

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS AT ICAR- MGIFRI, PIPRAKOTHI

The celebrations on the 73<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day were carried out with joy and gaiety at MGIFRI, Piprakothi on 15<sup>th</sup> Aug.2019. The function began at 11 AM with the unfurling of the *Dharohar Dhwaj*, by the Hon. MP of Motihari and ex- AM Shri Radha Mohan Singh Ji, ex- State Minister Shri Vinod Narayan Jha, Dr B P Bhatt, OSD, ICAR-MGIFRI and in the presence of an august gathering of local elected representatives, scientists of MGIFRI, about 220 school girls from a government primary school, staff and officials of the forest department, staff from the *Jawahar Navodayalaya* and KVK, Piprakothi. This flag has been hoisted on a 100 feet tall mast and is visible from quite some distance away. During the occasion a guard of honour was provided by a contingent of Bihar state police and Bihar Armed Police.



A registration centre for farmers to get themselves registered under the Prime Minister's *Kisan Mandhan Pension Yojana* was also inaugurated during the occasion and about 120 farmers got themselves registered under the scheme. A group of women who run SHG's in nearby villages also participated in the function



As part of the central government's programme for increasing the green cover in the country, planting of *Amaltas (Casia fistula)* seedlings was carried out by all the dignitaries along the central farm road, which will provide a beautiful view of flowers when the seedlings grow up.

During the speech delivered by the Hon. MP, he focussed on the need for adopting integrated farming systems and practices to tide over the uncertainties of climatic vagaries which now occur every alternate years and the role of MGIFRI in developing new low cost technologies for small and marginal farmers. Sweets and chocolates were provided to all the participants and school children were specially delighted on receiving the boxes.