EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The skills project on "Enhancement of body weight gain in broiler flock by adaptation of standard management practices" was implemented at Munaichchenai, Naduoothu and Alernkerny GN divisions in Kinniya veterinary range. Implementation of this project is to increase body weight gain in broiler flock to get fair profit margin to ensure the income and living standard of the farmers.

Currently small scale broiler farmers are not considering the standard management practices in their farming activity. In Kinniya most of the broiler farms are operating under buy back system. Due to poor management practice at present these farmers are getting average BW gain of the broiler flock as 1.8kg to 2.0kg in 38 to 40 days. Due to poor weight gain farmers will get low profit margin ultimately farmers tending to give up the sector which is short term income generating self-employment opportunity. It was essential to implement the skills project to enhance the body weight gain of the broiler flock to make this sector as stable among small scale poultry farmers and also to fulfill the existing demand for broiler chicken.

A four member group was formulated and they conducted the current situation analysis by discussion with buy back dealers and chick distributors. Then the problem was identified by SWOT analysis and fish bone method. Based on the criteria the twenty numbers of farmers were selected and they have adapted a standard management practices such as construction /renovation of coop considering east –west direction, keeping density of stock as 1.2 sq feet per bird, feeding chicks with pre starter feed, providing light as schedule and adopting deep litter management continuously.

Finally the body weight of bird was gained by 25.5% at the end of May 2017. It will enhance the lifestyle of farmers by increase income through broiler rearing. And also it will provide self-employment to youngsters and women in that area. Subsequently it is expected that these sector improvement leads to positive impact on Eastern economy.