

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON PROMOTION OF AROMA MISSION

VENUE: AMLAREM BLOCK

A one-day awareness programme on aromatic plantation was conducted on the 29th April 2026 by the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) under the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) at Amlarem Block, Jaintia Hills. The programme aimed to promote the cultivation of aromatic crops as a sustainable livelihood option alongside traditional agricultural practices.

The initiative was supported by Dr. D. Lyngdoh, Block Development Officer, who encouraged farmers to adopt aromatic plantation as an additional source of income.

Dr. Hygina Siangbood, Project Scientist, INR, MBDA emphasized the multiple benefits of cultivating aromatic crops, particularly in terms of sustainable livelihood development and ecological restoration. She noted that crops such as lemongrass, citronella, patchouli, and seasonal high-value crops like geranium are highly suitable for the local agro-climatic conditions. These crops are valued for their essential oils, which have wide applications in perfumery, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and food industries. By extracting essential oils locally, farmers can significantly increase their income and access better market opportunities.

In conclusion, aromatic plantation in Jaintia Hills represents a sustainable pathway for rural development by integrating traditional knowledge with modern agricultural practices. It not only enhances income generation but also contributes to environmental conservation and the overall socio-economic upliftment of local communities.



