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On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Late Rai Bahadur Gujar Mal Modi, the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of India, Mr Radha Mohan Singh today awarded the 'Gujar Mal Modi Award for Innovative Science and Technology 2014' to Dr Ayyappan. This award recognizes his immense contribution to the field of Fisheries, Freshwater Aquaculture and Aquatic Microbiology.

Dr Ayyappan is credited with bringing Indian Fisheries to a level of excellence in basic science and fish commercialization, unmatched anywhere the world. He is currently the secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, DARE and director general, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, ICAR.

The minister Mr Radha Mohan Singh said, "I appreciate the efforts of Gujar Mal Modi Foundation in recognizing the dedication and hard work of scientists. It gives me great pleasure in congratulating Dr Ayyappan on receiving this award and for his achievements in the field of Fisheries, Freshwater Aquaculture and Aquatic Microbiology."

Mr SK Modi, president of the GM Modi Foundation commented, "Under leadership of Dr S Ayyappan the agricultural research and education programs in our country have received a new direction. His specific areas of research in Fisheries, Freshwater Aquaculture and Aquatic Microbiology are a source of inspiration to the entire young generation of scientists. We, at The Gujar Mal Modi Science Foundation feel honored to recognize such invaluable research of our distinguished scientists and will be committed to carrying forward our efforts and dedication on bringing to light such achievements."