

## **ICAR-NIAP Celebrates 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Day**

ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NIAP) celebrated its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Day on a vibrant mode on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. On the occasion, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman NITI Aayog made his gracious presence as the Chief Guest and delivered the 12<sup>th</sup> Professor Dayanatha Jha Memorial Lecture organized in commemoration of Prof. Dayanatha Jha, former Director, ICAR-NIAP. The function was presided by Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary DARE and Director General, ICAR and chaired by Dr. Mruthyunjaya, former director of the institute. Many eminent personalities including Dr. Madhur Gautam (Lead Economist, World Bank), Dr Arabinda Kumar Padhee (Director, Country Relations and Business Affairs, ICRISAT), Dr. Ashok Dalwai (Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority), Dr. A.K. Singh (Deputy Director General, Agricultural Extension, ICAR), Dr. P.K. Joshi (Former Director ICAR-NIAP and Senior advisor, IFPRI) and other delegates from CGIAR and ICAR institutes marked their presence in the occasion.

In an inaugural address, Dr. Suresh Pal, Director, ICAR-NIAP detailed the achievements of the institute in agricultural economics and policy research and duly acknowledged the contributions of previous directors in nurturing the institute to reach its heights. Dr. Mruthyunjaya, congratulated the staff of ICAR-NIAP for maintaining its edge in policy research in National Agricultural Research System and in agricultural economics as a whole.

Dr. Rajiv Kumar delivered the 12<sup>th</sup> Dayanatha Jha Memorial Lecture on “Indian Agriculture: Retrospect and Prospects” presenting the status of Indian agriculture in comparison with the rest of the world, major issues and the future prospects. He emphasized on the application of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) as a viable agricultural practice for restoring ecosystem balance, the need of revamping agricultural markets and price policies, adoption of Model Tenancy Law, promotion of agripreneurship and value addition and promotion of NDDB model in agriculture. Dr. Mohapatra, made his remarks on the various issues in agricultural sector raised by the chief guest. He stressed upon the need for adequate investment in agricultural R&D. He also urged that the institute may reach to a level of globally competitive position in agricultural economics and policy research.



Photo1: Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman NITI Aayog delivered 12th Prof. Dayanatha Jha Memorial Lecture



Photo2: Annual Day function was presided by Dr Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary DARE and Director General, ICAR

In the consecutive session, a panel discussion was organized on the topic 'NIAP @2050'. Panel constituted of Prof. Abhijit Sen (Former Member, Planning Commission), Dr. Mruthyunjaya (Former Director, ICAR-NIAP), Dr. P.K.Joshi (Former Director, ICAR-NIAP), Dr. Vijay Paul Sharma (Chairman, Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices) and Dr. K.L. Prasad (Senior Economics and Statistical Advisor, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare). Deliberations were made by different panelists regarding the future roles and linkages of ICAR-NIAP in the fields of agricultural economics research, capacity building and policy advocacy with a vision of making it as a Centre of Excellence with global reputation by 2050.