

## **World Day to Combat Desertification Celebrated at CAZRI**

17 June, 2014

The World day to combat desertification was celebrated on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 at Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur under the aegis of ENVIS Centre for Desertification (MoEF) at this institute. Theme for this year was “Ecosystem based adaptation to climate change”, under slogan ‘Land belongs to future, let’s climate proof it! Dr. K. D. Sharma, Former Member (Water Management), National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), Planning Commission (GOI) was the Chief Guest

Dr. Sharma vividly presented the water scenario of the country. He expressed his concern on depleting ground water and highlighted the need for strengthening water conservation activities. He mentioned that being a ‘monsoon country’, India receives most of its precipitation as a heavy downpour for just about 100 h out of the total 8760 h in a year, it must be utilized efficiently. He emphasized upon the need of operational changes, demand related management and infrastructural modification in water sector keeping in view the climate change.



Dr. M.M. Roy, Director, CAZRI presided over this event and in his address expressed satisfaction upon the institute’s contribution in combating desertification. However, efforts are needed in technological advancement for coping the challenges of desertification, especially in context of climate change.

There were 62 participants in this programme, including scientists, technical officers and research fellows.

Earlier, Dr. R.S. Tripathi, Principal Scientist, CAZRI welcomed the Chief Guest and other participants.

In the end, Dr. Vipin Chaudhary, Senior Scientist, CAZRI proposed a vote of thanks.

*(Source: CAZRI, Jodhpur)*