

## **Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services**

### **Conducts Training on Artificial Insemination in Goats**

The Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AH&VS), Andaman and Nicobar Administration, in collaboration with the Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIARI) as technology partner, conducted a two-day training program on Artificial Insemination (AI) in Goats on August 18 and 19, 2025, at the CIARI Complex. The initiative aimed to enhance goat farming productivity and support rural livelihoods through advanced reproductive techniques.

The training was led by Dr. T. Perumal, Senior Scientist (Animal Reproduction), and Dr. Prakash Bala, Principal Scientist (Nutrition), from CIARI's Animal Science Division. During the inaugural session, Dr. Eknath B. Chakurkar, Director of CIARI, commended the initiative of the AH&VS and urged participants to apply AI techniques in the field to benefit goat farmers. On the first day, nine Senior Veterinary Officers participated, followed by 29 Veterinary Compounders on the second day.

Participants received hands-on training in semen collection from bucks and insemination in does, with practical demonstrations at the CIARI Goat Farm. The training concluded with a laboratory visit, where quality control and semen preparation for insemination were demonstrated. These sessions equipped officers and para-veterinary staff with essential skills to implement AI effectively.

The AH&VS Department plans to procure semen straws of superior goat breeds, such as Beetal and Sirohi, to upgrade local varieties through AI. This effort is part of the department's broader strategy to enhance goat development in the Union Territory, boosting meat and milk production and improving the socio-economic status of rural and tribal communities.

The active participation of trainees reflects their commitment to advancing animal husbandry practices. The AH&VS and CIARI plan to continue such collaborative programs to support farmers, aligning with the Andaman and Nicobar Administration's vision of fostering sustainable agricultural development and rural prosperity.

