



SIKKIM HERALD

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Justice A Muhamed Mustaque sworn in as Chief Justice of High Court of Sikkim



Gangtok, January 4: Justice A Muhamed Mustaque was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Sikkim at a function in Ashirwad Hall, Lok Bhawan, today.

Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur administered the oath of office to Justice A Muhamed Mustaque.

The function saw the presence of the Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, Mr Mingma

Norbu Sherpa Speaker SLA, Mrs Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai and Mr Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan Judges High Court of Sikkim, Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Speaker SLA, MLAs, Heads of Departments, dignitaries from the Judiciary and other officials.

Upon taking the oath, Justice A Muhamed Mustaque signed the solemn oath/affirmation relating to his assumption of office,

which was duly attested by the Governor.

Earlier, Mr R Telang Chief Secretary read out the notification and the warrant of appointment of Justice A Muhamed Mustaque. After the swearing-in, the Chief Justice was congratulated by the Governor, Chief Minister, other dignitaries and invitees.

Chief Minister visits Gaya



Bihar, January 2: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang visited Gaya and offered prayers at Mahabodhi Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site revered as the place where Lord Buddha attained enlightenment.

During his visit, the Chief Minister prayed at the Mahabodhi Temple in the presence of His Holiness the 12th Goshir Gyaltsab Rinpoche. Describing the experience as deeply serene and blessed, the Chief Minister said that offering prayers at the holy site was fulfilling. He sought compassionate blessings of Lord Buddha for peace, harmony, and collective well-being for Sikkim and its people as the state steps into the New Year 2026.

The Chief Minister also visited the ongoing Sakya Monlam being held within the Mahabodhi

Temple premises, where he offered prayers in the presence of His Holiness the 42nd Kyabgon Gongma Trizin Ratna Vajra Rinpoche and His Holiness Avikrita Vajra Sakya Rinpoche. The temple also witnessed a large gathering of devotees.

Chief Minister was in Gaya to attend the sacred Red Vajra Crown Ceremony and the Long Life Empowerment been graciously bestowed by His Holiness the 12th Goshir Gyaltsab Rinpoche on January 3.

In attendance were Mr Sonam Lama Minister, Mr Sonam Tshering Venchungpa MLA, Mr AK Chand PRC, Mr SD Dhakal Principal Secretary CMO, Mr Karma Namgyal Bhutia Secretary CMO, members of the Bodhgaya Temple Management committee and others.

1st Inter-Department Cricket Tournament inaugurated



Pakyong, January 4: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, inaugurated the 1st Inter-Department Cricket Tournament, organised by Sikkim Cricket Association (SICA) in collaboration with Government of Sikkim at Sikkim Cricket Ground, Rangpo, today.

The Chief Minister, who is also the Chief Patron of SICA, formally declared the tournament open, marking a significant step towards promoting sports culture among Government employees of the state.

The inaugural ceremony had the presence of Mr Raju Basnett Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Mr Sanjeet Kharel MLA, Mr SD Dhakal Principal Secretary to CM, Mr Tika

Subba President SICA, Chairman SIMFED, Advisor and MD SBS, DC Pakyong, SSP Pakyong along with officials from various line departments and others.

The tournament comprises of 28 State Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), aiming to foster team spirit, unity and sportsmanship while strengthening the sporting ecosystem in the State.

The winning team will receive a cash prize of ₹10 lakh, while the runners-up will receive ₹5 lakh, respectively. The prize money is sponsored by the State Bank of Sikkim.

The opening match of the tournament was played between the Chief Minister's Office and

Power Department, resulting in a 12-run victory for Power Department. Mr Palzor Bhutia of Power Department was adjudged the Man of the Match for his notable performance.

Similarly, a felicitation ceremony was also held to honour the Chief Minister as the Chief Patron of SICA. Another felicitation ceremony was conducted to honour the Sikkim Women's Cricket Team for winning the Plate Division of the Senior Women's T20 Trophy 2025-26 organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

On the occasion, the annual calendar of the State Bank of Sikkim was also unveiled.

Final coordination meeting for Maghey Sankranti Mela Celebration

Namchi, December 29: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, chaired the final coordination meeting for the Maghey Sankranti Mela celebration 2026 at the SIRD & PR, Karfector, today.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Mr Madan Cintury MLA Salghari-Zoom and Chief Patron of the Maghey Sankranti Mela, Mr Jacob Khaling Political Secretary to the Chief Minister, Mr Pabitra Manav President (NJNP), Vice President (NJNP), along with Advisors and Chairpersons.

The Chief briefed on key strategies and initiatives being implemented to ensure the smooth

and successful conduct of the festival. Departmental Heads and representatives apprised him of their respective roles and preparedness. He emphasised the need to promote Maghey Sankranti Mela as a flagship festival of Sikkim, with visibility on State, national and international platforms. He urged all Departments and stakeholders to work in close coordination to ensure the event's success. He further encouraged local traders and entrepreneurs to make the most of the opportunities to strengthen their businesses, while

Contd.on page 6

Pearls of Wisdom

"It's only after you've stepped outside your comfort zone that you begin to change, grow, and transform."

- Roy T. Bennett

Pre State-level celebration of Tamu Lochar

Namchi, December 27: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended Pre State-level celebration of Tamu Lochar celebration at Karungthang, Yangang, today.

He was accompanied by Ms Raj Kumari Thapa Deputy Speaker (SLA), Mr Puran Kumar Gurung Minister Agriculture Department also the Patron of the event, Cabinet Ministers, Sangay Yenten Gyatso (Gurung Tulku) along with Ministers, MLAs, Political Secretaries, Advisors, Chairpersons, Zilla Panchayat members, Panchayat representatives, DCs, Sr Police Officials, ADCs, SDMs, BDOs, Heads of Offices (HoOs) from various departments and public.

At the onset, the Chief Minister visited various traditional stalls set up by Self Help Groups and local entrepreneurs and interacted with the local stakeholders and participants.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister stated that Tamu Lochar is deeply rooted in traditions reflecting the values of brotherhood, valour, and the distinct identity of the Gurung community. He highlighted that culture, in any form, serves as a vital means of preserving age-old traditions, art, and the ethnic heritage of a community. He noted that such celebrations exemplify the vision of 'Sunaulo, Samriddha Ani Samarth Sikkim', by strengthening cultural pride and social harmony. He further expressed pride in the significant contributions of the Gurung community to the State across various fields, particularly in the area of border protection, where their courage and chivalry have been exemplary.

He also acknowledged individuals who have brought laurels to the State and the community, including renowned folk artist Mr Naren Gurung, who has been conferred the prestigious Padma Shri Award in the field of Art (Vocal-Folk-Nepali) for his outstanding contribution towards preserving and promoting Sikkimese Nepali

folk music and dance traditions. Reflecting on the past, he paid tribute to Late Bhim Bahadur Gurung, the third Chief Minister of Sikkim, for his significant contributions to the welfare of the people of the State and the Gurung community in itself. He also mentioned Mr Omi Gurung, popularly known as the 'Green Man of Sikkim', an Indian fashion designer and social entrepreneur, whose achievements and recognition have made the Gurung community proud and inspirational to the youth of Sikkim.

He lauded the Organising Committee for the first-ever use of the Gurung language for official announcements during the celebration, describing it as a commendable step towards preserving linguistic identity and encouraging the younger generation.

Speaking on development, he stated that Yangang-Rangang Constituency holds immense potential in multiple sectors, including tourism, with ongoing infrastructural development, the upcoming 100-bedded AYUSH Hospital, the establishment of a Central University under Sikkim University, iconic Sky Walk at Bhaley Dhunga, Lepcha Heritage Centre, and several sacred monasteries and temples. He also announced that the constituency would soon have its own cricket stadium to nurture and promote sporting talents within the district and beyond. He also expressed his appreciation to the Tamu Lochar Celebration Committee and the people of the region for organising a remarkable celebration marked by vibrant community participation, traditional dance performances, and soulful folk songs, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of people and their ethnicity.

Speaking during the programme, Ms Raj Kumari Thapa took pride in the valuable contributions of the Gurung community, in development of the State and the nation as a whole.

She thanked the Chief

Minister for his consistent support to the people of the region and for being a strong backbone in revitalising and boosting tourism in the region. She highlighted that Yangang possesses immense potential to emerge as the next major tourist destination, owing to its unique blend of natural beauty, strategic location, accessibility, and local talent.

Reflecting on the devastating flood that occurred at Pathing under Yangang-Rangang Constituency, she recalled the prompt and personal intervention of the Chief Minister in relief and rescue operations. She noted that the Chief Minister not only ensured swift rescue and rehabilitation of the affected families but also extended SGAY allotment orders to safeguard their safety and long-term well-being.

The programme also witnessed a vibrant display of cultural performances and musical presentations. The Chief Minister was also accorded a token of love and respect by the Gurung Body, Chairpersons, Advisors and OSDs, followed by felicitation by the organising committee and the presentation of Abhaar Patra by the Pathing landslide victims.

The event further marked the unveiling of the Tamu Calendar 2026, the poster launch of the Nepali movie 'Ujjyalo' by Mr Amir Gurung, the unveiling of the music album 'Lochar Parba Ma' by Ms Ojassvi Gurung and group, and the presentation of the Tamu Lochar Logo by Mr Arun Gurung.

Subsequently, the programme also featured a felicitation ceremony honouring Ms Advita Gurung, 3rd Position holder, Sikkim Idol Season 2 (Junior Category); Ms Ojassvi Gurung, 1st Position holder, Sikkim Idol Season 2 (Senior Category);

Ms Sushma Gurung (Sushma Productions) and a special felicitation to the recipient of the prestigious Padma Shri Award, Mr Naren Gurung.

in recognition of his contribution to gospel music.

A sermon was delivered by the Guest Speaker, Dr Archarya Vikash Massey.

The event also witnessed the release of posters for Sikkim Theological Seminary, Rateypani Namthang and the Sikkim Prayer Festival 2026. The flag for forthcoming Pre-Christmas celebrations was ceremonially handed over and a cheque amounting to ₹10 lakh was presented to the Gyalshing District Celebration Committee for the 2026 celebrations. Earlier, grants under the Chief Minister's Discretionary Grants Scheme were distributed to various churches across the State.

The programme concluded with musical performances by guest artist Mr Sheldon Bangera, choir groups and local artistes from the community.

Oath-taking and felicitation ceremony of newly elected Pipons of Lachung Dzumsa held

Mangan, January 5: An oath-taking and felicitation ceremony of the newly elected Pipons of Lachung Dzumsa was held at the office of DC Mangan, today.

The oath of office was administered by Mr Anant Jain DC, followed by the distribution of certificates to the two elected Pipons of Lachung. The ceremony was attended by Mr LB Chettri Superintendent of Police Mangan, Mr Hem Sagar Kaphley ADC (Development)

State-Level Chasok Tongnam 2025 celebrated

Pakyong, December 14: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, accompanied by Madam Krishna Rai, attended the State-Level Chasok Tongnam 2025 celebration organised by the Chasok Tongnam Celebration Committee at Saramsa Garden, Ranipool, today.

The event was attended by the Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, MP Lok Sabha, Advisors, Zilla Adhyakshas and Upadhyakshas, Political Secretary to CM, Chairmen, HoDs, OSD, dignitaries from various line departments, along with members of the celebration committee.

Ritualistic observances, including Mangsewa at the Manghim were performed. The dignitaries also visited the Limbu Traditional House and the traditional Ya Thamma Ten, reflecting the rich cultural heritage of the Limbu community.

The Chief Minister stated that festivals of all communities are being celebrated at state level to recognise and honour the State's diverse cultural traditions. He added that such initiatives also encourage the younger generation to understand, value, and preserve their rich cultural heritage. He mentioned that Chasok Tongnam is not just a festival but a celebration of gratitude and a way of life. He highlighted the profound contribution of Mahatma Sirijunga Teyongsi, a prominent Limbu scholar and cultural reformer, for reviving and promoting the Sirijunga script, thereby strengthening the linguistic and cultural identity of the community. He appreciated the Limbu community for its sustained efforts in preserving and promoting the Limbu language, literature, and traditions, and for actively using the language in daily life. He urged all communities to speak and preserve their language, noting that language preservation is central to safeguarding cultural identity.

He also referred to the State Government's efforts towards the inclusion of 12 left-out

Chungthang, Mr Kailash Thapa BDO Mangan, along with other officials.

The elected Pipons are Mr Chungtuk Tshering Lachungpa from Khedum Block and Mr Sonam Tshering Lachungpa from Lema Block. The election was conducted on December 20, 2025. With the oath-taking ceremony, both Pipons have officially assumed their duties for tenure of one year.

communities under tribal status. He termed it a significant achievement that the Limbu language was introduced as a core subject under the CBSE curriculum for Classes in Sikkim schools in 1981. He further mentioned the State Government's initiative mandating government employees to wear traditional attire every Thursday under the 'Traditional Wear Work Day' initiative, aimed at promoting cultural pride, diversity, and the preservation of traditional heritage. The Chief Minister also highlighted various initiatives of the State Government in the education, health, infrastructure and sustainable development sectors.

MP Lok Sabha Dr Indra Hang Subba commended the State Government for declaring Chasok Tongnam a gazetted holiday on December 15, noting its positive role in fostering community unity. He also placed before the Government certain requests of the Limbu community as conveyed by the concerned association.

Furthermore, Mr Bal Muringla, Associate Professor, Sikkim University, provided brief information on the Chasok Tongnam festival, stating that it commemorates the offering of the first harvest to the Limbu ancestral goddess, Yuma Sammam, along with other deities.

He explained that the sacred occasion serves as a prayer for the welfare of humanity, prosperity, abundant harvests, and happiness. He further stated that Chasok Tongnam brings the Limbu community together, strengthening social bonds and serving as an important source of social capital while reinforcing shared cultural values and collective identity.

The programme also featured the distribution of cheques under the Chief Minister's Discretionary Grant (CMDG) and a series of traditional cultural performances, including Sirdhapey Yalak, Hakparey Samlo (folk music), Yalang (Dhan Nach), and Tamokay (cultivation dance).

State-Level Pre-Christmas Celebration organised

Namchi, December 16: A State-Level Pre-Christmas Celebration was organised by the United Christian Workers' Social Society (UCWSS), All Sikkim Christian Organisation (ASCO), and All Churches of Sikkim at Jorethang, today.

Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, attended the programme accompanied by Madam Krishna Kumari Rai.

The Guest Speaker for the programme was Dr Archarya Vikash Massey. The celebration was attended by Ministers, MLAs, Zilla Adhyakshas and Up-Adhyaksha, Panchayats, Advisors, Chairpersons, OSDs, Heads of Departments, officers from line departments and others.

Chief Minister highlighting the significant contributions of the Christian community in fields such as politics, philanthropy, education, science and music,

emphasised the importance of sustained collective efforts to uphold peace and tranquillity in the State. He also underscored the need to preserve, protect and conserve the traditions and cultural heritage that define Sikkim. He urged everyone to follow the teachings of love, peace and unity, and to apply these values in rendering selfless service to humanity. He reaffirmed that the State Government and the administration remain committed to supporting all communities and citizens and assured that the demands placed by community representatives would be addressed in the near future.

During the programme, the Chief Minister was felicitated by the Organising Committee. Senior pastors from various churches, as well as Mr LB Baraily, a renowned Christian singer were felicitated

**KEEP SIKKIM
CLEAN AND
GREEN**

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer-II
Government of Sikkim
Roads & Bridges Department
Nirman Bhawan, Gangtok - 737101

NIT No: - 02/NIT/GoS/R&B(GYL)/25-26

Date:- 16/12/2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Additional Chief Engineer (II), Roads & Bridges Department invites sealed tenders on Item Rate basis from the eligible contractors of Class II-B Grade within the Yangthang Constituency, Gyalshing District enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department vide Notification No: 21/R&B/PWD/Secy/2023-24 dated 18.10.2023, for the execution of the work with the details as under:-

SI No	Name of Work	Tender Value (in Lakh)	Earnest Money@2.5% of the Tender value (in Lakh)	Cost of Tender documents/ Bid Form (in Lakh)	Completion Period
1	Upgradation, Improvement and Carpeting of road from Elgin Fatak to Sangacholing Monastery under Gyalshing District, Sikkim (4 KM)	₹412.55	₹10.31	₹1.00	18 months

Note:-

- The tender is only opened to the registered Class II-B contractors of Yangthang Constituency, Gyalshing District.
- 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 exempt 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 year. The same is governed by Notification No: 40/R&B/PWD/Secy/2-23-24 dated 31.01.2024.

TIME SCHEDULE

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Date of submission of application along with Bank receipt.	16/01/2026	11:00 am to 3:00 pm
2	Date of issue of Tender Documents and Tender Form on receipt of 2.5% EMD.	20/01/2026	11:00 am to 3:00 pm
3	Submission of bid documents	22/01/2026	11:00 am to 4:30 pm
4	Opening of bid documents	23/01/2026	11:30 am

Terms and Conditions:-

- 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 Yangthang Constituency, Gyalshing District and the residential address in the Enlistment Certificate should be within the territorial jurisdiction of the Yangthang Constituency, Gyalshing District.
- The intending bidder should apply in writing to the Additional Chief Engineer (II), 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 Additional Chief Engineer (II), 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 (II), 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/2-23-24 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 - II, 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 Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- 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.

Additional Chief Engineer (GSN),
Roads & Bridges Department,
Government of Sikkim, Gangtok - 737101
(02)

Government of Sikkim
Social Welfare Department
5th Mile Tadong, Gangtok

NIT No: 30/GoS/SWD/EC/2025

Dated: 8/12/2025 .

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Divisional Engineer (Pakyong), Social Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Lumsey, Tadong, Gangtok District, Sikkim on behalf of Governor of Sikkim, invites sealed tenders in percentage Rate basis from the eligible contractors of appropriate class Vide Notification No. 21/R&B/PWD/Secy/2023- 24. Dated 18.10.2023 Notification No. 104/R&B Dated 08.10.2020 for the works listed under: -

SL.No	Name of work	Value put to Tender (in ₹)	Completion Time, (in months)	Amount of Earnest Money @2.5% For issue of tender form (₹)	Amount of Bank receipt for cost of tender documents.(₹)	Constituency / GPU/ Ward
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Constt. Of 50 bedded Boys Hostel at Govt. School in Assam Lingzey.	1,77,62,100/-	24 Months	4,44,053/-	50,000.00	Within the territorial jurisdiction of the Gram Panchayat.

Time Schedule is as follows:-
1. Tender Publishing Date
2. Start date for submission of application With Bank Receipt for issue of Tender Form
2. Last date for issue of tender form
3. Date and Time for submission of Tender
4. Date and Time of opening of Tender:

: 9/12/2025.
:17/12/2025 (11.00 hrs)
:14/01/2026 (11.00 hrs).
:21/01/2026 (10.00am to 1.00pm).
:21/01/2026 at 2.00 pm.

Divisional Engineer (Civil)
Social Welfare Department
Government of Sikkim
(174, A, I)

Government of Sikkim
Social Welfare Department
5th Mile Tadong, Gangtok

NIT No: 31/GoS/SWD/EC/2025

Dated: 8/12/2025 .

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4. Date and Time of opening of Tender:

: 9/12/2025.
: 19/12/2025 (11.00 hrs)
:16/01/2026 (11.00 hrs).
:22/01/2026 (10.00am to 1.00pm).
:22/01/2026 at 2.00pm.

Divisional Engineer (Civil)
Social Welfare Department
Government of Sikkim
(174, B, I)

Before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Pakyong, Sikkim

AFFIDAVIT

We, **1. Nisha Bhusal, 2. Pranayna Bhusal and 3. Dibya Bhusal**, all daughters of **Late Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal)**, all resident of Chalisey PW, Near ICDS, Centre, Rhenock Tarpin GPU, PO & PS. Rhenock, Pakyong District, Sikkim do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:
1. That we are the natural daughter of **5041727P, Rank N/K, Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal)** and **Late Asha Magar**.
2. That my father **Late Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal)** was the holder of Pension Book bearing No. Corrigendum P.PO No. S/ CORR/150932/95 issued by the Office of the Chief C.D.A. (Pensions) Allahahad.
3. That our mother namely **Late Asha Magar** was nominated as Nominee in the Pension Book mentioned-above.
4. That **Pranayna Bhusal** and **Dibya Bhusal** name was not mentioned in the record of Pension Book of **Late Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal)** mentioned-above as **Pranayna Bhusal** and **Dibya Bhusal** was born after the retirement of **Late Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal)**.
5. That as on date we are the only legal heirs of **Late Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal)** and **Late Asha Magar**.

That the statements made heroinabove are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed there from and I have signed and verified this Affidavit on this the 5th day of January, 2026 at Pakyong, Sikkim

Identified by me
Mr. Nirmal Pradhan,
R/o- Rhenock, Pakyong Distt.,
Sikkim

Deponent
1. Nisha Bhusal,
2. Pranayna Bhusal
3. Dibya Bhusal

Before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Pakyong, Sikkim

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Nisha Bhusal**, daughter of Late Tara Chand Mangar (Bhusal), aged about 37 years, Indian by nationality, Hindu by religion, self-employed by occupation, resident of Chalisey PW, Near ICDS, Centre, Rhenock Tarpin GPU, P.O. & P.S. Rhenock, Pakyong District, Sikkim, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:-
1. That my actual correct name is **Nisha Bhusal** which has correctly been recorded in all my documents including my Electoral Identity Card bearing Card No. **KQWO108779** and Aadhaar Card bearing No. **8588 9880 8746**.
2. That in father's Army Service Record bearing Army No. **5041727P, Rank N/K**, me and my father's name has been recorded as **Ranjana Magar**, daughter of Late Tara Chand Bhusal (Mangar) and my date of Birth is **05.06.1988**.
3. That **Nisha Bhusal** and **Ranjana Magar** is the same and the one identical person Le. myself.
4. That I am swearing this affidavit for the purpose of declaring the above- facts.

That the statements made hereinabove are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed there from and I have signed and verified this Affidavit on this the 5th day of January, 2026 at Pakyong, Sikkim.

Identified by me:-
Mr. Nirmal Pradhan
R/o- Rhenock, Pakyong Distt.,
Sikkim.

Deponent
Nisha Bhusal

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Chief Minister attends State-Level Namsoong Festival

Namchi, December 26: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, attended the concluding programme of the three-day State-Level Namsoong Festival held at Lingee-Nalipartam under Tumin-Lingee Constituency, today.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Prince Gyalsey Palden Gyurmed Namgyal.

Chief Minister highlighted the importance of Namsoong not only for the Lepcha tribe but for the State as a whole. He stated that the traditions and customs of the Lepcha community are world-renowned and made special mention of the recognition accorded by UNESCO to Lepcha heritage. Speaking on regional development, he informed that several developmental projects covering road connectivity, infrastructure and tourism would be implemented in the area. Emphasising the need for effective execution, he proposed the formation of a centralised committee dedicated solely to the implementation of these projects. He further announced that the region would be developed as a

Yoga Hub of the State, with the establishment of a Yoga Speciality Centre.

Underscoring the Lepcha community's enduring values of coexistence, humility and reverence for nature, the Chief Minister remarked that these principles hold vital lessons for the contemporary world. He reaffirmed the State Government's commitment to preserving and promoting the Lepcha language, culture and heritage. Extending his Namsoong greetings, he wished peace, prosperity and happiness to all and sought the blessings of Khangchendzonga for the unity and strength of Sikkim.

Mr Samdup Tshering Bhutia, MLA Tumin-Lingee outlined the developmental works undertaken and those currently in progress within the constituency. Additionally, he placed a few developmental demands before the Chief Minister, aimed at the overall progress of the region.

Earlier, Mr Chewang Norbu Lepcha, Chairman Sikkim Primitive Tribes Board, highlighted the historical background and

significance of the festival.

On the occasion, the Chief Minister honoured GI Tag promoters Mr Namgyal Lepcha and Mr Ugen Paljor Lepcha of Dzongu in recognition of their valuable contributions.

During the programme, the Chief Minister was felicitated by Lingee Kursing Tarwot Sejum Welfare Association, St Peter's Church, Himalayan Free Church and Fagel Monastery. Several community workers and dignitaries were also honoured during the occasion.

Prior to the commencement of the programme, the Chief Minister visited various traditional stalls, including a Lepcha traditional house set up at the venue, and interacted with the participants. He also inspected the cane bridge constructed as part of the festival celebrations.

The programme was attended by Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, Chairpersons, OSDs, Heads of Offices, members of the organising committee, representatives of various ethnic Organisations and public.

State Level Sakewa Celebration organised

Gangtok, December 13: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang accompanied by Madam Krishna Rai attended the State-Level Sakewa Celebration 2025, organised under the aegis of Akhil Kirat Rai Sangh (AKRS), Sikkim at Pabyuik-Naitam, Shyari, today.

The Chief Minister highlighted the message of Sakewa, underscoring the State Government's commitment to celebrating and strengthening community life and cultural heritage. He urged that the Sakewa celebration be observed annually at Naitam village and emphasised the need to preserve, promote and carry forward the rich cultural traditions. He called upon the youth to take responsibility in safeguarding and promoting their culture and traditions, and reiterated that Sikkim is renowned for its unity in diversity. He also spoke about the progress of the community, reflecting on the history and significance of language, and stressed on the importance of its development and promotion.

Highlighting various initiatives of the State Government in the education sector, he also referred to the Government's efforts in ensuring the inclusion of 12 left-out communities under tribal status. The Chief Minister further announced that the Heritage Guardian Award will be instituted by the State Government and conferred once every two

years on August 15 to individuals who have made significant contributions towards the preservation and promotion of culture and heritage.

Mr Tenzing Norbu Lamtha, MLA-cum-Advisor, Forest Department, acknowledged the valuable contribution of the land donors and underscored the need to safeguard indigenous culture and traditions and appreciated the efforts of AKRS in fostering community harmony. He also placed the grievances of the constituency and expressed hope that the area would emerge as a tourism hub.

Dr Bimal Kumar Rai, President, AKRS Sikkim, elaborated on the history of the Rai community and expressed gratitude to the land donors, stating that the programme will now be observed as an annual event, as a permanent place has been established for the performance of Silikha. He highlighted the cultural, spiritual and social significance of the festival and its vital role in preserving the rich traditions of the Kirat Rai community. He also spoke about developmental initiatives undertaken for the welfare of the community, including the Chief Minister's efforts in securing tribal status for 12 left-out communities of the State.

The celebration began with Lamtupma, one of the most sacred

and significant rituals of the Sakewa festival, marking the formal commencement of the celebration.

Earlier, the Chief Minister visited the stalls and Mangkhim with Suptulung Dopma (Puja). Followed by traditional Tosh-Lung /Sakewa-Lung rituals (Ferma) symbolising gratitude to nature and prayers for peace and prosperity. The event also witnessed the Silikha opening. Thereafter, memento of Sakewa was presented to the Chief Minister by the members of the AKRS.

Following this, the Chief Minister felicitated Mr Amber Kumar Rai of Pabyuik and Mr Uttarmann Rai of Lower Burtuk as land donors, while Dr Tenzing Zangmu Lepcha, PhD Scholar, was also felicitated for her ethnographic report on the Rai Community. Subsequently, the programme also witnessed book release of Mr M D Rai, OSD, Culture Department. Additionally, a community gift (Ridum-Thapsung) was presented by Shyari Constituency.

The programme also witnessed Sili and Lak performances by AKRS South (Chasum Sili), AKRS Bhusuk Block (Sakewa Sili), AKRS West (Syamuney Sili) and Charsi-KAS.

Also present were Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, Chairpersons, OSDs, Government Officers, Members of AKRS, Dharma Gurus and other dignitaries.

spanning the twin locations of Jorethang and Nayabazar, with a strong focus on showcasing the State's rich cultural and traditional heritage.

During the course of the event, official media website, official logo, brochure, table tent, fixture for All India Chief Minister's Gold Cup Football Tournament were unveiled and launched by the

Chief Minister. The official website launched for the Maghey Sankranti Mela features an array of details, such as tour maps, featuring events, accommodation and many more. An individual can also avail a discount of 10% after signing up in the website for the course of the celebration. For more queries, one can log on www.magheymela.com. The brochure and table

Union Minister visits Tsomgo Lake and Nathula Pass

Gangtok, December 28: Mr Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and New and Renewable Energy, Government of India visited Tsomgo Lake and Nathula Pass in Gangtok District as part of his official visit to Sikkim, today.

During his visit to Nathula Pass, the Union Minister was briefed by Army officers on the historical and strategic significance of the pass, including important events associated with Nathula Pass and various agreements between India and China. The Army officers also apprised him of the role and

responsibilities of the Indian Army in safeguarding the border in the high-altitude region.

The Union Minister interacted with Army Personnel stationed at Nathula Pass and appreciated their dedication and service under challenging climatic conditions. He also visited Tsomgo Lake and Old Baba Mandir near Kupup, where he paid homage and offered prayers.

He was accompanied by Mr Sarat Tamang Liaison Officer-cum-Assistant Director, Food and Civil Supplies Department, Gangtok along with senior officers from Food Corporation of India and officers from concerned line departments.

Press Release from DDMA Gangtok

Gangtok, January 6: District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Gangtok in coordination with EDvantage Learn commences AI-enhanced GPU preparedness 2.0 training programme, today.

The pioneering AI-enhanced capacity-building training on disaster management planning will run from January 6 to 9 at the DAC Conference Hall, Gangtok.

Mr Tushar G Nikhare DC Gangtok, Mr Tshering Norgyal Theengh ADC Headquarters, Mr Sonam Wongyal Joint Director and Ms Bijayata Kharel Deputy Director, DDMA Gangtok were present on the first day..

The programme emphasises developing soft skills, AI-enhanced GPU disaster management planning and bolstering preparedness and response capacities at the

grassroots Gram Panchayat Unit (GPU) level. It integrates artificial intelligence tools to improve efficiency, decision-making and resilience in disaster-prone areas.

DC Gangtok urged participants to apply the training effectively in real-world scenarios.

Highlights included an in-depth presentation by Deputy Director, DDMA Gangtok on preparing GPU disaster management plans, insights from Mr Vincent Hilton of EDvantage Learn on AI tools and financial planning, and guidance from Mr Sonam Wongyal on key elements of GPU disaster plans.

The initiative equips local governance bodies with cutting-edge technology for proactive disaster mitigation in Sikkim's vulnerable terrain and preparation of the GPU Disaster Management plan.

Chairman IPR inspects Green Park Site for Creative Hub 2.0 in Jorethang

Namchi, January 6: Mr Ashit Rai Chairman Information and Public Relations Department paid a brief visit to Green Park, Jorethang to inspect the proposed site for Creative Hub 2.0, today.

During the visit, Chairman carried out an on-site assessment of the area, where the IPR Department is scheduled to host Creative Hub 2.0 on the occasion

of upcoming Maghey Sankranti Mela, 2026.

He also expressed his continued support towards the remodelling and upgradation of the venue to ensure the successful organisation of the Creative Hub, reaffirming the department's commitment to promoting creativity and public engagement during the festival.

tents shall be disseminated across various hotels and restaurants across the State and neighbouring States for the promotion of the festival. The brochure and table tents also feature QR codes that will direct a user towards the website and route maps. The festival will feature Sandhya Aarati throughout all nine days, along with a vibrant line-up of evening musical events featuring renowned artistes such as Shaan, Ashish Rana (Laure), Tribal Rain, 1974 AD, alongside prominent local talents.

Signature attractions including Golden Feet of Sikkim, Golden Beat of Sikkim, Golden Voice of Sikkim, cultural and sports events, Creative Hub 2.0 by IPR, traditional showcase, inter-constituency football

matches, rural sports and marathons will further add to the festivities.

The meeting was attended by Panchayats, Ms Annapurna Alley Secretary Information and Public Relations Department, Mr AB Subba Secretary Roads and Bridges, Mr D Lamtha Secretary Water Resources Department, Ms Hondala Gyaltsen Secretary Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Mr Dhiraj Subedi DC Soreng, Mr Karma Gyamtso Bhutia Sr SP Namchi, Mr Nahkul Pardhan SP Soreng, Mr Yougan Tamang Press Secretary to the Chief Minister, Additional Political Secretary (Namchi), ADC Namchi, SDM Jorethang, OSDs, Heads of Departments and Officers from line departments.

Contd. from front page

Final coordination...

stressing the importance of maintaining a balanced and disciplined work structure among all involved.

The 71st edition of the Maghey Sankranti Mela will be held from January 14-22, 2026,