HIMACHAL PRADESH
JICA AGRICULTURE PROJECT-II
SPECIAL DIARY
HAMIRPUR: 18 SEPTEMBER, 2026

Dr. Sunil Chauhan called for Empowering Next Generation in Agri-avocations

***HP JICA Agriculture Project-II targets nearly 2,500 School Students & Young farmers**





Hamirpur, Sept 15: Dr. Sunil Chauhan, Project Director, HP Crop Diversification Promotion Project-II, JICA-ODA, has called for empowering the next generation in agricultural avocations so that the food security is ensured for future. While presiding over a presentation on the project's Programme for Next Generation comprising nearly 2,500 school students and young farmers.

Dr. Chauhan said that the project has envisaged to inculcate the interest in the next generation in agricultural allied fields, who, in the long run, are able to integrate the high-technology to increase safe-food production of the growing population.

Er. Sanjay Singh, Secretary, Centre of Technology and Entrepreneurship Development (CTED), Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, presented the proposed implementation framework and approach for the programme. The presentation and subsequent interaction focused on creating meaningful engagement with 2,250 school students and 225 young farmers, while exploring pathways towards entrepreneurship, enterprise development and innovative livelihood opportunities in agriculture and allied sectors.

The ensuing discussions witnessed active participation from the field functionaries and generated several new ideas and perspectives on enterprise development and entrepreneurship. The interaction highlighted the importance of nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset among the younger generation and creating opportunities that connect agriculture, innovation, skills and enterprise.

From strengthening institutions to building enterprises, from improving market access to promoting value addition and from engaging farmers to inspiring the next generation, HPCDP (Phase-II), JICA-ODA continues to work towards building a more dynamic, resilient and opportunity-driven agricultural ecosystem in Himachal Pradesh.

The workshop marked an important step towards converting programme interventions into sustainable field-level outcomes, with stronger institutions, better market linkages, value-driven agriculture and new avenues for entrepreneurship at the core of the implementation approach.

The presentation was attended by Mr B.S. Sandhu- Sr. Consultant, Deputy Project Directors Dr. Rajesh Kumar & Dr. Kartar Singh Dogra, SMS (SPMU) Dr. Ashish Anand, Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Dr. Anu Yadav, Sr. Mktg Officer- SPMU Ms Nitika Soni, Agriculture Experts of SPMU Dr. Jyoti Thakur, Ms. Priyanka and other supporting staff from the SPMU.

The PMC was represented by Er. Suman Sijapati- Team Leader & Post-Harvest Engineer Trishan Purohit. The Community Development Officer Mr. Shotaro Hayashi from Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) Programme was also present. From the field, District Project Managers Dr. Hem Raj Verma (Mandi), Dr. Y.P. Kaushal (Palampur), Dr. Santosh Sharma (Hamirpur) & the Block Project Managers of the project or their representatives along with agriculture experts were also present.