

PRESS RELEASE



Kisan Mela Promotes Organic Farming Practices in Tura

Tura, October 6: A Kisan Mela on the theme “Organic Farming” was organised by the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), West Garo Hills, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, West Garo Hills, at Matchakolgre L.P. School Playground, New Tura, on Monday.



Around 150 farmers attended the mela, which featured about 17 stalls showcasing agricultural technologies, products and initiatives by various departments, institutions and entrepreneurs, including Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, ATMA, ICAR, NESFAS, the College of Community Science and Sericulture. A technical session on Farmer-Scientist Interaction was also held.





Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Shri Vibhor Aggarwal, IAS, attended as the Chief Guest, while Smt. Tahsri M. Momin, Joint Director of Agriculture, Garo Hills, was the Guest of Honour. District Agriculture Officer Smt. Paulette A. Sangma delivered the welcome address.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Aggarwal stressed the importance of convergence among



government departments to ensure that farmers benefited fully from available technologies, schemes and interventions. He said departments should avoid working in silos and instead coordinate their efforts, particularly among agriculture and allied sectors.

He highlighted the need for convergence between Agriculture, Soil and Water Conservation and Water Resources to ensure that farmers had access not only to improved seeds and technologies but also

to adequate irrigation. He also pointed to the role of institutions such as ICAR and the College of Community Science in developing new organic farming technologies, which could be taken to farmers through the Agriculture Department.

The Deputy Commissioner further urged officials to provide continued handholding to farmers beyond the mela, describing government departments as a “friend, philosopher and guide” for the farming community. He encouraged farmers to visit the different stalls, interact with experts and understand the technologies being demonstrated.

Speaking to the media, District Agriculture Officer Smt. Paulette A. Sangma said the main objective of the mela was to encourage farmers to adopt organic farming. She said organic products had the potential to fetch better prices in markets within and beyond Meghalaya and stressed the need to reduce the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides.

She noted that farming in the region had traditionally been largely organic, but chemical inputs had gradually become more common. With growing awareness of their disadvantages, she said some farmers were now returning to organic practices. She urged farmers to embrace organic farming to protect soil health and promote sustainable agriculture.