

Press Release from Forest & Environment Department

**THE GOECHA LA- DZONGRI TREK IN KHANGCHENDZONGA NATIONAL PARK AWARDED AS THE BEST TREKKING CIRCUIT**

The Goecha La- Dzungri trek in Khangchendzonga National Park has attained significant national recognition at the Outlook Traveller Awards 2025, where the Goecha La–Dzungri Circuit was conferred the Gold Award for “Best Trekking Circuit in India.”

The Goecha La–Dzungri trek starting from Yuksom, is 45 km long seven days high altitude trek, in the Kanchendzonga National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Further, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has conferred a special recognition upon Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP), Sikkim, declaring it as one of the Best Managed Protected Areas in the World.

This distinction affirms the Goecha La–Dzungri route as the leading trekking circuit in the country, positioning it prominently among India’s foremost treks. The award further reinforces Sikkim’s comprehensive ecotourism strategy, particularly its emphasis on responsible, community-led, and environmentally conscious tourism integrated with adventure-based offerings.

The Goecha La- Dzungri trail traverses some of the most pristine Himalayan ecosystems, encompassing dense forests, alpine meadows, and culminating at the high-altitude pass of Goecha La (4,570 m), providing commanding views of the snow-clad Khangchendzonga range. Recognized as one of the premier treks in the Himalayas, the circuit is esteemed for its blend of adventure, altitude, and exceptional natural scenery—qualities that contributed significantly to its national honour.