



SIKKIM HERALD

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Regd. No.WB/SKM/01/2023-2025

Governor calls on Prime Minister of India



New Delhi, November 4: Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur called on Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi in New Delhi, today.

It was a courtesy call by the Governor wherein, he apprised the Prime Minister about various issues concerning the State. During the meeting, they discussed

key developmental issues and infrastructure projects aimed at boosting the State's growth.

Further, the Governor sought the Prime Minister's continuous patronage and support towards Sikkim's specific developmental needs.

First International Women's India and Nepal Football Match in Sikkim

Gangtok, October 29: Sikkim hosted its first-ever International Women's Football Friendly Match between the Indian Senior Women's Team and Nepal Women's National Team at Paljor Stadium, Gangtok, today. The event organised by Sikkim Football Association (SFA) in collaboration with Government of Sikkim, marked an addition to the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Sikkim's Statehood.

Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended the event as the chief guest, accompanied by Madam Krishna Rai, Deputy Speaker SLA, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, Chairpersons, DGP, Secretaries, OSDs, senior officers and football enthusiasts.

In the early moments of the match, both teams came close to scoring, with Nepal capitalising on a defensive lapse by the Indian goalkeeper. India eventually took the lead through Ms. Somya Guguloth, whose individual brilliance put the hosts ahead. However, Nepal equalised in the closing minutes of the first half with a goal from Ms. Rashmi Kumari Ghising, with the score at 1-1.

The intense encounter ended in a draw at full time and proceeded to penalties, where Nepal triumphed 4-1.

Notably, local talents Ms Abishta Basnet made her senior India debut, while Ms Muskan Subba started for the home team, receiving enthusiastic cheers from the crowd who celebrated their every move.

At half time, a Thangka was presented by Chief Minister to the Secretary General of South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Mr Purushottam Kattel in recognition of his contribution to regional football. Citations were also presented to four senior most women members of the Sikkim Football Association for their pioneering roles in promoting women's football in the State namely Mrs Nalini Gupta Pradhan, Former President of the Women's Wing, Mrs Rinzing Ongmu, Mrs Rinchen Barfungpa and Mrs Renuka Chakraborty.

The ceremony also featured the unveiling of the poster for the upcoming Orchid Music Festival by the Chief Minister, adding a cultural flourish to the evening's proceedings.

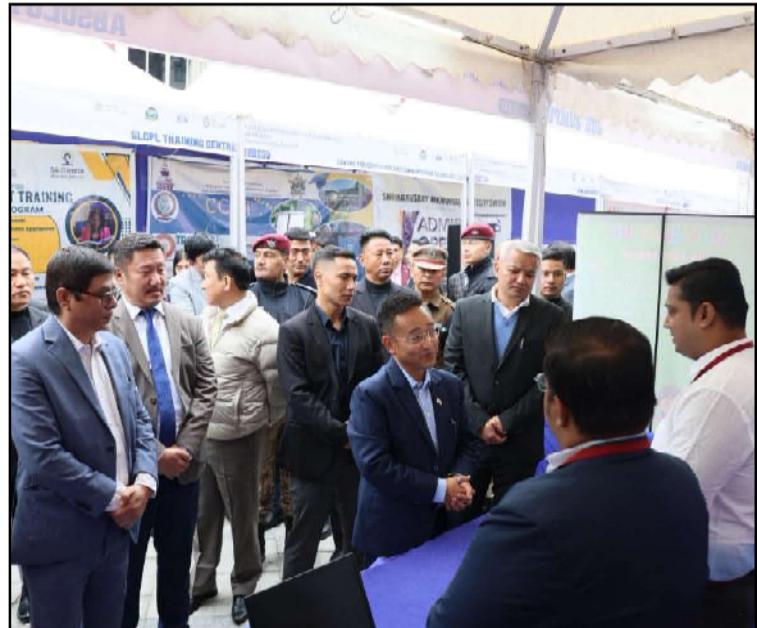
Career Counselling-cum-Job Fair 2025

Gangtok, October 29: Career Counselling-cum-Job Fair 2025, themed 'Empowering Vocationalisation of Education', was organised by Samagra Shiksha, Education Department in collaboration with Sibin Learning Cart Pvt Ltd at Manan Kendra, Gangtok, today.

The event aimed to guide students in exploring diverse career pathways, promote skill development and connect them with institutions and employers offering educational and professional opportunities.

Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang described Career Counselling-cum-Job Fair 2025 as a significant initiative for Sikkim's students, adding that one of the greatest questions young people face today concerns their future career prospects.

He congratulated the Education Department and Sibin Learning Cart Pvt Ltd for



organising such a meaningful event to prepare students for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

He reflected that student life is often considered the golden phase of life and urged the youth

to ensure that this golden period extends into their future by setting clear goals and pursuing them with determination.

Recalling his career journey

Contd.on page 8

Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court lays foundation stone for Sub-Divisional Court

Pakyong, November 2: Chief Justice of the High Court of Sikkim, Mr Justice Biswanath Somadder, laid the foundation stone for the Sub-Divisional Court at Rongli, Pakyong District, in the presence of Judge, High Court of Sikkim Mrs Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, who attended the event as the guest of honour.

The ceremony had the presence of Mr Justice AP Subba, Chairperson, Lokayukta of Sikkim (Former Judge, High Court of Sikkim), Registrar General, High Court of Sikkim, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Gangtok, Legal Remembrancer-cum-Law Secretary, Law Department, DC Pakyong, Civil Judges, Senior Advocates, President and Vice President of the Bar Association of Sikkim (High Court and Subordinate Courts), officials from various line departments and Panchayats.

During the event, Ms Asha Gurung Principal Chief Engineer-cum-Secretary, Buildings and Housing Department presented a brief technical report on the project. The proposed Rongli Court Complex to be constructed over an area of 4.65 acres, will include the main Court building, Judicial Magistrate bungalows, and a Guest House for Judges.



The main court building will include separate entry points for judges, public, vulnerable witnesses and the accused. It will house courtrooms, judges' chambers, a litigants' waiting room, staff rooms, vulnerable witness deposition centre, Judicial service centre, library, creche with nursing

Pearls of Wisdom

"There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you."

- Maya Angelou

Platinum Jubilee celebration of Govt SSS Bariakhop

Soreng, November 3: Platinum Jubilee celebration of Government Senior Secondary School, Bariakhop entered its sixth day, today. The day was attended by Mr MN Sherpa Speaker SLA also the Chief Patron of the celebration.

In a special ceremony, Mr TB Gurung, Mr Dawa Norbu Sherpa, Mr Tara Kumar Gurung and Mr Govind Mishra were awarded Letters of Appreciation for their dedication and valuable contributions in shaping the school's success over the years.

Singhik Anganwadi Centre observes Beti Janmahotsav

Mangan, October 29: Beti Janmahotsav (birth of girl child) was celebrated under Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) banner at Singhik Anganwadi Centre-Singhik Sentam GPU, today.

Ten baby girls from Singhik-Sentam GPU were honoured during the programme.

Following this, awareness sessions were conducted wherein Ma Sonam Lhaden Lachungpa CDPO informed on Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), its objectives, support to mothers and infants,

The programme also had inter-school role play competition, wherein, PM SHRI Government Senior Secondary School Soreng secured the first position. Government Senior Secondary School Tharpu and Government Senior Secondary School Chakung secured the second and third positions, respectively.

The day also featured first semi-final match of the ongoing Men's Open Football Tournament, wherein, Singling Sporting Club emerged victorious

against Rumbuk FC with a score of 1.

The day's event also included a series of energetic 'Tug of War' competitions, with Bariakhop Ward Number 1 and 2 emerging as the winners.

Mrs Binita Basnett Principal Government Senior Secondary School, Bariakhop expressed gratitude to the school's founders, highlighting their dedication and significant contributions to the school's growth and success.

cash benefits etc. IYCF session was taken in depth. Awareness on growth monitoring was also carried out.

Mr Lhendup Lepcha DEO, PMMVY, explained the procedure and documentation required for enrolling in PMMVY.

Additionally, Mr Thupden Lodee Supervisor emphasised the importance of Take-Home Ration (THR) and implementation of Face Recognition System (FRS) for transparent and efficient delivery of rations under the ICDS.

Mr Pema Thenden Lachungpa MTS Hub representative spoke about the role of HUB and One Stop Centre (OSC) and shared the national Women and Child Helpline numbers for support and assistance.

The awareness component on schemes like PMMVY, THR and FRS added crucial value by linking celebration to action and sustainment. The programme was attended by AWWs, mothers, and community members.

NAPS Awareness workshop held in Namchi

Namchi, October 28: An awareness workshop on special pilot initiative under National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) Advancing Apprenticeship in the North East Region, was organised by Niyukti Kendra Skill Development Department (SDD), at Government Kamrang College, Namchi, today.

The workshop aims to create awareness on apprenticeship opportunities, streamline the implementation of NAPS and encourage greater participation of youth and employees to fill the gap between job seekers and employers.

The programme had the presence of Mr Satish Chandra Rai MLA Namchi Singhithang Constituency as the chief guest.

In his address, he emphasised the importance of skill-based learning and value of the apprenticeship programme under the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS).

He highlighted that apprenticeship means learning by earning, and encouraged students to balance academic pursuits with practical skill training. He noted that while many youths today obtain degrees from colleges and universities, only a few acquire technical and professional skills needed in the modern workforce.

He further stated that the current era demands skilled individuals rather than degree holders.

He encouraged the youth to embrace apprenticeship

opportunities to enhance employability and become self-reliant.

Mr D D Sharma Deputy Director, briefed on the objectives and components of the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS). He highlighted that the scheme serves as an important bridge between job seekers and employers by providing hands-on training opportunities in real workplace settings.

He elaborated on the key provisions of the Apprenticeship Act, 2016, which aims to promote apprenticeship training under the original Apprentices Act, 1961. He underlined that the scheme provides financial assistance to establishments engaging apprentices, covering a portion of the stipend and basic training costs.

Ms Sushma Pradhan Joint Secretary-cum-CEO Niyukti Kendra SDD presented a presentation on the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS). The presentation covered key aspects of the Apprenticeship Act, 1961, overall framework of NAPS, and its benefits for both employers and apprentices.

She also elaborated on the apprentices training landscape and explained the apprenticeship lifecycle, detailing each stage from registration to successful completion of training. Highlighting the benefits for employers, she mentioned areas such as social impact, compliance facilitation, organisational stability,

creation of a sustainable workforce pipeline, and ease of doing business incentives.

Additionally, she outlined the guidelines for Implementation of NAPS, emphasising transparency, collaboration, and accountability between industries, institutions and implementing agencies.

She briefed the participants on the crucial role of Niyukti Kendra in facilitating apprenticeship linkages, coordinating between employers and trainees, and ensuring effective monitoring and promotion of NAPS across the state.

Mr Zigmee Sherpa Branch Head Yuwa Sakti Foundation (YSF) demonstrated on the process of completing apprenticeship registration on the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) portal. He also listed the documents commonly required on the portal.

Further, he provided an overview of the NATS specifically for engineering graduates and diploma holders, describing eligibility criteria, typical duration and structure of training, and assessment and certification procedures.

The programme concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony.

Also present were DC Namchi, Chairman OBC Board, Assistant Director-II SDD, Principal Government Kamrang College, Principal Government Industrial Training Institutions (ITI) and others.

Awareness Programme on PM Vishwakarma Scheme in Gyalshing District

Gyalshing, October 28: An awareness programme on PM Vishwakarma Scheme organised by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)-Development and Facilitation Office, Gangtok, under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, in association with the office of District Collector Gyalshing was held at the Assembly Hall of Gyalshing District Zilla Panchayat, today.

The programme motivated budding entrepreneurs from various sectors to avail of the extended opportunity provided by the Government of India under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme. It is pertinent to mention that the scheme holds a prominent correspondence with the aspiration of the State Government's tireless efforts and undertaken initiatives.

Mr Tenzing D Denzongpa DC Gyalshing expressed gratitude to the Commerce and Industries Department, Gyalshing, and MSME Gangtok officials for conducting the awareness programme on the PM Vishwakarma Scheme in the District, which efficiently aligns with the vision of the Chief Minister of Sikkim, One Family, One Entrepreneur.

He underlined the significant role of Panchayats, imperative for saturated implementation of the scheme in the district. He advised eligible beneficiaries to avail and be exemplary for the highly lucrative venture of digital marketing. He suggested attendees to take due advantage of the technological advancements and broaden their entrepreneurial venture by honing the requisite skills. He anticipated witnessing a surge of success stories in the field from the District and assured his support to the aspirants.

The DC advised Lead Banks functioning under the District to assist the applicants on matters related to loans and duly refrain from creating unnecessary difficulties while availing them. He informed the attendees to take proper heed of the information shared in the programme and disseminate at the GPU level for effective and grassroots implementation of the beneficial approach of the PM-Vishwakarma scheme in the district.

Mr PK Das Assistant Professor, Sikkim University, also the Resource Person of the day, deliberated on the subsidiary topics of Digital Marketing that included Online Selling, Finding Market Trends and Building Digital Literacy, Branding and Packaging, Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), Government e-Marketplace (GeM), a video presentation on the step-by-step procedure for availing benefits of the scheme, and success stories.

Mr. Monojit Chandra Deputy Superintendent, Department of Post, Sikkim State Postal Region, apprised about the features of Speed Post, Parcel Post, Domestic and International Post, pricing details of availing the service, tracking facility, transit time, transport network, special measures of India Post, Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra, and crucial function of Single Point of Contact (SPOC). Team Lead, SL-PMU PM Vishwakarma Scheme, Commerce and Industries Department (C&ID), Mr Joydeep Chakraborty, briefly highlighted the stage-wise training session facilitated at the ITI Gyalshing under the scheme.

Mr Nirmal Chowdhury Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Gangtok, provided updates on the implementation of the scheme. He informed that in the first phase, more than 30 lakh registrations were recorded nationwide, under which artisans benefited through the distribution of modern toolkits, issuance of unique artisan identity cards, and provision of collateral-free concessional loans at 5% interest.

He also highlighted the key digital marketing platforms, namely, Open Network for Digital Marketing (ONDC), Government e-Marketplace, Laghu Udyog Portal, and e-commerce platforms like Amazon.in, Flipkart.com, Meesho.com, and social media platforms, which he believes have the potential to introduce Sikkim's local products like Dalley Khorsani (Cherry Pepper) and traditional handicrafts to global markets.

The day also had the presence of the Panchayat representatives, Inspector District Industries Centre Gyalshing, entrepreneurs, and artisans of Gyalshing District.



**Government of Sikkim
Culture Department
Gangtok, Sikkim**

N.I. T. No: 02/CD/ENG-CELL/2025-26

Dated: 25/10/2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Referred to in paragraph 9.7 of Manual 2009)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer, Culture Department, invites percentage rate sealed tenders from the eligible contractors of Class II B, enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department through competitive bidding within the territorial jurisdiction of the Dzongu Constituency where the work is to be executed for the work as detailed below:-

| Sl. No. | Name of work | Value put to tender (₹) | Completion Time, (in months) | Amount of Bank receipt for cost of tender documents (₹) | Amount of Earnest Money @2.50% For issue of tender form (₹) |
|---------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Construction of Mangheem Complex at Mangshila, Mangan District | ₹4,32,94,902 | 36 months | ₹1,00,000 | ₹10,82,373 |

TIME SCHEDULE:

| SL. No. | Particulars | Date and Time |
|---------|---|---|
| 1 | Date of Publication | 30/10/2025 31/10/2025 |
| 2 | Issue of Tender Documents (excluding the Tender Form) | 31/10/2025 to 29/11/2025 (Office hours) |
| 3 | Date of issue of Tender Form | 02/12/2025, (Office hours) |
| 4 | Date and Time for submission of Tender | 05/12/2025, 10 A.M to 12:30 P.M |
| 5 | Date and Time of opening of Tender | 05/12/2025, 1 PM Onwards |
| 6 | Place of Opening of Tender | Office of the Superintending Engineer, Culture Department, Gangtok District |

NB: For more details about the conditions of contract, kindly check in www.sikkim.gov.in/tender

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Culture Department
(163)

**Government of Sikkim
Culture Department
Gangtok, Sikkim**

N.I. T. No: 01/CD/ENG-CELL/2025-26

Dated: 25/10/2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Referred to in paragraph 9.7 of Manual 2009)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer, Culture Department invites percentage rate sealed tenders from the eligible contractors of Class II B, enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department through competitive bidding within the territorial jurisdiction of the Dzongu Constituency where the work is to be executed for the work as detailed below:

| Sl. No. | Name of work | Value put to tender (₹) | Completion Time, (in months) | Amount of Bank receipt for cost of tender documents (₹) | Amount of Earnest Money @2.50% For issue of tender form (₹) |
|---------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Construction of Scheduled Caste Community Centre at Upper Mangshila, Mangan District | ₹2,19,67,992 | 24 months | ₹50,000 | ₹5,49,200 |

TIME SCHEDULE:

| SL. No. | Particulars | Date and Time |
|---------|---|---|
| 1 | Date of Publication | 30/10/2025, 31/10/2025 |
| 2 | Issue of Tender Documents (excluding the Tender Form) | 31/10/2025 to 29/11/2025 (Office hours) |
| 3 | Date of issue of Tender Form | 02/12/2025, (Office hours) |
| 4 | Date and Time for submission of Tender | 05/12/2025, 10 AM to 12.30 PM |
| 5 | Date and Time of opening of Tender | 05/12/2025, 1 PM Onwards |
| 6 | Place of Opening of Tender | Office of the Superintending Engineer, Culture Department, Gangtok District |

NB: For more details about the conditions of contract, kindly check in www.sikkim.gov.in/tender

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Culture Department
(164)

**Government of Sikkim
Department of AYUSH
Gangtok Sikkim**

NIT No. 163 /NIT/2025-26

Dated: 3/11/25

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, the Ayush Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok District, Government of Sikkim, invites e-tender in two cover system on Item Rate Basis from the eligible class of contractors of appropriate class/Area within Sikkim State for the work listed as under:-

(Amount in ₹)

| Sl No | Name of work | Value put to tender Exclusive of taxes | Completion Time, (in months) | Earnest Money in form of TDR/FDR @2.50% | Bank Receipt/Challan for cost of tender documents (₹) |
|-------|---|--|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Construction of 30 Bedded Integrated AYUSH Hospital, near Wellness Park, Gangtok District, Sikkim | 16,98,24,486.00 | 24 months | 42,45,612.00 | 3,00,000.00 |

The date and time of submission of completed bid documents are as under:-

- i) Publishing of e-tender bid 05/11/2025
- ii) Online bid submission start date 06/11/2025
- iii) Pre-Bid Meeting date 07/11/2025
- iv) Bid submission closing date 05/12/2025
- v) Bid opening date 06/12/2025 (after 2pm)
- vi) Submission of hard copies of challan/ TDR in original and certified photocopies of other documents 06/12/2025 (10am to 2pm)

Tender documents and other details may be downloaded from the Sikkim Government E-portal www.sikkimtender.gov.in.

1. Tender documents may be downloaded from the Sikkim Government E-portal www.sikkimtender.gov.in.
 2. The above Tender Value is exclusive of GST &CESS and same is payable to the Contractor as applicable on the date of Tender.
 3. The following document in hard copies must be submitted on 06/12/2025 from 10:00am to 2:00pm.
 - I. Earnest Money in the form of Temporary Deposit Receipt/Fixed Deposit Receipt in favour of the Senior Accounts Officer/ Drawing & Disbursing Officer, Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, payable at Gangtok.
 - II. Cost of Tender document in the form of Bank Receipt or Challan
 - III. Validated/Certified copy of the Enlistment Certificate from SPWD of the appropriate Class.
 - IV. If the hard copies of above documents are not received within the specified time as indicated above, the tender documents so submitted by the bidder through e-procurement portal shall be considered as non-responsive and shall not be evaluated.
 4. The department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason thereof.
 5. Uploading of tender documents in e-portal is mandatory.
- Submission of hard copies only will not be considered as a valid bid and shall summarily be rejected.

**Government of Sikkim
Social Welfare Department
Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Tadong, Lumsey**

NIT NO:- 26/GOS/SWD/EC/2025-26

Dated: 03/11/2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Assistant Engineer (Mangan-I), 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/RSB/PWD/Secy/2023-24. Dated 18.10.2023 and Notification No. 35/SECY dated 19/09/2024 for the works listed below:

| 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 document (₹) | Constituency/GPU/ Ward |
|--------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Construction of Toilet at Manul Secondary School in Mangan District. | ₹12,35,939.00 | 12 months | ₹30,898.00 | ₹1,000.00 | 14 Toong Naga GPU, Lachen-Mangan Constituency |

Time Schedule is as follows:-

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Date for submission of application with Bank Receipt | -4 th November 2025-10 th Oct 2025(10am-4:30pm) (within office working hours) |
| 2. Last date for issue of tender form. | -14 th November 2025 (within office working hours) |
| 3. Date and Time for submission of Tender. | -15 th November 2025 (10.00 hrs. to 13:00 hrs.) |
| 4. Date and Time of opening of Tender | -15 th November 2025 (14:00hrs onwards). |
| 5. Place of Tender | -14 Toong-Naga GPU, Lacher-Mangan Constituency |

Note: The details of tender documents including tender form can be obtained from the office of the Assistant Engineer-(Mangan-I) SWD on production of receipt of deposit made to 14 Toong-Naga GPU, Lachen-Mangan Constituency.

Sd/-
Assistant Engineer (Mangan-I)
Social Welfare Department
(168, A)

**Government of Sikkim
Social Welfare Department
Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Tadong, Lumsey**

NIT NO:- 25/GOS/SWD/EC/2025-26

Dated: 03/11/2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Assistant Engineer (Mangan-I), 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 and Notification No. 35/SECY dated: 19/09/2024 for the works listed below:

| 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 document (₹) | Constituency/GPU/ Ward |
|-------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Construction of Toilet at Ringhim Secondary School in Mangan District. | ₹12,35,065.00 | 12 months | ₹30,877.00 | ₹1,000.00 | Ringhim-Nampatam GPU, Lachen-Mangan Constituency |

Time Schedule is as follows:-

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Date for submission of application with Bank Receipt | -4 th November 2025-10 th Oct 2025(10am-4:30pm) (within office working hours) |
| 2. Last date for issue of tender form | -14 th November 2025 (within office working hours) |
| 3. Date and Time for submission of Tender | -17 th November 2025 (10.00 hrs. to 13:00 hrs.) |
| 4. Date and Time of opening of Tender | -17 th November 2025 (14:00hrs onwards). |
| 5. Place of Tender | -Ringhim-Nampatam GPU, Lachen-Mangan Constituency |

Note. The details of tender documents including tender form can be obtained from the office of the Assistant Engineer-(Mangan-I) SWD on production of receipt of deposit made to Ringhim-Nampatam GPU, Lachen-Mangan Constituency.

Sd/-
Assistant Engineer (Mangan-I)
Social Welfare Department
(168, B)

Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Research Complex for NEH Region

Sikkim Center, Tadong, Gangtok-737102, Sikkim

Email: jdsikkim.icar@gmail.com

F.No.ICARNEH/SKM/TSPPProject/2022/6/1128

Date: 31.10.2025

GeM BIDDING NOTICE

GeM bidding is invited for procurement of (1) Dragon Fruit Pole & (2) Vacuum Oil Filter, ICAR RC NEHR, Sikkim Centre, Tadong, Gangtok-737102, vide GeM Bid No: (1) GEM/2025/B/6840555 Date:30.10.2025 & (2) GEM/2025/B/6839942 Date:30.10.2025 for ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Region, Sikkim Centre, Tadong-737102, Gangtok from reputed firms/agency. Interested bidders may visit GeM portal Govt. of India. The details are given below:-

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Bid No: | (1) GEM/2025/B/6840555 Date:30.10.2025 (2) GEM/2025/B/6839942 Date:30.10.2025 |
| Bid End Date/Time | (1) 21-11-2025 10:00:00 (2) 21-11-2025 10:30:00 |
| Bid Opening Date/Time | (1) 21-11-2025 15:00:00 (2) 21-11-2025 15:30:00 |
| Bid offer Validity (From End Date) | 30 (Days) |

(Ashok Kumar)
Head of Regional Centre
(166)

**Department of Information & Public Relations
Government of Sikkim, Gangtok**

No.(378-II)/IPR/09-10/341

Date: 12.02.2010

CIRCULAR

In order to give wide publicity of Tender Notices/Employment Notices published in Sikkim Herald Classified and other local news papers the following procedures will be followed with immediate effect.

Tender Notices will be accepted by the Department for publication having **minimum time of 35 days** before the last date of submission of tenders. Other notices like Employment/Auction etc. will be accepted for publication having **minimum time of 17 days**.

Heads of Departments are requested to send the Tender Notices/Employment Notices for publication in **triplicate** duly observing the above time limit.

No bill for advertisement pertaining to other department other than IPR should be entertained for payment if the same is **not certified** by Under Secretary/Director/ IPR.

All Tender Notices/Employment Notices etc. to be sent to the Department addressed to Secretary or Director, I.P.R. Department through official channel only and under no circumstances the I. P. R. Department will accept the advertisements sent through unauthorized person.

This issues with the approval of the Government.

Sd/-
Secretary

**Government of Sikkim
Social Welfare Department
Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Tadong Lumsey**

NIT NO: 27/GOS/SWD/EC/2025-26

Dated: 03/11/2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Superintending Engineer (Namchi /Soreng/Gyalshing), Social Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Lumsey, Tadong, Gangtok District, Sikkim on behalf of Social Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim in the name of the Governor of Sikkim, invites e-procurement bids on single bid system in percentage rate basis from contractor having enlistment from Sikkim PWD of eligible class (II B) for the work as detailed below:

| SL. No | Name of Work | Value put to Tender | Completion Time, (in months) | Amount of Earnest Money @2.5% For issue of tender form | Amount of Bank receipt for cost of tender document | Tender jurisdiction |
|--------|---|---------------------|------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | Construction of Boys' Hostel (100 Bedded) with Fitting and Fixing at Eklavya Model Residential School, Gangyap in Gyalshing District. | ₹2,45,89,074/- | 30 months | ₹ 6,14,727/- | ₹ 50,000/- | 01-Yuksom-Tashiding Constituency |

Calendar of Events is as under: -

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Tender Publishing Date | -5 th November, 2025. |
| 2. Document downloads start date | -5 th November, 2025 (After 15:00 hrs). |
| 3. Pre Bid Meeting date | -10 th November, 2025 (11:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs). |
| 4. Online Bid submission start date | -12 th November, 2025 (After 15:00 hrs). |
| 5. Online Bid submission end date | -1 st December 2025 (From 10:00 hrs to 13:00 hrs). |
| 6. Hard copy submission date & time | - 2 nd December, 2025 (Upto 16:00 hrs). |
| 7. Opening of online bid & hard copy | - 3 rd December (13:30 hrs onwards) in the office of Superintending Engineer (Namchi /Soreng/Gyalshing), SWD, Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Lumsey, Tadong, Gangtok-737102. |

Tender documents may be downloaded from the Sikkim Government E-portal www.sikkimtender.gov.in

**Suprintending Engineer (S/W)
Social Welfare Department
Government of Sikkim**
(169)

Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Research Complex for NEH Region

Sikkim Center, Tadong, Gangtok-737102, Sikkim

Emal: jdsikkim.icari@gmail.com

F.No.ICARNEH/SKM/TSPProposal/2023-24-Part(1)/1104

Date: 30.10.2025

GeM BIDDING NOTICE

GeM bidding is invited for procurement of (1) **Winnowing Fan** & (2) **Paddy Thresher**, ICAR RC NEHR, Sikkim Centre, Tadong, Gangtok-737102, vide GeM Bid No: (1) **GEM/2025/B/6799798 Date: 17.10.2025** & (2) **GEM/2025/B/6801015 Date: 17.10.2025** for ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Region, Sikkim Centre, Tadong-737102, Gangtok from reputed firms/agency. Interested bidders may visit GeM portal Govt. of India. The details are given below:-

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Bid No: | (1) GEM/2025/B/6799798 Date: 17.10.2025 (2) GEM/2025/B/6801015 Date: 17.10.2025 |
| Bid End Date/Time | (1) 07-11-2025 10:00:00 (2) 07-11-2025 10:00:00 |
| Bid Opening Date/Time | (1) 07-11-2025 10:30:00 (2) 07-11-2025 10:30:00 |
| Bid offer Validity (From End Date) | 30 (Days) |

(Ashok Kumar)
Head of Regional Centre
(165)

Before the Learned Oath Commissioner, at Gangtok

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Karma Pintso Chopal Bhutia**, S/o Late Sonam Topgay Bhutia, by faith Buddhist, by occupation Retired Government Employee, Permanent Resident of Syari Tathangchen, P.O Raj Bhawan & P.S Gangtok, District Gangtok, Sikkim, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as under:

1. That "**Sonam Yangchen Bhutia**" is my legal and biological daughter.
2. That my actual and correct name is "**Karma Pintso Chopal Bhutia**" which is recorded in my Aadhar Card bearing no. 2833 4069 9905 issued by Government of India and in my voter Identity card bearing EPIC no. CBS0050856 issued by Election Commission of India.
3. That my name has been recorded as "**Karma Pintso Chopal Bhutia**" in my daughter's Aadhar Card bearing no. 9557 7930 8208 issued by Government of India and in my daughter's Birth certificate bearing registration no. 1996/1432, issued by Registrar of Births & Deaths, Government of Sikkim.
4. That inadvertently my name has been recorded as "**Karma Pincho Chopal Bhutia**" in my daughter's Voter Identity card bearing EPIC no. NMX0062539, issued by Election Commission of India.
5. That this affidavit is made on oath to declare that the person's name "**Karma Pintso Chopal Bhutia**" and "**Karma Pincho Chopal Bhutia**" denotes to the one and same identical person i.e me.
6. That this affidavit is made bonafide.

Deponent
Karma Pintso Chopal Bhutia

VERIFICATION

I, the above-named deponent, do hereby verify and states that the declaration made in paragraph 1 to 6 herein above are true to best of my knowledge and belief. I have signed this affidavit on the 26th day of September 2025 at Gangtok.

Identified by:
(Pema Wangyal Bhutia)
R.O. Amdo Golai, Gangtok, Sikkim

Deponent
Karma Pintso Chopal Bhutia

Health Tips

10 MORE WAYS TO STAY YOUNG AND HEALTHY

1. Vitamin E

Vitamin E is one of the effective anti ageing agent. Enrich your daily diet chart with foods which are rich in vitamin E. Even if you use any skin care products, prefer those which are enriched with vitamin E.

2. Vitamin A

Use of Retinol A; a purest form of vitamin A can help to reduce wrinkles and fine lines.

3. Benefits of Apple Juice

Apple juice is healthy for having a fresh skin, also you can apply fresh apple juice on your skin daily; apple juice is helpful to remove fine lines and wrinkles.

4. Use of Glycerin, Lemon juice and Rose water

All these 3 are great for having a healthy skin, take Glycerin, lemon juice and rose water in equal amount. Mix all these and apply daily on your face, hands and neck, before going to bed at night. This solution is very effective for younger looking skin.

5. Aloe Vera Gel

Apply Aloe-Vera gel as a face mask on your face, neck and hands. Let it dry for 20 minutes, put the mask out and wash your face with fresh cold water. If you have dry skin then add vitamin E (oil) in the gel and mash it well before applying.

6. Take steam Bath often

Take steam bath at least once in a week, this will help your body to remain healthy and young.

7. Think Positive

Your mental health directly affects your physical health. Adopt a positive attitude towards life and think positive, it's the way to look young and healthy.

8. Morning Walk

Morning walk is a must to do thing, follow it as your daily routine. Morning walk is one of the most effective to attain good health and for young and fresh skin.

9. Carrots and Sweet Potatoes

Carrots contain the beta-carotene, a natural ingredient that fight against wrinkles and fine lines problems of skin. Take at least one carrot daily in your diet.

10. Yoga

Yoga is one of the best breathing exercise, one of the best of meditation too, try some of the best yoga exercise to get fresh skin and healthy life.

1st meet of NESCUF

Pakyong, November 01: 1st meet of the North East States Cooperative Union's Forum (NESCUF), bringing together delegates from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim was convened at the conference hall of the Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN), Assam Lingzey, today.

Organised by Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN) themed 'Together We Rise, Strengthening the Cooperative Future of the North East,' the event marked a revolutionary step towards promoting regional cooperation and collective growth among the northeastern states.

The North East States Cooperative Union's Forum (NESCUF) acts as a unified platform for the cooperative unions in the northeast region to deliberate on cooperative policies, address challenges, explore emerging opportunities, and strengthen inter-state collaboration through cooperation, resource sharing and exchange of expertise among the state cooperative unions.

In his address, Chairman Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN), Dr Mangal Jit Rai, underlined that SICUN aims to create a platform to strengthen grassroots cooperatives and promote self-reliance while providing capacity-building training to the cooperatives.

He expressed gratitude to Chief Minister for his support towards the cooperative movement in the state and underscored the importance of engaging the younger generation in cooperative activities to expand opportunities for youth participation in the sector.

Additionally, Dr Mangal Jit Rai is also appointed as the Chief Coordinator of the North East

States Cooperative Unions' Forum (NESCUF) until its next meeting.

Furthermore, Registrar Cooperation Department, Mr KP Sharma, stressed the need to strengthen the cooperative movement across the North-Eastern region and urged all stakeholders to utilise the platform to empower rural communities and transform the socio-economic landscape of the respective region. Further, he assured to provide support and assistance in facilitating the necessary reforms and growth of the forum.

Advisor Dr Mohan Kumar Mishra, outlined the vision and objectives of NESCUF and informed that the forum has been conceptualised as a regional platform aimed at harmonising cooperative development across the eight North-Eastern states, fostering inclusive growth in line with the national vision of Sahakar Se Samriddhi and Viksit Bharat 2047.

He highlighted the various challenges faced by the North-Eastern region, including infrastructural gaps, market access and financial constraints, while also underlining the immense potential of the region in sectors such as agriculture, dairy, handloom and women-led cooperatives. Further, he presented key recommendations to overcome these issues and strengthen cooperative institutions across the region.

Emphasising the role of technology, Dr Mishra urged the participants to leverage digital platforms and social media as tools for reform to enhance the visibility and efficiency of cooperatives. He shared a roadmap showcasing the potential of the North-Eastern states to contribute to the nation's growth and uplift the region through cooperation among the cooperatives.

The meeting also included a session wherein delegates from each participating state shared their insights on the cooperative movement in their respective regions. They presented updates on ongoing initiatives, discussed key challenges, and highlighted areas of potential growth, offering attendees a comprehensive overview of the cooperative landscape across the North-Eastern states.

It may be mentioned that SICUN embarked on a new venture through its Business and Marketing Division, launching an initiative aimed at the marketing and branding of organic products. The initiative seeks to empower producers at grassroots level by providing them with market exposure, opportunities and support to promote sustainable local enterprises.

The day concluded with an open house discussion, during which the attendees deliberated on key issues and agendas, while sharing insights aimed at strengthening the inter-state cooperation to foster growth among the northeastern cooperative unions.

Also present were President, State Cooperative Union Meghalaya, Mr Phongjong Mawkhiew, Chairman, State Cooperative Union, Arunachal Pradesh, Mr Nabam Tahi Nerkil, CEO, State Cooperative Union Tripura, Mr Subhendu Bardhan, ACEO, State Cooperative Union Meghalaya, Mr Laster Kurbah, AEO, State Cooperative Union, Assam, Mr Shyamal Kumar Saikia, Vice Chairman SICUN and OSD, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department, Mr Purna Prasad Sharma, CEO SICUN, Mr Phadung Bhutia, along with Board Members and officials from SICUN.

Press Release from Fisheries Department

Gangtok, October 28: Fisheries Department convened a Co-ordination Meeting at the Golden Jubilee Hall, Matsya Bhawan, Gangtok, today. The meeting was organised with the objective of reviewing the progress of departmental schemes and activities, enhancing inter-departmental coordination, and formulating strategies for the holistic development of fisheries sector in the State.

The meeting was graced by Mr Puran Kumar Gurung, Minister for Fisheries, Mr Am Prasad Sharma Advisor, Mrs Anuradha Gurung Chairperson, and Mrs Roshni Rai, Secretary, Fisheries Department, Mr KK Shrestha, Director, Mr Sanbir Limboo OSD, along with senior officers of the Department, field functionaries up to the Block Officer level.

Mrs Yojana Rai, Deputy Secretary, made a presentation highlighting the administrative and operational progress of the Department, including the current manpower status. This was followed by a

comprehensive presentation on the implementation of flagship schemes namely; Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Mukhya Mantri Matsya Utpadan Yojana (MMUY) which delivered by Mr Surendra Bhandari, Assistant Director-cum-Nodal Officer, PMMSY. Mrs Rahel Gurung, AE, presented an overview of the ongoing and proposed infrastructure development works undertaken under various departmental schemes.

In her address, Mrs Roshni Rai, Secretary, Fisheries Department, highlighted the Department's key achievements, challenges, and strategic plans aimed at enhancing fish production, improving infrastructure, and strengthening the livelihoods of fish farmers across the State.

The Advisor and Chairperson shared their valuable insights, underscoring the importance of effective field-level coordination, timely completion of works, and proactive engagement with the

public to ensure that they derive maximum benefit from the schemes implemented by the Department.

In his remarks, the Minister lauded the concerted efforts of all officers and staff of the Department. He called for a result-oriented and accountable approach to ensure the effective delivery of government programmes and schemes to the intended beneficiaries, in line with the directive of the Chief Minister.

The Minister reiterated that the Chief Minister has consistently emphasised the need for every department to demonstrate measurable outcomes and tangible benefits for the people. He further stressed the importance of innovation, sustainability, and collective effort to make Sikkim self-reliant in fish production. The Minister also urged all officers and staff to maintain punctuality, discipline, and regular attendance in the workplace to ensure efficient functioning of the Department.

Sikkim Tourism showcases State's heritage at Bharat Parv

Gujarat, November 1: Chief Minister of Gujarat Mr Bhupendra Patel inaugurated the theme pavilion of Bharat Parv at Ekta Nagar in the presence of several dignitaries, marking the grand commencement of the event.

Accompanying him were Speaker of Gujarat Legislative Assembly, Minister for Tribal Development, and Secretary of Tourism, Government of Gujarat. The inauguration ceremony witnessed enthusiastic participation and showcased the unity and cultural vibrancy that Bharat Parv represents.

Following the inauguration, the Chief Minister of Gujarat and

Awareness programme on PM Vishwakarma Scheme held

Soreng, October 29: An awareness programme on the PM Vishwakarma Scheme was organised by the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) – Development and Facilitation Office, Gangtok, under the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, in association with the District Administration, Soreng was held at the Rurban Complex, Soreng.

The programme aimed to support and empower traditional artisans and crafts people by providing financial assistance, skill training, and access to modern tools and digital marketing platforms.

DC Mr Dhiraj Subedi attended the session as the chief guest, along with ADC (I) and ADC (Development).

In his address DC Mr Dhiraj Subedi welcomed and congratulated the applicants and beneficiaries. He provided an overview of the registration status under the scheme and discussed challenges that has led to fewer successful applications. He advised the banks to carefully assess cases before rejecting loan proposals and highlighted how the scheme serves as a platform to uplift artisans and craftspeople. He also congratulated the beneficiaries for completing their training and encouraged them to use digital marketing to enhance their businesses.

ADC (I) shared an overview of the scheme, its benefits, and the common challenges faced during registration, including technical errors and improper information. He addressed loan related issues with banks and clarified that the designated loan interest rate under the scheme. He encouraged interested individuals to register and assured full support for any queries or unresolved matters. He also inspired the participants by sharing success stories of businesses using digital marketing effectively.

ADC (Development) congratulated the first batch of

his team visited various state stalls, including the Sikkim Pavilion, which was set up by the Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim.

The Sikkim stall highlighted the state's unique tourism potential, rich cultural heritage, and natural beauty, attracting visitors with its vibrant display and informative presentations. The Sikkim delegation comprised of Mr Gompo Thendup Bhutia Deputy Secretary, Mrs Sushma Pradhan Deputy Director, Ms Pooja Lama Assistant Public Relations Officer and Mr Harka Bahadur Chettri Stakeholder from tourism sector.

trainees for completing their training. He urged artisans to focus on becoming producers and highlighted the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Geographical Indication (GI) Tagging. He encouraged everyone to maintain a progressive outlook and continue moving forward.

General Manager District Industries Centre, Soreng appreciated the participants for attending the programme and explained how such initiatives enhance understanding and awareness. She outlined the role and services of DIC, Soreng, and encouraged participants to focus on branding and labelling for better promotion and growth. She also assured that DIC will provide financial awareness and support to entrepreneurs and artisans.

Lead District Manager (Soreng, Gyalshing Banks Representative) discussed the bank's target to provide loans under the scheme and explained the eligibility criteria. He clarified that only practising artisans and craftspeople are eligible and addressed the issue of loan rejections caused by misinformation. He interacted with participants, answered their queries, and emphasised the importance of entrepreneurship.

Assistant Professor delivered a presentation on marketing and e-commerce, explaining practical steps to onboard platforms like ONDC, GeM, NSIC B2B Portal, MSME-Global Mart, Amazon, Flipkart, and social media channels. He emphasised branding, packaging, labelling, product design, and effective selling strategies.

Earlier, Assistant Director gave a brief overview of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme. He highlighted key points including PAN-India marketing, a 5% interest rate for beneficiaries, the MSME-Global Mart, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), and GI Tagging for local products.

Sikkim joins Nation in celebrating Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

Gangtok, October 31: Sikkim joined the rest of the nation in celebrating Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, commemorating Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for his visionary leadership and unwavering efforts in integrating the nation and strengthening its unity and integrity at Manan Kendra in Gangtok, today.

The programme had the presence of Minister for Cooperation Department and Rural Development Department, Mr Arun Kumar Upreti as the chief guest.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day is celebrated to honour Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, also known as the Iron Man of India. The day highlights his vision of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' (One India, Great India) and reminds citizens of the importance of unity, integrity, and national security.

The programme commenced with a ceremonial Guard of Honour presented to the chief guest by the Sikkim Police women contingent, led by DySP Sudha Basnet, symbolising discipline, respect, and the spirit of national service.

Namchi hosts its first Open Basketball Tournament

Namchi, October 30: The opening ceremony of the four day long Namchi Open Basketball Tournament 2025 commenced at Basketball Court of Namchi Public School, today.

The tournament aimed at promoting sports and encouraging a substance-addiction-free society, is being organised by the Namchi District Police in collaboration with the Yetis Basketball Club and supported by the Namchi District Administrative Centre.

Mr Bhoj Raj Rai Minister for Urban Development Department graced the opening ceremony as the chief guest.

Present on the occasion were MLA Namchi-Singhithang Mr Satish Chandra Rai, Chairperson NMC, Advisor Panchayati Raj, Chairperson SIMFED/Patron BAS, Chairman Sikkim Youth Development Board, Chairman Art, Culture and Heritage Development Board, DC Namchi, SSP Namchi, ADC Namchi ASPs Namchi, SDM (Hq), SDM Namchi, OSDs to MLAs, HoOs from line departments, SHOs, Yetis Basketball Club General Secretary, and Principal, Namchi Public School Father Francis Xavier Banerjee, along with locals, players and students and spectators at large.

Addressing the gathering,

District Level team conducts Bi-Monthly inspection

Gyalshing, November 3: A District Level Team conducted Bi-Monthly inspection of Dams Associated with the Rellichu HEP, Gyalshing district, today.

The inspection was led by Mr CS Limboo SDM (Yuksom), accompanied by Mr Ganesh Kumar Rai DPO (DDMA) Gyalshing, JE (Power), JE (WRD), Fire & Emergency Services, Disaster staff and Rellichu HEP officers and

Following this formal welcome, the event proceeded with the lighting of butter lamps and the offering of garlands and khadas to the portrait of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as a mark of tribute to his enduring legacy of unity and nation-building.

The chief guest administered the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge, reaffirming the spirit of unity and integrity.

In his address, Minister remembered Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as the Iron Man of India. He reflected on Sardar Patel's remarkable political journey, his commitment to national integration, and his vision of a united India. The Minister urged everyone to uphold the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge. He also highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision behind the Statue of Unity, which stands as a monumental tribute to Sardar Patel's legacy. He congratulated the winners of Sikkim Unity Cyclothon 2025, which was organised earlier in the day by the Adventure Sports Cell, Sports and Youth Affairs Department in Gangtok to commemorate

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.

In his welcome address, Mr Tenzing Kaleon Secretary Home Department highlighted the significance of observing Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, emphasising its role in strengthening the spirit of national unity and integrity. He also reflected on the vision and leadership of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Subsequently, the chief guest presented certificates and prizes to the winners of the Cyclothon in the Junior, Open, and Masters categories.

The programme also featured a cultural performance by the artistes of the Culture Department.

Also present were Mr Raju Basnet Minister for Education Department, Mr T T Bhutia MLA-cum-Advisor, Health and Family Welfare Department, Mr N B Pradhan MLA-cum-Advisor, Agriculture Department, Zilla Adhyaksha, Up-Adhyaksha, Deputy Mayor, Advisors, Chairpersons, Chief Secretary, DGP HoDs, officers and officials of the State Government.

Minister congratulated the organisers for their dedication in organising such a sporting event and promoting sports, stating that such efforts play a vital role in building a sporting culture and creating a drug-free society. He highlighted the importance of sports in shaping the character and discipline of the youth and encouraged them to actively participate in such initiatives.

The Minister further stated that collective efforts from all sections of society are essential in nurturing young talent and bringing laurels to the state. He also commended the Namchi District Police for their active involvement in the Nasha Mukta initiative and urged everyone to contribute towards maintaining a healthy and addiction-free society.

Furthermore, he encouraged students to focus not only on their academics but also on practical skills that will help them in life. He emphasised that a positive mindset is key to building a healthier and better Sikkim and also extended his best wishes to all the participating teams for their success in the tournament.

SSP Mr Karma Gyamtso Bhutia, in his address, spoke about the motive behind organising the tournament, which is to encourage youth engagement in sports and promote a healthy lifestyle as an

alternative to negative influences. He also thanked all the participants and organisers for their support towards fostering community spirit, discipline and teamwork through such constructive initiatives.

Earlier, Yetis General Secretary welcomed the participants. He emphasised that such events promote sportsmanship and foster a strong basketball culture among the youths.

It may be mentioned that a total of 20 teams are participating in the tournament, comprising of 12 men's teams and 8 women's teams. In men's division, the teams are Namchi Hounds, Ravens, Yetis, Mambas, Namtse Vets, Defenders, Vikings, Pandas, Strivers (NPS), Demi Monks, Hoopsters Gangtok, and Culture. In women's division, the teams are Falcons, Rising Stars, Girls of Gangyap, Darjeeling, Strivers, Hawks, Nglites, and Ravens.

The opening ceremony witnessed the inaugural match of Mens Division between Team Ravens and Team Hounds, in which the former emerged victorious.

This was followed by second match of Women's division between Girls of Gangyap and Strivers.

Teams is to be undertaken to bolster safety measures.

The fire department instructions recommendation, fire extinguishers have been refilled on time and two additional CO2 fire extinguishers have been installed.

The inspection team found safety protocols and warning devices satisfactory.

Press Release from Office of Press Secretary to Chief Minister

Gangtok: The Information and Public Relations Department (IPR) has launched the e-Language Learning Series, a landmark initiative aimed at promoting and preserving the indigenous official languages of Sikkim. The initiative was officially launched on September 5, 2025, by IPR Department under the guidance of Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang.

The series seeks to make language learning accessible, engaging, and meaningful for both the people of Sikkim and the global Sikkimese diaspora through short educational videos disseminated across digital and social media platforms.

Press Secretary to Chief Minister Mr Yougan Tamang visited the IPR Department to understand the structure and progress of the initiative. During the visit, he interacted with department officials and appreciated their dedication, creativity, and innovative approach towards realising this unique linguistic preservation project.

Sikkim is a proud mosaic of cultures, communities, and ethnicities, each with its distinct language and heritage. However, globalisation and evolving lifestyles have gradually led to a decline in the active use of many indigenous languages. Recognizing the importance of preserving linguistic diversity as a cornerstone of cultural identity, the Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang Golay, has consistently promoted policies and initiatives that safeguard and celebrate the State's rich cultural legacy.

Under his leadership, several significant steps have been taken to conserve both the tangible and intangible heritage of Sikkim's communities. The Chief Minister's deep respect for linguistic inclusivity is reflected in his various directives to use regional languages in various medium of communications and promotions. This measure not only enhances accessibility but also reaffirms his commitment to inclusive governance and the preservation of Sikkim's linguistic identity.

Awareness programme on BBBP Initiative

Pakyong, November 3: An awareness programme with adolescent girls on Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, Tuberculosis (TB), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP), and Balanced Diet was organised under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative by the Women and Child, Senior Citizen and Divyangjan Welfare Department, Pakyong at Pacheykhani Secondary School, Pakyong, today.

The programme was headed by Mrs Dikit Lepcha Deputy Director-cum-Social Welfare Officer, who spoke on the objectives and importance of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, encouraging the students to become advocates of gender equality and empowerment.

Dr Sudhata Chettri Medical Officer Pakyong PHC, delivered an insightful session on

As the Minister-in-Charge of the IPR Department, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has encouraged the use of modern communication tools to connect the youth with their linguistic and cultural roots. The e-Language Learning Series features lessons in eleven languages: Lepcha, Mukhia, Bhutia, Tamang, Limboo, Rai, Sherpa, Mangar, Tibetan, Gurung, and Nepali with efforts underway to enlist experts for Newari language instruction.

From Monday to Friday, new videos for each language are uploaded on the official social media platforms of the Government of Sikkim - YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, managed by the IPR Department. Each short-format video (1-3 minutes) is designed to be concise, engaging, and informative, allowing viewers to easily grasp key linguistic and cultural insights within a brief span.

Additionally, Sikkim Herald, published by the IPR Department, continues to serve as another pillar of inclusivity by being released in twelve regional languages, ensuring that government communication reaches every linguistic community of the State.

The e-Language Learning Series stands as a reflection of the Chief Minister's belief that language is not just a means of communication but a living expression of identity, heritage, and belonging. Through this initiative, Sikkim continues to strengthen its multilingual legacy and inspire its citizens to stay connected to their cultural roots.

"Language binds us to our roots and reminds us of who we are. By preserving it, we preserve our identity," the Chief Minister has often emphasised a thought that continues to inspire this movement of cultural preservation and pride.

The Press Secretary to the Chief Minister acknowledged the Secretary, IPR, along with all officers and staff of the Department, for their innovative initiative and working in alignment with the Chief Minister's mission of building a "Sunaalo, Samriddha, ani Samarth Sikkim."

Awareness programme on BBBP

Initiative

Tuberculosis (TB) its causes, symptoms and preventive measures.

Ms Erica Rai, Dietician Pakyong PHC, highlighted the importance of maintaining a balanced diet, especially for adolescent girls, to support their physical and mental development. Ms Chong Choki Bhutia, Centre Administrator of One Stop Centre, spoke on Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and sensitised about Women Helpline (181) and Child Helpline (1098), emphasising the importance of speaking up against abuse and seeking timely help. With the POCSO Act 2012, students were also made aware of good touch and bad touch.

A quiz competition was also conducted and prizes and gifts were distributed to the students.

Valedictory programme of training for primary tribal language teachers

Pakyong, November 1: Mr Samdup Lepcha Minister for Social Welfare Department, Women, Child, Senior Citizen and Divyangjan Welfare Department attended the valedictory programme of the week-long training-cum-workshop for primary tribal language teachers at the Tribal Research Institute and Training Centre, Assam Lingzey, today.

The training-cum-workshop was organised by the Tribal Research Institute and Training Centre, Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with Education Department with support from Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

The valedictory session was also attended by Mr Chewang Norbu Lepcha Chairman Primitive Tribe Welfare Board, Mr Shekhar Sewa Chairman Scheduled Caste Welfare Board and Mr Hukum Chandra Rai Chairman OBC Board as guests of honour alongside Ms Sarika Pradhan Secretary Social Welfare Department.

During the programme, the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada was inaugurated, commencing its observance from November 1 to 15. The occasion marks the culmination of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh and commemorates the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda on November 15, 2025.

Minister in his address acknowledged the efforts of the organisers and expressed gratitude towards participating teachers and resource persons for their dedication and contribution to the workshop.

Encouraging the teachers, he stated that they form the backbone of society and that tribal language teachers have a key role in both educating students and preserving tribal languages. He emphasised that language is fundamental to cultural identity and that its loss would mean the loss of heritage. He further urged the teachers to share their knowledge within their schools and communities to promote awareness of tribal

languages, culture and various schemes and initiatives of Social Welfare Department for the welfare of tribal communities, and also encouraged them to wear traditional attire as a way to preserve and promote cultural heritage and showcase the vibrant diversity of Sikkim.

The chief guest reflected on the life and contributions of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and highlighted the observance of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada across the country from November 1 to 15 marking the culmination of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh.

In her keynote address, Secretary highlighted the observance of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh, held to celebrate and commemorate the tribal communities of India and honour the contribution of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. She informed that the Social Welfare Department has been observing the event throughout the year through various programmes.

She noted that language is not only a medium of communication but also a means of preserving culture and heritage.

Expressing concern over the decline of tribal languages among the younger generation, she emphasised the need to instil pride and interest in one's language from an early age.

She informed that with support from the Education Department, a module was developed to help teachers introduce tribal languages effectively at the primary level and encourage children to learn and preserve their language, which formed the basis of the training programme.

She further mentioned that teachers play a central role in shaping children, who are the future citizens of the country, and that strengthening their capacity is essential for promoting language education and cultural preservation.

She expressed hope that the training would help children connect with their roots and sustain Sikkim's linguistic and

cultural heritage. She urged participants to share feedback and suggestions to enhance the module further.

Prior to the session, Mr Suman Gurung Special Secretary, Social Welfare Department, presented an overview of the training-cum-workshop, outlining its objectives to train teachers engaged in teaching tribal languages at the primary level, enhance their pedagogical skills, and support the preparation of tribal language teaching materials, to make teachers aware of the future of tribal languages in context of the National Education Policy 2020 and promote the tribal languages for long-term sustainability.

During the course of the training, which commenced on October 27, sessions covered diverse topics related to the development of tribal languages and literature, preparation of teaching-learning materials, pedagogical techniques, grammar, cultural awareness, use of multimedia, and the roles and responsibilities of tribal language teachers. The sessions also included discussions on language history, poetry, astrology, and learning outcomes for effective teaching in primary schools.

This was followed by an experience-sharing session by teachers representing five tribal languages, who reflected on their learnings and the practical aspects of the training.

The training-cum-workshop saw the participation of 150 primary tribal language teachers from across the state.

The programme concluded with the distribution of certificates to the participants.

Also present at the programme were Ms Bandana Chettri Additional Secretary, Social Welfare Department, officers from Social Welfare Department, Education Department, Tribal Research Institute and Training Centre, resource persons and Textbook Officers and Assistant Textbook Officers.

Meeting of SFPB convenes at IPR Department

Gangtok, October 29: First introductory board meeting of Sikkim Film Promotion Board was held at IPR Department under the chairmanship of Mr Tashi Tshering Bhutia Chairperson, Sikkim Film Promotion Board.

The meeting was attended by Mr Sunil Kumar Mothay Director IPR Department, Mrs Tshering Yangdon Additional Secretary, Culture Department, Mr Bishal Khawas Additional Director, IPR Department, Mr Gaurav Dhungel Joint Director, Finance Department, Ms Karma T Dolma Deputy Director, Culture Department and Ms Vijeta Chettri Assistant Director Tourism Department.

The Chairperson convened the meeting to introduce the

members of the Film Promotion Board and outline the key responsibilities of each department represented in the board.

During the meeting, several avenues for promoting films and developing film production in the state were discussed. Chairperson reiterated the need to promote Sikkim as a preferred film-shooting destination in order to attract filmmakers from across the country and beyond. He highlighted the importance of organising workshops and training sessions to develop skilled professionals such as camera operators, crane operators, spot assistants, background dancers, and others.

He stated that this would create local employment opportunities and reduce the need to outsource

skilled manpower.

He also proposed the establishment of a single-window facility to facilitate film production-related enquiries in the state. He encouraged all members to share suggestions that could strengthen the film production ecosystem in Sikkim while contributing to the local economy. He further informed that necessary amendments to the existing policies and guidelines of the Film Board would be made through discussions and approval from its members.

At the outset, Mr Bishal Khawas, Additional Director, IPR Department, delivered the welcome address and presented a brief background of the Film Promotion Board.

Review Learning workshop on HRDP-Simana Sikkim held

Pakyong, November 4: A review learning workshop (2025-2026) to assess the progress and discuss upcoming activities under the Holistic Rural Development Programme (HRDP) – Simana Sikkim was held today at the Rurban Community Complex of the Rural Development Department, Pakyong.

The programme, implemented by Citizens Foundation with support from HDFC Bank Parivartan, is being carried out across 19 villages in Pakyong District. The workshop aimed to review the achievements made under the initiative and to plan future interventions for sustainable rural development in the district.

The event was attended by Zilla Upadakshya, Ms Prabha Pradhan, as the chief guest. Also present were ADC (HQ) Pakyong, Mr Sabindra Rai; ADC (Dev) Mr RB Bhandari; Zilla Panchayats; Panchayats members; BDOs Pakyong, Parakha and Rhenock; along with representatives from Citizens Foundation and HDFC Bank Parivartan.

Zilla Upadakshya, in her address, applauded the efforts of Citizens Foundation in strengthening rural development at the village level in Pakyong.

State Handloom Expo 2025-26

Gangtok, November 3: State Handloom Expo 2025-26, which commenced on November 1 till November 14, 2025, is being organised by the Sikkim Handloom and Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited (SHHDC) under the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). The Expo was inaugurated by Ms Karma D Youtso Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department at the premises of the Directorate of Handicrafts and Handlooms, Zero Point, Gangtok.

This year's Expo brought together participants from various states across the country, including Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Assam, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Ladakh, and Jammu and Kashmir, along with local weavers, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and artisans from different

District and expressed gratitude to HDFC Bank Parivartan for their support.

She further emphasised that such projects contribute significantly to empowering rural citizens through community-based initiatives and shared her suggestions for the effective implementation of upcoming activities under the project.

During the session, Zilla Panchayat Amba, Dr Subadra Dhangal; Zilla Panchayat Phademchen, Ms Dawa Choden Bhutia; and Panchayat Lower Berkmon Ward, Mr DB Chettri, shared their reviews on the progress achieved in their respective GPUs and discussed the proposed activities to be undertaken in the coming years.

Project Manager, HRDP-Simana Sikkim, Citizens Foundation, Ms Sangita Dahal, gave a detailed presentation on the project, highlighting its thematic areas which include livelihood enhancement and skill training, education, financial literacy and inclusion, natural resource management and health and hygiene. She also briefed the participants on the objectives of the HRDP-Simana project and outlined the activities planned and completed for the year 2024-25.

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Career Counselling... prior to entering public life, the Chief Minister observed that the world has transformed tremendously over the years and that competition has become increasingly intense in the 21st century. He encouraged students to be ready to face any challenge and make full use of the avenues being created by the Government.

Speaking on the current employment landscape, he pointed out that government jobs in the state have reached near saturation and that dependency on government employment must gradually decrease. He stated that the State Government has been consistently working to create

diverse employment avenues beyond the white-collar sector.

The youth, he emphasised, must aspire not only to become employees but also employers, contributing to society through innovation and enterprise.

In this regard, he underlined the importance of skill development and vocational training, stating that the State Government has integrated skill-based learning from the school level onwards. From technical education to life skills, the state is preparing students to become capable, confident, and self-reliant citizens, he added.

The Chief Minister also highlighted several State

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Press Secretary reviews progress of DST programmes on GLOF mitigation and research projects

Gangtok, November 3: Mr Yougan Tamang Press Secretary to Chief Minister convened a review meeting with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) at Vigyan Bhawan today to assess the progress of key initiatives on Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) mitigation, large cardamom revival and cancer research and prevention in the State.

The meeting was attended by Dr Sandeep Tambe Principal Secretary Department of Science and Technology and Mr DG Shrestha Secretary Department of Science and Technology.

During the meeting, the Department informed that following the 2023 GLOF incident, extensive mitigation works were underway. Sixteen Category-A high-risk glacial lakes in Sikkim, identified under the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) framework, were being prioritised for detailed assessments and the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by the Department.

The Government aims to safeguard Sikkim's infrastructure and lives from future glacial flood events through early warning systems (EWS) and protection of roads, bridges, dams and habitations. It further seeks to strengthen Sikkim's position in national efforts on Himalayan GLOF risk mitigation.

The meeting noted that the Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang has been actively leading the State's initiatives to address key concerns related to environmental and disaster resilience.

Under a Whole-of-Government Approach (WGA), six state departments, two central agencies, defence organisations, academic institutions, district administrations and local communities are working together under a unified framework. A Multi-Disciplinary Task Force (MDTF) and a High-Level Steering Committee (HLSC) were notified in September 2024, while business rules designating DST as the nodal

department for GLOF risk mitigation were issued in February 2025. An Engineering Division has also been established within DST to strengthen technical capacity and facilitate the transfer of research into field-level mitigation measures.

Sikkim's Four-Step Approach

1. Preliminary Assessment
2. Comprehensive Field-Based Assessment
3. Mitigation Planning and Design
4. Execution and Monitoring

Ongoing studies include hydrometeorological assessments, bathymetric investigations, geological and hydrological analyses, UAV-based terrain mapping, and electrical resistivity tomography. Each lake is being studied individually to develop site-specific mitigation plans. Priority lakes include North Lhonak, South Lhonak, Shako Chho and Changsang, among others.

Emerging Outcomes

Technical and administrative capacity within the State has improved, with geographers, glaciologists, engineers and ecologists preparing DPRs internally without external consultants.

Financial assistance has been secured under the National Glacier Risk Mitigation Programme (NGRMP) through NDMA and SSDMA.

Sikkim's progress in climate resilience and glacial hazard management has gained recognition at the national level.

The meeting also reviewed the 'Mero Alaichi, Mero Dhan' mission, which seeks to revive Sikkim's native large cardamom crop that supports over 20,000 farming families. The Department discussed the decline in yield due to fungal and viral infections, soil degradation and genetic limitations.

Key Interventions include; Protein- and peptide-based antifungal formulations, Lignin-based nano-biopesticides, RNA-

based viral management tools, Microbial probiotics for soil and plant health, Tissue-culture-derived disease-free planting material, Speed-breeding protocols to shorten the crop cycle, Development of reference genome and genomics-assisted breeding for high-vigour varieties.

The proposal, prepared in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and other national institutions, has been sanctioned. The initiative aims to protect livelihoods, maintain traditional farming systems, and apply science-based solutions for sustaining Himalayan agro-ecosystems.

The Department also presented updates on cancer prevention and research activities being undertaken in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad.

Major Proposals include, 1. Screening and Discovery Research – multi-project studies on genomics, metabolomics and biomarkers under DHR-ICMR and DBT. 2. Prevention and Intervention Research – state-wide programmes on behavioural risk reduction and HPV vaccination. 3. Nutritional Research – study of dietary patterns among the Bhutia community in relation to stomach and oesophageal cancers.

These initiatives indicate a shift from treatment-based approaches to prevention and early diagnosis, offering a model for cancer control in other Himalayan regions.

Also present were Mr DT Bhutia Principal Director DST, Additional Secretary, DST, Ms Baby Mukhiya; Chairman, Sikkim Art, Culture and Heritage Development Board, Mr Sanjay Rai (Dilpal); Scientific Officer, DST, Dr N P Sharma; Assistant Scientific Officer, DST, Dr Laydong Lepcha; and staff members of the Department.

entrepreneurs from Sikkim, Mr Diwash Kapil Rai and Mr Sulabh Raj Gurung, who have founded the state's first AI-based technology company, Apuphi Private Limited, which is developing a next-generation career ecosystem. He lauded their entrepreneurial spirit and innovation as a source of inspiration for other young minds in the state.

He further spoke about the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose University of Excellence being constructed at Chakung in Soreng District, describing it as a forthcoming world-class centre for higher learning, innovation, and intellectual growth.

The institution, he said, will not only provide quality education but also open new employment avenues and stimulate local economic activity.

The Chief Minister stated that the State Government has transformed Sikkim's educational ecosystem with the vision of

producing not just degree holders but skilled and competent individuals capable of thriving in a competitive world. He shared that the Government aims to establish universities in every constituency, thereby expanding access to higher education across the state.

He also called upon the universities to ensure that they function within their allotted constituencies and maintain academic integrity by conducting only offline examinations.

Additionally, the Chief Minister informed that the State Government is working towards forming a Foreign Employment Recruitment Board, which will facilitate overseas employment opportunities for Sikkimese youth at a nominal cost. The initiative also aims to protect citizens from fraudulent recruitment practices and ensure safe, verified employment placements abroad.

Highlighting the importance of technical training, he mentioned that ITI courses and certifications for trades such as linemen and plumbers are crucial for equipping the youth with employable skills. He reiterated that while the government is committed to creating new avenues and opportunities, it is ultimately up to the youth to seize them with diligence and initiative.

In his address, Minister for Education and Sports and Youth Affairs, Mr Raju Basnet, highlighted the wide-ranging initiatives undertaken by the state government under the dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister in the fields of education and sports, both of which are key pillars of youth empowerment.

He stated that the Government has been taking consistent steps to strengthen the education system at every level, from foundational learning to higher and technical education, while also nurturing sporting talent through dedicated policies, infrastructure, and training opportunities.

He acknowledged that a significant challenge among students has been the fear and hesitation towards Mathematics and Science, subjects that are crucial for technological advancement and competitive success.

To address this, he informed that the government is implementing multiple interventions aimed at making these subjects more engaging and approachable for students. These initiatives begin from the early learning stage and continue through middle school and higher education, ensuring that students build confidence and curiosity in these disciplines over time.

Speaking on future initiatives, the Minister remarked that the government's ongoing efforts to establish universities across constituencies will bring about transformative change in the state's academic landscape.

The expansion of higher education institutions, he stated, will not only enhance accessibility for students from remote areas but will also create local employment opportunities, stimulate regional

economies, and promote research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. He described universities as engines of holistic growth that generate skilled human resources while strengthening the social and economic fabric of the state.

He reiterated that the State Government's approach to education and social welfare is rooted in a "womb to tomb" philosophy, a commitment to ensuring support, care, and opportunity for every citizen at every stage of life.

From quality early education to lifelong learning and vocational advancement, every policy and programme, he added, reflects the government's vision of inclusive and sustained development.

Earlier, the programme began with the welcome address delivered by Secretary, School Education, Mr Tashi Chhopel, who outlined the objectives of the fair.

A video presentation showcasing the departmental initiatives under Samagra Shiksha, along with experience sharing by students, namely Mr Saurav Subba from Dikling Senior Secondary School (Food Production trade) and Ms Padma Biswakarma from Chakung Senior Secondary School (Travel and Tourism trade), were among the highlights of the event.

The event also featured a segment dedicated to awards and recognition, celebrating the achievements of former vocational students who have successfully carved a niche for themselves in various professional fields.

Among those felicitated were Ms Indra Maya Rai, owner of Spicy Restro Bar, Ms Elina Subba, owner of Fancy Holidays Tour and Travels, Mr Auipe Subba, Assistant Chef at Laminio Pizza Hut in Gujarat, Mr Rahul Prasad, Senior Associate at Summit Grand and Resort and Spa, Gangtok, Ms Chandana Tamang, Food and Beverage Executive at International Cruise, Bangalore, and Mr Saroj Sharma, Information Assistant at the Tourist Information Centre, Gangtok.

Tokens of appreciation were also presented to companies that have demonstrated a strong commitment to local employment, including Pantaloons, Ramada Group of Hotels, Mayfair Hotels and Resorts, and Pizza Hut, each of which has employed over 70 percent of its workforce from within the state.

In addition, 32 underprivileged students from across the state were presented with laptops, and three students received smartphones as part of the department's continued efforts to promote digital inclusion and ensure equitable access to learning resources.

The programme was attended by Deputy Speaker SLA, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, Chairpersons, Secretaries and Heads of various departments, senior officials of the Education Department, heads of institutions, teachers and students.

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Career Counselling...

Government initiatives aimed at supporting education and youth empowerment. He mentioned the Chief Minister's Mentorship Programme, which provides coaching and mentorship to Classes 10 and 12 students for their board examinations.

He also spoke about Aspire Sikkim, a free coaching initiative designed to prepare students for competitive examinations such as UPSC, NDA and CA (Chartered Accountancy), while nurturing leadership qualities and a spirit of nation-building.

In addition, he referred to the CM's Mission Lakshya Centre of Excellence, a joint initiative of the Government of Sikkim and Q&I by Thomson Digital, offering NEET and JEE coaching in government schools. The Chief Minister informed that the pilot project,

currently underway, will be expanded to all districts if it proves successful.

He also touched upon the growing relevance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the modern world, stating that rather than fearing that AI might replace human work, individuals must learn to adapt and harness it as a tool to enhance creativity, empathy and human potential. He emphasised that technology should complement human intelligence and values, not replace them, and that the true progress lies in using AI to build a more connected, compassionate, and inclusive society.

He informed that the State Government is formulating an AI policy with a particular focus on empowering youth and entrepreneurs to harness technology for innovation, productivity, and employment generation.

He congratulated two

entrepreneurs from Sikkim, Mr Diwash Kapil Rai and Mr Sulabh Raj Gurung, who have founded the state's first AI-based technology company, Apuphi Private Limited,

which is developing a next-generation career ecosystem. He lauded their entrepreneurial spirit and innovation as a source of inspiration for other young minds in the state.

He further spoke about the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose University of Excellence being constructed at Chakung in Soreng District, describing it as a forthcoming world-class centre for higher learning, innovation, and intellectual growth.

The institution, he said, will not only provide quality education but also open new employment avenues and stimulate local economic activity.

The Chief Minister stated that the State Government has transformed Sikkim's educational ecosystem with the vision of

Sikkim Horticulture Department bags 1st position for Best Scheme Awareness

Namchi, October 31: Department of Horticulture has achieved first position for Best Scheme Awareness at the Rashtriya Krishi Pragati with Rising Uttar Pradesh Horti Expo 2025 held from October 29 to 31 at Naveen Mandi, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh.

The event was organised by the All India Commerce and Industry Development Foundation (CIDF), with support from the Indian Institute of Packaging, New Delhi.

Virtual inauguration of Basket Making Skill Training

Gangtok, November 1: Ms Karma D Youtso Secretary Commerce and Industries Department virtually inaugurated a five-day skill training programme on Basket Making organised under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, today.

The virtual inauguration was held from the Mini Conference Hall of the Commerce and Industries Department. The training is being conducted at ITI Kewzing, Namchi District, with 28 participants taking part in the programme.

Secretary highlighted the importance of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme in promoting skill enhancement and self-reliance among traditional artisans. She urged the participants to engage in the sessions and make effective use of the opportunity to strengthen their skills for sustainable livelihood development.

She further advised the trainees to avail themselves of the scheme's benefits, which include access to collateral-free credit of up to ₹1 lakh at a subsidised interest rate, a free toolkit and opportunities to participate in

This three-day national expo served as a significant platform bringing together key stakeholders including state horticulture departments, research institutes, industry representatives, farmers, agri-tech innovators, and entrepreneurs from across the country.

Sikkim's exhibition captivated visitors with a vibrant display of the state's renowned organic produce, featuring the Geographical Indication (GI)-

tagged red cherry pepper, alongside kiwi, avocado, large cardamom, and Sikkim mandarin.

The Department was applauded for its dedicated efforts in promoting horticulture schemes and highlighting the State's success in sustainable and organic farming practices.

The award-winning team was led by Dr Hemant Ghimeray, Deputy Director Yanyang, and Dr Bikash Bhattacharai, Horticulture Development Officer, Soreng.

trade fairs and exhibitions. She encouraged the artisans to ensure the production of quality products and to share their progress with the training facilitators and project teams.

She also emphasised the importance of financial literacy and requested training partners to conduct simple and practical financial education sessions with the assistance of bank officials. She assured that the Department would extend all possible support to facilitate the growth and development of artisans through technical guidance, access to credit, and market linkages.

Addressing the participants, Mr M Ravi Kumar Director (MSME), Commerce and Industries Department encouraged the trainees to make full use of the training and produce goods that meet market requirements. He assured that the Department would continue to assist in marketing and promotion to strengthen artisan enterprises.

Ms Champa Sharma Joint Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department stressed the

importance of conducting the training effectively and aligning it with market needs to ensure practical outcomes.

Mr Dinesh Pradhan General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC), Namchi, advised the participants to approach the DIC office for any queries or support related to entrepreneurship or government schemes.

Mr Jaydeep Chakraborty Team Leader, SLPMU, expressed his gratitude to the Secretary for her continued guidance and support in implementing the PM Vishwakarma Scheme. He highlighted the efforts of the SLPMU team in coordinating training programmes, ensuring maximum participation, and facilitating the smooth execution of the scheme across the State.

Also present were officials from Commerce and Industries Department and members of SLPMU. The programme was joined by Ms Jharna Sharma State Coordinator NSDC, Ms Abishta Rasaily District Coordinator, Namchi, Mr Nirmal Bhattacharai SPOC and the participating trainees.

Virtual inauguration for Carpenter Trade Training under PM Vishwakarma Scheme

Gangtok, November 4: The Commerce and Industries Department, Government of Sikkim, organised a virtual inauguration of a Carpenter Trade Training programme under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme at Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Gyalshing from the Mini Conference Hall of Udyog Bhawan, today.

The programme was inaugurated virtually by Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department, Government of Sikkim, Ms Karma D Youtso, in the presence of Director, MSME, Commerce and Industries Department, Mr M. Ravikumar, and the team from the State Level Programme Management Unit (SLPMU).

In her address, Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department, Ms Karma D Youtso, highlighted the importance of skill development and encouraged participants to make full use of the training. She stated that carpentry holds good potential as a source of income within the state and urged local artisans to be efficient and well equipped to make the state self-sufficient in the sector.

The Secretary advised the trainees to avail themselves of the benefits of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, which include access to collateral-free credit of up to ₹1 lakh at a subsidised interest rate, a free toolkit, and opportunities to participate in trade fairs and exhibitions.

Director, MSME, Commerce and Industries Department, Mr M. Ravikumar, congratulated ITI Gyalshing for conducting the training for local entrepreneurs. He advised the participants to apply the training effectively to strengthen their technical skills and stated that the department would continue to support artisans in marketing and promotion to expand their enterprises.

Mr M. Ravikumar further mentioned that the department remains committed to providing continuous training and institutional support. He added that the trainees would also have opportunities to participate in trade fairs and exhibitions in other states.

He informed that the department would assist artisans in online marketing of their

products and encouraged them to develop products that meet market demand. He also suggested that artisans should focus on creating good traditional furniture that reflects local craftsmanship.

General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC) Gyalshing and Soreng, Ms Anula Gurung, stated that the training is important for enhancing the skills of local artisans. She advised the participants to visit the DIC office for queries related to state and central schemes and other support services.

During the session, participants interacted with the officials and raised queries related to the training and the scheme. The trainees expressed their gratitude to the department for organising the training, which they said would help them enhance their skills and expand their businesses.

The virtual inauguration was joined from Gyalshing by Zilla Panchayat member Mr Sagar Sharma, Principal ITI Gyalshing Mr Bhim Chuhan, SPOC Mr Phurba Bhutia, Trainer Mr Bhaskar Rai, Inspector DIC Mr Dhiraj Jairu and trainees.

Raj Bhavan commemorates Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

Gangtok, October 31: Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) which commemorates the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was observed at Raj Bhavan Gangtok, today.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary urged the officers and staff to work and contribute towards national solidarity, development and progress of the nation.

Training for Electoral Officials on Special Intensive Revision held

Gangtok, November 3: In view of the upcoming Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and to facilitate house-to-house field visits for mapping of electors from EROLL 2022, a training programme for EROs, AEROS, BLO Supervisors and BLOs was held at Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School, Gangtok.

The programme was conducted by the District Election Officer-cum-District Collector, Gangtok, as per the direction of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim.

Mr Tshering Norgyal Theengh Additional District Collector provided an overview of the objectives of the training, highlighting the importance of accurate and transparent voter registration. He encouraged all field officers to maintain diligence and integrity while conducting the revision exercise, emphasising that a clean and inclusive electoral roll forms the foundation of a strong democratic process.

Mr Himmat Rai Joint Secretary, Election Department provided an overview of the Special Intensive Revision. He explained the concept of Electoral Rolls De-novo and underlined the importance of conducting the revision exercise.

He further elaborated on voter eligibility, referring to Article 326 of the Constitution of India. The presentation also covered the roles and responsibilities of key functionaries involved in the process and outlined its major procedural steps. He discussed the process of claims, objections and

and staff of Raj Bhavan participated in the function. They paid floral tributes to the statue of 'Iron Man of India' Sardar Patel on his 150th birth anniversary.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary urged the officers and staff to work and contribute towards national solidarity, development and progress of the nation.

Training for Electoral Officials on Special Intensive Revision held

appeals, highlighting the responsibilities of AEROS and BLO Supervisors. Additionally, he spoke about breaches of official duty, referring to Section 22 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Following this, Mr Zangpo Gyaltsen Joint Director, IT, Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim presented a detailed session on Mapping of Electors of SIR 2002 and Their Progeny. He elaborated on the types of electors for mapping, which included four categories, namely:

1. Electors found in the SIR 2002 EROLL
2. Progeny of electors whose names existed in the SIR 2002 EROLL
3. Electors whose names existed in the SIR EROLL of other States
4. Progeny of electors whose names existed in the SIR EROLL of other States

He explained the mapping process for each of these categories and provided practical solutions to issues encountered during field operations. He concluded his presentation by elaborating on the roles of EROs, AEROS, Supervisors and Block Level Agents (BLAs).

The training concluded with an interactive session, during which participants clarified their queries related to EROLL and the revision process.

The programme also had the presence of EROs, AEROS, BLO Supervisors, BLOs and other stakeholders.

Basic Course on Bamboo and Wooden Handicrafts inaugurated

Gyalshing, November 3: Inauguration of the Basic Course on Bamboo and Wooden Handicrafts under the RAMP Scheme (Ministry of MSME, Government of India) was held at Khechupri Bamboo House, today organised by Commerce and Industries Department in collaboration with Khechupri Bamboo House, under the direction of Mr Tshering T Bhutia, Minister-cum-Area MLA Yuksom-Tashiding Constituency.

The event was attended by Mr DS Limboo Zilla Adhyaksha Gyalshing as chief guest.

The chief guest launched the RAMP T-shirt and spoke about promoting local skills, bamboo craftsmanship and rural entrepreneurship.

Others to address the gathering were Mr Dheraj Jairu Inspector Commerce and Industries Department Gyalshing and Mr Anmol Sharma Inspector DIC Gyalshing.

KEEP SIKKIM CLEAN & GREEN