

Press Release from Government Fruit Preservation Factory, Singtam

Six-Day Packaging Training Concludes at GFPF, Singtam Under RAMP–MSME Initiative
Singtam, November 30: The Commerce & Industries Department, Government of Sikkim, has successfully concluded a six-day Packaging Training Programme at the Government Fruit Preservation Factory (GFPF), Singtam, under the RAMP (Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance) initiative of the Ministry of MSME. The programme marked a significant step towards strengthening the technical capabilities of entrepreneurs, food processors, and value-addition stakeholders across the state.

The training, held from 24th to 29th November 2025, was conducted in two intensive batches of three days each, with 25 participants per batch. The programme was inaugurated by Shri M. Ravi Kumar, Director (MSME), who shared insightful remarks on the growing importance of scientific packaging in ensuring product quality, market acceptance, and competitiveness. He emphasized that such capacity-building initiatives directly benefit local producers by enabling them to meet industry standards and expand their market presence.

Expert faculty from the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), Kolkata led the technical sessions:

- Dr. Nilay Pramanik, Deputy Director
- Dr. Bidan Das, Joint Director & Associate Professor

Industry professionals Mr. Anil Chettri and Mr. Bimal Gurung from Temi Tea enriched the programme with practical inputs on market-oriented packaging. Additionally, Mr. Brajendra Ghosh (Sr. Manager – Procurement) and Mr. Aditya Dhakal (Manager – Production) from GFPF also briefed participants on packaging processes, material suitability, and real-world challenges faced during production and procurement, offering a broader industry perspective.

A key highlight of the programme was the live packaging demonstration conducted by the packing unit of GFPF, allowing participants to gain hands-on exposure to various practical packaging techniques, equipment usage, and real-time troubleshooting.

Participants engaged in comprehensive training sessions that focused on shelf-life enhancement, material selection, food safety compliance, and quality-driven packaging strategies. These skills are essential for elevating the marketability of Sikkim's agricultural and processed food products.

This initiative reaffirms the Government of Sikkim's commitment to capacity building, innovation, and entrepreneurship development within the MSME sector. By equipping local producers with advanced knowledge and practical skills, the state aims to cultivate a robust food processing ecosystem—one that promotes value addition, empowers rural households, and advances the vision of "One Family, One Entrepreneur."