



Farmers' Training-cum-Awareness Programme at ICAR-CIAH, Bikaner Held on 26th June, 2023



A training-cum-awareness programme on Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act, 2001 was organized in collaboration with the Central Institute For Arid Horticulture Bikaner (ICAR-CIAH) Rajasthan on 26th June, 2023 at the Institute Auditorium. The programme was started with the welcome address by Dr Jagdish Rane, Director ICAR-CIAH Bikaner. Dr. T. Mohapatra, Chairperson, PPVFRA, New Delhi, in his inaugural address, highlighted the role of farmers' in



conservation of landraces especially in the Arid Zone of the country, and the importance of registration of farmer's varieties with the PPVFRA. The programme was also graced by the Director of Research SKRAU Bikaner, Dr. P. S. Shekhawat who spoke about the variety development programme at the university and about the farmers' varieties of the state. Dr. A. Sahu, Director NRCC, Bikaner highlighted about the conduct of such awareness programmes



for the benefit of the farmers' and expressed that a similar system is required for animal breeds. Dr. Raj Narain, Principal Scientist, ATARI, Jodhpur attended the programme on behalf of the Director, ATARI and proposed for conducting a regional level awareness programmes involving all the KVKs of the Jodhpur zone.

Dr. Ravi Prakash, Technical Consultant PPVFRA made a presentation and elaborated on the various provisions of the Farmers' Rights in PPVFR Act, 2001. The programme was attended by more than 250 farmers /representatives of KVKs of nearby districts and scientists. A lively interactive session was conducted



involving the KVK representatives and farmers. The experts responded to all queries and addressed all concerns. Based on discussion, a few action points were decided regarding faster registration of farmers' varieties, submission of



more applications of farmers through the KVKs and University, exposure and sensitization of KVK scientists about farmers rights etc. The Scientists and other technical staff of the Institutes, as well as Mr. R.S. Sengar, Deputy Registrar, PPVFRA, New Delhi were also present.

A E-Technical Bulletin on “Registration of Farmers Varieties of Horticultural Crops and Provisions of Farmers Rights” prepared by scientists of CIAH, Bikaner was also launched by Dr. Mohapatra.

A field visit was conducted and discussion was held with the Scientists of the DUS test centres for Date Palm, Watermelon & Muskmelon, and Ber located at CIAH, Bikaner.


