

Press Release from Agriculture Department, Pakyong District

Awareness Programme on PMFBY & KCC cum Farmers Scientist Interaction Organised at Pakyong Block

Pakyong, August 6: The Agriculture Department, Pakyong, in collaboration with ATMA, organised an Awareness Programme on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Kisan Credit Card (KCC) cum Farmers–Scientist Interaction at Pakyong Block. The programme was coordinated by Shri Gagan Gurung, Agriculture Development Officer (ADO), and Smt Binita Chettri, Agriculture Development Officer (ADO).

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Shri Gagan Gurung, ADO, Pakyong.

Addressing the gathering, Smt Rebecca Gurung, Deputy Director, Agriculture Department, Pakyong, and Deputy Project Director, ATMA, highlighted the various activities and initiatives being implemented under ATMA. She appreciated the efforts of field functionaries in successfully conducting various programmes and emphasised the importance of Farmers–Scientist Interactions as a platform for farmer interaction, knowledge sharing, and capacity building. She also provided detailed information on PMFBY and KCC, underscoring their significance in ensuring financial security and risk mitigation for farmers. Additionally, she sensitised the participants on AgriStack – Farmers Registry and the ongoing Digital Crop Survey (DCS), highlighting their importance in creating a comprehensive digital database and facilitating better delivery of agricultural services and benefits.

The programme was also addressed by Smt Gauri Mukhia, District Fisheries Development Officer, who briefed the farmers on various fisheries development initiatives and opportunities available under the department. Smt Menuka Rai, Horticulture Development Officer (HDO), provided insights into various horticulture schemes and informed the participants about the newly introduced Vegetable Basket Initiative.

Ms Passang Sherpa, Lead District Manager (LDM), Central Bank of India, highlighted the importance of Kisan Credit Card and various insurance schemes available for farmers. She encouraged farmers to make maximum use of government-sponsored schemes and subsidies. Shri Rakesh Arya, Branch Manager, Central Bank of India, Pakyong, elaborated on the benefits and procedures for availing Kisan Credit Card facilities.

Ms Dil Kumari Rai, District Coordinator, Generali Central Insurance Company, delivered a detailed presentation on PMFBY, covering enrolment procedures, insurance coverage, and claim settlement processes. Shri Norbu Sherpa, District Coordinator, Common Service Centre (CSC), highlighted the role of CSCs in facilitating farmer-centric digital services.

Dr Champa Sharma, Deputy Director, AH&VS Department, shared information on animal health management, livestock development programmes, KCC, and insurance schemes available under the department. Dr Boniface Lepcha, SMS, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), highlighted the activities of KVK and delivered a technical session with special focus on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Disease Management (IDM) in Dalle Khursani and ginger cultivation.

The programme was graced by Smt Dhan Maya Manger, Panchayat President, as the Chief Guest. In her address, she encouraged farmers to actively participate in government initiatives and adopt improved agricultural practices for enhancing productivity and livelihoods.

The programme was attended by Smt Dhan Maya Manger, Panchayat President; Smt Rebecca Gurung, Deputy Director, Agriculture Department, Pakyong; Smt Champa Sharma, Deputy Director, AH&VS Department; Ms Passang Sherpa, LDM, CBI; Shri Rakesh Arya, Branch Manager, CBI, Pakyong; Smt Gauri Mukhia, District Fisheries Development Officer; Smt Menuka Rai, HDO; Shri Gagan Gurung, ADO, Pakyong; Smt Binita Chettri, ADO; Ms Kavita Baraily, Agriculture Inspector; Shri Yogesh Gautam, BTM; Ms Dil Kumari Rai, District Coordinator, Generali Central Insurance Company; and Shri Norbu Sherpa, District Coordinator, CSC.

A large number of farmers from Pakyong Block attended the programme and actively participated in the interactive discussions. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Yogesh Gautam, BTM, and an appeal to farmers to avail themselves of the benefits of PMFBY, KCC, AgriStack – Farmers Registry, Digital Crop Survey (DCS), and other government-supported agricultural initiatives.

The Agriculture Department, Pakyong, has planned to conduct similar awareness programmes across the remaining blocks of the district to ensure wider outreach and awareness among the farming community.