Eastern Regional Station, ICAR- IVRI, Kolkata, Organized NEH Programme at Mangan, Sikkim

Eastern Regional Station (ERS) of ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Kolkata, organized Training -cum-Awareness Programme on Scientific Pig Farming and distributed piglets and pig feed to the beneficiaries on 30.09.2026 under IVRI-NEH Programme to support livelihood generation and improve the socio-economic well-being of the weaker sections of the region. The programme organized in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)-Mangan, North Sikkim, Sikkim was graced by Mr Dup Tshering Bhutia and Mr Thapo Bhutia, Namok Swayem GPU Ward Panchayat Members as guests, in the presence of other dignitaries, beneficiaries and staff of KVK-North Sikkim, Mangan, Sikkim. At the outset, Mr Dinesh Basnett, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK- North Sikkim, Sikkim welcomed one and all and during his address, lauded the efforts of ICAR-IVRI, ERS, Kolkata for distributing inputs and organising NEH programme of ICAR-IVRI partnering with KVK for enhancing livelihood of local farmers. Applauding the initiatives of IVRI for distribution of inputs under programme, the guests of the function urged the farmers to reap maximum benefit of it and get rewarded.

Addressing the gathering after the inaugural programme, Dr P. K. Nanda, PS, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata highlighted the research achievements of ICAR-IVRI, the premier research institute in animal sciences, particularly in developing vaccines and diagnostic kits for prevention and control of animal diseases. Further, Dr Nanda narrated the objectives of the programme and role played by ICAR IVRI, Kolkata through implementing various schemes and flagship programmes such as Developmental Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST), Developmental Action Plan for Scheduled Caste (DAPSC) and North-Eastern Hill (NEH) in the Eastern and North-Eastern Region for improving the socio-economic conditions of the beneficiaries. Addressing the beneficiaries, Dr. A. K. Das, PS, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata spoke on the market potential and opportunities for commercialization of traditional meat products in the north-eastern region, with special emphasis on pork for better income. As meat-based value-added

products are quite popular and high in demand in NE region, Dr Das suggested conducting hands-on training on "Scientific Meat Processing and Value Addition" to transform low-value meat into higher-value products so as to enhance income generation and empower the beneficiaries through Skill Development. Dr Samiran Bandyopadhyay, PS, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata, appraised the beneficiaries about various symptoms of most common diseases of pigs during pre-weaning and post-weaning period, including anaemia, African swine fever and piglet diarrhoea. As a part of health care measures, Dr Bandyopadhyay also advocated for proper medication as well as maintaining hygienic condition of the pig house along with biosecurity measures required to safeguard the piglets from contracting various diseases. During the interactive session, Dr (Mrs) Hishey Ongmoo, SMS (Animal Science), KVK-Mangan, North Sikkim described briefly the issues related to feeding, housing, health and management aspects of scientific pig farming. Dr Bhutia also emphasized the importance of timely vaccination of piglets, particularly against classical swine fever (CSF) and porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome (PRRS), to control the most devastating epizootic diseases.

The Kisan Gosthi-cum-Awareness Programme was followed distribution of piglets (n=120), along with pig feed (2,000 kg), among beneficiaries (n=60) from Namok Swayem GPU and Sangtok of North Sikkim district, Sikkim. The programme also got highlighted in the media and local newspaper. The entire programme was coordinated along with vote of thanks proposed by Ms Rinchen Doma Bhutia, SMS (Horticulture), KVK-Mangan, North Sikkim. An overwhelming response of the participants along with cooperation of the subject matter specialists and staff of KVK-Mangan, North Sikkim made the NEH programme of ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata at Mangan, North Sikkim, Sikkim a great success.

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project directors of the district ATMAs presented the current status of their respective districts, including farm-oriented activities undertaken and the financial status of the District ATMA programmes.

The director also interactions to share experiences, exchange information and learn about activities and best practices being implemented in other districts and KVKs.

participants that training on the use of Krishi Mapper would be organised shortly under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. She also stressed the

year, she encouraged all district ATMAs to organise appropriate training programmes and activities specifically for women farmers.

Regarding the Prime

technical presentations were made by technical officers of various schemes, who provided relevant information and updates on the implementation of different agricultural programmes and schemes.

Training on scientific pig farming held at Mangan Krishi Vigyan Kendra

SE Report

GANGTOK, September 30: ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute-Eastern Regional Station (ICAR-IVRI-ERS), Kolkata, West Bengal, in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), North Sikkim, Mangan, organised a day-long training-cum-awareness programme on "Scientific Pig Farming" at KVK Mangan on September 30.

The programme was chaired by Dr. P. K. Nanda, Principal Scientist and NEH Programme in-charge, ICAR-IVRI-ERS, Kolkata.

Dr. Arun Kumar Das and Dr. Sumiran Bandopadhyay, Principal Scientists from ICAR-IVRI-ERS, also attended the programme, informs a press release.

Ward panchayats from Namok Swayem GPU, Dup Tshering Bhutia and Thapo Bhutia, along with farmers from Namok Swayem GPU and Sangtok, participated in the programme.

The programme aimed to sensitise farmers about scientific pig rearing and management practices and provide the farming community of the Northeast with access to technical expertise from ICAR institutes located outside the region.

At the outset, senior scientist and head, KVK North Sikkim, Dinesh Basnet, welcomed the participants and highlighted the Northeast, along with its socio-economic benefits.

Dr. A. K. Das and Dr. Sumiran Bandopadhyay highlighted opportunities for developing value-added products from pork, while Dr. Hishey Ongmoo Bhutia, SMS (Animal Science), KVK North Sikkim, briefed farmers on scientific pig rearing practices. She stressed the importance of following regular vaccination and deworming schedules.

Panchayat member Dup Tshering Bhutia appreciated KVK North Sikkim and ICAR-IVRI-ERS for providing piglets, feed, medicines and technical knowledge on scientific pig farming to farmers.

The programme was followed by a Farmer-Scientist Interaction Session, providing participants an opportunity to discuss issues and seek technical guidance on pig farming.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Rinchen Bhutia, SMS (Horticulture), KVK North Sikkim.

As part of the programme, 120 piglets along with feed were distributed. Subsequently, 50 piglets, along with 50 kg of feed per piglet, were distributed to progressive pig-rearing farmers from Chungthang, Dzongu and Phodong in North Sikkim, the release mentions.

Station on September 28 as part of a review of railway infrastructure and passenger facilities in the region. He was accompanied by senior officials from NFR headquarters and Lumding Division.

During the inspection, the General Manager reviewed the overall functioning and development of Sairang Railway Station, with particular emphasis on passenger amenities, operational efficiency, safety arrangements and station infrastructure, informs a press release.

He inspected various passenger facilities and reviewed arrangements for the convenience and smooth movement of passengers. Concerned officials briefed him on the existing facilities, operational aspects and ongoing and proposed development works at the station.

Shrivastava directed the officials to maintain high standards of cleanliness and passenger convenience and

ensure that available facilities are properly maintained. He also reviewed the operational preparedness of the station and stressed the importance of maintaining reliability and service quality.

As part of the inspection programme, the general manager conducted a window-trailing inspection from Sairang to Bairabi. He reviewed the condition of the track and railway infrastructure, progress of electrification works, newly commissioned facilities and other ongoing development works along the section.

The inspection also provided an opportunity to assess the scope for further improvement of passenger amenities and station infrastructure in view of the growing importance of Sairang as a key railway station serving Mizoram.

The general manager advised officials to focus on providing a safe, efficient and comfortable travel experience for passengers while ensuring effective utilisation and proper upkeep of railway assets.

The inspection forms part of NFR's continued efforts to strengthen railway infrastructure, improve passenger amenities and enhance operational efficiency across the region. Regular inspections by senior railway officials help monitor the progress of development works, identify areas requiring attention and ensure that railway facilities are maintained to the desired standards, the release mentions.

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