

Gangtok, April 25: (IPR) Union Minister of State (Independent charge), Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, Shri Giriraj Singh made several visits in an around Gangtok today. The Minister visited Jodicos Bakery, Syari, Washer Dry-cleaning, Lower Burtuk and Mountain Pure, Lower Burtuk.

While visiting three different places Union Minister said "Ministry is going to launch new scheme under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) i.e Technology Upgradation Scheme where MSME will give Rs. 1 Crore loan where Rs.15 lakh will be subsidy". The Minister urged the entrepreneurs to avail this scheme in coming days.

While interacting with Mountain Pure drinking water plant in Lower Burtuk, Union Minister suggested to go with premium water so that it will capture local and national market in near future. Premium water means Mint and Tulsi flavours and fragrances. Union Minister said that nowadays people are more health conscious and it has huge scope. He asked Mountain Pure to send their employee for training at Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre (FFDC), Kannauj under Ministry of MSME for premium water.

Later in the day, the Minister attended a Sensitisation Program on Women Empowerment Development at ICAR-Complex Pakyong as chief guest. The program was organised by ICAR- National Research Centre of Orchid, Pakyong.

While addressing Orchid Growers and Self Help Groups of Pakyong and surroundings, Union Minister said "I want to develop agro-cluster in this area and I want Agriculture Institutions to support farmers. Agriculture Institutions should provide platform for farmers for marketing of Orchid in national and international markets."

Union Minister directed ICAR and Agriculture College Ranipool to set up recognised platform which will benefits farmers and suggested for development of Nursery on public private partnership mode. Union Minister assured that the Ministry under his charge will extend all help and support for the welfare of farmers.



