

## **CAZRI organized a two days training programme cum workshop on “Efficient use of Vilayati babool (*Prosopis juliflora*)”**

A two day's training programme cum workshop on efficient use of Vilayati babool (*Prosopis juliflora*) was organized at Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur on August 6-7, 2014. The programme was sponsored by Project Directorate, Mitigation Poverty in Western Rajasthan, Govt. of Rajasthan. *P. juliflora* is an important tree species as it is well adapted in arid region and has multiple uses in many ways like for sand dune stabilization, use of its wood as fuel, furniture and for field fencing etc. Considering its importance, excellent growth rate and evergreen nature in harsh climatic condition of arid region, it was named as Royal Plant of the desert by the ruler of Jodhpur district during 1940. But its severe invasion in cultivated, pasture and forest land, it was started to be considered as a weed. However, scientists of the institute have developed technologies for preparing of nutritious animal feed from the pod and seed and hot brewage named Juli coffee and thus efficient use of *P. juliflora* play vital role in improving the livelihood of the inhabitants of the region. Looking to the importance of the *P. juliflora* and need of the dissemination of the technologies among the farmers, this training programme cum workshop was organized for the field worker of MPoWeR project. During the inaugural address Dr. M.M. Roy emphasized the importance of the *Prosopis juliflora* in sustainable livelihood. He mentioned that Livestock production is an important source of income in the region. Use of the pod and seed of *P. juliflora* in making the animal feed can play vital role for providing nutritive feed to the livestock and increasing the livestock productivity in the region. He urged the participants that such type of technology should be transferred at the farmer's field as earliest as possible. Dr. P.C. Pande, Head division of Transfer of Technology, Training and Production Economics emphasized that due to multiple uses of *P. juliflora*, it has become an important plant species for sustainable livelihood in the arid region. He further expressed the need of concerted efforts towards dissemination of the technologies developed by the institute among the farmers through different extension methods, so that farmers may be able to get the benefit of the technology. Dr. Raj Singh, programme Coordinator briefed about the importance of the training programme and workshop. Accordingly 19 participants including 5 women from 4 district of western Rajasthan attended the programme. Besides, delivering the lectures by the scientists of the institutes, participants were taken to the adopted village Harsula in Nagaur district, where CAZRI has installed a complete feed block making machine and developed silvi-pasture system with the use of improved technologies. Sh. Mirnal Roy Choudhry, General Manager, MPoWeR appreciated the CAZRI efforts to develop the technologies and assured that all efforts will be made to transfer the technologies at the farmers field. Dr. B.K. Mathur, Dr. Pratibha Tiwari, Dr. M. Patidar and Dr. Raj Singh delivered the lectures covering different aspects. Dr. Bhagwan Singh and Dr. B.L. Manjunatha were the Co-coordinators of the programme. In the valedictory session, Dr. M.M. Roy, Director of the institute appreciated organization of the training programme cum workshop on such important aspect and distributed the certificates to the participants.



**Inauguration of the training programme cum workshop**



**Visit of the feed making machine in Harsula village**



**Visit of the silvopasture system in Harsula village**



Distribution of certificate by Dr. M.M. Roy, Director, CAZRI & Chairman of the valedictory session

