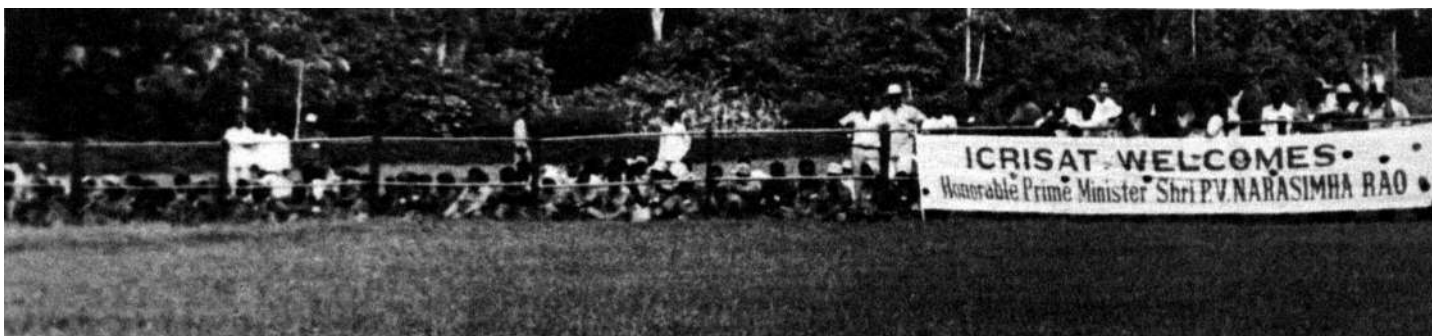


**ICRISAT celebrated its 20th Anniversary on 29 August 1992. Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, Honorable Prime Minister of India, was the Chief Guest. This is a photographic report of his visit.**

The Prime Minister arrived at ICRISAT Center by helicopter. Upon alighting in the cricket field, he was received by Professor Eric H. Roberts, Chairman, ICRISAT Governing Board. Professor V.L. Chopra, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and Vice Chairman of the Board, introduced Professor Roberts to the Prime Minister. Mr Balram jakhar, Honorable Union Minister for Agriculture, and Mr Janardhan Reddy, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, accompanied Mr Rao.



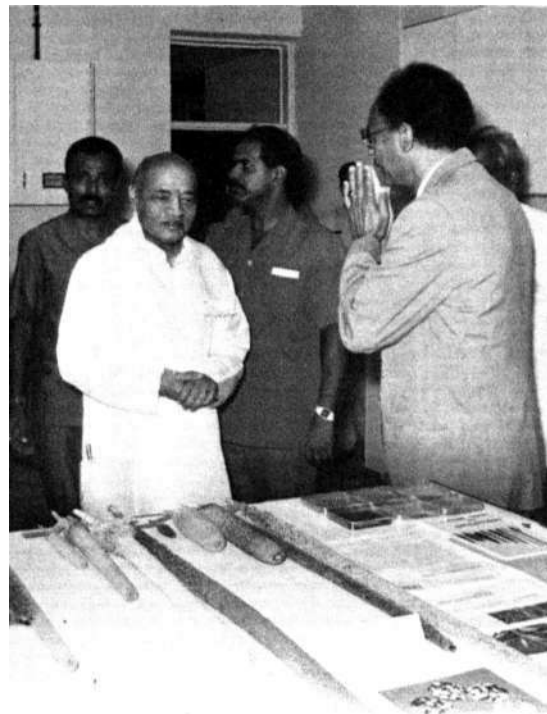
*Many ICRISAT staff members and their families were on hand to welcome the Prime Minister.*





After being introduced to the Prime Minister, Director General James G. Ryan presented him with a handwoven scarf featuring the ICRISAT logo. Mr Rao was then introduced to the Members of the Governing Board and ICRISAT's Administration. *Clockwise from above right:* Dr William T. Mashler, outgoing Chairman of the Governing Board; Dr Roberta H. Smith (Mr M. Zaki Azam and Dr M.S. Gill are also visible); Dr Stein W. Bie; Dr Y.L. Nene, Deputy Director General; and Dr P.V. Shenoi, Assistant Director General (Liaison).





Mr Rao greeted the crowd, and then, guided by Dr Ryan, toured ICRISAT's demonstration plots. Leaving his car to get a closer look at the plots, Mr Rao asked Dr Ryan about the Institute's pearl millet improvement program.

The Prime Minister was then shown the variability of ICRISAT's mandate crops during a visit to the Genetic Resources Unit, where he was greeted by Dr M.H. Mengesha, Program Leader, and his colleagues.

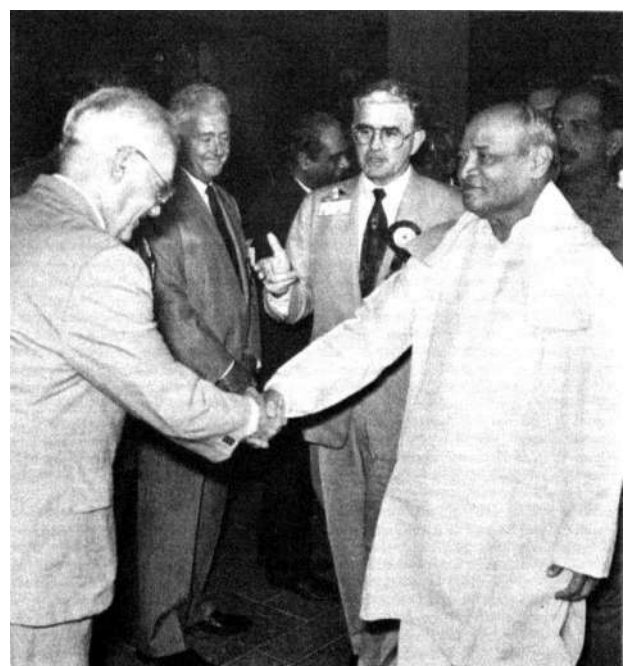
Escorted by Dr Ryan, Mr Rao was shown an exhibition of posters depicting the work of ICRISAT's research programs.

He was also shown photographs of major events during ICRISAT's first 20 years, and the foundation stone laid by his predecessor the Honorable Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi. Mr Rao remembered being present at that occasion.





Dr Ryan then introduced the Prime Minister to his wife, Mrs Wendy Ryan, and to members of ICRISAT's Management Committee. *Clockwise:* Mr Samuel P. Ambrose, Assistant Director General (Administration); Dr Donald E. Byth, Cereals Program Director; Dr Duncan McDonald, Legumes Program Director; and Mr Gordon McGarrigle, Finance Director. Also seen in this photograph are Dr Kanayo F. Nwanze, Chairman of the 20th Anniversary Celebrations Committee (in foreground), and Dr Charles Renard, Executive Director, ICRISAT Sahelian Center (to the left of Mr McGarrigle).





The Prime Minister and other dignitaries relaxed with a cup of tea, and then proceeded to the Auditorium.

In the Auditorium, Professor Roberts welcomed the Prime Minister and other dignitaries, including several Union Ministers and Members of Parliament. In his address, Mr Rao lauded ICR1SAT for its dedication and partnership in agricultural research in India and other countries, and assured the Institute of the continued support of the Government of India. His comments on his visit are reproduced on the cover of this brochure.





*ICRISAT Center has been honored by visits from three Prime Ministers of India. The Honorable Mrs Indira Gandhi laid the Institute's Foundation Stone on 11 January 1975. The Honorable Charan Singh visited on 30 August 1979 to officiate at the inauguration of the new Campus. Mr Rao, the third Indian Prime Minister to visit ICRISAT Center, was actually paying a return visit. He first visited in 1975 when he accompanied Mrs. Gandhi.*





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