

Press Release from the Office of Political Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim
Training on Community-Based Tourism and Rural Homestay Inaugurated at Yangang
Namchi, 3 November: A three-day Training on Community-Based Tourism and Rural Homestay
was inaugurated today at Dhuni Homestay, Yangang, by Shri Bikash Basnet, Political Secretary
to the Hon'ble Chief Minister (Press & Publicity Affairs).

The training is being conducted under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance
(RAMP) Scheme of the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, and is organised by the
Commerce & Industries Department, Government of Sikkim in collaboration with Dhuni
Homestay.

The inaugural programme was attended by Shri C.L. Gurung, Advisor, Food Processing
Department; Smt. Pem Doma Tamang, Zilla Panchayat; Panchayat members Shri H.B. Chettri
and Shri Nimu Lepcha, along with several officials, homestay owners, and local participants.

The programme was conducted by Smt. Sonika Lepcha while the welcome address was delivered
by Smt. Bhawana Rai, Proprietor of Dhuni Homestay. The introductory address was presented by
Shri Mandeep Pradhan, highlighting the importance of community engagement in rural tourism.
Addressing the gathering, Shri C.L. Gurung emphasized the collective responsibility of the
Yangang community to promote local tourism by aligning with various government initiatives
and projects of the Yangang Tourism Development Committee (YTDC).

In his keynote address, Shri Bikash Basnet stressed that community development and sustainable
livelihood can be achieved through homestay tourism, which not only strengthens the rural
economy but also preserves the cultural and natural heritage of Sikkim. He stated that under the
visionary leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay), the
government has taken several proactive steps to develop village tourism and empower local
entrepreneurs.

He further urged all participants to take active part in the upcoming 15-day training and
workshops to be conducted by resource persons such as Mrs. Manisha Sharma and other experts
in the field of rural and community-based tourism.

The training aims to build capacity among rural entrepreneurs, equip them with practical
knowledge of tourism operations and help integrate Sikkim's villages into the broader tourism
ecosystem of the state.