PRESS RELEASE FROM SIKKIM STATE COUNCIL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

National Science Centre, Guwahati Conducts Technical Inspection for Modernisation and Upgradation of Sikkim Science Centre

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A three-member technical team from the National Science Centre (NSC), Guwahati, led by its Director, Shri Sujay Majumder, visited the Sikkim Science Centre, Marchak, on 13 October 2026 to assess the requirements for its modernisation and upgradation.

The visit was undertaken in accordance with the directions of the Director, National Science Centre, Guwahati, with a focus on the proposed modernisation and upgradation of the Centre under the Scheme for Promotion of Culture of Science (SPoCS) of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, on a 90:10 Central and State funding-sharing basis.

The visiting technical team from the National Science Centre, Guwahati, comprised Shri Sujay Majumder, Director; Shri C. Vanlalchhanhima, Curator; and Shri Ratul Sarma, Technician Grade 'G'. The Sikkim team was represented by Dr. Suman Thapa, Principal Director, and Mr. Rupesh Kumar Pradhan, Deputy Director, Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology, Department of Science & Technology, Government of Sikkim.

During the visit, the teams jointly inspected the existing facilities and identified suitable locations and spaces for the proposed development and upgradation of galleries, educational exhibits and supporting infrastructure.

The major components proposed under the modernisation initiative include the establishment of a new Mathematics Gallery, development of a Children's Park featuring interactive mathematics exhibits, and upgradation of exhibits in the Unique Humankind Gallery. The proposal also includes the development of a virtual reality (VR) chair facility and a dedicated Children's Corner.

Other proposed interventions include the establishment of two TV studios, procurement of a 3D film, 3D printer and telescope, relocation of the office and library, and upgradation of the auditorium. These initiatives are expected to enhance the Centre's capacity to deliver engaging, interactive and experiential science education to students and visitors.

The technical inspection also focused on identifying operational issues and assessing requirements for repairs, maintenance and technical support for existing facilities, particularly the 3D Theatre, Digital Planetarium and telescope. The assessment is intended to help improve the functioning of these facilities and ensure their continued contribution to science education and public engagement.

The proposed modernisation is expected to strengthen the role of the Sikkim Science Centre in promoting scientific temper, encouraging curiosity and creativity, and popularising science and technology among school students and the general public. The introduction of modern galleries, interactive exhibits and digital learning facilities will provide visitors with enhanced opportunities to understand scientific concepts through hands-on experiences.

The Sikkim Science Centre, located at Namli, functions under the Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology, Department of Science & Technology, Government of Sikkim. The Centre plays an important role in promoting science popularisation, informal science education and hands-on learning across the State.

The technical visit marks an important step towards identifying the infrastructure, operational and technical requirements for the proposed modernisation and upgradation of the Centre. The initiative aims to transform the Sikkim Science Centre into a more engaging and contemporary destination for science learning, particularly for students and young people.