

# **Inauguration of the Poly House @ Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences**

Shri. Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare of Government of India inaugurated the Poly House at Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences (Deemed University), Coimbatore. The poly house has been built for precision agriculture and used for growing crops in a naturally ventilated, climate controlled environment unlike the crops grown in open fields. It enables protected cultivation of crops with reduced pests and weeds. Poly houses are cost effective and require less water since they can easily be drip irrigated.

The minister highlighted the synergies among water, food, health and energy and the key role of Agriculture in linking them up. He also spoke about the importance of application of modern technologies like GIS, GPS, IoT, cloud computing and electronic gadgets even wireless and mobile app for precision farming. The Minister pointed out the importance of agriculture in a country of 70% agrarian population. Shri. Rupala highlighted the schemes of Government of India aiming at farmer welfare such as Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. He also mentioned that India is a big laboratory with arid, semi-arid, semi-humid, humid tropical regions within it. The Minister highlighted the need to get ready for facing climate change and also the importance of solar energy for agriculture purposes to reduce carbon emission. Shri. Parshottam Rupala mentioned about the establishment of 27 Centers of Excellence to be established in India as part of India - Israel Collaboration. Already 15 Centers are completed. The Minister of State also appreciated Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences for establishing state-of-the-art laboratories for studies in the area of water and food technology.