
On 17th March, 2018 the year-long celebrations were kicked off by holding an Inaugural Function in Bajaj Center at NARI. The Chief Guest was distinguished scientist Padmavibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar. He gave a brilliant and enlightening speech with a unique suggestion of "Government Procurement" regarding the technologies developed by small Institutes like NARI.

Mr. Sanjeevraje Naik Nimbalkar, President Satara Zilla Parishad and Chairman of Govind Milk and Milk Products Pvt. Ltd. was the guest of honor. Mr. Nimbalkar together with Mr. B. V. Nimbkar (Founder and Emeritus President), Dr. Nandini Nimbkar (President), Dr. Anil Rajvanshi (Director and Honorary Secretary) and Dr. Chanda Nimbkar (Director, Animal Husbandry Division) also addressed the guests. A video about the 50 years of NARI was screened at the start of the function.
An exhibition portraying the journey of the institute since its inception was set up as a part of the function. This function marks the start of year long activities at the institute which will include seminars, talks and workshops on the theme of high technology for rural development.

Dr. Mashelkar and Mr. Nimbalkar released a souvenir (depicting the 50 years of the institute) along with a booklet titled ‘Highlights of Safflower Research at the Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute’ and the physical copy of the book ‘Romance of Innovation’ by Dr. Rajvanshi.

Photos of the event  Introduction of guests by Anil K Rajvanshi

Speeches by dignitaries. Dr. Mashelkar, Sanjeevraje Naik Nimbalkar, Mr. B.V.Nimbkar, Dr. Nandini Nimbkar, Dr. Anil K Rajvanshi (in pdf it is here), Dr. Chanda Nimbkar

Romance of Innovation - 50 years of NARI (video)

Press coverage of the event (Times of India, Hindustan Times 1 & 2 and Sakal)