

## SKUAST-J Convenes 20<sup>th</sup> Research Council Meeting



Twentieth Research Council meeting of SKUAST-Jammu was held today at Chatha Campus under the chairmanship of Prof. J.P. Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu. Prof. J. P. Sharma in his remarks asked the Scientist to formulate research projects in school mode with multi-disciplinary convergence. He further stressed that research must be prioritised on the basis of one district-one product identified by the Government of India. He asked Scientists to uptake research on minimizing post-harvest losses, developing better fodder and flower plants varieties and impact of high-density cropping on quality parameters of the harvest. Prof. Sharma appreciated the scientists of the University for developing 12 new varieties of different crops which include cereals, oilseeds, pulses, vegetables and fruits. He asked researchers to work in collaboration with development departments for timely diffusion and adoption of improved technology in the farmers' field. He also advised the scientists to prioritize their research programmes based on the needs, interests and constraints of the farmers. Vice Chancellor opined that Animal Husbandry will be the viable alternative to agriculture in the near future and it will definitely enhance the income of the farmers which otherwise is decreasing due to shrinking of land holdings. Prof. Sharma further advised scientists to focus beyond production through development of strategies, value addition and market linkages for increasing the share of farmers in consumers' rupee. Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Director, NBPGR, Pusa, New Delhi, external expert from the Agriculture stream suggested to strive for GI tag and registration for local material of region specific crops like Bheaderwah Rajmash at NBPGR. He also suggested to uptake research projects on vegetable production at higher altitude. Prof. Singh appreciated the cultivation of underutilized fruit Karonda and advised for its value addition and further analysis for its nutritive value. He said that focus

should be on local to global research and also suggested to incorporate short duration millets in research programs. Dr. A. R. Nazki, Former Dean, F.V.Sc., SKUAST-Jammu, external expert from the Veterinary and Animal Sciences stream suggested that Animal welfare must be an integral component of research projects in the field of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. He also advised to take the research which is farmer oriented. Earlier Dr. Jag Paul Sharma, Director Research of SKUAST-Jammu welcomed Chairman & all the participants and also presented the research achievements of the varsity. Prof. Jag Paul Sharma gave a detailed presentation about the mandate, research perspective and focus areas of the university. He informed that 107 research projects worth rupees 42 crores funded by 25 agencies are running in the farm university. The council also discussed about the future research proposals based on the feedback of line department for farming community of Jammu region. During technical session, Heads of Divisions of Agriculture, Veterinary Sciences & A.H., Basic Sciences, School of Biotechnology and research stations/schemes presented their research achievements. The meeting was attended by all the statutory officers, Director(s) of line departments and their representatives, Heads of the Divisions of all the faculties and stations of the university. Proceedings of the meeting were conducted by Dr. Anil Kumar, Prof. Agronomy. At the end Vote of thanks was extended by Dr. Pradeep Wali, Associate Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu.