

SKUAST-J celebrates International Women's Day



Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Jammu (SKUAST-J) celebrated the International Women's Day here today at Aghar Jitto village (Reasi)) which was enthusiastically attended by a large number of rural women of the district. The programme was organised under the dynamic stewardship of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension Prof. Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-J. Director Research, Prof.S.K.Gupta and Dean of Student Welfare, Dr.Sudhakar Diwedi of SKUAST-J also graced the occasion. The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi. He spoke on the significance of event and spoke in length on gender equality and women's rights. He highlighted the balanced diet and guided the participants on Nutri-Garden, Biofortified varieties of different crops and Nutri Thali. He highlighted the equal rights of women in economics, social and political arenas. He applauded the extraordinary contribution of women in the development of the society. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Hema Tripathi, Associate Director Extension, who stressed on the empowerment of rural women as they play a crucial role in raising the economy of the nation. She said that there is dire need to create gender balance in the society for the overall development of the nation. She urged participants to tackle the persistent barriers against gender equality. She said that women play a pivotal role in the crops production and productivity but their contribution is marginalised. Special Guest of the event, Mission Director, JKRLM, Dr. Shubhra Sharma stressed on the female literacy and asked participants to provide quality education to their female children. She suggested the participants to form the Self Help Groups (SHGs)/Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs) and start the micro-enterprises in the rural areas so that their socio-economic condition can be improved. She also guided the women for value addition in the fruits and vegetables. Ms. Prem Lata, Sarpanch, Aghar Jitto spoke on entrepreneurship development in agriculture and stressed on the post-harvest technologies by which extra income and employment can be created among the rural women. She thanked KVK Reasi for guiding the rural women on post-harvest technologies. Dr. Paras Khanna, Oncology spoke in

detail on cervical cancer, its etiology, treatment. He also stressed upon self-evaluation by females on regular basis followed by visit to the experts. Dr. Anil Gupta, Health Officer elaborated upon the hygienic aspect for the safety of the rural women. Dr. Sushma Gupta spoke in detail on reproductive health and personal hygiene. During the programme a health check camp was also organized in which treatment was provided to more than 300 women. Team of NSS (SKUAST-Jammu) organized a Nukkad Natak on the theme "*Andh vishwas ka Vyapaar*". The dignitaries along with participants also visited the exhibition stall and were highly impressed by observing the results of various technologies demonstrated by the progressive women. In this event programme, participants also interacted with the experts and raised various queries which were answered satisfactorily by experts. The proceedings of the programme were carried by Ms. Pooja Nair, Deputy Director, SAMETI, SKUAST-J. The programme was attended by Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Reasi, Dr. Pooja, Associate Professor, Div. of Vegetables Science, SKUAST-J, Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma, DDE, Dr. Subash Kashyap, Dr. Lalit Upadhyay, Dr. Mandeep Singh Azad, Dr. Sanjay Koushal, Sh. Adarsh Gupta, DDM, NABARD, Sh. Jugal Magotra, Nodal Officer, JKRLM and others. The programme was assisted by Dr. Jagdish Kumar, Sh. Manohar Lal and Sh. Md. Iqbal and concluded by Dr. Banarsi Lal with the formal vote of thanks.