

Inauguration of auditorium and three other facilities at the ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur

The inauguration of Auditorium, Indoor sports Hall, Sewage Water Treatment Plant and Agri-business Incubation (ABI) Centre was held at ICAR-Central arid Zone Research Institute (ICAR-CAZRI), Jodhpur on 28th August, 2022. These facilities were inaugurated by the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar in the presence of Union Minister for Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Kailash Choudhary, Secretary DARE and Director General, ICAR, Dr. Himanshu Pathak and Deputy Director General (NRM), ICAR, Dr. S.K. Chaudhari.

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar appreciated the contribution of CAZRI in making the Thar desert green through interventions of various agro-ecological techniques for the last more than six decades. He mentioned that the work of CAZRI in water saving technologies and development of low-cost protected cultivation was much greater than that of Israel which is often quoted.



Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat highlighted the traditional methods of farming and their need to amalgamate with new knowledge so as to meet the challenge in future. He appreciated the efforts of institute in modernizing its facilities and research-doing capabilities on regular basis in view of changing need and challenges.

While fully recognizing the contribution CAZRI in transforming desert agriculture, Shri Kailash Choudhary called for promotion of new crops requiring less water and enhancing the capacity for supply of improved seed and quality planting materials.

Dr. Himanshu Pathak pointed out the importance of improved farming in arid regions to fulfill the need of food and fodder of the arid regions through research efforts without any negative impact on environment and climate. Dr. S.K. Chaudhari congratulated all the staffs of the Institute on this occasion and highlighted the approach followed by CAZRI to promote integrated farming system in the region to enhance resilience and productivity. Both Dr. Pathak and Dr. Chaudhari also visited experimental and seed production area.

Earlier Hon'ble Ministers were welcomed by Director General, ICAR, Dr. Himanshu Pathak. At the beginning of the programme, Dr. O.P. Yadav welcomed the participants and made a presentation of CAZRI's key achievements and highlighted the landmark technologies that have made an impact on ground. During the programme, successful farmers of the region, who have adopted the technology of the Institute, were felicitated by the distinguished delegates.

The Directors of other ICAR research Institutes of the region were also present on occasion. Dr. N.V. Patil, Head of the Division proposed the vote of thanks.