

## Need for commercialization of Camel milk for reversal of declining trend of Camel population

Bikaner, 10 June 2018.

Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, reviewed the progress of ICAR-National Research Centre on Camel, Bikaner. While appreciating the scientific outputs of NRCC scientists in establishing the camel as milch animal, he stressed the need for commercialization of camel milk and products like freeze dried powder so that its biological



Functionality for human health conditions like diabetes, autism are effectively retained and passed on to the needy people. In view of the great demand for these products in the international market, he appealed to different stakeholders like State Government, NGOs and Private industry to join hands with NRCC in collaborative mode to effectively establish camel milk trade as it has become easier now after camel milk standards have been approved by FSSAI in February 2017.



During interaction with the camel herders and industry people he appreciated their efforts in rearing this animal in this era of the mechanized world. He also awarded the Progressive Camel breeder Shri Shankar Lal Rabari from Mewar region who took all pains and efforts in establishing camel milk trade. He urged scientists of NRCC to initiate efforts for formation of Farmer Producer's Organizations (FPOs) so that collection, processing and trading of camel milk is taken care of and also seek help of various agencies. He lauded the efforts of NRCC to exploit the unique immunology of camel for having developed the diagnostic kit for thyroid cancer which has been effectively used for more than 25,000 human patients by BARC. He said that the development of

anti-snake venom against a deadly local snake *Bandi*—a scaled viper, by NRCC under collaborative research, is a boon for the desert dwellers as it would save many human lives; and he also assured necessary help for conduct of clinical trials. While visiting all facilities of NRCC as Camel dairy, Feed technology unit, ecotourism facilities like museum, product parlor and riding, he suggested NRCC to make conscious efforts to bring more visibility to NRCC on social media as centre is serving best model of agro-ecotourism involving camel. The progress and achievements of NRCC were highlighted by Dr N.V.Patil, Director and Dr P.L.Saroj, Director, CIAH briefed about achievements of CIAH, Bikaner.