Food Insecurity is a Global Challenge

DHARWAD, May 23, 2014 - STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mark Hussey, agricultural scientist, and interim president of Texas Agricultural and Medical University, has stressed the need for coordinated efforts by the global community of scholars to tackle food insecurity.

Addressing graduates, postgraduates and Ph.D. awardees at the 27th annual convocation of the University of Agricultural Sciences here on Thursday, he said the exponential growth in global population was a major challenge.

As a result, food insecurity, malnutrition and hunger had become rampant throughout the globe. One sixth of the world’s population suffered from chronic hunger and at least 3.5 million children died each year due to undernutrition.

BREEDING GROUND

“Not only does hunger rob the poor of a healthy and productive life and stunt mental and physical development, it also provides a breeding ground for crime and civil unrest,” Mr. Hussey said.

Diligent Effort

He suggested that there should be diligent efforts to train the next generation of ‘hunger fighters’ and also to develop and deploy new technologies.

Minister of State for Agriculture Krishna Byre Gowda, who is also the pro-chancellor of the university, conferred the honouris causa on Mr. Hussey and Magsaysay award recipient Rajendra Singh.

As many as 845 students were conferred various degrees.

Nishakumari, an undergraduate student of Agriculture College bagged 10 gold medals for 2011-12 and Mallik M. of the same college won 12 gold medals for the year 2012-13.

ORIGINAL LINK: