

Hon'ble Chairman- ASRB, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Visits ICAR-CSSRI Karnal and Reviews Genome Editing Research Activities

Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB), visited ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal on 28th May 2026. During his visit, he reviewed ongoing research activities related to genome editing, crop improvement, and stress-resilient agriculture. The visit was facilitated by Dr. S. K. Sanwal, Director, ICAR-CSSRI, and Dr. Anita Mann, Principal Scientist & CCPI of the project. She briefed the Chairman on the institute's advanced research initiatives on genome-editing technologies for crop improvement.



This needs to mention that a state-of-the-art **Genome Editing Laboratory** has been developed under the ICAR-Crop Science EFC project “*Enhancing climate resilience and ensuring food security with genome editing tool*” funded by ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.

This laboratory was inaugurated by **Dr. D. K. Yadav, Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences)**, ICAR, New Delhi on 5th March 2026 in the presence of Dr. R. K. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal.



Since the inception of this laboratory, various dignitaries have visited the lab and encouraged the team for the efforts in this challenging task of tissue culture, regeneration and generating mutations using CRISPR-Cas system in wheat, rice and mustard.

Dr. A. K. Nayak, Deputy Director General (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi spared his time during his visit on 8th April 2026 and appreciated the Director, Dr S. K. Sanwal and the team for competing in the recent research domain of genome editing. He applauded the work being undertaken in Wheat crop as one of the challenging task of this project. The DDG appreciated the efforts of the institute in establishing advanced research facilities and emphasized the importance of integrating modern biotechnological tools with natural resource management for sustainable agricultural development.

During his visit on 20th March 2026, **Dr. R. K. Singh, ICBA, Dubai** embarked this lab as one of the milestone in history of CSSRI, being a NRM institute, to carryout the advanced work on genome editing in crop plants.

In addition, **Eminent personalities of ICAR, Dr. Gurbachan Singh**, former Chairman, ASRB and Ex- Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal; **Dr P.S. Minhas**, Ex-Director, NIASM, Baramati; **Dr. P. C. Sharma**, Ex- Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal; **Dr K. C. Bansal**, Ex-Director, ICAR-NRCPB, New Delhi have also Visited this Genome Editing Laboratory at ICAR-CSSRI, **Dr Yashbir Singh Shivay (ADG)**, ICAR-NASF, New Delhi. **Dr Paresh Verma**, DG-FSII (Federation of Seed Industry of India), New Delhi also interacted with the team of the project.

