

### Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Ayog visits CAZRI, Jodhpur

Professor Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Ayog visited the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. He delivered a talk on “Emerging trends in agricultural and rural economy of India” and deliberated on doubling farmers’ income by 2022. Prof. Ramesh Chand took keen interest in technologies related to Integrated Farming System that have been developed by institute and which have greater relevance in enhancing current level of farmers’ income. He also visited Jaisalmer and got first-hand experience of assessing traditional water-harvesting structures like *khadins* and new emerging horticultural crops that are coming up in western Rajasthan with the advent of irrigation. Prof. Ramesh Chand emphasized greater role of solar and wind sources of energy that are abundantly available in Rajasthan



He also interacted with staff of Institute. Earlier, Dr. O.P. Yadav, Director briefed him about unique features of arid zone ecosystem and about institute technologies that have played a key role in reducing the land degradation and process of desertification; and in increasing the resilience of agriculture in one of the most difficult environment from farming point of view.