

Dr. S.K. Datta, Former DDG (Crop Science), ICAR visited ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur

Dr. S.K. Datta, Former Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal, and Former DDG (Crop Science), ICAR visited ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur on 5 February, 2024. Dr. Datta appreciated the institute approach to addressing the issues inclusively related to arid farming. Heads of Divisions and scientists gave detailed information about integrated crop cafeteria, low-cost polyhouses, automatic input delivery system in precision farming block of the institute, agri-voltaic system, and cumin breeding experimental block.

Dr. Surendra Poonia, Principal Scientist & Chairman of HRD welcomed the participants. Dr. O.P. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CAZRI welcomed and gave a brief introduction of the Guest Speaker Dr. Datta. The speaker delivered his lecture on “Science and Innovations in Crops Biotechnology to meet the Challenges of Smart Agriculture”. He elaborated on the importance of biotechnology playing a crucial role in addressing the challenges of smart agriculture by enhancing crop yield, resilience, and sustainability. He presented that advancements in crop biotechnology and smart agriculture like genetically modified (GM) crops, pest and disease resistance, genomic selection, IoT and sensor-based technology, gene editing, smart sensors, and robotics, and climate-resilient crops can address the growing global demand for food while minimizing environmental impact and promoting sustainable farming practices. Dr. N.K. Jat, Member, HRD, proposed the vote of thanks. The lecture was attended by 50 participants.

