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CM congratulates National Florence Nightingale Awardee



New Delhi, May 12: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang extended heartiest congratulations to Ms Madhu Mala Gurung, Senior ANM of Rangpo PHC on being conferred with the prestigious National Florence Nightingale Awards 2026. The award was presented by President of India Mrs Droupadi Murmu, during a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi, today.

Ms Gurung was honoured in recognition of her exemplary contribution, nursing excellence, and dedicated service in the

healthcare sector over the years. Her remarkable achievement has brought immense pride to the entire State.

The Chief Minister lauded her commitment and selfless service towards society and wished her continued success in the noble field of healthcare.

The National Florence Nightingale Awards is among the country's highest honours for nursing professionals and recognises exceptional dedication and service in the field of healthcare.

Chief Minister inaugurates Maxwell Hospital



Siliguri, May 10: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang inaugurated Maxwell Hospital in Siliguri, a healthcare institution established under the initiative of Dr Vishal Golay.

The Chief Minister expressed confidence that the hospital would serve not only the people of Siliguri but also residents of Sikkim by providing quality treatment and modern healthcare facilities.

He noted that the establishment of the hospital would contribute meaningfully to the well-being of society and help improve access to advanced medical services for patients from neighbouring areas.

He also extended his congratulations to the hospital management and conveyed his best wishes for the institution's continued success and growth in the years ahead.

Chief Minister attends Swearing-in Ceremony in Assam

Guwahati, May 12: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended the swearing-in ceremony of the newly formed BJP Government in Assam, held in the presence of Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi.

The Chief Minister conveyed his greetings to Mr Himanta Biswa Sarma and all the members of the newly inducted cabinet who took oath as part of the BJP-led Government in the State.

Describing the occasion as a historic milestone, the Chief Minister said that the formation of the new Government marks the beginning of a renewed journey of development, good governance and progress for the people of Assam.



The Chief Minister wished success in serving the people with the newly formed Government dedication, integrity and vision.

Union MoS visits various locations across Namchi District

Namchi, May 12: Union Minister of State for Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Ms Savitri Thakur, who is on a three-day official visit to the State, toured various locations across Namchi District on the second day of her visit, today.

The MoS visited several sites to inspect developmental activities being implemented under Central Government schemes, interacted with beneficiaries and review the progress of ongoing projects.

At the outset of the visit, she was accorded Guard of Honour by the Women Squad of Sikkim Police, Namchi District at a local hotel before proceeding to wards Ravangla.

During her visit to Tathagata Tsal, the MoS was briefed by Mr Tseten Bhutia OSD Tathagata Tsal on the major sects of Buddhism, Tibetan and Gandhara art and paintings, as well as the twelve deeds of Lord Buddha. She also interacted with Anganwadi workers from Ravangla circle and enquired about grassroots-level activities being undertaken in the region.

Thereafter, the MoS visited National Institute of Technology Sikkim, wherein Director Prof Mahesh Chandra Govil apprised her of the institute's induction process, faculty strength and



student enrolment across various academic disciplines. The MoS also enquired about research initiatives focusing on economic sustainability and innovative technologies suited to the region. As part of the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam', initiative, she planted an orange sapling and a golden euonymus within the institute premises.

Subsequently, she toured

Temi Tea Estate, where she was briefed on the various tea flushes produced at the estate and tea manufacturing process.

En route, she also visited the Food Godown at Namthang under the Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, where Mr Tenzing Bhutia DCSO briefed her on the functioning of

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Pearls of Wisdom

"Success is not how high you have climbed, but how you make a positive difference to the world."

- Roy T. Bennett

Mangan hosts 39th Foundation Day Celebration of SICA

Mangan, May 8: The 39th Foundation Day of the Sikkim Cricket Association, Mangan (SICA) was celebrated with enthusiasm and grandeur at Mangan Public Ground in collaboration with the Mangan District Cricket Committee, today.

Mr Samdup Lepcha Minister for Social Welfare-cum-Area MLA Lachen-Mangan, attended the programme as the chief guest, while Mr Anant Jain DC Mangan and Mr LB Chettri SP Mangan graced the occasion as special guests. Also present were Mr Tshering Gyatso Lachenpa Chairman Medicinal Plants Board, Mr Sonam Norgay Lachungpa Chairman Tourism, Heads of Departments, SDM Mangan, BDOs, Councillors, OSDs, officials from various departments, other guests and invitees, members of the Organising Committee and students from different schools.

The programme commenced with a warm welcome wherein, the Minister ceremonially released balloons and pigeons, symbolising peace, unity and prosperity.

Mr Nayan Bhutia Secretary SICA in his welcome address highlighted the journey and achievements of the Association over the years and acknowledged the contribution of players, officials and supporters in strengthening the cricketing culture in Sikkim.

As part of the celebration, posthumous felicitations were presented in honour of individuals who had significantly contributed towards the promotion of cricket in the State. Coaches certificates were distributed, while champions blazers and certificates were presented to the Sikkim Senior

Womens T20 Team 2026 for their commendable achievement. A special citation was also conferred upon the runners-up team of the BCCI Domestic Season 2025-26 in recognition of their remarkable performance.

During the event, various SICA Awards were presented to deserving cricketers in different categories for their outstanding contribution and excellence in the field of cricket. Cricket gears were also distributed to participating schools with an aim to encourage budding players and further strengthen grassroots level sports development in the district.

The celebration also featured a thrilling T20 exhibition cricket match between SICA XI and DC XI, with latter emerging victorious by 31 runs. The exciting encounter kept the spectators on the edge of their seats, drawing loud cheers and enthusiastic support from the crowd at the venue.

Minister Mr Samdup Lepcha appreciated the efforts of SICA in promoting cricket and nurturing young talent in the region. He expressed that he was highly impressed with the well-organised programme and the enthusiasm shown by the participants.

He encouraged the youngsters to make the best use of such platforms and work hard with dedication and discipline to achieve success in life. He further stated that sports not only helps in maintaining physical fitness but also teaches important values such as teamwork, leadership, and perseverance. He urged the youth to stay focused on their goals and continue striving towards excellence while bringing pride to the district and

the State.

This was followed by an address by Mr Tika Subba President SICA, who highlighted the Association's efforts towards promoting cricket and encouraging young talent in the State. He thanked all the dignitaries, supporters and participants for their continuous support.

SICA also distributed cricket kits to 23 schools across Mangan District to encourage and support budding cricketers at the grassroots level.

It may be mentioned that Mangan District Administration, under the initiative of Mr Anant Jain District Collector has recently built one cricket pitch at Mangan Public Ground to encourage and support budding cricketers in the district. One more pitch is proposed to be built in the same premise for net practice. Additionally, the office of the District Collector also provided the pitch mat to SICA for organising matches.

The programme also saw cultural performances presented by the Culture Department in collaboration with Denzong Lughag Sungkyob Tsogpa (DLST). Traditional Yak Dance performances, cultural presentations by students from various schools of Mangan District and an impressive Pipe Band display by North Sikkim Academy.

The event witnessed the participation of sports enthusiasts, dignitaries, students and members of the public, reflecting the growing spirit of cricket and youth engagement in the State. The event also featured a lucky draw, wherein the winners received a cricket kit each.

telecom companies, particularly around Central Park, she instructed strict monitoring and enhanced coordination among departments to regulate such activities.

Reviewing the condition of roads in and around Namchi, the DC directed the concerned departments to undertake necessary repair works on priority, particularly along stretches from DAC Dara towards the RDD Office and from Samdruptse Hotel towards Surya Sales Agency. She also instructed authorities to initiate action for the removal of off-road and abandoned vehicles from roadsides to ease traffic congestion and improve public convenience.

Additionally, with regard to parking management, it was directed that contractors allotted parking premises must ensure proper cleaning and maintenance of the allotted areas. The same criteria and conditions are to be clearly specified during the allotment process to ensure accountability and uniform implementation.

Minister Tshering Thendup Bhutia visits Lamathang village

Gyalshing, May 10: Mr Tshering Thendup Bhutia Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation-cum-Area MLA of Yuksom-Tashiding, visited Lamathang village near Khecheopalri under Yuksom constituency, today.

Fulfilling a promise made during the 2024 elections, the Minister reached out to the residents of Lamathang village and interacted with the public regarding developmental initiatives and future plans for the area.

During the visit, the Minister distributed cookery items, including pressure cookers, water filters, and other essential household items to the villagers.

Newly constructed motorable road connectivity to Lamathang village has brought major relief to the villagers. Earlier, villagers had to walk nearly an hour uphill and downhill daily to access basic amenities due to the absence of road connectivity. With the road now accessible, the village is expected to witness rapid development and improved living conditions.

The Minister highlighted the immense tourism potential of Lamathang village and shared his vision for developing the area through tourism-based activities and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

He highlighted the tourism potential of the Bajray Dara trekking route located above Lamathang village and also proposed developing Lamathang as a base-camp for trekking and adventure tourism activities.

He assured that the trekking trail to Bajray Dara via

Lamathang village would be improved and developed further to boost the local economy and create livelihood opportunities for the villagers. He urged villagers, especially women and youth, to take up entrepreneurship in the tourism sector while citing various support schemes and assistance provided by the State Government.

The Minister stated that under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, priority is being given to the youth in areas such as entrepreneurship, employment, and self-reliance initiatives.

During the visit, the Minister also inspected the newly connected road to Lamathang village. Besides this, he visited the Government Primary School in the village and enquired about its present condition and requirements.

The Minister further inspected the under-construction Semechung Bhawan of the Heavenly Path Nirvana Organisation devotees at the village and directed the concerned department officials and contractor to expedite the construction work while ensuring quality standards.

The Minister also interacted with the villagers and enquired about their concerns and well-being. Villagers expressed gratitude to the State Government and the Minister-cum-Area MLA for fulfilling the promises made and for initiating developmental works in the village.

During the visit, the Minister was accompanied by Zilla Panchayat, Panchayats, BDO Yuksom and locals.

Coordination meeting on Solid Waste Management Rules 2026

Pakyong, May 6: A coordination meeting on the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, was chaired by Mr Rohan Agawane, DC Pakyong in the presence of Mr Pulkit, ADC Pakyong at DAC Pakyong, today.

The meeting aimed to streamline the identification and survey of Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) within the district, in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026.

During the meeting, DC reviewed on the waste management practices and reprocessing initiatives undertaken across various sectors in the district, including industries, companies, hospitals, and tourism sector. He further advised the stakeholders to strictly adhere to the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules.

Additionally, ADC Pakyong briefed on the responsibilities of various departments and institutions in ensuring effective waste management. He emphasised on the need for identifying waste generation sources and conducting a comprehensive survey to identify BWGs in

respective areas, along with proper verification of establishments.

He further elaborated on the criteria for classification under BWGs, which include buildings with a floor area of 20,000 sq. m. or above, water consumption of 40,000 litres per day or more, and solid waste generation of 100 kg per day or above, further urging the concerned departments and institutions to submit their reports within the stipulated timeframe.

The meeting also included a briefing on the proper filling of documentation forms and the need to verify field-level compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, by Gram Panchayats, Urban and Local Bodies.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director BAC Pakyong, Deputy Director AH&VS, DPO Pakyong, BDO Duga, District Fisheries Development Officer along with representatives from various Block Development Offices, RDDepartment, UDDepartment, Tourism Department and stakeholders.

Co-ordination meeting to address key issues within Namchi Municipal Council

Namchi, May 6: Following an initiative by the Namchi Municipal Council, a coordination meeting to address key civic and infrastructure issues within Namchi Municipal area was convened under the chairmanship of the District Collector, today.

During the meeting, Ms Anupa Tamling DC stressed on the importance of inter-departmental coordination and directed all concerned departments to take immediate and time-bound action on the identified issues. She emphasised the need for prompt repair and maintenance of drains along major stretches such as Gangtok Road, Bhanjyang Road, Melli Road and RDD Office Road, and instructed that regular cleaning of drains be ensured to prevent waterlogging, particularly in view of the ensuing monsoon season.

Deliberating on drainage concerns, it was highlighted that pipelines and GI pipes had been placed within drainage systems along certain stretches, including routes towards Gaylshing and adjoining areas. The DC observed that drains should not be obstructed or misused for

pipeline installations. The Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) was directed to take necessary action based on complaints submitted by the Urban Development Department (UDD) and submit an action taken report. It was further directed that a circular be issued within a week, clearly stating that no pipeline laying shall be undertaken within NMC premises without obtaining mandatory No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the Roads And Bridges Department, Namchi Municipal Council (NMC), and UDD.

The DC also underscored the importance of adequate manpower deployment, particularly under the Safaimitra system, to strengthen sanitation and waste management efforts across the town.

With regard to urban maintenance, the District Collector directed the Municipal Council and concerned agencies to ensure regular sweeping of roads and immediate repair of damaged iron drain covers, especially in Namchi Bazaar, to ensure public safety. Taking serious note of the unregulated installation of cables by private

Office of the Chief Engineer
Public Health Engineering Department
Government of Sikkim

No:PHE/3022/Gen/20-21/350

Dated: 06/05/2026

NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION (NIQ)

Quotations are hereby invited by the Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Sikkim from eligible traders/suppliers registered with the appropriate authority of Sikkim for the supply of various items required for routine maintenance activities, restoration & other exigencies under Public Health Engineering Department for the FY 2026-27 as detailed in the item-list uploaded on the official portal <https://sikkimtender.gov.in>.

The quotation shall be submitted in sealed cover superscribed “**Quotation for finalization of rates**” addressed to the Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.

The bid shall be uploaded on **14/05/2026** and the bidder shall upload & submit in hard copy a Bank receipt amounting to ₹5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) credited to the budget head: 0215-01-800- other receipts.

The last date for submission of bid/quotations is on or before 16:00 hrs, 15/06/2026.

The bidder shall submit Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the form of TDR/FDR pledged in favour of the Chief Engineer, PHED, Government of Sikkim amounting to ₹2.00 lakhs (Rupees Two lakhs only) from any scheduled bank. The TDR/FDR shall be on auto-renewal mode. Quotations without EMD shall be summarily rejected.

The quotations shall be opened on **16/06/2026, 11:00 hrs** onwards in the office of the Chief Engineer, PHED, in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who wish to attend.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. The quotation shall be submitted in sealed cover clearly indicating the afore-mentioned name in Block letters addressed to **Office of the Chief Engineer, PHED, Gangtok, Nirman Bhawan, Zero point.**

2. The Quotation document comprises of 18 pages and each page shall be signed by the bidders/ authorized signatory before submission, the offered rates for each of the items shall be filled.

3. The signature on each and every page shall deem to mean that the firm shall (i) agree to all the terms and condition and (ii) supply the materials at the rates.

4. The bidder/firm shall upload & submit in hard copy a Bank receipt amounting to ₹5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) credited to the budget head: 0215-01-800- other receipts.

5. The sealed quotation shall be submitted along with earnest money deposit in the form of a FDR/ TDR for ₹2,00,000.00 (Rupees Two lakhs) only deposited into the state Bank of Sikkim or in any scheduled nationalized bank in Sikkim, pledged in favour of the Chief Engineer, PHED, Government of Sikkim as earnest money deposit. The TDR/FDR shall be on auto-renewal mode. Quotation submitted without the earnest money deposit will be considered invalid and rejected.

6. After opening of the quotations, the department will prepare a comparative statement to arrive at the lowest rate and inform all the bidders. The interested bidders may submit in writing their willingness to supply at the lowest rates prepared from the comparative statement. The department will issue Empanelment order to such interested parties. Those firms who wish to surrender from getting Empanelment can withdraw their TDR/FDR, except for those firms who have quoted the lowest rates.

7. The firms who have quoted the lowest rates shall be obliged to supply the materials on the quoted rates failing which the earnest money shall be forfeited and such firms shall be debarred from participating in future.

8. The rates shall be exclusive of all the taxes.

9. The firms will be obliged to supply the materials as indented/ordered by the principal chief engineer or his delegated authority. The supply shall be made within a specified period of time as indicated in the indent/supply order.

10. The rates quoted shall be applicable F.O.R, Destination as per the indent/supply order within the state of Sikkim including insurance if required. The warranties provided for manufactured goods shall be extended to the department. The quality test certificate will have to be produced at the time of supply if desired by the department.

11. Materials are subjected to inspection before supply and rejected materials shall be returned by the firms at their own cost. Samples may be required to be submitted prior to actual delivery.

12. No price escalation shall be allowed during the period of supply.

13. In case the proprietor of the firms or the CEO is unable to sign the quotation document, the necessary permission issued to the authorized signatory duly attested by the proprietor or CEO shall be enclosed along with the quotation.

14. The attested copies of the validated (a) Trade license, (b) firms registration, (c) GST clearance, (d) GST registration, shall be submitted along with the quotations. The supplier should be able to produce the original when called upon to do so by the department for verification.

15. All manufactured materials shall conform to the relevant BIS code. For non manufactures items like stone, sand etc they shall conform to the SPWD specifications as indicated in the SOR 2020 issued by the Roads & Bridges department.

16. Payment shall be made after satisfactory receipt and verification of the supplied materials by the Engineer-in-charge.

17. Defective or substandard materials shall be replaced by the supplier at their own cost or else EMD will be forfeited.

18. The quotation shall remain valid for a period of 1 year from the date of opening which may be further extended to 3 years.

19. In case the successful bidder fails to execute the supply order within the stipulated period, the EMD may be forfeited.

20. All disputes shall be subject to the jurisdiction of courts in Sikkim.

21. Over writing shall be avoided and corrections which occur shall duly attested by the bidder.

22. The quoted rates will be compared with the rates of STCS, SOR 2020 & market rates.

23. For bulk firms, in case the rates of STCS are lower, the firm shall supply at such lower rates for such bulk supplies.

24. The procurement process shall follow the provisions of Sikkim Financial Rules and Government of Sikkim procurement guidelines.

25. The department reserve the right to accept or reject any or all rates without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-

Chief Engineer,

Public Health Engineering Department,

Government of Sikkim.

(45, II)

Government of Sikkim
Buildings and Housing Department
Nirman Bhawan, Gangtok

Expression of Interest No: 2446/SD/HQ-I/Bldgs/P/22

Date 02-05-2026.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, the Addl Chief Engineer, Buildings and Housing Department invites percentage rate Tender in single cover system from Class II-A Contractors within the district of Gangtok, enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department for participating in the e-tender "Construction of Office and Residential Complex for BIP Rumtek, under SIB Gangtok" amounting to ₹5,14,85,723.00. For further details, kindly visit the website.

www.sikkimtender.gov.in

sd/-

Addl Chief Engineer (MGP)

Buildings & Housing Deptt.

(44, I)

Before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, East
Sikkim at Gangtok

Affidavit

I, **Purna Prasad Sharma**, S/o Shri. Jaman Singh Sharma, aged about 18 years, by faith Hindu, R/o Lower Luing, Gangtok Sikkim P.O Upper Luing & P.S Sadar Gangtok, Pin-code 737103, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That my actual and correct name is **Purna Prasad Sharma** recorded in my Marks Statement Cum Certificate bearing Regn. No. G124/37290/0019 dated 13.05.2024 issued by the Central Board of Secondary Education.

2. That inadvertently my name has been recorded as **Punya Prasad Sharma** in my Birth Certificate bearing registration No. 2013/D-293 dated 30.05.2013 issued by the Government of Sikkim Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths Health & Family Welfare Department.

3. That inadvertently my mother name has been recorded as **Vima Pathak** in my above said Birth Certificate instead of **Bhima Chettri**.

4. That I am swearing this Affidavit to state and declare on oath that the person by the name "**Purna Prasad Sharma**" and "**Purna Prasad Sharma**" are the names of one and same identical person i.e. Myself.

5. That I am swearing this Affidavit to state and declare on oath that the person by my mother name "**Bhima Chettri**" and "**Vima Pathak**" are the names of one and same identical person i.e. **My mother**.

6. That this affidavit is made bona fide.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

I, the above-named deponent do hereby verify and states that the statements made hereinabove are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed or suppressed therefrom.

And I, have sworn this affidavit on this the 26th day December 2024 at Gangtok, Sikkim.

DEPONENT

Before the Oath Commissioner of Sikkim, at
Gangtok

Affidavit

I, **Prem Lall Limboo**, Son of Late Nepteybir Limboo, aged about 37 years, Hindu by faith, resident of Phodong, Mangan District Sikkim, under P.O. & P.S. Phodong Mangan District of Sikkim, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as follows:-

1. That I am the bonafide resident of above mentioned address.

2. That my name and surname has been recorded as Prem Lall Limboo, which has been recorded in my Birth Certificate bearing serial no.35895, issued by Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths Health & Welfare Department Government of Sikkim and same name and surname has been recorded in my Certificate of Identification and some other relevant documents.

3. That my name and caste has been recorded as Prem Lall Subba in my Aadhaar card bearing Serial no. 6966 2061 9359, issued by Unique identification authority of India, and also recorded in my PAN Card, and service Id.

4. That this is to declare on oath that by person names Prem Lall Limboo and Prem Lall Subba denotes/refers to one and same identical person i.e., myself.

5. That this affidavit is to declare on oath Subba and Limboo is my same Caste and Community, which denotes/refers the same things.

6. That this affidavit is made bona fide.

VERIFICATION

I, the above- named deponent, do hereby verify and state that the contents of the foregoing affidavit in paragraphs 1 to 6 are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. Nothing in material has been concealed or suppressed there from. Verified and sworn to this Affidavit at Gangtok, Sikkim on this the 17th day of June, 2025, at 1:52 PM.

Deponent

Government of Sikkim
Roads & Bridges Department
Nirman Bhawan, Gangtokb

NIT No: 59/ GoS/R&B(SD-IV)/2025-2026 / 56

Date 08-05-2026.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Additional Chief Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department invites sealed tenders on Item Rate Basis under Single Bid System from the eligible Class I-B contractors enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department within the state for the execution of the work with the details as under:-

SI no	Name of Work	Bid value (In Lakhs)	Bid Security @ 2.5% of the Bid Value (In Lakhs)	Cost of Tender/ Bid Form (in Lakh)	Completion Period	Defect Liability Period (DLP)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Upgradation of Link Road from Adampool Junction to Ranka Junction, Gangtok District, Sikkim (5.30 Km)	₹763.52	₹19.09	₹1.00	18 months	5 years from the date of completion

The Earnest Money Deposit indicated in the above table is exempted for Enlisted Women Contractors participating in the bidding process. In case of such tender being accepted, the lowest bidder (Enlisted Women Contractor) has to deposit the Earnest Money as mentioned in Table above before the issue of work order. Further, if the tenderer of the above mentioned exempted category withdraws her tender within the validity period, then the Government without prejudice to any right or remedy, be at the liberty to debar such applicant from participation in any future tender for a period of 1 (one) year. The same is governed by Notification No: 40/R&B/PWD/Secy/2023-24 Dated 31/01/2024.

TIME SCHEDULE

SI no	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Date of Submission of Application along with Bank Receipt	22/05/2026	10:00 am to 3:30 pm
2	Date of issue of Tender documents and Tender Form	25/05/2026	10:00 am to 3:30 pm
3	Submission of Bid Documents	28/05/2026	10:00 am to 3:30 pm
4	Opening of Bid Documents	29/05/2026	11:00 am

Terms and Condition

- The intending tenderers/contractors should apply in writing for issue of tender documents. The application would invariably be signed by the contractor himself/herself. The tender document shall not be issued to any person other than the INTENDING TENDERER.
- The applicants should enclose attested copies of the following along with the application:-
 - Validated/Updated Contractor Enlistment Certificate. Further, it is mandatory to produce the Original validated/Updated Enlistment Certificate during sale/issue of the Tender Document for verification.
 - Latest Goods & Service Tax Clearance Certificate issued from the office of the Commercial Tax, Government of Sikkim.
 - Bank Receipt in original.
 - Aadhaar Card.
 - Voter Identification Card.
- The applicant should be an elector of any Constituency within the State of Sikkim and the residential address in the Enlistment Certificate should be within the State of Sikkim.
- The intending bidder should apply in writing to the Additional Chief Engineer (I), Roads & Bridges Department for issue of tender documents. The same should be accompanied by a Bank Receipt of the State Bank of Sikkim (non-refundable) under the receipt Head "0059.80.800.01-other receipts" in favor of the Accounts Officer, Roads & Bridges Department during the time schedule mentioned in the NIT.
- Earnest Money Deposit @ 2.5% of the cost put to tender shall be deposited in the form of Temporary Deposit Receipt/Fixed Deposit Receipt/Bank Guarantee from State Bank of Sikkim or any nationalized bank in favor of the Additional Chief Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department. The Fixed Deposit Receipt/Bank Guarantee to be valid for entire execution period. Tender form shall be issued only on production of the same. In case of the Enlisted Women Contractors participating in the bidding, the cost of the Earnest Money Deposit shall be governed by Notification No: 40/R&B/PWD/Secy/2023-24 dated 31.01.2024.
- The soft copy of the BOQ shall be provided along with the tender documents on submission of Earnest Money Deposit as mentioned vide sl. no. 5. The intending bidder shall submit his/her bid in the BOQ provided in printed format. In case the bidder submits the bids in hand written format, the same shall be summarily rejected. The bid offer should also be mentioned in the Form of Bid provided to the bidder.
- The tenderer shall inspect the site and have their own correct assessment before submitting the bid.
- The Tender Documents including the Form of Bid with rate offer quoted in the BOQ provided should be placed in a sealed cover with the name of the tenderers and the name of the work superscripted on it. The Tenderer should sign on every page of the tender documents as acceptance of the general direction and conditions of the contract and other laid down norms. Supporting documents listed vide SI No. 2 should be enclosed with the offer.
- Sealed tenders may be deposited in the Tender box in the office of the Additional Chief Engineer - I, Roads and Bridges Department, Gangtok, on the date and within the time indicated above.
- The rate quoted should be both in figures and words and should be inclusive of GST and all other Taxes in vogue.
- Over writing and correction should be avoided and if made should be authenticated. Incomplete/Conditional tenders shall be rejected forthwith.
- Tenders will be opened by the Tender Opening Committee as prescribed by the Government in the presence of the tenderers on the date and time indicated above.
- In case of any discrepancy in the specifications printed in the BOQ issued with the tender documents, specifications as per approved Schedule of Rates-2020 will be taken as correct. For items outside the SOR, the decision of the Principal Chief Engineer - cum - Secretary/Head of the Department will be final.
- The Department reserves the rights to withhold payments to the contractor unless test certificates are produced by the contractor when called upon to do so.
- Avoidable damages due to negligence of the contractor shall be at his/her own risk and cost. The Department shall not be liable for payment of such damages (if any), including accidents to labourer at site.
- The offer shall remain valid for a period of 90 days. The work should commence within 15 days from the date of issue of work order.
- All the conditions as mentioned in the NIT shall be deemed to be a part of the agreement to be entered with the contractor. Security deposit shall be collected by deductions from the running bills of the contractor @ 5% of the value of work done.
- The recoveries i/c deduction of taxes and duties as applicable shall be as per the rates notified by the Government from time to time and as applicable on the date of payment.
- Subletting of contract work is against the norms and if it comes to the notice, the original contract shall be cancelled and appropriate action shall be initiated as per the rules.
- In case the man power employed by the contractors are from outside the State or neighboring countries, it shall be the responsibility of the contractors to get them registered with the Labour Department, Government of Sikkim as per the relevant Labour Laws.
- The contractor shall also make arrangements to have photographs of the works taken up at least of three stages during the construction period. i.e., beginning, middle and completion stage.
- Quarrying of non-stock materials shall be allowed only from designated/approved quarries.
- The specifications in execution of the works are to be followed as per the guidelines laid by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH).
- Damage to properties in and around the work site must be avoided at all costs. The contractor shall be held responsible for any act of negligence and shall bear the responsibility to repair/restore such damage.
- Expenditure involved for material testing, cube strength of concrete, crushing strength of road metals etc., at site or in laboratories shall be borne by the contractor. The contractor shall make necessary arrangements accordingly as and when instructed by the concerned authorities.
- Defect liability period for the pavement work shall be for a period of five (05) years which shall not cover the damages due to natural calamities, formation sinking, landslides etc.
- In case the tender date is declared as Government Holiday, the process shall continue in the subsequent working days.
- The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Additional Chief Engineer - I,
Roads & Bridges Department,
Government of Sikkim, Gangtok - 737101
(46)

Sikkim Police organise Building Bonds public outreach programme

Soreng, May 8: ‘Building Bonds’, a public outreach initiative programme of Sikkim Police aimed at strengthening the relationship between Police and public through awareness, interaction and cooperation was organised at Government Senior Secondary School, Chakung, Soreng District, today.

The programme had the special presence of Mr Akshay Sachdeva Director General of Police (DGP) as the chief guest. He was accompanied by Mr Nahkul Pradhan Superintendent of Police (Soreng).

DGP described the ‘Building Bonds’ programme as an initiative aimed at strengthening the relationship between Police and the public. In his address, he highlighted the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the State and emphasised the importance of mutual respect, unity and peaceful co-existence among different cultural and religious communities. He remarked that while languages and greetings may differ, the spirit of goodwill and respect remains the same, encouraging the gathering to remain open towards learning from everyone, every community and everywhere.

He further highlighted the significance of language in society and drew relevance to the widespread use of English in present day communication while stressing the importance of preserving and respecting one’s own culture, traditions and identity. He also encouraged the youth to remain positive, respectful and refrain from substance abuse and other harmful practices. Appreciating the initiative of the Chief Minister regarding the use of traditional attire during official duties, he intimated that such initiatives play an important role in promoting and preserving cultural heritage.

He appealed to all communities to extend support and cooperation towards one another during cultural and religious occasions while maintaining equal respect for every culture and tradition. He highlighted the awareness

booklet titled ‘Techie Panda’, released by Sikkim Police for creating awareness on cyber-crimes and digital frauds.

During the programme, an interactive role play demonstration was conducted under his direction, wherein Police Personnel demonstrated the services and responsibilities performed by the Police Department. Students and teachers were also included in the role play and were familiarised with the roles and responsibilities of various Police Officers stationed in the District. The demonstration conveyed the importance of maintaining cooperation between the Police and public and encouraged citizens to promptly inform law enforcement agencies regarding any issues related to law and order.

The role play further highlighted the challenges faced by Police Personnel and public in the discharge of their duties, approach and behaviour which portrayed both positive and negative public, police behaviour through ‘good cop-bad cop’ and ‘good public-bad public’ scenarios. Similarly through role play demonstrations, messages relating to traffic and road safety, narcotics, substance abuse and responsible citizenship were also conveyed with emphasis on reinforcing positive social behaviour.

The DGP further deliberated on various forms of cyber-crimes including digital frauds, sextortion, love scams and AI voice cloning, while stressing the importance of awareness, prevention and timely reporting of such offences. He appealed to the gathering to sensitise family members and society regarding such crimes in order to prevent victimisation.

He summarised the objectives of the programme and spoke on the relationship between the police and the public. He acknowledged the challenges and pressures faced by police personnel in maintaining law and order and intimated the public of the perception regarding the strict

nature of policing by highlighting the demanding circumstances under which law enforcement agencies function while continuously striving to serve and protect public.

Mr Nahkul Pradhan Superintendent of Police, Soreng, highlighted the importance of community engagement, awareness among youth and strengthening coordination between Police and educational institutions. He described ‘Building Bonds’, as an important annual public outreach initiative conducted under the leadership of the DGP, aimed at fostering stronger relations between the Police and the community. He further extended gratitude and a warm welcome to the chief guest on behalf of Soreng District Police while also acknowledging other distinguished guests present on the occasion.

SP elaborated on the rising incidence of cyber-crimes and stressed on the importance of public awareness and vigilance against such offences. Referring to real-life cases of digital arrest frauds, he informed about the cyber-crime complaint portal and helpline available at www.cybercrime.gov.in and highlighted the continuous efforts of Soreng District Police in spreading cyber safety awareness and apprehending offenders despite various challenges involved.

He also informed regarding the awareness booklet titled ‘Techie Panda’, released by Sikkim Police, containing around 30 cyber-crime related case scenarios aimed at educating the public and preventing cyber frauds.

Addressing the issue of drug abuse, he emphasised the importance of Police-Public Partnership and reiterated the Department’s zero tolerance policy against substance abuse. He appreciated the efforts of SHOs and Police Personnel in curbing drug abuse and informed that more than 50 individuals had been sent to rehabilitation centres for recovery and reform. He further appealed to the public for greater cooperation and

support in the collective fight against crime and drug abuse.

Mr NB Gurung President Ex-Servicemen Association expressed gratitude towards the initiative undertaken by Sikkim Police through the ‘Building Bonds’ programme. He also acknowledged the services and efforts being carried out by Soreng District Police in maintaining law and order and spreading public awareness. On behalf of public, he extended his gratitude to the Police Department and reiterated continued public support and cooperation towards the department in its efforts to serve society.

A second session of the programme was conducted with officers and Personnel of the District Police. During the session, DIG interacted and shared his experiences regarding Police functioning, challenges faced in the profession and areas requiring improvement, particularly at the field level. He deliberated on the importance of effective community policing, discipline, professionalism and proper implementation of duties in day-to-day policing.

The DGP also conducted role play scenarios highlighting various aspects of policing and the importance of efficient field level functioning, which he described as a crucial element defining the image and effectiveness of the Police force. During the interaction, he appreciated the efforts and work carried out by the Police personnel during the Prime Minister’s visit to Sikkim and acknowledged their contribution towards maintaining law and order. He highlighted on the importance for effective policing.

Further, he discussed the importance of traffic management, stating that traffic discipline gives the first impression of the law and order situation in a particular State. Stressing on the significance of discipline and professionalism, he emphasised the importance of maintaining respectful conduct and disciplined public behaviour by Police personnel at all times.

During the interaction, the

DGP inquired regarding the frequency of roll calls conducted at Police Stations and highlighted the importance of regular roll calls in strengthening discipline, communication and coordination within the Police force. He also stressed upon the importance of health and physical fitness in policing, encouraging personnel to adopt healthy lifestyles, regular exercise and fitness practices to ensure efficient policing.

The DGP further discussed the importance of legal knowledge, particularly provisions under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and emphasised the need for Police Personnel to remain updated and well-informed in the discharge of their duties. He also spoke on the importance of emotional intelligence, mental health and overall well-being of Police personnel. In this regard, he encouraged practices such as meditation, spirituality and maintaining a positive lifestyle to help mitigate stress and promote mental wellness.

Addressing the issue of drug abuse, he strongly cautioned against any involvement of Police Personnel in drug related activities and stated that allegations or instances of Police involvement with drug trafficking must be dealt with seriously, as such actions can severely damage the integrity and reputation of the Police force.

The DGP also shared insights from his own career trajectory and contribution towards policing, encouraging officers and personnel to work with sincerity, integrity and courage while always standing for what is right and lawful.

Present in the meeting were Zilla Panchayats, Police department, ex-service men (Army), students and teachers of Chakung Science College and Chakung Senior Secondary School, Fire and Emergency Services, Health Department, Badminton Association of Soreng along with members of Soreng Taxi Drivers Association.

HUB for Empowerment of Women holds awareness programme

Mangan, May 7: HUB for Empowerment of Women under the Women, Child, Senior Citizens and Divyangjan Welfare Department conducted an awareness programme at BAC Passingdong, Dzongu, today.

The programme aimed at creating awareness on the services and schemes implemented under the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW), One Stop Centre (OSC), Women Helpline (WHL-181) and Child Helpline (CHL-1098).

The programme had the participation of Supervisors, Block Coordinators and

Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs).

Mr Pema Thenden Lachungpa, DMC briefed on the HUB Scheme and highlighted the important roles and functions of the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW). He emphasised the significance of Women Helpline (181) and Child Helpline (1098) in providing emergency support and assistance to women and children in distress.

Ms Pema Lhaden Lepcha, Specialist in Financial Literacy, delivered a session on the services provided under One Stop Centre (OSC). She elaborated on various support services available to women,

including medical assistance, counselling, legal aid, shelter support and assistance in lodging complaints. She also highlighted the importance of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) and explained how the scheme provides financial incentives to pregnant and lactating mothers to support better nutrition and healthcare.

Ms Pandhamit Lepcha, Gender Specialist conducted a session on the baseline survey of school dropout adolescents at village level and discussed various welfare schemes and benefits available for women and girls.

Mr Kalzang Lepcha, Block

Coordinator, provided detailed information regarding the Poshan Tracker App and discussed the challenges faced by beneficiaries in relation to Aadhaar, APAAR, and ABHA linkage. He further introduced the Anganwadi Helpers to ‘Navchetna’ and ‘Adharshila’, the ECCE curriculum under the ‘Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi’ initiative for beneficiaries in the age groups of 0-3 years and 3-6 years under ICDS. He also highlighted the importance of the ‘iGOT Karmayogi’ (Adhikarmayogi App), explaining the enrollment process and encouraging participants to undertake online

courses for capacity building.

Further discussions were held regarding the baseline survey of dropout adolescent girls at the Gram and Block levels to identify beneficiaries and ensure better implementation of welfare schemes and interventions.

Additionally, home visits were conducted as part of the survey activities. During the visit, the beneficiary was informed about Senior Citizen Maintenance and Welfare Tribunal, including the benefits, eligibility criteria, and support services available for senior citizens under the department.

DLCC meeting reviews banking performance and financial inclusion

Gyalshing, May 11: District Level Consultative Committee (DLCC)-cum-District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting for Gyalshing District for the quarter ending March 31, 2026, was held at Zilla Panchayat Conference Hall, Gyalshing(Kyongsa), today.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Suresh Rai Additional District Collector (ADC) Gyalshing and attended by Mr Sagar Sharma Zilla Member (Gyalshing-Omchung TC), Mr Ruben Lamicheney AGM NABARD, Mr Gopal Lama AGM SLBC, SBI Sikkim, Lead District Officer, RBI Mr Anuj Raina, Lead District Manager, SBI Mr Nitesh Kumar, officials from line departments and representatives of banks operating in the district.

The meeting reviewed the performance of banks and financial institutions in the district under various priority sector lending programmes, Government-sponsored schemes, social security initiatives and financial inclusion activities for the financial year 2025-26.

During the review, it was informed that the overall Credit-Deposit (CD) Ratio of the district improved to 59.32% as of March 31, 2026. The Committee also reviewed achievements under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP), where the overall achievement in the Priority Sector stood at 82.89% by the end of the fourth quarter of FY 2025-26.

Sector-wise performance under the ACP was discussed in detail. The Agriculture and allied sector recorded an achievement of 61.21%, while the MSME sector achieved 100.86%. The Other Priority Sector and Non-Priority Sector registered achievements of 147.89% and 134.18%, respectively.

The Committee further reviewed the implementation status of various Government-sponsored schemes, including PMEGP, PM Vishwakarma, PM Mudra Yojana, SHG Credit Linkage under SRLM, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Housing Finance, Education Loans and social security schemes such as PMJJBY, PMSBY, PMJDY, and APY.

ADC reviewed the progress of the Credit-Deposit (CD) Ratio, which had been highlighted as an important issue during the previous meeting. He stated that financial institutions play a crucial role in implementing various State and Centrally Sponsored Schemes aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of people, particularly in rural areas.

He emphasised that banks, as key stakeholders in the development process, should continue to discharge their responsibilities with sincerity and commitment while ensuring accessible and citizen-friendly banking services. He further stressed on the importance of

coordinated efforts among all stakeholders and stated that departments and banking institutions should work together to create greater awareness about Government schemes, banking facilities and financial opportunities so that people, especially in rural areas, can benefit from them effectively.

During the meeting, he underscored the need for banks to enhance credit flow to the agriculture sector, strengthen financial inclusion initiatives and ensure timely processing of applications under various flagship schemes. Banks were also advised to conduct Financial Literacy Camps and Block Level Bankers' Committee (BLBC) meetings regularly in accordance with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines.

ADC appreciated the efforts of the participating banks and departments and called upon all stakeholders to work in close coordination towards achieving inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the district.

Queries raised by the bank representatives were addressed by the AGM NABARD, AGM SLBC, LDO RBI, and LDM SBI.

The meeting concluded with discussions on various agenda items and action points for the upcoming quarter.

Sikkim Milk outlet inaugurated

Gangtok, May 7: Mr Puran Gurung Minister for Agriculture Department along with Mr NB Dahal Minister for Roads and Bridges Department and Mr Delay Namgyal Barfungpa MLA Gangtok inaugurated an exclusive outlet of 'Sikkim Milk' at MG Marg, Gangtok, today.

The outlet located opposite Titanic Park at the entry point of MG Marg, is an initiative of the Sikkim Cooperative Milk Producers Union Ltd (Sikkim Milk Union).

Also present were Ms Tshering Palden Bhutia Mayor and Ms Sara Lama Deputy Mayor GMC, Dr Saharman Rai Secretary AH & VS Department, Registrar Cooperation Department, Director AH & VS, M D SISCO Bank, Sikkim Milk Union Chairman, Union Advisor, Board Members of SMU and other dignitaries.

Mr Puran Gurung Minister congratulated the Sikkim Milk Union for establishing an exclusive outlet at MG Marg. He further stated that to support dairy farmers, an incentive of ₹8/- per liter was introduced by the State Government, benefiting farmers across the State. So far, around ₹68/-, crore has been disbursed directly to rural farmers' accounts, he said.

Highlighting the sector's potential, the Minister said the Government aims to make Sikkim self-sufficient in milk and milk products to reduce dependency on imports. He also appealed to hotels and restaurants in Gangtok to use Sikkim Milk

products to support local farmers.

Mr TB Ghatani Managing Director Sikkim Milk Union, said the outlet represents the journey from villages to Gangtok, from cowsheds to MG Marg, and is a tribute to the hard work of thousands of dairy farmers.

He added that Sikkim Milk Union, which began over four decades ago with around 2,000 farmers and a daily collection of 2,000 litres, has now grown into a strong cooperative network with over 17,000-18,000 farmers and a daily milk collection of 60,000-70,000 litres.

Over the years, Sikkim Milk Union has expanded its range to include milk, curd, butter, chhurpi, paneer, buttermilk, ice-creams, kulfi, yoghurt, mistidoi and other value-added products like traditional sweets in the brand name of 'Indrakil Sweets' strengthening its contribution to the Organic Sikkim identity.

He also highlighted that on the occasion of Sikkim's Statehood Golden Jubilee, new dairy products were launched on May 16, 2025, and the newly inaugurated outlet forms part of the concluding celebrations as flagship programme, inspired by Mr Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to the State on April 28 and 29, 2026.

The programme was also attended by Councillors GMC, officials from the Animal Husbandry and Cooperation Departments, SISCO Bank officials, and staff of Sikkim Milk Union.

ITS conducts site inspection at DHH and Sikkim State Museum and Archives

Gangtok, May 8: Institute for Transforming Sikkim (ITS) conducted a site inspection today at Directorate of Handloom and Handicrafts (DHH) and Sikkim State Museum and Archives. Present during the inspection were Mr Chandra Prakash Sharma Vice Chairman, ITS, Ms Namrata Thapa, Mr Sangay Dorjee Bhutia, Dr Neeraj Adhikari, Mr James Saring Lepcha and Dr Bharat Chandra Basista Members ITS.

During the inspection at DHH, the ITS members suggested measures for maintaining cleanliness within the premises. They also recommended improving the visibility and accessibility of the shops and reviewing the functioning of shops that remain closed. The suggestions were aimed at improving the utilisation of the premises and reducing maintenance-related expenditure. Mr Tshering Topgay Bhutia, Director, DHH was also present during the inspection.

The members later visited Tourism Permit Cell under the Tourism and Civil Aviation

Department, located within the DHH premises, where they interacted with Mr Sonam Rinchen Bhutia Deputy Director (Permit Cell) regarding the permit issuance process and related revenue generation. During the interaction, suggestions were made for the introduction of a Single Window system to streamline the permit issuance process by bringing together officials of concerned line departments under one platform. The proposed system is intended to facilitate greater convenience for tourism stakeholders and visitors.

ITS members subsequently proceeded to the Sikkim State Museum and Archives for inspection. The visit took place in the presence of senior officers from the Buildings and Housing and Culture Departments, along with the Contractor and Architect associated with the project. Upon arrival, the architect presented an overview of the proposed project, following which the team inspected the site. The Members reviewed the current status of the project and were briefed on the requirements for its completion,

placing emphasis on financial considerations. Discussions also focused on the proposed interior content of the museum, including art, artefacts, awards and archaeological relics related to the state's culture, heritage and traditions.

During the briefing, it was informed that revisions to the Detailed Project Report (DPR) had contributed to delays in the project timeline. Stakeholders further stated that, subject to the availability of the required funding, the project is expected to be completed within a year.

Mr CP Sharma Vice Chairman, ITS, emphasised the importance of timely completion of the project, noting that further delays could lead to additional expenditure. Suggestions were also made for consultation with representatives of the State's 21 communities regarding the placement of artefacts, as well as engagement with museum design experts for the effective completion of the project.

constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) and interacted with beneficiary. She also enquired about the benefits availed under other Central's Government schemes, including the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Thereafter, she visited CM Shri Government Secondary School, Kateng and inspected

infrastructure developed under the North Eastern Council (NEC), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Government of India. She also interacted with students and teachers regarding teaching methodologies and academic activities undertaken by the institution.

The Minister further

Contd from front page

Union MoS...

the facility, distribution of essential commodities and number of beneficiaries covered under AAY, PHH, and OPHH ration cards.

The MoS later proceeded to Upper Bokrang under Kateng Pamphok GPU to inspect a house

inspected the Kateng Primary Health Sub-Centre and reviewed the healthcare facilities and services being provided to the public. Ms Divya Sharma Community Health Officer briefed her on maternal healthcare services, OPD facilities, availability of medicines and other healthcare initiatives being carried out at the Centre.

The Minister also visited the Krishi Vigyan Kendra Namthang, where she visited the soil testing laboratory and spawn production unit. Scientists from KVK apprised her of the operational procedures and functioning of the facilities. She later held an interactive session with beneficiaries of PM-KSN and PMKSY.

Addressing the beneficiaries, the MoS spoke about the State's unique terrain and progressive organic farming practices while encouraging livelihood support initiatives under various Centrally sponsored Schemes. She expressed support for the promotion and marketing of products from the State and encouraged the adoption of modern farming techniques while preserving the environment. She further stated that such initiatives would contribute significantly towards boosting tourism and

achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Throughout the visit, the MoS was accompanied by Mr Indra Hang Subba MP Lok Sabha, MLA Barfung Mr Rikshal Dorjee, MLA Namthang-Rateypa Mr Sanjeet Kharel, Chairperson Sikkim State Women Commission Ms Tenny Doma Bhutia, APS Namchi Mr Bishnu Prasad Sharma, District Collector Namchi Ms Anupa Tamling, ADC Headquarters Mr Subash Ghimirey, ADC Namchi Ms Trisang Tamang, ADC Development Dr CP Rai, Additional Director, Women, Child, Senior Citizen & Divyangjan Welfare Department and Liaison Officer, SDM Namchi, SDM Ravangla, CDPO Namchi, CDPO Ravangla and Assistant Director along with officials from various line departments of the district.

The entourage accompanying the Union Minister also included Mr Satyen Lama, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ms Nimisha Jha ICAS, Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Women and Child Development Mr Deepak Kumar, Additional Private Secretary Mr Santosh Kumar.

Union Minister of State reviews welfare and developmental initiatives at Namchi District

Namchi, May 12: As part of her three-day visit to Sikkim from May 11 to 13, Ms Savitri Thakur Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Government of India held a review meeting with district officials to assess the implementation of various welfare and developmental programmes in the district at Conference Hall of Town Hall, Namchi, today.

The visit was aimed at reviewing the grassroot implementation of centrally sponsored schemes and developmental initiatives related to women and child welfare, rural development, healthcare, education, livelihood generation, infrastructure and community empowerment.

During her visit to Namchi District, the MoS visited various important institutions and developmental sites including Buddha Park (Ravangla), Temi Tea Garden and Temi Tea Factory, Namthang Food Godown, Health and Wellness Centre and Kateng School, PMAY (G) House and KVK (Namthang), where she interacted with officials, beneficiaries and local stakeholders.

MoS in her address, expressed her admiration for the people of Sikkim. She remarked that Sikkim is naturally blessed with unparalleled scenic beauty, rich culture and the purity of nature, adding that the warmth, simplicity and sincerity of its people beautifully reflects the essence of the State itself.

She lauded the hardworking perseverance of the people including officials, workers, and individuals across all sectors who continue to carry out their responsibilities with commitment and discipline. She stated that the spirit of teamwork and collective responsibility was clearly visible in Namchi District and acknowledged that the progress of a district or a State can only be achieved through the united efforts and dedication of every stakeholder.

She expressed satisfaction over implementation and utilisation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and funds in the district and encouraged the people to continue making optimum use of the welfare initiatives and developmental support extended by the Government of India for the benefit of the public.

Referring to her earlier visit to KVK Namthang, MoS highlighted the successful implementation of the 'Ghar Ghar Anaj Yojana' and noted with

appreciation that the quality of grains produced and distributed in the State was at par with modern standards and technologies. She further expressed admiration at the successful cultivation of international fruits such as blueberries in a small Himalayan State like Sikkim, describing it as a remarkable achievement in the field of agriculture and horticulture. She also appreciated the progress made in mushroom cultivation and other livelihood-oriented agricultural initiatives being undertaken in the district.

Speaking on education sector, the MoS mentioned that during her visit to the school earlier, she was impressed by the quality of education, discipline of the students, and dedication of the teaching fraternity. She remarked that the positive environment and overall standard of the institution reflected the sincerity and commitment of both the administration and the community towards educational development.

She further highlighted various Centrally Sponsored welfare initiatives including Mission Shakti, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, and women and child welfare programmes aimed at empowerment, nutrition, education, healthcare, and social protection. She stated that the successful implementation of these schemes contributes significantly towards the vision of the Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi for a 'Viksit Bharat', a developed, self-reliant, inclusive, and empowered India where every citizen, especially women, children, farmers and youth, receives equal opportunities for growth and progress.

She also stressed the importance of recognising and supporting grassroot functionaries such as Anganwadi workers, who work tirelessly at the community level for the welfare of women and children, particularly in rural areas. The MoS emphasised the need for timely training, institutional support, and capacity-building opportunities to further strengthen their role and professional growth.

Recalling the challenging period of COVID-19 pandemic, she stated that the Prime Minister worked relentlessly towards safeguarding the welfare of women and children, which

further strengthened initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana aimed at supporting maternal and child health. She encouraged everyone to continue working collectively for the upliftment, welfare, and empowerment of one another, while ensuring inclusive and sustainable development for all sections of society.

Ms Normit Lepcha Secretary Women, Child, Senior Citizens and Divyangjan Welfare Department (WCSC&DWD), delivered a detailed PowerPoint Presentation (PPT) highlighting the various welfare schemes and flagship programmes being implemented by the department for the empowerment and welfare of women, children, senior citizens, and specially-abled persons across the State.

During the presentation, she gave an overview of Mission Shakti and highlighted its physical and financial progress for the year 2025-2026. She also elaborated on the department's continued efforts towards strengthening women's safety, protection, empowerment, and institutional support mechanisms under the centrally sponsored scheme.

Special mention was made of 'SAMBAL' component under Mission Shakti, which is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). Under this initiative, the functioning and services of the One Stop Centre and Women Helpline were highlighted for providing immediate assistance, counselling, legal aid, rescue support and rehabilitation services to women in distress.

The presentation also covered the successful implementation of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) programme across all six districts of the State. Secretary highlighted the positive impact and achievements of the scheme in promoting girl child education, awareness on gender equality, and improving community participation towards the welfare and protection of girls.

Further, she briefly highlighted initiatives such as Nari Adalat, which focuses on strengthening community-based grievance redressal and women-centric justice mechanisms at the grassroots level. Programmes under SAMARTHYA were also discussed, particularly those aimed at care, protection, nutrition and rehabilitation support for women and children.

The presentation additionally covered the

implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), PALNA, SANKALP, SHAKTI SADAN and Sakhi Niwas, which collectively focus on maternal welfare, childcare support, women's shelter and rehabilitation services, skill development and safe accommodation facilities for women.

Special emphasis was also laid on Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, wherein efforts towards improving nutritional outcomes, strengthening Anganwadi infrastructure, early childhood care and promoting health and nutrition awareness among mothers and children were highlighted.

Ms Anupa Tamling District Collector Namchi, delivered a comprehensive PowerPoint Presentation (PPT) providing an overview of the developmental profile and ongoing initiatives of Namchi District.

During the presentation, the DC highlighted district's progress in key sectors including health infrastructure, educational infrastructure, rural service facilities, healthcare advancement, connectivity and transportation. She elaborated on various initiatives undertaken to strengthen public service delivery and improve accessibility in both urban and rural areas of the district.

Special emphasis was laid on major infrastructure projects under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS), particularly road connectivity and transport enhancement works aimed at improving inter-village and regional accessibility. The presentation also highlighted the significance of the Namthang Span Bridge project in strengthening connectivity and facilitating socio-economic development in the region.

A major focus of the presentation was on Mission Maya Mission for Adolescents and Youth Advancement an initiative aimed at empowering the younger generation through education, awareness, counselling, and skill development. DC stressed the urgent need to address school dropout cases and channelize the youth towards productive for a brighter and self-reliant future. She further underscored the importance of vocational training, skill enhancement programmes, and capacity-building initiatives to equip young people with employable and sustainable

skills.

The presentation also gave special attention to children with special needs, wherein the DC, emphasised the necessity of creating inclusive and state-of-the-art facilities to ensure proper care, education, rehabilitation, and equal opportunities for specially-abled children. She reiterated the need for a compassionate and inclusive developmental approach to ensure that no section of society is left behind.

The meeting also deliberated on strengthening convergence among departments, improving monitoring mechanisms and promoting inclusive and sustainable development across the district.

As part of the next schedule of her visit on May 13, the MoS is slated to visit Chardham, Namchi, PMGSY works at Harrabotey, SIRD Karfector (Jorethang), and OSC Hub and ICDS Centre, Jorethang, before departing for Bagdogra Airport.

Earlier in the programme, the Minister of State was warmly welcomed by Ms Anupa Tamling District Collector Namchi. A token of appreciation was also presented to MoS by the WCSC&DWD in recognition of her visit and continued support towards the welfare and developmental initiatives of the State.

The programme also featured an open house discussion session wherein officials, departmental representatives, stakeholders, and participants engaged in interactive deliberations on various developmental issues, welfare initiatives, implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, and sector-specific challenges and suggestions. The session provided a platform for constructive exchange of ideas and feedback aimed at strengthening coordination, improving service delivery, and ensuring effective implementation of Government programmes for the benefit of the public.

The review meeting was attended by Ms Normit Lepcha Secretary WCSC&DWD, Mr Satyen Lama ICAS IES, Ms Urveshi Poudyal Principal Director WCSC&DWD, Ms Bandana Rai Special Secretary WCSC&DWD, Ms Sonam Lhamu Bhutia Additional Director-cum-Nodal Officer, Officer's from district administration, HoOs from the Line departments and staff.

Territorial and Wildlife Division Namchi conducts cleanliness and awareness drive

Namchi, May 8: Territorial and Wildlife Division, Namchi, conducted a cleanliness drive and public awareness campaign focusing on the messages 'Don't Feed Monkeys' and 'Don't Litter', today.

As part of the initiative, awareness was spread through miking at various locations to

sensitise public on maintaining cleanliness and protecting wildlife habitats. In addition, four signages were installed along roadside locations warning against littering and feeding monkeys.

The campaign also highlighted that violators of the rules would be penalised with a fine of ₹5,000.

The programme was participation by DFO (Territorial), DFO (Wildlife), ACF Wildlife Division, ACF Environment, ACF Territorial, along with other field staff, who collectively contributed towards making the drive successful.



Chief Minister attends West Bengal Government Swearing-in Ceremony

Kolkata, May 9: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended the swearing-in ceremony of the newly formed BJP Government in West Bengal.

During the occasion, Chief Minister extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Mr Suvendu Adhikari and all members of the newly inducted cabinet who took oath as part of the first BJP-led Government in West Bengal. The ceremony was held in the presence of Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi.

Describing the occasion as a historic moment, the Chief Minister stated that the formation of the new Government marks the

beginning of a new chapter focused on development, good governance and progress for the people of West Bengal. He expressed confidence that the new administration would work with dedication towards the welfare and aspirations of citizens across the State.

The Chief Minister also conveyed his optimism that the new leadership would usher in peace, growth, empowerment, and transformative opportunities throughout West Bengal. He wished the entire cabinet success in serving the people with integrity, commitment and vision.

SSDMA conferred with prestigious Subash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award

Gangtok, May 7: Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority has been conferred with Subash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award for the year 2026 in recognition of its distinguished contribution to the field of disaster management and outstanding service to the people.

Congratulating the Authority on the achievement, Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang stated that this honour reflects the dedication, professionalism and tireless efforts of the entire team in strengthening disaster preparedness, response, and resilience across the State. He

noted that the award is a matter of immense pride for the people of Sikkim and a recognition of the State's continued commitment towards effective disaster management and public service.

The Chief Minister also expressed appreciation to all officers, staff members, volunteers, and stakeholders associated with the Authority for their commendable contribution. He further conveyed his best wishes for the organisation's continued success in safeguarding lives and strengthening community resilience across the State.

Coordination meeting for State Day Celebrations

Gangtok, May 11: Mr R Telang Chief Secretary chaired a review meeting at the Conference Hall of Tashiling Secretariat to assess the preparedness for the forthcoming State Day Celebrations 2026, today.

During the meeting, Mr R Telang Chief Secretary directed all departments concerned to maintain close coordination and ensure the timely completion of assigned responsibilities. Stressing the importance of efficient planning and collective effort, he called for seamless inter-departmental coordination for the successful conduct of the celebrations.

The meeting extensively reviewed arrangements related to logistics, security, protocol, traffic management, accommodation, cultural programmes, venue management and other essential services for the upcoming event.

Detailed discussions were also held on crowd management, sanitation, parking arrangements,

deployment of personnel, emergency response measures and other operational aspects to ensure the smooth and orderly conduct of the celebrations.

Officials informed the meeting that necessary arrangements were being made in view of the scheduled programmes and the expected presence of dignitaries during the celebration. Departments also presented updates on the preparations undertaken in their respective sectors.

State Day is observed annually on May 16 to commemorate Sikkim's integration with the Indian Union in 1975 and its recognition as the 22nd state of the country.

The meeting was attended by Mr SD Dhakal Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, HoDs, Secretaries, senior officials and representatives from paramilitary forces.

Three-Day National Josmani Saint Literature Conference held

Soreng, May 12: The three-day National Josmani Saint Literature Conference, from May 12 to 14, commenced at Guru Gyandil Das Dham, Gelling, Soreng today. The event was jointly organised by Guru Gyandil Dham Committee and the All India Josmani Sanatan Dharma Welfare Organisation (AIJSDWO).

The programme was graced by Mr Sonam Lama Minister for Ecclesiastical Department as the chief guest. He was accompanied by Mr Madan Cintury MLA of Salghari-Zoom Constituency.

Addressing the gathering, the chief guest expressed his gratitude and privilege in being part of the event and emphasised the importance of preserving and carrying forward the traditions of every religion. He stated that every individual has a responsibility to protect and maintain religious and cultural institutions and also urged saints and devotees from different regions to promote Guru Gyandil Dham in their respective places. Furthermore, he conveyed his best wishes for the upcoming International Literature Conference planned at the premises.

President of AIJSDWO, Mr Govind Sharma, highlighted the significance of the celebration, which also marked the 205th birth anniversary of Guru Gyandil Das and announced that the Josmani Saint Literature Conference would now be observed annually. He elaborated on the social contributions, teachings, and spiritual legacy of Guru Gyandil Das. He also expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister for his continued support and contribution toward the development of the premises.

Maharaj Shriram Chaitanya also addressed the gathering, expressing his privilege in participating in the celebration of Guru Gyandil Das's birth anniversary. He spoke about unity, inner peace, and the core objectives of the National Josmani Saint Literature Conference.

The event featured several sessions and activities, including, introduction and discussion sessions among Josmani saints and spiritual leaders, discussions on the origins and principles of the Josmani tradition, deliberations on spiritual practices within the

Josmani community, interactions on Josmani teachings and literature, open discussions on the relevance of the Josmani tradition in the modern era, future plans for the promotion, preservation, and expansion of the Josmani community and Bhajan-Kirtan (devotional music performances).

During the programme, four distinguished personalities were felicitated for their significant contributions to the Josmani community; Swami Mahavira Nanda Giri Maharaj, Mr CP Sharma, Dr Gokul Sinha and Dr Suman Dhakal.

The event also saw release of a books by the chief guest and guest of honour along with Token of Appreciation presented to the chief guest by the organising committee.

The conference was attended by Vice President (ITS), Upadhyaksha (Soreng), Advisor (SBS), Advisor Food and Civil Supplies Department, President AIJSDWO, BDO Baiguney, saints from across the country including Darjeeling, Dooars, Sikkim and Nepal, literary personalities, students.

Forest Department briefs media on anti-encroachment measures at Bulbuley Reserve Forest

Gangtok, May 12: Mr Karma Legshey Dhondup Chief Conservator of Forests (Territorial), Forest and Environment Department convened a press briefing at the Tragopan Hall of Forest Secretariat in Deorali, regarding the recent anti-encroachment drive conducted near the Plant Conservatory in Bulbuley Reserve Forest.

Addressing media representatives, the CCF shared details about the measures undertaken to ensure the continued protection of notified forest lands, aligning with the provisions of the Sikkim Forests, Water Courses and Roads Reserve (Preservation and Protection) Act, 1988.

It was informed that the Plant Conservatory at Bulbuley was initially developed as a conservation space to preserve several of the most significant Himalayan floral species. It has today become one of the most popular destinations for both tourists and educators alike.

However, with the increasing number of tourists over the years, several unauthorised temporary and semi-permanent structures had appeared within the area of the Plant Conservatory. This had raised many concerns such as disruption of public transit, poor sanitation and waste disposal, traffic congestion and most importantly, the degradation of the ecologically sensitive landscape adjoining the Reserve Forest.

CCF informed that in line with the humanitarian and people-centric vision of the Chief Minister, the Department adopted a

consultative approach to curb illegal encroachment in the area, with emphasis on awareness, dialogue and provision of alternative eco-friendly vending infrastructure for bonafide local beneficiaries.

Thereafter, eco-friendly stalls had been developed by the Department that were to be administered through the Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) for bonafide local beneficiaries.

Multiple rounds of consultations followed in coordination with the concerned JFMC, public representatives and local stakeholders with regards to the allotment of the established eco-friendly stalls to the beneficiaries.

The allotment of the stalls was facilitated by the Department on February 8, 2026, with priority accorded to educated unemployed local youth, particularly women, with the objective of promoting women empowerment, sustainable livelihood generation and community participation in forest conservation and ecotourism management.

The initiative was aimed at ensuring lawful, dignified and environmentally sustainable livelihood opportunities for local beneficiaries while strengthening responsible ecotourism practices in the area, it was informed.

Additionally, the Department had initiated due legal procedures well in advance and issued notices for voluntary removal of unauthorised structures in the area.

Owing to the continuation of unauthorised encroachments

throughout the area despite several previous notices and consultations, the Department has exhausted all possibilities for voluntary compliance and amicable resolution, conducted an anti-encroachment drive in pursuant to the current legal provisions on May 8, 2026.

During the briefing, the CCF stressed that this initiative was undertaken with a measured, collaborative and rehabilitative approach, while reiterating the importance of protecting forest land for the purpose of ensuring biodiversity conservation, environmental security, public safety and enabling sustainable ecotourism.

It was further informed that as part of ongoing ecological restoration and recovery efforts, the reclaimed forest areas will be rehabilitated through landscaping and avenue plantation measures.

The CCF through the briefing has expressed gratitude to all individuals and stakeholders who cooperated with the Department, complied with the notified regulations, and supported the ongoing conservation efforts by refraining from unauthorised occupation of forest land.

He has further appealed to citizens to continue extending their cooperation towards protection of ecologically sensitive areas and promotion of responsible ecotourism practices in the State.

The briefing concluded with the addressal of various queries raised by media personnel regarding the implementation process and related aspects of the drive.

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