

## **Director, ICAR-IARI Interacts with International Students, Emphasizes Global Relevance of Indian Agriculture**

*New Delhi, January 28, 2026:* The Director, ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi, Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, interacted with international students of the Institute during a special meeting held at the Library Council Hall on Wednesday. The interaction, organized as part of the orientation programme for international students, was attended by senior officials of the Institute, including Dr Anupama Singh, Dean and Joint Director (Education); Dr Viswanathan C, Joint Director (Research); Dr C. Bharadwaj, Master of Halls of Residence; Dr K. K. Vinod, Associate Dean (International Affairs); and Dr Vishal Somvanshi, International Relations Officer.

Addressing the students, Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao highlighted India's rich cultural diversity and invited international students to imbibe Indian values, traditions and languages during their stay. He underscored IARI's historic contribution to Indian agriculture, recalling its pivotal role in steering the country from an era of famines and food imports to self-sufficiency and its present status as a food exporter. Describing IARI as a harbinger of the Green Revolution and agricultural development, he noted that the Institute has a long-standing tradition of training international students, whose alumni today serve across the globe in diverse capacities.

The Director emphasized that IARI offers substantial scientific knowledge, technologies and field-based experience, and urged students to carry these learnings back to their countries to strengthen agricultural production and self-reliance. He encouraged them to work diligently and make optimum use of what he described as a rare and valuable opportunity, noting that IARI attracts some of the brightest agricultural minds worldwide. He invited students to participate in the forthcoming Convocation and the Pusa Farm Fair, describing these as unique experiential platforms of the Institute. Referring to contemporary challenges such as climate change, he highlighted that countries represented by the students—including Nepal, Myanmar, Syria, Afghanistan and Cameroon—face similar agricultural constraints, and stressed that Indian agricultural innovations offer adaptable solutions to their local contexts.

Dr Anupama Singh expressed gratitude to the Director and other dignitaries for gracing the occasion. She encouraged international students to actively participate in the academic, cultural and extracurricular activities of the Institute and to remain in close contact with the Office of International Affairs for any assistance. Highlighting their larger role, she urged students to act as ambassadors of IARI in their home countries and disseminate the Institute's legacy among aspiring agricultural professionals. She also spoke about initiatives aimed at their mainstream integration, including the proposed International Students' Club, access to the language laboratory, and specialized English language training for students requiring linguistic support.

Dr Viswanathan C, Joint Director (Research), assured the students of full institutional support in their academic pursuits and wished them success during their tenure at IARI.

During the interaction, students expressed gratitude for the opportunity to engage directly with the Institute's leadership. They conveyed satisfaction with the academic environment, training, hospitality and support systems at IARI, stating that their confidence and professional outlook had significantly improved after joining the Institute. They also placed on record their appreciation for the Office of International Affairs for its consistent support.

