

## Off Campus Training and Demonstration Programme on Orchid Cultivation under TSP Project

Off Campus Training and Demonstration Programme on Orchid Cultivation under TSP Project was conducted at Hee-Gyathang, Dzongu, North Sikkim on 29<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2018. The Chief Guest of the programme was Ms. Sonam Kipa Bhutia, Panchayat President, Hee-Gyathang G.P.U. Other delegates present were Nimlay Lepcha, Panchayat Vice-President and Norzey Lepcha, Panchayat, Hee-Gyathang G.P.U. More than 40 farmers from different villages of Dzongu participated in the training programme. Dr. Tshering Lhamu Bhutia, Scientist (Vegetable Science) and Nodal Officer, TSP, ICAR-NRCO, Pakyong welcomed the guests as well as the participants and briefed about the TSP project in details including the objective of the project, the importance of growing orchids for increasing an additional income to the farmers. It was followed by practical demonstration of cultivating orchids by Sh. Ajay Bhusal, Technical Assistant. The farmers actively participated in the programme interacting with the experts from the institute clearing all the doubts about orchid cultivation and its problems. More than 300 nos. of planting material of *Zygopetalum* were distributed to the farmers after demonstration. Mr RK Pamarthi, Scientist (EB & PGR) and G. Pradan, SRF (IPR) also attended the programme.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr Nimlay Lepcha, Panchayat Vice-President.

