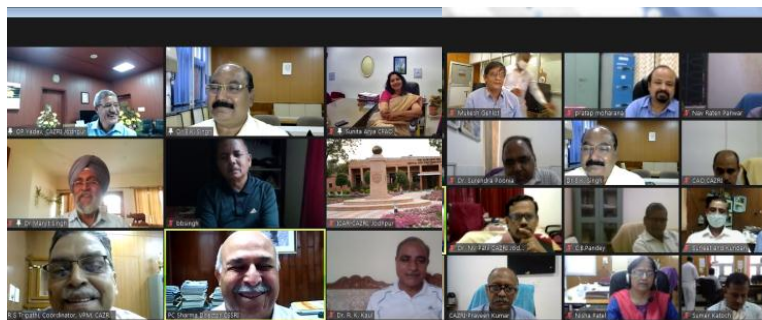
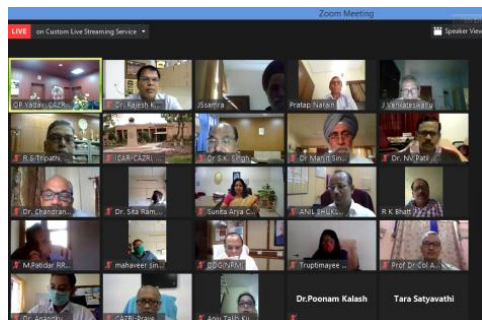
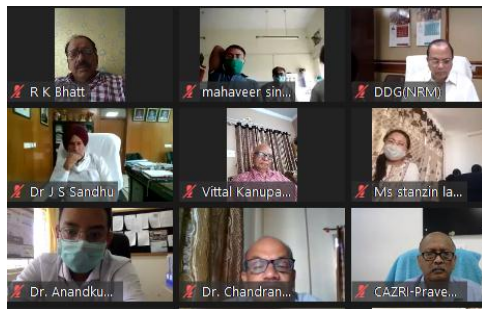


CAZRI Jodhpur celebrates its 62nd Foundation Day on October 1, 2020

The 62nd Foundation day of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute was celebrated on 1st October 2020 in virtual mode. Dr. T. Mohapatra, Secretary DARE (GOI) and DG, ICAR was the Chief Guest and Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, DDG (NRM) was the Guest of Honour on this occasion.

Dr. Mohapatra in his address congratulated all the staff of the Institute on this occasion and appreciated the accomplishments achieved during the year. He expressed his happiness about the scientific and infrastructural developments, especially at institute's Regional Research Station at Leh. He appealed to the scientists to strengthen R&D activities on value chain development, gene prospecting of desert hardy plants, product processing and value addition, solar farming, water management, quality fodder production and also the new challenges posed by locust invasion in arid region in recent years. He emphasized that CAZRI is not only recognized at national level but also at global level; and now we have to put more efforts in cold arid zone and strengthen RRS, Leh. Use of technologies like remote sensing is critical in such difficult ecology not only for mapping the area but for monitoring the resources. He emphasized the need of coordination with other institutes working on horticulture and livestock aspects and development of value chains and bio-prospecting.



Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, DDG (NRM) also appreciated the achievements of the Institute and congratulated the Director and Staff members on this occasion. He also delivered the Foundation Day Lecture on 'Soil and Water Management: Key to Agricultural Sustainability' covering various aspects related to Soil and Water Management in view of India's commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Land Degradation Neutrality.

Gracing the occasion, three former Directors of the Institute, viz. Dr. J. Venkateswarlu, Dr. Pratap Narain and Dr. K.P.R. Vittal also shared their reminiscences. Other eminent participants included Dr J.S. Samra, former DDG (NRM) & former Chairman of RAC, ICAR-CAZRI; Dr. B. Venkateswarlu, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, VNMKV, Parbhani and Chairman of QRT, ICAR-CAZRI; Dr. S. Bhaskar, ADG (NRM); Dr. J.S. Sandhu, Vice chancellors of SKN Agricultural University; Dr. B.R. Chaudhary, Vice-Chancellor Agriculture University, Jodhpur, Former Vice-Chancellors Dr. A.R. Pathak and Dr. A.K. Gehlot; Directors of ICAR institutes; and present and past staff of CAZRI. Ex-Directors of the institute, Drs. J. Venkateswarlu, Pratap Narain and KPR Vittal shared their past experiences and advice with the participants.

Earlier, Dr. O.P. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CAZRI welcomed the Chief Guest, other dignitaries and all the participants. He then presented brief history of the institute followed by major research and development achievements; and new initiatives taken in infrastructure development and in delivering of improved technologies to farming

communities and other stakeholders. Dr R.S. Tripathi, the Convener of the Foundation Day Celebration conducted the programme and also proposed formal vote of thanks for the guests, dignitaries and all the participants.