

## Group approach to enhance livelihood of farm women in dairying



Women play an indispensable role in dairying, where their contribution could result in appreciable dividends to their family and society. With adequate training to improve their scientific knowledge and skill, they will excel in their performance. ICAR-National Dairy Research institute (NDRI), Karnal has always strived to empower women, particularly in the area of value addition to milk.

While interacting with women groups formed under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) funded research project “Improving Livelihood of Rural Women through Dairy based Secondary Agriculture” on 16.12.2020, Dr M.S. Chauhan, Director, NDRI laid emphasis on the concept of “Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas” i.e. all groups from society shall join in dairy production, processing and marketing. Further, he stated that women being important contributors to dairying activities, they can certainly work towards fulfilling the dreams of self-reliance. He also emphasised on the concept of the “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” and overall personal development. Dr Chauhan advised the women from SHGs groups to maintain hygienic condition during the preparation and storage of food products with the help of the deep freezers being provided to them. Dr K. Ponnusamy while welcoming the participants informed that out of 27 women groups formed under the DST project, ten groups are efficiently working in three districts of Haryana. He further stated that women groups prepare *paneer*, *wehy drink*, *burfi*, *gulab jamun*, curd and *ghee*, depending on the demand in their respective areas.

Dr Latha Sabikhi, Head, Dairy Technology, Dr P. Barnwal Head, Dairy Engineering, Dr. Anjali Aggarwal, Principal Scientist, Animal Physiology Division, Dr G. S. Meena, Scientist

Dairy Technology and Er. Sunil Kumar, Dairy Engineering Division also participated in the interaction.

Mr. Madan Pal Chokker from Shahid Virender Smarak Society, Samalkha (Panipat District) and Mr Ishwar Singh, Block Planning Manager, Haryana State Rural Livelihood Mission, Gohana block (Sonapat district) also participated in the discussion. At the end, Dr Chauhan distributed deep freezers to two women groups belonging to the SC community, Pragati group from Garhi Sarai and Aarzo group from Pattikalyana. The deep freezers would help them to store the value-added milk and milk products that they prepare and assist in improving their livelihood.

