

## *Exposure Visit of the Farmers from Jhabua & Banswara Districts to National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Development in Gujarat*

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An exposure visit was conducted for 100 progressive farmers each from Jhabua & Banswara districts to National Conference on Panchayati Raj & Rural Development held in Gujarat on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> August 2013. This conference cum exposure visit was conducted with an objective to generate awareness on Panchayati Raj & Rural Development and to expose farmers about best learning of Panchayati Raj in Rural areas. More than 6,000 farmers from 26 different states of India have attended this two-day event.

On the first day, a conference was organized at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar in which sessions were held on Panchayati Raj & Rural Development. The inaugural session was addressed by the honorable Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Narendra Modi, in which farmers were requested to learn from the experience of Gujarat in the Panchayati Raj Development.

While inaugurating the event, Shri Modi called upon the countrymen to link development with empowering the rural India and strengthening of the villages. In his inaugural address, Shri Modi gave details about how different development initiatives could be launched at the village level using the medium of Panchayati Raj.

Gujarat's Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Bhupendrasinh Chudasama said, "The conference will focus on discussing the various issues faced by the Panchayati Raj institutions from village to block and district levels." He also said, "We will present the new experiments made in the Panchayati Raj system in Gujarat before the country and listen to success stories from different states." Thousands of Sarpanchs and office bearers of the Panchayati Raj institutions participated in the event.

On the second day of the event, farmers were taken on exposure visit to KVK Dahod. They were exposed to different departments of KVK Dahod like Soil and Water Conservation, Agriculture Processing Lab, Renew Energy Saver and Food Processing departments. After that they visited the DRDA, Dahod Office for proper online record keeping and maintenance of work.

Farmers also visited the Milk Chilling Dairy Plant at Limdi, in Dahod. Special sessions were taken by the AGM & District Registrar and other officials of Dairy Plant on increasing the milk production and breed improvement programme.

100 Farmers each from GVT Banswara Regional Office as well as GVT Jhabua Office participated in this conference. And, GVT Dahod coordinated with its Regional offices for their participation in this programme.

Some Snapshots of the Event are highlighted as below.



Farmers visiting Milk chilling Plant of Panchmahal Dairy at Limdi, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dahod and DRDA Office - Dahod, Gujarat.



Farmers attending the National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Rural Development at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar Gujarat and attending the session addressed by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Narendra Bhai Modi.