

Seed Day cum Farmers-Scientists Interaction organized at CAZRI, Jodhpur

A Seed Day cum Farmers-Scientists interaction meet was organized at CAZRI, Jodhpur on 23 September 2016 to enhance the capacity building of more than 125 farmers in seed production of pulse crops and to promote adoption of improved agri-technologies. Dr. B.B. Singh, ADG (Oilseeds & Pulses), who was the chief guest on this occasion, highlighted the importance of short duration improved varieties of pulses in increasing the production in rainfed areas. He appreciated the efforts of institute for popularization of improved crop varieties and massive seed production programme of new and adapted varieties of mungbean, mothbean and clusterbean to meet out the increased seed demand of the farmers.



Dr. O.P. Yadav, Director underlined the importance of both improved seed and management practices to get higher yields under low rainfall situation. Dr. Sanjiv Gupta, Project Coordinator urged the farmers to come forward for participatory seed production programme for increasing seed replacement rate so that self-sufficiency in pulses can be achieved. Dr. S.K. Singh, Director, ATARI, Jodhpur emphasized the importance of location specific technologies for profitability and sustainability of farmer's income. Officers of National Seed Corporation, Rajasthan State Seed Corporation and State Seed Testing Laboratory acquainted the farmers about the procedures and process of seed growers, certification and testing programmes so that farmer's involvement can be increased.



Ninety varieties of five major rainfed crops, viz., mothbean, mungbean, sesame, clusterbean and pearl millet demonstrated in crop cafeteria were grown to create awareness among farmers for the latest varieties available in these crops. Farmers visited the crop cafeteria and seed production plots of improved crop varieties and orchards of *ber*, *aonla*, pomegranate, *gonda* and date palm.

During the day-long interactive sessions scientists of CAZRI provided information on vegetable, fruits, protected cultivation, reclamation of salinity and seed production techniques to the farmers. Subject matter specialists from KVKs, NGOs and officers of line departments also participated and gave feedback on various issues of seed production.