

## National Workshop on “Sustaining Animal Food Systems” inaugurated

National Workshop on “Sustaining Animal Food Systems” was inaugurated today at ICAR-IVRI Izatnagar by Shri Chhabilendra Roul, Special Secretary (DARE) & Secretary (ICAR). Shri Chhabilendra Roul, made a brief presentation while inaugurating the event and stated that a lot of work on sustainability has been done in the country but they are disjointed. He stressed that ICAR has taken up a pilot project to develop a sustainable development index (SDI) for particular agro-ecological regions of the country. He emphasized on the indicators related to animal food systems which are required for development SDI, i.e. water foot print, energy foot print, GHG emission, efficiency of animal feed to animal food received, degree of animal biodiversity, affordability of animal food, AMR (use of antibiotics), welfare of animals etc. He stressed on the three pillars of sustainability - economic & social, environment and intergenerational equity.

Prior to the inauguration of the workshop he also inaugurated the Amphitheatre at Cattle and Buffalo farm premise which will be used for the teaching and training purpose.



**Dr. R.K. Singh**, Director, IVRI welcomed all the dignitaries at the dais and delegates from different parts of the country to the workshop. At the outset he gave a brief introduction to the genesis of organizing this workshop and informed the audience that there will be 10 lectures followed by a panel discussion and recommendation in the workshop. He stressed upon the need for ensuring efficient food production system to overcome the problem of hunger and malnourishment as significant part of the country's population is still left out of nutritional

security and thus deficient in protein and mineral requirement. He also mentioned that there is need for adopting a systems approach to address environmental concerns, value chain approach from inputs to consumption through the process of production, processing, and distribution.

**Dr. Amresh Kumar, DG, KCMT, Bareilly** in his address, stated that only source the food system can depend upon, in present time, is animal agriculture. He stressed that there is need for developing sustainable dairying, piggery, large & small ruminant models.

**Dr. Nagendra Sharma, Former VC, SKUAST,** in his inaugural address stated that there is need for reorientation of our policy perception regarding whether livestock is contributing to environmental degradation. He also emphasized the big contribution of manure in green revolution, which has not been documented well. He stressed that although our milk and meat production is highest in the world, but per capita availability is low. Thus, he opined, there is need for balancing the production system by improving the technology, i.e. how to produce more meat, milk and eggs, using lesser feed. There is also need to document the role of by-products from livestock and how they contribute to economy.

Dr S.K. Mendiratta, Head LPT Division and the Organizing Secretary of the workshop presented the vote of thanks.

**Shri Chhabilendra Roul, Special Secretary (DARE) & Secretary (ICAR).** Shri Chhabilendra Roul, also interacted with the local livestock farmers and distributed the CO-4 & CO-5, Hybrid Napier saplings to 102 farmers. He appreciated the efforts of IVRI towards the development of farmers through extension activities.







