Press Release from District Industries Centre (DIC) Mangan, under the Commerce and Industries Department

Kabi November 16: Awareness Programme on State and Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Financial Literacy for MSMEs Held Kabi BAC Hall.

The District Industries Centre (DIC) Mangan, under the Commerce and Industries Department, organised a one-day awareness programme on State and Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Financial Literacy for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) at Kabi BAC Hall.

The programme was graced by Chief Guest, Shri Lazong Bhutia, OSD to Hon'ble MLA, 29- Kabi Lungchok, along with the Zilla Panchayat, Men Rongong GPU Smt.Inchung Bhutia ,Panchayat President of Lingchom Tingda Shri Phurba Sherpa and Panchayats from various wards of 29-Kabi Lungchok along with officials from the Block Administrative Centre and adjoining GPU Kendras,

Also among the participants were the President of the Block Development Society(BDS)Ms. Dawa Lhamu Sherpa along with the various proactive SHGs members of 29-Kabi Lungchok.

Also in attendance were the Block Project Manager, Kabi Block Mr. Rinchen Lepcha and the Assistant Project Manager along with the entire SRLM team.

The programme was organised with the objective of creating awareness among aspiring and existing entrepreneurs on various government schemes, financial literacy, credit discipline and opportunities available for promotion and expansion of enterprises.

In his welcome address, Assistant Director (MSME) Mr Reekpa Hissay highlighted the importance of awareness programme in promoting self-reliance, innovation and employment generation. He emphasized the role of government initiatives in supporting aspiring entrepreneurs and encouraging the establishment of sustainable and scalable enterprises.

Resource persons made detailed presentations on the Sikkim Startup Policy 2025 and various schemes and initiatives including the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), PM Vishwakarma, FSSAI, Digital Marketing, ONDC, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), and the Udyam Registration Portal.

The participants were briefed on the objectives, eligibility, benefits and application procedures of the various schemes. The resource persons also explained the importance of preparing Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for availing institutional support and financial assistance. They assured participants of the assistance and guidance available from the department and encouraged them to approach the concerned officials for consultations and further clarification.

The programme also highlighted the growing scope of entrepreneurship in the State and the need for enterprises to focus on sustainability, scalability and effective utilisation of available government support.

Certificates were also distributed to the 25 trainees who had completed the 15 days advanced course on knitting and Crochet conducted by the MSME under , Commerce & Industries with collaboration with Ms. Dawa Lhamu Sherpa of Dawa Creation.

Chief Guest OSD, Shri Lazong Bhutia urged the participants to make effective use of the knowledge gained during the programme and avail themselves of the various schemes and initiatives available for entrepreneurs. He encouraged them to work towards self-reliance and take all the initiatives and schemes that were being offered by the Government and appreciated the initiative and stated that the programme had provided detailed and useful information on the available schemes and opportunities. He encouraged participants to make use of the benefits extended through various government programmes, he also highlighted the issues and how taking benefits of such schemes would improve their income and also create self-employment and employment generation.

He further highlighted the scope and potential of entrepreneurship and encouraged participants to explore available opportunities and develop sustainable enterprise.

A session on financial literacy and credit discipline was also conducted as part of the programme. Participants were sensitized on the importance of financial planning, distinguishing between needs and wants, responsible borrowing and saving, and maintaining proper credit discipline.

The session also highlighted the importance of exercising caution while undertaking digital and online financial transactions, particularly in view of the growing instances of fraudulent calls, messages and other deceptive online activities. Participants were advised to remain vigilant and follow safe digital banking practices.

Also present were General Manager, DIC Gangtok, Mr Janak Bahadur Chettri, General Manager, DIC Mangan, Mr. T. Tshering Lepcha.

Sikkim Start up Policy was presented by Assistant Director Mr. Reekpa Hissay , Presentation on PMEGP by J.E (DIC) Mr Norbu Tshering Lepcha, Presentation on PM Vishwakarma by Prem Kumar Chettri consultant, Financial Literacy by Shri T.D Bhutia of Lead Bank, Inspector officials and staff of concerned departments and participants.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Norbu Tshering Lepcha, Inspector and the entire program was conducted by Mrs Rojina Pradhan, HA as the MC for the program