

## **Institute Foundation Day and farmers and SCSP launching programme 2019**

ICAR-Directorate of Cashew Research, Puttur celebrated its 33rd foundation day along with a farmers' meet and SCSP launching on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019. In the beginning, Dr. M. G. Nayak, Director (Acting) welcomed the dignitaries, delegates, farmers and other participants, followed by lighting the lamp by dignitaries. It was followed by launching of SCSP programme by chief guest of the programme Shri. Sanjeeva Matandur, Member of Legislative Assembly, Puttur. In his introductory speech, Shri. Sanjeeva Matandur talked about the role of agriculture in Indian society and changing agriculture scenario in the country. Guest of Honour, Shri. Venkatesh Hubballi, Director, Directorate of Cocoa and Cashew Development (DCCD), Kochi, talked about programmes of DCCD for popularisation of cashew and its area expansion to non-traditional cashew growing regions. Another Guest of Honour, Shri. Prakash Natelkar, Managing Director, Karnataka congratulated the Directorate for the achievements made over the years for improving cashew production and the socio-economic status of the cashew farmers in the country. Former Director of ICAR-DCR, Puttur Dr. M. G. Bhat was also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, six publications on cashew cultivation and related aspects prepared scientists of ICAR-DCR, Puttur were released by the chief guest and guests of honour. It was followed by felicitation of Shri. K. Nagaraja, a progressive farmer growing Cashew in Kolar district for producing very high levels of cashew yields by following scientific cashew cultivation practices.

The resource person of the programme Mr. S. Ramesh delivered a lecture on "Role of NABARD in the formation of FPOs". It was supplemented by Shri. Ramkishore Manchi, Director, Pingara FPO, who shared his experiences of formation and running an FPO for production of value added products like banana and jackfruit. It was followed by a talk on state horticulture department incentives to the farmers for starting the FPOs by Shri. Shiva Prakash, SADH, Department of Horticulture, Beltangadi. On the occasion, Deviprasad Kallaje, shared his experiences to take up the formation of FPO along with his farmer friends and he urged a proper financial and technical support from agencies like DCCD.

The Progressive farmer felicitated on the occasion shared his success story with other farmers and he pointed out that the farmers of today are more aware of incentives than awareness on how to grow a crop. He urged farmers to have complete knowledge of crop production and take help of the scientists. It was followed by the vote of thanks. The programme was attended by about 200 participants including farmers and SCSP beneficiaries. Mr. Prakash Bhat, Technical officer of the Directorate compeered the program.

