

On 22/05/2026, the National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF) team visited SMT Manjira Devi University, located at Hitanu, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, to conduct a workshop on “Enhancement of Livelihood and Drudgery Reduction through Grassroots Innovation.” The primary objective of the workshop was to create awareness about innovative technologies and grassroots solutions aimed at improving rural livelihoods and reducing the drudgery faced by farmers and communities in hilly regions.

The workshop witnessed participation from over 70 stakeholders, including the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Sub-Divisional Forest Officers (SDOs), Block Development officials, the Vice Chancellor, university faculty, farmers, members of the Bhotiya community, and representatives of various Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Their active engagement contributed to a highly interactive and productive session. The NIF team presented and discussed a range of grassroots technologies and innovations relevant to agriculture, animal husbandry, and rural entrepreneurship.

Participants actively shared their experiences, local challenges, and perspectives on farming and rural development. The session served as a valuable platform for knowledge exchange among farmers, academicians, government officials, and innovators. Farmers and SHG members expressed keen interest in practical, affordable, and locally adaptable technologies that could enhance efficiency and ease their daily work.

The Vice Chancellor and the DFO appreciated the efforts of the NIF team and expressed strong interest in supporting similar initiatives in the future. They highlighted the importance of promoting grassroots innovations and fostering collaborative efforts to empower farmers, strengthen rural livelihoods, and ensure sustainable development in Uttarkashi and surrounding regions.

