

## **INAUGURATION OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATIVE -CUM-LABORATORY BUILDING OF THE MAHATMA GANDHI INTEGRATED FARMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE, PIPRAKOTHI, MOTIHARI (BIHAR)**

*(Motihari, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019)*

The new administrative cum-laboratory building of the ICAR- MGIFRI was formally inaugurated by Sri Radha Mohan Singh, Honb'le Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Piprakothi. The building constructed by the CPWD was completed within 41 months after the foundation stone of the Institute was laid on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2015.

While formally inaugurating the office, the Union Minister emphasised upon the need for focussed research on developing farming system models for farmers of the Indo-Gangetic Basin, where average land holdings are less than two acres and farmers are affected by unexpected floods, drought and other associated climatic problems. While the soil resource is adequate, micro-nutrient deficiencies, poor technology extension, lack of marketing



avenues, poor value addition and financial returns continue to be problems which affect farming opportunities in the region. He urged upon all scientists of the Institute and the Council to develop and demonstrate viable technologies that will benefit small farmers who form the backbone of the productive Indo-Gangetic Basin. He also laid the foundation stone of the Kailash Pati Mishra student hostel and the Karpoori Thakur Auditorium within the premises of the ICAR-MGIFRI, Piprakothi.

At the outset, Dr. B.P.Bhatt, Director, RCER, Patna and OSD of ICAR-MGIFRI welcomed the dignitaries and other participants. Dr Bhatt assured the gathering that the new Institute would lay importance on the development of sustainable farming system models for small and marginal farmers and provide training to stake holders which would also increase their income and socio-economic conditions.



Ongoing projects in the district have indicated that technology back stopping with new seed material can increase yields and incomes of small farmers and this will be widened in scope.

The function was attended by many dignitaries including Dr A. D. Pathak, Director, ICAR-IISR, Lucknow, people's representatives, central and state government officials, officials



Ashthana, member of the IMC of MGIFRI and special invitee was also present.

Dr. A. Raizada, Principal Scientist (Forestry), ICAR-MGIFRI proposed vote of thanks for the inaugural function.

*(Source: ICAR-MGIFRI, Motihari)*

from ICAR, farmer co-operatives and farmers from adjoining villages. Notable among those present were Hon. MLA of Kalyanpur, Shri Sachindra Prasad Singh, Shri Shyam Babu Yadav, MLA, Pipra and Shri Raju Tiwari, MLA, Govindganj Hon. MLC Shri Rajesh Gupta and ICAR Governing Body Member Shri Akhilesh Kumar Singh. Shri Prakash

