

Press Release from District Administrative Centre (DAC), Pakyong

DAC Pakyong Launches 'Art for Recovery' Workshop for Rehabilitation Centres

Pakyong, July 28: In a significant step towards promoting holistic rehabilitation and social reintegration, the District Administrative Centre (DAC), Pakyong, in collaboration with the Asian Anime and Manga Academy (AAMA), Namcheybong, has launched a 10-day workshop titled "Art for Recovery" for residents of rehabilitation centres across the district.

The initiative aims to introduce Manga Art as a therapeutic medium to support the emotional and psychological recovery of individuals undergoing rehabilitation. The workshop also seeks to identify and nurture artistic talent among participants and create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods by connecting recovered individuals with creative employment and project-based work at AAMA.

Sharing his experience, one of the participants said, "I am really thankful to the team from AAMA and DAC Pakyong for this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow. Art is done by human beings and it is made for us. There is no difficulty for me to understand how it is done, and I feel relieved and stress-free while creating art. This has come as a wonderful therapy for me."

Founder of AAMA, Namcheybong, Mr. Dewaker Basnet, highlighted the transformative role of art in the recovery process. He said, "We have always believed that art is a wonderful form of therapy, and our experience at these rehabilitation centres has only strengthened that belief. We are grateful to DAC Pakyong for this collaborative initiative and hope that by the end of the ten-day workshop, participants will have gained valuable skills and confidence. We have also invited those who demonstrate passion and artistic talent to explore employment and project opportunities with our studio after their recovery."

The first phase of the programme is being conducted at two of the four rehabilitation centres in Pakyong district—Jewan Marg Society, 4th Mile, Bhasmey, Rorathang, and The Samaritan Counselling and Rehabilitation Centre, Chalamthang, Pakyong. A total of 36 participants, with 18 from each centre, are taking part in the workshop.

The workshop commenced on July 22 and will conclude on August 4, 2026.

Through initiatives such as Art for Recovery, DAC Pakyong continues to strengthen community-based rehabilitation by integrating creative expression, mental well-being, skill development, and livelihood opportunities, reaffirming its commitment to inclusive and sustainable recovery for individuals overcoming substance dependence.