

Proceeding of Zonal Committee Meeting

Project: Attracting & Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA)

A meeting of Zonal Committee Meeting was convened by ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur on 21st November 2016 to review the progress of ARYA project being executed in Banswara and Rajkot-I districts. The following members were present in the meeting.

1. **Dr S.K. Singh**, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur—Chairman
2. **Dr. O. P. Yadav**, Director, ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur—Member
3. **Dr. Ishwar Singh**, Director, Extension, Agril. University, Jodhpur—Member
4. **Dr. M.S. Meena**, PS (Agril. Extension)—PI & Member Secretary, ARYA Project
5. **Dr.P.P.Rohilla**,PS (LPM), ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur
6. **Dr. R.B. Kale**, Scientist (AE) & Co-PI, ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur
7. **Dr. Srinivas, A**, Scientist (AE), ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur
8. **Dr. R.L. Soni**, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Banswara
9. **Dr. B.B. Kabriya**, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Rajkot-I
10. **Miss Aruna Sharma**, FAO, ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur
11. **Sh. Narpat Singh Gehlot**, AAO—Member
12. **Other Staff** of ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur


At the outset, Dr. R. B. Kale Scientist, (Agricultural Extension) and Co-PI of the project, ICAR-ATARI Jodhpur welcomed all the delegates. Thereafter, Dr. M. S. Meena Principal Scientist (AE) & PI presented a brief report on progress made by the KVKs. The nodal officers of the project from both the KVKs i.e., Dr. R.L. Soni (Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Banswara) and Dr. B.B. Kabriya (Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Rajkot) also presented the progress of the work under the project. It is observed that KVKs are making best efforts to attract & retain youth in goat farming, value addition, nursery management & poultry farming through the imparting the trainings, providing technological backstopping, establishing functional linkage with the developmental agencies, establishing the units etc. Under the project, each KVK is engaged in developing capacity of 200 rural youth identified in diverse enterprises. The following recommendations were made for efficient execution of the project in the zone.

RECOMMENDATIONS

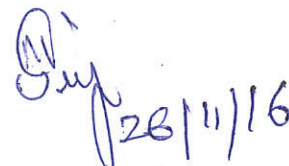
1. The KVK must facilitate, sensitise and mobilise the rural youth through technological backstopping, formation of group of youth in the areas of knowledge management, input management, processing, post-harvest management to make the enterprise more lucrative.
2. There is need to stress on the identification of need based enterprises such as floriculture in peri-urban areas, value addition and milk processing.
3. KVKs must emphasis on the marketing aspect by creating forward and backward linkage and creating round the year employment for rural youth through entrepreneurship development for sustaining interest of the youth in agriculture.
4. There is dire need to give stress on the diversification of the farm activities over the traditional farming practices.
5. The bench mark survey may be compared (parameters/indicators) with the changes in various indicators among the youth.
6. KVK Rajkot-I must conduct trainings on value addition of milk and dairy based products to opt the values addition as one of the enterprises by the youth.
7. KVKs may adopt networking approach through application of Information & Communication Technologies (WhatsApp Group/Facebook group) for the state line departments, banks including NABARD, ATMA etc.
8. Formation of commodity based youth clubs are the need of hour. Hence, KVK must motivate youth through meeting with the other stakeholders (line departments, NABARD, Banks, Marketing agencies etc.) for mobilise them.
9. Visits of youth trainees to the different offices, model farms, research institutes etc. are required involving the line departments, NABARD, Banks, Marketing agencies etc.

10. Facilitate the youth to avail the various schemes/programs of centrally and state sponsored programmes/schemes for sustainable development.
11. There is need to search the opportunities for contract farming to minimise risk of farmers. Also need to form the market by forming tie-up with marketing agencies.
12. Identify 'Model/Lead Youth Farmers' to motivate and train other farmers in the locality. Also use these model farmers as master trainer, use their farm as demonstration units.
13. Proper documentation and reporting of the activities and their impact must be done to improve the utility, effectively and visibility of the ARYA project.
14. There is also need to survey on the spread of technology from the trainees to other fellow farmers for horizontal expansion of the technologies.

Problems & possible solutions were also discussed for the efficient execution of the project in the zone. During the meeting, scientific and administrative staff of the ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur was also present. At the end, Dr. S.K. Singh delivered the concluding remarks and Dr. P.P. Rohilla, Principal Scientist (LPM) proposed the vote of thanks to all the delegates.


28/11/16

Director, ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur for kind approval


28/11/16

(M.S. Meena)
PI & Member Secretary