

Governor of East Java as Speaker for Recent Figure Dialogue

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Directorate of Agricultural Policy and Strategic Studies (KSKP), Bogor Agricultural University, held III Figures Dialogue with topic "The Role of East Java Provincial Government in Developing Agriculture and Natural Resources", and its sub topic "Food Independence", on 17 April 2014. The Dialogue was carried out at the Darmaga Campus, and the keynote speaker for this special event was the Governor of East Java, Dr. H. Soekarwo. The objectives of the Dialogue were to strengthen the vision, paradigm, and the strategy's for the agricultural-based and natural resources development as a pillar of national development. This special event was officially opened by Rector of IPB, Prof. Dr. Herry Suhardiyanto, M.Sc.

The Figures Dialogue is the media for faculty members and students of IPB to carry out their planned programs with the necessary issues required. East Java pays a lot of attention for its agricultural development. In his opening remarks Rector of IPB stated, "In the Figure Dialogue students and faculty members are expected to learn and evaluate the agricultural policies implemented in East Java. This initial step is important as they will provide us stepping stone for us to implement our national planning programs to improve the agricultural development of Indonesia as stated in our 2018 IPB Renstra. "

In his presentation, the Governor of East Java, Dr. Soekarwo, presented the agricultural development of East Java in 2009-2013, strategy and policy, East Java Discovery, and the pattern of disaster management of Mt. Kelud with special reference on its agricultural development. At the end, Dr. Soekarwo stated that East Java Provincial Government has committed that to improve food security in the short time realistically, he will focus to implement the intensification and optimization of the agriculture."

In his report, the Governor also stated the several commitments achieved such as the attainment of rice surplus by 10 million tonnes, the enlargement of soybeans cultivating areas approximately into 259 thousand hectares, the increased of soybean productivity to 1.75 tons/ha, improving the role of Bulog as a buffer for the domestic soybean market, the increased in the national sugar production, and the achievement of food security for beef. In addition to the presentation, question and answer session was also set in the Dialogue it was guided by the Director of KSKP, Dr. Ir. Dodik Ridho Nurrochmat, M.Sc.

IPB Rector pointed out, "We expect to be a sovereign country, to be able to attain the food self-sufficiency. This is a tremendous benefit of agricultural science and agricultural development. Hopefully we will be able to improve the existing relationships between IPB and East Java provincial government in the near future. " (Wied).