

Union Minister of Agriculture Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan visits ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur

Union Minister of Agriculture, Farmers Welfare Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan visited ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur on 27 December 2024. Sh. Atul Bhansali, MLA from Jodhpur accompanied him.

On his maiden visit to the Institute, Agriculture Minister took a great interest in the Institute's research activities while visiting the CAZRI research farm especially Integrated Crop Cafeteria which displays all technological interventions developed by the institute in the area of water and soil management, and choice of crops and cultivars to fulfill the need of food, fruits and fodder.



The Minister described CAZRI as a Farmer's pilgrimage in the arid region. He stated that despite limitations of this arid ecosystem in climate, water and soil, CAZRI has provided technology which farmers are able to adopt and sustain the agriculture and livelihood in a better way. The institute has developed varieties in crop, grass, horticultural crops in accordance with changing rainfall and other climatic factors. He emphasized that diversification in agriculture is the gateway to increase the farmers income and all these activities are being undertaken and deployed by CAZRI. In this way, ICAR-CAZRI is addressing the Prime Minister's vision for increasing farmer's income. He had appreciation for ber cultivation in the farm, tomato, cherry tomato and vegetable production in the net house condition in the Precision Farming Block.

Sh. Atul Bhansali, MLA appreciated institute role in the agri-sector in this region despite low annual rainfall and other challenges.

Earlier, the Minister was accorded a very warm welcome by Director, Dr. O.P. Yadav and staff. He shared the salient achievements that have contributed to improving the arid agriculture and farmer's income in this region.