

## Capacity Building of Rural Women by acquiring Knowledge on the Importance of Bio-security Measures for improving Backyard Poultry Farming through Expert Lecture and Demonstration

Bio-security is the implementation of measures to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of disease causing agents. Poultry represents the largest domestic animal stock in the world as per FAO report, 2012 and bio-security measures play a vital role for quality production of backyard poultry of being closely associated with human, wild birds and other livestock and also exposed



to vermin and predators. Most of the times, farmers face difficulties in practicing sound bio-security measures in backyard farming as the birds are reared outside in day time. No disease control strategies and inadequate management practices often result in high levels of mortality either due to predators

(e.g. rodents, snakes, small carnivores) or infectious diseases (e.g. Newcastle Disease (ND), Salmonellosis, Gumboro disease or Fowl typhoid).



The Eastern Regional Station of ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata organized a one-day program for Capacity Building of scheduled caste beneficiaries by acquiring knowledge on “Importance of Bio-security Measures in Backyard Poultry Farming” on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 at Dighari village in Bongaon block of West

Bengal. The program was scheduled under Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes (DAPSC) Scheme for the year 2024-25.

**Capacity Building:** A total of twenty three women farmers (n=23) from Dighari, Kaikhali, Mathurapur and Satashi villages joined in the program. Dr. B. Mondal, Principal Scientist and



Dr. G. K. Das, Principal Scientist ERS, ICAR-IVRI Kolkata were present in the program. The purpose of the program was to make the rural women aware of bio-security measures to be undertaken during backyard poultry farming. At the beginning of the program, each of the beneficiary obtained a kit consisting of folder within printed literature on various poultry

diseases affecting backyard poultry farming, writing pad, pen and masks. Both theory lecture as



well as demonstration was included in the plan of the program. Dr. Das discussed about the objectives of the DAPSC scheme and the purpose of incorporating various capacity building programs under the banner of DAPSC scheme. He told both technique learning and knowledge gaining will help the weaker section to develop various skill which ultimately would translate in to cash earning and better livelihood. Dr. B. Mondal delivered his lecture on various aspects of bio-security including the need of bio-security in backyard farming. He also explained about various types of vaccinations in poultry, turkey, ducks and goats, various routes of administration and necessary precautions to be taken during



vaccination procedure.

**Input Distribution Program:** In a subsequent program, 18 women beneficiaries belonging to different groups from Dighari, Kaikhali, Mathurapur and Satashi villages under Bongaon block



received steel feeders and chick trays. They were promoted with the inputs for better rearing of the poultry seed received from ICAR-IVRI-ERS in previous occasion.