



भा. कृ. अनु. प.-- केंद्रीय शुष्क बागवानी संस्थान

श्री गंगानगर मार्ग बीछवाल औद्योगिक क्षेत्र डाकघर बीकानेर-334006



**ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture**

**Sri Ganganagar Highway, Beechwal Industrial Area P.O., Bikaner-334006**

### **National Women farmer's day celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2023**

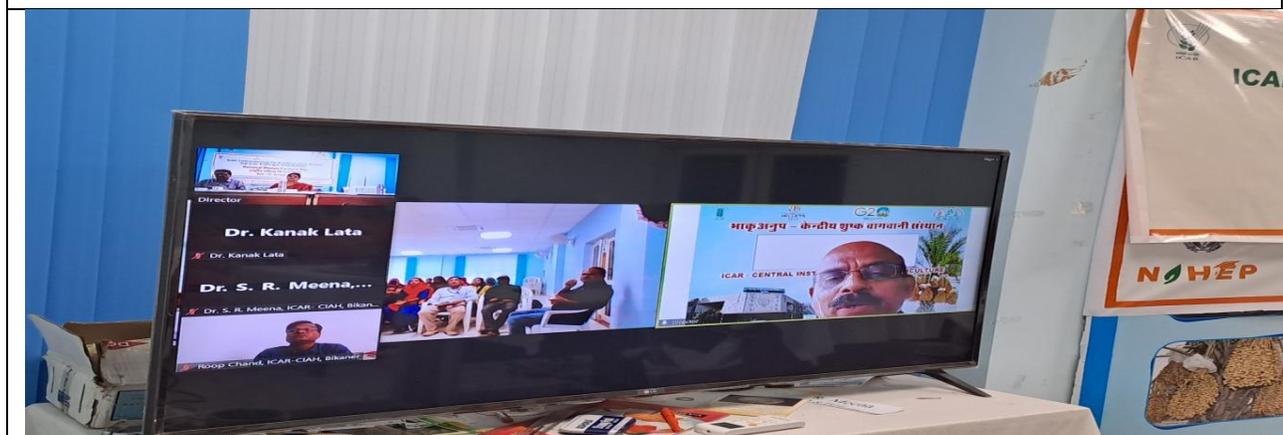
The "National Women farmer's day" was celebrated at ICAR-CIAH, Bikaner with the theme of Gender equity & empowerment through horticulture technology on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. At the outset, Dr. Anita Meena, convener of programme welcomed, Dr. Jagadish Rane, Director, CIAH, (virtually joined), Dr. D. Singh, Principal Scientist & I/c, crop production, Dr. B. R. Choudhary (Principal scientist), Dr. (Ms.) Kanak Lata Head, KVK, Panchmahal, Gujrat, Ms. Pooja Joshi (Programme coordinator), invited guest Dr. Vimla Dhunkwal, Professor, SKRAU, all scientist who had joined virtually or physically and all women farmer participants. During his inaugural address, Dr. Jagadish Rane, Director of ICAR-CIAH, Bikaner, highlighted the significance and immediate need to establish a level playing field for women farmers. This approach would enable them to seamlessly integrate into the mainstream and contribute significantly to bridging the gaps in agricultural development within the country. He also highlighted that, only empowered women in the domain can be instrumental in raising the living standards of their family and they have great opportunity to get acquainted with CIAH technologies to accomplish this task. Also discussed, how women can play a role as an entrepreneur. Dr. D. Singh, Principal Scientist & I/c, crop production was delivered brief note on scope of vegetable cultivation in poly house under arid region and latest women friendly technologies. A guest lecture was presented by Dr. (Ms) Vimla Dhunkwal, a Professor from SKRAU. She spoke about skill development for self-employment aimed at empowering rural women in arid regions. Additionally, she emphasized the significance of millets in women's health and self-employment, particularly through the creation of byproducts from millets. Dr. Kishan Lal Kumawat, a scientist, underscored the importance of raising nurseries and efficiently managing them to produce high-quality, contamination-free planting material. He highlighted how this initiative can significantly contribute to empowering rural women and enhancing their entrepreneurial skills. Dr. Kamlesh Kumar (Scientist) briefed about the importance of underutilized fruits crops for women and their nutritional values for women health.

Considering the United Nations' declaration of 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets,' this year's Mahila Kisan Diwas theme was centered around 'Millets: Empowering Women and Providing Nutritional Security.' During this event, all lectures focused on self-empowerment and introduced participants to agriculture technologies developed by the institute. The event also included guidance on achieving nutritional security through the consumption of fruits and vegetables.

Dr. B. R. Choudhary, the Principal Scientist, extended the vote of thanks at the conclusion of the program. A total of 46 participants attended the event, both virtually and in person.



**Honored of Guest Dr. (Ms) Vimla Dhunkwal, Professor, SKRAU**



**Inaugural remarks by Dr. Jagadish Rane, Director, CIAH, Bikaner (on line joined)**



**Invited lecture by Dr. (Ms) Vimla Dhunkwal, Professor, SKRAU.**



**On line invited lecture by Dr. (Ms.) Kanak Lata Head, KVK, Panchmahal, Gujrat .**



**Farmer women participants during “National Women farmer’s day” on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at ICAR-CIAH, Bikaner.**