

IVRI, RS-Kolkata organized DAPST activities in November 2024

In November 2024, the ERS-IVRI in Kolkata organized several activities under the DAPST (TSP) program in various tribal-dominated villages. These activities included:

1. Training programs for farmers on scientific livestock farming and feed/fodder management.
2. Distribution of agricultural inputs.
3. Animal health and vaccination camps.
4. Demonstration and awareness-raising events.

Programme conducted at the Kalyani Animal Farms of ERS-IVRI

On November 4, 2024, DAPST (TSP) conducted activities at the Kalyani Animal Farm of ERS-IVRI-Kolkata, including an animal health awareness camp, a pig farm demonstration, and input distribution. Tribal



beneficiaries from Gayeshpur (8) in Nadia district and Raghunathpur (1) in Hoogly district, West Bengal attended the event. The program was executed by Dr. T K Biswas, Senior Scientist and Nodal Officer of DAPST, along with Dr. Dayamoy Mondal, Principal Scientist. Farmers were also shown daily farm management practices. Among the nine beneficiaries, seven were women, six of whom had received inputs last year under TSP. These women generated an encouraging income of Rs. 25,000 to Rs.



50,000 by selling the piglets received. A total of 15 piglets and 475 kg of pig grower mash, along with feed supplements and medicine, were distributed. The program emphasized the importance of

sustainable animal husbandry practices and aimed to empower the tribal community through knowledge sharing and resource distribution. Participants were educated on optimal feeding strategies, health management, and biosecurity measures to enhance the productivity of their farms. The demonstration of daily farm management

activities served as a practical guide for the attendees, allowing them to directly engage with methodologies that could be implemented back at their farms.

Dr. T K Biswas took the opportunity to highlight success stories from previous beneficiaries, illustrating how effective farm management combined with proper inputs can lead to substantial economic benefits. He encouraged the participants to maintain meticulous records of their farm activities and expenditures, which would help them assess the profitability of their ventures over time.

The event also fostered a sense of community among the participants, who exchanged experiences and tips on pig farming. Many expressed gratitude for the support received through the TSP, acknowledging its pivotal role in transforming their agricultural practices and improving their livelihoods.

By the end of the day, the mood was one of optimism and newfound enthusiasm. With the distribution of livestock and grower mash now completed, these tribal farmers left the Kalyani Animal Farm equipped with both tangible resources and valuable knowledge, poised to make a lasting impact on their agricultural endeavours. Plans were already in place for follow-up sessions to monitor progress and provide further guidance, ensuring that these families continue to thrive in their farming pursuits.

Programme conducted at the Kalyani Animal Farms of ERS-IVRI



On November 22, 27, and 29, 2024, two training programs, health camps, and an input distribution program were held in Makaltala and Farmania villages in the Habra I-block of North 24 PGS district, West Bengal, in collaboration with the NGO SEVA (Society for Equitable Voluntary Actions). The resource persons included Dr. T K Biswas, Dr. D

Mondal, Dr. B Mondal, Dr. S Naskar, and Dr. S Bandyopadhyay.

The training programs focused on a) Livestock Management (scientific management and veterinary care) and b) Livestock Feed Management (production of feed and fodder, feeding, and income generation). The training sessions was attended by 30 tribal women. The session was designed to empower these women with



the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively care for their livestock, enhancing



both their agricultural practices and their livelihoods. Participants learned about animal health, vaccination schedules, and disease prevention strategies, enabling them to reduce mortality rates and increase

productivity among their herds.

In addition to livestock management, the training included practical demonstrations on the preparation of balanced animal feeds, emphasizing the importance of nutrition in increasing milk and meat yields. The women were taught how to identify and utilize locally available ingredients to create cost-effective feed formulations, which can significantly reduce



dependency on commercial feed products.



Moreover, income generation strategies were also discussed. As the women engaged in these sessions, they not only gained knowledge but also built a sense of community, sharing experiences and challenges they face in their roles as primary caregivers for their livestock.

The transformative impact of these training programs is evident, as participants reported increased confidence in managing their herds and a greater understanding of sustainable practices. The ongoing support and guidance from trainers will ensure that these women can implement what they learned, ultimately aiming for improved livelihoods and enhanced food security for their families and communities.



A total of 102 pure Black Bengal goats, including 96 female goats (does) and 6 male goats (bucks), were distributed among 38 beneficiaries. In addition to the goats, the beneficiaries also received feed supplements,

sickles (90), 30 crates (30), weighing spring balances (4), and informational leaflets in the local language. As part of the program, an animal health camp was held each day, where medicines were distributed to address any issues reported by the participating farmers. The distribution of the goats was carried out methodically to ensure that each beneficiary received animals that were well-suited for their specific farming conditions. Each goat was carefully selected based on health and age, with emphasis on the breeds that thrive in the local climate. The beneficiaries participated in orientation sessions where they learned about proper goat care, feeding practices, and the importance of maintaining biosecurity measures to prevent disease.

