

**Pearl Millet for Nutritional security and Income enhancement: Division of  
Agricultural Extension Successfully organizes Capacity Building Programme for  
Farm Women of Mewat District, Haryana**

The Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi organized a three days training programme on **'Nutritional Security and Economic Empowerment of Women Farmers'** under the UNDP funded project **'Strengthening Agri-nutri linkage for enhancing nutritional security and empowering farm women in India: Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition'** at village Bajhera, Mewat district of Haryana during February 26-28, 2018. A group of 52 rural women representing different Self Help Groups (SHGs) participated in the training programme. The entire programme comprised three different sessions. The first day of the training programme started with ice-breaking exercises by a team of specialized trainers guided by Dr. Sudipta Paul, Scientist and Co-PI of the project. Dr. Paul continued with a quick-session on general nutritional awareness, cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation,





**Hands-on practical exercise on value addition in pearl millet underway**

and demonstration on IARI-nutri products. Videos of successful cases of agri-nutri linked entrepreneurship development were streamed for motivating the participants. Registration and pretesting of knowledge of participants in the area of training was part of first day training programme. The second day of the training programme was devoted to “Scientific production and post production processing of pearl millet.” Dr. Kapila Rathod, Scientist, Division of Agronomy conducted the session. The session included lecture on scientific pearl millet production practices, and practical demonstration and hands-on-training on processing and value addition in pearl millet through preparation of pearl millet pop and pearl millet *laddoo*. On the third and final day of the programme, motivational exercises and talks by Shri A. S. Rajawat, President village panchayat and Shri, B. S. Rajawat, Retd. Cornell, Indian Army were arranged for motivating the participants. The training programme came to an end with collecting feedback from participants, post test, distribution of certificates and seed kits to them and formal thanks from the Chair. Dr. Premlata Singh, Head and Dr. Satyapriya, PI of the project guided and helped in effectively designing the training programme. Mr. Satyaprakash, Technical Assistant, Mr. Ravi Shankar, Senior Research Fellow, Mr. Ankush, Project

Assistant, Mr. Sumit, Project Assistant and local coordinator of SHGs in the village played important roles in successfully conducting the capacity building programme. Dr. S. Paul, Scientist, Division of Agricultural Extension was the Course Director of the training programme.



**Distribution of certificates and seed kit to the participants**