

KVK Kargil-II Brings PM-KISAN 21st Instalment Telecast to Remote Zangla Village

Zanskar, November 19, 2025: KVK Kargil-II on Wednesday facilitated farmers, women farmers and rural youth of Zangla village in Zanskar to listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address during the release of the 21st instalment of the PM-KISAN scheme. The programme was organised in line with events conducted across all ICAR institutes, KVKs and SAUs in the country, despite the harsh winter conditions of the region. Officers from the Agriculture Department also joined the event. The programme began at 11 am with a detailed discussion between scientists and line department officials on agro-climatic technologies standardised for Zanskar farmers during the past eight years.

Dr Mohd Mehdi, Chief Scientist and Head of KVK Kargil-II, highlighted successful demonstrations of non-traditional vegetables — including onion, French bean, cabbage, cauliflower and root crops — which, he said, offer strong potential for the socio-economic upliftment of tribal farmers. He stressed the importance of skill and knowledge over hard work alone and urged farmers to maintain regular contact with the KVK team through physical visits, social media and mobile communication.

Dr Shabeer Hussain, Scientist, KVK, emphasised soil health management through optimal use of local resources, natural farming practices, crop rotation and surface mulching. Organic farming in Ladakh, he pointed out, is feasible only when farmers follow these practices strictly. Otherwise, dependence on externally procured organic compost — which often lacks required standards — will continue, as observed in several villages this year.

Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer Mohd Ali briefed participants on government schemes designed for farmer welfare and encouraged them to approach departmental offices and field workers for support. He said both types of Ladakh Greenhouses are well-suited to enhance livelihood opportunities and improve nutritional security in the region.

An interactive session between scientists, extension personnel and farmers was also held. Namberdar Zangla, Lobzang Tundup, thanked KVK Kargil-II for choosing their village for the event. He said villagers had gained valuable exposure to new agricultural technologies, especially since travel to Padum remains difficult due to limited transportation and the remoteness of Zangla. He encouraged farmers to stay in touch with scientists and extension workers of both departments.

At 2 pm, participants viewed the live telecast from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, marking the release of the 21st instalment of PM-KISAN.

