

Press release from CRC Sikkim

Mangan, Oct 27: Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Sikkim (CRC, Sikkim), under the administrative control of NILD Kolkata, celebrated 'World Dwarfism Day' jointly with ICAR, Gangtok, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Govt. of India, on October 25, 2025, at Lum Gor Sangdok GPU, Mangan District, Sikkim, one of the remotest places of Sikkim.

The event was attended by Smt. Pushpanjali Gupta, Director, CRC Sikkim, and Shri Ch. Soboi Aimol, prosthetist & orthotist, CRC Sikkim; Dr. Saurav Saha, Senior Scientist and Nodal Officer, Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), and Dr. Amit Kumar, Scientist Senior Scale (Agronomy), from ICAR Gangtok; and Ms. Doma Lepcha, Gor Ward Panchayat, and Pemkit Lepcha, Social worker, from Lum Gor Sangtok, Lower Dzongu, Mangan Sikkim.

Smt. Pushpanjali Gupta, Director, CRC Sikkim, addressed the gathering, comprising farmers, and thanked them for their presence. She expressed gratitude to Dr. Lalit Narayan, Director, NILD, Kolkata, for providing the platform to organize disability-related awareness programs at CRC Sikkim. She also thanked Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head of Regional Centre, ICAR NEH SIKKIM CENTER, for collaborating with CRC Sikkim for the program.

During the event, need-based assistive devices, including wheelchairs, knee braces, LS belts, and walking sticks, were distributed to farmers above 60 years. Additionally, 3 CP chairs were provided to Children with Disabilities at Gyathang and Penthang ward Tingbong, Mangan District, Sikkim. Assistive devices worth Rs. 65,200/- were distributed during the program. Shri Ch. Soboi Aimol, P & O, CRC Sikkim, created awareness about the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY), which provides assisted living devices to senior citizens suffering from age-related disabilities/infirmities, such as low vision, hearing impairment, and loco-motor disabilities, aiming to restore near-normalcy in their bodily functions. He also spoke about the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP), whose main objective is to assist the needy persons with disabilities in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential, both initiatives of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India.