



Visit of Dr G R Chintala, Chairman, NABARD to BIRD, Lucknow 05 April 2021

Dr G R Chintala, Chairman, NABARD had interactions with the Faculty Members of BIRD, Lucknow during his visit to Lucknow on 05 April 2021. Extending a warm welcome to Chairman, Shri Shankar A Pande, Director, BIRD, Lucknow briefed about the activities and achievements of BIRD, Lucknow during 2020-21, especially in the areas of number of customised programmes conducted, increase in participation, association with Commercial Banks and partnership with new clients. He expressed gratitude to the Top Management, HO Departments and ROs of NABARD for providing valuable guidance and support during the COVID situation.

Thereafter, Shri M K De, AIC, made a detailed presentation on the achievements made by BIRD, Lucknow during 2020-21. The key highlights were –

- Conduct of 243 training programmes (including 99 paid / customised / collaborative programmes) against a target of 211 programmes (115%)
- Growth in number of training days (23.1%) and participation (45%) as also average participation (42.3%) as compared to 2019-20
- 31% increase in participation of Commercial Banks
- Design and conduct of new programmes in Finance, Development & Projects, HR, IT, micro-finance, Financial inclusion and climate change
- Preparation of training framework and five basic modules for capacity building of various stakeholders of FPOs under GoI's 10,000 FPO Scheme.
- International training programme on "Skill Development in the Area of Promotion and Financing of SHGs/JLGs for Financial Inclusion of Rural Poor" for CICTAB
- Conduct of 06 National level Seminars / Webinars on a wide range of topics, including – National Review Meet of RCBs and cooperative Conclave, Financial Inclusion & micro-finance, Business Continuity & HR Challenges during COVID – 19 pandemic – Lessons of FIs, Interface between agri-start-ups and FPOs, Conference for CTIs, etc.
- Organisation of Case documentation drives on FPOs & PACS as MSCs

- Conduct of studies on effectiveness on online training programmes, JLGs, BC models, micro-housing and MSME lending by SFBs / MFIs, Usage of RuPay KCC by farmers, etc.
- Execution of 06 consultancy assignments on TDF projects, cyber security policy for MPSCB, evaluation study on FPOs, etc.
- Publication of Micro-finance Review, Trend Reports, Manuals on climate change by BIRD and publishing of articles in The Cooperator and Indian Cooperative Review
- Launch of 08 paid e-learning modules covering fisheries, P & H, forestry, Minor Irrigation, FM, soil and water conservation sectors; Value Chain concepts & finance and effective governance in RRBs
- Preparation of 18 e-modules for NBSC

While addressing the faculty members of BIRD, Dr G R Chintala, Chairman, outlining his expectations from BIRD, Lucknow, laid emphasis on the need to focus on business requirements of client institutions while designing capacity building interventions. He advised the FMs to utilise the platform of DDMs for having a better feedback mechanism regarding the outcomes of various ground level interventions of NABARD. He pointed out that, such a measure would serve to provide empirical evidence of the interventions which could be shared with the client institutions. During the occasion, he also stressed the need for institutionalisation of documenting NABARD's initiatives and documenting large number of initiatives and successful projects undertaken by other stakeholders such as banks, agri-startups, FPOs, SHGs, etc.

During the visit, Chairman also launched the latest issue of BIRD's journal – The Microfinance Review published by CRFIM.

Some photographs taken during the occasion

