

## **Reducing Dependence on Chemical Fertilizers: Group Discussion under Atma Nirbhar Bharat**

A group discussion was held on reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and replacing them with organic fertilizers at Rampuriya village of Bilara tehsil, Jodhpur on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Farmers were informed about the scope and benefits of CAZRI developed PGPR (plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria) bioformulations in the region. This discussion was held under the DBT-funded project "Demonstrating and evaluating the efficacy of native PGPR consortium based bio-formulations for abiotic stress resilience and sustainable crop growth in arid regions" emphasizing self-reliance under the "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" theme. A group of 25 farmers and farm women participated in the discussion. The program was coordinated by Drs. Saritha M, Dipika Hajong and Anand Kumar Naorem.

