

Press Release from ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hill Region, Sikkim Centre

ICAR NEH Conducts Farmer–Scientist Interaction at Lingkoo ward of Tingvong, Dzongu under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav and Khet Bachao Abhiyan

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ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hill Region, Sikkim Centre, conducted a Farmer–Scientist Interaction Programme at Lingkoo, Mangan District, a TSP-adopted village, under the Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) programme and Khet Bachao Abhiyan on 27th June 2026. The programme brought together 12 farmers in the remote corner of Dzongu, north Sikkim in order to discuss scientific approaches for improving farm productivity, conserving natural resources, and enhancing resilience to changing climatic conditions. The remote village of suffered from marketing linkage, poor road connectivity. The villagers remained almost self-sustained for food supply.

The programme was led by Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head of Regional Centre (HoRC), along with Dr. Saurav Saha, Senior Scientist (Agricultural Physics). Dr. Ashok Kumar encouraged farmers to adopt integrated farming systems, climate-smart agricultural practices, and efficient resource management techniques for sustainable livelihood enhancement. He reiterated ICAR's commitment to strengthening farmer-scientist linkages and providing continuous technical support through the MGMG programme and Khet Bachao Abhiyan.

During the technical interaction, Dr. Saurav Saha stressed the importance of mulching and moisture conservation measures for improving water-use efficiency and maintaining soil health under rainfed conditions. Dr. Tshering Lhamu Bhutia shared improved technologies for vegetable production, emphasizing scientific crop management and the use of quality planting materials. Dr. Amit Kumar discussed Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), crop diversification, and green manuring as effective strategies for sustaining soil fertility and improving crop productivity. Dr. Pempa L. Bhutia highlighted the role of agroforestry in conserving soil and water resources, diversifying farm income, and promoting ecological sustainability in hill agriculture.

A field visit was undertaken to observe ongoing agricultural activities and identify field-level constraints affecting crop production. The scientists interacted with farmers in their fields and provided practical recommendations on nutrient management, moisture conservation, and improved crop husbandry practices suited to local conditions. The programme concluded with an interactive session in which farmers raised queries related to agricultural production and resource management. The scientists addressed these concerns and assured continued scientific guidance and support for the farming community through the MGMG programme and Khet Bachao Abhiyan.