The Council has several All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRP). In order to recognize the outstanding performance of the AICRP and its cooperating centres for enhancement of agricultural productivity, one award of ₹3.0 lakh (₹2.0 lakh for main coordinating unit and ₹1.0 lakh for the best centre) is given to the All India Coordinated Research Project. The Award has been named after Chaudhary Devi Lal (1914-2001) who had been the Deputy Prime Minister and Agriculture Minister of India. In all 9 eligible applications were received in response to the open advertisement. The details about the winning AICRP along with major achievements are as follows:
The All India Coordinated Research Project on Sorghum (AICRPS), ICAR-Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad has been conferred Chaudhary Devi Lal Outstanding All India Coordinated Research Project Award 2019. Research carried out under AICRP-Sorghum during 2014-19 led to release of 9 high yielding pest and disease tolerant hybrids apart from 18 varieties at national (7 hybrids & 10 varieties) and state level. Multi-cut forage variety CSV33MF released in 2016 out yielded SSG 59-3 after 38 years. Besides, 4 single-cut, 2 sweet sorghum and 3 special purposes varieties (BMR, hurda&papad making) were released. Four old cultivars (CSH14, CSH16, CSH24MF, & CSV29R) were recognized as landmark variety by ICAR in 2019. Over 36 value added products were developed and popularized. Technology demonstrations at farmers' fields registered over 89.9% improvement in yield over local practices and commercialization of these technologies generated 90.0 lakh revenues. Productivity of rabi and kharif sorghum increased by 43% and 11.5% respectively as compared to 2000-05. Extensive quality linkages and interactions among clienteles including scientists, farmers, universities, national and international institutions, state and center department of agriculture and private partners involved in this programme has strengthened the system and improved efficacy. AICRP-Sorghum has achieved its leadership status in the field of sorghum research and development through quality publications, training, linkages, salable technologies, as evident by MoUs with diverse partners including research and educational organization, private companies and start-ups.