

## **DAY 12 OF VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAAN 2025**

An awareness programme was conducted under the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyaan with the objective of educating farmers on advanced agricultural practices, ongoing research, and government schemes aimed at improving agricultural productivity and sustainability in the region.

The programme began with an overview of the daily tasks and research activities undertaken by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Leh. Emphasis was placed on ongoing research in food processing, post-harvest handling of locally grown crops such as apricot and sea buckthorn, and innovations in modified atmospheric packaging. The importance of soil health management through scientific sampling techniques and analysis was also highlighted.

Farmers were briefed on several agriculture-related schemes including support for vermicomposting, the Ladakh Greenhouse project for year-round cultivation, mulching technology for conserving soil moisture, and efficient irrigation systems promoted under the Per Drop More Crop initiative. Information was also shared about central schemes such as PM Kisan for financial support and the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) for easier access to credit. Additionally, the Special Development Package (SDP) and Other Special Area Programme (OSAP), including components like compost pits, seed distribution, and agricultural tool kits under the RANTHAK initiative, were introduced to the participants.

Technical sessions focused on scientific farming methods, including the correct planting geometry for vegetables like cucumber, the role of pollination and pruning in improving yield and fruit quality, and the benefits of agroforestry for soil and environmental health. The importance of balanced micro and macronutrient application in crop production was demonstrated through hands-on soil sampling activities.

The animal husbandry component of the programme covered key topics such as artificial insemination for breed improvement, awareness on disease prevention with a focus on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Black Quarter (BQ), and the availability of KCC for livestock farmers.

The programme successfully combined scientific knowledge, practical demonstrations, and detailed information on various government schemes to empower farmers with the tools and information needed for improved agricultural and livestock productivity in the high-altitude conditions of Ladakh.