

**GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
WEST KAMENG DISTRICT :: BOMDILA**

No. BD – 4812/15

Dated Bomdila, 13th November 2017

To,

The Special Secretary (CMO)
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar.

Sub :- **Submission of Policy Papers of West Kameng District.**

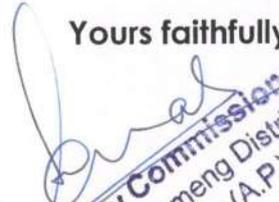
Ref :- Letter No. CMS/AP/37/2017/08 dtd. 11-10-2017

Sir,

With reference to above, I am submitting the Papers on State conclave on Re-Shaping the development Discourse of Arunachal Pradesh for your kind perusal and further necessary action.

Enclosures : As stated above

Yours faithfully


Deputy Commissioner
West Kameng District
(A.P.)
Dr. Sena Swaroop, IAS
Deputy Commissioner
West Kameng District
Bomdila.



**POLICY PAPER OF WEST KAMENG
DISTRICT ON DREAM CHANGE
ARUNACHAL 2017 STATE CONCLAVE
ON RESHAPING THE DEVELOPMENT
DISCOURSE OF ARUNACHAL
PRADESH**

Submitted by :

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Deputy Commissioner,

West Kameng District,

Bomdila.

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DISCLAIMER : *THE POLICY PAPER INCLUDES THE INPUTS TAKEN FROM AGRI – HORTI – VETY DEPARTMENTS AND FROM PROGRESSIVE AS WELL AS MEAGER / SMALL FARMERS OF DISTRICT*

DISTRICT PROFILE

West Kameng is an administrative district of Arunachal Pradesh with its Headquarter at Bomdila. It is surrounded by Tibet Region in the North, Bhutan in the West, Tawang district and East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh are in the North West and East respectively. The southern boundary adjoins Sonitpur District and Darang District of Assam. The District has 4 Assembly constituencies namely Kalaktang, Dirang, Bomdila-Nafra and Thrizino-Buragaon.

There are 5 Community development blocks namely Dirang, Singchung, Kalaktang, Nafra and Thrizino.

Bomdila, Rupa, Bhalukpong, Dirang, Nafra and Kalaktang being major towns with prominent market places.

West Kameng accounts for 8.66% of the total area of the State. The name is derived from the Kameng River, A tributary of the Brahmaputra flows through the district. West Kameng lies approximately between 91° 30' to 92° 40' East longitudes and 26° 54' to 28° 01' north latitudes. Agro-climate varies from sub-tropical to temperate

The topography of the district is mostly mountainous. A greater part of it falls within the higher mountain zone, consisting of a mass of tangled peaks and valley. In west kameng there are three principle mountain chains- part of Sela Range, Bomdila range and Chaku range. The Sela range consist of a series of mountains arranged in the form of a big line from Tibet in the North to Bhutan in the west and thus forming a tough terrain to pass through. The altitude of Sela range varies from 14,000 to 15,000 feet and Sela Pass is 13,714 feet high. The Bomdila range has an average height of 9000 ft. South of Bomdila range lies the Chaku range (foot-hills range) having hills of quite low altitudes and is full of tropical forests with trees of great economic value and various types of wild game. area accounts 8.86% of State with area of 7422 sqm..

Tenga, Bichom and Dirang Chu are the main rivers flowing through the district. All these rivers are tributaries of the river Kameng which flows through Bhalukpong circle of the district and joins the Brahmaputra in plains of Assam. the inhabitants of the district comprises mainly of Monpa (Dirang, Boot, Lish and Kalaktang Monpa), Miji (Sajolang), Sherdukpen, Aka, and Bugun (Khawa). The Monpas belong to the Tibeto-Mongoloid stock and are the largest tribe of the district, inhabiting mainly in Dirang and Kalaktang circles. The mijis are settled in Nafra and Akas in Thrizino circle. The Khawas inhabit the wanghoo, Kaspi, Singchung and Tenga areas. The Sherdukpens are mainly settled in 4 villages of Rupa, Jigaon, Shergaon, Thongre and also believe in indigenous religion and follow partly Buddhist and Hindu practices.

As per 2011 census, West Kameng district has 170 villages with a population of 83,947 comprising of 46,155 males and 37,792 females. The district population accounts for 6.68% of total population of the State. The literacy rate of the district as per 2011 census is 67.07% and is higher than the literacy rate of the State (36.41).

BACKGROUND OF AGRI-HORTI-VETERINARY SECTOR

West Kameng District has immense potential in terms of Agriculture, Horticulture, Veterinary sectors apart from tourism. Provided the full potential is tapped, it can undoubtedly become the **fruit-flower-herb basket** of the State.

The present scenario of major agriculture, horticulture, floriculture produce is varied in nature.

Paddy, maize, millet, cauliflower, potatoes, tomato, beans, carrots, green vegetables are largely grown agriculture produce in the different areas of the district.

The District is famous for apples, pomegranates, walnuts, plums, pears. And in the recent times Kiwi cultivation has been widespread. Oranges and pineapples too are grown in the various parts of the District.

Begonia, Dahlia, Roses, gladiolus, orchids, marigold, Hallock, Hingori, amari, Dhuna, Gomari, bonsum, walnut, Pines, Jutuli are major flora.

Fauna found in the district are Leopard cat, elephant, barking deer, wild boar, musk deer, monkey, red panda, warblers, babblers, black necked crane, jungle fowl, hornbill, and imperial pigeon.

Area & production of Major Horticulture crops in West Kameng 2016-17

Sl no. (A)	Name of crops	Area under cultivation (in ha)	Production (MT)
A	Fruits		
1.	Apple	3485	6808.30
2.	Walnut	412.20	387.93
3.	Kiwi	1184	4284.40
4.	Peach	20	58.85
5.	Plum	20	61.02
6.	Pear	40.50	111.25
7.	Orange	151	894.35
8.	Banana	10	252.50
Total (A)		5,322.70	12,858.60
B.	Vegetable		
1.	Cabbage	30	70.05
2.	Chilli	15	22.00
3.	Tomato	40	598.75
Total (B)		85.00	690.80
C. Flowers			
1.	Cut Flower	0.80	--
D. Spices			
	Ginger	30	53.00
G/Total		5,438.50	13,602.40

Area, Production of various crop in respect of West Kameng District for the
Year 2016-17

Sl. No.	Name of Crops	Area in Ha.	Product in Ha.	Yield per Ha. In MT
A	Kharif Crops Cereal Crop			
1.	Paddy	882	1199.52	1.36
2.	Maize	2815	4785.50	1.70
3.	Millet	1081	1016.10	0.94
4.	Pea	60	144	1.9
B	Vegetables			
5.	Potato	390	3299.40	8.46
6.	Cabbage	190	2584	13.6
7.	Tomato	220	2901.80	13.19
8.	Other Vegetables	107	1395.28	13.04
9.	Mustard	34	31.62	0.92
C	Spice & Condiments			
10.	Ginger	52	189.28	3.64
11.	Chillies	59	230.10	3.9
12.	Garlic	16	40	2.5
D	Rabi Crops Cereal Crops			
13.	Wheat	226	210.18	0.92
14.	Barley	92	69	0.75
15.	Buck Wheat	446	414.78	0.93
16.	Other Vegetables	107	1421.4	13.04
E	Pulses			
17.	Rajma	216	241.98	1.12
18.	Local Beans	301	271.80	0.90
19.	Pea	87	165.30	1.90
20.	Soyabean	136	258.40	1.90
21.	Mustard	28	26	0.93

The total area cultivated for :

- FRUITS during 2013-14 has been estimated as 5078.5 hectare with a total production of 11,691.28 Metric Tons
- VEGETABLES estimated 60 hectare with total production 644 Metric tons
- SPICES 07 hectare under with 23.49 metric Tons production
- CUT FLOWERS estimated 0.75 ha with total production 0.20 Metric tons.

However, the productivity status of various crops is still low as compared to other State of India level.

Diverse Agro Climatic conditions, varied soil types and abundant rainfall offers immense scope for Horticulture produce.

SCOPE OF DEVELOPING AGRI-HORTICULTURE PRODUCE

- There is widespread scope for temperate **fruits crops** like berry crops with huge market potential viz; Blue berry, Goji berry, Logan berry, Rasp berry, Black berry, Red and black Currants etc.
- There is also scope in cultivation of temperate **nut crops** like Pecan nuts, Chilgoza, Pistachio, Chestnuts, Almonds and superior quality thin shelled walnuts.
- There is scope in commercial cultivation of **exotic varieties of both sub – tropical and temperate orchids** like Cybidiums (Boat orchids), Papiopedilum('Lady Slipper'), Cyripedium (also called as Lady's slipper), Vanda etc.
- Huge scope in cultivation of temperate and high altitude **medicinal and aromatic plants** like Jatamansi(Nardostachys), Ginseng(Panax pseudo-ginseng), Paris polyphylla (Love apple, Mithi vach or Satuwa), Dactylorchiza hatagirea (Salam Panja), Podophyllum hexandrum, Taxus Baccata/ wallichiana(taxus), Asparagus(Shatavari), Litsea cubeba/ citrate, Aconitum heterophyllum, Swertia Chirayita, Picrorhiza kurrua(kutki), Zanthoxylum armatum (Sichuan pepet, Timoor, Zabrang, Yer) etc. **These plants have high demand across globe.**
- There is scope for cultivation of **Shiitake-(Lentinula edodes- Oak Mushroom) mushroom** in addition to **oyster and white button mushrooms**. Shiitake mushroom is also considered medicinal mushroom.
- Scope for cultivation of **exotic vegetables and herb** like asparagus shoot, celery , brussel sprouts, broccoli, Pak-choi, parsley, garlic, king chilly, sweet peppers, bird chilli, baby cucumbers, carrots, squash etc.
- In certain pockets there is scope for promoting **low –volume high –value crops like saffron (Crocus sativus)**.

The temperate and climatic conditions are such that it favours spices and medicinal plants and also sub alpine nut crops like hazel nut, chestnut, pistachio and others which holds promise for commercialization and horticulture revolution in the North East Region.

CHALLENGES

There is great scope and potentials for taking up varieties of agriculture and horticulture activities because of diverse Agro Climatic conditions, varied soil types and abundant rainfall making specially valley areas of Rupa, Kalaktang, Dirang and Singchung commercially viable enabling horticulture to become a major sector for economic activities

In the recent year's introduction of CSS, HMNEHS and State Plan Horticulture activities have been given tremendous boost.

However certain impediments exists which poses great challenges to unearth the vast potentials of Agriculture, Horticulture and allied sectors. A series of natural, physical and other factors causes a great hindrance to create an integrated supply chain linking farmers right from the stage of sowing seeds to that of reaching a competitive marketing arena.

Following are some of the challenges faced by farmers/producers in general as well as by Departments:

- 1. Export Promotion:** In order to promote export of horticulture produce from the West Kameng necessary infrastructure and support systems are lacking.
The existing infrastructure for the development of horticulture is highly inadequate in many ways.
The low technological base and limited market infrastructure with virtually no storage facilities and inadequate means of transport have resulted in a very low or even no growth in this sector.
The role played by Government Departments like the Department of Horticulture/ Agriculture of the State Governments is inadequate and needs to be diversified and made widespread.
Extraneous factors like insurgency and no growth of private sectors in the area further compound the problem.
Border trade and exports to the neighbouring States can be a new avenue for both employment generation and revenue booster for the State.
- 2. Monopoly Practices:** Most prominent challenge for the farmers is the monopoly tactics adopted by buyers/ vendors. Since most of the produce are perishable in nature viz. Tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, bottle-gourd, pumpkin, chilli, beans etc. farmers cannot afford to wait for the right price to be offered and have to sell their produces at the rate fixed more or less by the buyers.
There is need to minimise intermediaries and enable produce of farmers to reach directly from farms to the markets.
The intervention of middlemen/intermediaries has forced the farmers to adapt to the prevailing situations imposed upon them. As such farmers are restrained by limited options of only few viable few buyers.
- 3. Marketing of Horticulture produce:** Marketing of Horticulture produce remains one of the most un-reformed sectors. Though there is surplus production of Kiwi, Apple, Orange, Pineapple and other fruit crops

and vegetables, there is no proper marketing of surplus produce due to lack of infrastructure, man power and coordination.

- 4. Transportation:** A huge loss of produce i.e. up to 60% has been reported due to glut in the market especially in rural area. There is a huge gap in terms post-harvest produce and quantity finally supplied. As on date, there is no evident beneficial scheme for market management.

The inadequate transport facilities and difficult terrain are the major reason for the very low level of commercial horticulture in Arunachal Pradesh. The conditions of these roads get worse during the long monsoon seasons. The distance of majority of these States from Guwahati (or) Kolkata is long and transportation of goods from these States is very expensive.

There is no Market Regulation Act and so the middlemen take advantage of the farmer's poor conditions and weak bargaining power. The farmers in general bring their surplus produce from distant villages to the nearest market for disposal and at times not being aware of the prevailing market trends, resort to distress sales.

Moreover, most of the produces being perishable in nature, road blockade sometimes not being cleared for days during monsoon hamper the already harvested produce that eventually degrades its quality. The worst case is that of tomato (major crop of the district).

- 5. Market Infrastructure:** The markets in the region are largely unorganized and dominated by the small private traders. Though the economy of the region is essentially agro- based with majority of population engaged in agricultural operations, the development of agricultural marketing systems have been very poor and only a very small quantity of marketable surplus is sold in the regulated markets. The basic infrastructure facilities like storage, warehousing and transportations are missing and hereby affect the storage and mobilization of goods.
- 6. Processing Facility:** Export of processed fruits and vegetables are another thrust areas for increasing export of value added products. The processing capacity is developed on the potential of supply of raw material of that area, however despite of huge surplus available in the region the development of processing industry has been negligible resulting in the poor growth in export sector and thereby has caused a huge loss of opportunity in the region.
- 7. Cold Chain:** West Kameng has very limited number of cold storages and only few of them are operational. The cost of hiring refrigerated trucks for carrying horticulture produces from District to the major cities in the States for further exports is very high.
- 8. Quality Planting Material:** Despite having immense scope for area expansion owing to conducive Agro climate regions in the district, non-availability of quality planting/seedling/sapling materials poses huge hindrance. Pest and disease infested low quality planting material yields bad crops.

9. **Human resources:** Lack of man power in the department to handle screening of viral and other diseases. Scarcity of technical officers and trained field staffs in the department further exacerbates the situation.
10. **Research and Development:** There is also a huge gap in Research and Development intervention which is urgent need of hour.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Direct linking of produce from farm to the market is an important issue which needs to be addressed to improve the economic status of the farmers.

As farmers have small land holding, they are to be amalgamated with Co-operative farming. Collection centre for farm produces should be constructed in selected rural areas.

In order to meet up the requirement of quality planting materials, impetus to be given to R & D and establishment of centre of Excellence to facilitate High-tech nurseries in the District.

Jhum Cultivation: To divert the farmers from practicing Jhum cultivation and cannabis cultivation a new scheme with incentive should be introduced to mitigate socio-economic degradation like that Large Cardamom.

Organic Farming: As the State is encouraging organic farming there is need to go for pure organic cultivation of agri-horticulture crops. Introduction of organic farming is the need of the hour. Agriculture, horticulture, fishery, veterinary branches should be integrated on farm activities.

There should be Minimum support Price System in Horticulture crop as Government does for agriculture and monitor market and regulate it.

Construction of Water Resources: Construction of water resources and micro irrigation project is required to conserve and make judicious use of water.

Medicinal and aromatic plants: There is need for farmer friendly schemes along with proper linkage for buyback with dealers/ pharmaceutical companies /processing industries, or proper marketing, so that produces of farmers are not wasted.

Allocate cultivation of these medicinal plants to horticulture departments with sufficient fund under both State and National Medicinal Plant Board (SMPB & NMPB) and AYUSH for success of programme as well as enhancing income of farmers.

Introduction of potential new fruit crops: Need for schemes to import new potential fruit and nut crops for their successful cultivation under agro- climatic condition of this district for further multiplication and cultivation on commercial scale by farmers with financial assistance from the Government. There is need for emphasis on introduction of new and potential horticulture crops like Blueberry, Logan and Goji berry, red and black currant etc., **new kiwi fruit varieties** having better market demand, **new apple varieties** having better quality and yield performance and market acceptability. Programmes for

cultivation of nut crops also need to be started in addition to walnuts keeping in mind post-harvest shelf life of nut crops and their market value.

For example, Blueberry fruits were introduced under BADP Scheme in 2016-17 and found to be viable in the district. Now follow – up action in the form of commercial cultivation by farmers with schemes on larger scale is required.

To reduce the gestation period for Walnut trees to come to bearing, emphasis from Government to take up large scale production of true to type superior quality grafted plants of walnut is required with Hi-tech facilities for propagation. Grafted walnut plants come to full bearing in five (5) years as compared to nine(9) years in case of seedling and quality of nuts from seedling plants are not uniform /true to their mother plants .

Orchids : Commercial cultivation of exotic varieties of both sub-tropical and temperate orchids like Cypripedium (also called Lady's Slipper), Cymbidiums (Boat orchids), Paphiopedilum ('lady Slipper'), Vanda, etc. needs to be encouraged with progressive farmers with financial assistance and technical know-how. Wild species of these are found in the region, hence agro –climatic conditions are suitable for their cultivation.

Mushrooms: There is need for encouraging cultivation of various mushrooms at household level as well as on Commercial level to generate employment-mushroom cultivation being labour intensive activity. Wood-log cultivation of Shiitake mushrooms can be taken up with development of very high quality (State of the art sort) Spawn laboratory infrastructure like Bulk Chambers for preparation and making available readymade compost (in short time) and casing soil to the rowers. These spawn laboratories and bulk chambers for composting units must be capable of supplying round the year demand of mushroom cultivations. Canning units for button mushrooms, drying units for oyster and shitake mushrooms may also be established for further marketing of produces.

Vegetable: After success in vegetables like potato, tomato and cabbage in the district, there is a need for exploring cultivation of exotic vegetables and herbs like asparagus shoot, capsicum (Sweet pepper), broccoli, baby cucumbers, carrots, garlic, king chilly and herbs like celery, menthe, leek, parsley etc. to fetch more income and diversify cultivation and income source. To augment higher production, improved hybrid seeds are required to be distributed to the farmers.

Low - Volume High- Value Horticulture Crop: field trials at various locations can be conducted to explore feasibility of cultivation of saffron in co-ordination with CITH, Srinagar (J&K).

STRATEGIES TO BE ADOPTED

1. PROMOTING NEW VARIETIES OF FRUITS/ PLANTS IN DESIRABLE AREAS OF DISTRICT :-

a) Low Hills(Below 1000 ft):- Bhalukpong, Thrizino, Jamiri Lower parts of Nafra , Kalaktang.

- i. **Fruits** :- Citrus fruits such as Orange , Valencia, Lemon, Mango, Litchi, Guava etc.
- ii. **Medicinal Plants** :- Amla, Sweet Flag(Budhivartak), Harhar (Terminate Chebula), Sushasul, Neem etc.

b) Mid Hills (1000 to 6000 ft):- Rupa, Dirang, Thembang, Singchung (1000 to 6000 ft), Kalaktang etc.

- i. **Fruits** :- Kiwi, Walnut, Pears, Peach, Plum, Pomegranate, Persimmon etc.
- ii. **Medicinal Plants** :- Kaniah (Mumua Prueins), Aloe-vera, Turmeric, Lemon grass etc.

c) High Hills (6000ft – 8000 ft):- Bomdila, Sera, Wanghoo, , Zimthung & Namthung(Dirang), Shergaon, Morshing (Kalaktang), Chillipam

- i. **Fruits** :- Apple & Walnut
- ii. **Medicinal Plants** :- Texas Baccata, Xantho Xylum Species, Jinsung Paris Polyphylla, Tagar (Walleriana Wailichi) Alrus replenish(Alder/oofis), etc.

2. High value Cash Crops like cardamom and cinnamon to be taken as a replacement to Cannabis cultivation. Department of Horticulture-Agriculture to be roped in for initiating cultivation of large cardamom and oranges in Kalaktang and Dirang circles of the district.

3. MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE

Minimum support price is the price at which the Government purchases crops from the farmers, whatever may be the price for the crops. MSP help to incentivise the farmers and thus ensures production. However, in our State there is no any fixed MSP for the farmers for any crop. The produce is sold in the market at the prevailing rates that are governed or controlled by the private market regulators.

Now seeing the present agricultural scenario there is the need of MSP for the farmers, because as per the Govt. Agriculture policy there are three important components- the MSP, the Buffer stock and issue of food grains through PDS. The interconnectivity between the three is very important.

4. The Department of Horticulture is encouraging the farmers to take up organic farming by way of providing small and large vermin compost units also through backward and forward linkages.

a) Backward linkage:- Loan credit facility through banks, Co-operatives, CIG's (Community Interest Groups), SHG's (Self Help

Groups) etc. creating easy and ready source of inputs like seed planting materials , p.p equipment and bio fertilizers etc.

b) Forward linkage:- Finding easy source of market, refrigerated systems of transport which needs exploration. Organic system of farming needs certification from IFOAM Agency.

5. Ministry of Agriculture & Co-operation, Government of India has earmarked NERAMAC (North Eastern Agricultural Marketing Corporation) Guwahati for creation of Centre of Excellence with Hi- tech Green Houses and procurement of imported quality planting materials. Immediate signing of such MOU between the State Department of Horticulture and NERAMAC will further boost up Horticulture within the district and State as a whole.
6. No specific dedicated transport linkage exists. Marketing is carried out through APMS marginally or by farmers on their own. Efforts were made to introduce refrigerated transport but could not be materialised.
7. At present there is no marketing facility being provided to the farmers/ growers to transport their Horticultural surplus.
8. As of now, there are no dedicated sponsorship from outside except encouraging/ motivating/incentivising the farmers through Departmental schemes and programmes.
9. **Agro forestry model** where farmers can incorporate food -fruit production and forest trees that can be marketed. Alley cropping of forested species with Agriculture/ Horticulture crops. Nitrogen fixing Shrubs and trees (NFTS) can be taken up for hedge rows between terraces of forestry and Agri/ Horti Crops.
10. Organisation of agriculture along **the value chain framework** has been conceived as one of the strategies to bring more efficiency and standard in the field of agriculture sector. The value-chain network in essence defines as a range of activities that are required to bring a product from its source to the consumer at the last. Emphasis is being laid down to evolve an efficient agriculture value-chain and in this way several innovative and successful value-chain can be developed depending on the feasibility and conduciveness of weather parameters for a particular crop/ crops.
 - Awareness campaign regarding new technologies related to agriculture /allied sectors and also for few programme launched by State / Central Government for the betterment of farming community.
 - Multi- cropping should be followed round the year for the maximization of benefits from a unit area.

- Skill development programme (related trainings) for unemployed rural youths for employment generations like Bee keeping, Mushroom farming, Ornamental fish farming, diary, Goats/ sheep rearing, vermin- composting and value addition/ post-harvest of agricultural / horticultural products for income generation.
- Integrated Farming System approach to maximize the productivity of the area.
- Farm mechanisation and drudgery reduction to reduce the labour cost.
- Crop diversification for better productivity.
- Soil and water conservation to improve the soil health and produce quality also.
- Off season vegetable farming/protected cultivation to gain better price.
- Post-harvest and value addition of agricultural, fruit crops, underutilized fruit and vegetables and minor forest product.
- Development of agro –forestry model.
- Involvement of various departments i.e Horticulture, Agriculture, Veterinary, Fishery, ATMA, DTO, SPO, DFO, PWD, WRD, RWD and PHE etc for the development of infrastructure and other necessary facilities to achieve the target.

Similarly, in field of veterinary, following strategies can be very productive:-

Market driven & profit centric approach needs to be advocated through:-

- Value addition of milk through hygienic processing & packaging.
 - Introduction of high yielding species of livestock & poultry.
 - Developing organized Pashu Mandis.
 - Organising buyers - sellers meet.
 - Organizing Pashu Melas.
 - Providing remuneration to best performing farmers.
- a) Development of pasture land for yak & hybrids with high yielding chill resistant varieties of fodder species.
 - b) Promotion of feed blocks to tide over scarcity of fodder during lean periods.
 - c) Aggressive & extensive promotion & propagation of artificial insemination to upgrade local cattle.
 - d) Development of Co-operative societies, self-help groups, women cluster to take up animal husbandry in more organized & profitable way.
 - e) Facilitation of credit linkage to farmers.
 - f) Intensification of veterinary Education and extension activities.


 Dr. Sonal Swarup IAS
 Deputy Commissioner
 West Kameng District
 Bomdila