

## Workshop on 'Protected Cultivation to Enhance Farmers Income, organized at ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur

A workshop on 'Protected Cultivation to Enhance Farmers Income' was organised at ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur on 28.03.2017 to bring all the stakeholder of protected cultivation onto a single platform to discuss and address related issues. Eighty participants including selected polyhouse growers and other interested entrepreneurs from 6 districts (Jodhpur, Jalore, Pali, Dausa, Barmer and Nagore); personnel from seed, fertilisers, pesticides, drip and polyhouse companies, bank, line Dept. etc. shared their views and experiences.



After a brief introduction about workshop by Dr. Praveen Kumar, Head, Dr. O.P. Yadav, Director called upon entrepreneurs to take up protected cultivation as an industry and also to diversify the crops. He also advised growers to go beyond cultivation and explore value chain development, export and other associated ventures. Dr. V.K. Pandey (Joint Director-Agriculture) and Dr. V.R. Solanki (Deputy Director-Horticulture) informed participants about various schemes of State Government related to the promotion of protected cultivation.

Discussion centred revolved around the location specific needs of variety and nutrient scheduling for greenhouse vegetables, vermi-composting unit, water harvesting, solar power system, alternate crops for poly-houses like strawberry and cut-flowers, and water and soil analyses. The discussions also covered the need of establishing a poly-house growers' association, training to the youth and encouraging youths for commercial vegetables nursery.



Exhibitions and short field visits were also arranged to showcase activities related to protected cultivation. Dr. Pradeep Kumar and Dr Anurag Saxena coordinated the workshop. Sabar Agro seeds (Himmat Nagar) and State Bank of India, Luni (Jodhpur) facilitated in organising the workshop.