

PRESS RELEASE

State Level Review Meeting of ICAR Regional Committee No.1 held at SKUAST-Jammu



Dr. K.S. Risam, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-J & Dr Nazeer Ahamad Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K

charring State Level Review Meeting of ICAR Regional Committee at SKUAST-J.

SKUAST of Jammu organized one day State Level Review Meeting of ICAR Regional Committee Meeting No.1 on 12.7.2019 under the chairmanship of **Dr. K. S. Risam**, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-Jammu. The chairman apprised members, the importance of this meeting in addressing the state level issues through ICAR interventions via integrating the action plan of state agricultural universities as well as ICAR institutions falling in the jurisdiction of the committee. J&K being a hill state has different requirements regarding new varieties, farm machineries and transfer of technologies so he demanded for more than one KVK in some of the districts and sanction of more AICRPs centres in favor of SKUAST-J and SKUAST-K. **Dr Nazeer Ahamad** Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K emphasized that recommendations of this meeting should be given due considerations by ICAR in shaping the research programs of the agricultural universities. “SAUs should be adequately funded through several central schemes in operation like RKVY, NFSM, NLM and MIDH etc” he added. The action taken report pertaining to J&K state in context of the XXV meeting of Committee No.1 held at SKUAST-Kashmir during June,11.12.2018 was presented by the member secretary **Dr. P. R. Ojasvi** Director, ICAR-IISWC, Dehradun. He appreciated the concerned institutions in duly taking the action against most of the issues and assured of ICAR-IISWC Dehradun interventions in taking up some flagged issues related to soil and water conservation in collaboration with SAUs. Dr Vikramaditya Principal Scientist ICAR apprised the house that Regional committees are central to formulation of agricultural plan at the national level as feedback from here will go to Governing council of ICAR. He looked forward elaborative deliberations of all issues related agriculture and allied sectors pertaining to three provinces of J&K. Director floriculture, Jammu highlighted the role of marigold and lavender in

raising the socio-economic status of farmers of far flung areas of Kishtwar and asked for scientific interventions. Various issues related to agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, sheep husbandry, animal husbandry and fisheries were flagged off by the concerned directorates. The meeting was attended by 60 officers of ICAR Institutes, State Agriculture Universities, allied departments like agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, animal husbandry, sheep husbandry, floriculture, CAD, fisheries etc.

A threadbare discussion was held on various issues including degradation of genetic material due to inbreeding in sheep, lack of database of indigenous breeds of animals, loss of fish biodiversity in natural resources, fall in quality of aroma of Basmati 370 variety of rice, suitable short duration maize and wheat varieties for maize –wheat crop rotation in temperate area of Jammu region, non implementation of Agro-forestry Policy in J&K, lack of conservation and improvement programs for agro-forestry species willow and poplar, degradation of pasture land due to weed infestation, Climate Change effects in Rainfed Areas, establishing more than one KVK in a district and other burning issues of agricultural and allied sectors . Most of the problems raised by different departments were solved by the expert members however some pertinent problems need to be addressed by SAUs, ICAR and Government of India. The SAUs requested for liberal funding by ICAR and state departments for taking up research on major issues. The meeting ended with vote of thanks presented by Jag Paul Sharma, Director Research of SKUAST-Jammu.