Secretary DARE & DG, ICAR Visits ICAR-CICFR, Bhimtal

The Honourable Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, visited ICAR-Central Institute of Coldwater Fisheries Research, Bhimtal, on April 03, 2026. He was accompanied by Dr. J. K. Jena, Deputy Director General (Fisheries Science and Agricultural Education), Dr. D. K. Yadav, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), and Dr. Rajbir Singh, Deputy Director General (Extension), ICAR. During the visit, the delegation visited the key farm and lab facilities. Dr. Jat emphasized the need for region-specific, impact-oriented research in ecologically sensitive Himalayan areas, anchored on the core principles of sustainability- people, profit, and planet. He called for a coordinated, science-backed approach across all ICAR institutes and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the region, urging scientists to break institutional silos, nurture talent, and foster a culture of accountability and innovation, with the overarching goal of delivering tangible benefits to farming and fishing communities. Dr. J. K. Jena emphasized on increasing the rainbow trout production in the country. He further underscored the importance of refining Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) technology and highlighted the importance of exploring ornamental and sports fisheries as emerging growth sectors. Dr. D. K. Yadav emphasized field- and need-based research aligned with national missions and the development of practical packages of practices to support farmer livelihood security. Dr. Rajbir Singh stressed the need for strengthening extension outreach through the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA), fostering closer linkages with ATARI and State Fisheries Departments, and undertaking a comprehensive mapping of trout-growing areas across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). The programme was also attended by Dr. Laxmikant, Director, ICAR-VPKAS, Almora; Dr. Y. S. Mallik, Joint Director, ICAR-IVRI, Mukteshwar; the Officer-in-Charge, ICAR-NBPGR, Bhowali; and all scientists and staff of the institute.