

Communities share experiences, take the message "From File to Life" to the grassroots at Special Gram Sabhas held across Watershed areas of Namchi District.

Namchi, 2 October: The transformative journey of watershed development (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) – “From File to Life” was showcased in the special gram sabhas held on 02nd October 2026 across the watershed project areas of Namchi district. The observance was integrated with the People's Plan Campaign (PPC) "Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas" to strengthen awareness and citizen participation.

It was an opportunity for every watershed community to see how planning on paper becomes real change on the ground, and to own that change,

Officials of PIA, WDC-PMKSY 2.0, Social Forestry Division, Forest & Environment Department, Namchi District attended the special gram sabhas in eight gram panchayats viz. Assangthang, Maniram Phalidara, Sumbuk Kartikey, Mamley, Tinik Chisopani, Denchung and Namchi Singithang wherein beneficiaries, Gram Panchayat members, Watershed Development Teams, Watershed Development Committees, Watershed Yoddhas and Margdarshaks took active participation.

During the programme, a video was also showcased to highlight the journey of watershed development programme which is being implemented nationally at a mass level.

Participants were briefed on the key reforms under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 such as integration of watershed development within the comprehensive PMKSY framework, enhanced unit costs for more comprehensive watershed treatment, including soil and water conservation, water harvesting and livelihood interventions, rationalisation of the project implementation period from 4-7 years to 3-5 years for faster delivery of benefits, springshed development and scientific rejuvenation of springs for water security in hilly areas, and strengthening watershed development as a Jan Andolan through community awareness, participation and ownership.

Highlighting the theme "From File to Life", the Gram Sabhas showcased how watershed development works in Sikkim, including springshed development, rainwater harvesting, terracing and plantations of horticulture, multipurpose trees and fodder tree & grass are improving water security, soil conservation, farm productivity, livelihoods and climate resilience.

Beneficiaries shared their experiences on the benefit of watershed development at the grass root level in conservation of water and soil and uplift and testimonial records were documented.

The Project Implementing Agency (PIA), WDC-PMKSY 2.0, Social Forestry Division, Namchi, Forest & Environment Department appreciated the active participation of all stakeholders and appealed to watershed communities to continue engaging in the development of watersheds for the benefit of the community