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KHET BACHAO ABHIYAN : A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

Dated 17.06.2026

As part of the nationwide “*Khet Bachao Abhiyan*”, a team of scientists from ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner, organized an awareness programme in the MGMG villages of Shobhasar and Bharupawa on 17.06.2026. The teams including Dr. B.R. Choudhary, Dr. R.P. Meena, and Dr. S.R. Meena initiated an awareness campaign/capacity- with regards to *Khet Bachao Abhiyan, Balanced Use of Fertilizers (BUF)*, adoption of Integrated Plant Nutrient Management (IPNM) / Natural farming / Organic farming, use of biofertilizers /alternate source of nutrients in horticulture and other crops.

Starting the programme, Dr. S.R. Meena, Principal Scientist welcomed the participating farmers at Shobhasar village and explained the purpose and importance of the running campaign on *Khet Bachao Abhiyan* and Balanced Use of Fertilizers. He advised to farmers to apply the plant nutrients in balanced way to get the sustainable production for soil and environmental healthy. He also advised to farmers that soil testing is very essential to maintain the soil health and application of fertilizers in balances way. During the programme, B.R. Choudhary, Principal Scientist, interacted with farmers of Bharupawa village highlighted the purpose and importance of the campaign on *Khet Bachao Abhiyan*. He expressed his experiences on significance of nutrient use efficient horticultural crops and varieties for enhancing production and productivity of the same. He stressed that farmers should adopt improved varieties of horticultural crops for increase the income of the farmers, if sown as per improved production technologies like balance use of manure and fertilizers and other management practices.

Besides, Dr. R.P. Meena, Senior Scientist interacted with farmers and briefed that farmers should used chemical fertilizers in balanced way along with organic sources viz. biofertilizers and alternative nutrient sources for improving the soil health with better production. He also focused on use of green manuring, composting and biofertilizers application instead of chemical fertilizers for improving the soil health

During the programme, the farmers shared their experiences that by growing the vegetable crops in the field, for production and productivity. Farmers were of opinion that there is a less knowledge and awareness about arid horticultural improved practices and lack of authentic seed & planting materials at local level.



Team: Dr. S.R. Meena, Dr. B.R. Choudhary and Dr. R.P. Meena,