

**Visit of the honorable Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) to
ICAR-IVRI Bengaluru campus
29th August, 2023**

On the side-lines of the G20 Technical Workshop on One Health-Opportunities and Challenges being held at Bengaluru from 29th -30th Aug 2023, Dr Himanshu Pathak, the honorable Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) visited the Bengaluru campus of ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) today, the 29th August 2023. He was welcomed by Dr Triveni Dutt, Director, ICAR-IVRI, and Dr Pallab Chaudhuri, Joint Director, ICAR-IVRI, Bengaluru campus. Director, ICAR-IVRI briefed the DG, about the contributions of IVRI, Bengaluru campus in the FMD vaccine R&D and its involvement in the national disease control programs through QC of FMD vaccine and PPR vaccine in association with Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), GoI. He briefed the research accomplishments including the evaluation of thermostable FMDV serotype O vaccine strain in collaboration with NIFMD, and various R&D programs such as gene deletion marker trivalent FMD vaccine, and companion diagnostics, which are important in the national FMD control programme. The honorable DG visited all the research laboratories of the campus and interacted with scientists and students. Dr H. J. Dechamma, briefed about genome editing of cell line for enhancing foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccine virus yield. Dr B.P. Sreenivasa, In-charge of vaccine production Laboratory briefed about the IVRI's pioneering role in FMD vaccine production technology in the country using fermenters. He highlighted the recent initiatives on developing alternate animal model for FMD vaccine potency testing and *in vitro* assays for QC testing of FMD vaccine. Dr V. Bhanuprakash, In-charge of the Quality Control and Quality Assurance laboratory, updated about the vaccine quality testing carried out by IVRI under the National Animal Disease Control Programme of the DAHD, GoI. The Director General appreciated the research contributions of the IVRI Bengaluru campus, especially the advanced research on FMD vaccine and vaccine quality control services provided to DAHD, GoI. He enquired about the total FMD vaccine requirement in the country and current production capacity. Director, ICAR-IVRI highlighted the need for enhancing FMD vaccine production and quality control capability. The DG interacted and encouraged the scientists to work on the priority areas of national importance.

