PRESS RELEASE

District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Gyalshing

Gyalshing, Sikkim November 25th, 2026:

The District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), under the Women, Child, Senior Citizen and Divyangjan Welfare Department, successfully organized an awareness and sensitization programme on Elimination of Child Marriage and the nation wide campaign "Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat" at Industrial Training Institute 7th Mile Gyalshing.

A pledge against Child Marriage was undertaken at the commencement of the programme. The programme witnessed the participation of CDPO cum Deputy Director(ICDS wing), Faculty of Industrial Training Institute and students at large.

The programme aimed to enhance awareness regarding elimination of Child, Early and Forced marriages.

During the programme, Mr. Yogesh Nirola, Protection Officer (IC), delivered a session on Issues of Child marriage, highlighting it's adverse impact on the physical, mental, emotional and social well-being of children particularly-girls. He emphasized importance of collective responsibility in preventing child marriage. He also highlighted the objectives of the "Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat" campaign, stressing the need for awareness, community participation, reporting of child marriage cases and coordinated efforts among stakeholders to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to pursue education, grow safely and fullfill their aspirations.

Further, Mrs. Palmula Bhutia, Protection Officer (NIC), delivered a session on the services provided by Mission Vatsalya Scheme and further highlighted the objectives of the scheme and importance of family-based care for children who require alternative care arrangements. She also explained the significance of Foster Care and Adoption Regulations in promoting children's safety, development, emotional well-being, and rehabilitation within a supportive family environment.

CDPO cum Deputy Director, Mr. H B Shanker briefly addressed the gathering on child related legislations especially on the issue of Child Marriage.

To conclude the programme, Ms. Ushnata Gazmer, Project Cordinator(Child Helpline Unit) delivered the vote of thanks, expressing her gratitude to the resource persons and all the participants.

District Child Protection Unit

Gyalshing District, Sikkim