

“ET DEV”: The first Deoni calf born through Mass Embryo Transfer program at ICAR-NDRI, Southern Regional Station, Bengaluru

Under “Rashtriya Gokul Mission- Mass Embryo Transfer Programme of indigenous breeds of cattle” scheme of Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agricultural and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, Multiple Ovulation and Embryo transfer (MOET) in Deoni cattle was organised jointly by Southern Regional Station of ICAR-NDRI, Adugodi, Bengaluru and Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute, Hessarghata (DADF) on 2 and 3 Oct, 2017 at SRS of ICAR-NDRI with the support of ETT lab, DLF, Hosur. During the programme five Deoni animals were super ovulated and a total of 23 embryos were collected at LRC of NDRI (SRS). A record of 14 embryos was produced from a single donor cow No 377 aged 13 years 6 month (7th lactation, with best lactation yield of 1595 Kgs). Twelve embryos (Fresh/frozen) were transferred to HF crossbred and Deoni recipients; among them three animals conceived.



The first calf (male weighing 28 Kg) was delivered by the HF Crossbred surrogate mother on Friday, the 6th July 2018 while the second calf (female) was delivered by another HF Crossbred surrogate mother on 8th July 2018. The third calf (male) was born to a Deoni surrogate mother on 9th July 2018. During the Visit, Dr. Suresh S Honnappagol, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Government of India named the first ET born Deoni male calf as **ET DEV**. This initiation is a step towards application of MOET technology for genetic improvement and faster multiplication of elite Deoni cows. The team of SRS scientists involved in the MOET programme on Deoni cattle include Dr. K.P. Ramesha, Dr. S. Jeyakumar and Dr. A. Kumaresan.