

## **Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services** **Conducts Goat Milk Cheese Training in Baratang**

The Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AH&VS), Andaman and Nicobar Administration, conducted a training program on Andaman goat milk cheese making for tribal women of the Sooraj Self-Help Group (SHG) in Roglachang, Baratang, on September 24, 2025. The initiative aimed to conserve the germplasm of the Andaman goat, promote its rearing, and empower tribal women with skills for economic growth and improved family nutrition.

The training focused on teaching participants the techniques of cheese production using Andaman goat milk, highlighting its health benefits in addressing various ailments. By equipping the women with these skills, the program sought to create opportunities for income generation and enhance nutritional security within their communities. The sessions emphasized the importance of preserving the native Andaman goat breed, known for its adaptability to local conditions, to support sustainable livestock farming. The active participation of the Sooraj SHG members underscored their commitment to skill development and community welfare. The training provided practical knowledge to produce high-quality cheese, fostering economic empowerment and encouraging the adoption of Andaman goat rearing among tribal families.

This initiative reflects the AH&VS Department's dedication to preserving indigenous livestock breeds and supporting rural livelihoods in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. By promoting value-added products like goat milk cheese, the department aims to enhance economic opportunities and nutritional outcomes for tribal communities. The program aligns with the Andaman and Nicobar Administration's vision of fostering sustainable agricultural development and empowering marginalized groups through skill-based training.

