Short Term Training Course was jointly organized by IMD and ICAR-ATARI Jabalpur on “Preparation and dissemination of Agromet Advisories at Block level under Gramin Krishi Mausam Seva (GKMS) scheme” for Subject Matter Specialists (Agromet) and Agromet observers of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh was organized at ICAR-ATARI Jabalpur during 20-25th November, 2019. The objective of the training was to impart knowledge and skills to newly recruited Subject Matter Specialists (Agrometeorology) and Agromet Observers of the District Agromet Units (DAMUs) established across Madhya Pradesh (14) and Chhattisgarh (9).

During the 6 day training programme experts from IMD, ICAR and JNKVV gave lectures on various aspects related to guidelines for DAMUs along with roles and responsibilities of SMS-Agrometeorology and Agromet Observer, Observation system and network of observatories, site of observatory and instruments with respect to agriculture, interpretation of weather forecasts issued time to time by IMD, contingency crop planning, generation of agromet advisories based on crop phenology and methods of dissemination of the advisories to reach beneficiaries at block level. The trainees were given hands on training on handling and maintenance of meteorological equipment, recording of data, generation and uploading of agromet advisories on Agromet-DSS portal. The trainees were suggested to know about the elements of climate and weather to understand the production and protection aspects as influenced by weather, to gain knowledge on the agro-ecological situation of the district and to work in close convergence with state department of agriculture so that timely and specific advisories are issued to the farmers in their district in agriculture and allied sectors.

Dr. Anupam Mishra Director ICAR-ATARI, Jabalpur, Dr. (Mrs) Om Gupta, Director Extension Services JNKVV, Mr A. K. Baxla Scientist IMD New Delhi, Ms Mamta Yadav Scientist IMD Bhopal, Ms Bhawna Scientist IMD Nagpur, Dr. K.K. Agrawal Professor JNKVV, Dr. Manish Bhan Asst. Professor JNKVV, Dr. S. R. K. Singh Pr. Scientist, ATARI, Dr. A. A. Raut Scientist ATARI and Shri K. S. Netam Joint Director Agriculture Jabalpur participated in the training course as resource persons and gave their input to the trainees. Total 22 participants from 15 DAMU units in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh participated in the training programme. Dr. A. A. Raut, Scientist and Nodal Officer of DAMU in ICAR-ATARI, Jabalpur co-ordinated the training programme.