

Training cum workshop on scaling up preventive approaches in the Indian poultry sector to minimise antibiotic use

Anil Agarwal Environment Training Institute (AAETI), Nimli, Rajasthan

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Profiles of resource persons

Dr. A. K. Thiruvankadan, PI, AICRP on Poultry Breeding Centre, TANUVAS

Dr Thiruvankadan is working as Dean, College of Poultry production and Management, Hosur, Tamil Nadu, a constituent unit of Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Tamil Nadu, India). He is actively involved in characterization, evaluation and conservation of native breeds of livestock of Tamil Nadu. He has been actively involved in teaching and research in the field of animal genetics and breeding for more than 25 years and published 120 articles in the national and international journals and also presented 126 research papers in national and international conferences/seminar.

Mr. Abhitosh Kumar, Head of Quality, Jubilant FoodWorks

Mr. Abhitosh is a seasoned Food Technologist with 20 years of experience across Product Development, Production, Projects, Quality Assurance, QMS, and Supply Chain. He currently serves as Head of Quality at Jubilant FoodWorks, overseeing operations in India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. His career spans leading roles at Hindustan Coca-Cola, Reliance Retail, Devyani International, Burger King, and Amazon India, where he was Head of Food Safety before joining JFL.

Dr. Anup Kalra, CEO, Ayurved Research Foundation

Dr. Anup Kalra did his graduation in veterinary and Animal Husbandry from Nagpur Veterinary College. He did his masters from College of Veterinary Science, Hisar, Haryana Agriculture University. He joined Dabur Ayurved in October 1994 where he has held senior business positions in Animal Health Business with focus on health and nutrition. He superannuated as Executive Director in 2022 and is currently Director of AGES & QCS Herbals. He is the core member of the Rural Marketing Association of India, Joint Secretary of INFAH, Executive Committee Member of CII (Livestock & Agriculture). His current interest involves training and developing the youth, sustainable integration of Livestock with Agriculture with the objective of ONE HEALTH and sustainable development, for improving farmer's income.

Mr. Ashok Kannan K, Managing Director, Happy Hens Farm.

Ashok Kannan has considerable experience in farm operations, production, training, and research in the poultry space. He is known for pioneering natural and free-range farming practices and has been actively involved in managing the operations on the farm where he lives closely with the animals, including hens, native cows, goats, horses, dogs, and cats. He has independently gained extensive knowledge of natural and animal farming through continuous research and practical experience. Ashok is also involved in innovative projects such as producing curcumin-enriched

eggs—the world's first of its kind. His work at Happy Hens emphasizes ethical and sustainable methods of poultry farming.

Mr. Bapan Das – Founder, Graduate Farmer

Mr. Bapan Das is the founder of Graduate Farmer, the flagship brand of Grdt Farmers Agrovets Pvt. Ltd., a pioneering agri-tech startup dedicated to promoting antibiotics-free poultry farming and sustainable agriculture in India. With a law degree and deep rural engagement, he has introduced breakthrough innovations such as a low-cost egg hatching machine incubator and a patented Azolla-based low-cost poultry feed, both aimed at empowering small and marginal farmers. Under his leadership, Graduate Farmer has supported over 8,000 farmers online and 400+ farmers offline from three districts of Barak Valley combining traditional farming wisdom with modern tools like IoT-based farm monitoring and Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) waste-to-feed systems. His mission is to make Assam a self-reliant hub for safe, sustainable chicken production while uplifting rural livelihoods.

Dr. Gautham Kolluri, Scientist, Avian Physiology and Reproduction Div., ICAR-CARI

Dr Kolluri has graduated in BVSc & AH from Pondicherry University and M.V.Sc in Poultry Science from Madras Veterinary College and Ph.D from Poultry Science from IVRI. He was visiting scholar to FLI, Hannover, Germany under World Bank funding project. Currently, he serves the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and is associated with ICAR-Central Avian Research Institute, as a Scientist in the Agricultural Research Service at the Division of Avian Physiology and Reproduction. His research interests are molecular physiology, poultry immunology and poultry health. He is also involved in teaching national diploma and M.V.Sc, Ph.D courses in poultry health and completed 8 research projects. He has published 35 research and review papers in accredited national and international journals, 50 technical articles and 15 lead papers and authored 9 text books. Besides, 6 copyrights and 2 patents. He is an active member in Indian Poultry Science Association, World Poultry Science Association, Poultry Science Association, USA, World Veterinary Poultry Association, UK etc.

Dr Gouri Shankar, Deputy Drugs Controller (India), CDSCO

Dr Shankar has been associated with CDSCO for last 16 years. He is currently the Deputy Drugs Controller (India) at the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) headquarters in New Delhi under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. He holds a PhD in Nanotechnology. Professionally, he has total 20 years' experience in research and development (formulations), validation, pharma manufacturing and drugs & cosmetics regulation. Before joining CDSCO, he has worked in the pharmaceutical industry. He is also actively involved with many national level associations on drug manufacturing, pharmaceuticals.

Dr. K S Grewal, General Manager, Keggfarms Pvt Ltd

At Keggfarms, Dr Grewal heads Sales, Marketing, and outreach activities across India and Nepal. With 17 years at Keggfarms, he has been instrumental in advancing sustainable poultry livelihood interventions that benefit rural communities and promote responsible Poultry Practices. Dr. Grewal works closely with a broad range of stakeholders, including Institutions and Government

bodies, to strengthen and expand these initiatives. He holds a Graduate degree in Veterinary Sciences from Punjab Agricultural University and a Post Graduate degree in Veterinary Sciences from Anand Veterinary College, Gujarat. His diverse experience and leadership enable him to contribute meaningfully to livelihood and developmental programmes across the country.

Dr M R Reddy, Principal Scientist, Avian Health Laboratory, ICAR-Directorate of Poultry Research, Hyderabad.

Dr Reddy has a veterinary degree (BVSc&AH) from AP Agricultural University, Tirupati, AP, Master's degree in Avian Diseases from IVRI, Izatnagar and Doctoral degree (Avian Health) from the University of Melbourne, Australia. He is a Diplomate of Australian College of Veterinary Scientists (MACVS) in Poultry Health and Indian College of Veterinary Pathology, (Diplomate ICVP). He has 32 years' experience in Poultry disease diagnosis, research and poultry health management. His research interests include surveillance of avian mycoplasma infections, Infectious bronchitis, Newcastle Disease, Infectious laryngotracheitis, Chicken anaemia, Marek's Disease, eradication of ALVs from pure-line chickens and molecular characterization of poultry pathogens. He has been engaged in contract research, consultancy, training and contract diagnostic services to the poultry industry. He and his co-authors have published 75 scientific papers, 35 technical articles and he is the author of two books. He is the founder General Secretary of Association of Avian Health Professionals (AAHP) and is acting as member of expert committees at state and national level.

Dr. M.L. Sanyasi Rao, Associate Director, WASSAN

Dr Rao has over 25 years of experience in the development sector, starting with exploring indigenous knowledge systems among tribal and pastoral communities. As a taxonomist, he collaborated with ANTHRA, a women veterinarians' group, to document animal healthcare practices and validate them through community healers. Dr. Rao earned his Ph.D. in Ethnoveterinary Medicine from Osmania University in 2013. Currently, he serves as Associate Director at WASSAN, leading the team in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh. He played a key role in initiating Desi Poultry projects with smallholders in tribal areas, which have been scaled up by the Tribal Welfare and Animal Husbandry Department of Andhra Pradesh. Additionally, Dr. Rao has trained over 1,000 community health workers in ethnoveterinary medicine for poultry and small ruminants.

Dr. Rokade Jaydip Jaywant, Senior Scientist, PHT Division, ICAR- Central Avian Research Institute.

Dr. Jaydip Rokade is a senior scientists at PHT division in CARI. He brings over 11 years of specialized experience in poultry research, with a strong focus on production enhancement, welfare optimization, and stress mitigation in broilers. His expertise spans advanced nutritional interventions, nano-formulations, and environmental management to improve poultry performance under challenging conditions. He has published 71 research papers, 43 book chapters and 21 technical articles. He also has 4 patents published and 7 technologies developed.

Dr. Sandeep Bhatia, Pr. Scientist, ICAR - National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases

Dr. Sandeep Bhatia is a distinguished veterinary virologist and immunologist with over 25 years of service in the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) of ICAR, specializing in high-risk animal pathogens and biosafety. Dr. Bhatia's academic journey began with a Silver Medal in his B.V.Sc. & A.H. from GBPUAT, Pantnagar, followed by an M.V.Sc. in Immunology from ICAR-IVRI (1993) and a Ph.D. in Veterinary Microbiology & Immunology from Mathura Veterinary College (2005). Over the course of his career, Dr. Bhatia has made pioneering contributions to the understanding, diagnosis, and prevention of economically important and zoonotic viral diseases. He has made notable achievements in the area of avian influenza research, vaccine and diagnostic development, COVID-19 diagnostic efforts. Dr. Bhatia's research output includes numerous publications in high-impact journals, book chapters, and technical reports. His work has significantly contributed to India's preparedness for emerging animal disease outbreaks, with direct implications for public health, food security, and trade.

Dr Sudhi R, Veterinary Surgeon, Department of Animal Husbandry, Kerala

Dr Sudhi R working at the department of animal husbandry government of Kerala. He is also a consultant of breeder parent stock of boiler in South India. Kerala chicken which is a state intervention to assure equitable sharing of profits amongst various stakeholders of poultry was his brain child and is a 150 crore company. He has done a lot of experiments with broilers, rearing them without antibiotics, probiotics, nutritional formulations for broilers and cattle, by pass fat, cocktail enzymes etc. He is associated with several science movements such as Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishath, ReACT and CSE.

Dr T Kotaiah, Managing Director, Indbro Research & Breeding Farms Pvt. Ltd

Dr. Kotaiah, serves as the Managing Director of Indbro Research & Breeding Farms Pvt. Ltd., based in Hyderabad, India. He also holds the position of Research Director at the same institution, demonstrating a deep involvement in both strategic and technical aspects of poultry science. Over the years, Dr. Kotaiah has emerged as a known voice in the field, actively engaging with national research bodies like India's Directorate of Poultry Research and advocating for enhanced disease diagnosis, vaccine evaluation, food safety, environmental standards, and animal welfare in poultry production. His expertise extends to addressing vertically transmitted poultry diseases such as Pullorum, Mycoplasma, ALV, and Avian Encephalomyelitis. He has contributed valuable insights into breeder enrichment, hatchery hygiene, and vaccination protocols aimed at improving chick health and food safety outcomes.