HIMACHAL PRADESH JICA AGRICULTURE PROJECT-II

SPECIAL DIARY

HAMIRPUR: 14 OCTOBER , 2026

SPMU Team Reviews Initiatives in Chamrul Kuhal sub-project

*Reviews project interventions including Kitchen Gardening, Turmeric and Ginger Cultivation, Milk Collection, Women's Empowerment





Palampur, October 13: A team led by Ms. Baljeet Sandhu, Senior Consultant at the State Project Management Unit (SPMU) of the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project-II (HPCDP-II), JICA-ODA, visited the Palampur Block Project Management Unit (BPMU) area on Tuesday. During the visit, the team emphasised promoting natural and chemical-free farming, crop diversification, nutrition kitchen gardens, and agriculture-based livelihood activities. The team interacted with farmers in the Chamruhal Kuhal Flow Irrigation Sub-Project area.

The visit was attended by Dr. Amarjeet, Deputy Project Director; Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Subject Matter Expert; Dr. P.L. Sharma, PMC Expert; Dr. Y.P. Kaushal, DPM, Palampur; Dr. Amit Bhushan, BPM, Palampur; and other project officers and staff from the State Project Management Unit and the block-level team.

During the interaction, the team listened to farmers' concerns and suggestions and shared technical information regarding seeds, training, subsidies, and market linkages. Farmers were encouraged to adopt vegetable cultivation, spices, and other high-value crops, while developing kitchen gardens to meet their families' nutritional requirements.



The team also inspected turmeric and ginger fields and nutrition kitchen gardens. On the occasion, the importance of increasing children's participation in agricultural activities and connecting the younger generation with farming was highlighted.

As part of the review of local livelihood initiatives, the team appreciated the milk collection model shared by Monu Devi. Under this initiative, approximately 70 farmers collectively supply 250–300 litres of milk daily for marketing through MILKFED.

The team also reviewed efforts to empower women's self-help groups through tailoring training and self-employment activities.

The visit aimed to strengthen engagement with farmers, promote successful livelihood initiatives, and advance sustainable irrigation, natural farming, and remunerative crop diversification under HPCDP-II, JICA-ODA. The farmers also expressed their commitment to adopting chemical-free farming practices and diversified agricultural systems.