

National Webinar on “Important Animal diseases and their Control program in India” (ICAR-RCER, Patna, Date: 23 October 2021)

ICAR- Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna organized a national webinar on “**Important Animal diseases and their Control program in India**” on 23 October 2021 as a part of the “**Azadi ka Amrut Mahaotsav**” webinar series to commemorate 75 years of India’s Independence. The webinar was conducted in Virtual mode to create awareness and update the knowledge of the researchers, academicians, field veterinarians, entrepreneurs, extension workers, students and other stakeholders. The Focus was on two crucial animal diseases (**Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)** in cloven-footed animals and **Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)** in small ruminants) and National Animal Disease Control Program (NADCP) and ways forward to eradicate these diseases by 2030. **The national webinar got a huge response with more than 1200 registration for the event.** About **900 participants** from all parts of the country joined the event on **Zoom Platform**, and **more than 200 viewed it on YouTube Live** of our Institute channel (<https://youtu.be/9vGujFltcMw>). The programme was



started by the welcome address of the **Co-Convenor Dr. Amitava Dey, I/C Head, DLFM.** He welcomed all the participants and briefed the gathering about the importance of

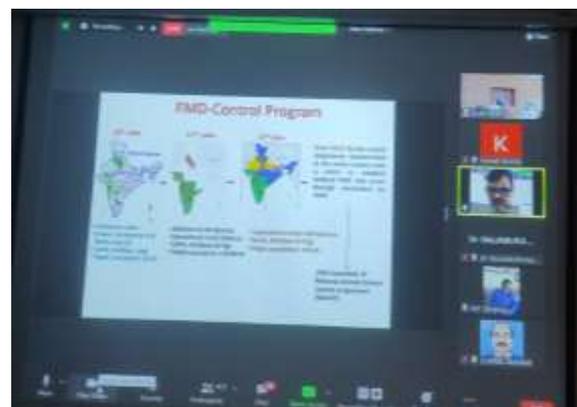
preventing animal diseases for optimal production from livestock. Dr Pankaj Kumar, Sr. Scientist and organizing secretary of the webinar, gave a brief introduction about the scientific achievement of the invited dignitaries.

During the webinar, **Honourable Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna Dr. Ujjwal Kumar**, welcomed the **Chief Guest of the function, Prof. (Dr) Mahesh Chandra Sharma, Former Director & Vice-Chancellor ICAR IVRI, and the two eminent Guest speakers Dr Ashok Kumar Tiwari, Director, ICAR-Central Avian Research Institute and Dr V. Balamurugan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru**. In his address, he threw light on the current scenario of the livestock sector in India and highlighted the importance of animal health interventions in increasing livestock productivity. He also suggested that animal health prevention and treatment can contribute to doubling Farmers Income apart from other interventions. **He was hopeful about GoI National Animal Disease Control Program in controlling and eradicating these diseases by 2030.**



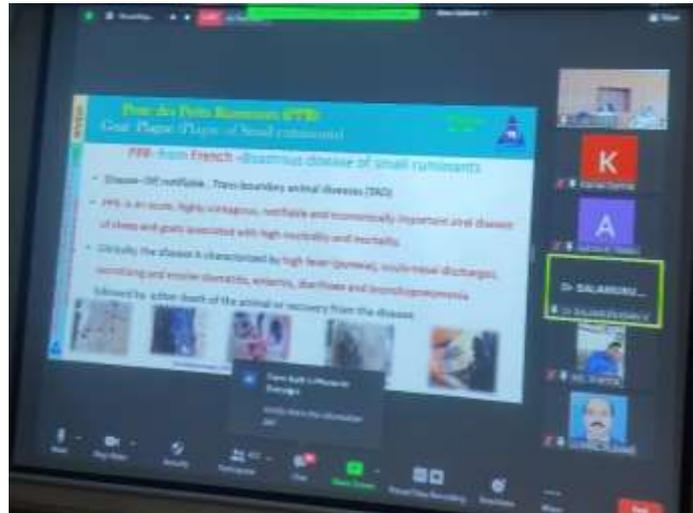
In his inaugural remark, the Honourable Chief Guest, **Prof. (Dr) M. C. Sharma, focused on the importance of animal health in increasing production and animal welfare. He shared his experiences about outbreak management of FMD and PPR in IVRI, which led to the research and development of effective vaccines.**

The topic of the first invited lecture was “*Overview on Foot and Mouth Disease and its control program*” delivered by the virology expert and Director, ICAR Central Avian Research Institute, Bareilly **Dr Ashok Kumar Tiwari**. He elaborated his experiences



with the FMD virus, disease pathogenesis, and NADCP for FMD.

The second speaker **Dr V Balamurugan**, Principal Scientist, ICAR NIVEDI delivered a remarkable talk on “*Peste des petits ruminants-PPR (Goat Plague): Overview, Control and Eradication strategic plan in India*”. He shared his 18 years of experience working with PPR and the current program of PPR control of DADF, India, running in the country. He emphasized the role of district-level diagnostic facilities and disease reporting and vaccination as essential pillars for disease eradication by 2030.



In his closing remarks, Dr Sharma, the Chief Guest of the function, congratulated the organizing team and speakers for the informative lectures. He emphasized the importance of herbal medicine and essential first aid medicines for the treatment of these diseases.

The National Webinar was graced by Head DLFM, Dr Kamal Sarma, Head DWM, Dr A Upadhyaya and Head, DCR, Dr Abhay Kumar. 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 Tarkeshwar Kumar and Dr P C Chandran as co-organizers of the event and technical support was provided by Mr Sarfraz Ahmad and Mr Anil Kumar, Technical officer, ICAR-RCER, Patna. The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr Manoj Kumar Tripathi.