Minutes of the fifteenth Annual Review meeting of the MIDH programmes implemented through the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, held on 25-26 June 2021.

The meeting was held through video conferencing and 85 scientists and 45 agencies participated in the programme.

At the outset, Director DASD, Dr. Homey Cheriyan, DASD welcomed the guests and delegates to the online meeting and in his introductory remarks, briefed about the present scenario of production and export of spices and relevance of MIDH programmes implemented by the Directorate in improving the same.

Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner, Govt of India inaugurated the review meeting. In the inaugural address, he commented that in present pandemic situation, importance of spices has increased and demand has upsurged as immunity boosters. To enhance productivity and income through spices cultivation, shortage of quality planting material must be addressed on priority. He also mentioned that establishing network of nurseries with accreditation, producing quality planting material following standard protocols developed and mother blocks should be given top priority. He pointed out that the Govt of India closely monitors progress of development programmes implemented for high value crops like spices and the issues related to implementation at institute level need to be addressed to achieve the expected outcome. Dr. N.K Patle, Addl Commissioner (Hort), Dr. K.Nirmal Babu, Former Director, IISR, Dr. EVD Sastry also addressed the participants during the inaugural session.

The technical session began at 10.30 AM under the chairmanship of Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner where Dr. N.K Patle, Addl Commissioner (Hort), Dr. K.Nirmal Babu, Former Director, IISR, Dr. EVD Sastry and Dr. Gopal Lal were invited as experts to review the programme. Center/institute wise presentation and review took place in the following order;

### 1. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, W B

Dr. D K Ghosh represented the university. He delivered a presentation on all the activities undertaken by them during the yearand explained that the shortcomings in achievements were due to Amphan Cyclone, which affected the state during the year. The Agri and Horti Commissioner enquired about the varieties of the spice crops produced and directed that only notified varieties are to be multiplied as per the requirement of the state, as BCKV is expected to take care of the planting material required for the WB. Dr. Nirmal Babu commented that multiplication of Turmeric varieties with high value curcumin as per local requirement is to be done. Director DASD asked him to ensure that the nursery established under MIDH funds are accredited. The PI requested for additional funds for certain components. His performance was appreciated by the Review Team.

### 2. University of Agricultural Sciences Dharwad, Karnataka

Dr. Ramakrishna V Hegde represented the university. During his presentation, the PI informed that the targets of some planting material production components could not be done due to lockdown conditions and heavy rains in some areas. To a query from the review team, the PI informed that local variety with GI tag is being multiplied in case of chilli and from 2021-22 new variety (Selection fom local Byadagidabbi) released last year will be multiplied. The Agri &Horti Commissioner appreciated the efforts taken by the PI and advised him to multiply only released/notified varieties. It was suggested to ensure that the

nursery allotted to him last year is accredited. He was also requested to refund the balance in TOT programmes for which DASD will send a separate letter. The PI requested to reduce the targets of Chilli and Clove and informed that the proposed new nursery will be set up at Haveri for planting material production of Ginger and Turmeric.

### 3. Sardar Khushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Gujarat

Dr. N R Patel represented the university. The university was earmarked with a project on "demonstration for pesticide free cumin production" in 25 ha area. Director DASD apprised the PI about the objectives of the project. The Agri and Horticulture Commissioner remarked that as organic cumin production is very important, top priority may be given in implementation of the same. Default organic cultivated areas in the state need to be prioritized for the programme. The PI requested for increase of planting material production of seed spices and FT programmes.

#### 4. ICAR- NRCSS, Ajmer, Rajasthan

Dr. Y K Sharma represented the Centre. To a query from the Review team about the old varieties of Seed spices being multiplied, the PI informed that the varieties being multiplied are good and disease resistant. The Agri and Horti Commissioner asked NRCSS to initiate action to replace these varieties. The PI explained the objectives and achievements of the project "demonstration for pesticide free cumin production" implemented by them. Director DASD told the PI that the unspent balance in the seed infrastructure component should be fully utilized during the year. The PI asked for more funds under the head establishment of FLD seed spices.

# 5. Narendra Dev University for Agri & Technology, U P

Dr. R S Mishra represented the university. The Agri and Horticulture Commissioner expressed concern about the huge unspent balance and directed the PI to ensure prompt implementation of the programmes. The PI stated that most of the unspent balance is in the "Establishment of Nursery Centre" component, for which the tender has been approved and will be completed this year. The PI was asked to refund the balances available in planting material production of chilli, for which a separate letter will be send by DASD. Director DASD asked the PI to submit pending Audited UCs for the previous years at the earliest, consulting VC NDUAT. The PI asked funds FLD turmeric and TOT programmes.

## 6. Assam Agricultural University, Assam

Dr. Sanjib Sharma represented the university. Director DASD told the PI that the funds lying in planting material production components should be fully utilized this year. The pending skill development training programme also to be conducted this year. Addl Commissioner suggested that on completion of the cluster based FLD for organic black pepper, an FPO group may be formed to enable marketing and attract exporters. He also directed the PI to improve planting material production programme at the centre so that sufficient material for entire NE development programmes for spices can be made available from the university. Deputy Director DASD asked the PI to refund the small balances lying in TOT programmes for which a separate letter will be sent by DASD and to submit pending AUCs for previous years.

# 7. Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Odisha

Dr. S C Swain represented the university. He informed the review team that all pending and allotted programmes have been implemented during the year and only a portion of planting material production of turmeric is pending. Director DASD opined that their area being known for Turmeric, the university should try taking up establishment of 25 ha demo plots in Turmeric involving FPOs. The PI was asked to explore possibilities in preparing an Action Plan for this. Dr. Naveen Patle, Addl Commissioner, suggested that all centresmay come up with at least one FPO for potential commodities in the area. The PI was directed to ensure accreditation of the pepper nursery established at Pottangi at the earliest. Overall, the review team appreciated the work of the university. The PI asked for an increase in FLD aromatic plants.

# 8. ICAR- Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kerala

Dr. V Srinivasan represented the institute. The PI informed the review team that almost all components have been implemented. This includes the project on "Estt of 25 ha demo plots for Black Pepper". The Agri and Horti Commissioner appreciated the work done by IISR and stated that to regain the lost glory of Black Pepper, IISR in consultation with DASD need to chalk out a National level programme. DASD was asked to arrange for a meeting in this regard by 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Dr. Naveen Patle said that good planting material is very much in requirement in the NE region and IISR may initiate action for taking up their technologies to other regions. Director DASD stated that emphasis is being given in promoting new varieties of Black Pepper. The PI was asked to submit applications for accreditation for their spice nurseries.

# 9. College of Agri & Forestry, CAU, Arunachal Pradesh

Dr. Pranab Jyoti Sarma represented the university. Director DASD asked the PI to ensure utilization of the unspent balance this year. The PI asked for funds under drip irrigation of Turmeric and Ginger.

## 10. Dr. Bala Saheb Savant Konkan Krishi VidhaPeeth, Dapoli, Maharashtra

Dr. B R Salvi represented the university. Director DASD expressed concern over the unspent balance with the university. The PI replied that most of the components have been implemented and work is already under progress for completion of the back log. He stated that the skill development training programme could not be completed due to lack of communication from ASCI. To this, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Addl commissioner asked the PI to share the details so that he can take up the issue. The PI shared his intend to multiply P-5 and recent IISR varieties of Black Pepper. IISR, Kozhikode and Dr. P Jayaraj, KVK Kannur offered to supply the same. Director DASD asked him to make a video for demonstration of cinnamon peeling machine developed at COF, BSKKVP. Dr. B Salvi stated that 3 nurseries under the university were already accredited and would submit applications for another 3 nurseries. He requested for an increase in planting material production of Cinnamon, turmeric and Bush Pepper and FT programmes.

### 11. ICAR-CCARI, Goa

Dr. A R Desai represented the university. He informed the review team that almost all components have been implemented with minimum unspent balance. The main unspent balance is in the upgradation of spice nurseries head and that would be completed this year.

### 12. Birsa Agricultural University, Jharkhand

Dr. Sanyat Mishra represented the university. Director asked for a clarification on the variation in the figures in the APR vis a vis Utilisation certificate. The PI replied that all programmes were implemented using the revolving funds and as the funds has not been transferred in time, the unspent balance is reflected in the UC. Director DASD stated that this was not proper, and the matter be taken up with the VC/DR and Comptroller of the university.

# 13. Agril. University, Mandor, Jodhpur.

Dr. M L Meheriya represented the university. He informed the review team that all back log programmes and programmes allotted during the current year had been fully implemented. He displayed the publications that were brought out under the MIDH scheme. The review team appreciated his performance and told him to submit a copy of all the publications to DASD. The PI requested for more funds for planting material of Chilli, skill development training programme and FT programmes.

### 14. Banda University of Agriculture & Technology, U P

Dr. Bhanu Prakash Mishra represented the University. Director DASD and Dr. Naveen Patle, Addl Commissioner expressed serious concern over the huge unspent balance. The PI was advised to take necessary actions to ensure prompt and speedy utilization of funds. As regards the betelvine project, the PI was asked to utilize the unspent funds and funds granted this year in time bound manner as per the working procedure of the project. Periodic report on the same is to be sent to DASD quarterly. It was pointed that the Tamarind crop have scope for area expansion in Bundelkhand area. The excess expenditure reported under planting material components are to be endorsed by the Director of Research. The unspent balances under TOT programmes are to be refunded to DASD, for which a separate letter will be sent by DASD.

## 15. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar

Dr. S P Singh represented the university. The PI informed that this year the achievements were a little low due to heavy rains and water stagnation. He assured that the university would take up work in up lands to avoid such situations in future. As the University was producing good quality planting material, Dr. Naveen Patle suggested them to increase production in correlation to the area in the state to ensure adequate supply of planting material of turmeric to the state. The review team appreciated the performance of the university.

### 16. Dr. YSR Horticultural University, Andhra Pradesh

Dr. Giridhar K represented the university. The PI informed that most of the components have been implemented. The balance funds in the upgradation of nurseries head will be utilized this year. The planting material production of Chilli and seed spices have been damaged due to rain and the Seed spices crop is re sown. During flowering season, "western flower thrips" affected the chilli crop. The PI requested to reduce the allotment for planting material production of Chilli and asked funds for seed storage units TOT programmes. Deputy Director DASD asked the PI to send application for accreditation of the spice nursery at the earliest.

#### 17. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswavidyalaya, M P

Dr. Rajnee Sharma represented the university. The university had refunded the back log of funds to DASD. A new PI has been appointed and as per her request, a fresh programme has been allotted to the university. The PI was directed to take up planting material production programme in consultation with state department, so that sale is ensured.

#### 18. Maharana Pratap University for Agri and Tech, Rajasthan

Dr. Abhay Dashora represented the university. The review team was satisfied with the performance of the university. The PI was asked to send copies of the publications etc to DASD. The PI requested to reduce the allotment under planting material production of seed spices and increase FLD seed spices and FT programmes.

#### 19. Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Chhattisgarh

Dr. S STuteja represented the university. The PI stated that all targets have been met and funds utilized except in planting material production of ginger, which was due to lack of quality seed material. This matter has been addressed and procurement of good quality seeds already done. He detailed the achievements made under large scale demonstration of aromatic crops and organic turmeric cultivation. The efforts taken by the PI for successful implementation of the programme and formation of FPOs for marketing the produce was appreciated by everyone. The PI requested for one skill develop training programme. The small balances in TOT programmes are to be refunded to the Dte for which a separate letter will be sent.

# 20. University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore, Karnataka

Dr. K N Srinivasappa represented the university and made a detailed presentation on the progress of programmes implemented in 2020-21. Agri &Horti Commissioner directed that for the quality planting material production programme only notified and newly released varieties are to be used. Also, certification is to be made mandatory for any seed production programme possible. The PI was asked to submit all the pending AUCs without delay.

### 21. Central Plantation crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kerala

Dr. Rajkumar represented the Institute. He along with Dr. Nagaraj and Dr. Subramanian apprised the review team about the different components being implemented by the Institute. To a query from the Agri &Horti Commissioner, Director DASD clarified that the Directorate promotes intercropping of spice crops in Arecanut gardens through establishment of demonstration plots and does not promote production or area expansion of Arecanut in any manner. Deputy Director DASD informed the PI that as there is confusion in the component wise figures shown in the progress report, the matter needs further discussion before finalizing the APR.

### 22. Anand Agricultural University, Gujarat

Dr. Amarjeet Singh Thanoujam represented the university. To a query from the Agri and Horti Commissioner on the figures vis a vis targets and achievements, the PI replied that, there are 2-3 programmes implemented in the same field and the total production was more than the targets allotted but the planting material were booked by restricting to the allotted targets. The PI requested for more training programmes.

### 23. Navsari Agri University, Gujarat

Dr. D A Chauhan represented the university. The Agri and Horti Commissioner directed that the implementing agencies should ensure timely transfer of funds from the Accounts sections to the PIs to enable prompt implementation of the scheme. Non implementation of programmes due to this reason is not acceptable. Director DASD enquired about the varieties being multiplied and directed that high curcumin content varieties should be used.

# 24. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Tamil Nadu

Dr. S Parthiban represented the university. The PI informed the review team that almost all components have been implemented and targets achieved. The shortfall in garlic achievements were due to the Cyclone last year. To a query from the Agri and Horticulture Commissioner, Dr. Chitra stated that they are continuing with the old varieties of coriander because short duration varieties are suitable for the area and those are very popular among the farmers. However, they are introducing new varieties in Turmeric. As regards the project on Bush Pepper, Director DASD explained that the main objective of the project was to promote Bush Pepper cultivation in the field rather than the conventional method in pots. Dr. Nirmal Babu suggested that the spacing could be reduced so that the term "high density" planting is more relevant. The Agri and Horti Commissioner directed that only accredited nurseries should be granted funds under the head "upgradation of spice nurseries". The performance of TNAU was well appreciated by the review team. The PI requested for an increase in some components.

## 25. C. S. Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, U P

Dr. Sanjive Kumar Singh represented the university. The allotment for the university is generally very less. The Agri &Horti Commissioner remarked that the performance was below par and he would take up the matter with the Vice Chancellor of the university. Deputy Director DASD stated that there are other issues regarding refund of unspent balances for which a separate letter will be sent by DASD.

### 26. Junagadh Agri University, Gujarat

Prof H G Kanara represented the university. The university had implemented all the programmes allotted to them. The programmes for the coming year was approved.

### 27. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agri Science and Tech. J & K

Dr. Khursheed Hussain represented the university. The PI informed the review team that almost all components have been implemented with minimum unspent balance. He requested for more skill development training programmes by explaining the good results from it. He said that there were more than 10 good success stories from these programmes. Dr. Jigmet Yangchan said that lot of entrepreneurships happened through the skill development training programmes in very high altitude areas. Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner suggested that plan of planting material production for J & K and Ladakh should be clearly submitted with targets.

# 28. ICAR - Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Gujarat

Dr. P L Saran represented the Institute. The PI informed the review team that the planting material and FLD components were implemented. Regarding the distillation unit provided to them, Director DASD asked him to ensure that it is completed this year without fail. Deputy Director asked him to refund the small balances in the TOT programmes for which a separate letter will be sent. The PI requested for funds under planting material production of Aromatic Plants.

## 29. Punjab Agricultural University, Punjab

Dr. Rajinder Kumar represented the university. All programmes were implemented and targets achieved. To a query from the review team, the PI informed that they were multiplying state released varieties of seed spices as these were performing better in their conditions. The review team appreciated the improved performance of the University.

### 30. SKN Agricultural University, Johner, Rajasthan

Dr. A C Shivran represented the university. The university had an unspent balance in the component est of FLDs in seed spices. The review team suggested him to increase the areas in seed spices by doing demonstrations in places other than KVKs. He was told to refund the balance funds lying in TOT programmes.

## 31. Rajmata VijayarajeScindia Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, MP

Dr. I S Naruka represented the university. All targets were achieved with minimum balance. To a query, the PI replied that in some components, the achievements were more than the targets, but the figures were restricted to the allotment. The PI was asked to submit the component wise details of the seed storage structure and nursery structure established by them during 2020-21. The photographs of the same are to be shared with DASD. Director DASD clarified that the funds earmarked for the above two components should be utilized for construction of the structure and its related activities only. The PI requested for certain changes in the allotment, which will be considered.

### 32. Dr. PunjabraoDeshmukh Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Maharashtra

Dr. V S Kale represented the university. The PI submitted that a major portion of the unspent balance is in the FLD in Turmeric component which will be done this year. Director DASD stated that the main objective of the project by establishing 25 ha of demo plots of turmeric is to promote Waigon in a big way through organic farming and create a turmeric exporting hub in the area. The PI will inform DASD if they propose to conduct a skill development training programme this year immediately. The PI requested for reducing the targets under planting material production of turmeric, Tamarind and curry leaf. Seed spices to be increased.

#### 33. University of Horticultural Sciences Bagalkot, Karnataka.

Dr. N K Hegde represented the university. During his presentation, he informed that except in planting material production of chilli, they could achieve the targets. Director DASD told the PI to ensure that the pending seed infrastructure component is established this year without fail. Deputy Director stated that the component wise figures in the APR appear to be incorrect, and a separate case will be taken up in this regard. The photographs of the nursery centre to be submitted. The PI gave an assurance that they will send

applications for accreditation of two of their nurseries. The PI requested for funds for establishment of Distillation unit.

### 34. Kerala Agri University, Kerala

Dr. N Miniraj represented the university. The PI stated that though they were multiplying old varieties of some planting material, all demo plots established were of the new varieties. KAU was the only implementing agency producing Nutmeg grafts through orthotropic shoots. She gave details of all the components implemented by them. Dr. P Jayaraj gave a brief account on the impact of the project on Pepper rejuvenation done in Cheruthazham panchayat. The major impact of the project was the increase in litre weight of Black pepper in the area and increased farmers income in the district. The LSG and NABARD has also supported to get the project into new heights. Dr. Deepu Mathew briefed the review team about the scaling up programme of ginger microrhizomes implemented by the CPBMB and network centres. Director DASD said that the aim of the project is to replace the entire planting material production of Ginger from conventional to microrhizomes. The Agri &Horti Commissioner appreciated all the PIs for their excellent contribution to the spice sector.

# 35. SKLTSHU, Hyderabad, Telangana

Dr. B Mahender represented the university. The Agri and Horti Commissioner expressed concern over the short fall in achievements and huge unspent balance. Many components were not implemented during the year. The PI cited the pandemic and weather conditions as the reasons. Director DASD stated that planting material targets were allotted to university in view of state action plan for turmeric which has a very important role in promoting the crop. Considering the unspent balance, a few of the earmarked components will be withdrawn. The PI requested for more FT programmes.

#### 36. Uttar Banga Agricultural University, W B

Dr. Suchand Datta represented the university. The PI was asked to ensure that the backlog in planting material production of turmeric is done. DASD will consider reducing the turmeric earmarked to them. The PI requested for more FTs and skill development training programmes.

#### 37. Mahatma Phule Krishi Viswa vidhyalaya, Maharashtra

Dr. V Jambhale represented the university. The PI said the some of the planting material production could not be done due to the pandemic. Considering the unspent balance is some components, Director DASD stated that funds for those components may be reduced proportionately. Overall, the performance of the university was good.

### 38. Dr. Y S Parmar University of Horti and Forestry, Solan, H.P.

Dr. Manish Kumar represented the university. The university had implemented all programmes allotted to them. The PI stated that they were multiplying only released varieties, the review team suggested him to go for better performing varieties in Methi and Coriander. The PI requested for funds for planting material production, FLDs and distillation unit for Aromatic Plants.

#### 39. ICAR - Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIARI), Port Blair

Dr. K Abhirami represented the Institute. The Institute had implemented all components allotted to them under the scheme with minimum unspent balance. The review team appreciated the performance. Director DASD told the PI that "Estt of Cinnamon mother garden" component allotted them is an important one and all are looking forward to the implementation of the same. The PI requested to reduce the allotment of bush Pepper.

### 40. C C S Haryana Agricultural University, Haryana

Dr. MakhanMajokha Lal represented the university. After his presentation, Director DASD expressed concern over the back log in planting material production of Garlic and Aromatic Plants, and told the PI that these should be implemented this year without fail. The allotment of these components in the next year will be reduced proportionately.

### 41. University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shimoga

Dr. C Sunil represented the university. The PI stated that in some planting material components the crop is in the field and the anticipated achievement is as per the allotted targets. Director DASD stated that there is unspent balance in certain components, extra care is to be taken to utilize the funds and if needed the allotment for the current year will be reduced to that extent.

#### 42. Agricultural University Kota, Rajasthan

Dr R K Mahawar represented the university. The university had implemented all programmes allotted to them during the year. Their programme for the year 2020-21 was approved. The review team directed the PI to ensure that only notified varieties of spice crops are multiplied.

#### 43. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, U P

Dr. Manoj Kumar Singh represented the university. The PI stated that as the payment was not done, the achievements could not be shown. The Agri and Horti commissioner commented that the university should take up more programmes and show better performance. The PI requested to reduce the allotment of Seed spices.

## 44. Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani, Maharashtra

Dr. Amol Dethe represented the university. The reports were submitted late by the PI. The huge unspent balance and shortfall in many components were of serious concern. It was suggested that a separate review may be organized to sort out all issues.

### 45. Nagaland University, Nagaland

Dr. Kundan Kumar represented the university. The university was earlier asked to refund the unspent balance available with the university. Director DASD asked the university to submit fresh proposal to DASD after refunding the unspent balance.

### 46. Central Agricultural University, Manipur

Dr. Mariam represented the centre with first proposal for funding. It was informed that proposal can be considered if funds are available.

## 47. KVK Bhuj, ICAR -CAZRI

Dr. Manish Kanwat represented the centre with proposal for funding. As the area is having potential for seed spices and aromatic plants, Director informed that the proposal can be considered based on availability of funds.

On completion of the agencywise review, Director DASD invited Agri &Horti Commissioner for concluding remarks. He called upon all the universities for taking forward technologies like organic production, protray technique etc, building nursery infrastructure facilities and better utilization of resources. He suggested that priority to be given for nursery accreditation in perennial crops. The shortfalls in achievements of the scheme programmes are of concern, but many of them were due to lockdown and natural calamities like cyclone and floods. It may be kept in mind that the effective implementation of the scheme programmes supports state system. Indents for planting material may be taken from state department beforeplanning targets for planting material production. Only new varieties / highly performing varieties released /notified are to be multiplied under the programme. He encouraged the implementing centres to do more programmes and to make better utilization of resources so that our country's planting material production system is strengthened. More focus may be given for priority crops like Cinnamon, Cumin, Large cardamom. The Agri and Horti commissioner announced best performer award to the best implementing agency in 2020-21 (based on highest score achieved for criteria fixed by DASD) and certificate of appreciation for project leaders of best three projects implemented last year under DASD-MIDH programmes.

The following awards were granted

#### a. Best Performer Award

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University was awarded the best performer award for their good performance and utilization of funds consistently for the last three years.

### b. <u>Certificate of Appreciation – for best project leader</u>

**Dr. P Jayaraj**– For theimplementation of the "Pilot project on participatory mode rehabilitation of Black Pepper in Cheruthazham Panchayat" under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme implemented by this Directorate during the year 2015-16 to 2019-20 through KVK Kannur, Kerala Agricultural University.

**Dr. Krishna Kant**– For the implementation of the project on "Establishment of demonstration plots for pesticide free cumin production in Nagaur district of Rajasthan" under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme implemented by this Directorate during the year 2020-21 through ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer.

**Dr. S STuteja**– For the implementation of the project on "Establishment of frontline demonstration plots of Aromatic Plants in tribal areas of Chattisgarh" under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme implemented by this Directorate during the year 2020-21 through IGKV Raipur.

The Agri and Horti commissioner congratulated the award winners and said that this will be inspiring for other participants to perform better.

Dr. Femina, Deputy Director, DASD delivered the formal Vote of Thanks.

Action points as emerged from Agriculture & Horticulture Commissioner's concluding remarks.

- 1. Multiplication of seed and planting material of notified varieties need only be taken up.
- 2. Nurseries supported under this programme should immediately apply for accreditation. If any institute does not apply, the funds may be stopped. It may be strictly followed.
- 3. Seed produced through this scheme should be for 10 year old varieties and it should undergo the process of seed certification through respective states.
- 4. Cinnamon, Large Cardamom, Cumin should receive special emphasis in planting material programmes.
- 5. DASD should update the availability of planting material in its spice nurseries portal.
- 6. Mid term review should be done by DASD.