Press Release from State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (SIRD & PR), Karfectar

Foundation Training for SCS and SF&AS Probationers concludes at SIRD & PR

Karfectar, 07th November, 2026: The State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (SIRD & PR), Karfectar, Jorethang, held the valedictory programme of the Foundation Training for State Civil Service and Sikkim Finance & Accounts Service probationers, Batch 2025-26, at its Conference Hall on 07th November, 2026.

Shri Dushyant Pariyar, SCS, Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Sikkim, and Chairman, SIRD & PR, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered the keynote address. The programme marked the culmination of a training intervention combining classroom learning, field attachments, practical exercises and group activities to prepare probationers for their responsibilities in public administration.

Delivering the welcome address and course briefing, Shri Bishal Mukhia, SCS, Special Secretary-cum-Director, SIRD & PR, presented an overview of the programme conducted from 26th October to 07th November, 2026. He explained that the training sought to connect administrative concepts with grassroots realities, with emphasis on rural development, Panchayati Raj, decentralised planning, leadership, and responsive public service delivery.

He highlighted the use of theatre-based learning and field attachments to familiarise probationers with institutional functioning, community priorities and implementation challenges. The attachments covered Namphing Gram Panchayat, Gyalshing District Zilla Panchayat, Office of the Additional District Collector (Development), Gyalshing, and Yuksom Block Administration Centre.

The Director acknowledged the support of Shri D. S. Limboo, Hon'ble Zilla Adhyaksha, Shri Apran Subba, President, Namphing Gram Panchayat, Shri Biswa Birendra Raj Gurung, Additional District Collector (Development), Gyalshing and Shri S. M. Limboo, Block Development Officer, Yuksom, for facilitating these learning opportunities. Interactions with elected representatives and officials enabled the probationers to examine development planning, administrative coordination, financial procedures and service delivery in practice.

A notable component of the programme was the panel discussion with Shri Tenzing D. Denzongpa, SCS, District Collector-cum-District Magistrate, Gyalshing, Shri Dhiraj Subedi, SCS, District Collector, Soreng and Ms. Anupa Tamling, SCS, District Collector-cum-District Magistrate, Namchi. The discussion provided an opportunity for probationers to learn from their diverse administrative experiences and gain practical perspectives on district leadership, development coordination, grievance redressal and decision-making. Shri Bishal Mukhia thanked the District Collectors for contributing their time and expertise to guide the young officers.

The programme also included firefighting drills, rock climbing and river rafting, alongside hiking, football, badminton and sightseeing. These activities complemented the academic sessions by encouraging teamwork, confidence, preparedness and camaraderie.

He informed the gathering that the Sikkim Finance & Accounts Service probationers had completed their scheduled training component on 31st October, 2026 and returned to the Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Gangtok, for further training.

The Director expressed sincere gratitude to Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay), Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, for entrusting SIRD & PR with the responsibility of conducting the rural development and Panchayati Raj component of the Foundation Training programme.

He also conveyed his appreciation to Shri Arun Upreti, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation, Government of Sikkim, Shri Madan Cintury , Hon'ble Advisor , Transport and Skill Development Department , Government of Sikkim and the Administrative Training Institute, Gangtok, for their continuous support and confidence in the Institute's capacity to provide practical, field-oriented learning for probationers.

He noted that this opportunity enabled SIRD & PR to prepare young officers for responsive administration, effective programme implementation and public service delivery, while deepening their understanding of grassroots governance and community needs.

The valedictory programme also witnessed the formal signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SIRD & PR and SEED Cell, in the presence of Shri Dushyant Pariyar, Chairman , SIRD &PR. The partnership is intended to strengthen institutional collaboration in entrepreneurship development, bringing together the Institute's capacity-building role and SEED Cell's enterprise-development expertise.

Dr. Raj Lama, President, SEED Cell, addressed the gathering on "Advancing Entrepreneurship in Sikkim through the SIRD & PR–SEED Cell Partnership." He outlined the purpose of the collaboration and its relevance to promoting enterprise opportunities in the State. Representatives of SEED Cell, led by Dr. Lama, and Shri Dipen Subba, OSD to the Government of Sikkim, attended the programme.

The probationers presented their field-based learning under the theme "Learning from the Field: Innovations and Good Practices in Rural Administration." Their presentations brought together observations from institutional attachments and interactions with officials and communities. Representatives of the probationers also shared their

reflections and feedback, acknowledging the Institute's efforts in organising the training and facilitating practical learning.

In his keynote address, Shri Dushyant Pariyar shared experiences drawn from more than three decades of public service. He urged probationers to remain humble, approachable and attentive to the concerns of citizens. Emphasising that learning continues throughout an officer's career, he encouraged them to participate actively in training programmes and continually strengthen their knowledge, skills and judgement.

Drawing upon experiences from district and State-level assignments, he highlighted the importance of patience, empathy and respectful communication. He encouraged the probationers to ensure that every citizen approaching an office feels heard, respected and assisted, underscoring that the quality of public interaction is central to trust in government.

Certificates were presented to the probationers in recognition of their successful completion of the Foundation Training programme and their participation in classroom sessions, field attachments, practical exercises and group activities. The presentation marked the culmination of their learning at SIRD & PR and encouraged them to apply the knowledge, skills and insights gained to their future responsibilities in public service.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Smt. Chandra Kala Rai, Additional Director, SIRD & PR, who expressed appreciation to the Chief Guest, resource persons, partner institutions and probationers for their participation and support. She particularly acknowledged the collective efforts of the Institute's faculty, officers and staff in ensuring the smooth conduct of classroom sessions, field attachments and logistical arrangements. She noted that their teamwork and dedication had enabled SIRD & PR to fulfil the responsibility entrusted to it and make the training a meaningful and successful learning experience for the probationers.