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NEWS BRIEF

ICAR-ATARI, Umiam embarks upon empowering KVKs on efficient administrative and financial management

ICAR- Agricultural Technology Application & Research Institute (ATARI), Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya has taken a maiden initiative in organizing a Capacity Building Programme on “**Efficient Administrative and Financial Management**” for the junior level officers of KVKs and ATARI at Umiam, Meghalaya from 1-3 November, 2023 with an objective to update/ refresh the skills and knowledge of the administrative and finance personnel in the system, the most vital segments of its workforce. The training programme was meticulously customized on the basis of TNA of junior level officers involved in administration and accounts related works in KVKs/ATARI, particularly in the area of budgeting control of expenditure, SFC/EFC, purchase as per GFR, procurement as per GeM, cash book and BRS, taxation etc. The inaugural function was a grand success, with inspiring speeches and a sense of enthusiasm and anticipation among the participants. The event set a positive tone for the course, highlighting the commitment of the organization and its partners to contributing to professional growth. etc. The programme was attended by around 52 officials representing 43 KVKs across five different states of NEH region namely, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura under ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam through *hybrid mode*.

The Chief Guest Mrs. Shefali S Andaleeb (IA&AS), Principal Accountant General (Audit), Shillong, Meghalaya inaugurated the programme on 1st November, 2023. In her inaugural deliberation, she highlighted the importance of this capacity building programme in the changing scenario of administrative and financial management. Being highly impressed with the contributions of ICAR research institutes, she lauded the role of ICAR to establish a sustainable food production system in the country through its unique institutional mechanism starting from technology development, technology assessment and their application in the field. In this context, Principal Accountant General (PAG) also offered for needful capacity building support to ICAR research institutes and KVKs through their HRD experts.

Gracing the function as Guest of Honour Dr. V. K. Mishra, Director, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya pointed out that this programme is the right initiative taken by the ATARI, Zone VII specially designed for junior level administrative and accounts staff of KVKs and ATARI to handle the assigned roles in an effective manner through proper understanding the rules and regulations. He also shared his thoughts on the significance of the course and emphasised on the individual dedication for promoting excellence in Efficient Administrative and Financial Management.

The special Guest of the programme Dr. Sunil Kumar Das, CF&AO & Course Director, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati, Pune, Maharashtra took the stage to provide an overview of the programme designed by him. He briefly accentuated the objectives and pedagogy of the programme. He gave a detailed course outline relevant to the job requirement of the KVK staff.

Presiding over the function, Dr. A.K. Mohanty, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya, delivered an insightful address to apprise the Principal Accountant General (PAG) about the accomplishments of ICAR as a whole in the timeline of Indian agriculture in its journey from 1950-51 till date transitioning from the status of food deficit to food sufficient through various revolutions. He delineated the role of ATARI in translating research to development through effective technology implementation through KVKs and spoke about the organization's commitment to improve the farming sector of NEH region through its KVKs, the unique and vibrant extension mechanism of ICAR.

Initially, Dr R. Bordoloi, Principal Scientist & HRD (i/c), ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya extended a warm welcome address and highlighted the initiatives of ICAR-ATARI for the capacity building of different Categories of employees as per the Guideline of ICAR HQ to bring more efficiency into the system. Shri J. Wahlang, ACTO and Course Coordinator expressed gratitude to all the dignitaries, participants, and attendees while offering vote of thanks.

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Sd/-
(A. K. Mohanty)
Director