Goat Farming Training Camp Successfully Organized at Lokmangal Agriculture College; Enthusiastic Response from Farmers for Agro-Allied Business



An energetic and successful goat farming training camp tailored as an agro-allied business opportunity for women and youth was recently organized by Lokmangal Agriculture College, Wadala operated by the Shriram Shriram Gramin Sanshodhan Va Vikas Pratishthan and affiliated with Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri. Conceptualized by Lokmangal Group Founder-President and MLA Shri. Subhash Bapu Deshmukh, the workshop was held on October 8 in the main auditorium of Lokmangal Agriculture College, Wadala. The event featured prominent expert speakers, including Dr. Anil Bhikane, Head of the Lokmangal Veterinary Hospital; Dr. Makarand Kale, Head of the Lokmangal Animal Husbandry Department; and Dr. Omprakash Narwate. The ceremony commenced with the ceremonial worship of Goddess Saraswati and the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries and trainee representatives. NSS Program Officer Prof. Ajit Kure delivered the welcome address, introduced the attendees, and welcomed the keynote experts to the gathering. The final-year RAWE (Rural Agricultural Work Experience) students of Lokmangal Agriculture College felicitated the distinguished guests appropriately. Dr. Makarand Kale provided detailed guidance on the nuances of goat farming, various goat breeds, its economics, fodder management, shelter management, and sales techniques. Following this, Dr. Anil Bhikane delivered an insightful session on goat farming from a commercial perspective, offering valuable information on various diseases in goats, vaccination protocols, kid rearing, common mistakes in shelter management and their remedies, market intelligence for business expansion, and scientific care methods. An interactive discussion session was also held, during which experts comprehensively addressed various queries raised by the farmers.

Founder-President and workshop conceptualizer Shri. Subhash Bapu Deshmukh paid a goodwill visit to grace the training camp. Addressing the participating farmers, he insightfully emphasized the absolute necessity of adopting agriculture-allied businesses alongside traditional farming in changing times. He specially commended all the attending farmer brothers and sisters for participating in the workshop with a professional mindset, assuring them that the Lokmangal Group always stands firmly behind the farming

community. At the conclusion of the workshop, the participating farmers paid a goodwill visit to the Lokmangal Veterinary Hospital and the Lokmangal Agriculture College's livestock farm. Here, Dr. Makarand Kale gave farmers a detailed, first-hand tour and extensive explanation of the farm infrastructure. Following the farm visit, all attendees enjoyed a communal meal. The workshop concluded with the distribution of certificates to all participating trainees by the chief guests.

An impressive and enthusiastic total of 113 farmers from the surrounding region participated in this workshop, notably drawing large numbers of farmer brothers and sisters from villages including Kalaman, Shelgaon, Narotewadi, Morvanchi, Khuneshwar, and Masle Choudhary. The event benefited from the invaluable guidance of Institution Secretary Dr. Anita Dhobale and College Principal Dr. Amol Shinde. Final-year RAWE students acting as agricultural ambassadors, third-year NSS volunteers, and NSS Program Officer Prof. Ajit Kure worked diligently to organize and ensure the grand success of the workshop, which concluded amidst an overwhelming response from the farming community.