

Five-day training programme on Recent Advances in Horticulture for Meghalaya and Nagaland farmers organized

29 Jan. – 02 Feb. 2026

The ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (RCER), Patna, conducted a comprehensive five-day skill-oriented training program on "Recent Advances in Horticulture for Farmers' Prosperity" from the 29th Jan. to 2nd Feb., 2026. The program was held at its Farming System Research Centre for Hill and Plateau Region (FSRCHPR) in Ranchi. The training programme aims to demonstrate the Institute's horticulture-based innovations to farmers from Meghalaya and Nagaland.

The inaugural ceremony was presided over by Prof. Manoj Kumar, Dean, School of Natural Sciences of Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, as the Chief Guest.

Dr. Shivendra Kumar, former Head of the Centre and member of the Institute's RAC, was Guest of Honour during the Inaugural event. Addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest, Prof. Manoj Kumar congratulates the farmers from Meghalaya and Nagaland on their willingness to participate in the training programme. He proposed that they learn about new developments and technologies appropriate for their region. He specifically recommended farmers to develop local ideas and translate them into technology for large-scale applications in their region.

Dr Shivendra Kumar encouraged farmers to use sustainable farming methods for their crops. During the course, he urged them to share their knowledge of horticultural crop production for cross-learning.

Dr R.S. Pan Head (Acting) of the centre presented a welcoming speech and provided an update on the centre's accomplishments. He reiterated the institution's commitment to empowering NEH farmers with relevant skills.

Coordinators from Meghalaya and Nagaland Mr Basu (SMS, Horticulture) and Dr Srilekha (SMS, Food and Nutrition) expressed his appreciation for ICAR-RCER's consistent efforts in facilitating the transfer of cutting-edge technologies to the farmers, a crucial step for the state's agricultural modernization.





This training programme was attended by a delegation of 20 progressive farmers, as well as two coordinators appointed by the ICAR ATARI, Guwahati. The curriculum is precisely developed to provide hands-on experience with a wide range of modern horticulture practices blended theoretical lectures with practical sessions. These include high-yielding vegetable and fruit varieties, disease-resistant grafted tomato & brinjal, vegetable soybeans, resource conservation methods, moringa, and protected agriculture. The programme also includes advanced techniques including raised bed cultivation with mulching & drip fertigation, multi-tier horticulture systems, jackfruit processing, integrated pest control, nursery management, and horticulture & livestock-based integrated farming systems. Semina Agro Pvt. Ltd.'s representative from Ranchi led the session on aromatic and medicinal plants, presenting their handholding techniques used in the Eastern and North Eastern regions. To encourage on-field demonstration, seeds of the latest vegetable varieties developed by the Institute, moringa and papaya seeds were distributed among the farmers for trial in Meghalaya and Nagaland conditions.

(Source: ICAR- Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna)