

## Awareness Programme among Rural Women of Chiyari (Dakshin Bonhoogly) village under Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes

Eastern Regional Station (ERS) of ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Kolkata in collaboration with Janani Self Help Group (S.H.G) jointly organized a Health Awareness Programme at Balarampur village in Sonarpur block of West Bengal on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023. The programme was planned under Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes (DAPSC) Scheme of ERS-IVRI for the year 2023-24 for rural women belonging to scheduled caste community. The villages are selected based on the high scheduled caste population (i.e. 58%) in the Sonapur block as per the Department of Social Justice, Ministry of Social Justice &



Empowerment, Government of India.

Fifty (n=50) rural women belonging to scheduled caste community were participated in the programme from Dakshin Bonhooghly village. Most of the beneficiaries belong to Rajbanshi sub-castes; few are from Tiyar and Poundra sub-cates/ types etc. Dr. A. R. Sen, Principal Scientist & Head, and Dr. G. K. Das, was present from ERS-ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata. Smt Mamata Naru, Mrs. Nibha Naru and Mrs.

Baisakhi Bag belonging to Janani SHG organized the event. All the beneficiaries received an awareness kit comprising printed literature on poultry (turkey, chicks, ducks, and quail etc.), writing pad, pen, masks in a customized printed folder along with a large printed bag. Dr. Das





told the objectives of DAPSC programme and purpose of the awareness programme. Smt Mamata Naru and Mrs. Nibha Naru shared their experience of working with IVRI.

Dr. Arnab Sen, shared his past experience on outreach activities conducted in the North Eastern states. He appreciated the hard work of the SHG members to make bigger group of women under a single umbrella of IVRI-ERS. While interacting

he emphasized the need for sustainable skill and entrepreneur development among the rural women in the areas of agriculture and allied sectors. He also emphasized on the need to make clusters and bring the entire system in a value chain. All the beneficiaries also made aware about importance of poultry vaccination in time and deworming for better survivability of the birds.