

## ICAR-NRC Grapes organized a field demonstration program for Kashmir grape growers on modern viticultural practices

A training Programme was organized on “Production and Protection of Grapes in Kashmir & Ladakh Region” on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 by ICAR-National Research Centre for Grapes (NRCG) Pune at Model Vineyard, Kralbagh Lar in collaboration with the J&K Department of Horticulture, Srinagar. The Programme was chaired by Dr. Kaushik Banerjee, Director ICAR-NRCG, Pune, and graced by Dr. M.K. Verma, Director CITH, Srinagar, Mr. Zahoor Ahmad Bhat, Director Horticulture Kashmir, and many other dignitaries. The programme witnessed participation of more than 100 grape growers from different areas of Kashmir, and UT Ladakh. The growers were acquainted with different facets of grape cultivation including bio-intensive management of powdery mildew, pruning practices, raisin preparation techniques, and NRCG’s initiatives of producing virus-free planting materials. A technical bulletin on bio-intensive grape cultivation was released. The pesticide usage safety kits provided by PMFAI were distributed among farmers. The Director, ICAR-NRCG ensured that work will be done on finding new marketing channels for facilitation of domestic and international trade of grape from Kashmir and Ladakh region. Dr Sujoy Saha and Dr Sharmistha Naik coordinated the technical program and field demonstrations.

