

## Celebration of "International Women's Day-2021" at ICAR-NIVEDI

The ICAR-National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (ICAR-NIVEDI) celebrated the "International Women's Day" on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The program was organized and coordinated by the Women Cell (WC) of ICAR-NIVEDI. On the occasion eminent women personalities were invited for delivering talks on role of women on this year's women's day theme "Women leadership in Agriculture: Entrepreneurship, Equality and Empowerment" along with more than 120 progressive women farmers and 5 women entrepreneurs from different parts of Karnataka.

The program started with welcome address by Dr. Rajeswari Shome, Principal Scientist, Chairperson, Women Cell followed by opening remarks of the Director on the theme area and role of women in especially towards doubling farmers' income, combating the COVID-19 pandemic and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

The chief guest **Mrs. Kavitha Mishra**, Managing Director, Sandal Farm, Raichur, Karnataka in her address stressed contribution of women in agriculture and animal husbandry leading to employment and financial independence of today's women farmers. She also emphasized on adopting scientific technologies developed by ICAR/SAUs for profitable agriculture with especial emphasis on integrated farming.

**Mrs. Suseela Santhosh**, Director, Vishwa Vidyapeeth group of schools, Bengaluru in her address highlighted organic farming, terrace gardening and the need of teaching the basics of agriculture in school kids at the early age in preparing them towards to zero food waste. **Dr. Meera Uday**, Professor - National School of Business, Bengaluru in her address highlighted the roles and challenges faced by women in today's world of business and management. **Dr. Megha B.L** Senior Veterinary Officer, being women veterinarian and working with various species of animals shared about the physical challenges faced by current generation of women in protecting the livestock health and wealth while serving in remote villages of the country. She also shared how to prepare various traditional medicines in-house to treat livestock diseases with the women farmers.

Eight selected women farmer achievers were felicitated for their significant contribution in selfsustenance as well as immense contribution to the growth and development of other women farmers. Dr. (Mrs.) Rajeswari Shome, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIVEDI was also felicitated for her significant professional contribution including development and patenting of diagnostic technologies, excellent outreach to farmers and highest revenue generation to the Institute.

On the occasion, other activities like poster presentation, cultural programs, Agri products exhibition cum sale from different women entrepreneurs, ICAR-NIVEDI and NaaViC were also the part of the celebration benefiting the women farmers on animal disease prevention and control; and opportunities in agribusiness especially in livestock sector.

The program ended with vote of thanks offered by Dr. R. Sridevi, Senior Scientist and Member, WC and Chairperson, Internal Committee.

