## Farmers exposure visit cum training at ICAR-CAZRI, Regional Research Station, Stakna Campus, Leh

One day interactive training program for the visiting farming commune was organized by the Regional Research Station of ICAR-CAZRI, Leh on 08<sup>th</sup> of September, 2021. The visit was facilitated by the Department of Agriculture, Kargil District under Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council of the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav program. During the program, Ms. Stanzin Landol, Senior Technical Assistant extended warm welcome to the visiting staff and more than seventy farmers of Kargil at the regional station and briefed about the ongoing activities under Tribal Support Program (TSP) schemes at different adopted villages of this station and also explained about the technologies available including agriculture practices of immense importance like line sowing and tools used for hoe and weeding in different crops. Mr. Jigmat Stanzin, Senior Technical Officer talked about "Potato Cultivation Practices" in Ladakh.

Head I/C of this station opened a discussion forum with the visitors on varied aspects of natural resources and its management including few dimensions of PGR exploration, cnservation aiming for sustainable future across cold arid mountain landscape of Ladakh and important role of indigenous people as custodian of agrobiodiversity in specific and biodiversity in general. Dr. Ahlawat Sudhirpal, Principal Scientist and Divisional Head of ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi also interacted with Farmers' on "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Act" importance and value of local food and need to protect local land races of the valley from over exploitation. Mr. Mohd Ishaq Ali (Agriculture Extension Officer from Department of Agriculture, Kargil also spoke on the occasion and profusely thanked all the staff members of regional station of ICAR-CAZRI, Leh. Some young and entrepreneurism minded farm women expressed their opinion by indicating the crux of the program was very much focused, satisfying and participants understood everything quite well. Program ended with a vote of thanks from the side of the staff members of the regional station of ICAR-CAZRI, Leh. Mr. Jigmat Stanzin, Ms. Stanzin Landol, Mr. Yogender Singh, Mr. Mhd Raza, Mr. Rigzen Dorje and Head I/C were present during this event.

