Press Release

Director General ICAR Inaugurates Academic Block at ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

New Delhi, 13 November 2026: Dr. M.L. Jat, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, ICAR, inaugurated the Agricultural Extension Academic Block at the Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi. The newly developed facility marks an important step towards strengthening agricultural extension education, research and capacity-building initiatives at the institute.

The newly constructed academic block comprises of four smart classrooms, two laboratories and two administrative rooms, providing dedicated infrastructure for academic activities, research and student learning. The facility is expected to serve as an important academic hub, facilitating educational and research activities in agricultural extension.

Dr. M.L. Jat graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The programme commenced with the inauguration of the academic block, followed by a visit to the newly developed classrooms and laboratories. Addressing the gathering, Dr. M.L. Jat highlighted that agricultural extension extends far beyond the conventional boundaries of education and communication and is an integral component of agricultural development. Emphasising the importance of behavioural science in extension, he stressed the need to understand farmers' behaviour, perspectives and decision-making processes to ensure that scientific knowledge translates into meaningful outcomes at the field level.

He observed that while scientific discovery is important, taking these discoveries to farmers and ensuring their effective delivery is equally challenging. Emphasising this distinction, he remarked that *"the science of delivery is tougher than the science of discovery."* He encouraged students and researchers to adopt a farmer-centric approach and broaden their understanding of laboratories by recognising farmers' fields as laboratories for testing, learning and translating scientific innovations into practice.

Welcoming the dignitaries, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, expressed his honour at the inauguration of the facility and highlighted its significance for strengthening academic activities at the institute. He noted that the academic block would serve as a central hub for educational activities across different divisions, providing an important platform for advancing agricultural extension education and research.

Dr. D.K. Yadava, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR, along with the Joint Directors, PD, WTC, Senior officials, faculty members, staff and students of ICAR-IARI, were also present on the occasion.

The interaction of Senior Management with faculty members, staff and students provided an opportunity to deliberate on strengthening agricultural extension education, encouraging innovative research approaches and preparing future professionals to address emerging challenges in agriculture through effective knowledge dissemination and farmer-oriented interventions.

The inauguration marks an important step towards strengthening the academic and research ecosystem of the Division of Agricultural Extension at ICAR-IARI, with a continued focus on agricultural education, innovative research and the effective translation of scientific knowledge into farmer-centric solutions.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.






WELCOME


WELCOME




कृषि प्रसार वैज्ञानिक भवन
Agricultural Extension Academic Block
कृषि प्रसार प्रभाग
Division of Agricultural Extension