

5th Interface Meeting on “Improvement of Yak Husbandry through Technological Interventions - Way forward for Livelihood Security of Yak Farmers”

Dirang, 7th December, 2018: The ICAR-National Research Centre on Yak, Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh organized the 5th Interface Meeting on “Improvement of Yak Husbandry through Technological Interventions - Way forward for Livelihood Security of Yak Farmers” at Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh on 17th November, 2018 in collaboration with ICAR-National Institute of Research on Jute & Allied Fibre Technology, Kolkata. A total of 73 delegates involving yak farmers, progressive farmers, youth associated with tourism, academicians, Scientists from ICAR institute and SAUs, Animal husbandry and veterinary department of Arunachal Pradesh, KVK West Kameng, NABARD, Army and Paramilitary forces, NIMAS, district administration and public leaders attended a day long programme at the institute auditorium.



During the inaugural session, Dr. Vijay Paul, I/c. Director, ICAR - NRC on Yak cum Coordinator of the 5th Interface Meeting welcomed all the guests and delegates. He briefed about the importance of organizing annual interface meetings in different yak rearing states for mutual benefits in strengthening the institute’s linkages with various stakeholders, line departments, researchers and planners for promotion of yak husbandry in the country. Dr. A.N. Roy, Director (Acting), NIRJAFT emphasized on tapping addition income through value addition of yak fibre with jute and setting up of natural fabric based entrepreneurship. Shri. V. Thirumalai, Dy. GM, NABARD, Itanagar discussed the programmes/schemes of NABARD and their possible support in building yak farming related rural infrastructure and capacity building of entrepreneurs. He also stressed upon forming yak farming based FPOs. Shri. S. Subramaniam, Commandant 30th Bn., SSB, Dirang graced the occasion as guest of honor and he emphasized on developing farmers friendly Apps and infrastructure across the migratory routes. He also requested for joint efforts towards clearance of plastic waste in some of the grazing grounds. Dr. S. N. Jha, Assistant Director General (ADG), Processing Engineering, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi graced the inaugural session as the chief guest. He appreciated the good work carried out by the scientists of the institute for the welfare of yak husbandry in the country. He specifically emphasized on taking the feedback of textile industries on yak-jute blended fabric and accordingly works on further refinement of natural fibres value added products.



On the occasion, ICAR-NIRJAFT has also distributed six *long Jackets* made of yak-jute blended fabric to the Indian Army, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and Border Road Organization (BRO) for their field use and feedback. Thereafter, the meeting continued with the technical session, chaired by Dr. S. N. Jha, Assistant Director General (ADG), Processing Engineering, ICAR Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi and co-chaired by Dr. A.N. Roy and Dr. Vijay Paul. Dr. P. J. Das, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NRC on Pig, Rani and Dr. K. K. Samanta, NIRJAFT, Kolkata acted as the rapporteur of the technical session. The technical session started with the deliberation of Dr Vijay Paul on the theme talk on "*Promising Technologies of ICAR - NRC on Yak*". Thereafter, Dr. P. J. Das, Sr. Scientist, ICAR - NRC on Pig, Rani spoke on "*Yak genetic resources - Unexplored Himalayan treasure*". It was followed by a talk on "*Jute/ Yak Fibres Blended Textile Products - A New Concept*" by Dr. R. N. Roy, Director (A), ICAR - NIRJAFT, Kolkata. Prof. K. Sharma from CVSc, AAU recommended for vaccination of yaks against FMD during his very educative talk on '*Evaluation of Foot and Mouth vaccination for yak in Arunachal Pradesh*'. Prof. S. Islam, CVSc, AAU has given his deliberation on '*Parasitic diseases in yak*'. He also discussed about the testing of ITK based herbal leech repellents. The feedback was also taken from the farmers and other stakeholders during plenary session.

After technical session, the delegates were taken to the Yak farm of the institute, located at an altitude of 9000 feet above msl at Nyukmadung.



Participants and the guest of the 5th Interface meeting of ICAR – NRC on Yak, Dirang 2