



SIKKIM HERALD

Vol. 64 No. 38 visit us at www.ipr.sikkim.gov.in

Gangtok (Friday) July 31, 2020

Regd. No. WB/SKM/01/2020-2022

Meeting on future road map of digital education in State



Gangtok July 28: A special meeting was held at Samman Bhawan to discuss and deliberate on the current education situation and future road map of digital education in the State, today. Due to the global pandemic, education and students right to education have been hit hard and to combat the situation, digital and online classes are the only option in the current situation.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary Mr. S.C. Gupta briefed the august gathering on the agenda of the meeting and the views and suggestions of the department on the issues.

The Chief Minister welcomed everyone on behalf of the Government and stated that

the State Government is utilising the I.T sector to its optimum level, which had been dormant for all these years. He stressed on the fact that during the pandemic, Information Technology and digital connectivity have played an effective and a monumental role and this technology boon could be used as a medium to move forward in this path and makes the best use of it. He also reiterated that Sikkim has been granted an Independent BSNL Administrative Control Centre for the State which will improve connectivity and help in achieving e-Governance by 2022, as proposed by the Central Government. He focused on moving forward with time and adapting to technological

advancement for overall development.

He also proposed that the teachers who are currently off duty due to the COVID-19 situation could be part of the monitoring team in GPUs for ensuring that the asymptomatic cases are following the necessary protocols and guidelines. Their noble services could be utilized to raise awareness, educate, inform and regulate the patients.

However, they should be well briefed before sending them for the fieldwork. This proposal was appreciated by the department who will be preparing a list of teachers and also prepare the Standard of Practice (SOP). The Chief Minister also suggested utilising the services of OFOJ employees for assisting the teachers.

The Secretary, Education Department Mr. Anil Raj Rai said that the major problem currently faced by the department is connectivity, especially in the shadow areas which mostly fall under difficult terrain. To tackle the situation, currently, they are providing pre-recorded contents to students who do not have access to proper internet connectivity. He also informed that they are using various applications and broadcasters to conduct these classes. He also emphasized on the

Contd. on page 4

Chief Minister chairs high level meeting

Gangtok, July 27: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang chaired a high level meeting of State Task Force to review the State Government plan of action on COVID-19 at Samman Bhawan, today.

The meeting was attended by Cabinet Ministers, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary Finance, DGP, Heads of various Government departments, ADGPLaw and Order, DIG Range, and senior officers of the State administration.

Chief Secretary Mr. S.C. Gupta in his opening remarks presented a brief overview of the status of COVID-19 in the State. He also briefed about the second Notification issued on July 26 with regard to extension of lockdown, taking into account the prevailing situation in the State.

The Chief Secretary apprised that the State is also facing monsoon woes due to incessant rainfall and the government is trying to restore the situation so that least hurdles and headships are being faced by the



people. The State administration has also pulled manpower (safaikarmacharis and office attendants) from various departments to augment the manpower in the Health Department.

During the meeting, contact tracing, testing and preventive measures of COVID-19 along with post lockdown scenario

after 1st August was also discussed at length.

The Chief Minister in his address informed about the State Government's effective coordination to tackle the present situation. He pointed out in detail about the menace of fake news being circulated in social media

Contd. on page 3

21st anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas observed at Raj Bhavan



Gangtok, July 26: The Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad joined with the rest of the Nation and remembered the Kargil Heroes on the occasion of 21st anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, today.

He paid his homage to the brave and slain soldiers and offered floral tribute in the memory of martyrs, in a brief function held

at Raj Bhavan.

Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad in his address said that, "on this occasion, we feel proud for the selfless sacrifices made by our soldiers who fought valiantly for the country. Their sacrifices will always be a source of inspiration for our forces."

Chief Minister convenes meeting with officials of Food and Civil Supplies Department

Gangtok, July 27: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang convened a meeting with Food and Civil Supplies Department at Samman Bhawan, today. The meeting was held to take stock of essential commodities in the State. The meeting was attended by Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Department Mr. Arun Upreti, Chief Secretary Mr. S. C. Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary Finance Mr. V. B. Pathak, Secretary Food and Civil Supplies Mr. L. B. Chettri, senior officials of the department, DCSOs of all districts and other officials.

During the meeting, schemes under Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana, Aatma Nirbhar Yojana and other schemes of the Government of India were discussed in detail.

The Chief Minister took stock of distribution of essential commodities in the State and also

assessed the district-wise distribution during the lockdown period.

The Chief Minister in his brief address directed the department to take urgent steps to ensure the availability of essential commodities in the State. He also directed the department to effectively implement all the centre government schemes pertaining to the under privileged section. He directed the department to coordinate with the concerned MLAs and other officials and shortlist the beneficiaries list amongst the under privileged people having aadhar card to distribute the benefits under various schemes.

The Chief Minister also urged the department to ensure buffer stock of essential commodities in the districts owing to present monsoon season and the pandemic situation.

Pearls of Wisdom

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

-Albert Einstein

District Diary

Team of officials inspects landslide affected area of Tarku Ravangla National Highway

Namchi, July 30: A team of officials namely SDM, HQ (Namchi), Mr. Chiran Rizal, DPO(South) Mr. Abishek Kharel, SHO(Temi PS)

Ms. Anupa Gurung, SI (Temi PS) Mr. Roshan Pradhan alongside Revenue Surveyor (Tarku Circle) along with concerned Ward Panchayat and Project Manager (S&P Infrastructure Developers Pvt Ltd) inspected 16th Km area along Tarku Ravangla NH today.

The team inspected the damages insinuated by incessant rainfall further vitiated by improper construction works of the company. It may be added that the road is under the supervision of NHIDCL. Upon inspection it was revealed that a series of slides had also occurred along the road causing road blockage at many places.

At the outset, the SDM and his team inspected the houses endangered by the series of slides in the area. The SDM directed the PM (S & P) for shifting of 18 households to a safer location taking cognizance of the fact that further slide would occur taking into consideration the ensuing monsoon. The SDM also had a brief interaction with the public wherein he requested them to cooperate with the Project Manager and enable him to get them shifted to a safer location. Upon their visit, it was found that the run off water above the house of Mrs. Renuka Rai seemed to

have triggered the slide, the SDM therefore exhorted the company team to take up temporary measures to divert the water to nearby drain. The report of the same has been submitted to DC South and an order under DM Act 2005 shall be issued by DC South for evacuation and other preventive measures to be taken up by the company under the provisions of the act.

The team later visited the house of Mrs. Jashoda Poudyal. It is pertinent to add here that, a private stakeholder V K Jain Pvt Ltd is carrying out the road construction work wherein the slide has occurred right below the incumbent's house causing severe damage to cattle shed and the dwelling house. The family has already been shifted to Khadi Building and are safely housed.

Further, the team also made a brief halt at Amalay village below Lower Tanak to clear the apprehension of the public regarding the issue ongoing issue of Man Kind Pharma Pvt Ltd in the area. The public was thus made aware of all necessary information regarding the protocols issued for COVID-19 followed by District Administration. Lastly the team met and verified the documents of the employees of Man Kind Pharma who had earlier been tested and reported negative for COVID-19 through RT-PCR prior to allowing them to enter South Sikkim.

Sanitisation drive conducted at Jorethang

Namchi July 24: In wake of a sudden surge of COVID-19 cases, a daylong sanitisation drive conducted by a Jorethang based NGO 'Great Mates' in coordination with NJMC was carried out in various locations across Jorethang, today.

The members of Great Mates in the company of MEO, Mrs. Rajani Pega and support from NJMC and other civil society members sanitised public places such as the ATMs, public playground, CHC premises,

police stations, offices, taxi parking plaza and few residential complexes in Jorethang bazaar area.

The NGO has been successfully conducting such sanitisation drives and other social activities in South and West districts since the inception of their organization which focuses on promotive, preventive, and responsive social roles of youth towards the development of the society.

**Education Department
Government of Sikkim
Tashiling, Gangtok
East Sikkim-737103**

Dated: 30th of July 2020

ADVISORY

This is to inform the general public and students pursuing higher education in particular, that admissions to Government Collages in Sikkim will be conducted online as has been the past practice through the department website www.sikkimhrdd.org

The admission process will commence shortly and detailed information in this regard will be available on the website, prior notice of which will be published in the local dailies.

All concerned are therefore advised to apply for admissions on the department website only and refrain from seeking admission through other unauthorized websites.

**Director
Higher and Technical Education**

All Educational institutions in Sikkim to remain closed till August 31, 2020

Gangtok July 26 : When the lockdown was first announced in Sikkim to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Education Department had issued a circular on March 18, 2020, announcing the closure of all government and private universities, colleges, schools, educational institutes, teacher education institutes, training institutes, tutorials and coaching centres across the State.

The Department had decided to open the educational institutions from July 01, 2020, but since the rise in cases of COVID-19 and infection continued, the Department continued closure of educational institutes till July 31, 2020, and decided to reopen on August 03, 2020.

Keeping in view the further lockdown imposed in the entire State and extended till August 01, 2020, the Minister for Education Department, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha has mentioned that all educational institutions in Sikkim, both government and private, will continue to remain closed till August 31, 2020. The Minister has also mentioned that a review of the situation will be conducted before reopening of the educational institutions. He has further mentioned that though safety and health come first, continuity of education for future

benefit must also be the plan and has therefore appealed to all the teachers, students and parents to continue with online learning programmes, offline mode of learning designed by the Department and Home-schooling with maintaining abundant precaution and following COVID-19 protocol of health and social distancing.

The Additional Chief Secretary, Education Department, Mr. G.P. Upadhyaya has appealed to all the school-heads to keep vigil and ensure the safety of the huge properties the schools have and also to continue with the learning programme devised especially for the lockdown situation. He has also appealed to the teachers that pushing online activities to the students must be rational and reasonable. A child should not be over-burdened in the name of online learning and psychological aspects of the learners during the troubled time must also be kept in consideration.

The State Project Director (Samagra Shiksha) and Director (Elementary Education) Mr. Bhim Thatal requested the district authorities to ensure that all teachers are adequately taking classes through online mode as well as other media being used meant for the lockdown period. A

system of monitoring the progress of teachers also is underway in the Department which will assess the level of accomplishment by the teachers in their assignment during the lockdown. He has also mentioned that recently announced home-schooling for the elementary level of students (upto Class VIII) with the concept that 'if a child is not able to go to school, let the school come to the child' means supporting the students of elementary level for their schooling at wherever they are. Teachers and parents together with educated youth are requested to monitor the learning of the children at homes during this time by maintaining ample social distancing and other COVID-19 protocol. Visiting homes of the students or calling them at a convenient place may not be possible during the lockdown, but monitoring and maintaining the learning continuity through phones and other modes of communication should be maintained. He also requested the teachers to refer to the downsized curriculum of the elementary level done by the NCERT (at the national level) and keep connected with the SCERT at the State level for suggestions guidance as the SCERT is the Academic Authority under the RTE Act.

Online Career Counselling for Secondary Students launched

Gangtok, July 27: With an objective to further add value to the learning of students and to reach out to them to enhance their learning despite the COVID-19 situation, the Samagra Shiksha, Education Department today launched a series of online career counselling sessions for secondary students where students will have chance to engage themselves in understanding and learning aspects which could guide them to make further career choices in the times to come.

The e-learning edition of the career counselling series was launched through a webinar by Additional Chief Secretary, Education Department, Mr. G.P. Upadhyaya in presence of Secretary, Education Department, Mr. Anil Raj Rai, State Project Director (SPD), Samagra Shiksha and Director, Elementary Education Mr. Bhim Thatal, Director, Secondary Education Mrs. Hondala Gyaltzen, Joint Directors, Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors, Block and Cluster Resource Centre

Coordinators from all districts and Block Administrative Centres and other officials from the Education Department.

Speaking on the e-launch of the career counselling session, Mr. G.P. Upadhyaya expressed his happiness on the successful launch of the online session on career counselling and reinforced further learning for students on the digital platform. He further informed the participants on the need to encourage students to utilise the digital space and stressed upon the need for the students to believe in hard work and also to aim high in life.

Secretary, Education Department, Mr. Anil Raj Rai while congratulating the Samagra Shiksha stressed upon the use of digital platforms for e-learning initiatives and desired to further explore future initiations from the Department.

Providing further inputs on the objective of the online career counselling session and the need for it, Mr. Bhim Thatal stated that the Samagra Shiksha will accelerate the e-learning initiatives

in the future and stressed on the need to change the perceptions of students, teachers and parents with regard to career planning and the need to adopt an unbiased approach very much prevalent to the current generation. He also mentioned the importance of career counseling. He also appealed to all the participants to be ready for the new normal being set in due to COVID-19 and make oneself conversant with e-learning and online activities in the education sector. The career counselling package has been exclusively designed for the students of the secondary level to analyse their capacity and also to support them understand what options are available after Class 10 (Ten).

The webinar was opened up for discussions and had participants providing their feedbacks and deliberations on future perspectives with regard to e-learning initiatives. Deputy Director, Samagra Shiksha Mrs. Kabita Moktan informed that these videos consisting of career counselling will be sent to all secondary and senior schools.

DC(East) and team visits containment zone at Nandok and Rangpo

Gangtok, July 24 : The East District Administration team led by DC(East), Mr. Raj Yadav today visited various containment zones and isolation centres in Saramsa/ Nandok area and Rangpo and its surrounding areas to assess the situation on ground.

At Saramsa/ Nandok, the team took stock of the waste disposal system, supply of essential commodities and other immediate measures and safety protocols. Thereafter, the team then proceeded to Rangpo wherein a brief meeting was held at Tourism

Guest House Rangpo with CMO East, DSO and the Contact Tracing team.

During the meeting, discussion on COVID-19 care management and overall strategy was discussed in depth.

Log on to www.ipr.sikkim.gov.in

Government of Sikkim
Office of the District Magistrate, West
District Administrative Centre,
Rabdentse-Sikkim-737113

Visit us @ <http://westsikkim.nic.in> Email: collectorwest@gmail.com
 Phone-03595(250888)(O) Fax-03595(250742)(F)

No:1010/DM Dated:27/07/2020

Notice Inviting Quotation

Sealed Quotations are invited from reputed firms/suppliers/companies for the "Setting up Oxygen Manifold System and Suction Manifold System in the 10 Bedded ICU of District Hospital Gyalshing" on an emerging basis given the COVID-19 pandemic as per the terms and conditions given below.

Terms and conditions

- The scope of the work and technical specifications for the work are available in the bid documents available for download from www.westsikkim.nic.in.
- The price quoted should be inclusive of all taxes, transportation, installation and training etc.
- The Bidders should be prior experience of commissioning such work and all equipment supplied should confirm to all safety standards as appropriate. The relevant experience documents of the bidders have to be furnished along with the quotations. The bidder should possess relevant documents like firm registration, trade license and GST registration.
- The department shall have reserve the right to reject the materials/work that are found sub-standard and not as per specifications. All equipment supplied should confirm to industry standards.
- No advance shall be paid to the bidders and payments shall be made only on commissioning of the Work
- Security deposit of 6% of the amount of the work shall be deducted from the final work amount and shall be payable only after 6 months of the commissioning of the work.
- The bidder may visit the premises before submitting his bid.
- The detailed quotations should reach the office of the undersigned on or before 07/08/2020 up to 13:00 hrs. The sealed quotations shall be opened on the same day at 14:00 hrs in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.

District Collector.
West District, Sikkim

R.O.NO.42/IPR/Pub/Classi/20-21, Dated:28/07/2020

Government of Sikkim
Office of the District Magistrate, West
District Administrative Centre,
Rabdentse-Sikkim-737113

Ref No.201/DC(W) Dated: 28/07/2020

Corrigendum

Reference Notice Inviting Quotations vide No vide Memo No 1010/DM dated 27/07/2020 the following are added to the specifications for "Oxygen Manifold System and Suction Manifold System".

- The number of Oxygen Cylinder supplied should be 10(ten) numbers.
- Digital area alarm should be read as for "Oxygen and Suction Service".

District Collector.
West District, Sikkim

R.O.NO.43/IPR/Pub/Classi/20-21, Dated:30/07/2020

Government of Sikkim
Home Department
Gangtok

No:38/Home/2020 dated:27/07/2020

Notification

The State Government is pleased to constitute a Steering Committee to oversee proper management of man power and logistics in the Health sector in the State in the wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic situation.

The Composition of the Committee shall be as follows:

Sl. No.	Name	Post
1.	Shri V. B. Pathak, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance and Planning and Development Departments.	Chairman
2.	Shri K. Sreenivasulu, IAS, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department	Member
3.	Shri K.C. Lepcha, Secretary, Department of Personnel	Member
4.	Dr. Pempa Bhutia, Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department	Member-Secretary
5.	District Collectors, East/West/North/ South	Member
6.	Chief Medical Officers, East/West/North/ South	Member

Terms of Reference of the Committee will be as follows:

- The Committee shall assess the requirement of man-power in the STNM Hospital, District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and suggest measures for rationale and need based appointments/deployment or redeployment of existing human resources.
- The Committee shall also assess the requirement and existing stock position of essential medicines, equipment, supplies and required logistics for the Government Hospitals and suggest necessary measures to stream line and smoothen the procurement system to put in place a continuous supply chain right up to District, PHC and Sub-PHC level.

The Committee shall submit its report within one week of issue of the notification. A preliminary report shall be submitted to the State Government through the Chief Minister within three days.

The Committee shall be serviced by Health and Family Welfare Department.

(S.C Gupta, IAS)
Chief Secretary
Government of Sikkim

Government of Sikkim
Education Department
Directorate of Technical Education
Tashiling, Gangtok

No.GO/DTE/2020/1145 Date: 30/07/2020

Notice

It is for information of all concerned that the following details relating to allotment of state quota seats for the year 2020 is hereby notified.

II. Registration - Interested applicants are required to register themselves and fill up the forms online on the State web portal www.statequota.sikkim.gov.in as per the schedule indicated below.

(i) For BA/B.Com/BSc/BBA/BCA/Hotel Management/BSc. IT/BTMM/BHTM

- Registration open - : 1st August 2020 from 10:00 a.m.
- Registration closes : 10th August 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

(ii) For BSc. Nursing/GNM/B.Pharm/B.Pharm (Lateral)/Dip.Pharm/BPT/BSc. Med. Biotech/Diploma in Paramedical

- Registration opens: 1st August 2020 from 10:00 a.m.
- Registration closes : 14th August 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

(iii) Diploma Engineering/Lateral Entry Diploma

- Registration opens: 1st August 2020 from 10:00 a.m.
- Registration closes : 14th August 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Please note that no extension of dates for online registration is permissible.

III. Registration fees - Registration fee of 150/- per course has to be paid online for the above indicated courses. A provision for payment of registration fees through offline mode has also been facilitated by the State Bank of Sikkim. An applicant who desires to pay offline needs to visit the nearest SBS branch.

IV. Documents required: All applicants are required to upload the following documents online for verification. Incomplete forms will be summarily rejected.

- Sikkim Subject Certificate or COI of father or of applicant.
- Valid Community Certificate in the name of applicant.
- Residential Certificate or Trade License in the name of applicant's father, or Parent's employment certificate in case of applicants under the "Others" category .
- Recent BPL certificate (issued by DESME), if any.
- Date of Birth Certificate.

Online registration does not confer the applicant a right to quota seat. The allotment of seats will be purely on merit of the marks obtained in the qualifying examination vis-a-vis reservation and roster policy of the state Government.

Applicants are advised to regularly log on to the Education Department web portal www.Sikkimhrdd.org where all information relating to counselling dates and other related details will be uploaded from time to time.

Director
Higher and Technical Education
Education Department
R.O.NO.44/IPR/Pub/Classi/20-21, Dated:31/07/2020

Contd. from front page

Chief Minister ...

which is adding to the already existing challenge. He stressed on the need to disseminate correct and factual information through credible source and all news or information in any form should be verified and thoroughly checked with concerned department before posting and uploading.

He further said that if anybody is found to be spreading fake news on social media, electronic media, or in any form, Government will take stringent action.

The Chief Minister also stressed on the need to consistently follow basic guidelines issued by the Central as well as the State Government by everyone to curb the further spread of COVID-19 cases in the State. He directed the Police to strictly initiate action against those who are found violating the lockdown guidelines.

The Chief Minister stated that post August 01, there could be slight relaxation to facilitate certain activities. He urged everyone to continue to abide by all safety norms.

It was also informed that

a State Level Steering Committee would be constituted in the State to oversee proper management of manpower and logistics in the Health sector in the State in the wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic situation.

In the meeting, it was informed that if any person comes in contact with COVID-19 positive cases, they should immediately contact the toll free State helpline number 104. The Chief Minister stressed that the Helpline Number should be adequately publicized as a potential medium to aid in contact tracing.

The meeting also took stock of the arrangements in place for operation of OPD services in Old STNM hospital as a makeshift facility to provide basic healthcare. Issues concerning supply of medicines and consumables in various hospitals, CHCs, PHCs, and PHSCs were also discussed in detail.

The Chief Minister also directed the State administration to immediately address the shortage of manpower in Health Department and make it fully equipped. There should not be dearth of manpower and medicines in the hospitals across the State, he stated.

Meeting on future road map of digital education in State

Education Department launches Online Admission Portal for Class XI

Gangtok, July 23: Education Department, Government of Sikkim has launched the online admission portal for Class XI (eleven) students of Sikkim. The portal was launched by Additional Chief Secretary Mr. G.P. Upadhyaya in the presence of State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha and Director Primary Education Mr. Bhim Thatal.

This year, a total of 10,449 students had appeared in Class X (Ten) examinations of the CBSE out of which 7833 (3410 Male and 4423 Female) have passed which is 75%. Pass percentage of the students in Class X is better than 2019 (68 % in 2019). Total 2225 students fall in the category of compartment (21 %) while 164 (1.5%) were absent and 222 (2%) failed.

The launch of online portal for admission in Class XI is done as it has been felt that though there is lockdown and the schools are not likely to open till the end of August, continuity of learning

must happen. During the pandemic, several methods of learning like online classes, offline mode by way of reaching out to the students through laptops with pre-loaded learning contents, Sikkim Edutech App, home-schooling for elementary level students are already happening.

The Department has now taken a call to admit the students in Class XI through online method so that the classes through several modes already in process, could also be extended to Class XI. Students are advised to visit the online portal of the Department and fill up the application form and submit it online. The address of the website is <http://edndeptsikkim.in>

Some of the criteria for admission to Class XI are:

1. Students who have passed class X from the Senior Secondary Schools must apply in their respective schools only.
2. Those students who have passed class X from a Senior

Secondary School can apply to other nearby Senior Secondary School, if their preferred streams are not available at home school.

3. Admission in Science and Commerce streams shall be as per the criteria laid down by respective schools. Preference for admission shall be given to the feeder schools and the other schools in the surrounding depending upon the availability of seats.
4. Compartment candidates can apply for provisional admission in their own schools. However, students of the Secondary School can apply at a nearby school.

During the programme, the ACS, Education Department also launched the website of Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School which is <https://sirtnsss.in>. These websites have been designed by PGT (Physics) of Sir TNSSS, Mr. P.D. Chhetri with the support of Bolds Innovation Pvt. Ltd.

Online meeting of the Sports and Youth Affairs Department held

Gangtok, July 24: The online meeting of the Sports and Youth Affairs Department was conducted under the Chairmanship of Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha, today.

The meeting hosted by the Additional Director (HQ) Mrs. Doma Tshering Bhutia began with the welcome address by the Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs, Mr. Kuber Bhandari. The meeting was attended by around 100 participants including Chief Engineer, Mr. L. Sherpa, Additional Secretary cum State Nodal Officer (NSS) Mrs. Suchitra Rasaily Additional Chief Engineer, Mrs. Milan Pradhan, Joint Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors, Coaches and Physical Education Teachers of Hq, Districts and blocks.

In the meeting following point were discussed:

1. Online training of different sports disciplines during COVID-19 lockdown.
2. Sports for peace and development and responsibility of Officers at districts and blocks.
3. Status of sports infrastructure development in the State and under Khelo India Scheme.
4. Celebration of National Sports Day on 29th August 2020.
5. Sports Academy.
6. The initiatives taken by the National Service Scheme (NSS) during this lockdown to contain COVID-19 pandemic.
7. Fit India Movement.

The concerned members explained about the sports activities like Fit India and ongoing sports infrastructure project with the help of Power Point Presentation.

State NSS Cell, SNO Mrs. Suchitra Rasaily highlighted the NSS Volunteers efforts towards sensitization programme all over the State and uninterrupted role played by the NSS youth during COVID-9 pandemic. She also mentioned about the recent Video Conference which was held under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Mr. Kiran Rejju, MYAS to announce the formalization of the partnership between MYAS and YuWaah with special focus on joint UN collaboration enabling India's youth, connecting them in socio economic opportunities and engage them as active change makers. Further, she also mentioned that the State Advisory Committee Meeting will be proposed during the 1st week of September 2020.

Additional Chief Engineer presented the status of ongoing sports infrastructure development work and highlighted about the recently sanctioned BADP project under Lachen and Lachung in North Sikkim.

All officers and coaches from four Districts interacted in the meeting about the various issues and progress of the department. They highlighted about the recent online community coaching

availed from SAI and organizing online training among boys and girls especially in football.

After the deliberation, the action on following points to be taken up are.

- i) One period physical activities/play for the school children under Fit India Movement in the respective school.
- ii) Schools need to register to Fit India for star grading.
- iii) Renovation of Reshithang Sports Complex for arrangement of Sports (Athletic) Academy.
- iv) Online competitions singing, dancing and other feasible activities among the NSS volunteers, during lockdown.
- v) If lockdown continues till 29th August 2020, the National Sports Day Celebration may be shortened by releasing the sports achievement book of Sikkim Sports Persons.
- vi) Coaching division has been given responsibility to submit proposals for Online Competitions to be conducted.

In his concluding remarks, Minister Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha said that there should be more participation to get involved in activities by all the Officers and PETs of the Districts. Since the State Government is providing grants and funds for various Development projects, all officers should take it positive with much extended cooperation and support to fulfill the state Government's dream.

IPR Exclusive

Significance of Guru Rinpoche's Thrunkar Tshechu

One of the most significant and important occasion for Buddhists is Guru Rinpoche's Thrunkar Tshechu. It marks the birth anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava who is popularly known as Guru Rinpoche and revered by the Sikkimese people as the patron saint of Sikkim. He is the founder of Tibetan Buddhism who first introduced Buddhism in Tibet during the 8th century.

The day falls on the tenth day of the fifth Tibetan month which corresponds to July-August of English calendar every year. This auspicious day is observed with great reverence in Sikkim as well as the rest of the world. However, in order to honour and pay homage to the patron saint of the state, the Government of Sikkim has notified this day as a government holiday.

On this auspicious day, monasteries hold special prayers and rituals in obeisance to the great patron saint and to seek his blessings for the benefit of all sentient beings in this universe. A statue of Guru Rinpoche is carried by devotees in a procession led by monks around the streets of Gangtok and other towns in the State.

Some of the monasteries also hold religious masked dance wherein the eight manifestations and various sequences from the life of Guru Padmasambhava is depicted and enacted.

Webinar for Practicing Teachers organized by DIET

Gangtok: The First ever Webinar for Practicing Teachers was organised by District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), East, Gangtok on July 27 and 28 on the theme Teacher's initiative, innovation and creativity in enhancing students learning. The objective of the Webinar was to provide a forum to practicing teachers to share their innovative pedagogical practices so that the same can be replicated in schools across the State, the initiatives they take to improve teaching learning environment and their creative ideas which not only contribute to students' learning exponentially but also to their professional growth. The inaugural Session of the Webinar was graced by Additional Chief Secretary, Education Department, Mr. G.P. Upadhyaya, Secretary, Education Department, Mr. Anil Raj Rai and other Senior Officials from the Education Department, Government of Sikkim

The Chairpersons and Penal Observers of Technical Sessions consisted of Faculties from NCERT, New Delhi, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, Senior Officials of Education Department, Government of Sikkim and Principals of DIETs – South and West.

There were around 100 Invitees each on both the days who participated in the Webinar. The Invitees included Faculties of SCERT, DIETs, BRCCs, CRCCs School Heads & Teachers and Pre-Service Student Teachers of DIET, Gangtok.

There Webinar saw 12 Presentations on various topics by practising Teachers from Government Schools across the State in 4 Technical Sessions.

The two days webinar has been very enriching for all concerned in terms of learning and experiences gained during the technical sessions.

Contd. from front page

Meeting on...

departments plan to initiate counselling for parents and ask their opinion regarding the reopening of schools.

The Chief Secretary stated that the connectivity issue cannot be solved instantly and we need to make the best use of the facilities we have at our disposal. He insisted on uniformly upgrading the facilities and use YouTube and other similar platforms for these purposes.

The Chief Minister emphasized on turning Sikkim into an education hub to attract students from various states and abroad. He stated that we should move towards the unconventional technique of education and more research-based methods in Soreng Science College and turn it into a centre for excellence by including subjects like

Environmental science, climate change, Himalayan studies centre where traditional practices of Himalayan people and their livelihood opportunities will also be included. He directed the department to set up a team to prepare a Standard of Practice (SOP) in advance to monitor students, teachers and lecturers returning to the state in case of commencement of schools and colleges in the near future.

He also added that the maintenance of schools should be done regularly and should not be ignored because of the lockdown. He directed the education department to hold a meeting with the I.T.department to sort out issues about digital education and find a middle path which will be feasible looking at the current scenario.

The meeting was also attended by Minister for Education, Mr Kunga Nima Lepcha and other officers of the concerned department.

Information from East District Administration

Exit pass to cross Rangpo Checkpost can be availed from SNT Complex, Rangpo between 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM daily.

For any further assistance, kindly contact ADC Development, Gangtok (Nodal Officer) on +91 97333 40157 or +91 6294-483864.