## **PRESS RELEASE**

ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute in collaboration with International Potato Centre, has organized Annual Joint Review Meeting at ICAR-CPRI RS Shillong during 16-17<sup>th</sup> September, 2022. The session was chaired by Dr. AK Singh, Deputy Director General (Hort. Sci.), ICAR, New Delhi. Dr. Devendra Kumar, Director (A) ICAR-CPRI, Shimla and Dr. S. Mohanty, CIP- Asia Regional Director, addressed the session during the two days review meeting.

Addressing the gathering, the chairman highlighted the significance of potato crop in view of NER potential and farmers' income. He emphasized the need of adequate amount of potato planting material of high yielding varieties. ICAR-CPRI should train farmers for seed production for their needs to reduce their dependency on other agencies.

Discussion was held on strengthening the country's Potato Gene Bank by importing more number of germplasm from CIP Lima Peru to CPRI. Exploring possibilities for introduction & adoption of Indian potato varieties by the SAARC countries. Expansion of evaluation of CIP-CPRI clones in Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura in addition to Assam.

Representatives from Meghalaya, Assam, Tripura and Nagaland were invited for panel discussions on potato seed chain development in North Eastern States. Issues related to potato seed availability and collaborative efforts were discussed with ICAR-CPRI and CIP for these states.

On the occasion, Dr. AK Singh, DDG (Hort. Sci.,) ICAR, New Delhi inaugurated the Farmers training Hostel in presence of Dr. Devendra Kumar, Director (A) ICAR-CPRI, Shimla and Dr. S. Mohanty, CIP, Asia Regional Director.

Thereafter, The Chairman and delegates visited different facilities, laboratories and fields at ICAR- CPRI RS Shillong and Bio-Resource Development Centre (BRDC), Upper Shillong, Meghalaya.



