

## Rajendra Singh – The Water man of India visits ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur

Sh. Rajendra Singh, known as the water man of India, visited the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur on 1 March, 2020. He visited different experiments targeting the optimization of use of water and appreciated the research efforts of institute in this direction. He also interacted with institute scientists on role and upscaling of improved technologies to save, reuse and recycle water, the most scarce commodity in Rajasthan. Sh Rajendra Singh appreciated eco-friendly plant-microbe interaction based sewage water treatment plant established in the campus and suggested that it should be taken to panchayat level through state departments as it is based on minimum use of energy. The use of treated water for fodder production adds further value to this technology. He mentioned that the agri-photo voltaic system developed by the institute harvesting water from the solar panels is an innovation which would make solar farming more resilient to changing climate.



Sh. Singh appreciated the concept of crop cafeteria which showcased the performance of different varieties of various crops of the region providing farmers an opportunity to select the varieties suitable for his different farming situation. Tomato cultivation in poly houses also impressed him.

Earlier Dr O.P. Yadav, Director explained the various research activities of institute and highlighted that institute is promoting low water requiring crops and cultivars to increase the water productivity in the region. The rainfed models of various horticultural crops were providing higher net income and improved livelihood to farming community. The supply of quality planting material from CAZRI is making a huge impact on farmers field. On this occasion, Heads of the Divisions Drs. C.B. Pandey, Praveen Kumar, R.K. Kaul, Dilip Jain and A.K. Patel explained the research activities of their Divisions.