

Workshop on ‘Enhancing export of pork and pork products from North Eastern India’

ICAR-National Research Centre on Pig, Rani, Guwahati has organized a workshop on ‘Enhancing export of meat and meat products from North Eastern India’ on 25th June, 2015, in collaboration with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The workshop was intended to create a platform for the stakeholders to interact each other and to tap the domestic and export market opportunities of pork and pork products from India and the North Eastern Region in particular. The programme was attended by over 80 participants, which include commercial pig farmers, entrepreneurs and exporters of pork and pork products, equipment manufacturers, feed and vaccine suppliers from across the country. A six member delegation from Nepal was also attended the workshop. Resource persons from Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, International Livestock Research Institute, College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara and Federation of Indian Export Organizations were participated in the workshop. Detailed deliberations were held on export market challenges and opportunities for pork, pig diseases of export importance, breeding strategies for lean pork production, safety and quality criteria required to be maintained for export etc. A detailed interactive session on challenges and strategies for promotion of pork export was also arranged for the benefit of all the participants.

Dr. S.K. Ranjan, consultant of APEDA and a renowned person in the Indian meat industry while attending the workshop as a guest of honour, pointed out that creation of a reliable market for meat and meat products, especially for pork and pork products will in turn result in large scale commercial pig farming in India. Shri. U.K. Vats, Deputy General Manager, APEDA gave an overview of different APEDA assistance programmes to promote the export of meat and meat products from the country. Dr. Dilip Kumar Sarma, Director of the institute has emphasized on the need of compartmentalization and establishment of disease free zones in the country for promoting pork export. It was also decided to create a ‘Pork Promotion Club’ in order to provide a common platform for different stakeholders to interact and to give a coordinated effort for changing the face of the piggery sector in the country. Dr. R. Thomas, Scientist, ICAR-NRC on Pig coordinated the programme and offered vote of thanks.

