

ICAR-IVRI-Eastern Regional Station, Kolkata organized Animal Health Awareness Program in Hanskhali Block

ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Eastern Regional Station (ERS), Kolkata organized an 'Animal Health Awareness Program' for rural women under Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes (DAPSC) scheme on 11th of January, 2024. The program was conducted in Muragachha village of Hanskhali block, a community development block in Nadia district of West Bengal. The village Muragachha is a large village (village code 321881) located 8.1 Km away from sub district head quarter Hanskhali, 19.1 Kms from district head quarter Krishnagar and 97.4 Kms far away from the ICAR-IVRI, Eastern Regional Station, Kolkata.



The total population of the village is 12,336 of which about 83.99 per cent of population belongs to the scheduled caste community (Population census 2011). A total of 79 rural women of scheduled caste community joined in the animal health awareness program and all of them belong to Namasudra sub-type. After getting registered, all the beneficiaries received awareness kits comprising of scientific literature on poultry/duck /turkey /quail farming, vaccination and deworming schedule as well as poultry and duck diseases, pen, customized writing pad, caps and plastic folder at the beginning of the programme.

Dr. G. K. Das and Dr. Sadhan Bag, Principal Scientists, from ERS, ICAR-IVRI represented the



occasion. Dr Das, in the beginning of his lecture told about the DAPSC scheme and its major objectives, the types of programs that the ICAR-IVRI implemented for socially weaker sections of the rural community, including DAPSC scheme. Dr Das also emphasised about the scopes of women empowerment through animal husbandry and poultry rearing. Dr Bag narrated a brief history of ICAR-IVRI, the major contribution of ICAR-IVRI in the development and production of veterinary biologicals, diagnostics and vaccines relating to livestock and poultry. Dr Bag also explained about the general animal husbandry practices and especially highlighted about the role of stress on livestock in general and poultry in particular. He also suggested the various ways to improve the productivity by reducing the stressful conditions to the birds. Further, Dr Bag emphasized the brooding procedure of day old chicks, poultry housing, importance of farm hygiene as well as overall management of poultry and especially the

Kaveri/ RIR/ Banaraja birds which would be distributed to the women beneficiaries.