

## **Aggnite: 2-Day Entrepreneurship Ideation Organized by a-Idea, TBI of ICAR-NAARM**

*25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021, Hyderabad*

The a-IDEA of ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad has organized 2-Day national entrepreneurship ideation competition “Aggnite” to stimulate entrepreneurship among students where 211 teams from 150 top Institutes in the country . viz., agricultural universities, IITs, IIMs and other renowned institutions took part in the event during 24-25, September, 2021.

Shri Y Krishna Rao, CGM, NABARD Telangana R.O., who was the Chief Guest of the programme expressed, that it is imminent to promote entrepreneurship to solve major challenges faced by Indian agriculture. He also stressed that investment in Agri-Startups has huge multiplier effect and can bring disruptive changes in the livelihood of farmers and rural community.

Dr. Ch.Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM in his presidential address, enlisted various efforts of ICAR in showcasing the contribution of Agri-Startups. He also spotlighted the role of NAARM in fostering their growth and guiding them to become successful business venture. Further he highlighted the role of a-IDEA in sensitizing the students and faculties of NARES through capacity building programmes to take entrepreneurship as a profession.

Shri Vasudevan Chinnathambi, Co-Founder, Ninjacart, who was the Guest of Honour for the programme gave valuable tips for the students to succeed in their entrepreneurial endeavour.

Dr. Ranjit Kumar, Head, ABM reiterated the need of strong linkages among agribusiness educational institutions, startups and corporates.

After the inauguration, Ms. Anu Meena of Agrowave narrated about her startup journey and explains how she unravelled the market intricacies to build a successful business venture.

Mr. Subhadeep Sanyal of Omnivore has shared his views on the expectations of investors on startups shared light on what investors look into while evaluating the startup.

Ms. Smita Mohanty, GM, NABARD has delivered a talk on various NABARD schemes for promoting FPOs and startups.

After three rounds of selection process, the top 3 teams were awarded cash prizes and other benefits like mentoring support. The business ideas were evaluated by panellists including corporates, bankers, researchers, advisors and investors.

Dr. Sivaramane N., CEO of a-IDEA, TBI of ICAR-NAARM, coordinated the programme and was sponsored by NABARD and NAAS Hyderabad Chapter.

