

## **Training on hygiene and prevention of zoonotic diseases to sanitation workers of ICAR-IVRI**

The Division of Veterinary Public Health (VPH), Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, organized training programs under the “Scheduled caste sub plan scheme” on January 21 and 22, 2025, with 25 beneficiaries on each day. These programs were aimed at Scheduled Caste (SC) sanitation workers employed at ICAR-IVRI, focusing on hygiene promotion, zoonotic disease prevention and highlighting the vital role of sanitation workers in public health. Sanitation workers are at high risk of contracting zoonotic diseases due to their occupational exposure. This initiative was a collaborative effort involving contributions from the Director, IVRI, Dr. Triveni Dutt, Joint Director (Extension Education), Dr. Rupasi Tiwari, Head of the Division of VPH, Dr. Kiran Bhilegaonkar and Scientist, Division of VPH, Dr. Himani Dhanze. The training aimed to empower SC sanitation workers by improving their knowledge and practices related to personal and workplace hygiene and disease prevention. Using a peer-reviewed questionnaire, knowledge, attitude and practices (KAPs) study was conducted to assess their awareness of sanitation and zoonotic diseases. After the assessment, Dr. Himani Dhanze delivered training session, providing insights into zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance and foodborne pathogens and emphasizing the importance of preventive measures. The hygiene kits, first aid kits, sanitation suits and gumboots were distributed to all the 50 participants. Dr. Triveni Dutt distributed the kits to the first 25 beneficiaries on Day 1, and Dr. Rupasi Tiwari distributed the kits to the remaining 25 beneficiaries on Day 2. The training was well appreciated for addressing the workplace safety of sanitation workers and raising awareness about the risks of zoonotic diseases and preventive measures.



**KAP survey conducted with training participants on hygiene and zoonotic disease awareness**



**Sanitation workers equipped with dungarees and gumboots**



**Distribution of sanitation kits to trainees during the program**