

Dr S.P. Kimothi who holds Masters M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Livestock Production Management from National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, joined Agricultural Research Service in March 1986 and possesses over 36 years of experience in research, teaching, extension and research management. Prior to becoming Member, ASRB, he worked as Assistant Director General (Coordination) in ICAR for nearly 8 years where he was involved in coordinating and implementing important flagship schemes of Government which include doubling farmers income initiative. He coordinated a wide range of activities like Regional Committee Meetings, Annual Conferences of ICAR-Director and Vice Chancellors, ICAR National Awards, Cabinet/ PMO related matters besides a series of other important activities. In these activities, he demonstrated the leadership and skill in research management & coordination with a broad vision and perspective of agricultural research and development, essentially required for the higher Research Management Positions. Extramural Funding Scheme of the Council implemented by him has helped in bridging many critical research and technology gaps in the country. He was the nodal officer of several flagship schemes of the Government at the Council level.

Dr Kimothi was the nodal point for the coordination and convergence with other Governmental and non-government departments, developing MoUs and work plans and provided coordination support for departmental meetings including the review meetings chaired by Hon'ble Ministers. Dr Kimothi was closely involved in the process of capacity building and incentivisation of the scientific & farming community through ICAR Awards and providing funding support to the societies and academic institutions for organising National/International seminars/ symposia, conferences besides publication of research journals. New ICAR awards for Organic Farming, and innovative small/marginal farmers were initiated by ICAR during his tenure as ADG (coordination). He has also contributed at the international level in his capacity as the member of the Governing Body of SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dhaka to promote regional cooperation and capacity building efforts at the regional level besides contributing towards, Indo-ASEAN, Indo New Zealand and Indo Saudi collaborations. He has also visited a number of Universities and Institutions of Higher learning in Europe to facilitate technical collaboration.

At the Institute level also, he contributed significantly in the Research, Education and Extension fronts. He headed the Livestock Research Centre of NDRI Deemed University, Karnal, which houses the largest Institutional Livestock Farm of the Country as its Scientist In-charge for 8 long years. Also worked as Head of the Livestock Production and Management Department and built a team of dedicated scientists and researchers. As a result of the initiatives taken by him, the Department of Livestock Production Management got recognized as the best Department in the Institute within 3 years of its establishment and conferred Best Division Award by Director General during the Convocation of the NDRI Deemed University in 2013. As Scientist In-charge, Livestock Research Centre and Livestock Production Management Department, he developed elite herds of Sahiwal cows and Karan Fries Crossbred cows and Murrah Buffaloes, initiated and strengthened Collaborative

Research Programmes on the key areas of Livestock Production & Management. These include, development of indigenous sensor networking to facilitate management decisions at dairy farms and tracking individual animals in collaboration with IIT Delhi, Application of bio-acoustics for the unique identification & detection of different physiological conditions of the buffaloes. Technologies were developed for micro-nutrients, immune modulator supplementation during most vulnerable stages in dairy animals for better health and sustained productivity.

He contributed to key multidisciplinary research initiatives in the frontier areas of research including buffalo cloning project which were strengthened to develop them into package of practices for wider application. NDRI, cloning research team of which he was a key member was awarded ICAR Interdisciplinary Team Research Award in 2014. During his leadership, Research on organic dairy farming was also initiated at NDRI, Karnal. Interdisciplinary researches were initiated on managing physical, environmental & nutritional stresses on dairy animals for sustainable high production in dairy animals and initiatives were taken to promote commercial dairy farming in the country by developing commercial dairy farming modules in different regions through consultancy. These achievements also contributed to the NDRI, Karnal being conferred ICAR Sardar Patel Award, 2014 during the ICAR Foundation Day by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

He worked as research guide for 29 masters (14) and Ph.D. (15) scholars in the discipline of Livestock Production Management of which several were international scholars. Many of the students/research scholars guided by him are holding important positions in India and their respective countries abroad. He has published over 120 research papers in peer reviewed Journals, besides publishing 4 books, several, technical bulletins, policy papers, technical and popular articles.

Working as Core Team Member and leader animal science in the NATP funded, Institution Village Linkage Programme, of NDRI, Karnal for nearly 10 years provided him the opportunity to work closely with the farmers, understand the necessity for participatory problem-solving research besides providing feedback to the research system for further refining the technologies. The IVLP programme of NDRI Karnal, of which he was the co-leader, was adjudged the best among the 74 centres from all over the country and its final presentation/report was rated the best & awarded Best Presentation Award by NATP management in ICAR. He was also closely involved with initiating research on Rathi, Tharparkar and Kankrej breeds at Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Regional Station, Bikaner to enable conservation of these precious indigenous herds which are benefiting the farming community in the arid region.