

**A Brief Report on Visit of His Excellency, the Governor of Bihar to ICAR-RCER,
Research Centre for Makhana Darbhanga**

His Excellency, the Governor of Bihar Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar jee made a brief visit to the ICAR-RCER, Research Centre for Makhana, Darbhanga on March 26, 2023. The Honorable Governor was accompanied by the District Magistrate of Darbhanga Shri Rajeev Raushan, Member of Bihar Legislative Assembly (Darbhanga Sadar) Shri Sanjay Saraogi, Project Director, ATMA, Darbhanga Shri P.N. Jha and other dignitaries. As guided by the Honorable Director of the Institute Dr. Anup Das, His Excellency was received and welcomed by the Head (Actt.) of the Centre, Dr. Manoj Kumar, who made a brief presentation about the significant achievements of the Centre since its inception, and the ongoing research and outreach activities of the same. Publications of the Centre were also presented to the Honorable Governor, who was also briefed about the procedures involved in Makhana growing, harvesting and popping, showing him different grades of Makhana seeds and pops. His Excellency desired to see the experimental farm of the centre where he was shown the nursery and newly transplanted plots of Makhana. He was all praise for the Swarna Vaidehi variety of Makhana developed by the centre. New developments in the field of Makhana farming and processing were briefed to the Honorable Governor. Discussing the medicinal and nutritional values of Makhana, His Excellency emphasized upon the need of orienting research efforts to exploit the growing global recognition of Makhana as a super food in favor of the farming community in Bihar and outside. Before departure, Centre in-charge thanked His Excellency for his memorable visit to the centre, who reciprocated with the good wishes and blessings for the centre to grow further.

