

Press Release from the office of the Aspirational Block Fellow, Chumbong, Soreng

Soreng, March 24: In a dual observance of World TB Day and World Water Day under Sampoonata Abhiyan 2.0, a comprehensive programme was organised today at the Chakung Gram Panchayat Kendra (GPK) under Chumbong Aspirational Block. The event aimed to promote public health awareness and emphasise the critical importance of safe water and sanitation practices within the community.

The programme was chaired by the Panchayat President of Chakung GPU, Ms Karuna Darnal, and was attended by Panchayat members from all Gram Panchayat Units (GPUs) under Chumbong Block. The session was facilitated by Mr Aditya Raj Sharma (Aspirational Block Fellow) and Mr Dev Nepal (Piramal Foundation). Also in attendance were Mr Prakash Adhikari (BPM SRLM), Mr Satish Sharma (JE, PHED), Ms Passang Gurung (JE, PHED), Ms Rajani Gurung (MLHP, Chakung), students from the Government Senior Secondary School Chakung, and members of the local public.

Prior to the main event, a field assessment team led by the Aspirational Block Fellow, along with the Junior Engineers from the PHED and WCSC&DW department functionaries, conducted visits to the Anganwadi Centres at Dewanitar and Borbotey village. The team interacted with frontline workers and the public to evaluate existing challenges, water availability, the condition of toilets and sanitation facilities, and overall working procedures at the grassroots level.

Following the field visits, an interactive session was held at the Chakung GPK premises. The session focused on educating students and the public on safe water practices, as well as the prevention of water-borne and air-borne diseases.

During the technical session, Mr Dev Nepal provided a detailed briefing on Sampoonata Abhiyan 2.0. He elaborated on the mission's core objectives, emphasising the saturation of essential development indicators through the convergence of government schemes and data-driven planning. Ms Passang Gurung (JE, PHED) shared insightful information on safe water management and hygiene practices. Subsequently, Ms Rajani Gurung (MLHP) addressed the gathering on the risks associated with air and water-borne diseases, with a specific focus on the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis (TB) in observance of World TB Day.

In her address, Panchayat President urged the students and the community to remain vigilant and responsible regarding their health and surroundings. She emphasised that maintaining proper sanitation and adopting scientific hygiene practices are essential pillars for the holistic development of the GPU.

The event concluded with a collective commitment to strengthen community-led initiatives for a TB-free and water-secure Chumbong Block.