

Press Release from Horticulture Department Soreng District

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Sikkim's First Flower Society Inaugurated, Marking a New Era in Floriculture and Sustainable Agro-Economy

Soreng, Sikkim: A landmark event for Sikkim's horticultural sector was celebrated today at the Kaluk BAC Hall in Soreng District. The inaugural community gathering marked the successful first-year trial of chrysanthemum cultivation under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and the official launch of the state's pioneering flower society, the 'Godawari Samaj', under the 01: Samdong Sribadam GPU and 02: Boom Reshi Barasamdong GPU.

The event served as a dual celebration, recognizing both the agronomic triumph of the chrysanthemum trial and its significant economic potential. Formed as a collective of progressive farmers, the Godawari Samaj has already demonstrated viability by successfully marketing its inaugural harvest to urban markets and for use in government programs. This initiative establishes a new model for farmer-led economic empowerment in the region.

The program highlighted a collective vision to transform the area into a vibrant flower production belt, directly aligning with the broader goals of agro-tourism and sustainable development for the Rinchonpong Constituency, as championed by local MLA Shri Erung Tenzing Lepcha.

Furthermore, to equip farmers for continued excellence, the event concluded with the distribution of essential harvesting kits: secateurs and insect repellents. This support aims to encourage advanced cultural practices and integrated pest management, ensuring high-quality and sustainable production.

The launch of the Godawari Samaj is more than a horticultural success; it is a testament to community collaboration and a significant step toward realizing Sikkim's potential as a hub for innovative and sustainable floriculture avenues. The occasion was graced by the presence of key officials and community leaders, including: Shri Robin Gurung, Additional Director, Department of Horticulture; Shri A.B. Rai, Deputy Director, Mangalbaria Sub-Division; Smt. Tshering Lhamu Sherpa, Horticulture Development Officer (HDO), Kaluk; Dr. Bikash Bhattarai, HDO, Buriakhop Horticulture Farm; Shri Dabgyal Lama, Block Development Officer (BDO), Kaluk; Shri Sangadorjee Lepcha, Shri Dawgey Lepcha Panchayat President, Sangadorjee GPU; Shri Bharat Kumar Sharma, Panchayat President, Boom Reshi Barasamdong GPU; Shri Tarsum Lepcha, Ward Panchayat Member; dedicated field functionaries (FAs and OFAs); and the progressive farmer members of the new flower society.

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