



SIKKIM HERALD

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Governor inaugurates 70ft Monumental National Flag



Gangtok, October 11: Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur, inaugurated the 70ft Monumental National Flag at Sikkim Prerna Sthal, Bardang, today. The monumental National Flag has been installed by Indian Army, Tourism Department, Government of Sikkim, and Flag Foundation of India and is dedicated to the nation.

The installation of 70ft Monumental National Flag marked as the 184th Monumental National Flag, prominently positioned within the premises of Sikkim Prerna Sthal, stands as a symbol of unity, pride, and respect for the

nation.

This day also marks the first anniversary of Sikkim Prerna Sthal, an initiative of Raj Bhavan built in honour of the twenty-two martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the GLOF that occurred in the State on October, 2023.

Present during the inauguration were Mr NB Dahal Minister for Roads and Bridges, Mr LB Das MLA-cum-Advisor, Major General MS Rathore GOC of Black Cat Division, SM, VSM, Ms Hondala Gyaltsen Secretary, Tourism and Civil Aviation

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Governor inspects Sevoke-Rangpo Railway Line Project

Gangtok, October 11: Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur conducted an inspection of the ongoing Sevoke-Rangpo Railway Line Project, Khanikhola, Rangpo under Pakyong District and reviewed the ongoing progress work, which holds strategic importance, today.

Governor was accompanied by Mr Indra Hang Subba MP Lok Sabha, DC Pakyong and officers from Pakyong District Administration.

During the visit, the Governor engaged in discussions with senior railway officials of the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) to assess the ongoing railway development project in the State.

In a brief meeting, officials from the NFR made a detailed presentation on the current status of the project. The General Manager, NFR (Construction), Mr Arun Chaudhary and Chairman and Managing Director, IRCON International Limited, Mr Hari Mohan Gupta briefed the

Governor on the ongoing development works of the project and highlighted other impediments hampering the progress of the project.

The Governor said that the Sevoke-Rangpo railway project will contribute to the growth of the tourism sector in the State. Additionally, he mentioned that the project will play a vital role in national security, promote industrial growth, generate employment opportunities, and contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the state and nation as well.

He urged the NFR officials to maintain on the infrastructure quality, safety and timely completion in the construction work.

The Governor noted that this reflects the Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi's strong commitment to improving

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Chief Minister virtually attends launch of PMDDKY and other key projects

Gangtok, October 11: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang virtually participated in the launch of the PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana and the inauguration and foundation stone laying of various significant schemes and projects of the Government of India by Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi, today.

During the event, Prime Minister formally launched the PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, a flagship scheme aimed at promoting agricultural self-reliance. Alongside this, a six-year Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses was unveiled to strengthen India's pulse production and reduce dependency on imports.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated multiple projects dedicated to the nation, including those under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Animal Husbandry, and Food Processing Industries, signifying a comprehensive approach towards rural and agricultural development.

Certificates were presented by Prime Minister to a group of farmers engaged in natural farming, MAITRI technicians certified in



their respective fields, and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) that have successfully transformed into Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSKs) and Common Service Centres (CSCs), marking significant progress in cooperative sector reforms.

The occasion also served to celebrate several milestones, reflecting the Central Government's ongoing dedication

to strengthening India's agricultural ecosystem and empowering rural communities across the nation.

Joining Chief Minister during the virtual event were Mr Puran Gurung Minister, Mr VB Pathak Cabinet Secretary, Mr R Telang Chief Secretary and concerned Heads of various Departments.

Chief Minister launches Connect to CM- a citizen-centric governance initiative

Gangtok, October 13: In a step towards fulfilling the State Government's commitment to bringing governance to the doorsteps of the people, Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang launched 'Connect to CM', platform at Samman Bhawan, today.

'Connect to CM', is a citizen-centric platform designed to empower the people of Sikkim to voice their concerns and ensure timely, efficient, and effective public service. Aiming to bridge the gap between the government and the public, the initiative marks a new era of transparency and direct engagement enabling citizens to raise concerns, access essential services, and communicate directly with the Chief Minister's Office.

Speaking at the launch, the Chief Minister stated that the initiative is in line with the State Government's vision to reach the last person with the focus to 'Connect with the Unconnected'. He also urged officials of the Chief Minister's Office to work with



efficiency and dedication, always placing public service at the core of their efforts.

The service will be

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Pearls of Wisdom

"Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently."

- Maya Angelou

Training of 3rd batch of Yuva Aapda Mitra Volunteers

Namchi, October 13: Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA), under Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department in collaboration with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism (IHCAE), initiated the training of the 3rd batch of Yuva Aapda Mitra Volunteers at IHCAE, Chemchey, today.

Under the central sector initiative implemented by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), 50 volunteers from Namchi District, comprising of student volunteers from different colleges, are being trained for a total of 5 days. The scheme is designed to train community volunteers in essential disaster response skills, such as relief, rescue, and first aid, enabling them to offer immediate assistance to their communities during emergencies like floods and other disasters, acting as first responders during the crisis.

Mr MT Sherpa, Relief Commissioner-cum-Secretary LRDM urged the trainees to take hold of the benefits of the knowledge imparted to them during the course of the training and also emphasised the need to prepare themselves in situations of crisis and disaster, if any. He also stated that the volunteers being trained today shall be called for duty in scenarios of disaster and urged them to utilise their knowledge for proper search, rescue and evacuation process as first responders.

He also mentioned that the training being imparted to them holds great prominence as the

initiation day falls on International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction, and emphasised the need for them to foster a sense of ethical duty towards the community.

Further, the Secretary also stated that accordingly Aapda Mitra Volunteers shall be recognised for their dedicated service by the state and shall be called to perform parade march on prominent national holidays.

Ms Anupa Tamling DC Namchi, highlighted the importance of disaster management training being provided to them and urged the volunteers to execute knowledge they gain with full dedication and responsibility. She mentioned that the course shall test the mental and physical resilience of the trainees regardless of gender and imparting words of motivation she stated that the training shall mould them towards stronger beings and further help them to execute their work effectively during search, rescue and evacuation missions.

Further, she advised the volunteers to be ready to act in scenarios of disasters, if any as after their completion of the training they shall be inducted to the district state Aapda Mitra volunteers' cadre and shall be utilised as first responders in disaster stricken areas.

Ms Parina Gurung, Additional Secretary SSDMA and Nodal Officer, provided an overview of the Aapda Mitra Scheme. She explained that the initiative aims to equip community volunteers with essential disaster response skills such as rescue, relief, and first aid, so they can

offer immediate support during emergencies like floods and other disasters. She noted that the training is facilitated by the State and District Disaster Management Authorities, with the objective of building a network of local volunteers who can assist when formal emergency services are delayed or unavailable. She also mentioned that the volunteers shall receive training materials, uniforms, guidebooks, and complete Emergency Response Management (ERM) kits from the concerned department. She also highlighted that the scheme includes insurance coverage for volunteers of ₹3 Lakhs, specifically in cases of death or disability sustained during rescue operations.

Mr Kazi Sherpa Principal IHCAE, highlighted the functioning of IHCAE Chemchey, stating that since the initiation of the institute on December 7, 2009, more than 10,000 local personnel have been trained for air, land and water based adventure activities.

He further mentioned that the purpose and objectives of the training being imparted is to raise volunteers that can help and protect the vulnerable during emergencies and disasters and further helping them improve and grow their mental and physical aptitudes.

The programme also had the presence of Mr Suraj Rai DPO DDMA Namchi, Mr Norden Bhutia Administrator IHCAE, Ms Shanti Rai Senior Instructor IHCAE, and officers and staff of SSDMA, DDMA and IHCAE.

Press release from Fisheries Department Gyalshing

Gyalshing, October 13: Fisheries Department, Gyalshing District conducted a one-day awareness programme for Scheduled Tribe (ST/SC) beneficiaries under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), with support from the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad at Gerethang Gram Prashasan Kendra (GPK) Hall under Yuksam-Tashiding Constituency, Gyalshing District.

The programme was attended by Ms Sashi Luitel, Panchayat President, Labing Gerethang GPU as the chief guest accompanied by Panchayat Vice-President and Panchayat Members. Also present were Mr Lahang Limboo AD Fisheries Department Gyalshing, and staff comprising of AFGs and field investigators.

The primary objective of the programme was to sensitise tribal(ST/SC) fish farmers about the wide range of Government initiatives and schemes

formulated for the holistic development of the fisheries sector in Sikkim, with particular emphasis on the welfare and upliftment of Scheduled Tribe communities.

Ms Sashi Luitel encouraged participants to take up fish farming wherever feasible. She also emphasised training and producing value-added products. She urged the farmers to proactively access and utilize the various schemes being implemented by the Department for their benefit. She further thanked the department for organising the awareness programme and thus enlightening them on various schemes under the Fisheries Department.

Mr Lahang Limboo presented an overview of the aquaculture sector in Sikkim and highlighted the scope of opportunities available to fish farmers. He elaborated on various

departmental schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), the Aquaculture Insurance Scheme under PMMSY, the Mukhya Mantri Matsya Utpadan Yojana (MMMUY), Pradhan Mantri Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY), the ongoing progress of fisheries-related activities in the district, and the process for availing benefits such as the Kisan Credit Card (KCC).

Further, Ms Lhakpa Dolma Bhutia AFG highlighted the perks of value-added products and how it creates employment and improves financial conditions.

The programme concluded with an interactive session followed by a vote of thanks, extending gratitude to NFDB, Hyderabad, for their support and to the participating farmers as well as the Panchayat members.

final stages of completion.

The Governor also appreciated the dedication and efforts made by the officers and staff associated with the project and expressed that the project will be completed within the stipulated time.

Limboo Community celebrates Pre-Bali Hang Tongnam 2025

Gyalshing, October 12: Limboo community celebrated Balihang Tongnam, one of its most significant cultural festivals of the Limboo community at Yuksom, Gyalshing District, today. The celebration featured a variety of cultural and traditional programmes showcasing the rich heritage of ethnic Limboo community.

The event was organised by Balihang Tongnam Celebration Committee with support from various organisations, community-based bodies, and local NGOs.

Mr Tshering T Bhutia Minister -cum-Area MLA, graced the occasion as the chief guest. Upon arrival, the chief guest lit the Ladhung Semi at the Manghim at the venue and offered prayers.

Among the dignitaries present were Former Deputy Speaker, Advisor to Chief Minister, Advisor to STCS, Advisor to Commerce and Industries Department, Zilla Adhyaksha (Gyalshing), Advisor to State Medicinal Plants Board, Chairperson of Sikkim Cooperative Society, Chairman Ecclesiastical Department, SDM Yuksam, OSDs, BDOs, officials from various departments, along with several eminent personalities of Limboo community and a large gathering of the public from various communities.

The celebration at the main stage commenced with a welcome address by the President of the Balihang Tongnam Celebration Committee. This was followed by an address by Assistant Professor and Head of the Limboo Department at Sikkim Alpine University, who briefed the gathering on the historical and cultural significance of Balihang Tongnam festival.

Various cultural performances such as Yarakma, Hakparay, Ke-lang, and Tam-Akey Lang were showcased,

reflecting the diversity and depth of Limboo traditions. The presentation of Laringak-Namlingak further highlighted the essence of the celebration.

Addressing the gathering, chief guest extended warm greetings to the Limboo community on behalf of the State Government. He spoke on the importance of preserving cultural identity and promoting communal harmony.

He highlighted that under the leadership of Chief Minister every community in Sikkim has been provided with equal opportunities for cultural promotion, development, and welfare. He emphasised that the State Government has prioritised inclusivity and communal harmony by supporting the growth of languages, literature, and cultural traditions of all communities.

Commending the Limboo community for its rich cultural heritage, the Minister urged the younger generation to preserve and carry forward the legacy of their ancestors. He also outlined several welfare initiatives of the State Government, including free medical support, educational assistance for economically weaker students, and scholarships enabling Sikkimese youths to pursue higher studies such as MBBS both in India and abroad.

Highlighting ongoing development projects, he stated that Yuksom-Tashiding constituency has been given special priority by the Chief Minister for infrastructural and socio-economic progress.

The chief guest and other dignitaries also visited various traditional stalls set up at the venue including the Yuma Manghim.

It may be mentioned that this event was held as a pre-festival celebration, with the main Balihang Tongnam festival coinciding with the forthcoming Diwali festival.

Chairman SBS graces Centenary Celebration of PM SHRI Government SSS Dentam

Gyalshing, October 12: The third day of the ongoing Centenary Celebration of PM SHRI Government Senior Secondary School, Dentam continued with great enthusiasm, featuring a blend of cultural, literary and sporting activities that highlighted the institution's rich heritage and student talent.

The day's programme was graced by Mr DB Gurung Chairman, State Bank of Sikkim, as the chief guest.

In his address, Chairman lauded the institution's century-long contribution to education and community development. He commended the dedication of the teachers and students in upholding the school's tradition

of excellence and urged them to continue striving for holistic growth and innovation in education.

The celebration featured a variety of cultural performances, literary contests, and exhibitions that showcased the talent, creativity and unity of the school community. The event also reflected on the institution's rich legacy of shaping young minds and contributing to the educational advancement of Gyalshing District.

The centenary celebration will continue with further cultural and academic events in the coming days, commemorating 100 years of learning, service and excellence.

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Governor inspects...

infrastructure and connectivity in the NE region to the rest of the nation.

This 45 kilometres long Sevoke-Rangpo railway project is

one of the crucial connectivity projects for the Northeastern region that will connect Sikkim with the national railway network. In the 45 kilometers stretch, 41.5 kilometres falls under West Bengal state and 3.5 kilometers falls within Sikkim where construction of 14 tunnels and 23 bridges are in the

Government of Sikkim
Office of the Additional Chief Engineer
Sports and Youth Affairs Department
White Hall Complex, Gangtok

NIT NO: - 1014/SYA/EC/2025/1728

DATED: - 13/10/25

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, the Additional Chief Engineer, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, invites sealed tender in percentage rate basis from contractors enlisted with SPWD, of **Class II-B** category within **Rhenock Constituency**, Sikkim for the work listed below.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Work Value put to tender (In ₹)	Completion time (in month)	Amount of BR for cost of tender documents (in ₹.) Revenue Head (0202-03-800-01 Miscellaneous Receipts, Sports & Youth Affairs Department.	Amount of Earnest money @ 2.5% for issue of tender form (in ₹.)
1	Development of Cricket Academy and Construction of Cricket ground at Amba Pakyong District, Sikkim.	₹3,34,73,038.00 (Three Crore Thirty-Four Lakhs Seventy-Three Thousand and Thirty-Eight Only)	24 Months	₹1,00,000.00	₹8,36,826.00

TIME SCHEDULE

i)	Date of submission of application with Bank Receipt, for issue of Tender Documents (excluding Tender Form)	10-11-2025 & 12-11-2025 (From 10:00 hrs to 15:30 hrs)
ii)	Date of issue of Tender Form on submission of Earnest money (TDR)	14-11-2025 (From 10:00hrs to 15:00 hrs)
iii)	Date and time for submission of Tender Form	17-11-2025 till 12:00 hrs
iv)	Date and time of opening of Tender	17-11-2025 (From 13:00 hrs to 14:00 hrs)

A. GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

1) Tender is open only to the eligible contractors of appropriate Class/Area.
2) The intending tenderer/contractor should apply in writing for issue of tender documents. The application would invariably be signed by the contractor himself/herself.
3) The applicants should enclose attested copies of the following:
(a) Validated Contractor Enlistment Certificate along with the application is mandatory to produce in original during sale/issue of the Tender Documents for verification.
(b) PAN Card.
(c) Voter's Card.
4) The challan for obtaining prescribed Non- Transferable Tender Documents (Excluding the Tender Form) can be obtained during the period specified in as above from the office of the **Accounts Officer cum D&DO, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Gangtok**. The tender documents shall then be obtained on the production of receipt deposit to the Revenue Head 0202-03-800-01 (Miscellaneous Receipts).
5) Earnest Money Deposit @ 2.5% in the State Bank of Sikkim shall be in the form of deposit receipt of scheduled bank which includes deposits in the form of Temporary Deposit Receipts in favor of **Sr.A.O, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Gangtok**. The Tender Form shall be issued from the office of Sr.A.O, S&YA Deptt. only on the production of TDR to those contractors who have obtained the tender documents, on production of bank BR/Challan for the cost of tender documents. Since the work value put to tender is below ₹5.00 crore the women Contractors are exempted from depositing 2.5% TDR as per notification No.104/R&B Dated-08/10/2020. In case the lowest bidder is enlisted women contractor, the work order shall be issued only after the production of Temporary Deposit Receipt (TDR) @ of 2.5% of the cost put to tender.
6)The Tender Documents, including the tender form with quoted offer should be placed in a sealed cover with the name of tenderer and the name of work superscripted on it. Supporting documents listed at Sl. No.:- 3(a), (b) & (c) should be enclosed with the offer.
7) Sealed Tenders may be deposited in the Tender Box in the **Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Gangtok**, in his presence, on the date and within the time indicated above.
8) Tenders will be opened by a tender opening committee as prescribed by the Government in the presence of the tenderers on the date and time indicated above.
9) The Tenderer should sign on every page of the tender documents as Acceptance of the General Directions and condition of Contract and other laid down norms. **The rate quoted should be both in figures and words and should be exclusive of GST and all other Taxes and Levies**. Over writing and correction should be avoided and if made should be authenticated. Incomplete/Conditional tender shall be rejected forth with.
10) The contractor will have to pay all taxes and duties as applicable and notified by the State/Central Government and no claim shall be entertained in this regard whatsoever. The payment due to the contractor shall be made as and when the funds are available in the department.
11) The Department reserves the right to reject the incomplete tender without assigning any reasons there-off.
12) All the other conditions of the contract shall be obtained from the office of the Assistant Engineer, SYAD, White Hall Complex, Gangtok.

Additional Chief Engineer
Sports and Youth Affairs Department
(155)

Information and Public Relations Department
Government of Sikkim
Soochna Bhawan, Tadong 5th Mile, 737102

No.507/IPR/25-26

Date:10/10/2025

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed local firms for printing of the book with the following specifications:

1.	Name of the book :	Sikkim: Dawn of a New Era
2.	Quantity :	2000 (two thousand) copies
3.	No of pages :	Approx. 125 pages
4.	Size :	22x31 Rectangular
5.	Binding :	Hard board binding
6.	Lamination :	Matt lamination on both side cover page +jacket
7.	Inside book paper :	130 GSM
8.	Jacket cover :	250 GSM
9.	Delivery :	15 days after the receipt of confirmed work order
10.	Taxes :	Intending bidders must quote rates inclusive of all taxes applicable.

Terms and conditions:

1. The party must have very good experience in the field of printing in the past and must have their reputation of successful printing & supply of high quality product.
2. Quotation should be accompanied with TDR Rupees One Lakh only to be deposited in the State Bank of Sikkim in favour of IPR Department, Government of Sikkim.
3. The tender form can be obtained from the office of the Chief Account Officer, IPR Department, Government of Sikkim, on production of state bank receipt of ₹2500/- (Two Thousand Five Hundred) Only (Non-refundable) deposited under head 0220 IPR during the office hour.
The last date for issue of tender form is 17th October 2025 till 3.00pm on all working days.
4. Tender form duly filled in along with the valid trade license, PT clearance, GST registration certificate etc. should reach in office of the Chief Account Officer, IPR Department on or before 11.00am of 18th October 2025 and the same shall be opened on the same day at 3.00pm by the Committee in the presence of tenders or their authorized representatives.
5. The party quoting the lowest rate shall not put any undue pressure on the department for issue of work order as the printing work will be executed through the successful bidder only on receipt of the equivalent amount of financial resource from the state government after ascertaining the rate through upon tender under no circumstances request for advance payment will be considered.
6. Rate quoted should be inclusive of all taxes F.O.R IPR Office, Gangtok.
7. The tender committee reserves the full right to accept or reject any or all quotations/tenders without assigning any reason or reasons thereof and reserve the right to award the work to any tender found competent and competitive.
8. The tender form should be accompanied by proper license of the Government for Printing Press.

Deputy Director (Publication)
IPR Department

IHCAE Partnership Conclave 2025 concludes

Gangtok, October 10: Two-day IHCAE Partnership Conclave 2025, organised by the Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Ecotourism (IHCAE), Chemchey under the Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, in collaboration with Sikkim INSPIRES, concluded today.

The conclave brought together key stakeholders from academia, industry, and government to chart a collective roadmap for strengthening Sikkim's adventure and ecotourism ecosystem.

The final day began with a Mountain Biking Expedition from Chemchey to Temi, followed by an exposure tour of Ravangla and Temi Tea Estate, where delegates experienced first-hand Sikkim's natural beauty and cultural richness. The visit highlighted the State's ongoing efforts to promote responsible tourism and community-based livelihoods through sustainable practices.

The closing session was graced by Mr Tenzing Norbu Lamtha as chief guest MLA-cum-Advisor and Mr Lukendra Rasaily Advisor STDC as guest of honour. Also present were Ms Hondala Gyaltsen Secretary Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Principal Director (Accounts), Additional Secretary, officials, IHCAE faculty and representatives from Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) and other partner institutions along with local partner organisations TASS, SAATO, ASTHA, and SUTO.

In his address, the chief guest said that it was a privilege to have professionals, scholars, and stakeholders from Nepal, Bhutan, and across India gathered under one roof to deliberate on the future of adventure and ecotourism in Sikkim.

He remarked that the conclave forges stronger partnerships in the field of ecotourism, describing it as a timely initiative to improve, develop and expand Sikkim's adventure tourism sector. Commending IHCAE for spearheading the effort, he lauded its consistent focus on high-quality training, capacity building, and adventure leadership in the State.

Highlighting Sikkim's vast potential, he stated that the State's unique mountain landscapes and rich natural heritage have the power to attract adventure enthusiasts from across the world. There is growing interest in Sikkim's mountain peaks, he noted, representing a promising industry. However, he cautioned that Sikkim's mountain ecosystems are fragile and hold deep religious and spiritual significance, emphasising that all policies must respect local sentiments and cultural values while ensuring ecological integrity.

He further underlined that the State Government prioritises biodiversity protection, as it is one of the top biodiversity hotspots in the world. He stated that this natural strength must be used to build a sustainable ecotourism model that benefits local communities and visitors.

He added that Sikkim's tourism sector is expanding, and is crucial to explore new avenues of growth suited to a tech-savvy generation of travellers.

He reiterated that ecotourism must be pursued responsibly and inclusively, maintaining a balance between community development and environmental preservation. He expressed confidence that the IHCAE Partnership Conclave 2025 would lay a strong foundation for a sustainable and collaborative future for adventure and ecotourism in Sikkim.

In his address, Advisor, STDC, expressed gratitude to delegates and partners for their active participation. He stated that such platforms play a vital role in shaping the nation's economy and inspire confidence in the future of adventure tourism in Sikkim. He emphasised the need to provide greater national and international exposure to guides trained under the Department to foster integration and professional growth.

Appreciating organisations working for public welfare, he highlighted the importance of creating more opportunities for Sikkimese youth in adventure tourism. Expressing delight at the participation of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation, he reaffirmed his commitment to working closely with IMF to explore new avenues for sustainable adventure tourism in the State.

Mr Kazi Sherpa, Principal IHCAE and Joint Director T&CA, reflected on the key takeaways from the two-day conclave. He emphasised that the sessions and interactions had laid a strong foundation for long-term academic and professional partnerships, aimed at curriculum enrichment, faculty development, and knowledge exchange in adventure and ecotourism.

The programme also featured an experience-sharing session between delegates.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) was also signed between the Tourism Department and various stakeholder organisations, including The Wild Survival Academy, Hyderabad, Adventure Gurudongmar, Kalimpong, Adventure Thrill, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Bhutan Ecological Society, Bhutan, Nepal National Mountain Guide Association, Kathmandu, Nepal, Himalayan Outdoor Recreational School, Kathmandu, Nepal, Mt. Zion Kidzee School, Gangtok, Sikkim and Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai.

Press Release from SCERT

Gangtok: The 6th Residential Workshop under the Special Numeracy Programme (SNP) was organised at SICUN, Assam Lingzey, Pakyong District, today. The workshop was held in two phases; the first phase for 60 Supporting Mentor Teachers (SMTs) on October 6-7, 2025 and the second phase for 70 State Resource Group (SRG) and Nodal Teachers from October 8-10, 2025.

The programme was coordinated by Mr Rajiv Philip, Deputy Director, SCERT, and the workshop was facilitated by the Jodo Gyan team comprising EK Shaji, Amrita, Jazcint, Pooja, Harshita, and Chitra.

The objective of the workshop was to review the ongoing implementation of SNP activities across schools, strengthen the pedagogical understanding of foundational numeracy for Classes 1-3, and plan for the upcoming cluster-level

workshops. The sessions included presentations on field experiences, sharing of classroom observations, analysis of student learning progress, and planning for improved classroom support and mentoring.

The Jodo Gyan team conducted several interactive sessions focusing on concept-building activities, use of teaching-learning materials, and formative assessment strategies aligned with the goals of foundational numeracy. Participants also engaged in group work and hands-on sessions to design numeracy activities suitable for early-grade learners and shared innovative practices from their respective schools.

Dr Ravi Subramaniam Professor and former Centre Director Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education Tata Institute of Fundamental Research also visited some selected schools to evaluate

the progress of the programme. He later interacted with the SRGs during the workshop, providing valuable feedback and insights to strengthen classroom implementation and mentoring strategies.

The workshop concluded with a comprehensive action plan outlining follow-up mentoring visits, teacher support mechanisms, and documentation of best practices for the next phase of SNP. Participants expressed that the workshop provided an enriching platform for peer learning, reflection, and collaborative growth to further enhance mathematics learning at the foundational level. The SRGs and supporting mentor teachers will be conducting training for all teachers teaching Math in class 1 and 2 from October 13-17 in 45 selected venue schools in six districts.

Government Fruit Preservation Factory (Under Department of Commerce & Industries, Government of Sikkim) NH - 10, Lower Chisopani, Singtam - 737134, East Sikkim

GFPF/MD/Adm/124

gfpfsikkim@rediffmail.com

Dated: 14.10.2025

Advertisement for auction of vehicles

The Govt. Fruit Preservation Factory, Singtam shall be auctioning two numbers of vehicles as per the details below:

Sl. No.	Type of vehicle / model	Registration Number	Auction Amount as per Govt. valuation
1.	Bolero Pick - Up, 2015	SK 01 D 3088	140299.00
2.	Bolero ZLX, 2013	SK 01 PA 7904	134874.00

Time Schedule:

1. Date of Submission of application with the cost of ₹500/- for Tender/Auction Form and issue of Tender/Auction form 24th and 25th of October 2025 till 3.00 pm
2. Date and time for submission of auction form 27th and 28th of October 2025 till 3.00 pm
3. Date and time of opening of auction form 30th of October 2025 at 10:30 am

Terms and conditions:

1. Earnest Money Deposit @ 5% against valuation in the form of TDR of State Bank of Sikkim in favour of Managing Director, Govt. Fruit Preservation Factory.
2. The auction documents, including the form with quoted offer should be placed in a sealed envelope with the name of Tenderers and the name/type of vehicle on it.
3. Auction form will be opened by Auction Opening Committee in the presence of the Tenderers, Observers from the Department on the date and time indicated above.
4. The rate quoted should be both in figures and words along with name/type of vehicle.
5. The bidders have to lift the above mentioned vehicle on "As it is where it is" basis.
6. Any taxes, if applicable, have to be borne by the bidder.
7. The highest bidder shall be awarded the auction/tender for purchase of vehicle. Earnest money deposit of other bidders shall be returned to the concerned bidders after declaration of the highest bidder.
8. The highest bidder shall be bound to deposit the quoted price latest by 31st of October 2025. In the event of non compliance, the auction/tender shall be awarded to the next highest bidder.
9. In the event of withdrawal/non-compliance of auction/tender by the highest bidder, his Earnest Money deposit shall also be forfeited.
10. The Managing Director reserves the right for selection/rejection of the bid without assigning any reason thereof.
11. The decision of the Management and Observer from the Department shall be final and binding.
12. The Auction/Tender forms can be collected from the office of Manager (Admin) during office hrs.

Managing Director
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Chief Minister...

operational from October 14, 2025, and citizens can reach out via two dedicated phone numbers: 80016-81188 and 93327-81188, between 10:30 AM and 4:00 PM, every day

including Government holidays and festivals.

By integrating technology into public service delivery, 'Connect to CM', aims to promote greater efficiency, accountability, and inclusiveness. It reaffirms the State Government's ongoing commitment to 'Aangan Ma Sarkar', ensuring responsive

governance and citizen empowerment.

On the occasion, the Chief Minister also launched the Chief Minister's Schemes Integrated Management System, a digital framework for the effective monitoring and implementation of all schemes under the Chief Minister's Office.

READ AND ADVERTISE
IN
SIKKIM HERALD

International Day of Girl Child observed

Gangtok, October 11: International Day of the Girl Child, themed “The Girl I Am, The Change I Lead: Girls on the Frontline of Crisis”, was observed at Chintan Bhawan, today.

The programme was organised by the Women, Child, Senior Citizens and Divyangjan Welfare Department and had the presence of Mr Nim Tshering Lepcha Chairman as the chief guest and Mr Karma R Bonpo Director (Census, Sikkim) as the guest of honour.

Observed globally on 11 October, the International Day of the Girl Child serves as a platform to celebrate girls everywhere amplifying their voices, actions, and leadership. It is a day dedicated to recognising the rights of girls and promoting their empowerment.

During his address, the Chairman appreciated the confidence and eloquence of the participating students and congratulated them for their impressive performances. He encouraged students across schools to study sincerely and aspire to lead the State in the future.

He further mentioned that this is the era of mobile phones and artificial intelligence, where the world has progressed rapidly. He commended the efforts of the department and participating schools for advancing the message of equality and empowerment.

Students from Tashi Namgyal Academy, Taktse International School, Deorali Girls’ Senior Secondary School and Paljor Namgyal Girls’ Senior Secondary School delivered insightful talks on the theme of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative, emphasising education, equality and empowerment of girls.

The programme also recognised outstanding achievements by the girl students in sports and academics.

In sports, Sonam Choden Bhutia (Modern Senior Secondary School) and Rewa Barailly (Paljor Namgyal Girls’ Senior Secondary School) were awarded.

In academics, Eliora Eva Lepcha (PM SHRI Namchi Girls’ Senior Secondary School), Rinzing Ongmu Bhutia (PM SHRI Gyalshing Senior Secondary

School), and Dumpundi Lepcha (PM SHRI Deorali Girls’ Senior Secondary School) were felicitated.

Additionally, Numa Limboo (PM SHRI Senior Secondary School, Deorali), Kessang Choden Bhutia (Paljor Namgyal Senior Secondary School), and Nima Gyalpo (Taktse International School) were presented with tokens of appreciation for their speeches during the event.

In a special segment, Mr Karma R. Bonpo Director, who was the first District Collector to lead BBBP initiatives in Mangan District was felicitated for his pioneering efforts in promoting the welfare and education of the girl child.

During his address, the Director expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Department for the meaningful recognition, stating that he was deeply humbled by the honour. He mentioned that the felicitation symbolised the collective effort of his entire team including DCPOs, Anganwadi Workers and others whose dedication made departmental programmes a success.

Referring to the speeches delivered by students, he said it was heartening to witness their confidence and potential, particularly among girls, and expressed optimism for their bright future.

He expressed hope that more young women would emerge as future leaders, noting that girls in Sikkim are already excelling in education, sports and various other fields. While acknowledging the State’s progress towards gender equality, he noted that subtle forms of discrimination persist due to traditional mindsets and called for continued efforts to eliminate such biases.

Highlighting the relevance of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative, launched nationally in 2015, he said empowering girls not only strengthens families and communities but also contributes significantly to the economic growth of the State and the nation.

Referring to the national vision of Viksit Bharat @2047, he emphasised that India’s journey towards becoming a developed nation would not be possible without the active participation of women and girls.

He urged students to think beyond the classroom, stating that true learning begins outside academic boundaries. In view of rapid advancements in artificial intelligence and technology, he advised youth to innovate, think critically and use the internet as a tool for knowledge rather than mere entertainment.

Ms Normit Lepcha Secretary Women, Child, Senior Citizens and Divyangjan Welfare Department, said that the day marks a collective effort to recognise and advocate for the full spectrum of girls’ rights. She highlighted that this year’s theme calls for recognition of girls’ literacy and leadership in the face of multiple crises.

She stated that girls across the world are stepping up to meet today’s challenges organising in their communities, fighting for equality and demanding an end to violence. She added that UN Organisations such as UNICEF are partnering with girl-led groups and networks to ensure that girls’ voices are not only heard but are central to policymaking, programming and humanitarian responses.

She urged all to stand with girls and support their legacy by sharing their stories, celebrating their achievements, amplifying their voices and advocating for policies that protect their rights. She also emphasised the need to create and sustain safe spaces for girls to connect, learn and express themselves freely.

She concluded by calling for awareness programmes to meet the unique needs of girls in today’s crises, including access to healthcare, education and emotional and mental well-being.

Earlier, the dignitaries also visited and took stock of the stalls set up by girl students from Modern SSS, Deorali Girls’ SSS, Sichey Government SSS, Paljor Namgyal SSS and Enchey SSS. The stalls showcased handmade accessories, flowers, candles and toys.

The event was attended by officials from various departments, representatives from the Child Care Institute Bhojogari, teachers and students from Gangtok District, along with officials and staff of the Department.

the valour and contributions of Indian soldiers who serve with commitment and dedication in these regions.

The Governor also directed that names of all the martyrs be permanently inscribed at the site.

In addition to being a place of reverence and reflection, Prerna Sthal is envisioned to become a significant site for promoting tourism in the State. Stating this, the Governor instructed the concerned departments to enhance and beautify Prerna Sthal, as it stands as an enduring testimony to the discipline, selflessness, sacrifice, dedication, and unwavering commitment of these valiant soldiers towards the service of the nation.

The Governor also participated in solemn wreath-laying ceremony at Prerna Sthal,

paying homage to the brave soldiers.

Mr NB Dahal Minister, Roads and Bridges extended his congratulations to the Army, Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Flag Foundation of India for the successful installation of the National Flag.

Major General Ashim Kohli, SM (Retd.), CEO of Flag Foundation of India, in his address, highlighted the significance of the National Flag and stated that it serves as a symbol that connects every citizen to the spirit of national pride and patriotism.

The event also featured a patriotic performance by students of PM SHRI Government Senior Secondary School, Singtam, and an impressive display of Kalaripayattu by the Indian Army.

Cohort Programme concludes

Pakyong, October 11: Mr Rohan Agawane DC Pakyong attended the valedictory ceremony of the Cohort Programme, designed to empower and energise Sikkim’s entrepreneurial landscape in alignment with the Chief Minister’s vision of ‘One Family, One Entrepreneur’ at Digital Nomad Village, Yakten, today.

The programme was launched by DAC Pakyong in collaboration with Nomad Village, supported by Mr Indra Hang Subba MP Lok Sabha and mentored by Dr Nitin Kareer Chairman Maharashtra State Finance Commission and Dr Vandana Nadig Nair Co-Founder of Elder Aid Wellness and Phicus.

The initiative brought together two groups: aspiring and established entrepreneurs from Sikkim and a cohort of professionals from across India with expertise in technology, design, marketing, finance and other fields.

Launched on October 5, the programme brought participants together to develop innovative and feasible solutions to address the issues faced by local entrepreneurs in Sikkim.

DC Pakyong, in his address, reiterated the administration’s support in helping these business ideas take shape on the ground.

The programme saw local entrepreneurs from Pakyong District present their business plans before the District Administration and cohort members. The presentations covered ideas in ed-tech, ride-sharing platforms, homestay experience, insurance, wellness and other sectors.

Over the past week, local entrepreneurs were paired with national-level cohort participants who mentored them in refining ideas, understanding market linkages and developing business plans. This process led to interactions and exchanges between communities.

Also, several cohort participants pledged to continue mentoring and supporting the entrepreneurs beyond the programme -helping with design support, digital strategy and growth planning.

The day concluded with a felicitation ceremony for cohort participants and local entrepreneurs.

Pakyong District observes RTI Week

Pakyong, October 11: The Right to Information (RTI) Week held under the theme ‘Transparency is the Key to Accountability’, was observed at the premises of District Administrative Centre (DAC) Pakyong, today.

The programme was attended by Additional District Collector (ADC) Pakyong, ADC (Headquarters), SDM (Hq), SDM Pakyong, officers from various line departments and staff of the DAC.

The observance of RTI Week held across the country from October 5 to 12, marks the implementation of the RTI Act, 2005. The week aims to create awareness about the provisions of

the Act and its significance in ensuring transparency and accountability in public administration.

The programme highlighted the responsibilities of public authorities in maintaining proper records and providing information as mandated by the Act.

Participants were encouraged to uphold the principles of openness and to contribute to an informed and participatory governance process.

Similar observances were carried out in various offices under Pakyong District as part of the RTI Week activities.

Contd. from front page

Governor inaugurates...

Department, Major General Ashim Kohli, SM (Retd.) CEO of Flag Foundation of India, and other host of dignitaries.

Addressing the gathering, Governor commended the Indian Army and others associated with the establishment of National Flag. He mentioned that Prerna Sthal stands as a tribute to those brave martyrs who made supreme sacrifice for the service of nation.

He further stated that Prerna Sthal will serve as an enduring site of learning and inspiration for tourists as part of Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan before visiting the battlefield of Sikkim, enabling them to gain insight into

In the Court of Sub Divisional Magistrate Gyalshing District AFFIDAVIT

I, Priya Chettri, daughter of Dagke Chettri, resident of Middle Gyalshing, Police Station Gyalshing, Gyalshing District, Sikkim do hereby affirm and declare an oath as under:-

1. That, my father's actual name is **Dagke Chettri** as recorded in his Certificate of Identification bearing Serial No. 7191DC(W), dated 27.09.2010, in my Birth Certificate bearing registration no. 903(D)2008, dated 17.11.2008 and in my Certificate of Identification bearing Serial No. 371/DC(W)/2025.

2. That, my father's name has been recorded as **Dagkee Chettri** in my School Certificate bearing regn. No. G124/37269/0043 and **Dagke Chettri (Sigdel)** in my School Transfer Certificate bearing TC serial No. 448, Admission No. 37/15 and at School admission register record book.

3. That my actual Date of Birth is **18.04.2006** as recorded in my Birth Certificate bearing registration No. 903(D)2008, dated 17.11.2008.

4. That my Date of Birth is inadvertently recorded as **01.12.2006** in my School Certificate bearing regn. No. G124/37269/0043.

5. That, the purpose of this affidavit is to declare that **Dagke Chettri, Dagkee Chettri (Sigdel)** and **Dagkee Chettri** are the names of same person, ie, my father.

6. That, the purpose of this affidavit is to declare that my actual Date of Birth is **18.04.2006** as recorded in my Birth Certificate but mistakenly recorded as **01.12.2006** in my School Certificate.

7. That, this affidavit is made bonafide.

Whatsoever declared by me are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and no information has been concealed. I have signed this affidavit in the Court of Sub- Divisional Magistrate, Gyalshing District, on 11/09/2025 in the presence of the following witness:-

1. Kamal Kumar Sharma
9th Mile. Gyalshing

Deponent
Priya Chettri

Team led by Secretary Cooperation Department call on Governor



Gangtok, October 13: Ms Gloria Namchu Secretary Cooperation Department, Ms Jabi Thapa Principal RCS, along with other senior officials from the Department called on Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur at Raj Bhavan, today.

During the meet, the Secretary, extended an invitation to the Governor to attend the programme marking 'International Year of Cooperatives-2025', scheduled to be held at Raj Bhavan on October 15, 2025.

The Governor accepted the invitation and also enquired about the ongoing programmes under the Cooperation Department, particularly those related to milk cooperatives and the involvement of women therein. He further encouraged the promotion and marketing of bamboo products

through cooperative initiatives, with special emphasis on women's empowerment.

Secretary, briefed about the functioning and achievements of the cooperative movement in the State, emphasising its pivotal role in fostering inclusive economic growth. She also elaborated on the initiatives undertaken by the Department to strengthen cooperative societies at the grassroot level and efforts towards the empowerment of women and youth.

Present during the meeting were Mr Jitendra Singh Raje Commissioner-cum-Secretary to the Governor, Ms Karma Ongmu, Ms Pema Ongmu and Mr KP Sharma Registrars Cooperation Department and Mr PT Lepcha Additional Registrar.

Press Release from Raj Bhavan

Gangtok, October 13: His Eminence Khenchen Rigzin Dorjee Rinpochee Founder and President of Nyingma Institute of Higher Buddhist Studies and Research Centre, Martam, Gangtok District, along with Mr Sangay Palzang Lepcha Principal, Mr Tshering Wangchuk Lepcha Additional Political Secretary to Chief Minister and Sangha members of the institute called on Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur at Raj Bhavan, today.

During the meeting, His Eminence presented a book 'Rigzin Sordup', the teachings of Gyalwa Lhatuns Chenpo to the Governor, along with a sacred statue of Lord

Buddha, with blessing for Governor's good health, long life and successful tenure.

Further, he also extended a formal invitation to the Governor to grace the upcoming graduation ceremony of the Institute and for inauguration of the new hostel and retreat centre for senior monks.

The Governor conveyed his deepest appreciation for the sacred offerings and blessings bestowed upon him and further, conveyed his best wishes for the continued success of the Institute in nurturing future generations rooted in wisdom, compassion and service to humanity.

GOC Trishakti Corps calls on Governor

Gangtok, October 9: Lt General Man Raj Singh Mann General Officer Commanding (GOC) Trishakti Corps called on Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur at Raj Bhavan, today.

This was the first meeting of Lt General Man Raj Singh Mann with Governor after assuming his office of the Corps on October 1, 2025. Lt General Mann had earlier commanded a Division in North Sikkim during the Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) of 2023,

wherein the Army played a pivotal role in relief and rescue operations.

During the meeting, Governor congratulated Lt General Mann on his assumption of command and conveyed his best wishes for a successful and fulfilling tenure.

Lt General was accompanied by GOC, Black Cat Division, Major General MS Rathore and also present during the meeting was Mr Jitendra Singh Raje Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Governor.

Connect to CM and Chief Minister's schemes IMS platforms launched

Gangtok, October 14: Mr Karma Namgyal Bhutia Secretary CMO chaired a press conference regarding the launch of 'Connect to CM' and 'Chief Minister's Schemes Integrated Management System' (CMSIMS) at Tashiling Secretariat, today.

In a significant move to promote citizen-centric governance, Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang launched the 'Connect to CM' platform along with the Chief Minister's Schemes Integrated Management System at Samman Bhawan on October 13. The initiative is designed to bring the Government closer to the people by facilitating direct communication between citizens and the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

Secretary CMO Mr Karma Namgyal Bhutia highlighted the 'Chief Minister's Schemes Integrated Management System' as a transparent verification system that ensures deserving beneficiaries receive the benefits of various schemes.

He spoke about the 'Connect to CM' platform, an internet-based system through

which common people can share their concerns directly with the CMO and access essential services conveniently. By calling the helpline numbers 80016-81188 or 93327-81188, citizens can avail themselves of these services every day from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm, including government holidays and during festivals.

He stated that the platform is aimed at connecting the unconnected and reaching the last person at the last mile. The telephone operator will ask the caller for basic details such as their name, guardian's name, constituency and GPU, after which the caller's concern will be addressed accordingly. All calls are recorded to ensure transparency and inclusiveness.

As the platform is currently operating with ten operators in its initial phase, he appealed public to wait patiently for their turn. He added that beneficiaries would receive a callback within 48 hours regarding the progress of their concern and also urged them to keep their necessary documents ready. Thereafter, the operators will coordinate with the designated

Nodal Officers for respective schemes and update accordingly.

Sensitisation programmes related to the schemes will be conducted at the remotest levels. Under the Planning and Development Department, Monitoring Supervisors have been appointed in each GPU, and through the office of the Assistant Director of the Panchayati Raj Department, they will be trained and sensitised.

He concluded by stating that the platform does not replace any existing programmes but serves as a supplementary system. Regarding the team, he mentioned that there are currently ten phone operators, subject to increase based on demand and that the entire Chief Minister's Office is part of the 'Connect to CM' team.

The press conference was also attended by Mr Depen Sharma Additional Secretary-cum-Staff Officer to the Chief Minister, Mr Sherap Chopel Katuk Director, Joint Secretary, Resource Officer, OSD, Assistant Director (IT), Assistant Director (Media and Multimedia).

State Level Science Exhibition inaugurated

Gangtok, October 13: Three-day State Level Science Exhibition (Rajya Stariya Bal Vaigyanic Pradarshani-RSBVP) for Children 2025 was inaugurated under the theme 'STEM for Viksit and Atmanirbhar Bharat' at Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School (PM SHRI TN SSS), today.

The event was organised by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Sikkim.

Mr Sonam Choppel Sherpa Chairman Education Department, encouraged the students to pursue knowledge beyond textbooks and not limit their imagination.

He stated that such exhibitions serve as the foundation for the students' academic and professional journey. Sharing his personal experiences, he acknowledged the enthusiasm and creativity of the young participants, and advised them to

broaden their perspectives beyond government jobs, to explore emerging opportunities in the present competitive world.

60 schools were invited, including 50 Government Senior Secondary Schools from all districts of Sikkim and 10 private schools. The students presented innovative models aligned with the seven official sub-themes.

Other notable exhibits included an app titled Auditor Green Hub for sustainable agriculture, projects on drip irrigation, rainwater harvesting, and natural composting. Students also presented prototypes for sanitary waste management systems, waste-to-energy conversion and blind spot detection systems.

The evaluation process assigned the highest weightage of 20 per cent, to the involvement of children's own creativity and

imagination. The exhibition aimed to promote scientific temper and innovation among students, while providing them with a platform to nurture curiosity and gain practical understanding of science and technology.

The top five schools from the seminar would be selected to participate in the Zonal Level Exhibition at Science Centre, Guwahati. Additionally, SCERT would send the videos of the top ten schools to NCERT, for the National Level Exhibition.

The programme was attended by Secretary Education Department, other officers and participants.

The evaluation of the exhibition will be conducted by a panel of jury members comprising Professor CAF and PHT Ranipool, Associate Professor SMIT, Majhitar and Assistant Professor ATTC, Bardang.

Literary event on Words Across Mountains: Literature, Community and Futures

Namchi, October 11: A two-day literary event titled 'Words Across Mountains: Literature, Community and Futures' by DG Reading Room Resource and Education Foundation, Dumigaon, Namchi under the mentorship of writer Ms Prava Rai in collaboration with Education Department, Namchi District began from today.

On its first day, the event saw the presence of many eminent writers from Manipur, Assam, Siliguri, Darjeeling and Sikkim.

Ms Prava Rai, the founding director of DG Reading Room expressed her gratitude to Mr Tashi Chopel Secretary School Education, Mr Sonam Chopel Sherpa- Chairperson Students' Welfare Board, all the writers and the participants. She provided a brief background of the Reading

Room and shared details about the Shared Futures Conclave to take place on December 4-5, 2025 and a book that is to release soon, co curated by Dr Mona Chettri titled Beneath Magnolia Skies-Sikkim and Darjeeling Hills.

In a panel discussion moderated by Anurag Basnett, writers Dhurba Hazarika, Robin Ngangom, Guru Ladhaki, Chetan Raj Shrestha provided their personal perspectives on how reading and writing translates to informational texts that could also be interpreted as content in today's modern world.

Writer Ravikant Kshetrimayum, who has learnt and trained in Japan in Haiku poetry explained the essence of Haiku, quoting and explaining the works of the Japanese Haiku master

Matsuo Bashō. Similarly, writers from Sikkim Arpana Gurung, Satyadeep Chettri, Kalden Gyatso and Shiori as well as Bibhusha Rai from Darjeeling shared their poems and excerpts from their written works.

A Children's book titled Ganju Lama, VC Sikkim's Hero in War and Peace written by Anuradha Sharma, illustrated by Pankaj Thapa and published by Foothills Publishing under the mentorship of Lekha Rai was also launched at the event. Present for the launch was also Mr Pema Leda Shangderpa, son of late Ganju Lama, who provided some personal anecdotes of his father.

The first day concluded with an open session where students were encouraged to share their poems and stories on stage.

**KEEP SIKKIM
CLEAN & GREEN**