

Nation's Biggest Yak Mela Organized by National Research Centre on Yak, Dirang

Nov. 25th Dirang: Nation's maiden and biggest "Yak Mela" is organized at Mandhlaphudung under Dirang circle in land of the dawn-lit mountains of Arunachal Pradesh at the height of 9000 feet above sea level under the aegis of National Research Centre on Yak, Dirang. In the morning Mr. Phurpa Tsering, Parliamentary Secretary and Chairman, Science and Technology, Govt. Arunachal Pradesh inaugurates the Mela under the chairmanship of Dr. S. M. Deb, Director NRC on yak. While inaugurating Mela, Mr. Tsering appreciated the efforts of NRC-Yak for organizing such event and appealed them to organize similar events in other high altitude areas where yaks and yak rearers (brokpas) are active. Scientists of the institute understand the hardship of yak rearing, therefore, organizing such mela to boost the morale of brokpas. While addressing the gathering Mr. Phurpa enlighten the hardship face by the yak rearers and promise to give solar light facilities to highlanders where electricity is not available and also extend help to exterminate grazing taxes in near future. In the mela exhibition stall containing products, charts, brochures were displayed by and NRC on yak and KVK, Dirang. On the occasion, NRC on yak distributed essential materials like Tents, Tarpaulin, Gumboot, Raincoat, NRC yak made Mineral Mixture-5kg, Salt-50kg, and essential medicine were distributed to the 'brokpas' and their family. NRC Yak Director Dr. S.M. Deb also assured to organize similar fairs in every year to help the brokpas in future. During the day, more than 200 brokpas along with their thousands of yaks attended the mela. In connection with mela "best yak completion" was conducted and expert panel from NRC on yak judged three best yak out of thousands of yak and awarded to boost the morale of brokpas. The yak rearing is the only livelihood of highlanders and reared on pastoral system under harsh agro-climatic zone of alpine pasture. Brokpas Wachen Tsering of Lubrang Village got first prize for best yak. The meeting was also attended by honorable guest like Mr. C.R. Meno, Commandant 120 RCC GREF, Mr. Awanish, Commandant, 4th Battalion, ITBP, Col. S. K. Pradhan, Commandant 6th Sikh Regiment and all the line departments, local administration and KVK, Dirang. Yak Mela was concluded with traditional yak dance by the farmers with free lunch to all brokpas attended the mela.



Yak grazing at Yak Mela



Brokpas receiving award at Yak Mela



Brokpas performing yak dance at Yak Mela



Dignitaries addressing Yak Mela