

## **International Training Program being conducted by ACE, BIRD**

BIRD, Lucknow is organising a 4 days International Training Programme on “*Embracing Digitisation for Finance and Governance*” under the aegis of APRACA Centre of Excellence (ACE) during 25 – 28 March 2019. The programme was inaugurated on 25 March 2019 by Smt. T. S. Raji Gain, Director BIRD and graced by Dr Prasun Kumar Das, Secretary General, APRACA and Shri Raj Kumar, Joint Director, BIRD.

The programme will help in disseminating the various aspects of digitisation for finance and good governance practices for the executives of the Banks, MFIs and Agricultural Credit Associations. The participants are officials from Sathapana Bank Ltd., Cambodia, Huainan Tongshang Rural Commercial Bank Ltd., China and Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., Nepal. The programme includes exposure visit to District Central Cooperative Bank, Agra for an interactive session with the board members.

Smt. T. S. Raji Gain, Director BIRD, during her inaugural address explained the underlying objectives of the programme and highlighted various digital initiatives of Banks & Financial Institutions with Govt. support. *EShakti* - the digitisation project of SHGs, initiated by NABARD for promoting good governance practices in institution of poor (SHGs) resulting in increase in accessibility of bank credit and transparency within groups was also highlighted.

Dr. Prasun Kumar Das, thankfully acknowledged the initiative of NABARD and BIRD, Lucknow in organising the programme under the aegis of ACE. Dr. Das has also explained role of APRACA in facilitating sharing of best practices in the area of rural credit to its member countries.

The programme is being coordinated by Shri M R Gopal Faculty Members/DGM and Dr. Bhawani Singh Rathore, Research Officer.

Few photographs of the program are appended below:



**Delegates of participating countries**



**Lighting of lamp by Smt. T. S. Raji Gain, Director BIRD & Dr Prasun Kumar Das, Secretary General, APRACA along with the delegates and officials of BIRD**