

**XXVIII Annual Group meet of All India Co-ordinated Research
project (AICRP) on Biological control of Crop pests at Anand
Agricultural University, Anand
6-8 June, 2019**

The XXVIII workshop on All India Coordinated Research Project on Biological control of crop pests was organized at Anand Agricultural University, Anand from 06th to 08th June, 2019. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. N.C. Patel, Vice-Chancellor, AAU. In his inaugural address, he highlighted various issues pertaining to crop protection in the states of Gujarat. He emphasised on the ill effects of overuse of pesticides and the need to utilise biocontrol agents in the management strategies to tackle invasive insects. Dr. Rajan, Assistant Director General (Plant Protection & Biosafety) ICAR highlighted on the need to reduce pesticides usage by 25% by 2025 through augmentation and conservation of potential biocontrol agents. Dr. S.N. Puri, Former Vice Chancellor, CAU, Imphal, Dr. B. V. Patil, Former Vice Chancellor, UAS Raichur, Dr. M. Anandraj, Former Director, ICAR-IISR Calicut and Dr. D.J. Bagyaraj, INSA. Honorary Scientist & Chairman, CNBRCD, Bangalore were the external experts who participated in the workshop. Dr. (Mrs.) Chandish R Ballal, Project Coordinator & Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bengaluru presented the research highlights of work done by the 28 centres of the AICRP BC. Publications of NBAIR, AAU-A, UAS-R, AAU-J, CISH, IGKV Raipur, SKAUST, Srinagar and MPUAT Udaipur were released by the chief guest and other dignitaries. The workshop was attended by more than 100 participants, including partners from AICRP BC Centres at SAUs, ICAR Institutes and Private entrepreneurs. The work done by the centres on biodiversity documentation, evaluation of different biocontrol modules and large scale demonstrations under different crop ecosystems was presented and the results were discussed in detail to arrive at clear recommendations. The technical programme for 2019-20 was discussed in detail.



Inauguration of 28th Annual Group meet of All India Co-ordinated Research project (AICRP) on Biological control of Crop pests at Anand Agricultural University, Anand



Keynote address by Dr. N.C. Patel, Honorable Vice Chancellor, AAU, Anand



Release of publications by **Dr. Rajan ADG** (PP&B), ICAR, New Delhi; **Dr. K. B. Kathria**, Director of Research, AAU, Anand; **Dr. Chandish R Ballal**, Director, NBAIR, Bangalore; **Dr. S. N. Puri**, former VC, CAU, Imphal; **Dr. B. V. Patil**, former VC, UAS, Raichur; **Dr. M. Anandraj**, former Director, IISR, Kozhikode; **Dr. D.J. Bagyaraj**, INSA. Honorary Scientist & Chairman CNBRCD, Bangalore, **Dr. D. M. Mehta** Principal scientist, AICRP on Biocontrol, AAU, Anand and others