

Review & Planning Meeting on Creation of Seed Hubs for Production of Quality Seed of Indigenous Pulse Crops organised on 26.08.2017 at ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur

26 August, 2017, Jodhpur

A Review and Planning Meeting of DAC funded project “Creation of Seed Hubs for Production of quality Seed of Indigenous Pulse Crops” has been organised on 26.08.2017 at ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, CAZRI Campus, Jodhpur under the Chairmanship of Dr. N. P. Singh, Director, ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur.

Dr. S. K. Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur informed that this is the 3rd such meeting organised at Jodhpur apart from Kanpur and Kolkata. He briefly presented the status, target and achievements of 16 Seed Hubs created in KVKs of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana. In his introductory remarks highlighted the issue and prospects of seed hub in formal and informal approaches. He emphasised the genesis of seed hub project in respect to Kharif, Rabi and Summer pulse crops. He urged the KVKs to complete the seed certification process so that the TFL certified seed can be provided to farmers which is the first and foremost requirement and the procurement and sale of seeds from partner farmers could be possible in an effective manner.

Dr. O. P. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur described the importance of the project and the final result will provide improved genetics to farmers. He mentioned that last year was the International Year of Pulses and the availability of quality pulse seeds to farmers is a challenge at present scenario. The policy makers should be convinced in respect of Minimum Support Price, purchase issues and subsidy related to pulses. At present the crop duration of pulse crops has reduced from 90 days to 60 days without affecting production. Now-a-days pulse crops are of early maturity and suitable for farm mechanisation for harvesting which reduces the cost of cultivation and thereby increasing the farmers income. The pulse seed production is easier in comparison to other crops he added. The pulse seed production in Seed Hub Project should be treated at par with National Seed Corporation and State Seed Corporation in respect to subsidy he added.



Dr. N. P. Singh, Director, ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur briefed that the situation of pulse production in the country was alarming few years back and with upscaling of technology the country could achieve a record production of pulses. He emphasized the importance of pulse in respect to nutritional security for vegetarians and sustainability for agriculture in respect to biological nitrogen fixation. The seed production system should be corrected from breeder seed to foundation seed and should be taken in farmers participatory mode. The registration process with National Seed Corporation and State Seed Corporation should be completed so that TFL seed can be provided to farmers. With decentralisation of pulse processing sustainability of Seed Hubs can be achieved in a phased manner

he opined. He assured that with the efforts of KVKs, India can be self-sufficient in respect to production of pulses and India can transform itself from importer of pulses to exporter of pulses.

The session will follow with presentation of KVKs and Director of Extension Educations in respect to target and achievements of Seeds of different pulse crops cultivated during Kharif, Rabi and Summer Seasons.

(Source: ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur)