## <u>The Fertiliser Association of India (FAI), Western Region</u> announces the winners of the "Mahadhan Awards 2014-15"

**Pune, 23 June:** The Fertiliser Association of India (FAI) Western Region announced the winners of 'Mahadhan Awards for 2014-15' during its Annual General Meeting held at Hotel Le-Meridian, Pune on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015. The event was chaired by Dr. S. K. Nanda, Chairman and Managing Director, GSFC.

Deepak Fertilisers And Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (DFPCL) and Rashtriya Chemicals Company Ltd. (RCF), shared the Award for 'Excellence in Fertiliser Extension Services' and cash prize of Rs. 51,000. This award was received by Mr. Arvind Kulkarni, Vijayrao Patil and Shri. Raghunath Newase. National Fertilisers Ltd. (NFL) was awarded a consolation prize in 'Excellence in Fertiliser Extension Services'. KrishakBharati Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) and Gujarat State Fertiliser& Chemicals Ltd. (GSFC) shared the the 'Mahadhan Award' & cash prize of Rs. 51,000 for 'Excellence in Crop Productivity Improvement'.

FAI - Western Region has allocated district-wise and crop-wise scientific demonstrations to industry members in five states of the Western Region namely Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Goa during Kharif and Rabi 2014-15. Based on the work done by the companies, the awards were finalised in the respective categories.

The awardees were selected by a committee comprising of Dr S. S. Magar, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Dr. Babasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli and Ex-President of India Agricultural Universities Association, New Delhi, Dr. R. D. Mulay, Ex-Director of Agriculture, Maharashtra and Mr. D. D. Khose, Regional Executive FAI-WR.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. D. S. Yadav, Director Marketing, FAI, New Delhi put forth the policies and important issues of Fertilizer Industry and Govt. of India. Mr. Rajan highlighted on the current issues fertilizer industry.

The Mahadhan Awards were initially designed and instituted by Mr. S.C. Mehta, in 2008-09, to promote and create awareness on 'Integrated Nutrient Management' among the farming communities in association with the fertiliser marketing companies. The awards are given to the companies doing outstanding work in the respective fields.

Dr. S.K. Nanda, Chairman and Managing Director, (GSFC), Mr. R. G. Rajan, Chairman and Managing Director (RCF), Mr. Ashok Ghasghase, Director - Marketing (RCF), Mr. G. R. Goves, President – Agribusiness, Mr. Arvind Kulkarni, Asso. Vice President – Fertiliser (DFPCL), Mr. V. S. Shirohi, Sr. Vice President (GSFC), Capt. P.K. Kaul, Director Marketing (NFL), Mr. J.P. Ghariya, General Manager (GNFC), Dr. D.S. Yadav, Director Marketing FAI, New Delhi and Mr. D.D. Khose, Regional Executive, FAI (WR) Mumbai were present for the meeting.

Mr. D. D. Khose reviewed the fertiliser and agricultural scenario of 2014 in the states of the Western Region and the prospects for 2015 were discussed.

The Western Region of the Association comprises of agriculturally progressive states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Goa.

Mr. Burujwale and Mr. Shete of FAI (WR) and Mr. Satish Nartam and Mr. Sanjay Birajdar of DFPCL took efforts to make the program successful.

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From L – R: Satish Nartam, S.N. Birajdar, S.R.Kardure, Guy Goves, President, DFPCL, Nilesh Deshmukh, R.G. Rajan, CMD, RCF, C.M. More, Dr. S. S. Magar, Ex-VC, Dr.B.S.K.K.V.Dapoli, Arvind Kulkarni, AVP, DFPCL, Vijayrao Patil, AVP, DFPCL, D.D. Khose, Regional Executive, FAI(WR).