



International Women's Day Celebrated at ICAR-Directorate of Foot and Mouth Disease on 08.03.2021



ICAR-Directorate of Foot and Mouth Disease, Mukteswar and its centers at ICFMD, Arugul, Bhubaneswar & Bengaluru celebrated International Women's Day on 08.03.2021 through virtual platform. The program was organized by Women Cell, ICAR-DFMD under the guidance of Dr R P Singh, Director, ICAR-DFMD. On this occasion Dr Smrutirekha Mallick, Scientist and Chairperson, Women Cell, ICAR-DFMD welcomed the participants. Dr. J. K. Mohapatra, In-Charge, ICFMD laboratory addressed the gathering and expressed that women have made their mark in every sphere of life including science and technologies. The UN theme for 2021 International Women's Day is "Women in leadership: achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world" which highlights the contributions women had made as health care professionals, frontline workers and innovators during COVID-19 pandemic. ICAR theme for this year's women's day is "*Women Leadership in Agriculture: Entrepreneurship, Equity and Empowerment*". In this context Ms. Rashi Verma, founder and president of AgSmartic technologies private limited, New Delhi joined as the chief guest and highlighted the importance of technology driven sustainable agriculture in the face of climate change. She emphasized that more startups should come up in the near future in agriculture and dairy sector with a vision to bring positive change in farmers life. She further added that by making the farmers especially the women farmers digitally literate we can provide right information in right time for their maximum benefit. Dr M. Rout, Scientist, ICFMD emphasized to provide women a positive ambience at work place and family level. Dr Rajeev Ranjan informed about various schemes taken up by the Government for the benefit of girl child and women farmers. Mrs. Padma Shahi, Music teacher from Kendriya Vidyalaya, Mukteswar campus recited Hindi poem written by her on women empowerment. Dr. Smrutirekha Mallick thanked director, ICAR-DFMD for giving the opportunity to

interact with the emerging women agritech entrepreneur of our country and congratulated everyone for making this event a success.

