## A Virtual lecture on Environmental regulations and standards relevant to agricultural universities and the scope of green initiatives

The ICAR – NAHEP recently conducted a comprehensive program focused on enhancing capacity and disseminating knowledge regarding environmental regulations and standards pertinent to agricultural universities, alongside exploring the potential of green initiatives. This initiative, held on January 31st, 2024, falls within the ambit of Environment Safeguards (ES) under the leadership of Dr. R C Agrawal, DDG Agricultural Education Division & National Director, NAHEP.

During the program, Ms. Vanitha Kommu, an esteemed environmental consultant at the World Bank, underscored the crucial role of environmental legislation and policies in safeguarding ecosystems and natural resources. She emphasized the pivotal position of Agricultural universities in championing sustainable practices and integrating pertinent environmental regulations into their educational frameworks. Furthermore, Ms. Kommu offered insights into various green initiatives that could be seamlessly incorporated into institutional setups.

Dr. Hema Tripathi, the nodal officer for Environment and social safeguard, coordinated the program and stressed that universities can contribute to a more sustainable and resilient agriculture system by aligning with environmental regulations and embracing green initiatives. Moreover, they can serve as hubs for research, education, and the dissemination of environmentally friendly practices to the broader farming community. Miss Indira Prakash consultant Environmental Safeguard at PIU, NAHEP convened the program.

The program witnessed significant participation, with an audience of over 650 individuals, including undergraduate and postgraduate students, faculty members, Principal Investigators (PIs), and Nodal Officers (Environment) from more than 55 agricultural universities.

