



SIKKIM HERALD

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Sikkim Police receives President of India's Police Colour



Gangtok, May 28: The prestigious presentation of President of India's Police Colour to the Sikkim Police was conducted with full ceremonial grandeur at Paljor Stadium in the presence of President of India Ms Droupadi Murmu along with Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur, Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, Chief Secretary Mr R Telang and

Director General of Police Mr Akshay Sachdeva, today.

The solemn ceremony commenced with the arrival of the President, who was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour and National Salute by contingents of the Sikkim Police.

Addressing the gathering, the President expressed immense pleasure in presenting the

President of India's Police Colour to the Sikkim Police in recognition of its exceptional and distinguished service to the nation. She described the honour as a matter of immense pride for the entire force and congratulated all past and present officers and personnel associated with Sikkim Police for the landmark achievement.

The President also commended the parade contingents for their performance during the ceremonial event.

Highlighting the rich legacy of the force, the President stated that the Sikkim Police, established in 1897 has continued to play a crucial role in maintaining peace, security and justice in the State. She noted that besides maintaining law and order, the force has rendered exemplary service during natural disasters and difficult situations, extending timely relief and assistance to the people.

The President further acknowledged the achievements of Sikkim Police personnel at both

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Sikkim becomes India's fifth fully literate State under ULLAS

Gangtok, May 27: President of India Ms Droupadi Murmu congratulated the people and Government of Sikkim for achieving full literacy status under the ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram ahead of the national target set for 2027, while also highlighting women's empowerment, environmental conservation and inclusive education during the 7th Convocation of Sikkim University held at Manan Bhawan, today.

The achievement was announced by Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang in the presence of Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur and Mr Raju Basnet Minister for Education Department and Professor Santanu Kumar Swain Vice Chancellor.

It may be noted that the ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram focuses on adult education, foundational literacy and lifelong learning with the objective of ensuring inclusive educational access for all sections



of society.

The President said that the achievement reflected the collective efforts of the State Government and the people of Sikkim. She expressed happiness

over the participation of women in education and various sectors and described literacy as a key instrument of empowerment and

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Photo News



President of India Ms Droupadi Murmu planting a sapling of Rhododendron arboreum, locally known as 'Lali Guras' at the premises of Lok Bhavan on May 28.

Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur, Dr Pradeep Kumar ACS-cum-PCCF Forest and Environment Department, Mr Jitendra Singh Raju Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Governor and other dignitaries were present. The ceremonial plantation programme formed part of the President's official engagements in the State.

President of India flags off Pink City Runner bus service

Gangtok, May 27: President of India Ms Droupadi Murmu flagged off the Pink City Runner bus service at Ridge Park, Gangtok, prior to the 7th Convocation Ceremony of Sikkim University. The concept was initially announced by Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang in October 2025.

Introduced by the Government of Sikkim as a dedicated transport service for women, the Pink City Runner also known as the Aama-Didi-Bahini Bus Sewa, aims to make daily travel within Gangtok safer, more reliable and affordable for women commuters. The service operates on the route from Ranipool to Tashiling Secretariat.

The bus service is operated entirely by female drivers and conductors and caters exclusively to women commuters. It has been designed with a focus on commuter safety and a more convenient travel experience for women, particularly during early morning and evening hours. To encourage wider use of

public transport, passengers will pay only half of the regular fare, while the remaining amount will be subsidised by the State Government.

Besides improving access to safer transportation, the initiative is also expected to create employment opportunities for women in the public transport sector. The launch of the Pink City Runner aligns with the State Government's continued focus on women empowerment, inclusive development and welfare-oriented governance.

The flag-off ceremony was also attended by Governor Mr Om Prakash Mathur, Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, Mr Madan Cintury MLA-cum-Advisor, Transport Department, Mr R Telang Chief Secretary, PCE-cum-Secretary, Transport Department, Secretary Home (Protocol), Secretary, Information and Public Relations Department, Secretary, Rural Development Department and other dignitaries.

Pearls of Wisdom

"Don't think or judge, just listen."

- Sarah Dessen

Namthang marks World No Tobacco Day with Community Marathon

Namchi, May 31: In a spirited observance of World No Tobacco Day, Adhyaan Institute, Namthang, organised a marathon under the theme 'Run for Life, Run for Health', with the aim of promoting healthy living and raising awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, sportspersons and locals.

The programme was attended by Mr Sanjeet Kharel MLA-cum-Advisor as the chief guest.

MLA underscored the significance of observing World No Tobacco Day highlighting the serious health risks associated with tobacco use. He stated that awareness initiatives of this nature play a vital role in educating society, particularly young people, about the dangers of tobacco and the importance of embracing a healthy and disciplined lifestyle.

He further mentioned that concerted efforts have been made, in collaboration with the people of Namthang, to transform areas once associated with undesirable activities into spaces that

promote community participation, positive social values and spiritual well-being.

He also informed about several key developmental projects currently underway in the constituency, including the construction of a parking plaza, a hospital, an SDM office and a model residential school, all of which are expected to contribute significantly to the region's growth and progress.

Mr Reeyaj Gurung Founder-Director Adhyaan Institute, highlighted the contributions of The Riders of Namthang (TRON) Motorcycle Club towards social and community welfare initiatives in and around Namthang.

Expressing his appreciation for the club's continued support, he emphasised the importance of collective action, community participation and sustained public awareness in building a tobacco-free society.

The programme also featured a cultural segment, including a Wushu demonstration, an Indian classical music performance and a Nepali dance presented by students of the institute.

A major highlight of the event was the launch of the institution's maiden school

magazine, 'The Adhyaan Spectrum' (Academic Year 2025-26), which showcases the creativity, accomplishments and memorable experiences of the school community.

The marathon was formally flagged off by the chief guest and conducted in four categories; 1.5 km, 2 km, 3.5 km and 5 km. Participants from various age groups took part, while members of TRON Motorcycle Club assisted in ensuring smooth and successful conduct of the event.

As part of the celebration, distinguished sportspersons from the area were felicitated in recognition of their achievements and contributions to the promotion of sports. Those honoured included Mr Laden Gurung Manager of Siniolchu FC, Mr Sagar Gurung Captain of Siniolchu FC, and members of Singling Sporting Club Mr Deepesh Chettri and Mr Sahil Subba.

The event was attended by Upadhyaksha Namchi, SDM Namthang, MO-IC Namthang, IC Namthang OP, Panchayat Inspector, OSD to MLA, Principal Adhyaan Institute, along with volunteers, participants and public.

Awareness and sensitisation programme on ban of single-use Plastics and Plastic Waste Management held

Soreng, May 30: An awareness and sensitisation programme on the Ban of Single-Use Plastics (SUP) and training on the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, subsequent amendments and online reporting mechanism was organised at Rurban Complex, Soreng, with the objective of enhancing public awareness and strengthening the implementation of plastic waste management measures.

Mr Ongdi Sherpa ADC (Dev) Soreng underscored the importance of collective efforts in tackling the growing challenge of plastic pollution. He emphasised that effective waste management begins with proper segregation at the source and highlighted the need for active participation from government agencies, urban local bodies, market associations and public. He further elaborated on the objectives of the programme, which included creating awareness about the ban on single-use plastics, promoting responsible waste disposal practices and building capacity among stakeholders for the effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules.

During the technical session, Mr Pravash Chettri Junior Engineer, State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) delivered a detailed presentation on the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules and the Plastic Waste Management framework. He explained the provisions

relating to the prohibition of identified single-use plastic items and elaborated on the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) under which producers, importers and brand owners are required to ensure environmentally sound management of plastic waste generated from their products. He also informed the participants about compliance requirements and the role of various stakeholders in achieving sustainable waste management practices.

Mr Purna Bahadur Rai IMIS Expert presented an introductory session on plastic and plastic waste management. He elucidated on different categories of plastics, its widespread use in daily life, and environmental concerns arising from its improper disposal. He highlighted the long-term impacts of plastic pollution on ecosystems, water bodies, wildlife, and human health, while stressing on the importance of reducing plastic consumption, promoting recycling, and adopting environmentally responsible practices.

Mr Rakesh Bista IMIS Expert briefed on the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for DUP Characterisation Assessment 2026. He explained the methodology adopted for the assessment process, including waste sampling, segregation, classification and data recording procedures. The presentation focused on the importance of accurate waste

characterisation in generating reliable data for planning and implementing effective waste management interventions.

Ms Marigold Lucksom Bazar Officer briefed the participants on issues related to e-waste management and single-use plastics. She highlighted the need for proper collection, segregation, and disposal of electronic waste to prevent environmental contamination. She also emphasised the importance of public awareness and compliance with existing regulations aimed at reducing plastic waste generation and promoting environmentally sustainable practices.

The programme concluded with a practical demonstration on SUP Characterisation, providing participants with hands-on training on the identification, classification, and assessment of single-use plastic waste. The field-oriented exercise familiarised participants with segregation techniques, waste assessment procedures, and data collection methods essential for effective monitoring and management of plastic waste.

The programme was attended by Zilla Panchayats, Panchayats, DPO (Zilla), BDOs, Deputy Director, AD (PRIs), Block Coordinators, PDAs (Swachagrahis), representatives of the Nagar Panchayats of Soreng and Bazar, Bazar Officer, trainees and staff.

SIR process begins in Gyalshing

Gyalshing, May 30: The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 of Electoral Rolls, undertaken by the Election Commission of India to ensure a clean, accurate and updated electoral roll, commenced in Gyalshing District, today. As part of the exercise, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) began house-to-house visits across polling station areas for the distribution and collection of Enumeration Forms.

On the first day of the campaign, a total of 2137 Enumeration Forms were distributed across the District till 5 pm. The Assembly Constituency-wise distribution is as follows, AC-01 Yuksam Tashiding: 353 forms, AC-02 Yangthang: 415 forms, AC-03 Maneybong-Dentam: 1,040 forms and AC-04 Gyalshing Beryak: 329 forms.

The house-to-house verification and distribution drive will continue until June 28, 2026. During the visits, BLOs will reach every household to distribute Enumeration Forms and assist electors in verifying and updating their electoral details.

Electors are requested to carefully verify particulars such

as their name, age, address, photograph, EPIC number and family details before submitting the duly filled forms.

The Special Intensive Revision aims to ensure the inclusion of all eligible citizens in the electoral roll, remove names of deceased, shifted and duplicate electors, correct errors in voter information and maintain the accuracy and transparency of the electoral rolls.

Electors are urged to extend full cooperation to the BLOs during the house-to-house verification process and submit their Enumeration Forms within the prescribed timeline.

For assistance, electors may contact their respective BLOs, visit the offices of the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) or Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO), use the Voter Helpline App, or call the voter helpline number 1950.

District Election Officer, Gyalshing has appealed to all eligible electors to actively participate in the revision exercise and cooperate with Booth Level Officers to ensure an accurate and updated electoral roll for the district.

House-to-House enumeration form distribution under SIR 2026 commences

Pakyong, May 30: The distribution of house-to-house Enumeration Forms under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 has commenced in Pakyong District, covering AC-18 West Pendam, AC-19 Rhenock, AC-20 Chujachen, AC-21 Gnathang-Machong, and AC-22 Namcheybung. The exercise is being undertaken as part of a comprehensive effort to update and verify electoral records to ensure accuracy and inclusiveness in the electoral roll.

As part of the drive, designated officials and field personnel have begun door-to-door visits to distribute enumeration forms to households throughout the District. Residents are being encouraged to cooperate with officials by providing accurate details and necessary information to facilitate a smooth and transparent verification process.

The SIR 2026 exercise is being carried out with the

objective of strengthening the electoral system by identifying eligible voters, updating demographic details, and addressing discrepancies, if any, in the electoral roll. Authorities have emphasised the importance of public participation and urged citizens to complete and submit the forms within the stipulated time to avoid inconvenience.

Officials have further informed that special attention is being given to ensure coverage of remote and rural areas so that no eligible voter is left out of the electoral process. The district administration and election machinery are working in coordination to conduct the exercise efficiently and in a time-bound manner.

The house-to-house enumeration drive marks a crucial step towards maintaining a free, fair, and inclusive electoral system ahead of future elections, reinforcing the democratic participation of citizens.

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
Women, Child, Senior Citizen & Divyangjan Welfare Department
5TH Mile, Lumsey, Gangtok

Ref. No:167/WCSC&DWD/WS/2026-27

Date: 25/05/2026

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited from eligible local candidates for filling up the following 24 temporary posts in various capacities for One stop Centre, Women Helpline, Sakhi Niwas and Hub for Empowerment Women scheme under Mission Shakti, a centrally sponsored scheme of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India implemented by Women, Child, Senior Citizen and Divyangjan Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim on purely temporary/co-terminus basis with the project. The details of the post and eligibility criteria are as under.

ONE STOP CENTRE

Sl. No	Name of Post	Vacancy	Eligibility Criteria	Remuneration per month
1.	Centre Administrator	1	Post Graduate in Law/ Social work/ Sociology/ Social Science/ Psychology. At least 5 Years experience of working on women related relevant domains in an administrative set-up with a government or NGO project/ program and preferably with at least 1 year experience of counselling either within or outside the same setup.	₹25,000/-
2.	Case Worker	2	Graduate in Law/ Social Work/ Sociology/Social science/Psychology. At least 3 years' experience of working on women related relevant domains in a government or NGO project / program.	₹15,000/-
3.	Para Legal personnel/lawyer	1	Graduate in Law/ with legal training or knowledge of Laws. At least 3 years' experience of working within a government or non-government women related projects/ program at the district level or to any practicing Lawyer with at least 2 years' experience of litigation in any court of law	₹20,000/-
4.	Para Medical Personnel	3	Diploma in paramedics with a background in health sector and preferably with at least 3years experience of working on women related relevant domains in a government or NGO project / program at the district level.	₹20,000/-
5.	Psycho-social counsellors	3	Professional degree/diploma in Psychology/Psychiatry/ Neurosciences with background in health sector and preferably. At least 3 years' experience of working on women related relevant domains in a government or NGO project / program at district level.	₹17,000/-
6	IT staff/ Office assistant with computer knowledge	2	Graduate with at least Diploma in computer/IT etc. Minimum 3 years' experience in data management, process documentation and web- based reporting formats, video conferencing at state or district level with government or NGO/IT- based organization.	₹ 15,000/-
7.	Multi-purpose staff/ cook/ helper	8	High school pass or equivalent will be preferred.	₹ 12,000/-

HUB FOR EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Sl. No	Name of Post	Vacancy	Eligibility Criteria	Remuneration per month
1.	Multi-Tasking Staff	2	High school pass or equivalent will be preferred.	₹12,000/-

Sakhi Niwas

Sl. No	Name of Post	Vacancy	Eligibility Criteria	Remuneration per month
1.	Sakhi Niwas Manager	1	Graduate in Social Work/Psychology/ Sociology with 03 years supervisory of experience in running experience to ensure smooth functioning of the hostel. The manager must live at the hostel and provide overall supervision to ensure smooth functioning of the hostel.	₹ 15,000/-
.2	Caretaker	1	Higher secondary/10+2 or equivalent qualification from a recognized board with 2 years of experience as caretaker of building and supervision of work of multi-tasking staff or equivalent staff.	₹ 12,000/-

Interested Candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria may applying in the prescribed application form addressed to the Special Secretary, Women & Child Development Department, along with following documents to the office of Additional Director, WCDD, Lumsey, Gangtok on or before **4th June, 2026** by **4.30 PM**. Applications shall not be entertained after the stipulated date and time.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

1. Attested copies of requisite essential qualification from recognized Board/ University from Class X onwards.
2. Attested copy of Sikkim Subject Certificate/ Certificate of Identification from concerned Authority.
3. Attested copy of valid Employment Card.
4. No objection Certificate from the Secretary/ Head of Department in case of any employee serving in the Government Department.
5. Experience Certificate.
6. One passport size photograph.
7. Original Documents should be produced on the date of interview.
8. Age limit shall be as per State Government norms.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- 1.The selection process shall be observed as per mandate and shall be conducted by the authorised Selection Committee through walk-in-interview on **8th June 2026 from 10 AM** onwards.
- 2.All applicants fulfilling the prescribed eligibility criteria may submit their application along with all requisite documents.
3. All applicants must be in good physical and mental health and capable of discharging his/her duties.
4. The selected candidates shall be posted in any district of the State.

The Women, Child, Senior Citizen and Divyangjan Welfare Department reserve the right to reject any applications do not fulfil the above terms and conditions. Interview will be held on 8th June 2026 from 10 AM onwards.

Additional Director
Women Section
WCSCDWD
(50)

Read and Advertise in Sikkim Herald

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Sikkim Police...

national and international levels, mentioning that several officers serving in United Nations peacekeeping missions have been honoured with the UN Peacekeeping Medal for their contributions.

Speaking on the evolving role of policing in a democratic society, the President observed that India's policing system had historically carried the influence of colonial administration, where the focus was largely on control rather than public service, has now seen significant change.

She stressed that in modern India, the Police must emerge as collaborators and guides for citizens, fostering trust, transparency and accountability within society.

The President emphasised the need to make the policing system more citizen friendly so that people can approach the Police without fear. She also underlined the importance of sensitivity towards women, children, and vulnerable sections of society.

Stating that the purpose of policing extends beyond merely apprehending criminals, the President said that Police play an equally important role in building a safe, aware, and harmonious society. She lauded the Sikkim Police for maintaining peace and communal harmony in the State through its professional and people friendly approach, which has earned the affection and

respect of the people of Sikkim.

Referring to the strategic importance of Sikkim, which shares its international borders with three countries and receives a large number of domestic and foreign tourists, the President remarked that the responsibilities of the Sikkim Police are both sensitive and significant. She noted that the force has to work in close coordination with national security agencies while also ensuring the safety and assistance of tourists visiting the State.

The President further spoke about emerging challenges posed by modern technology, including cybercrime, online fraud, hacking, and deepfakes. She stressed on the importance of equipping Police personnel with the latest technological skills, cybersecurity awareness, and digital investigation capabilities to effectively tackle such crimes.

She also highlighted the need for greater cooperation among Police and investigative agencies across states and emphasised the importance of public awareness in preventing cyber related offences. In this regard, she appreciated the continuous efforts being undertaken by the Sikkim Police.

Expressing confidence in the force, the President stated that Sikkim Police would continue to uphold the honour and dignity associated with the President's Police Colour and discharge its duties with the spirit of 'Nation First'.

The Alankaran parade and presentation of the President of

She appreciated the University for being the only University conducting studies and research in Limboo, Lepcha and Bhutia languages and for its work on Himalayan ecosystems, glaciers and climate change. She also welcomed the establishment of the Centre for Endangered Languages at the University for preserving it and traditions of Sikkim and North Bengal. Calling the development of the Northeast essential for the nation's overall progress, President urged students to contribute towards national development through innovation, social responsibility and collective effort.

Governor who is also the Chief Rector of SU, congratulated the graduating students and said that achievements reflected not only hard work and talent but also the support and guidance of families, teachers and institutions. Referring to the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 envisioned by Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi, the Governor said the youth of the country would play the most important role in building a self-reliant, inclusive and developed India. He appreciated Sikkim University for conducting research on climate change, organic farming, Himalayan ecosystems, glacier studies, eco-tourism, disaster management and border security while addressing the needs of Himalayan and border regions.

Chief Minister urged graduating students to become responsible citizens and active contributors towards nation

India's Police Colour formed the highlight of the programme, during which, the President formally conferred the prestigious honour upon Sikkim Police in recognition of its meritorious and distinguished service to the nation. With the conferment, the Sikkim Police became the fifteenth State Police force in the country and the third in the Northeast region to receive the honour.

The Alankaran Parade was led by Parade Commander Sr SP, Dr Tshering Namgyal Gyatso while Parade 2 IC was ASP Mr Santosh Baniya along with Ensign Officer, Dy SP, Mr Chewang Dorjee Bhutia and Adjutant, PI Mr Rajiv Mukhia.

The Sikkim Armed Police Platoon was headed by Platoon Commander, ASI, Mr Top Tshering Bhutia and SI, Mr Dorjee Bhutia.

The 2nd IRBn Platoon was led by Platoon Commander, ASI, Mr Gyaltzen Bhutia and ASI, Mr Paras Mani Pradhan.

The 3rd IRBn Platoon was headed by Platoon Commander, SI, Ms Karden Choden Bhutia and ASI, Mr Ram Chandra Subba.

The Sikkim Police Female Platoon was headed by Ms Norki Lachenpa SI, Platoon Commander.

The Sikkim Police Male Platoon was headed by ASI Mr Hasta Bahadur Platoon Commander.

The event was attended by Speaker and Dy Speaker SLA, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, Mayor and Dy Mayor GMC, Chairpersons, Councillors (GMC), HoDs, OSDs, senior officials, representatives of the armed forces, SHG members and

public. Describing education as the most powerful instrument of transformation, the Chief Minister said students must nurture compassion, integrity, discipline, innovation and social responsibility alongside academic excellence. "A degree is not merely a certificate but a passport to your future", said the Chief Minister while encouraging graduates to use technology, artificial intelligence and digital tools responsibly for innovation and nation building.

He also reiterated the State Government's commitment towards the growth and development of Sikkim University and said that the institution had emerged as a premier centre of higher learning in the Northeast since its establishment through an Act of Parliament in 2007.

Earlier, Vice Chancellor Prof Swain gave an indepth report in Sikkim University.

During the convocation ceremony, degrees were awarded to a total of 13,782 students, including 195 PhD scholars, 53 MPhil scholars, 2,441 postgraduate students and 11,093 undergraduate students.

In addition to 285 Gold and Silver Medals, nine Special Medals were awarded to students for the academic years 2023, 2024, and 2025, comprising three ICAI Medals of Merit, three Prof Sameera Maiti Gold Medals and three Sitaram Jindal Foundation Gold Medals.

**Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission
Rural Development Department
Gram Vikas Bhawan
Gangtok**

RFP No:544/GoS/SRLM/RDD/2026-27
Dated: 21st May 2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Sikkim State Rural Livelihoods Mission invites Bids under two bid basis i.e. Technical Bid and Financial Bid from reputed and experienced agencies for providing consultancy services for the Impact Evaluation of the PRI CBO Convergence implementation into the Sikkim State.

The interested bidders should submit their bids **by email on ceosikkimsrlm@gmail.com** for attention of Chief Executive Officer on or before 17th June 2026 before 2:00 pm. (Details for RFP is available at www.sikkim.gov.in)

Sikkim Rural livelihoods Mission reserves the right to cancel the bid at any time or amend / withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the Bid Document without assigning any reason thereof.

**Chief Executive Officer
Sikkim State Rural Livelihoods Mission
Rural Development Department, Gangtok
Government of Sikkim
(49,I)**

**Before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of
Gangtok, Sikkim
AFFIDAVIT**

I, **Chung Chung Bhutia**, aged about 44 years, wife of Late Bhai Chung Chung, Nationality- Indian (Sikkimese Origin) Buddhist by faith, resident of Sichey under P.O. and P.S. Gangtok, District- Gangtok of Sikkim do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as follows:

1. That **Miss. Hayshal Dolma Bhutia** is my natural and legal daughter who is born from wedlock me and my husband **BHAI CHUNGCHUNG @ Bhai Chung Chung Bhutia @ Bhaichung Bhutia** (since deceased) and bonafide resident of above -mentioned address.

2. That my husband's name and caste "**BHAI CHUNGCHUNG**" which has been recorded in his **Certificate of Identification** bearing EPIC No. **2880/DCE Dated 27/4/1989** issued by Office of the District Collector East District. Gangtok.

3. That in my husband's **DEATH CERTIFICATE** bearing Registration No. **MCDOLIR-0211-004366653** Dated 07/07/2011 issued by Sub-Registrar/ Registrar of Births & Deaths Municipal Corporation of Delhi wherein his name and caste has been recorded as "**BHAICHUNG BHUTIA**".

4. That in my aforementioned daughter's **BIRTH CERTIFICATE** bearing Registration No. **20088/C-394** Dated 29.2.2008 issued by Office of the Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths Department of Health Care. Human Services & Family Welfare Government of Sikkim wherein the column of father's name his name has been recorded as "**Bhai Chung Chung Bhutia**".

5. That my/our caste is **Bhutia**/we are belongs from **Bhutia Community**.

6. That hence this affidavit is made on oath and to declare that the person by the names and caste i.e. "**BHAI CHUNGCHUNG**", "**BHAICHUNG BHUTIA**" and "**Bhai Chung Chung Bhutia**" denotes and refer to the one and the same person i.e. my husband (since deceased).

7. That this Affidavit is made bonafide.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

I, **Chung Chung Bhutia**, the deponent before-named, do hereby verify and state that the contents of the foregoing affidavit in paragraphs 1 to 6 are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. Nothing in material has been concealed or suppressed there from.

Verified and sworn to this Affidavit at Gangtok, Sikkim on this the 25th day of February 2026.

Identified by:

Tshering Bhutia (Rongay, Sikkim)

DEPONENT

**ICAR-National Research Centre for Orchids
Dikling road, Pakyong, Sikkim -737106, India
Tel:0359-2267031 Email-director.nrc@icar.org.in,
nrcorchids96@gmail.com**

F.No: NRC(O)/ADMN/27-B/2026-27/71 Date: 20/5/2026

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

The Director, ICAR- National Research Centre for Orchids, Pakyong, Sikkim invites online open tenders under two bid system (Technical & Financial Bid) through GeM as detailed below:

Sl. No	Name of Items	GeM Bid No.	Bid end date/time
1.	Manpower Outsourcing Services - Minimum wage	GEM/2026/B/7557590 Dated: 19-05-2026	15-06-2026 10:00

For more details Interested Bidders may visit GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in> or NRCO website: <https://nrc.icar.gov.in>.

**(Rajendra Kumar Meena)
Administrative Officer
(51)**

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Sikkim becomes...

social progress. Delivering the convocation address, she said the convocation marked the beginning of a new phase in their lives and expressed confidence that the university had prepared them to face future challenges with knowledge and determination.

She stated with appreciation that nearly 60% of the graduating students and around 70% of the medal recipients were women. Describing it as a reflection of women's talent, hard work and determination, the President said it was an example of the impact of education-led women empowerment. She also lauded the State Government for promoting women's participation across sectors, stating that women in Sikkim were serving as drivers, contractors and taking responsibilities in various fields.

Highlighting Sikkim's environmental achievements, the President said that the Himalayan State had set an example for the country by becoming India's first fully organic state and successfully balancing development with environmental conservation. She further said Sikkim University, situated in an ecologically sensitive and culturally rich region, had a special responsibility not only as a centre of education but also in preserving the languages, traditions and environment of the region.

Press Release from SICUN Assam Linzey

Pakyong, May 28: Dr Mangal Jit Rai Chairman, Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN)-cum-Chief Coordinator, North East State Cooperative Unions' Forum (NESCUF) along with his delegation comprising Mr Nabam Tahil Chairman, Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Union- cum-Assistant Chief Coordinator, NESCUF; Mr Subendu Barman from Tripura State Cooperative Union and staff members of Sikkim State Cooperative Union, visited the office of Mizoram State Cooperative Union, Aizawl, Mizoram under the theme 'Cooperative Samvad'.

Dr Mangal Jit Rai Chairman emphasised that the journey of 'Cooperative Samvad' has clearly demonstrated that if the North Eastern States stand together through cooperation, dialogue and collective action, no challenge is impossible to overcome. He stated that NESCUF is emerging as a strong bridge of unity among cooperative institutions of the North East and called for greater collaboration through inter-state study exchange programmes,

joint training initiatives, capacity building, digital cooperative development, market linkages, youth participation and women empowerment programmes.

Chairman further stated that the future of the cooperative movement in North East India is bright and that its success will depend upon unity, transparency, innovation and teamwork. He also briefed about the activities and initiatives undertaken by the Sikkim State Cooperative Union for strengthening the cooperative movement in Sikkim through cooperative education, awareness programmes, training and capacity building activities.

He further shared the initiatives taken by the Government of Sikkim under the leadership of Chief Minister to strengthen the cooperative movement in the State. He highlighted incentives in milk prices for dairy farmers, awards for best-performing cooperative societies and various support measures aimed at empowering cooperatives and improving rural livelihoods.

Chief Executive Officer, Pu

Ruatfela of Mizoram State Cooperative Union welcomed the delegation and stated that the cooperative movement is not merely about institutions, offices or policies, but about people, trust and standing together during challenges while progressing collectively towards prosperity. He emphasised that cooperation is essential for socio-economic transformation and inclusive development in the culturally rich and geographically diverse North Eastern region.

Mr Nabam Tahil Chairman, Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Union-cum-Assistant Chief Coordinator, NESCUF shared his views on the present status and future opportunities of the cooperative movement in the North Eastern States.

Mr K Lalchamreia Chairman, Mizoram State Cooperative Union, briefed about the activities and achievements of Mizoram State Cooperative Union and highlighted its continued efforts towards strengthening cooperative institutions in Mizoram.

Menstrual Care Room and Wellness Centre inaugurated at PM SHRI Government Girls' SSS Namchi

Namchi, May 28: A dedicated Menstrual Care Room and Student Wellness Centre were inaugurated at PM SHRI Government Girls' Senior Secondary School, Namchi, under the initiative of the Alkem Sulabh Sanitation Club in association with the Education Department.

The initiative seeks to address one of the major yet often overlooked barriers to girls' education during menstruation. Across the world, many adolescent girls miss classes or even discontinue their education due to lack of access to proper sanitation, hygiene products and safe spaces during menstruation. Social stigma, misinformation and cultural taboos further deepen the challenges faced by young girls.

The Menstrual Care Room and Wellness Centre was inaugurated by Ms Anupa Tamling DC Namchi, in the presence of officials from the Education Department, Principal, Teachers and students.

The DC said that the Changing Room and Menstrual Hygiene and Wellness Centre represent hope, care and action. It is a reminder that small, thoughtful investments can have a life-changing impact on girls' confidence, attendance and future opportunities.

She further highlighted the importance of breaking the stigma surrounding menstruation and ensuring that adolescent girls

have access to proper hygiene facilities, sanitary products and accurate health information.

She encouraged students to openly discuss menstrual health issues without hesitation and urged teachers and parents to continue supporting awareness on menstrual hygiene and wellness.

Mr Rupak Roy Choudhury National Coordinator Sulabh Sanitation Club, stated that the Alkem Sulabh Sanitation Club, in collaboration with the Education Department, has embarked on a year-long mission to reimagine and redesign school changing rooms from the perspective of the girls who use them.

He emphasised that the initiative goes beyond improving physical infrastructure and seeks to create safe, dignified and inclusive spaces where adolescent girls can manage menstruation with comfort and confidence.

He further highlighted that the programme aims to address issues related to menstrual hygiene, sanitation awareness and emotional well-being by ensuring access to clean facilities, proper disposal systems, essential hygiene products and accurate health information.

Stressing on the importance of listening to the needs and experiences of young girls, he remarked that such thoughtful interventions can

significantly improve school attendance, participation and self-esteem among students.

He added that the initiative reflects a collective commitment towards promoting menstrual health, breaking long-standing stigma surrounding menstruation and fostering a more supportive and compassionate school environment for every girl child.

Ms Bandana Rai Principal highlighted various initiatives and awareness programmes undertaken by the school to promote girls' hygiene, menstrual health, wellbeing and overall confidence among students.

She stated that the school has been actively encouraging healthy practices, creating awareness on menstrual hygiene management and fostering a safe and supportive environment for adolescent girls.

Further, she conveyed her sincere appreciation to Sulabh for providing menstrual cups to the institution as part of the initiative, describing it as a significant step towards promoting sustainable menstrual hygiene practices.

The Menstrual Care Room and Wellness Centre is expected to serve as a dedicated space for promoting student health, emotional wellbeing and personal growth, marking the beginning of a more inclusive and supportive environment for the school community.

Namchi strengthens immunisation framework ahead of key public health campaigns

Namchi, May 28: A meeting of the District Task Force on Immunisation (DTFI) was chaired by Ms Anupa Tamling District Collector Namchi at her office, today.

The meeting focused on strengthening preparedness for the forthcoming Pulse Polio Immunisation drive, Stop Diarrhoea Campaign, and other ongoing child health and immunisation initiatives in the District.

At the outset, the DC emphasised the need for sustained community engagement to enhance awareness on the benefits of immunisation. She underlined that sensitisation activities must be strategically designed to address hesitancy, misinformation and concerns surrounding vaccination, thereby ensuring wider community acceptance and improved coverage.

She further directed officials to identify unvaccinated and hard-to-reach beneficiaries and ensure their inclusion through targeted counselling and follow-up mechanisms. Stressing equity in health service delivery, she called for the mapping of high-risk and underserved areas where additional vaccination booths may be required.

She also highlighted the importance of addressing systemic and local barriers affecting the achievement of 100 per cent immunisation coverage, and ensuring coordinated resolution through inter-departmental convergence.

Additionally, she stressed on the importance of involving the Sikkim State AIDS Control Society (SSACS) in relevant coordination forums. She directed the Chief Medical Officer to collaborate with SSACS for improved data collection on HIV cases in the district, alongside strengthening awareness programmes focused on prevention, testing, and stigma reduction.

Earlier, Dr BK Chauhan DRCHO briefed on poliomyelitis, describing it as a highly infectious disease that can cause irreversible paralysis or even death. He reiterated that

continued immunisation efforts remain essential in view of persistent risks of cross-border transmission.

He also presented the outcomes of the previous Pulse Polio campaign conducted on 21st December 2025, during which 8,639 beneficiaries were vaccinated against a target of 8,512, thereby surpassing the expected coverage. He stated that such achievements reflect strengthened outreach and contribute significantly to sustaining population immunity and preventing the re-emergence of wild poliovirus in polio-free regions.

Outlining the upcoming National Immunisation Day (NID-IPPI) campaign scheduled for June 28, 2026, he informed that vaccination activities will be carried out through booth-based sessions, transit points, and door-to-door mobilisation by teams comprising four to five members.

He further updated the house on the HPV vaccination campaign initiated on February 28, 2026, reporting that 259 beneficiaries have been vaccinated out of a target of 282.

He also briefed on the Stop Diarrhoea Campaign which will commence from June 1 to July 31, 2026 for the period of two months. The programme aims to reach 7,302 children aged 0-5 years along with their caregivers. ORS and zinc tablets will be distributed through household visits, complemented by demonstrations on correct preparation and administration. The campaign will also include structured handwashing demonstrations in primary and junior schools across the district to promote hygiene and preventive health practices.

A brief discussion on PCPNDT Act 1994 was also carried out where Bijay Laxmi Rai CNO apprised about the registration of two more clinics in the district.

The meeting was attended by Dr Junita Yonzon Director-cum-CMO, Mr GP Sharma Chief Education Officer, Dr Roshan Poudyal Paediatrician (District Hospital Namchi), Officers from the Health and ICDS along with representatives from DRISHTI NGO.



Gangtok District sets up Media Monitoring Centre for smooth conduct of SIR 2026

Gangtok, May 29: In view of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR), a Media Monitoring Centre (MMC) has been established at District Administrative Centre (DAC) Gangtok to ensure smooth communication, continuous media monitoring, voter awareness, and timely dissemination of information related to the SIR process.

The Media Monitoring Centre has been set up to facilitate the smooth conduct of SIR at every stage by enhancing voter awareness, promoting public participation, ensuring clarity on SIR-related procedures, countering misinformation and disinformation, if any, and strengthening grievance redressal and feedback mechanisms.

The centre covers all eight Assembly Constituencies under Gangtok District namely, Tumin-Lingee, Khamdong-Singtam, Shyari, Martam-Rumtek, Upper

Tadong, Arithang, Gangtok, and Upper Burtuk, along with the Sangha Constituency.

A television set has been installed at the centre to monitor major news channels and media coverage related to the SIR process. In addition, high definition computer systems with reliable internet connectivity have been provided for effective monitoring of social media platforms and online content, along with daily review of leading newspapers.

The communication strategy of the MMC includes dissemination of information on the objectives of SIR, phases and key activities, voter awareness on forms and procedures, and promotion of elector participation. Media narratives surrounding the process are also being closely monitored to identify misinformation at an early stage and enable timely response and fact checking.

Any urgent issue identified by the MMC will be immediately forwarded to the concerned Media Nodal Officer (MNO) and further to the District Electoral Officer (DEO) for necessary and prompt action. Rebuttals to misinformation and disinformation will also be issued through official social media handles for wider public awareness and dissemination.

Further, documentation of the SIR process through photographs and videos, along with collection of success stories and testimonials, is also being undertaken as part of the media and communication activities.

The objective of the Special Intensive Revision is to ensure inclusion of all eligible citizens in the Electoral Roll while preventing the inclusion of ineligible voters in accordance with the constitutional and legal provisions laid down by the Election Commission of India.

Joint inspection conducted to address ongoing issues in Gnathang-Machong Constituency

Pakyong, May 29: A joint inspection team led by Ms Pari Bishnoi District Collector Pakyong visited several locations under the Gnathang-Machong constituency today to assess and review a range of ongoing issues concerning infrastructure, land stability, and environmental concerns in the region.

The inspection team included Mrs Gauri Maya Rai Zilla Panchayat member of Rolep-Barapathing, Ms Sangita Ruchal Panchayat Barapathing Ward, Gnathang-Machong, Mr NK Bhandari SDM Pakyong, Mr SP Bhutia DFO (Territorial), Mr TR Chettri DPO Pakyong, Mr MB Gurung OSD to MLA, officials from the Forest and Environment Department and representatives of Nalanda Engicon Pvt Ltd.

The inspection commenced at Teendharey, Linkey, where the team reviewed reports of alleged illegal construction on forest land. The DC directed the concerned officials to take appropriate action in accordance with existing rules and regulations.

At 4th Mile, Barapathing, the team inspected areas where road construction works undertaken by Nalanda Engicon Pvt Ltd had reportedly extended beyond the designated alignment and encroached upon adjoining private land. Officials were instructed to verify the extent of land acquisition and examine relevant records for necessary action. Affected residents were assured that

appropriate steps would be taken following due verification.

The team further visited the Barapathing-Rolep road stretch, where hill-cutting activities had reportedly caused adjoining private land to slide. At the Chandu bridge area, the inspection revealed vulnerable stretches below the road due to continuous water flow, raising concerns over possible landslides.

Representatives from Nalanda Engicon Pvt Ltd informed the team that water flow in the area had been temporarily diverted and that alternative mitigation measures were under consideration. During the inspection, Ms Pari Bishnoi DC directed the executing agency to remove loose stones, undertake slope-cutting and stabilisation measures, and install protective mesh in vulnerable locations.

The team also examined areas where hill-cutting activities had reportedly impacted a PMGSY road. Instances of muck dumping along the road were observed, following which the executing agency was directed to take immediate remedial measures.

At the Chandu bridge-Chettri village stretch, another landslide-prone site was inspected. The executing agency was instructed to coordinate with PMGSY authorities for the construction of a protective wall before the onset of the monsoon to ensure uninterrupted movement and prevent inconvenience to students and nearby residents.

Discussions were also held regarding concerns over disturbance to a pond water source reportedly caused by muck dumping activities. The DC stated that the matter would be taken up for necessary action and directed the executing agency to exercise caution while disposing of muck, conduct regular inspections of dumping sites, and ensure disposal is carried out only at secure locations.

The team later visited Chochen, where discussions focused on land sinking issues at the 7th Mile turning. Officials from Nalanda Engicon Pvt Ltd informed that alternative technical measures were being explored to address the concern and that detailed investigations would be undertaken before finalising a solution.

The installation of rockfall protection barriers at Nevatey, Rongli was also discussed during the visit.

Subsequently, the team inspected Maltini Khola at Thek Latuk, where a suspension bridge had earlier been washed away in a flash flood. Considering the inconvenience faced by local residents and school children who had been using the route, the team suggested the construction of a temporary Bailey bridge.

DC directed the concerned officials to initiate the necessary process at the earliest.

During the inspection, it was also noted that muck dumping activities in the area had been discontinued.

House-to-House Enumeration Form distribution under SIR 2026 begins

Gangtok, May 30: The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 of Electoral Rolls, undertaken by the Election Commission of India to ensure a clean, accurate and updated electoral roll, has started for Gangtok District from today. As part of the exercise, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have begun house-to-house visits across polling station areas for the distribution and collection of Enumeration Forms.

Gangtok District comprises eight Assembly Constituencies and one Sangha Seat, namely 16 Tumen-Lingi, 17 Khamdong-Singtam, 23 Shyari, 24 Martam-Rumtek, 25 Upper-Tadong, 26 Arithang, 27 Gangtok, 28 Upper Burtuk and 32 Sangha. The house-to-house distribution and collection of Enumeration Forms is being carried out across all these constituencies as part of the revision exercise.

The door-to-door exercise will continue till June 28, 2026. During their visits, BLOs will reach every household to distribute Enumeration Forms and assist electors in verifying and updating their electoral details. Electors are requested to carefully check particulars such as their name, age, address, photograph, EPIC number and family details before

Awareness programme on PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana conducted

Gangtok, May 29: Mr Rohan Agawane District Collector Gangtok chaired an awareness programme on the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY) held at District Administrative Centre (DAC), Gangtok, today.

The PMSGMBY is a scheme approved by the Government of India on February 29, 2024. The scheme is being implemented by the National Programme Implementation Agency (NPIA) at the national level and by State Implementation Agencies (SIAs) at the state level. It is targeted for implementation by March 2027. The scheme aims to achieve one Model Solar Village per district, with selection based on District Level Committee (DLC) recommendations. The benefits of on-grid systems include lower electricity bills, higher efficiency, environmental benefits, energy backup, and low maintenance.

Mr Rup Lall Subba Additional Chief Engineer, SREDA briefed on the significance of the month of May as the 'Month of Solar', highlighting the higher availability of solar energy during this period.

He provided an overview of the evolution of PMSGMBY and India's green energy targets, including the goal of achieving 50 per cent non-fossil fuel capacity. He elaborated on the features of the scheme, subsidy provisions through Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for rooftop solar installations and

submitting the duly filled forms.

The Special Intensive Revision aims to ensure the inclusion of all eligible citizens in the electoral roll, remove names of deceased, shifted and duplicate electors, correct errors in voter information and maintain the accuracy and transparency of the electoral rolls.

Electors are requested to extend full cooperation to the BLOs during the house-to-house verification process and submit their Enumeration Forms within the prescribed timeline.

For assistance, electors may contact their respective BLOs, visit the offices of the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) or Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO), use the Voter Helpline App, or call Helpline Number 1950.

Political parties, through their Booth Level Agents (BLAs), are also participating in the exercise to promote transparency and wider public participation.

District Election Officer, Gangtok, has appealed to all eligible electors to cooperate with Booth Level Officers during the house-to-house verification process to ensure an accurate and updated electoral roll.

grid integration requirements for subsidy eligibility.

Further, he explained eligibility criteria, suitable rooftop solar plant capacities for households, cost analysis and subsidy structure for on-grid systems as per MNRE benchmarks. Key aspects such as installation requirements, space availability, peak sun hours, and merits and demerits of hybrid and on-grid systems were also discussed.

A detailed flowchart of consumer registration through the official portal www.pmsuryaghar.gov.in and the solar installation process was also presented.

In his concluding remarks, the ACE highlighted the benefits of the PMSGMBY, including Government subsidy support, promotion of clean energy, creation of green jobs, improvement in power supply and contribution towards India's renewable energy target of 500 GW by 2030.

An interactive session was also held between senior officers of DAC Gangtok and officials from various line departments.

The programme was attended by Mr Tshering Norgyal Theengh Additional District Collector (Hq) Gangtok, Ms Rajani Sharma Additional District Collector (Development), Mr Pravin Lamichaney Additional Superintendent of Police Gangtok and officials from various line departments.

**KEEP SIKKIM
CLEAN & GREEN**

Union Minister for Culture & Tourism concludes his maiden visit to Soreng

Soreng, May 29: Mr Gajendra Singh Shekhawat Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of India on the second day of his visit to Soreng District participated in an interactive programme with the HoDs of the district at Rurban Complex, Soreng, today. The programme witnessed the presence of public representatives, district officials, stakeholders and students.

In his address, Union Minister elaborated on the vision of 'Viksit Bharat', envisioned by the Prime Minister of India, stating that the collective determination and participation of every citizen would be instrumental in achieving the mission. He highlighted the challenges faced by several districts across the country and explained that the Aspirational District Programme was introduced to bridge developmental gaps through a focused and competitive approach aimed at accelerating growth.

He informed that the programme is guided by 48 key performance indicators and driven by the three core principles of convergence, collaboration, and competition. The Union Minister highlighted key focus areas including health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion, skill development, and infrastructure development.

He stated that the nation is presently witnessing a transformative phase and urged all stakeholders to actively contribute towards the vision of a developed India. He encouraged the district administration, public representatives, and citizens to work collectively so that aspirational districts may evolve into inspirational districts.

Highlighting the importance of the North Eastern region, the Union Minister stated that the perception of the North East has significantly transformed over the years and that the region is now increasingly being recognised as an important growth engine of the nation.

Speaking on tourism, he stressed the need to align tourism development with changing global perceptions and emerging

trends. He emphasised the promotion of nature-based tourism, wellness tourism, event-based tourism and experiential tourism as key areas with immense potential for the region.

Concluding his address, Union Minister reiterated the nation's commitment towards self-reliance and urged citizens to remain conscious of unnecessary expenditure leading to foreign currency outflow. He expressed his best wishes to Soreng District and encouraged all stakeholders to work towards transforming the district from Aspirational to Inspirational.

During the programme in an interaction session with SHGs, students, and Anganwadi Workers, he enquired on their responsibilities, awareness and challenges while offering suggestions and encouragement. The Union Minister acknowledged the achievements of Soreng District and emphasised the need to achieve 100 percent saturation of the identified performance indicators through focused implementation and effective last-mile delivery. He also highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship and spoke on various Government initiatives supporting start-ups and self-employment, noting India's emergence as one of the largest start-up ecosystems in the world.

Stressing the region's potential in organic produce and international markets, he encouraged the promotion and recognition of successful local entrepreneurs to inspire entrepreneurial aspirations among the youth. The Union Minister further underlined the importance of responsible and experience-based tourism, stating that tourism growth depends not only on infrastructure but also on the quality of visitor experience.

Earlier, Mr Aditya Golay MLA (Soreng-Chakung) welcomed Union Minister and highlighted the significance of Aspirational District Programme. He also spoke about the recent visit of the Prime Minister to Sikkim, describing it as a major highlight, for the State.

Mr Dhiraj Subedi District Collector Soreng presented introductory notes on the District

wherein he spoke on the Aspirational District Programme and its current status.

A presentation on the overall report of the Aspirational District and Aspirational Block Programme was presented by Mr DR Bista Additional District Collector and discussed the detailed figures and the status of the report.

The programme was also attended by MLAs along with Vice Chairman (ITS) and Secretary (Tourism and Civil Aviation) including Advisors, Chairpersons, Head of Offices, Officers, OSDs and officials.

Later, the Union Minister visited Yamuna Falls, Vrindavan Dham at Dodak and Sikkim Khadi and Village Industries Board Woollen Weaving Centre at Dodak, where he interacted with members of the Board as well as Panchayat members of GPU.

Union Minister on his first day visit to Soreng District participated in review meetings and held interactions with the local youth and tourism stakeholders to assess the tourism potential and developmental prospects of the district.

As part of the tour, the Union Minister visited several prominent religious and tourism destinations including Sang Ngag Yangtze Monastery at Rinchenpong, Rinchen Chholing Monastery at Meghi Dara, Trout Farming Centre at Sribadam and Sribadam Waterfall. The visit highlighted the district's rich cultural heritage, natural beauty and growing eco-tourism potential.

Highlighting the importance of tourism promotion, the Union Minister stressed the need to effectively market tourism destinations of Sikkim through digital platforms in order to enhance visibility and attract more domestic and international tourists to the State.

DC Soreng briefed the Union Minister on the overall developmental profile of Soreng District as an Aspirational District. He elaborated on the district administration's initiatives towards promotion of eco-tourism, sustainable tourism and preservation of the district's cultural and traditional heritage.

Chief Secretary reviews preparations for upcoming Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

Gangtok, May 29: Mr R Telang Chief Secretary, chaired a coordination meeting on the upcoming Kailash Mansarovar Yatra at Conference Hall of Tashiling Secretariat, today. The meeting was organised by the Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation, the nodal agency for the Yatra from Sikkim.

The Yatra this year, scheduled for the month of June, will comprise ten batches of 50 yatis each.

Chief Secretary subsequently reviewed the logistical arrangements in place, including hospitality, medical facilities, power and water supply, road conditions, traffic management, network connectivity, customs clearance, and media coverage, among others. The review was conducted in coordination with senior officers of line departments to ensure the smooth and efficient conduct of the Yatra.

Mr Gyurmee Yousal Principal Chief Executive Officer, Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation, in his brief address, stated that the Yatra resumed last year after a hiatus of five years,

making this year's pilgrimage the second edition since its resumption. He informed that the yatis are scheduled to arrive in Gangtok on June 15, 2026. He further noted that the yatis would undergo acclimatisation for two nights at the acclimatisation centres located at 18th Mile and Hangu Lake before crossing over to China via Nathu-la on the fifth day.

Following a ten-day pilgrimage in China, the yatis will return through Nathu-la and be brought back to Gangtok on the same day. They will then depart for New Delhi the following day.

Also present during the meeting were Mr Tenzing T Kaleon Secretary, Home Department, Ms Annapurna Alley Secretary, Information and Public Relations Department, Dr Bikash Pradhan PDHS, Health and Family Welfare Department, Ms Linda Palmoo SSP, Check Post, Mr Rohan Agawane DC Gangtok, Mr Mahendra Subba SP Gangtok, Mr Yogendra Gurung SHO, Sherathang, officials from BSNL, BRO, NHIDCL and Army officials from 17 Mountain Division along with other stakeholders.

Namchi District strengthens Broadband connectivity and digital infrastructure coordination

Namchi, May 28: A Coordination Meeting of District Level Broadband Committee (DLBC) was convened at the office of the Additional District Collector (Hq), Namchi, today to review broadband infrastructure development, telecom connectivity and coordination among service providers in the district.

The District Level Broadband Committee (DLBC), a decentralised task force constituted under the National Broadband Mission, plays a crucial role in accelerating digital communication infrastructure, resolving local telecommunication challenges, and ensuring seamless broadband expansion in both urban and rural areas.

During the meeting, Mr Subash Ghimirey ADC (Hq) Namchi, highlighted the core responsibilities of the committee, including the facilitation of Right of Way (RoW) clearances for laying Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) and erection of telecom towers. The meeting also reviewed the progress of key digital projects such as BharatNet and 4G/5G saturation schemes aimed at improving connectivity.

He emphasised the importance of grievance redressal mechanisms concerning telecom connectivity, infrastructure-related damages, and public concerns regarding mobile towers.

Stressing on safety and preventive measures, he informed about the Call Before U Dig (CBuD) application to avoid accidental damage to underground utilities and also raised awareness

regarding telecom radiation safety.

Highlighting the importance of systematic infrastructure management, he directed service providers to ensure proper routing and organised placement of wires for a cleaner appearance and easier maintenance in the future. He further instructed concerned agencies to remove unused and abandoned wires within town areas to maintain safety and improve aesthetics.

Further, the meeting stressed the need for enhanced coordination among departments and service providers to prevent damages to underground telecommunication lines during developmental works.

Also, direction were given to the stakeholders to undertake GPS and GIS mapping of underground cable networks to accurately identify the location of telecom lines and minimise disruptions.

Additionally, instructions were issued to service providers to conduct regular inspections and verify the licenses of vendors engaged in telecom-related works.

The meeting also discussed the removal of abandoned BSNL poles in and around Namchi and Jorethang with the support of Namchi Municipal Council (NMC) and Nayabazar Jorethang Nagar Panchayat to ensure better urban management and public safety.

Also present during the meeting were MEO Namchi, Chief Town Planner Namchi Smart City, Deputy Director UDD Namchi, CEO NSCL, Officials from concerned departments BSNL representatives and vendors.

Press Release from CEO Sikkim

Gangtok: Mr Raj Kumar Yadav Chief Electoral Officer Sikkim informed that the Enumeration Phase under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the Electoral Roll has commenced across the State from May 30 to June 28, 2026.

He stated that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are undertaking door-to-door visits for the distribution and collection of Enumeration Forms. Electors are requested to cooperate with the BLOs and submit the required information to ensure an accurate and updated electoral

roll.

As of 4:00 pm on May 30 Enumeration Forms have been distributed to approximately 24,482 electors, accounting for 5.20% of the total electorate in the State. The Chief Electoral Officer clarified that the figure is provisional, as data from all Booth Level Officers (BLOs) is still being compiled and uploaded. The actual number of forms distributed is therefore expected to be higher.

The Chief Electoral Officer emphasised that the exercise is vital for strengthening the

integrity of the electoral roll and ensuring that all eligible voters are duly enrolled. District Election Officers and Electoral Registration Officers have been directed to closely monitor the progress of the enumeration process and facilitate its smooth implementation.

CEO appealed to all citizens of Sikkim to actively participate in the revision exercise and complete the enumeration process within the prescribed period, thereby contributing to a free, fair, and inclusive electoral system.

CMMS marks 1st Foundation Day: Chief Minister envisions a World-Class Education System for Sikkim by 2047



Pakyong, May 30: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended the 1st Foundation Day Celebration of Chief Minister Model School (CMMS) at Assam Lingzey, today.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister congratulated the institution on the occasion of its 1st Foundation Day Celebration and informed that the establishment aims to provide quality education supported by best infrastructure and modern facilities for the students.

The Chief Minister highlighted various initiatives undertaken to strengthen the education sector, including improvements in infrastructure, quality learning and co-curricular activities and assured the parents that the establishment is equipped with resources necessary to nurture skilled, knowledgeable and responsible individuals, capable of excelling both academically and in life, thereby opening doors to endless opportunities in the future.

He highlighted on the efforts undertaken by the State Government towards promoting self-reliance and entrepreneurship, while emphasising the vast potential of the State in sustainable economic growth.

Referring to the recent visit of President of India Ms Droupadi Murmu, he noted that Sikkim was recognised as one of the country's fully literate States under ULLAS, marking a significant milestone. He further called upon educators, parents and students to work together towards transforming the education system of the state into a world-class by 2047, in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 and a developed India. He also called upon improve the academic performance and pass percentage of Class X and XII students in the years ahead. Furthermore, he assured to provide assistance in enhancing the educational experience and overall development of the students.

Earlier, the Chief Minister toured the school campus and visited the Aeromodel Display,

Vocational Training Classes, Library, ICT Laboratory and Chess Room.

He also inaugurated the STEAM Lab and a 10-metre Air Rifle Shooting Range developed in accordance with the specifications of the National Rifle Association of India.

Mr Raju Basnet Minister for Education Department congratulated the institution on its 1st Foundation Day and extended gratitude to Chief Minister for his vision in establishing the school as a model institution with eminent facilities.

Highlighting the achievements of the Education Department, he mentioned the success of the Chief Minister's Mentorship Programme in improving student performance and reducing dropout rates across the State. In addition, he emphasised on the importance of skill development and informed that vocational training, including fields such as Artificial Intelligence and coding is being promoted in every Government schools, further encouraging the teachers to utilise AI as a tool for teaching and nurturing the students according to their individual potential with care.

He further stated that through collective efforts of the State Government, educators, communities and students, the state would achieve the vision of Sunaulo, Samriddha ani Samarth Sikkim in the coming years.

Additionally, Dr Sandeep Tambe Principal Secretary, Education Department, highlighted on the key achievements in education sector and mentioned that Sikkim became one of the few states in the country to achieve full literacy under the ULLAS programme.

He mentioned that the students in the CMMS have earned their place through merit representing diverse communities and regions of the state and the institution provides high-quality education and holistic development opportunities to talented students from some of the most

remote parts of the State.

He further congratulated the institution and mentioned that the students represent the future of the state and will play a significant role in shaping Sikkim's journey towards Viksit Bharat@2047.

Furthermore, Colonel Ujjwal Khatiwada CMMS Director stated that the Foundation Day marks an important milestone in the institution's journey and acknowledged the dedication and contributions of the teachers and staff in shaping the school's success, while expressing gratitude to parents for placing their trust in the institution for their children.

He also commended the pioneer batch of 58 students for their active participation and contributions to the school's identity and achievements, while welcoming the students of 2026 batch.

Reflecting on the institution's accomplishments, he noted that students have actively participated in sports, educational visits and various co-curricular activities, bringing laurels to the school. He stated that every student is encouraged to engage in at least one vocational activity, one outdoor sport, and one hobby. He further added that vocational courses in Electrical Trade and Thangka Painting were introduced last year with Plumbing added this year.

He further emphasised that CMMS has been successful in promoting academics, character development, personal growth and holistic learning.

A detailed information on the technical report of the school was presented by Mr Rajdeep Rai Chief Engineer, Engineering Cell, Education Department.

The celebration also featured school pipe band display, song and poetry presentation, cultural performances and MIME performances by the students of CMMS.

The programme concluded with a felicitation ceremony, honouring the students for their excellence in academic and co-curricular achievements during the 2025-2026 academic session.

The celebration had the presence of Zilla Upadhyaksha, Chairman, IPRD, Chairman, Student's Welfare Board, Secretary Social Welfare Department, Secretary WCSC&DWD, Secretary School Education, Principal Chief Engineer, Education Department, DC Pakyong; Senior SP Pakyong along with dignitaries from various line departments.

Shape of Momo premieres in Sikkim ahead of India-Nepal release



Gangtok, May 28: The grand premiere of the feature film Shape of Momo, written and directed by Ms Tribeny Rai was held at Vajra Cinema Hall in Gangtok, today.

The premiere was attended by Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang as the chief guest, accompanied by Madam Krishna Kumari Rai. Also present were Ms Raj Kumari Thapa Deputy Speaker SLA, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Mayor, Councillors, Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, Political Secretary to the Chief Minister, Press Advisor to the Chief Minister, Press Secretary to the Chief Minister, Chairpersons, Advisors, other dignitaries and officials, along with artists and guests from Sikkim and Nepal.

Ms Tribeny Rai Director shared the personal inspiration behind Shape of Momo, stating that the film emerged from her own lived experiences and observations as someone who rose in a family of daughters. She reflected on how society often measures lineage and legacy through patriarchal expectations, and how such questions quietly shape the lives of women across generations.

An alumna of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, she also expressed her gratitude towards Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang and Madam Krishna Kumari Rai for continuously encouraging artists and filmmakers from Sikkim and for helping create a respectful and dignified ecosystem for the creative community to flourish. Speaking about the recognition the film has received, she remarked that while the support of prominent names in Indian cinema has been invaluable, she hopes her work will gradually enable audiences to recognise and trust the strength of storytelling emerging from the hills through her own identity as a filmmaker.

The Chief Minister later felicitated the artists, cast and crew associated with the film in recognition of their contribution to cinema and the arts.

Shape of Momo offers a sincere and emotionally observant portrayal of life,

identity, and womanhood in the Himalayan region. The film stands out for its quiet confidence and its ability to tell a deeply local story with universal emotional relevance. It revolves around the journey of a woman who quits her job and returns to her hometown to start something fresh. Rather than relying on dramatic excess, the film takes a restrained and realistic approach to storytelling.

Through everyday conversations, silences, family dynamics, and personal struggles, Shape of Momo explores themes of belonging, expectations, migration, and the emotional realities faced by women within changing social environments.

One of the strongest aspects of the film is its authenticity. The characters feel lived-in and believable, and the performances carry a natural warmth that allows audiences to connect with the story on a personal level.

The film does not attempt to romanticise either village life or modernity, instead, it honestly reflects the tensions between tradition, aspiration, responsibility, and individual freedom. The title Shape of Momo itself works as a subtle metaphor throughout the narrative, reflecting ideas of identity, social expectations, and the invisible moulds people are often expected to fit into.

Actor-producer Rana Daggubati is actively involved in the project, with his company Spirit Media handling the distribution of the film across India and Nepal.

The film is produced by Geeta Rai and Kislay, while noted Indian filmmakers Zoya Akhtar, Reema Kagti and Payal Kapadia have come on board as executive producers, helping bring the film to a wider audience.

Prior to its official release, Shape of Momo has already garnered 15 international awards across various film festivals. The film under the banner of Dalle Khursani Productions is all set for its theatrical release on May 29, 2026 across India and Nepal.