

National Webinar on “Scientific Goat Farming: From the Livelihood to Financial Security for the Farmers” (ICAR-RCER, Patna, Date: 18th September, 2021)

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ICAR- Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna organized a national webinar on “**Scientific Goat Farming: From the Livelihood to Financial Security for the Farmers**” on 18.09.2021 as a part of the ongoing celebration “**Azadi ka Amrut Mahaotsav**” to commemorate 75 years of India’s Independence. The webinar was conducted in Virtual mode with an objective to create awareness and update the knowledge of the researchers, academicians, field veterinarians, entrepreneurs, extension workers, students and other stakeholders regarding prospects of scientific goat farming, entrepreneurship development and parasitic disease control. The programme was started by the welcome address of the **Convenor Dr. Kamal Sarma, Head, DLFM**. He briefed the gathering that **more than 760 participants across the length and width of country registered for the webinar including researchers, academicians, field veterinarians, KVK functionaries, students, entrepreneurs, and farmers**. He emphasized the importance of the National webinar in the present context of doubling



farmer’s income. On the occasion **Honourable Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna Dr. Ujjwal Kumar**, welcomed the **Chief Guest of the function Dr Devendra Swarup, Ex-Director ICAR CIRG, and Dr Bhubaneshwar Rai, Director (A) ICAR-**

CIRG, and the two Guest speakers Dr Ashok Kumar, Principal scientist, ICAR-CIRG and Dr Rajesh Katoch, Dean Students Welfare, SKUAST

Jammu. In his address, he threw light on the current scenario of the goat sector in India and highlighted the demand supply gap in goat sector. **He also focused as to why goat are considered as poor man cow and ATM.**

Dr Pankaj Kumar, Sr. Scientist and organizing secretary of the webinar gave a brief introduction about the scientific achievement of the invited dignitaries.

In his inaugural remark the Honourable Chief guest, **Dr D. Swarup shared his experiences about goat farming and success stories of few goat farmers. The Guest of honour for the function Dr B Rai briefed about the various programmes and research activities currently carried out by ICAR-CIRG Makhdoom** and how institutes is coming up with new technologies for the farmers and entrepreneurs.

The topic of the first invited lecture was “***Entrepreneurship in goat farming for rural development***” delivered by the veteran scientist **Dr Ashok Kumar** followed by **Dr Rajesh Katoch** on the topic “***Control of parasitic diseases for enhancing the income of goat farmers***”. The two eminent speakers elaborated their experiences on their respective topics in very simple way which certainly enriched the understanding of scientific goat farming, its possibilities as start-ups, entrepreneurship development, parasitic control in goat farming, etc. **Dr Swarup, the Chief Guest of the function in his closing remarks congratulated the team and speaker for the informative lecture.**

During the virtual National webinar more than 270 participants were benefitted from the experience sharing by the dignitaries and speakers. **The National Webinar was graced with the presence of Head DWM, Dr A Upadhayaya and Head, DCR, Dr A K Choudhary.** The webinar was well coordinated by a team of scientists led by Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Organizing secretary and Dr M K Tripathi, Dr Jaspreet Singh, Dr Rohan Raman and Dr R Kamal as co-organisers of the event and technical support was provided by Mr. Anil Kumar, Technical officer, ICAR-RCER, Patna. The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Manoj Kumar Tripathi, Scientist, ICAR-RCER, Patna.