

## **XXXVIII Annual Workshop of AICRP on Farm Implements and Machinery Organized**

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop of All India coordinated Research Project on Farm Implements and Machinery (AICRP on FIM) was organized at IGKV, Raipur (Chhattisgarh) during 08-10<sup>th</sup> January, 2024. The workshop was chaired by Dr. SN Jha, Dy. Director General (Agril. Engg.) while Co-Chaired by Dr. KP Singh, Asst. Director General (Farm Engg.) and Dr. CR Mehta, Director (ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal). Dr. Girish Chandel, Hon'ble vice chancellor, IGKV, Raipur was the chief guest of the inaugural session. Dr. VM Mayande, former Vice Chancellor (Dr. PDKV, Akola) was the distinguished expert to review the progress of the centers. Senior officials and Research Engineers/PIs and associated scientists from 25 centers of AICRP on FIM, project coordinators of the associated scheme(s) of agricultural engineering division, scientists from CIAE ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal and Officials of IGKV, Raipur (Host organization) participated in this workshop. Dr. K N Agrawal, Project Coordinator, AICRP on FIM presented the progress of the scheme for last one year, which included 18 completed and 30 ongoing R&D projects, 55 PFT projects and 96 FLD projects. Dr. V. M. Mayande, distinguished expert stressed upon that changes in agriculture needs change in mechanization strategies. Dr. S N Jha, DDG(Engg) spoke about the significant role of AICRP on FIM in the country's mechanization effort to modernize Indian agriculture. He called upon manufacturers to have closed linkage with centers to address their issues and specific mechanization needs suitable for the regions. He requested manufacturers to frequently visit the websites of ICAR and the Ministry of Farmers' Welfare to stay informed about various government schemes to pass on the benefits to farmers. He enlightened the importance of robotics and drone technology in agricultural operations. During the event, a diverse range of agricultural machinery was presented in the exhibition, creating opportunities for engaging with various manufacturers of these machines. Dr. KP Singh emphasized that centres should consider the requirements of small landholding farmers, ensuring their safety during field operations. Dr. CR Mehta, Director, ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal asked centres to have close linkage with all the stakeholders of mechanization and work towards solving the mechanization issues of the farmers. Dr. Girish Chandel, Chief Guest at the occasion emphasized the need of synergizing research of mechanization and other agricultural sciences to solve the challenging problems being faced by today's agriculture. For Chhattisgarh region, he requested council to strengthen the agricultural engineering research with augmentation of scheme(s) on

ergonomics and energy in agriculture and agrobased industries. At this occasion, 6 publications (1 directory, 1 technical bulletin, 2 folders and 2 success stories) were released. During technical sessions, achievements and future programmes of 25 centres were reviewed. The methodology and future work programme of the study on Assessment of the Mechanization Status of India was also discussed in a special session.



