

## ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal Celebrates Mahila Kisan Diwas at Gheer (Karnal) Village

The ICAR–Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal, organised Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas (National Women Farmers’ Day) on 15 October 2026 at Gheer village, Karnal district, to recognise the significant contribution of women farmers to agriculture and promote scientific farming practices, kitchen gardening, and sustainable soil health management.

The programme was conducted under the supervision and guidance of Dr S.K. Sanwal, Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal, with a focus on empowering rural women through scientific knowledge and improved agricultural practices.

During the programme, Dr. Anil Kumar highlighted the important role of women in promoting kitchen gardening for household nutritional security, access to fresh vegetables, and improved family health. He encouraged women farmers to grow seasonal vegetables in available spaces around their homes and adopt suitable practices for maintaining kitchen gardens. Dr. B.L. Meena emphasized the role of ICAR-CSSRI in maintaining and improving soil health through Integrated Nutrient Management (INM). He explained the importance of balanced fertilizer application based on soil testing, the judicious use of chemical fertilizers, and the integration of organic manures and other suitable nutrient sources to sustain soil fertility and agricultural productivity. He also highlighted the importance of adopting scientific soil management practices for sustainable agriculture.

The programme provided an opportunity to raise awareness among women farmers (32 no.) about the importance of kitchen gardening, balanced nutrient management, and the conservation of soil health. The initiative reflects ICAR-CSSRI's continued commitment to disseminating scientific technologies at the village level and strengthening the role of women in sustainable agricultural development.

