FARM FORWARD

Vol. 03 No. 05 August-September, 2025

INHOUSE NEWSLETTER OF HP CROP DIVERSIFICATION PROMOTION PROJECT-II

HIMACHAL PRADESH

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Natural Farming & Advanced Agri-Techs to Step up Farmers' Income & Prosperity of Rural Areas

The Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project-II, aided by JICA-ODA, has made remarkable progress across several key areas in August & September this year.

It's a feather on the cap of the project that state's popular leadership Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu blessed the project for its efforts in contributing to the production of naturally cultivated HIM-HALDI on an historic Independence Day function held at Sarkaghat. He released HIM-HALDI and HIM-Bhog-Atta & HIM-Bhog-Dalia prepared from the naturally cultivated produce. The project and its staff feel honoured for accomplishing this assignment.

The project has further made a target of popularising natural farming in the project area to make chemical free and safe food and agricultural produce to the consumers and more remunerative prices for the prosperity of the farmers.

As I present the progress and the achievements made in the project for the past two months in this issue of newsletter of August-Sept 2025, I take this honour to acknowledge the efforts of the M2Labo, SIEWA and the project staff to have prepared the ground at the Vegetable Farm in Bairathi, (near Solan) for implementation of advanced high agri-tech poly-houses to get better results in farming to enhance the income of the farmers.

On behalf the project, I am indebted to Dr. C. Paulrasu, IAS, Worthy Secretary (Agriculture) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, for his guidance bestowed on the project during successful organisation of two state-level workshops at SAMETI, Mashobra.

I am also thankful to the farmers, agri-business and agri-tech enterprises to have actively participated in the workshops and kept the moral of the project-staff high during the workshops.

The workshops and the follow ups were all accomplished by the project-staff during my training-tour to Japan to meet out an obligation.

As planned before my departure for the training, the deliberations during the workshops focused on scaling up our efforts in crop diversification systems, using advanced high tech agricultural applications and making multi-product access through networking of agri-business.

Thus, the workshops have paved a way for building smooth paths for implementation of advanced agri-tech innovations and build potent agri-business linkages for achieving our objectives for enhancing the income of the farmers and stepping up prosperity of the rural areas.

The workshops also emphasized the importance of capacitating all categories of farmers and ensuring that our interventions to be inclusive and impactful in implementation of agricultural technologies and strengthening multifaceted agri-business network.

The project staff has been making all efforts, despite the heavy rains to keep up the pace of development of the components delineated in the MoD, and tried to make up the gaps.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our partners, stakeholders and team members for their continued support and dedication. Together, we will continue to advance agricultural development and create a brighter, prosperous future for our farming communities.

DR. SUNIL CHAUHAN
Project Director & Editor-in-Chief

1. Project Progress

1.1 Minor Irrigation Infrastructure Works

A. DPMU HAMIRPUR

The District Project Management Unit (DPMU), Hamirpur, has set an ambitious target to develop 54 irrigation schemes. Out of these, 51 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have already been prepared for the sub-projects, keeping up the pace of planning and implementation. Of the 51 sub-projects, 47 DPRs have been reviewed and recommended by the Project Management Consultancy (PMC) and subsequently approved by the State Project Management Unit (SPMU). Following the approval, tenders have been issued for 39 sub-projects, and construction work has commenced on 28 of them.

So far, the Block Project Management Unit (BPMU), Bilaspur has successfully completed the construction of the Jyora to Kothi Batala sub-project and handed it over to the KVA. This sub-project will irrigate a total CCA of approximately 11.90 hectares, benefiting 65 farmer families.

B. DPMU PALAMPUR

The Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all the 99 sub-projects have been prepared, reviewed, and recommended by the Project Management Consultancy (PMC). All DPRs have subsequently received formal approval from the State Project Management Unit (SPMU). Thus, the District Project Management Unit (DPMU), Palampur has showcased its commitment in implementing irrigation development initiatives across all the targeted 99 sub-projects, to provide irrigation in over 3,417.07 hectares of agricultural land.

After getting the approvals, tenders were issued for 87 sub-projects, leading to the successful awarding of contracts for 85 sub-projects marking a significant milestone in project implementation. Construction activities are currently underway on all 85 sub-projects. Of these, 28 sub-projects have been completed and handed over to the Krishak Vikas Associations (KVAs), covering a Culturable Command Area of approximately 987.54 hectares and benefiting around 4,008 farmer families.

C. DPMU MANDI

In the District Project Management Unit (DPMU), Mandi by the turn of September 2025, the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all the 86 sub-projects had been completed, reviewed and recommended by the Project Management Consultancy (PMC), and subsequently approved by the State Project Management Unit (SPMU). Tenders have been issued for 84 sub-projects, and contracts have been awarded for 66 sub-projects, so far.

Under the DPMU, Mandi, all Block Project Management Units (BPMUs) of Mandi, Gohar, Sarkaghat and Kullu have completed the construction of 38 sub-projects and handed them over to the respective KVAs. These 38 sub-projects cover a total CCA of approximately 697.37 hectares, benefiting about 3,883 farmer families. During the two months of August and September 2025, construction of two additional sub-projects (FIS Nogi Khad to Kandlu and FIS Kansa Khad to Palahota) were completed and handed over to the respective KVAs. These have provided irrigation benefits to an additional CCA of about 21.3 hectares and approximately 143 more farmer families. Overall, by September 2025, DPMU Mandi has successfully completed and handed over 40 sub-projects, benefiting approximately 4,026 farmer families.

D. DPMU SOLAN

The District Project Management Unit (DPMU), Solan has the target of implementing irrigation development works across 58 sub-projects. As of September 2025, the Detail Project Reports (DPRs) have been prepared for 55 sub-projects, out of which 54 DPRs have been reviewed and recommended by the Project Management Consultancy (PMC). Following approval from the State Project Management Unit (SPMU), the DPMU, Solan has initiated the process of tendering for all 54 sub-projects, which are currently at various stages. Physical works have commenced on 48 sub-projects.

By the end of September 2025, a total of 28 sub-projects have been successfully completed under the Block Project Management Units (BPMUs) of DPMU Solan. These completed sub-projects cover a Culturable Command Area (CCA) of approximately 536.02 hectares and are benefiting around 2,044 farmer families.

1.2 KVA Formation, SDP Preparation & Training Camps

A. DPMU HAMIRPUR

Under the DPMU Hamirpur, the BPMUs of Una, Bilaspur & Hamirpur have constituted 58 KVAs and registered 51 sub-projects under the H.P. Societies Registration Act, 2006. By September 2025, baseline surveys had been completed for 52 sub-projects, and 49 Sub-Project Development Plans (SDPs) were prepared.

Furthermore, during August and September 2025, a total of 23 training camps were organized, in which 670 farmers participated. These camps were aimed at creating awareness and motivating farmers to actively participate in project activities.

Overall, these initiatives reflect the strong commitment of DPMU, Hamirpur towards achieving meaningful outcomes under the HPCDP Project-II.

B. DPMU PALAMPUR

A significant progress has been achieved under DPMU Palampur regarding formation of KVAs in the areas of extension. In 97 subprojects, the KVAs have been organised while 92 KVAs in the respective sub-projects have been registered. Online baseline surveys have been completed for 84 subprojects, and Sub-project Development Plans (SDPs) have been prepared for 78 subprojects.

During August and September 2025, the unit actively engaged the farming community by organizing 157 training camps, with participation from 8,449 farmers. These training programmes were conducted by Extension Officers at the sub-project level through their respective Satellite Offices, which are the links between the sub-project and BPMU offices under the HPCDP Project-II.

C. DPMU MANDI

By September 2025, DPMU Mandi has achieved substantial progress under the HPCDP Project -II in the social sector by organising a total of 86 KVAs, which have been successfully registered.

The online baseline surveys have been completed for all 86 subprojects, and for each of these, Sub-project Development Plans (SDPs) have been prepared.

Capacity building through community engagement has remained a key focus by the organization of 122 training camps, with the participation of 7,074 farmers, who were sensitized about the project objectives and activities. These efforts highlight DPMU Mandi's strong commitment to systematic planning and active participation of the farming families.

D. DPMU SOLAN

As of September 2025, substantial progress has been achieved in the DPMU, Solan, with 55 KVAs formed, out of which 54 have been registered. Online baseline surveys have been completed for 54 sub-projects, and 46 Sub-project Development Plans (SDPs) have been prepared.

As demonstrated by the organization of 58 training camps, in which 1,418 farmers participated to gain awareness about the project objectives and activities. It shows a priority work with respect to strategic planning and active community involvement for the prosperity of the farmers.

2. Progress on Special Programs

2.1 Hon'ble Chief Minister Sh. Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Launches Natural Him-Haldi, Him-Bhog-Atta & Dalia for Sale

The Honourable Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, launched Him-Bhog turmeric, Him-Bhog wheat flour and Him-Bhog porridge products for sale during the State-level Independence Day 2025 celebrations held at Sarkaghat in Mandi district. On the occasion, the Honourable Chief Minister was presented with a package of Him-Bhog turmeric products by Dr. Sunil Chauhan, Project Director of the JICA Agriculture Project and Senior Advisor Shri B.S. Sandhu, in the presence of dignitaries including the Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Prabodh Saxena; Agriculture and Horticulture Secretary, Dr. C. Paulrasu; and Director of Agriculture, Dr. R.S. Jasrotia.

The Agriculture Department has been entrusted with the responsibility of promoting natural farming and producing Him-Bhog products. The production, distribution and related activities of natural products are being carried out in accordance with the announcements made in the State Budget 2025–26.

It is noteworthy that prior to the launch of Him-Bhog wheat flour and turmeric products, the Honourable Chief Minister had also launched Him-Bhog maize flour prepared from naturally grown maize.

2.2 M2LABO & SEIWA to collaborate with project on Advanced Agricultural Technologies

A meeting was held on 28th August, 2025 at the headquarters of the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project in Hamirpur with representatives of Japanese institutions M2LABO and SEIWA, which are actively engaged in the development and dissemination of advanced Japanese agricultural technologies. The meeting was chaired by the Project Director, Dr. Sunil Chauhan.

The objective of the meeting was to assess the possibilities of implementing advanced technologies in the state, with special emphasis on hydroponics, protected cultivation, and precision agriculture tools. During the meeting, representatives of both institutions presented several innovative solutions in the fields of sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, highlighting their potential to enhance productivity and resource-use efficiency.

It was agreed between the Project, M2LABO, and SEIWA that the proposed technologies would initially be implemented on a pilot basis at departmental farms, and their suitability would be evaluated under local agro-climatic conditions.

As a part of the future strategy, it was further decided that a detailed proposal and implementation plan would be jointly prepared by M2LABO, SEIWA, and the Project. The plan will include provisions for training, demonstrations, and capacity building of staff and farmers.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Prasoon Agrawal, Head of M2LABO; Mr. Manish R. Raut, Business Head (Hydroponics); Project Managers Mr. Anil R. Gore, Mr. Yash Durge, and Mr. Swapnil A. Patil; representatives from SEIWA, Mr. Yuki Miyashita and Mr. Daichi Nishino; and from the Project side, Deputy Project Director Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dr. Kartar Singh, Dr. Santosh, along with other officials.

2.3 Experts of M2Labo & SEIWA visit Bairthi Vegetable Farm for installation of Japanese Model Hi-Tech Polyhouse

A joint team of officials from M2Labo & SEIWA and the HP JICA Agriculture Project visited the Bairthi Vegetable Farm near Solan on September 01, 2025, to explore the possibilities of implementing high-tech farming systems at the site. The visiting team included Prasun Agrawal, Manish R. Raut, Daichi Nishino, Yuki Miyashita, Deputy Project Director Rajesh Kumar, DPM Solan Rajender Thakur, PMC Expert Sudarshan Suryavanshi, along with BPMU Solan staff.

During the visit, the team assessed the feasibility of implementing the Japanese Model of Hi-Tech Polyhouse at the Vegetable Development Society, Bairthi. The evaluation covered various aspects, including structural design, technology adoption, crop management practices, and the overall suitability of the model for the location.

The team had detailed interactions with the officials managing the polyhouse as well as technical experts associated with the project. The visit and discussions provided valuable insights into the construction, implementation, and practical viability of the Japanese Model of Hi-Tech Polyhouse. Overall, there was a positive response toward establishing this advanced model at the site.

The commitment made by the officials to complete the facility by November next year is encouraging and aligns well with the strategic objectives of promoting advanced protected cultivation technologies.

2.4 HP JICA Agriculture Project to Promote Natural Farming

A delegation of officers from the Himachal Pradesh JICA Agriculture Project-II will visit Sahyadri Farms in Maharashtra later this month to study agriculture and agri-business models, with the objective of accelerating the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in the project area. This information was shared by Project Director Dr. Sunil Chauhan during a review meeting of the State Project Management Unit held in Hamirpur on 5th September, 2025.

While chairing the meeting, Project Director Dr. Sunil Chauhan discussed the second-quarter budget with all district and block-level project managers and reviewed the work carried out so far. He emphasized the need for all units to work together with greater efficiency so that the year-long project plan can be implemented effectively.

The Project Director stated that along with the construction of kuhls, farmers should also be encouraged to establish kitchen gardens in their fields, enabling them to grow vegetables throughout the year and ensure adequate nutrition. He also reviewed the Natural Farming Scheme being implemented by the government for farmers. He strongly instructed all officers to implement the natural farming scheme with the active participation of farmers so that tangible results are visible on the ground.

He further said that groups of progressive farmers should be formed in sub-project areas and nearby regions to promote this safe farming practice, so that farmers can benefit from support prices for crops such as turmeric, maize, and wheat. This work can be carried out alongside vegetable production under crop diversification. The Project Director stressed the need to form farmer groups to implement new agricultural technologies effectively.

2.5 State Project Management Unit Organises Two State-level Workshops

The State Project Management Unit, Hamirpur, of the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project–II organized two workshops in September 2025. The workshops were titled "Empowering Agriculture: Agri-technological Partnerships for Sustainable Farming and Crop Diversification in Himachal Pradesh" and "Agri-business Development: Potential and Opportunities in Himachal Pradesh." These workshops were organized under the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project–II with the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The workshops were held on 19th and 20th September at SAMETI, Mashobra.

The joint inauguration of both workshops was carried out by the Secretary (Agriculture), Government of Himachal Pradesh, Dr. C. Paulrasu. On this occasion, he stated that the state government would assist farmers in renovating old and defunct polyhouses across the state.

For this purpose, a suitable plan would be prepared at the conclusion of the workshops on advanced agricultural technologies.

The Agriculture Secretary called upon regional agricultural officers to take up the challenge of reviving polyhouses constructed under the department's previous two schemes and to initiate work to upgrade at least four old polyhouses in each region. During the workshop, Dr. Paulrasu reviewed two presentations on high-tech agriculture showcased by the EEKI and Green Leaf organizations and responded to questions raised by farmers. He stated that such advanced technologies are energy-efficient and can provide substantial benefits to farmers through higher productivity.

Interacting with farmers during his address, he suggested adopting high-value crops such as blueberries and cited the example of a newly established polyhouse at Kateru on the Sundernagar–Karsog road. He informed that around 18,000 plants have been planted there, which are expected to generate an income of approximately Rs. 5 crore.

Speaking on Friday, Dr. Paulrasu said that the State Varietal Release Committee has approved 18 new varieties of crops including pea, cauliflower, tomato, broccoli, capsicum, cucumber, okra, chilli, maize, wheat, and chilli for cultivation. Farmers were advised to take up cherry tomato and other cash crops for higher returns.

Dr. Paulrasu also visited the exhibition set up by the project's Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and the shiitake center.

Senior Advisor B. S. Sandhu welcomed the Chief Guest, Dr. Paulrasu, while the Sub-Project Director, Dr. Rajesh Kumar (MPH), presented a memento to the Director of Agriculture, Dr. R. S. Jasrotia.

Overall, about 125 representatives participated in these workshops, including farmers from various sub-project areas; project officials such as Dr. D. D. Sharma; Dy Project Director (A&E) Dr. Kartar Singh; Dy Director (SWC); four District Project Managers Dr. Rajender singh thakur, Dr. Santosh Sharma, Dr. Hem Raj Verma, and Dr. Y. P. Kaushal; 16 Block Project Managers; and officers and experts from the project headquarters.

2.6 Need of Advanced Agri-Tech for the Prosperity of Farmers

Dr. Sunil Chauhan, Project Director of the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project–II, emphasized the need to empower farmers by implementing appropriate advanced agricultural technologies in the fields and by linking high-value produce and products to niche markets. He called for the implementation of recommendations emerging from state-level workshops to develop effective systems for sustainable agricultural production.

Dr. Chauhan was speaking online from Japan at the closing ceremony of the two workshops organized by the project, held on Friday and Saturday at SAMETI, Mashobra. He addressed the participating farmers, experts, and project officials during the event.

At the outset, the Project Director sought details on the proceedings of both workshops from Dy Project Director Dr. Rajesh Kumar. He was informed that all recommendations from the workshops would be finalized by a core group constituted under the project.

In his concluding address, Dr. Sunil Chauhan stated that nearly 50,000 beneficiary farm families are associated with Project–I and Project–II, and at least 30,000 of these families should be linked with market-oriented activities.

He emphasized that villages are the focal point of development. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, the Agriculture Minister, Agriculture Secretary Dr. C. Paulrasu, and the Director of Agriculture are providing continuous guidance for adopting innovative technologies under the project. Both the State and Central Governments are extending full support to promote safe food production along with enhanced food security.The Project Director stressed the importance of building strong relationships with farmers and working effectively at the grassroots level. He stated that District Project Management Units and Block Project Management Units should form clusters of 2–4 villages to strengthen farmer groups. Through a cluster approach and a "shape approach," farmers should be linked with markets. Subsequently, clusters of 4–5 villages should be developed around major crops to establish Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs). He called for the establishment of one or more agri-business units or organizations at each Block Project Management Unit level.

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Dr. Chauhan urged all officers and staff to actively participate in discussions at all levels, remain focused on farmer empowerment, and maintain an open mindset to learn continuously. He advised them to understand the actual needs of farmers and to focus their efforts on the expectations of the project, the government, and the department.

At the closing ceremony, Senior Advisor Shri. B. S. Sandhu and Dy Project Director Dr. Rajesh Kumar honoured the resource persons and participants by presenting certificates of appreciation and certificates of participation, respectively.

More than 18 resource persons delivered presentations during the workshops on advanced agricultural technologies, soilless crop production, high-quality polyhouses, soil improvement techniques, efficient use of alternative energy in agriculture, and the development of a strong agri-business network linking individual farmers and farmer groups to domestic and international markets for specialized and value-added agricultural produce and products.

3. Media Coverage of Project activities

MEDIA COVERAGE

किसान अधिक लाभ के लिए चेरी टमाटर और अन्य नकदी फसलों की खेती करें आरंभ : डा. सी. पॉलरासु

हमीरपुर, 19 सितम्बर (राजीव): राज्य सरकार राज्य में पुराने और बेकार पड़े पॉलीहाऊसों के नवीनीकरण में किसानों की सहायता करेगी। इसके लिए उच्च कृषि प्रौद्योगिकियों पर आयोजित कार्यशालाओं के समापन पर एक उपयुक्त योजना तैयार की जाएगी। यह बात हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के सचिव (कृषि) डा. सी. पॉलरासु ने शुक्रवार को मशोबरा में आयोजित 2 कार्यशालाओं के संयुक्त उद्घाटन में बतौर मुख्यातिथि शिरकत कर कही।

यह कार्यशालाएं कृषि का सशक्तिकरण हिमाचल प्रदेश में सतत खेती और फसल विविधीकरण के लिए कृषि-तकनीकी सांझेदारी और कृषि व्यवसाय विकास हिमाचल प्रदेश में संभावनाएं और अवसर पर आयोजित की जा रही हैं, जिनका आयोजन जापान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग एजेंसी के समर्थन से हिमाचल प्रदेश फसल विविधिकरण प्रोत्साहन परियोजना-2 ने किया है। उन्होंने क्षेत्रीय कृषि अधिकारियों से विभाग की पिछले 2 योजनाओं के दौरान निर्मित पॉलीहाऊसों के पुनरुद्धार की चुनौती स्वीकार करने और प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में कम से कम 4 पुराने पॉलीहाऊसों को उन्नत बनाने का कार्य शुरू करने का आह्वान किया।

इस दौरान उन्होंने ई.ई.के.आई. और ग्रीन लीफ संगठनों की ओर से प्रदर्शित उच्च कृषि तकनीक वाली 2 प्रस्तुतियों को देखा और किसानों द्वारा उठाए गए प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिए। उन्होंने किसानों से बातचीत करते हुए ब्लूबेरी जैसी उच्च मूल्य वाली फसलें अपनाने का सुझाव दिया और सुंदरनगर-करसोग मार्ग पर कटेरू में एक नए लगाए गए पॉलीहाऊस का उदाहरण देते हुए बताया कि वहां लगाए गए 18,000 पौधों से लगभग 5 करोड़ रुपए की आय होगी।

उन्होंने बताया कि राज्य वैरिएटल रिलीज कमेटी ने मटर, फूलगोभी, टमाटर, ब्रोकोली, शिमला मिर्च, खीरा, भिंडी, मिर्च, मक्का, गेहूं व मिर्च की 18 नई किस्मों को खेती के लिए मंजूरी दे दी है। उन्होंने किसानों को अधिक लाभ के लिए चेरी टमाटर और अन्य नकदी फसलों की खेती शुरू करने की सलाह दी। उन्होंने परियोजना के स्वयं सहायता समूहों, एफ.पी.ओ. और सिटाके केंद्र द्वारा लगाई गई प्रदर्शनी का दौरा भी किया। इस दौरान वरिष्ठ सलाहकार बी.एस. संधू ने मुख्य अतिथि डा. पॉलरासु का अभिनंदन किया, जबकि परियोजना के उप परियोजना निदेशक डा. राजेश कुमार ने कृषि निदेशक डा. आर.एस. जसरोटिया को स्मृतिचिन्ह भेंट किया।

इन कार्यशालाओं में कुल मिलाकर लगभग 125 प्रतिनिधि भाग ले रहे हैं, जिसमें विभिन्न उप परियोजना क्षेत्रों से आए किसान, परियोजना के अधिकारी डा. डी.डी. शर्मा, उप परियोजना निदेशक (ए. एंड ई.), डा. कलार सिंह उप निदेशक (एसडब्ल्यूसी) 4 जिला परियोजना प्रबंधक डा. रवींद्र ठाकुर, डा. संतोष शर्मा, डा. हेमराज वर्मा व डा. वाई.पी. कौशल सहित 16 ब्लॉक परियोजना प्रबंधक और परियोजना मुख्यालय के अधिकारी व विशेषज्ञ शामिल हैं।

MEDIA COVERAGE

हिमाचल सरकार पॉलीहाउसों के नवीनीकरण और 18 नई फसल किस्मों को बढ़ावा देगी

अमीषा कुल्ला/देवभूमि मिरर

शिमला। हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार राज्य में पुराने और बेकार पड़े पॉलीहाउसों का नवीनीकरण कर किसानों को सहायता प्रदान करेगी। कृषि सचिव डॉ. सी. पॉलरासु ने बताया कि इसके लिए उपयुक्त योजना उच्च कृषि प्रौद्योगिकियों पर आयोजित कार्यशालाओं के उपरांत तैयार की जाएगी। उन्होंने क्षेत्रीय कृषि अधिकारियों से प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में कम से कम चार पॉलीहाउसों को उन्नत बनाने का आह्वान किया। दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला "कृषि का सशक्तिकरण" और "कृषि व्यवसाय विकास" के उद्घाटन अवसर पर उन्होंने कहा कि आधुनिक तकनीकें ऊर्जा कुशल हैं और किसानों को अधिक उत्पादकता व लाभ दिलाएंगी। उन्होंने किसानों को ब्लूबेरी जैसी उच्च मूल्य वाली फसलों को अपनाने की भी सलाह दी।डॉ. पॉलरासु ने जानकारी दी कि राज्य वैरिएटल रिलीज कमेटी ने मटर, टमाटर, शिमला मिर्च, मक्का, गेहूं सहित सब्जियों व अनाज की 18 नई किस्मों को मंजूरी दी है। कार्यशाला में 125 प्रतिनिधियों ने भाग लिया

MEDIA COVERAGE

सूर्य

हिमाचल के लिए सब्जियों, मक्का और गेहूं की 18 नई किस्में जारी

हिमाचल सरकार पुराने पॉलीहाउसों का करेगी नवीनीकरण : पॉलरासु

विशेष संवाददाता

हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के सचिव (कृषि) डॉ. सी. पॉलरासु ने कहा कि राज्य सरकार राज्य में पुराने और बेकार पड़े पॉलीहाउसों के नवीनीकरण में किसानों की सहायता करेगी। इसके लिए उच्च कृषि प्रौद्योगिकियों पर आयोजित कार्यशालाओं के समापन पर एक उपयुक्त योजना तैयार की जाएगी।

डॉ. पॉलरासु शुक्रवार को दो कार्यशालाओं के संयुक्त उद्घाटन समारोह में मुख्यातिथि के तौर पर बोल रहे थे। ये कार्यशालाएं 'कृषि का सशक्तिकरण कर हिमाचल प्रदेश में सतत खेती और फसल विविधीकरण के लिए कृषि-तकनीकी साझेदारी' और 'कृषि व्यवसाय विकास में हिमाचल प्रदेश में संभावनाएं और अवसर' पर आयोजित की जा रही हैं, जिनका आयोजन जापान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग एजेंसी के समर्थन से हिमाचल प्रदेश फसल विविधीकरण प्रोत्साहन परियोजना-ii ने किया है। ये कार्यशालाएं 19 और 20 सितंबर को SAMETI (मशोबरा) में आयोजित की जा रही हैं।

कृषि सचिव ने क्षेत्रीय कृषि अधिकारियों से विभाग की पिछली दो योजनाओं के दौरान निर्मित पॉलीहाउसों के पुनरुद्धार की चुनौती स्वीकार करने और प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में कम से कम चार पुराने पॉलीहाउसों को उन्नत बनाने का कार्य शुरू करने का आह्वान किया। कार्यशाला के दौरान, डॉ. पॉलरासु ने ईईकेआई और ग्रीन लीफ संगठनों की ओर से प्रदर्शित उच्च कृषि तकनीक वाली दो प्रस्तुतियों को देखा और किसानों द्वारा उठाए गए प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिए। उन्होंने कहा कि ऐसी उच्च तकनीकें ऊर्जा कुशल हैं जब किसान अधिक उत्पादकता से बहुत लाभ प्राप्त कर पाएंगे।

उन्होंने किसानों से बातचीत करते हुए अपने संबोधन में ब्लूबेरी जैसी उच्च मूल्य वाली फसलें अपनाने का सुझाव दिया और सुंदरनगर-करसोग मार्ग पर कटेरू में एक नए लगाए गए पॉलीहाउस का उदाहरण दिया।

उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि वहां लगाए गए 18,000 पौधों से लगभग पांच करोड़ रुपये की आय होगी।

डॉ. पॉलरासु ने कहा कि राज्य वैरिएटल रिलीज कमेटी ने मटर, फूलगोभी, टमाटर, ब्रोकोली, शिमला मिर्च, खीरा, भिंडी, मिर्च, मक्का और गेहूं व मिर्च की 18 नई किस्मों को खेती के लिए मंजूरी दे दी है और किसानों को सलाह दी है कि वे अधिक लाभ के लिए चेरी टमाटर और अन्य नकदी फसलों की खेती शुरू करें।

डॉ. पॉलरासु ने परियोजना के स्वयं सहायता समूहों, एफपीओ और सिटाके केंद्र द्वारा लगाई गई प्रदर्शनी का भी दौरा किया।

वरिष्ठ सलाहकार बी.एस. संधू ने मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. पॉलरासु का अभिनंदन किया, जबकि परियोजना के उप-परियोजना निदेशक डॉ. राजेश कुमार (एमपीएच) ने कृषि निदेशक डॉ. आर.एस. जसरोटिया को स्मृति चिन्ह भेंट किया। इन कार्यशालाओं में कुल मिलाकर लगभग 125 प्रतिनिधि भाग ले रहे हैं। इनमें विभिन्न उप-परियोजना क्षेत्रों से आये किसान, परियोजना के अधिकारी डॉ. डी.डी. शर्मा, उप परियोजना निदेशक (ए एंड ई), डॉ. कलार सिंह- उप निदेशक (एसडब्ल्यूसी), चार जिला परियोजना प्रबंधक- डॉ. रवींद्र ठाकुर, डॉ. संतोष शर्मा, डॉ. हेम राज वर्मा और डॉ. वाईपी कौशल, 16 ब्लॉक परियोजना प्रबंधक और परियोजना मुख्यालय के अधिकारी व विशेषज्ञ शामिल हैं।

20-09-2025

HPCDP (PHASE-II), JICA-ODA

प्राकृतिक खेती को जायका परियोजना क्षेत्र में प्रोत्साहित करें: डॉ. सुनील चौहान

कंचन शर्मा/देवभूमि मिरर

हमीरपुर। हिमाचल प्रदेश जायका कृषि परियोजना के अधिकारियों का एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल इस माह के अंत में महाराष्ट्र के सह्याद्रि फार्म में कृषि एवं कृषि व्यवसायों का अध्ययन करेगा ताकि परियोजना क्षेत्र में किसान उत्पादक संगठनों के गठन में तेजी लाई जा सके। ये जानकारी परियोजना निदेशक डॉ. सुनील चौहान ने राज्य परियोजना प्रबंधक इकाई, हमीरपुर की समीक्षा बैठक में शुक्रवार को दी। बैठक की अध्यक्षता करते हुए परियोजना निदेशक डॉ. सुनील चौहान ने समीक्षा बैठक में आये सभी जिला और खंड स्तर के परियोजना प्रबंधकों से दूसरी तिमाही के बजट पर चर्चा की और किये गए कामों की समीक्षा करते हुए कहा कि सभी इकाईयों में एकजुट होकर अधिक दक्षता से काम करने की जरूरत है, जिससे परियोजना की साल भर की योजना को अमलीजामा पहनाया जा सके। परियोजना निदेशक ने कहा कि कुहल के निर्माण के साथ साथ हमें लाभार्थी किसानों के खेतों में रसोई वाटिका की स्थापना करने के लिए किसानों को प्रोत्साहित भी करना है, जिससे वो वर्ष भर सब्जियों को उगा कर आवश्यक पोषण मुहैया करवा सकें।

3. Media Coverage of Project activities

गोहर में प्रगतिशील किसान सम्मानित

सहयोगी, जागरण • गोहर : जापान अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग एजेंसी (जाइका) के सहयोग से मंडी जिला के गोहर में किसानों की आर्थिकी को सशक्त बनाने के लिए चलाई जा रही विभिन्न योजनाओं और गतिविधियों का जायजा लिया गया।

इस दौरान परियोजना निदेशक डा. सुनील चौहान ने ब्लाक परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई की ओर से संचालित कार्यक्रमों का निरीक्षण किया और उन्नत खेती करने वाले प्रगतिशील किसानों को सम्मानित किया। डा. चौहान ने किसानों को संबोधित करते हुए प्राकृतिक खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार की ओर से चलाई जा रही योजनाओं की जानकारी दी।

कहा की आधुनिक तकनीकों और पारंपरिक ज्ञान के समन्वय से किसान न केवल अपनी पैदावार बढ़ा सकते हैं, बल्कि रसायन मुक्त उत्पादन से बेहतर बाजार भी प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

जागरण

उन्होंने किसानों को सामूहिक रूप से कार्य करने की प्रेरणा दी, ताकि लागत को कम कर अधिक लाभ अर्जित किया जा सके। इसके अतिरिक्त किसानों को ड्रिप सिंचाई, मल्चिंग शीट, सैंसर तकनीक जैसी वैज्ञानिक विधियों की जानकारी भी दी गई।

निरीक्षण के दौरान डा. चौहान ने प्रगतिशील किसानों के खेतों में जाकर हाई-टेक विधियों से हो रही शिमला मिर्च और अन्य फसलों की खेती को देखा। किसानों ने बताया कि ब्लाक परियोजना प्रबंधक डा. नरेंद्र कुमार के मार्गदर्शन में पालीहाउस और खुले क्षेत्र में शिमला मिर्च की खेती की जा रही है, जिसमें मिट्टी की नमी जांचने के लिए सेंसर तकनीक का उपयोग किया जा रहा है। इससे फसल की गुणवत्ता और उत्पादन में उल्लेखनीय सुधार हुआ है। कार्यक्रम में लगभग 150 किसान उपस्थित रहे।

किसानों को प्राकृतिक खेती पर बांटा ज्ञान

पालमपुर। हिमाचल प्रदेश फसल विविधीकरण प्रोत्साहन परियोजना जो जापान अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग एजेंसी 'जाइका' द्वारा समर्थित है, के अंतर्गत जिला परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई पालमपुर की ओर से कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र कांगड़ा में कृषक विकास संघों के प्रबंधन पर एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण शिविर का आयोजन किया गया। इस प्रशिक्षण शिविर में खंड परियोजना प्रबंधक इकाई देहरा और शाहपुर से संबंधित 14 उप-परियोजनाओं के लगभग 40 किसानों ने भाग लिया। प्रशिक्षण का मुख्य उद्देश्य किसानों को कृषक विकास संघों की संरचना, उनकी महता एवं परियोजना के समापन उपरांत प्रबंधन संबंधी जिम्मेदारियों के प्रति जागरूक करना था। इन पहलों का मुख्य उद्देश्य किसानों की आय में वृद्धि के साथ-साथ प्राकृतिक एवं रासायनमुक्त खेती को प्रोत्साहन देना है। कार्यक्रम में डा. रजनीश शर्मा, डा. प्रेम लाल शर्मा, डा. दीप कुमार, अभिनंदन, निकेत शर्मा मौजूद रहे

लोगों को सिखाई सिंचाई प्रबंधन की तकनीकें

पालमपुर। हिमाचल प्रदेश फसल विविधिकरण प्रोत्साहन परियोजना 'एचपीसीडीपी' के अंतर्गत सामुदायिक प्रेरकों के लिए तीन दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण शिविर का आयोजन चौधरी सरवन कुमार हिमाचल प्रदेश कृषि विश्वविद्यालय पालमपुर में 28 से 30 अगस्त तक किया गया। इस प्रशिक्षण में जिला कांगड़ा की विभिन्न उप-परियोजनाओं से 30 प्रेरकों ने भाग लिया। शिविर का मुख्य उद्देश्य प्रेरकों को सिंचाई प्रबंधन की तकनीकों, जल उपयोग दक्षता और कृषि उत्पादकता में वृद्धि के उपायों की जानकारी देना रहा। कार्यक्रम में डा. लव भूषण ने सिंचाई प्रबंधन का महत्व, क्षेत्रीय जल स्रोत, फसलों की नाजुक अवस्थाएं तथा सिंचाई निर्धारण विषय पर व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया। कार्यक्रम में डा. पीएल शर्मा, डा. योगेंद्र पॉल कौशल, डा. जीडी शर्मा, डा. संजीव संदल, डा. अमित भूषण, निकेत ने भी प्रतिभागियों के साथ अपने विचार साझा किए।

प्राकृतिक खेती अपनाकर किसान करें आय में वृद्धि : डॉ. सुनील

गोहर में जाइका परियोजना के तहत प्रगतिशील किसानों को किया सम्मानित

मंडी। जापान अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग एजेंसी (जाइका) के सहयोग से मंडी जिला के गोहर उपमंडल में किसानों की आर्थिकी को सशक्त बनाने के लिए चलाई जा रही योजनाओं का परियोजना निदेशक डॉ. सुनील चौहान ने निरीक्षण किया और उन्नत खेती करने वाले प्रगतिशील किसानों को सम्मानित किया। उन्होंने कहा कि किसान आधुनिक तकनीकों और पारंपरिक ज्ञान के समन्वय से न केवल अपनी पैदावार बढ़ा सकते हैं, बल्कि रसायन मुक्त उत्पादन से बेहतर बाजार भी प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। किसानों को ड्रिप सिंचाई, मल्चिंग शीट, सैसर तकनीक जैसी वैज्ञानिक विधियों की जानकारी भी दी गई।

किसानों ने बताया कि खंड परियोजना प्रबंधक डॉ. नरेंद्र कुमार के मार्गदर्शन में पॉलीहाउस और खुले क्षेत्र में शिमला मिर्च की खेती की जा रही है, जिसमें मिट्टी की नमी जांचने के लिए सेंसर तकनीक का उपयोग किया जा रहा है। संवाद

HP JICA AGRICULTURE PROJECT

DAILY DIARY

HAMIRPUR: AUGUST 15, 2025

Hon'ble Chief Minister launches Him-Bhog wheat flour, daliya & turmeric

SARKAGHAT (Mandi): Hon'ble Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched Him-Bhog wheat flour, Him-Bhog daliya and Him-Bhog turmeric products during the State-level Independence Day celebrations at Sarkaghat in Mandi district. These products were prepared of naturally grown wheat and turmeric to provide chemical-free products to the con-sumers.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Thakur Su-khvinder Singh Sukhu was handed over Him-Bhog package of turmeric products, in the presence of dignitar-ies, Himachal Pradesh Chief Secretary Shri Prabodh Saxena, Agriculture-Horticulture Secretary Dr. C. Paulrasu and Director of Agriculture Dr. R.S. Jasrotia, by the Project Director of JICA Agriculture Project Dr. Sunil Chauhan and Senior Advisor B. S. Sandhu.

The Department of Agriculture was entrusted the task of production of natural farming and the production of the Him-Bhog products. The produc-tion and distribution of natural pro-duce and product activities are being undertaken as per the budget an-nouncements.

Besides the launch of Him-Bhog wheat flour and turmeric products now, earlier, the Chief Minister had launched Him-Bog maize flour made from the naturally grown maize. The HP JICA Agriculture Project was en-trusted to produce turmeric products. At Sarkaghat, the three eminent per-sonalities of the State were honoured with 'Prerna Srot' Awards. They in-clude Prof. Him Chatterjee of Shimla for reviving Kangra miniature painting and creating the World's longest pub-lic artwork at Pragati Maidan Tunnel, New Delhi, Dr. Ram Swaroop Shandil of Shimla district for his outstanding national and international performanc-es in folk, classical, ghazal, bhajan and group song genres and Prof. Prem Kumar Khosla, Chancellor of Shoolini University, Solan, for his pio-neering contributions to forestry edu-cation.

The 'Himachal Gaurav' Awards were conferred on Chandrekha Dadhwal of Dharamshala for her exceptional liter-ary contributions; Shalini Vats of Seubagh, Kullu for her work in em-powering the differently-abled women and children and Dr. Lal Singh of Chhota Shimla for leading over 50 projects on sustainable livelihoods,biodiversity conservation, renewable energy and agricultural innovation.

The State Rural Livelihood Mission of the Rural Development Department and the Indian Red Cross Society, Kullu, received the State-Level Civil Service Award 2025.

Sh. Sukhu also honoured the depart-ments, officers and officials of Mandi district who extended their valuable support to the district administration in execution of relief and rescue oper-ations on war footing during this year's disasters in the district.