TOUR REPORT OF SHRI S.K. DALAL, NATIONAL CONSULTANT (OILSEEDS) FOR VISIT TO RAJASTHAN

The field visit was undertaken from 3rd to 7th July, 2017 to monitor the implementation of National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and programmes of Seed Division along with pending issues related to settlement of accounts / release of funds under these programmes. The field visit covered Pali and Jodhpur districts where main kharif oilseed crop is sesame and pulse crop is moong bean. The visit also covered growers where Rajasthan State Seed Corporation (RSSC) has taken up seed production programme particularly on moong bean during current kharif season.

During the field visit interaction was held with group of farmers and field functionaries working at grass root level to know the actual field problems / issues which can be taken up with the concerned authorities for a solution. The discussions were also held with block / district / State level concerned officers regarding implementation mechanism of the programmes and efforts being made to enhance area coverage of crops with more focus on oilseeds and pulses.

A. State Department of Agriculture

1. Rainfall and crop situation / area coverage

1.1 Rainfall

1.1.1 The State has received 100.2 mm rainfall from NW monsoon from 1st January, 2017 to 30th June, 2017 as against normal rainfall of 64.3 mm. The rainfall received during 3rd & 4th week of May, 2017 was 17.00 mm and after receiving this first shower, the farmers ploughed their fields to destroy weeds, pulverize the soil and saturate the field with adequate moisture for sowing of kharif crops. Subsequently, in the month of June, 2017, the State received 66.0 mm of rainfall, which has favoured the farmers for sowing of kharif pulses and oilseeds crops.

1.1.2 In Pali district, 209.6 mm rain has been received so far (as on 5.7.2017), out of which 148.9 mm has been received during the month of June, 2017 and 466 mm during May, 2017. In first 5 days of July, 141.5 mm rainfall has been received. The district has targeted an area of 1.68 lakh ha under pulses and 1.24 lakh ha under oilseeds. So far an area of 0.38 lakh ha under pulses and 0.16 lakh ha under oilseeds has been sown during the current season. The sowing operation is still going on particularly in areas where the water has accumulated in lower belt, the sowing condition of the soil will take some time for such operation.
1.1.3 In Jodhpur District, 92.5 mm rainfall was received during June, 2017, out of which 77.5 mm was received from 21st to 30th June, 2017 and on 28th June, 2017, there was 29.0 mm rainfall recorded. After receiving this rainfall, the farmers started sowing operations of rainfed pulse crops particularly moong, which has been covered in about 70% of the total area to be sown during current season.

1.2 Crop Coverage

1.2.1 The State has proposed a target to increase the area under pulses from 24.04 lakh ha (normal area) to 29.95 lakh ha during kharif-2017, which is about 25% increase over last kharif season. However, the state has already achieved area coverage of 41.00 lakh ha during kharif-2016. Therefore, the state should have kept the area target at last season’s level.

1.2.2 In case of oilseeds, the state has proposed an area coverage of 23.20 lakh ha during kharif-2017 against 21.31 lakh ha (normal area) after achieving an area coverage of 20.08 lakh ha during kharif-2016. Thus there is an increase in targeted area by about 10% as against normal area of 21.31 lakh ha. The crop-wise details of normal area, target for kharif- 2017, area sown area so far and kharif- 2016 area are as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Normal Area (2011-2015)</th>
<th>Area sown during Kharif- 2016</th>
<th>Target for Kharif- 2017</th>
<th>Area sown (as on date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pulses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moong bean</td>
<td>1068</td>
<td>2120</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moth</td>
<td>1013</td>
<td>1388</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black gram</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total pulses</td>
<td>2404</td>
<td>4100</td>
<td>2995</td>
<td>731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oilseeds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundnut</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybean</td>
<td>1048</td>
<td>1056</td>
<td>1150</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sesame</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castor</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total oilseeds</td>
<td>2131</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2320</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.2.3 As Jodhpur district had received good showers during last week of June, 2017, the farmers were busy in sowing operations particularly of moong bean. As against a target of 1.60 lakh ha, an area of 1.10 lakh ha of moong bean has been sown so far. Similarly in case of groundnut, 0.90 lakh ha area has been sown as
against a target of 0.85 lakh ha. The position was not so encouraging in case of Pali district where only 0.37 lakh ha has been sown as against a target of 1.66 lakh ha. The soils in the district are slightly heavy and higher rainfall (148.90 mm) has been received during last week of June, 2017, the sowing will pick up during 2nd week of July when proper moisture condition will be available for sowing of crops.

2. Availability of Fertilizers and PP chemicals

2.1 There is no shortage of fertilizers and PP chemicals in Ajmer, Pali and Jodhpur districts. There was no report of any incidence of pest or disease also. Moreover, the farmers are busy in sowing of rainfed pulses and oilseed crops suitable in their areas. Pali and Jodhpur districts have vast areas under pulses particularly green gram, which has been targeted at higher level from normal sown area.

3. Soil Health Card (SHC)

3.1 In the State, so far 28.83 lakh soil samples have been collected, as against a target of 23.07 lakh soil samples, which was 124.96% higher achievement. Out of 28.83 lakh samples, 17.29 lakh have been analyzed and 48.83 lakh SHC have been distributed.

3.2 In Pali District, so far 1.32 lakh soil samples have been collected, out of which 1.30 lakh have been analyzed and 3.79 lakh SHC have been issued. A target of 62125 soil samples are to be collected and 1.86 lakh SHC are to be distributed during 2017-18. In Jodhpur District, as against a target of 63663 SHC, 17520 SHC has been distributed.

4. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

4.1 The State is implementing DBT since last 2-3 years. Under this activity, the State has registered all the farmers for obtaining financial assistance and other benefits from various Central/State schemes/programmes. At the time of registration, all the basic information such as name of the farmer, father’s name, name of the village, panchayat samiti, tehsil, farmers’ class, caste/category, land description, boundary map of the field, bank details (name of the bank, branch, IFS code, account no.) etc. have been gathered and verified.

4.2 After doing this, a UID no. has been assigned to each farmer. At the time of introduction of various programmes, the farmers are informed to apply for various components available under these programmes as per their need to avail the benefits. The allotment of the benefit is given to the farmer on first come first serve
basis through approved/authorized retailers and after the purchase the sanction orders are issued. The subsidy portion under the programme is credited directly to their bank accounts.

5. **Seed production programme organized by Central / State Seed Agencies**

5.1 In the State, NSC is a national seed producing agency, which takes part in seed production programme of various crops including oilseeds and pulses of different categories (breeder/foundation/certified seed) for providing support to the State to meet the certified seed requirement. The main centres of NSC are Ajmer, Chittor, Kota and Bharatpur. The organization has regional office at Jaipur, which plans seed production programme in the state. As reported by Regional Manager, NSC, Jaipur, a seed production programme of oilseeds & pulses has been taken up in Ajmer, Chittor and Kota for moong, urd, sesame, soybean and castor. During kharif-2017, NSC would be producing 71030 qtl of certified seed from foundation/certified seed on farmers’ field on contract basis. During kharif-2016, 42977 qtl of raw seed of mainly soybean & also moong, groundnut and castor was produced.

5.2 In Rajasthan State Rajasthan State Seed Corporation (RSSC), NSC, KRIBHCO, Tilam Sang and IFFDC are main seed producing agencies. These organizations are producing certified seeds of various varieties required for different crops for farmers. The major portion of seed requirement is met from private / other PSUs. The State has adequate stock of certified seed to meet the requirement of farmers during kharif 2017.

5.3 In Jodhpur District, RSSC has taken up seed production programme at farmer’s field in all crops. One of the site where the organization has taken up seed production programme from Foundation Seed (FS) to Certificated Seed (CS) of moong bean (IPM-2-3) at the field of Sh. Ramuram of Jajiwal Kala Village in Mandsour Block. The date of sowing was 22 & 23 June, 2017 and 32 bigas have been covered under seed production of moong bean. The farmer has taken up this seed multiplication programme for the first time and is confident to achieve the targets. He has been trained by RSSC for performing rouging operations before flowering and also interculture operations to pulverize the soil and eradicate weeds in the crop. The farmer has also well understood the written contract signed with the RSSC.
6. ‘Seed Village’ programme by RSSC

6.1 The Seed Division of DAC&FW is implementing Seed Village programme in the country so that farmers can produce their own quality seed from certified seed supplied by Seed Agencies, particularly in self pollinated crops. In Rajasthan State, RSSC is the implementing agency of this programme. Under this scheme an amount of Rs. 362.78 lakh (GoI share) was revalidated during 2016-17. This amount was available for General and SC categories and an amount of Rs. 100.96 lakh was reimbursed for expenditure incurred on ST category. RSSC has an unspent balance of Rs. 104.05 crore from 2016-17 and another amount of Rs. 400.00 crore has been released during 2017-18.

6.2 In Jodhpur District as against 9 Seed Village, 4 Seed Village were organized in Mandore on moong (IPM-02-03) and moth (RMO-257) during kharif-2016. Under this programme, as against a target of 400 qtl foundation seed distribution of moong (200 qtl) and moth (200 qtl), only 18.72 qtl and 36.48 qtl seed was distributed. This shows a slow progress during kharif-2016. During kharif-2017, distribution target of 700 qtl seed of moong and 230 qtl seed of moth has been targeted. In Pali District, distribution of moong seed (IPM-02-03) of 860 qtl has been targeted under Seed Village programme.

6.3 RSSC has produced certified seed of various crops and produced graded seed of 1.38 lakh qtl seed, out of which 0.85 lakh qtl packed for distribution. This covered oilseed crops of sesame, groundnut, soybean & castor and pulse crops coverage moong, urad, cowpea & moth. Similarly, 9,376 qtl (graded seed) foundation seed of various crops including oilseeds & pulses was produced, out of which 6,982 qtl was packed for distribution.

7. Creation Seed Infrastructure Facilities (SMSP) under NMAET

7.1 The Govt of India released an amount of Rs. 256.03 lakh for construction of seed processing plant and seed storage godown. The State was to construct one seed processing plant including building (6500 MT capacity, costing Rs. 160.10 lakh) and seed storage godown of 5000 MT capacity (Rs. 95.93 lakh, part amount) at Chittorgarh. Another amount of Rs. 149.07 lakh (2nd installment) was released to RSSC as remaining part amount of one seed storage godown. As reported by RSSC, the work for both the infrastructures is in progress at Chittorgarh.

8. Seed minikit under NMOOP and NFSM programmes

8.1 In seed minikit, no supply of seed minikit of groundnut (var: PRM-2) has been made by NSC as against an allocation of 375 seed minikits to the State. Similarly, out of an allocation of 20,000 seed minikits of sesame (var: RT-346) only 2382 seed minikits have been supplied.
8.2 In Pali district, as against an allocation of 4000 seed minikits of green gram, 3225 seed minikits were supplied by NAFED from 2nd June to 6th July, 2016, which was not well before sowing time. However during kharif-2017, 3290 seed minikits of green gram have been supplied against a allocation of 4300 seed minikits on 7th May, 2017, which was well before sowing time. The Officers of the district appreciated the efforts made by GoI. However, no supply of black gram seed minikit has been made during kharif-2017.

8.3 Similarly, as against the supply of seed minikit of oilseed crops on 17th July, 2016 during kharif-2016, the supply was made from 22nd April to 10th June, 2017 during current kharif, which was well before sowing time. Subsequently, the seed minikits were made available to the farmers from 24th April to 20th June, 2017 by the District Agriculture Department. However, there was short supply of seed minikits in case of oilseeds particularly in sesame supplied by NSC. As against an allocation of 7100 seed minikits of sesame, only 3294 (46%) seed minikits were made available by NSC.

8.4 In Jodhpur District, the supply of seed minikits under NMOOP was as per allocation in case of castor (GCH-7), which was supplied by NAFED, however no supply of sesame (RT-346) was made by NSC.

Issue: Although position with respect to NMOOP programme was better but very poor in case of supply of seed minikit of pulses. The seed agencies should fulfill their commitment and there should be a penalty clause for such lapse.

9. Cluster Demonstration by State Department of Agriculture

9.1 In Pali district, 2700 demonstrations of moong bean (IPM 02-03 variety) under NFSM-Pulses and 150 demonstrations of moong bean under cropping system demo of moong-wheat crop rotation have been proposed during kharif 2017. Under NMOOP, 1000 demonstrations of sesame (RT-346) and 100 demonstrations of castor (GCH-7) have been proposed during current kharif. Similarly, under RKVY demonstrations under cluster bean and maize (100 demos each) have been proposed during kharif-2017.

9.2 During the year 2016-17 (kharif+rabi), 4499 cluster demonstrations were proposed under pulses, which was achieved during the year 2016-17. The achievement under INM and IPM was less than the target during the same year. Similarly, the achievement under resource conservation technology/tools was less than the target.

9.3 As regards financial achievements under NFSM-Pulses during 2016-17, there was a pending liability of Rs. 1.21 lakh, which should be taken care during the
current financial year, so that the expenditure could be booked under revalidated budget for NFSM-Pulses during 2017-18.

9.4 Similarly under NMOOP programme, the achievement was much below the target in case of agricultural implements and INM component. Under physical progress, the demonstration on various crops was 7800 demos as against a target of 9400 demonstrations.

9.5 In Pali District, a field visit was undertaken in Icheya Village under Soniamajhi Gram Panchayat, where a demonstration under NFSM-pulses in an area of 100 ha on moong bean crop has been taken up by the Department of Agriculture, Pali. Under this programme, a field visit was made at farmers field of Smt. Peapi Devi w/o Sh. Jawahar Singh, Smt. Sumitra w/o Sh. Gorakhram, Smt. Sukhi Kumar w/o Sh. Achal Singh Rajput and Smt. Bhawan Kanwar w/o Sh. Parwat Singh Rajput. These farmers have been provided seed of IPM-2-3 variety of moong along-with packets of PSB-3, *Rhizobium* culture, Indexacarb, tricoderma to control insects/pests. The farmers informed that there was no problem in sale of moong bean and they got better prices than last year.

9.6 Another site was visited in Punayata Village of Pali District and discussions were held with the grower Smt. Mashri Devi w/o Sh. Vazaram Sargara and Smt. Kanya Devi w/o Peeraram Sargara where seed minikit under pulses has been taken up. The seed minikits have been supplied by NAFED and the farmers has sown the moong bean seed (IPM-2-3) in line on 28th June, 2017. The seed have started germinating and had a good stand in the field. The farmers were very keen to prepare their own seed for next season. The field functionaries have briefed them about procurement of seed from their fields under seed minikit trials.

9.7 In Jodhpur District, no seed could be supplied by RSSC for cluster demonstration under NMOOP on sesame (RT-346) and castor (GCG-07). The district was allotted a target of 350 cluster demonstrations on sesame and 500 cluster demonstrations of castor.
9.8 In Jodhpur District, the fields of Sh. Pusha Ram, Sh. Kheya Ram, Sh. Sabhir Khan, Smt. Choti Devi and Sh. Basti Ram of Dangiyawas Village were visited. These farmers have grown moong bean (IPM-2-3) under NFSM-pulses demonstration and all these farmers have sown their crop on 5 & 6 June, 2017 as better moisture was available for sowing. All the farmers were happy with the production (about 3 bags per bigga) obtained during last season. They also informed that the sale rate (Rs.5000-5500/-per qtl.) was also very encouraging.

9.9 In Jodhpur District, the market prices of moong were around Rs. 4100 per qtl during last week of June, 2017 and on 3rd July, 2017, it was Rs. 4200 per qtl as compared to MSP of Rs. 5375 per qtl. Similarly, in case of mustard, the prices were Rs. 3050 per qtl during last week of June, 2017, which came up to Rs. 3450 per qtl on 3rd July, 2017 as against MSP of Rs. 3700 per qtl. However in case of gram and sesame, the prices were more than MSP.

10. Demonstration by SDA under State Plan:

10.1 Under State Plan, the State also plans seed minikit demonstrations on those crops which are not covered under NFSM and NMOOP missions for technology dissemination to the farmers. However, since Pali district is the main sesame growing district, which has highest area coverage in the State, efforts have been made to demonstrate technological aspects to the farmers and also to popularize new til variety (RT-351). Under this type of demonstration, only seed is supplied through RSSC and seed treatment is performed at panchyat level.

10.2 During field visit, discussions were held with one such beneficiary Shri Vaja Ram son of Ramji who has been provided seed minikit (one kg seed of RT-351 variety) of till by the department, who has also been provided material for seed treatment. He informed that he will be applying fertilizer and adopt other practices as per guidance of the field functionaries. The beneficiary is from SC category and expects good yield from the new seed variety supplied by the department.
B. Activities undertaken by ICAR (SAUs/KVKs)

1. Enhancing Breeder Seed Production of Pulses

1.1 In the State, breeder seed production of pulses has been proposed at Kota and Durgapura (Jaipur). During the year 2016-17 and kharif-2017, RARI, Durgapura was assigned breeder seed production of moong bean, chickpea and lentil as per details given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Target (2016-17)</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Surplus/Deficit against Gol Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By Gol</td>
<td>By RARI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moong bean</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>42.50</td>
<td>37.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chickpea</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>175.00</td>
<td>128.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lentil</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>5.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kharif-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Target (2016-17)</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Surplus/Deficit against Gol Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By Gol</td>
<td>By RARI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moong bean</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.2 As indicated in the table, there was a deficit in seed production in all the crops during 2016-17. As regards financial progress, the institute was allotted an amount of Rs. 147.00 lakh for works (Rs. 85.00 lakh), seed processing unit (Rs. 4.00 lakh) and farm implements (Rs. 58.00 lakh), out of which an amount of Rs. 109.60 lakh was released to the institute during 2016-17. Out of this released an expenditure of Rs. 85.00 lakh has been incurred on works and no expenditure has been made on seed processing unit and farm implements during 2016-17.

1.3 It may be mentioned that the Comptroller, SKN Agricultural University, Jobner, Jaipur released an amount of Rs. 85.00 lakh for fencing of farm boundary and seed godown as late as on 31.3.2017. However, the fund was released by DAC&FW on 28.6.2016 which took nine months to reach the funds at RARI, Jaipur.

2. Seed Hub for pulses at ICAR-CAZRI, Jodhpur

2.1 The physical and financial progress was reviewed for the year 2016-17 and proposed seed production programme of pulses during kharif-2017. The seed production programme of moong bean, moth bean and cowpea was taken during 2016-17 at the research farm of CAZRI, Jodhpur, and its KVK at Jodhpur and KVK Pali and also at farmers’ field with the participation of the farmers.
The initial quality seed for sowing was provided to the farmers and seed production programme was carried out at as the technical back up provided by the SMS and Scientists concerned.

2.2 The crop wise details of seed production targets and achievement during 2016-17 is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Crop (cv.)</th>
<th>Target (2016-17)</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Surplus/Deficit against GoI Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By GoI</td>
<td>By CAZRI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moong bean (cv. IPM 2-3 and GM-4)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moth bean (cv. CAZRI moth-2)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cowpea (cv. RC 101)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kharif-2017

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moong bean</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moth bean</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cowpea</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.3 The seed production of moong bean was 170 qtl as against a target of 150 qtl, whereas in case of cowpea and moth bean, the achievement was less during kharif-2016.

2.4 As against financial allocation of Rs. 150.00 lakh, an amount of Rs. 82.00 lakh has been released so far to the institute to carry out various activities particularly for infrastructure development. Out of Rs. 50.00 lakh earmarked for infrastructure development, the seed processing unit has been established with a cost of Rs. 15.00 lakh. This unit was visited, which is performing a good job of processing of seed with packing into seed bags for distribution to farmers. The seed storage godown is under process for which an amount of Rs. 35.00 lakh has been earmarked. The institute has prepared the layout plan and has provided funds to CPWD, which is under process.

Issues: The institute is producing TL seed of moong bean, cow pea and moth bean under this programme, out of which there is not problem in sale of seed of moong bean, whereas in case of cow pea and moth bean, a sizeable stock of seed is still lying unsold. A similar observation has been reported by KVK Ajmer. In view of this, the institute has proposed lower targets during current kharif for cow pea and moth bean.
2.5 As the institute is producing TL seed without any license for sale and without seed certification, it is suggested that we may write to ICAR that the seed producing institutes under Seed Hubs should be register with State Seed Certification Agency to certify the seed for sale to the farmers and also obtain a license for sale from the concerned district authorities, which are legal required obligations.

Issues:
1. There is problem in lifting of seeds of cowpea and Moth bean produced by the Institute.
2. Cowpea is not grown by the farmers of this zone, therefore, no farmer is ready to take the seed production programme of this crop. Therefore, this crop will not be taken for seed production at CAZRI, Jodhpur during 2017-18.
3. The seed production target of moth-bean will be reduced as there is also problem of seed lifting.
4. TA budget should be given for monitoring of seed production at farmers field.

3. Seed Hub for pulses at Durgapura, Jaipur

3.1 Under ‘Seed Hub’ activity of pulses, Rajasthan Agricultural Research Institute (RARI), Durgapura has been assigned seed production of pulses from 2016-17. As reported the university received an amount of Rs. 50.00 lakh on 27.8.2016 for seed processing and storage infrastructure development and another Rs. 35.00 lakh on 8.3.2017 as a revolving fund. The Institute has deposited this amount of revolving fund in a separate bank account which has not been used so far. The Institute is now processing for purchase of seed processor but the funds of Rs. 50.00 lakh made available to RARI in August, 2016 is still lying unspent.

3.2 As regards, seed production, as against a target of 150 qtl seed of moong bean, 250 qtl of pigeon pea and 150 qtl of chick pea, the institute has not produced any seed of the required crops during kharif and rabi seasons during 2016-17. The institute has also not prepared any action plan so far for seed production of moong bean and pigeon pea during kharif-2017. As regards financial aspects, an amount of Rs. 45.00 lakh has been released by the university to the institute, which has been deposited in the revolving fund and no initiative has been taken for creating infrastructure of seed processing and storage.

Issue: There is no physical progress so far for seed production of pulses as per targets fixed by GoI in consultation with ICAR. Similarly, the financial progress is also very slow and no initiative has been taken for creation of infrastructure. We may write to ICAR in this regard.
C. Action points emerged during the visit

Based on observations of the field visit, the following actionable points have emerged:

i. Under NFSM programme, there is a huge unspent balance of Rs.105.52 crore, which has been recently revalidated for incurring expenditure during the current financial year (2017-18) till Sept., 2017. An allocation of Rs. 153.20 crore has also been made for the year 2017-18 and Annual Action Plan (AAP) has also been approved but central assistance could not be released due to pending unspent balance. The State Government should incur the expenditure of the revalidated amount by the end of Sept., 2017, and submit demand for AAP approved for 2017-18.  

   (Action: SDA)

ii. Under NMOOP programme also there is unspent balance of Rs. 21.12 crore, which has been recently revalidated for incurring expenditure during the current financial year (2017-18) till Sept., 2017. Out of this amount, an amount of Rs. 20.34 crore is unspent for SC/ST categories. The State Government should focus for incurring expenditure under these categories on priority along-with funds released against AAP for 2017-18, failing which this amount of SC/ST may be refunded.  

   (Action: SDA)

iii. Under CSS on ‘Creation of Seed Infrastructure Facilities’ (SMSP) under NMAET an amount of Rs. 256.03 lakh and Rs. 149.07 lakh (2nd installment) was released to RSSC for construction of seed processing plant and seed storage godown. As reported by RSSC, the work for both the infrastructures is still not complete at Chittorgarh, which needs to be completed on priority.  

   (Action: SDA)

iv. Central Seed Agencies are not associated in preparing variety-wise requirement of certified seed of various crops, which leads to unsold stock with these agencies.  

   (Action: SDA)

v. The progress of seed production of pulses at Seed Hub at Durgapura, Jaipur is very slow and no expenditure has so far been made on infrastructure creation. Similarly, the revolving fund has been deposited in the bank, which is not being used for the purpose it was released.  

   (Action: ICAR)

vi. In seed minikit, no supply of seed minikit of groundnut (var: PRM-2) has been made by NSC as against an allocation of 375 seed minikits to the State. Similarly,
out of an allocation of 20,000 seed minikits of sesame (var: RT-346) only 2382 seed minikits have been supplied.

(Action: NSC)

vii. The Seed Hub at CAZRI, Jodhpur has produced the targeted quantity of moong bean, cowpea and moth bean, but there is problem of lifting of produced seed particularly in case of cowpea and moth bean. Therefore, the institute has reduced the target of seed production of these crops during current kharif. A similar issue has been raised by KVK Ajmer. ICAR may review the seed production targets fixed for seed hubs and revise the targets, so that the problem of lifting of seed can be solved.

Secondly, the institute is producing TL seed without any license for sale of seeds and without any seed certification. There is a need for registration of Seed Hubs with State Seed Certification Agency to certify the seed and also a license for sale to the farmers from the concerned district authorities, which are legal obligations under ECA.

(Action: ICAR)