

## ICAR signs MoU with Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) at ICAR-NAARM

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. In a meeting held at ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR) and Dr. S.K Pattanayak IAS (Retd), Director General, ASCI, Hyderabad signed the MoU on behalf of the respective organizations. The MoU provides for renewed focus and collaboration between ICAR and ASCI in the area of capacity building; designing customized training modules and immersion programs; third party assessment of impact of technologies, institutions, training programs and externally aided projects; besides collaborative research and development of strategic policy papers in the areas of mutual interest. Dr. Pattanayak, in his address, recognized that ASCI has a long standing association with NAARM and thanked DG, ICAR for his efforts that led to the signing of this MoU. He hoped that the MoU would provide for establishing the connect with all ICAR institutions and agricultural universities and work on hitherto unexplored areas and domains.

Dr. Mohapatra, in his address, recalled the positive feedback from the Executive Development Program (EDP) organized in international destinations, jointly coordinated by ICAR-NAARM and ASCI. He highlighted that the MoU provides an overarching framework for collaboration in various areas, building on mutual strengths. Dr. Mohapatra stressed that while ICAR would hugely benefit from the experience and expertise of ASCI in capacity building through this MoU, ASCI can bank on the diverse subject matter expertise available across various ICAR institutions. He also indicated that NAARM, in its renewed mandate of being the think tank of ICAR, can work closely with ASCI in terms of evolving policies for the benefit of entire farm sector and beyond. Earlier, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM welcomed the guests and highlighted the initiatives undertaken as a part of the MoU between ASCI and NAARM. Dr. S.K Soam, Joint Director, NAARM proposed vote of thanks. Senior officials from NAARM and ASCI were present during the occasion.

