

AICRP on Chickpea and AICRP on Rabi MULLaRP Research Workers' Virtual Annual Group Meet

27th August, 2020, Kanpur

Dr. Tilak Raj Sharma, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR inaugurated the two-days AICRP on Chickpea and AICRP on Rabi MULLaRP Research Workers' Virtual Meet" organized by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur during 27-28 August, 2020. Dr NP Singh, Director, ICAR-IIPR in his welcome address apprised the house about the present status of pulse research in the country, various constraints and research agenda. In his inaugural address, Dr TR Sharma, Deputy Director General (Crop Science) applauded the pulse workers, policy makers and farmers for ushering Protein revolution in the country. Dr. Sharma lauded the efforts of group and termed AICRP on Chickpea as one of the most successful AICRP in the country. He emphasized on development of short duration varieties, increased focus on pod borer resistance, biofortification, appropriate trainings to pulse workers and developing more collaborations with national and international institutes.

Eminent researchers including Prof. R.B. Deshmukh, Former Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri; Prof. S.K.Sharma, Former Vice Chancellor, HPKV Palampur; Dr P.M. Salimath, Former Vice Chancellor, UAS, Raichur; Dr. H.C. Sharma, Former Vice Chancellor, Dr. Y.S. Parmar Univ. of Hort. & Forestry, Nauni; Dr. K.P. Vishwanatha, Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri; Dr. Masood Ali, Former Director, ICAR-IIPR and Dr B.B.Singh, Former ADG(OP), ICAR shared their expertise in resetting research priorities pertaining to varietal improvement and assessment of production and protection technologies in rabi pulses. Delegates from CG institutes viz., Dr Pooran Gaur, Research Program Director – Asia Regional Program; Dr Rajeev Varshney, Research Program Director - Genetic gains and Dr Abhishek Rathore, Theme Leader & Principal Scientist (Statistics, Bioinformatics & Data Management) from ICRISAT and Dr Ashutosh Sarker and Dr Shiv Kumar from ICARDA also actively deliberated during the workshop.

In his concluding address, the Deputy Director General (Crop Science) advised the group to explore possibilities of linking the programme with National nutrition mission, develop collaboration with the food industry for value addition, focus on pre breeding, speed breeding, development of high throughput disease and pest phenotyping facility, biofortified varieties, registration of germplasm and varieties.

More than 150 researchers from India, ICARDA and ICRISAT virtually participated in the meet.

(Source: ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur)