

Two-Day Training Programme on Seri-Business Opportunities Concludes Successfully at Kargil

Kargil, March 29, 2026: The two-day orientation training programme on “Seri-Business Opportunities for College Students,” organized by the School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SAS&T), Kargil, University of Ladakh in collaboration with the Central Silk Board (CSB), concluded successfully with enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members.

The first day of the programme featured Technical Session–I, comprising a series of expert lectures by eminent scientists in the field of sericulture. Dr. Aftab Ahmad Shabnam, Scientist-D, CSB, CSR&TI, Pampore, delivered a comprehensive lecture on entrepreneurship in the mulberry sector, highlighting business opportunities such as Kissan nurseries, integrated mulberry-based models, and value-added products from mulberry twigs, leaves, and fruits.

Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Scientist-D, P-4, BSF, Manasbal, enlightened participants on business prospects in the grainage and seed sector. He discussed various types of silk, stages of production in the Kashmir Valley, and emphasized the importance of value addition.

Dr. Gulzar Ahmad Khan, Scientist-D, CSR&TI, Pampore, provided valuable insights into extension services and training support available for sericulture and seri-business development in India.

On the second day, Dr. Mohammad Mehdi, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Zanskar, graced the programme as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Siddique Ali Ahmed attended as the Guest of Honour. Dr. Rubia, Scientist-B, delivered an engaging lecture on cocoon craft and value addition, demonstrating innovative products such as jewellery, wall hangings, and handicrafts made from silk cocoons.

Dr. Mohammad Mehdi highlighted the important role of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in promoting sericulture through technology transfer, capacity building, and skill-based training. An online quiz was also conducted by Dr. Vikas and faculty members to assess participants’ learning.

The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. Mohammad Mehdi. Mementos were presented to the Chief Guest, certificates were distributed among participants, and prizes were awarded to the top three quiz performers. Abdul Rauf, a B.Sc. Horticulture student, secured the first position.

Dr. Siddique Ali Ahmed, in his address, expressed hope to participate physically in future programmes at Kargil. Dr. Gulzar Ahmad Khan extended gratitude to the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, and the Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Dr. Faizan Ahmad, for their support and coordination.

Dr. Mohammad Mehdi appreciated the organizing committee and CSB for conducting the informative programme. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Kauar Fatima.

