

Press Release from Women, Child, Senior Citizen & Divyangjan Welfare Department, Gyalshing

An Awareness and Sensitization Programme on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act was conducted at Uttaray Senior Secondary School, Gyalshing District, under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme on 19th November 2025. The programme was organised by the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW), Gyalshing, and saw active participation from students, teachers and the entire school staff. The programme was conducted in Uttaray in view of the area registering a few POCSO cases this year, highlighting the need for stronger awareness on child protection and increased vigilance within the community and schools.

Ms. Chumkila Bhutia, Advocate, served as the resource person and delivered a comprehensive session on the POCSO Act. She explained the key legal provisions, mandatory reporting procedures, preventive strategies and the role of educators, parents and community members in safeguarding children. Her interactive approach helped participants understand the importance of awareness and timely action in preventing child sexual offences.

The programme was supported by the Headmistress, Ms. Mon Kumari Subba, whose cooperation ensured smooth coordination and active engagement from the school community. The DHEW Gyalshing team present during the programme included:

- Mr. Parash Thapa, Gender Specialist
- Mr. Suraj Karkidholi, Account Assistant
- Mr. Sanjay Limboo, Financial Analyst

This programme under the BBBP scheme aims to strengthen child protection awareness, equip students and staff with correct legal knowledge and promote a safer environment for children. DHEW Gyalshing will continue conducting similar sensitization programmes across the district to enhance community responsibility and child safety.