

Research Directions

Office of Research Services

Climate and Crop Disease Management

Associate Professor Samsul Huda, Centre for Plant and Food Science (PAFS), has received funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to strengthen research ties between Australia and India in the area of climate related risk analysis and management, with a particular focus on managing crop disease.

'Much of Australian and Indian agricultural practices are rain-fed and both have rich experience in the management of natural resources that take into account frequent droughts and floods' explained Professor Huda. 'We propose to broaden and deepen the relationship between Australia and India by strengthening collaborative linkages for climate related risk and opportunity management research, education and development work'.

This process will commence with a visit by a senior Indian Government official, Dr Jagir Singh Samra, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), who will share his expertise through a series of meetings and lectures at the University of Western Sydney to relevant schools and colleges, outside research co-operators, community workers and farmers.



Dr J S Samra

Dr Huda will in turn visit selected sites in India, including the ICAR to strengthen the collaboration of climate knowledge and plant protection which will contribute to sustainability in agricultural production and land use.

'Dr Samra's visit complements Dr Huda's research project "Climate and Crop Disease Risk Management: An International initiative in the Asia-Pacific Region" recently selected for funding for two years 2006-2008 by the Asia-Pacific Network (APN)' added Professor Huda.

Project Title: *Climate and Crop Disease Risk Management: An International Initiative between Australia and India*

Funding has been set at: \$11,000.

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<http://www.uws.edu.au/research/researchcentres/chaps>

Australia India Council, Dept of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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