

Global Rice Bran Oil Conference – 2015

Welcome Address by

Pravin Lunkad, President

The Solvent Extractors' Association of India

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Speakers from India and overseas, and fellow delegates,

On behalf of The Solvent Extractors' Association of India, it is a very great pleasure for me to warmly welcome every single one of you to the Global Rice Bran Oil Conference 2015. A very special welcome to Dr A R Sharma, President, IARBO, Prof. Dr. Xuebing Xu, Former President of IARBO, Prof. Dr. Teruo Miyazawa of Japan, Asst. Prof. Dr. Riantong Singanusong of Thailand, Dr. Yuanrong Jiang of China, Mr. Prasert Setwipattanachal of Thailand and Dr. TRAN Thanh Hoa of Vietnam. I extend an equally warm welcome to all our Speakers, who are here from different parts of India and abroad.

We are all eager to actively participate in this Conference, the Theme of which is "Position, Promotion and Prospects of Rice Bran Oil as a Health Oil in the World".

And now, I would like to share with you some information about The Solvent Extractors' Association of India and all it has done in the last 2 decades to promote Rice Bran Oil as a healthy cooking oil in India.

The Solvent Extractors' Association of India (briefly referred to as "SEA") is the premier Association of Vegetable Oil Industry and Trade in India, and it was established in 1963. It has a strong membership of over 850 companies, across India, and thus it truly represents the entire Oilseeds processing industry of India.

SEA is an ISO 9001:2008 Organization. It is recognized as a Trade Promotion Organization by the Ministry of Commerce and as a Non-Government Organization (NGO) by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. SEA has representation on various committees set up by the Government of India. In 2001 it took a 6-

member delegation to Japan to study the latest technology in RBO processing. In its continuing crusade to encourage the production and use of Rice Bran Oil as a “Health Oil”, SEA has organized many National Seminars and Regional Workshops in the last 2 decades. All these efforts have resulted in the production of good quality refined Rice Bran Oil and its consumption as a cooking oil for the health of the entire family has been progressively increasing.

It is with great pride that I say that India produces the best quality of Rice Bran Oil and it has emerged as the largest producer of this oil in the world. We have more than 150 solvent extraction units in India, producing Rice Bran Oil, and the total production is 950,000 tonnes per annum. However, we need to keep up our efforts in this area as the potential in India is about 1.6 million tonnes per annum.

The Doctors on our panels will explain this at length, but I know that you are all aware of the ill effects of the fast-paced, stressful life we lead in today’s world. To achieve greater heights in business and social circles, our modern day Executive does not have the time to pay proper attention to a nutritious diet or to exercise and get adequate rest. So, health related problems are endless, and the number of hypertension, cardiac and diabetic patients keep increasing at an alarming rate, year after year.

I therefore appeal to you to join hands and make the younger generation aware of health norms, such as regular exercise, meditation and rest and, above all, to have a nutritious diet where Rice Bran Oil should play a very vital role. This, you will agree, is of paramount importance for our sustained good health.

Hence, the International Association of Rice Bran Oil has organized this 2nd International Conference on Rice Bran Oil in India, focusing on “Position, Promotion and Prospects of Rice Bran Oil as a Health Oil in the World” along with technology aspects for the production of good quality Rice Bran Oil and value-added products of rice and its by-products.

I am also happy to inform that with our continuous efforts, the Government of India has permitted Export of Rice Bran Oil in bulk. We sincerely thank the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Food for their support. This will now open a new avenue for us to explore the world market.

SEA will have its next Annual General Meeting on 28th September 2015, in Mumbai. This event will be attended by 800 to 1000 members from across our country and from overseas, engaged in oilseed crushing and refining of vegetable oils and by exporters of oilmeals. On the next two days, i.e. on 29th and 30th September, there will be “Globoil India”, one of the biggest events of international vegetable oil trade. I request our participants from China, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam and from other countries to please attend these important events, along with other delegates from your respective countries.

I would now like to conclude by once again welcoming every single one of you to this Conference.

Jai Maharashtra, Jai Hind !!

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