

## ICAR-IARI Celebrates its 120<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day

1-4-2025

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi, celebrated its 120<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day with a grand fervor and resolution, highlighting its remarkable contributions to Indian agriculture since its establishment in 1905. The event was graced by distinguished dignitaries, eminent scientists, farmers and students, reflecting on the institute's legacy of research, innovation, and sustainable agricultural advancements.



Chief Guest of the function Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member of NITI Aayog, Government of India delivered foundation day lecture. In his address, Prof. Chand offered valuable insights into the evolving landscape of Indian agriculture and outlined key policy imperatives for the future. He commended IARI's historical contributions to agriculture, particularly its pivotal role in the Green Revolution. Emphasizing the need to tailor policies to state-specific agricultural conditions, Prof. Chand pointed out that market distortions hinder growth and diversification. He advocated for aligning production with demand, enhancing efficiency through innovation, and tapping into alternative demand sources such as processing, exports, and the bioeconomy. Prof. Chand also proposed that IARI could lead the way in the future by embracing the concept of a "Bio-Revolution," integrating biotechnology with the Green Revolution.

Dr. D.K. Yadava, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), who was guest of honor in the function ICAR, lauded IARI's pioneering contributions in agricultural research and its impact on the farming community and national development. He said that IARI plays a crucial role in the national agriculture research system, and its contributions to crop science have had significant impacts. He also underlined the high priority areas for IARI research, education, extension besides the recent budget highlights of agriculture sector.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-Chancellor of ICAR-IARI, extended a warm welcome to the esteemed guests and outlined the institute's significant achievements in research, academics, and extension services while emphasizing its role in public-private partnerships, technology development, and environmental sustainability. In his address, Dr. Srinivasa Rao highlighted the historic significance of the 120th Foundation Day, acknowledging the contributions of ICAR-IARI in shaping the future of Indian agriculture. He also emphasized IARI's pivotal role in advancing food security, nutrition, and poverty alleviation, and reaffirmed the institute's commitment to innovation and excellence. A detailed presentation followed, showcasing IARI's achievements over the past 120 years, including significant advancements in crop science, sustainable agriculture, and food security initiatives. Dr. Srinivasa Rao emphasized that IARI would continue to build upon its legacy of excellence, driving innovation in agricultural science and technology.

The event also featured the release of several publications, acknowledging the contributions of researchers and scholars at ICAR-IARI. Outstanding students were felicitated for their academic achievements, and winners of literary competitions from both schools and IARI (UG & PG students) were honored for their creativity and excellence. The institute also recognized the hard work and dedication of outstanding scientists, technical staff, administrative personnel, and supporting staff.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), ICAR-IARI, who expressed gratitude to all participants, dignitaries, and organizers for their contributions to the success of the event. As ICAR-IARI embarks on its 121<sup>st</sup> year, it reaffirms its commitment to pioneering agricultural research, strengthening India's farming community, and contributing to global food security.

**Source:** ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi