## IIT Indore inks MoU with ICAR-CIAE to develop farmer-friendly tech

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IIT Indore has been aiming to develop and work towards application of appropriate and farmerfriendly technologies. In this regard, IIT Indore has signed a Memorandum ofUnderstanding (MoU) with ICAR-Central Institute of Agricultural Engi-(ICAR-CIAE), neering Bhopal on April 24 for long-term collaboration and knowledge sharing in the broad domains of Agriculture Engineering, Rural Development, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and other allied areas.

The MoU was signed by Prof Suhas Joshi, director, IIT Indore, and Dr CR Mehta, director, ICAR-CIAE.



Prof Joshi said "This MOU is a step towards the vision of IIT Indore to contribute to the farming and agriculture sector, through its expertise in different domains of Engineering, Science, and Humanities."

Several collaborative

projects, with CAE, are already going on at IIT Indore covering different domains of agriculture like the development of bioplastics, farm mechanisation techniques, realtime detection of diseases in paddy, assessment of soyabean-based probi-

otics, development of superabsorbent Agri-gel, accurate estimation of above-ground biomass, mobile apps for farmers, efficient removal of pesticides from contaminated groundwater, and sustainable management of organic wastes.

The complementary expertise of IIT Indore and CIAE is expected to result in some path-breaking and ready-to-implement technologies for society, and farmers in particular.

The event was conducted by the Centre for Rural Development and Technology (CRDT). Dr Debayan Sarkar, PIC-CRDT, and Professor Sandeep Chaudhary, dean administration and former Profincharge-CRDT were also present during the function.