

## ICAR-CAZRI inks MoU with ICICI-SAS for capacity building in farming and allied activities for improved livelihood

ICAR-Central Arid zone Research Institute, Jodhpur signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ICICI- *Satat Aajivika Society* (SAS) for capacity building of farmers in the arid regions in farming and allied activities for improvement in their livelihood on a sustainable basis. As per agreement, ICAR-CAZRI would provide the technical and scientific know-how of agriculture related technologies and ICICI-SAS will mobilize the farmers, implement the training under the guidance of CAZRI and facilitate market linkages and financial support through agencies like banks to the said trainees for earning their livelihood through agriculture. The MoU has been signed for three years which will be implemented through the Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI).



Dr. O.P. Yadav, Director highlighted the potential role of technologies in the situation of climate change and underlined that many areas in agriculture which if practiced scientifically support livelihood and can be equally remunerative. There are several interventions in the management of field crops, horticultural crops and livestock and value-addition for which CAZRI would extend all necessary technical support and guidance to the rural farmers of through the expertise available at the institute. Training programmes of *Krishi Udyami* (agri-entrepreneurs) having all aspects of agriculture, horticulture and protected cultivation beside dairy farming with vermi compost making, sheep rearing and goat rearing would be dealt in detail.

While speaking on the occasion, Sh. Anuj Agarwal, President SAS informed that the lessons learnt from the earlier collaboration has convinced that the agriculture and related activities bring about significant positive changes in the livelihood of rural people and such trainings are therefore well sought by them. It has also resulted in integrating them into the Self Help Groups (SHGs) and has further shown interest in developing it into Farmer Producer's Organizations (FPO) for activities like agriculture, dairying, horticulture, goat farming etc. He appreciated the role of CAZRI in knowledge sharing and providing exposure trainings in various aspects of agriculture which will not only be helpful in ensuring livelihood but may convert it into entrepreneurship model.

The function was attended by RSETI officials, Heads of Division, Heads of Finance and accounts, Administration beside expert scientists of the institute.