

'Agri-technology workshop' and 'Buyer-Seller Meet' held at IIM

■ Business Bureau

THE Indian Institute of Management Nagpur, in collaboration with the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), recently conducted a two-day 'Agri-technology workshop' and 'Buyer-Seller Meet' designed to benefit the State's Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).

The event was a part of the MAGNET project, a joint venture between MSAMB and ADB, aimed at empowering FPOs in Maharashtra by granting them access to the latest agricultural technological advancements. The MAGNET project had set several ambitious goals, including strengthening the institutional capacities of agribusiness and FPOs, enhancing the financial and agribusiness capacities of FPOs

and Value Chain Operators (VCOs), and improving and operationalising the agriculture value chain infrastructure. The project aimed to provide comprehensive support to agribusiness institutions, FPOs, Community Managed Resource Centers (CMRCs), and other VCOs through grants and facilitating financial intermediation loans.

In December 2022, a strategy workshop was conducted by ADB and Grant Thornton at IIM Nagpur, covering critical topics such as climate change and orange crop management, integrated pest management, post-harvest management, high-tech water management, and the demand for orange and quality expectation. Anoop Kumar, ACS, Cooperation and Marketing, and Dr Bhimraya Metri, Director of IIM Nagpur, as distinguished chief guests, were present on occasion.