

A team from the National Innovation Foundation–India (NIF) visited Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh, 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 capable of improving rural livelihoods and reducing the drudgery experienced by farmers, particularly in hilly regions.

The programme witnessed the participation of around 60 individuals, including the Dean, faculty members, scientists, farmers, and representatives of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), all of whom actively engaged in the deliberations.

During the workshop, the NIF team showcased a range of grassroots innovations and affordable technologies spanning agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and rural entrepreneurship. These innovations were presented as practical, cost-effective, and locally adaptable solutions to address the challenges faced by rural communities. The session was highly interactive, with participants sharing their experiences, identifying local issues, and offering valuable suggestions. Farmers and SHG members expressed keen interest in technologies that have the potential to enhance productivity, reduce labour-intensive tasks, and increase income levels.

The Dean appreciated the efforts of the NIF team and highlighted the importance of promoting grassroots innovations through collaborative efforts involving institutions, innovators, scientists, and rural communities. He also expressed interest in organizing similar programmes in the future to further support sustainable rural development.

The workshop concluded on a positive and encouraging note, underscoring the critical role of grassroots innovations in reducing drudgery, improving livelihoods, and strengthening the socio-economic well-being of rural communities.

