

## Eastern Regional Station, ICAR- IVRI, Kolkata, Conducted Input Distribution under NEH Programme at Umlyngka, Shilong, 27 March 2025

The Eastern Regional Station (ERS) of ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Kolkata, under its North-Eastern and Hill (NEH) programme, conducted a “Training-cum-Awareness Programme on Scientific Clean and Hygienic Milk Production” in collaboration with the East Khasi Hills District Co-operative Milk Union, Shillong Meghalaya. The event witnessed active participation of 40 beneficiaries (30 male, 10 female) primarily from Umlyngka village, East Khasi Hills.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri Piston Roy Kharbteng, Chairman, East Khasi Hills District Co-operative Milk Union, Shillong, in the presence of dignitaries, beneficiaries, and Milk Union officials. In his welcome



address, Shri Kharbteng commended ICAR-IVRI, ERS, Kolkata for its initiatives in promoting scientific clean milk production through input distribution and collaborative programmes under the NEH scheme.



Dr. B. Mondal, Principal Scientist, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata, highlighted the objectives of the program and the institute’s role in implementing the same. He emphasized the need

for adopting scientific animal management practices to enhance milk production and stressed the importance of hygienic milk handling, chilling, and safe delivery to consumers.

Following the inaugural session, a technical training session was conducted, where Dr. Arun Kumar Das, Principal Scientist, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata, informed participants on essential steps for clean milk production such as hand hygiene and sanitization, cleanliness of milking areas, containers, and transportation facilities, prevention of milk-borne zoonotic diseases and best practices in cattle feeding, housing, and health management. An



interactive session addressed concerns related to milk spoilage, contamination, and improved dairy farming techniques.

The event concluded with the distribution of cattle feed (Heifer feed 50 bag, Milch feed 50 bag, 1 bag = 100 Kg), medicines (Anti-helminths, analgesics, ruminotonics, antibiotic etc), and mineral feed supplements (Bone care 1L X 400, Nutrison 1Kg X 400, Base Milk 300 gm X 400) to 40 beneficiaries from East Khasi Hills, reinforcing ICAR-IVRI's commitment to sustainable dairy development in the region. This initiative aligns with ICAR-IVRI's mission to improve socio-economic conditions of farmers through technology dissemination and capacity building.

To conduct the above NEH program, a committee (Dr Syamal Naskar, Principal Scientist & Chairman, Dr Arnab Sen, HoRC, Dr B. Mondal, Principal Scientist, Dr Hari Prasanna Paul, Deputy Director, Government of Maghalaya) was constituted at the Institute level that has done and monitored all the ground works including purchase, communication with the local administration and the farmers etc.