

## CAZRI organizes food processing start-up training for women farmers

A four day training on food processing start-up was organized from 22-25 March 2022 at CAZRI, in DST sponsored project on “Doubling farm women’s income: entrepreneurship development through post-harvest processing and technology integration in arid zone”. Dr. Pratibha Tewari, Pricipal investigator of the project and head, Transfer of Technology and Training division, welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of start-up on food processing with financial support of equipment and other resources. The project aims to nurture ten start-up on food processing by the women, for the women and of the women as business enterprise. The necessary capacity building is predominantly based on available raw material within village vicinity. To improve upon the existing recourse base of fruit and vegetable of identified farm families, support of quality horticulture planting material is encapsulated in the project along with water harvesting and renewable energy efficiency plan.

The capacity of farm women on food processing skills was developed by providing training on teaching by doing and learning by doing principle. Dr. O.P.Yadav Director CAZRI, appreciated the comprehensive approach in developing successful food processing start-up. The start-up kit provided along with raw products for hands on practice generated dedication amongst women to run the enterprise independently. SHG leaders were orientated to form **Self-Help Group** of women for doubling income through post-harvest processing in communities.

The four day capacity building led to enhancement of skills. A structured session on technology integration for sustained availability of quality raw material was also organized with participation of resource persons Drs. Poonam Kalash, R.K.Goyal, Surendra Poonia, Subhash Kachwaha, B.S.Rathore, Mahesh Gaur and Savita Singhal. The start ups are based in Jodhpur district.

