

Visit of Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE, DG, ICAR, New Delhi

Report

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR visited ICAR-CRIJAF on 15th June, 2016. Dr. P.G. Karmakar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF welcomed the Hon'ble DG, ICAR and presented a brief account of achievements of the institute. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Hon'ble DG, ICAR addressed the staff members of ICAR-CRIJAF and congratulated the scientists of the institute for development



of various technologies like HYVs of jute, CRIJAF-SONA etc. and biotechnology work like determination of jute genome size and development of RAD-SNP linkage map. However, he underlined the following issues for immediate attention:

1. **Utilization of germplasm:** Diversity of jute germplasm is quiet high, but the diversity in jute varieties are extremely low which implies the verities are almost sister lines. Thus he emphasized the maximum use of germplasm through conventional and molecular breeding techniques for improvement in fibre brainstorming session is required in this regard.
2. **Development of efficient mutants of retting microbes:** Works on different isolates of microbial retting consortia (CRIJAF-SONA) especially to develop efficient mutants for protect the technology in future.



productivity and quality (fineness). A



3. **Utilization of molecular information:** Hon'ble DG, ICAR congratulated the scientists for determination of jute genome size and establishment of RAD-SNP linkage map and emphasized to translate these information in a fruitful manner for the improvement of the crop.

4. **Water use efficiency:** Availability of water will be a limiting natural resource in future course. To cope the situation, Hon'ble DG emphasized to improve the water use efficiency of jute through exploitation of germplasms as well as other techniques.



5. **Biomass conversion:** Jute is utilizing huge quantity of atmospheric carbon di-oxide to produce biomass within very short time. Conversion of this biomass into useful resource as well as improvement in soil health is need of the hour.

6. **Jute based intercropping:** To maximize the return in unit space and time he advocated the practice of jute based intercropping especially with pulses in a sustainable manner.

7. **Virus mediated growth promotion:** Basic studies on virus mediated growth promotion in jute and allied fibre crops to be perused.

8. **Linkage and transfer of technologies:** Hon'ble DG, emphasized to establish a strong linkage between **industry-farmers-policy makers** for their specific requirement and large scale promotional strategies. Krishi Vigyan Kendras are to be involved for transfer of technologies in a bigger way.

