

## ICAR-CAZRI and Guar Gum Industry Meeting Organized

ICAR-CAZRI organised a discussion meeting with representatives of guar gum industry on 15th April 2019. The objective of the meeting was to share mutual experiences and expectations of the industry.

Dr O.P. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CAZRI emphasized the value of guar crop in the arid region and the importance of industry-academia dialogue for identifying research gaps. India is the largest producer of guar gum in the world, the major contribution of which comes from arid regions of Rajasthan and parts of Haryana and Gujarat. Owing to its unique properties, guar gum finds diverse applications such as thickening agent in fracturing fluid in oil and shale gas industries and as thickener, binder, stabilizer and emulsifier in food, textile, cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries.



Representatives from Sunita Hydrocolloids, Shri Ram Gum Chemicals, Lotus Gums & Chemicals, Hindustan Gums & Chemicals and Jainsons (India) Industries detailed about the needs of guar gum industry. They stressed the requirement of guar seeds having higher gum content, viscosity and improved method for guar split production to reduce losses. The guar gum export from India reached 4.94 lakh tonnes valuing Rs. 4169 crores in 2017-18. However, it was highlighted that since past few years guar gum is facing competition from alternative products in the food and oil industry.

Scientists from ICAR-CAZRI made presentations on guar gum current export scenario, cultivation, genetic improvement, gum quality and value addition. The presentations were followed by a detailed discussion session. It was proposed that seed samples of guar cultivars can be provided by the Institute for testing in industry pilot plants for gum content and quality. Mr P.K. Hissaria, President, Indian Guar Gum Manufacturers' Association highlighted the potential of value addition of guar churi and dust. Dr C.B. Pandey, Head, Division of Natural Resources, thanked all guests for the fruitful discussion.