

Director General, ICAR visits CAZRI, Regional Research Station, Leh

Dr S. Ayyappan, Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR visited the Regional Research Station (RRS) of Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI) at Leh on 13.09.2013. At the outset, Dr. M. M. Roy, Director, CAZRI welcomed him and briefed about the progress and facilities developed at this station. Dr Ayyappan appreciated these efforts and advised to organise demonstrations on the improved production technologies applicable to this region. Convergence of such technologies from IGFRI, Jhansi; CITH, Srinagar; CPRI, Shimla; CIPHET, Ludhiana; and DMR, Solan may be planned under Tribal Sub-Plan and coordinated by this centre of CAZRI. He also suggested strong collaborations with SKAUST station and KVK at Leh for improving the productivity of Ladakh region. He discussed the prospects of R & D of RRS at Leh with the CAZRI personnel - Drs. Suresh Kumar, Head, ILLUM&FS, R.K. Bhatt, OIC of RRS, Leh, J.C. Tewari, Coordinator, RRS, Leh, M.S. Raghuvanshi, Sr. Scientist (Agronomy), Sh Sanjay Bokolia, CAO and Sh P.K. Tiwari, FAO.

Scientists from various institutes/ universities viz., Dr. Mohammad Salim Mir, ADR, SKAUST, Dr. Barat, Director, NRC on Cold Water Fisheries, Dr. Tyagi, Head, Germplasm Conservation Division, NBPGR and Dr. D. Namgyal, Programme Coordinator (KVK), SKAUST etc. were also present on the occasion. The DG mentioned that crops like barley, potato, wheat and oat should be accorded higher priority in a farming system mode.



Dr. Ayyappan also discussed about the infrastructure development like buildings and fencing at RRS, Leh. He visited along with the team at a farmer's field at Ranbirpur village near Leh where a demonstration on drip irrigation in apple orchard has been carried out by SKAUST, sponsored under Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) of cold arid network research of CAZRI. He also visited the research farm of RRS, CAZRI to advice about the farm development. Sprinkler irrigation developed at Research Farm of SKAUST was also visited by him. Finally, in a meeting with staff at KVK, Stakna he encouraged all concerned to serve whole heartedly the farmers of Ladakh to increase their farm income so as to improve their livelihood.