CAZRI empowers MPOWER

As part of collaborative programme with the Department of Rural Development, Government of Rajasthan, the institute provided technical backstopping to its programme-Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan (MPOWER). In this connection a training programme was or organized by the Division of Transfer of Technology and Production Economics at CAZRI, Jodhpur during 11th to 12th February, 2014 on "Improved Agricultural Technologies for Higher Production in Western Rajasthan for the master trainers and project officers working at various levels in MPOWER project in six districts Pali, Jalor, Sirohi, Barmer and Jodhpur of western Rajasthan.

Dr. A. T. Jayseelan, GM, Regional Remote Sensing Centre of ISRO in the inaugural session elaborated the importance of satellite mapping and interpretations in agricultural planning and policy making for different ecological regions. Shri R. S. Mertia, Project Director of MPOWER and guest of honour, summarised the efforts of MPOWER for poverty reduction in western Rajasthan by formulation of the self-help groups and appreciated the technological support from CAZRI. Dr. Suresh Kumar, Director Incharge, CAZRI stressed upon the importance of continuous trainings by the institute scientists on the sustainable development of villages. Dr P C Pande HD Division VI emphasized the need for dissemination of new innovative technologies in mitigating poverty and incorporation of new emerging tools in imparting training. Dr. Khem Chand who coordinated the training programme along with Dr. Bhagwan Singh and Dr Soma Srivastava elaborated various contents of the training programme which included various interactive sessions on Nursery management, Alternate land use systems of arid region, Crop diversification, Soil and water conservation, Marketing issues, Potential of horticultural crops for value addition, Pest management and Livestock management etc with field visit of KVK, experimental fields and solar yard, and feedback analysis keeping in view the futuristic training programmes.