

The Eastern Regional Centre of ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute establishes “Veterinary MedicineBank” at Balarampur village under Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes

The Eastern Regional Centre (ERC) of ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata established a “Veterinary Medicine Bank (VMB)”, at the Balarampur village under Sonarpur block of West Bengal on 14th October, 2024. The necessity of establishing the VMB to fill up the gap arising suddenly due to non-availability of feed supplements and emergency medicines during day to day rearing of poultry, duck, turkey, goats and cattle by the DAPSC beneficiaries covered under the ongoing DAPSC programs for the year 2024-2025.



Fifty three rural women belonging to scheduled caste community from Balarampur (2 groups), Narupara, Chiyari-1, Chiyari-2, Bonhooghli, Joykrishnapur, Bhangar Para were present in the program. All the beneficiaries representing 8 ERS-DAPSC groups engaged with ERS-ICAR-IVRI since 2019 till 2023. Dr. Arnab Sen, Principal Scientist & HoRC, ERS-ICAR-IVRI and Dr. G. K. Das, Principal Scientist from ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata and Sri Swapan Talukdar, the Marketing Manager, Credence Remedies Private Limited, Thane West, M.S. were present in the program. The program was co-ordinated by Dr. G. K. Das. Dr Das briefly expressed the purpose of opening the bank based on his past experience and received communication many times from the beneficiaries that during the growth and

peak laying stage as well as during some disease condition there is discontinuance of supplementation and medication due to the non-availability of the medicines due to economic reasons or the medicine store being far from home. This reduces the performance of the inputs and also in lowering the income.



Dr Arnab Sen emphasized on the importance of Community Block Approach in backyard livestock/poultry system. He expressed his view on the practice of maintaining a vaccine and medicine bank will help the farmers in being self reliant and make the inputs



available at their location. An important aspect was to maintain the medicine bank and record the usage details as and when required. The overall thrust and emphasis was to create a production cluster of backyard poultry with sustainability and profitability features. Other aspects of self reliant poultry production system were also discussed. Literature on the usage of the medicines and

time of administration was distributed to the participants.

Sri Swapan Talukdar delivered a brief detail of their products and the value of medicines and feed supplements for the health and prevention of the disease of poultry and Turkey birds. He also emphasized for the due care required during laying stress.

