

Press Release from Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation

8th Batch of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra Returns to India via Nathula

Gangtok, 11 August 2026: The 8th Batch of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra (KMY) 2026, comprising 41 yatris, two Liaison Officers (LOs) and one Medical Officer, with a total batch strength of 44 members, successfully returned to India through the Nathula border after completing the sacred pilgrimage to Kailash Mansarovar.

The returning yatris were warmly received in Gangtok by Shri Amit Kapil Chettri, DGM, Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation (STDC), accompanied by officials and staff of STDC. The reception programme was graced by Shri Lukendra Rasaily, Chairman, STDC, as Chief Guest.

As part of the programme, the yatris were felicitated with traditional Sikkimese Khadas and certificates in recognition of their successful completion of the sacred pilgrimage.

During the interaction, the yatris and Liaison Officers shared their experiences and feedback on the Yatra. They expressed their sincere gratitude to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of Sikkim, STDC and all the line agencies involved in the conduct of the Yatra. They particularly appreciated the arrangements and services provided by STDC from Delhi up to Nathula on the Indian side, stating that the support, coordination and hospitality extended to them contributed significantly to making their journey smooth, comfortable and successful.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Lukendra Rasaily, Chairman, STDC, congratulated all the yatris on the successful completion of their pilgrimage and appreciated their dedication and spirit throughout the journey. He also urged the yatris to become brand ambassadors of Sikkim and, upon returning to their respective places, share their experiences and promote Sikkim, its natural beauty, rich culture and warm hospitality.

The Chairman conveyed his best wishes to all the yatris for a safe and pleasant journey back home.

Following their stay in Sikkim, the yatris are scheduled to depart for their respective destinations via Bagdogra on 12 August 2026, carrying with them cherished memories of their pilgrimage and their experience of Sikkim.

STDC extends its heartfelt wishes to all the yatris for a safe and comfortable journey back home.