

## Sunflower Field Day ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad

ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research, Hyderabad has organized the “**Sunflower Field Day**” under the DAC funded project “**Revival of Sunflower Cultivation**” on January 20, 2024 at Rajendranagar Farm of ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad. Hon'ble Director Dr. R.K. Mathur, ICAR-IIOR was the Chief Guest. Mr. Bipul Srivastava, Deputy Commissioner (Oilseeds), DA & FW, GoI, New Delhi and Dr. M. Sujatha, Ex Principal Scientist & Head Crop Improvement, ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad were the guest of honour. A total of 36 sunflower hybrids (released as well as pipeline) including private (16) and public (22) sectors were raised at Rajendranagar research farm of ICAR-IIOR to assess the performance of public as well as private sector hybrids to identify the best hybrids. Trial and evaluation of public sector and private sector hybrids were scored and evaluated by various scientists and officers. The program was attended by galaxy of scientists from ICAR-IIOR, various AICRP centres, representative of private companies, private entrepreneurs, and officials from public seed agencies like NSC, HIL, NDDDB, KOF and officials from Department of Oilseeds Development (DOD), GoI. Following the field visit, a review meeting was organized to discuss various issues related to the project. Dr. H.P. Meena, Sr. Scientist, ICAR-IIOR made a presentation of the progress being made during 2022-23 and 2023-24 in the DAC supported project on sunflower. He also presented several issues related to non-lifting of breeder seed by the public agencies, details of certified seed production taken up by the public agencies and procurement of certified seeds etc. The dignitaries visited other facilities including nucleus and breeder seed production plots of the parental lines of the newly released sunflower hybrid TilhanTec-SUNH-1 and evaluation trial of preliminary sunflower experimental hybrids.



