## "ICAR-CIPHET Ludhiana Empowers Women Farmers Through Groundnut-Based Dairy Analogues Training to celebrate International Women's Day"

On March 6, 2024, the ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology in Ludhiana celebrated International Women's Day by conducting a specialized training program for 250 women farmers hailing from the districts of Barnala, Moga, and Ludhiana in Punjab. The training focused on Groundnut-based dairy analogues as part of the Scheduled Caste sub-plan.

The valedictory program, graced by the esteemed presence of Smt. Upinderjeet Kaur Brar, AC(G), Ludhiana as the chief guest, emphasized the significance of women's independence and socio-economic empowerment. Dr. Ranjeet Singh, Head of the Transfer of Technology Division, provided a comprehensive overview of the institute's activities, while Sh. Manpreet Singh, State Team Leader of Thornton Bharat, briefed attendees on the various initiatives undertaken by their team.

During her address, Smt. Upinderjeet Kaur Brar emphasized the importance of women's autonomy, both socially and economically. Dr. Nachiket Kotwaliwale, Director of ICAR-CIPHET, highlighted the event's pivotal role in empowering women in agro-processing and reiterated the institute's steadfast support for those involved in post-harvest engineering and technology.

The collaborative efforts of Grant Thornton Bharat, HDFC Parivartan Project, and ICAR-CIPHET Ludhiana culminated in the distribution of spray pumps among participants to enhance their capabilities. Additionally, a manual on groundnut-based analogues was released, adding a valuable resource to further support the women farmers in their endeavours.

