

The DAPSC Beneficiaries Interacted with the Scientists of Eastern Regional Station of ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute at Kolkata

An interactive meet between the beneficiaries selected under the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Caste (DAPSC) scheme and scientists of ERS-ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute was organized at Kolkata campus on 2nd of August, 2024. The primary objective of the meet was to make the beneficiaries aware of the future activities to be undertaken by the Institute through this Eastern Regional Station for the year 2024-2025 and arranging an exposure visit for the beneficiaries to this station. Besides, the official personnel of TTK Health Care Limited were also invited to interact with the DAPSC beneficiaries.

A total of 19 rural women belonging to the scheduled caste community (mostly of Namasudra and Rajbanshi sub-castes) participated in the programme. Of the 19, 12 came from Dighari(n=6) and Satashi (n=6) villages of Bongaon block (under North 24 Pargana



district) which is located around 78 Km far away from Kolkata and 7 came from Balarampur (Narupara) village of Sonarpur block (under South 24 Parganas district) which is around 35 Km away from the Eastern Centre of ICAR-IVRI.

Dr Arnab Sen (HoRC), Dr D. Mondal (PS), Dr Syamal Naskar (PS), Dr Sadhan Bag (PS) and Dr G K Das, PS were present in the programme. Sri Hiranmay Saha, Zonal Sales Manager, Sri Santanu Roy, Regional Manager and Mr. Tanmoy Khan from ttK Healthcare Limited (Animal Welfare Division), Kolkata were also present in the programme.

Dr. G. K. Das coordinated the events of the meet, starting with the welcome address



explaining the ideas behind organizing the face to face meeting at the ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata. Dr Arnab Sen, the HoRCof ERS, ICAR-IVRI, in the beginning of his lecture narrated about the glorious history of ICAR-IVRI and her

significant contribution in national animal health care and production system. He detailed about Indian scenario of poultry production system and importance of women participation in

backyard poultry farming. Dr Sen explained the importance of disease management including vaccinations in poultry as well as alternative poultry feeds required for reducing the cost of production.



Dr D Mondal told about the

contribution of back yard poultry farming for providing household nutrition and income generation to the rural poor in general and the weaker sections of society in particular. He also made aware of the participants about various important poultry diseases, their diagnosis and value of prevention measures. Dr. Syamal Naskar highlighted the importance of animal



husbandry practices and poultry farming on livelihood generation. He pointed out the reasons for involving women in this type of programme because of the significant contribution made by the women forming the rural

economy through the animal husbandry practices in general. Further, he also indicated the problems that the small and marginal farm women are facing while brooding, feeding, housing and providing health care management during profitable poultry farming practices. Dr Naskar appraised the participants about the importance of farmer's producer organisation (FPO) in enhancing the marketability of poultry and explained in details how to

form the FPO. Dr Sadhan Bag praised the beneficiaries about their continuous involvement in the scheme of this Institute and hard work.

From the TTK Healthcare Limited (Animal Welfare Division), Sri H. Saha and Sri S. Roy



delivered a speech explaining the benefits of their poultry and veterinary products especially the feed supplements for growth, poultry health care, prevention and production performance.

At the end of lectures, an interactive discussion was held between the scientist and the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries were asked to express their views and difficulties they are facing doing their day to day poultry rearing activities and marketing of the produce. There was unanimous expression about higher feed cost, unavailability of medicines and vaccines, marketing of poultry and eggs at lower price etc.