

## Press Note

### **MoU Signing Ceremony between ICAR-IARI and IIL Foundation for a research study sponsored by IIL Foundation**

A MoU signing ceremony for a research project titled “Social value system development about judicious use of Pesticides and other agro-chemicals and entrepreneurship among youth” was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at 2.30 pm in the Director’s Board Room of ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. The occasion was graced by the Joint Director (Research) Dr. K. V. Prabhu and the Joint Director (Extension) Dr. J. P. Sharma from IARI. Others present were the In Charge PME cell Dr. Jayanti M., PI of the project Dr. S. Chakravorty, CATAT, Co-PI Dr. Gagan Kumar Mahapatra, National Fellow, Division of Entomology and Dr. Reshma Gills, Division of Agril. Extension of IARI.

The dignitaries present from the side of IIL Foundation were Dr. Rajesh Aggarwal, the Managing Director, Insecticide (India) Ltd.; Shree Sandeep Aggarwal, CFO and Shri P.C. Pabbi, Vice President of the Company. Others present were Shree Sanjay Vats, General Manager and the two Co-PIs from IIL Dr. Sanjay Singh, Asstt. General Manager and Dr. Charan Singh, Advisor(Marketing Development).

After the formal signing-off, the dignitaries expressed their good wishes for the project. Dr. Aggarwal, MD, IIL related his experience with the knowledge and logistic gap in providing end to end support regarding agrochemicals including plant protection chemicals and expressed the vision of his company to provide a wide array of state of the art molecules of plant protection chemicals to the grass root level and bolster the good agricultural practices regarding pesticide use. Dr. K. V. Prabhu wished all success to the project and discussed about various aspects of technical out puts that the activities could bring out, keeping the real need of the farmers in mind and the possibilities of retrieving important biological information through various intricate data collection methods. Dr. J. P. Sharma stressed upon the need to break the stalemate of decision making of the selection of agrochemicals through the faulty knowledge sources with the help of capacity building and to ensure the availability of needed chemicals at the farmers’ doorstep through village based supply channels of genuine molecules. According to him revival of a value system of judicious use of genuine inputs will reduce the tendency of the farmers to fall prey to various incentive-based enticements provided by the sellers of the above commodities. All the dignitaries and the scientists present at the ceremony were hopeful of the opportunities of the research study in initiating a refreshed mode of extension with agrochemical use in a very important agricultural area near the national capital.