

## **Awareness and Input Distribution Camp on Conservation of Zanskari Pony Held by Animal Husbandry Department, Leh**

Leh, 11th March 2025 – An awareness camp and input distribution program focused on the conservation of the Zanskari Pony was organized by the Animal Husbandry Department, Leh, under the Network Project on Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR). The event took place on the 8th of March, 2025, at Leh, aiming to raise awareness about the significance of conserving the Zanskari Pony, an important cultural and agricultural asset.

The camp was graced by the presence of Dr. Mohd Ismail, Director, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department, and Dr. Stanzin Rabgais, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Leh, who addressed the participants and emphasized the importance of preserving the Zanskari Pony, both for its ecological and economic benefits.

Approximately 50 farmers from the village of Gya participated in the event. Dr. Arif Kacho, VAS of Chuchot, delivered a detailed presentation on the conservation of Zanskari Ponies, their various utilities, the challenges, and the future roadmap for sustainable conservation.

An open discussion session followed, where farmers voiced their concerns and provided suggestions. In response, Dr. Ismail and Dr. Rabgais assured the farmers that their grievances would be promptly addressed.

The event concluded with the distribution of horse bridles and halter ropes free of charge, along with horse gram offered at a 50% subsidy.





BRIEF INTRODUCTION  
ABOUT ZANSKARI HORSE  
(Zanskar)

- ❖ Small breed of mountain horse from Ladakh
- ❖ Similar to Spiti Horse breed, but better adapted towards higher altitude.
- ❖ Used as packed animals.
- ❖ Resistance to cold diseases and high conception rate.
- ❖ Endangered Horse breed.
- ❖ Higher endurance and energetic.

As per 20<sup>th</sup> Livestock census 828/964=1791