

**Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology  
Pantnagar, District- Udham Singh Nagar (Uttarakhand)**

**MANAGE Collaborative Online Training on Gender Sensitization and  
Women-led Extension Starts**

Pantnagar. 20 January 2025. The Department of Agricultural Communication, College of Agriculture, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, has commenced a Collaborative Online Training Program on Gender Sensitization and Women-led Extension, scheduled from January 20 to 24, 2024.

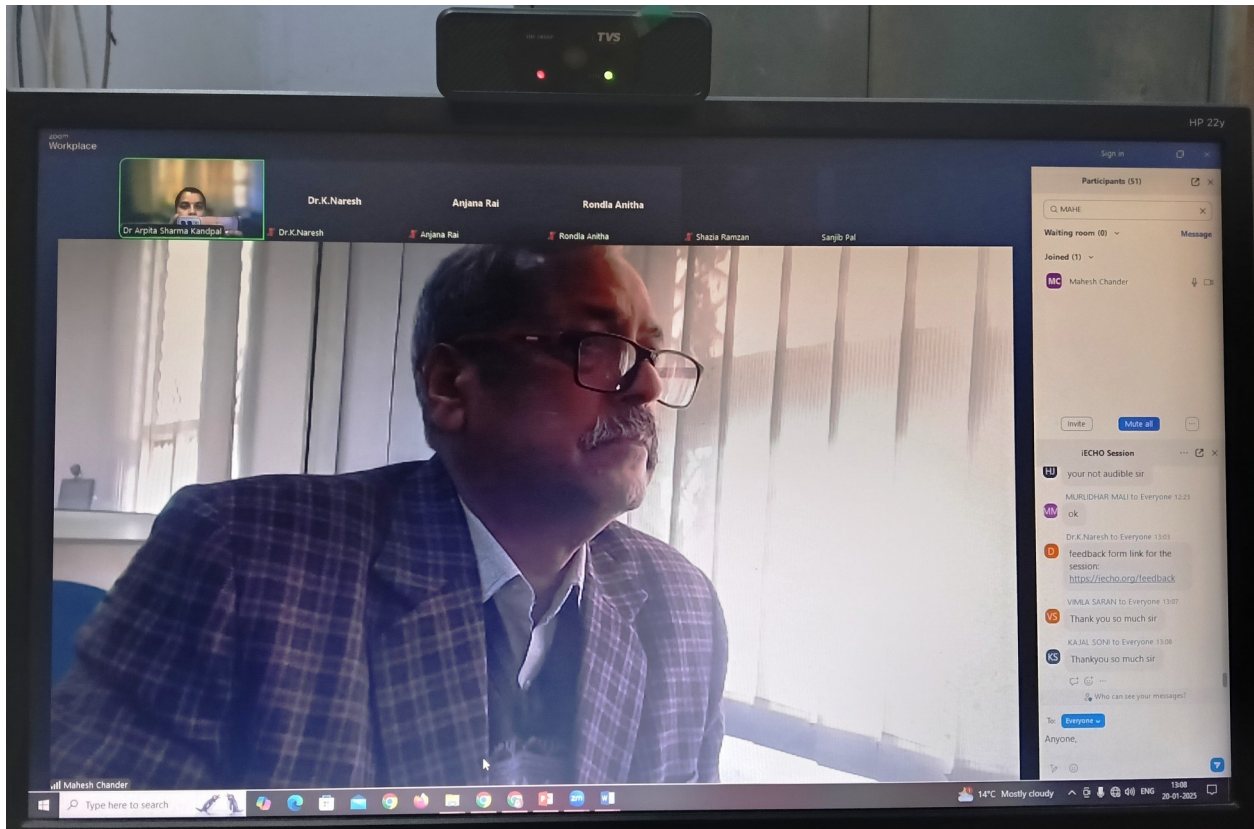
The inaugural session of the program was held today, presided over by Dr. S. K. Kashyap, Dean of the College of Agriculture, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar; Dr.VeenitaKumari, Deputy Director (Gender Studies) at MANAGE, Hyderabad; and Dr.Arpita S. Kandpal, Assistant Professor and local training coordinator.

In her remarks, Dr.VeenitaKumari introduced the program, emphasizing its focus on gender-inclusive agriculture, women-led extension approaches, and integrating traditional agricultural practices. She underlined the significant role women play in sustainable agricultural development and highlighted the importance of this training program in fostering awareness and change.

Dr. S. K. Kashyap, in his address, discussed the challenges women face in agriculture and stressed the value of such initiatives in addressing gender disparities and empowering women. He remarked, "This program will be beneficial for all scientists in understanding the nuances of gender-sensitive practices in agriculture."

A total of 62 scientists from various universities have joined this program, which aims to raise awareness, encourage collaboration, and promote strategies for inclusive agricultural development. The program is being coordinated by **Dr.Arpita S. Kandpal**, who also proposed a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all the dignitaries, participants, and organizers for their contributions to the success of the event.

After the inaugural session, the training commenced with the first lecture delivered by Dr. Mahesh Chander, Principal Scientist, IVRI, Bareilly. He spoke on "Changing Community Perceptions on Women Leadership in Agriculture", offering innovative insights into the benefits of women's leadership, challenges they face, and strategies to overcome barriers. His session also covered topics such as pluralistic extension approaches, the livestock learning lab, and the theory of change framework. The program promises engaging sessions over the next five days, focusing on practical strategies and insights to achieve gender inclusivity in agriculture.



*Online officer in training program.*

**Director Communication**