

Reform Utsav 2026: ICAR-CIARI Launches Herbal Wound-Healing Ointment for Livestock in Car Nicobar



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The ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CIARI), in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Car Nicobar, launched a veterinary herbal ointment for wound healing in livestock and pet animals as part of Reform Utsav 2026.

The launch programme was held at the Tribal Council office in the presence of Chief Captain Lionald Nicomed, Tribal Council Secretary Martin Luther, Deputy Chief John Levi, Tamaloo Captain Paul Benjamin, Tapoiming Captain Lawrence Mathew and Perka Captain Paul David. Officials from the Agriculture and Fisheries Departments, including Vinod Kumar, Assistant Director of Agriculture; Bhu Bharaty, Agricultural Officer; and Glory, Assistant Director of Fisheries, also attended the programme. Around 40 tribal representatives participated in the event.

Dr. T. Sujatha, Principal Scientist at ICAR-CIARI, briefed the participants about the herbal ointment developed by a team comprising herself and Dr. Jai Sunder. The product was developed under a Department of Science and Technology (DST)-supported initiative titled *"Promotion of Socioeconomic Status and Self-Employment of Nicobarese Tribes through Scientific Validation of Ethno-Veterinary Tribal Medicinal Knowledge and Herbal Product Development."*

According to Dr. Sujatha, the herbal formulation has been scientifically validated for wound healing and is intended for use in livestock and pet animals. She highlighted the importance of proper livestock healthcare in safeguarding human health and emphasised the potential of herbal formulations in sustainable livestock health management, particularly in remote areas such as Car Nicobar.

She said the launch under Reform Utsav 2026, in association with the tribal farming community, reflected efforts to promote locally relevant veterinary healthcare solutions by scientifically validating traditional medicinal knowledge.

Dr. Sujatha also informed the gathering that a series of participatory skill-development programmes was being organised for tribal healers to help advance traditional ethno-veterinary oil formulations into ointments.

The programme was coordinated by the KVK, Car Nicobar team under the guidance of Dr. Santosh Kumar, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, Car Nicobar. Deepoo Meena, Dr. Ajmal S. and Dr. Sanketh G.D. served as co-facilitators. The overall programme was guided by Dr. Jai Sunder, Director of ICAR-CIARI.