

DG, ICAR Interacts with ARS Probationers at ICAR-NAARM

Date: 9th November, 2020

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) interacted with the scientist-probationers undergoing the 111th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS) at ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad on 09th November 2020. He congratulated all the scientists on their selection to this prestigious service and urged them to understand the core concerns of the sector and come up with innovative ideas to address them future Indian agriculture. He clarified all the points raised by the probationers concerning their research career and national priorities.

Dr. Mohapatra highlighted the need for building their core competencies in preparing competitive project proposals, science communication, nurturing agri-entrepreneurs, developing start-ups and using frontier tools like IoT, AI and block chain technology in the agricultural value chain during their foundation course at NAARM. He gave an overview on the major strides made by ICAR in various areas which aided in achieving the targets under the national missions and programs. He explained the initiatives taken to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds in the past 4-5 years and reiterated the government's resolve to achieve self sufficiency in oilseeds by 2030. He said that creating global markets, stirring up consumer demand while maintaining environmental sustainability is the need of the hour in Indian agriculture. He also stressed on the need for engagements with private sector for funding of agricultural research.



Honorable DG, ICAR Interacting with the Probationers of 111th FOCARS

Earlier, Dr Ch. Srinivas Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM gave an overview of the Foundation Course and highlighted the major innovations introduced in the program to impart contemporary skills, in tune with the needs of the new normal under the pandemic situation.

Dr. Soam, Joint Director introduced the Chief Guest and Dr. M. Balakrishnan proposed the vote of thanks. The Directors of ICAR institutions, state universities, eminent agricultural scientists from across the country along with progressive farmers, press and media joined the event virtually.