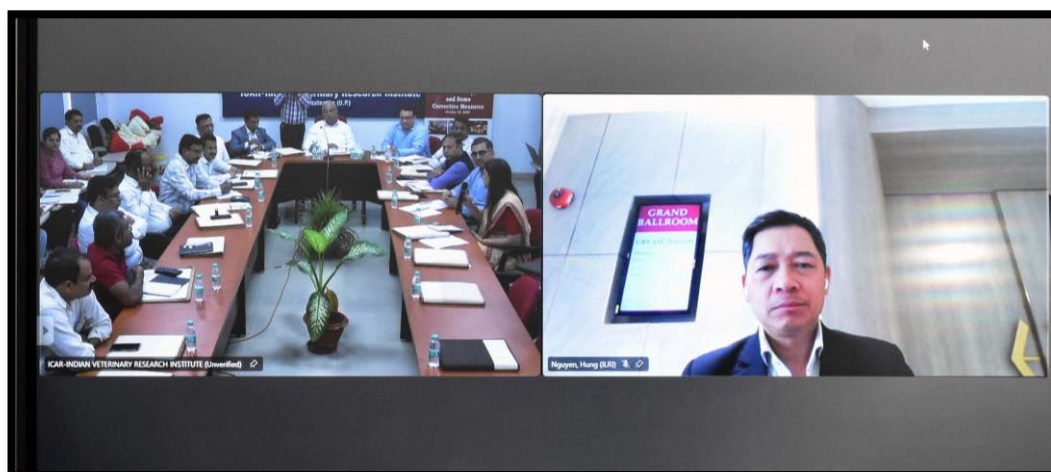


Stakeholder Consultation on 'Assessment of Human Health Risk in Chicken Meat in Bareilly District, UP and Some Corrective Measures'

A stakeholder workshop on 'Assessment of Human Health Risk in Chicken Meat in Bareilly District, UP and Some Corrective Measures' was organized under the ILRI-IVRI project entitled One Health Initiative to Improve Poultry Value Chain in Bareilly, UP, India. This project focused on assessing the chicken value chain, emphasizing quality and safety aspects concerning infectious pathogens, associated risk factors, and their implications for human health. The workshop was organized by the Division of Veterinary Public Health, IVRI in collaboration with International Livestock Research Institute, Kenya.



During the inaugural session of the workshop, Dr Hung Nyugen-Viet, Regional Director, ILRI Asia congratulated IVRI on the commendable work done under the project. He emphasized that India is leading the world in One Health initiatives and the leads from this project can be used to prioritize working areas for food safety under the pandemic funds. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Ram Pratim Deka, ILRI Country Representative, India informed that this project was implemented in seven different countries and in India, IVRI was the nodal agency for implementing the project. He expressed his happiness on the output of the project and reaffirmed the fact that ILRI and IVRI can take forward these



findings to benefit the public. He also opined that food safety is a complex issue and requires collaboration between multiple stakeholders for its implementation. Dr SK Singh, Joint Director (Research) presided over the inaugural session and congratulated the progress of the project. He lauded the efforts of the Project team in bringing together various stakeholders to improve food safety. He suggested that the findings of the project should be disseminated to the relevant stakeholders so that the knowledge gained can be used to improve chicken value supply chain.

Dr Bablu Kumar, Head, Division of Veterinary Public Health delivered the welcome address and emphasized the importance of food safety in day-to-day life. The stakeholder consultation session commenced with introductory remarks by Dr. Suman Kumar, Scientist, ICAR-IVRI and Project

Investigator. He outlined the objectives of the One Health initiative implemented under the CGIAR One Health and Sustainable Animal & Aquatic Foods (SAAF) programs. Dr. Suman Kumar highlighted the project's focus on understanding the poultry value chain in Bareilly and identifying interventions to enhance food safety, mitigate antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and improve public health outcomes. It was followed by discussion on the Findings of Focus Group Discussion and Pathogen Occurrence by Dr. Sneha, PhD Scholar, IVRI, wherein she presented the results of the Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) conducted with poultry farmers, retailers, and consumers in Bareilly district.



The FGDs revealed critical gaps in hygiene practices, knowledge of zoonotic risks, and antimicrobial use across the value chain. Dr. Sneha also shared data on the occurrence of foodborne pathogens, including *Salmonella* spp., *Campylobacter* spp., and *Listeria monocytogenes*, detected from poultry samples collected at various points of the chain. Following the presentation, participants engaged in an open discussion, sharing local experiences, challenges, and practical recommendations for improving food safety and hygiene practices. The discussion was followed by a presentation on Antimicrobial Resistance and Risk Factor Analysis by Dr. Sanjumon, PhD Scholar, IVRI who discussed the prevalence of antimicrobial resistance in foodborne pathogens isolated from poultry meat and environmental samples. He elaborated on resistance profiles against commonly used antimicrobials and highlighted key risk factors contributing to pathogen occurrence. The presentation emphasized the need for integrated surveillance and policy-level interventions under the One Health framework. Dr. Amit Gangwar, M.V.Sc. scholar presented on the Role of Water in Pathogen Occurrence and presented findings on the role of water quality in contributing to the occurrence and spread of targeted pathogens within the poultry value chain. His results demonstrated contamination risks at multiple stages—particularly during slaughter and processing emphasizing the importance of clean water access and sanitation measures. The discussion that followed revolved around feasible interventions for improving water quality and monitoring microbial contamination in local poultry markets. The final presentation of the session was on Enhancing Chicken Meat Quality Using Decontamination Wipes by Dr. A. R. Sen, Head, Division of Livestock Products Technology, IVRI, on the development and application of user-friendly decontamination wipes designed to enhance chicken meat quality and safety. He described the formulation, mechanism, and effectiveness of the wipes in reducing surface microbial load. The innovation was well-received as a potential low-cost intervention for improving hygiene in retail meat environments.

Participants discussed practical aspects of adoption, market feasibility, and consumer acceptance of such innovative products. In his concluding address, Dr. R. P. Deka, ILRI Country Representative, India, commended the collaborative efforts of IVRI and ILRI teams in implementing the One Health

initiative. He emphasized the importance of transdisciplinary research and stakeholder engagement in strengthening the poultry value chain. Dr. Deka also highlighted the need for capacity building, behavioural change communication, and scalable interventions to sustain food safety and public health improvements. He encouraged participants to continue joint research and knowledge-sharing under the One Health framework to achieve long-term impact in ensuring food safety in the region.

The stakeholder meeting involved Dr RP Singh, Head, Community Medicine, SRMSIMS and his team; Dr Nain Singh and Shri MPS Rathore, from Bareilly Municipal Corporation, Sanjay Singh and Dr OP Verma, Deputy CVOs of State Animal Husbandry Department along with their team of veterinarians. Medical Officers of Human Hospital, IVRI and private medical practitioners from Bareilly city. Meat vendors from Bareilly city were also involved in the discussion.

