

## **ICAR- CCRI signs MoU with Sahyadri Farms for production of quality planting material of citrus**

In order to boost the production of quality nursery planting materials of citrus, ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute (ICAR-CCRI) signed one Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Nashik based M/s. Sahyadri Farmers Producer Company Ltd on “Containerized Nursery Propagation Techniques for Production of Disease-free quality Planting Material of Citrus”. The MoU was signed in the gracious presence of Sh. Nitin Gadkari, Hon’ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways of Govt of India on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. Dr. Dilip Ghosh, Director, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur, and Mr. Vilas Shinde, Chairman and Managing Director of Sahyadri Farms, Nashik signed the MoU on the behalf of their respective organizations in presence of other delegates and dignitaries.

ICAR-CCRI is known in the entire country for production of quality disease-free planting material of citrus and the institute is distributing such plants to the farmers from last two decades. However, to cater the need of the entire country, ICAR-CCRI is transferring its developed technology to interested private industry through official licensing. Sahyadri Farms also known as Sahyadri Farmer Producer Company Ltd. (SFPCL) is a leading farmer producer company working with 18000 farmer members with annual turnover of ₹1000 crore. The company is working with a tagline “of the farmers, by the farmers, for the farmers”. Sahyadri was a movement started by Shri. Vilas Shinde, Chairman and managing director of the company, with focus on the welfare of the farmers to get them their righteous due, while doing business profitably. SFPCL has emerged as a successful model for management and operation of a Farmers producer company in Indian agricultural environment.

Dr. Dilip Ghosh, Director, ICAR-CCRI said the partnership between ICAR-CCRI and Sahyadri Farms will certainly have a big impact on the citrus industry and will benefit the citrus growers of the Country. This historic signing of License / Consultancy Agreement would go a long way in establishing a sound disease-free citrus industry in the country, reiterated Mr. Vilas Shinde, Chairman and MD, Sahyadri Farms.

## Glimpses of MoU signing

