

Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR), Dr. M. L. Jat Visits ICAR-NBAIR; Inaugurates Laboratory Expansion and Interacts with Scientists, Farmers, and Industry

Dr. M. L. Jat, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), visited the ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Yelahanka campus, Bengaluru, on 05 May 2026. He was accompanied by Dr. D. K. Yadava, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR. The programme witnessed the presence of Directors/Station In-charges of various ICAR institutes in Bengaluru, including IIHR, ATARI, NIANP, NISST, CIFRI, NIVEDI and NBSS&LUP. Hitesh Kejriwal, Chief Engineer, CPWD, was also present on the occasion.

During the visit, Dr. Jat was apprised of activities and key facilities of the institute, including the Butterfly Garden, where he marked the occasion by planting a tree. Dr. Jat inaugurated the vertical extension of the institute's laboratory complex, signifying a step forward in strengthening research infrastructure. An Institute–Industry–Farmers Interactive Meeting was organized as part of the visit, along with an exhibition showcasing ICAR-NBAIR technologies. The programme witnessed the participation of approximately 75 farmers and 10 industry representatives.

Dr. S. N. Sushil, Director, ICAR-NBAIR, presented the institute's activities, achievements, and future aspirations. In his address, Dr. D. K. Yadava emphasized the importance of strengthening crop protection research and enhancing linkages between laboratory innovations and field-level applications. He also congratulated the institute on establishing advanced laboratory facilities, noting that such infrastructure would further enhance the institute's scientific standing and outreach.

In his address, Dr. Jat commended the institute's scientific contributions and recalled a farmer's testimony during the Zonal Meeting of the Ministry (West Zone) held at Jodhpur, where the role of ICAR-NBAIR in supporting farmers was highly appreciated. He highlighted the potential role of the institute in upcoming national initiatives such as the "Agriculture for Health" programme, a joint effort of ICAR and ICMR, and its contribution towards the vision of Viksit Bharat. He further underscored that continuous feedback and suggestions from farmers are crucial in shaping demand-driven research within ICAR.

Farmers shared their field experiences and feedback, while industry representatives highlighted prospects for scaling up and commercialization of technologies.

The visit underscored ICAR's commitment to promoting translational research, strengthening stakeholder partnerships, and accelerating the adoption of innovative agricultural technologies for the benefit of farmers.













