SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING ON BEE-KEEPING, VALUE ADDITION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) conducted Skill Development Training on Bee-Keeping, Value Addition and Entrepreneurship under NMHS funded project 'Improving the traditional homestead to a viable agro-forestry system for biodiversity conservation and inclusive growth of *Khampti* tribe of Namsai District, Arunachal Pradesh' during16th and 17th of November, 2022 at Community Hall, Lathao Village, Namsai (Arunachal Pradesh). A total of twenty-three trainees from different *Khampti* villages of Namsai district, viz. Lathao village, Pathar Gaon, Piyong, Mankao and Old Mohong took part in the two-days training programme. Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, Principal Investigator of the project welcomed the trainees and invited guests in the opening session and delivered a brief introduction about the training programme. Shri Protul Hazarika, Co-PI of the project delivered a presentation on various project activities carried out for the benefit of the *Khampti* people.

Dr. Madhumita Sonowal, Scientist, KVK, Namsai and Shri Mohan Saikia, Master Trainer, Sivasagar attended the training as Resource Persons. Dr. Sonowal delivered two presentations on 'Bee-keeping, Colony Care, Queen Care and Worker Bee Management' and 'Harvesting, Processing, Purification of honey and Value Addition, Storage, Marketing and Entrepreneurship'. Shri Mohan Saikia, Master Trainer, Sivasagar conducted hands-on session on 'Tools and Techniques for bee-keeping, plant species and seasonal impact on Honey production'.

The Trainees also had a field exposure-visit to Borkhet Bee Farm (Pomoung Enterprise), Changlang district, Arunachal Pradesh. The visit was intended to give a real life first-hand experience on beekeeping. Ten Bee boxes were distributed among the trainees of the workshop. Along with the Bee boxes, five Bee colonies of *Apis cerara* were also distributed among the 5 beneficiaries of the Agroforestry homesteads.

The trainees showed keen interest in bee-keeping and were eager to start the practice of bee-keeping in their households. Certificates were distributed to the trainees at the end of the Training.

GLIMPSES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME



