

Equipping Social Science SMSs of North Eastern KVKs with Improved Research Skills: Zonal Project Directorate, Zone-III organizes a Three Days Short Course on “Advance Application of Social Research Methodologies”

The Zonal Project Directorate, Zone-III with the purpose of enhancing research competency among Social Science SMSs of the zone organized a three days short course on “Advance Application of Social Research Methodologies” during October 3-5, 2013 at the College of Post Graduate Studies (CPGS), CAU, Umiam in collaboration with it. Dr. S.Paul, Scientist, ZPD-III, Umiam was the course director and Dr. R.K. Talukdar, In-charge, School of Social Sciences, CPGS was the co-course director of the short course. Out of a total of thirty three Social Science SMSs in the zone, twenty six SMSs participated in the short course. Scientists (Agricultural Extension) of the directorate and teaching faculty of the School of Social Sciences, CPGS acted as the resource persons in different sessions of the short course.

The inaugural session of the short course was held on 3rd of October, 2013 at 9:30 hrs. and it was chaired by Dr. R.J. Rabindra, Dean, CPGS, CAU. Dr. Rabindra in his highly thought instigating speech pointed out the inevitable need for understanding well the varying social situations of North Eastern region and thereby the social constraints for technology adoption. Given the importance of scientific social research, he stressed on organizing such courses for the grass root level development functionaries in regular interval. Dr. S. Paul, the Course Director introduced the participants to the short course and gave a brief description on how the short course will enable the Social Science SMSs to carry out the mandated KVK activities in a more systematic and scientific manner. The inaugural session came to an end with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. R.M. Bordoloi, Principal Scientist, ZPD, Zone-III, Umiam.

The technical sessions of the short course proceeded with lectures followed by practical exercises, facilitated by different resource persons. During the three days, the major methodological aspects, most relevant to the KVK mandated activities covered in course of the scheduled programme comprised of scientific data collection techniques including data triangulation, systematic application of different prioritization techniques and PRA exercises for scientific assessment of social situations, development and use of different indices and economic indicators and construction of tests and scales for better impact assessment. A hands-on-training on scientific analysis of data using different statistical tools and software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) was also attempted in the short course.

The valedictory session of the programme was held on 5th of October, 2013 at 15:40 hrs. The session was chaired by Dr. V.K. Khanna, Head, School of Crop Improvement, CPGS. Dr. Khanna in his remarks congratulated the participants for successful completion of the short course and acclaimed the efforts put by the organizers and facilitators of the short course. The session continued with obtaining feedback from the participants regarding the course content, improvisation in subsequent attempts and degree of learning. The participants were awarded with certificates and the programme finally came to an end with formal vote of thanks rendered by Dr. R.M. Bordoloi.



Dr. R.K. Talukdar, Co-Course Director of the short course welcoming the participants



Dr. R.J. Rabindra, Dean, CPGS, CAU, Umiam delivering a speech as 'Guest of Honour' in the inauguration session



Dr. V.K. Khanna, Head, School of Crop Improvement, CPGS, CAU, Umiam interacting with the participants in the valedictory session of the programme