



SIKKIM HERALD

Vol. 65 No. 18 visit us at www.ipr.sikkim.gov.in

Gangtok (Tuesday) April 27, 2021

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

Chief Minister meets councillors of GMC and Nagar Panchayat

Gangtok, April 26: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang met the recently elected councillors of Gangtok Municipal Corporation (GMC) and Nagar Panchayat at Samman Bhawan, today. Chief Minister in his address extended best wishes to the newly elected members of Municipal Corporation and Nagar Panchayats. He said that it was delightful to witness a comprehensive member of women representative in this municipal election.

He stated that the Councillors and the Nagar panchayats are an integral part of the government mechanism and encouraged them to work as one.

The Chief Minister also asked the newly elected members of GMC to submit a list of essential projects and works for allocation of funds in the upcoming budget session.

The Chief Minister informed



that the Government will be starting the process of Governance at the doorstep, to provide basic facilities online or delivered to their home to expedite basic government facilities.

During the event, the

councillors also put forth their experiences and grievances of the people in their respective areas. Issues like drainage, drinking water and traffic management were also discussed in length.

Civil Services Day 2021

Gangtok, April 21: The Civil Service Officers' Institute, Sikkim in coordination with the Department of Personnel, Government of Sikkim organised Civil Services Day 2021 at Manan Kendra, today.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang graced the occasion as the chief guest.

In his opening address, Chief Secretary, Mr. S.C. Gupta, extended warm welcome to the chief guest, the dignitaries present and all the former retired Secretaries to the Government of Sikkim. He gave a brief history on the importance of Civil Services Day, as on this day the country's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the newly appointed Administrative Services Officers in 1947. He expressed that the Civil Services Day is a day for reflection and introspection about the rules and functions of civil service and assessment of various challenges that the civil service faces today.

He informed that a coordination meeting was held on April 20 with all the Heads of Departments and Secretaries to the Government of Sikkim, wherein various issues were addressed



including attendance and punctuality, proper drafting of proposals to the Cabinet, fiscal management, reviewing of system of resource allocations and other such administrative matters that requires attention. The Chief Secretary also urged the HoDs to go beyond issuing circulars and notices and put action on the ground for effective reinforcement of rules in order to achieve desired and visible impact in running the State administration productively.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang in his address congratulated the Department of

Personnel and Training for organising the Civil Services Day 2021 programme, the first-of-its-kind event in the State of Sikkim, to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of the civil service officers in the State. He stated that the programme brought together officers of various Services under one roof and thus helped forge unity and camaraderie.

Hailing government employees as the backbone of every government, the Chief Minister said that the State

Contd. on page 2

Chief Minister chairs high level meeting

Gangtok, April 22: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang chaired a high level meeting at Samman Bhawan, today, to assess the COVID-19 situation in the State and to take stock of the overall preparedness.

At the outset, Chief Secretary Mr. S.C. Gupta gave a brief overview of the situation and highlighted some areas which needed urgent attention.

Health Department Officials briefed about the medical preparedness and the status of vaccination. It was informed in the meeting that STNM Hospital is equipped with an Oxygen plant having adequate supply, and the COVID dedicated Hospital has 125 beds, which includes 77 beds with Oxygen, 40 beds without Oxygen (for less serious patients) and 8 ICU beds.

Chief Minister in his address called for re-constitution of the State Task Force for overall coordination and crisis

management. He directed that the State Task Force should immediately set up an office and start functioning. He said that the Task Force should monitor the movement of people from outside the State in all the borders in coordination with the District Administration. He maintained that people should refrain from travelling outside the State unless it is unavoidable. He issued directives to ensure that all returnees should stay under home quarantine for the stipulated number of days. He also laid emphasis on the need to monitor the movement of labour force from outside the State.

The meeting took stock of the safety protocol in place for tourists and other visitors. It was decided that officers of the Tourism Department would be deputed to monitor the movement of tourists under the overall supervision of the District Collectors.

Review meetings with officials of Horticulture and AH&VS Deptts. held

Gangtok, April 26: Minister for Agriculture and Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Departments, Mr. L. N. Sharma chaired two review meetings with the officials of Horticulture Department and Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Departments, at his chamber at Tashiling Secretariat, today.

The first meeting held with the officials of Horticulture Department was attended by the Additional Chief Secretary-cum-Agriculture Production Commissioner Mr. A. K. Yadav, Secretary Horticulture Department Mr. M. T. Sherpa, CEO, Sikkim Organic Farming Development Agency Dr. S. Anbalagan, Principal Director Mr. Padam Subba, Director, Additional Directors, Scheme heads and senior officials.

The Minister took stock of detailed activities taken up by the department during the financial year 2020-21 and also outlined an

Annual Action Plan for the financial year 2021-22. He also stressed upon time bound implementation of schemes, utilisation of allocated fund and execution of quality works at all levels. Further, the Minister directed the concerned scheme heads to work with renewed vigour and proactiveness and to keep regular monitoring on implementation of schemes, so as to ensure adequate benefits to the farmers. He also advised to give priority on quality works in terms of purchase of seeds, required resources and execution of works.

The meeting also thoroughly discussed on various schemes under Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States (HMNEHS) and National Bamboo Mission in the State of Sikkim.

Similarly, the Minister also convened a review meeting with

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“Dawai Bhi Kadai Bhi”

#GetVaccinated

Follow the Covid Appropriate Behaviour

Pearls of Wisdom

*Natural forces within us are the true healers of disease.
- Hippocrates*

District Diary

District Collector (West) inspects Nursing Training College at Kyongsha

Gyalshing, April 23: District Collector (West), Mr. Karma R. Bonpo along with CMO (West), Dr. Anusha Lama and other officials carried out an inspection of Nursing Training College, Kyongsha, today, to take stock of preparedness to battle against COVID-19.

After a detailed review and inspection of the hospital and its premises, District Collector

(West) asked for the requirements for the hospital and necessary directions were given to Health Department. Further, he instructed all the concerned departments to do the needful at the earliest.

During the visit, CMO (West) informed that the Nursing Training College is converted into District Covid Care Hospital (DCCH), it will have 20 beds and

will be functional soon. She also informed that COVID-19 positive with symptoms and Co-morbid patients will be kept in District Covid Care Hospital and asymptomatic patients will be kept in home isolation. She also informed that serious patients will be referred to STNM Hospital for further treatment.

Training programme on delivery of e-services under e-District project conducted

Gyalshing, April 22: Department of Information Technology in collaboration with West District Administrative Centre, Rabdentse conducted an intensive one day training programme on the delivery of e-services under the e-District project at the Conference Hall of West District Zilla Panchayat Bhawan, today.

E-District is a Mission Mode Project of Government of India, under NeGP (National e-Governance Plan) being implemented in the State through Department of Information Technology. The main aim of the said project is to improve and enhance the efficiency of issuance of various certificates being dealt by the District Administration by replacing the existing manual system to an online system through an integrated and seamless automation of governance, back end computerization and data digitization.

The training programme was conducted to impart skills on achieving paperless governance, delivery of government services at the doorstep of the citizens,

efficient and transparent governance and ease for the citizens to avail any services from the comfort of their home.

The Resource Persons of the programme were Assistant Director (Department of Information Technology), Mr. Prem Ashis Pradhan, Senior Programmer (National Informatics Centre), Mr. Roshan Pradhan, Programmer (National Informatics Centre), Mr. Phunshok Gyatso Topgay.

Addressing the house, Assistant Director briefed about the e-District Project and presented the PowerPoint presentation on ServicePlus Platform; Highlighted features; Launched services; Upcoming services; Status of received applications; workflow; Envisaged issuing office workflow; Minimum hardware specification; Sikkim Government Service Portal; List of the e-services under SGSP and Internet Connectivity.

During the course of presentation, he informed that seven services are live under the said portal namely Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste, Other

Backward Classes, Senior Citizen, Unmarried, Property and Income Certificates. He also informed that the applicants will be informed via SMS and email notifications regarding rejection, return and delivery of the application. He further informed about the innovative implementation of Sikkim Government Services Portal (SGSP) which has the feature of Single Sign On (SSO) that allows the applicant to login into any e-service with a single login credential. Further, he informed that Department of Information Technology has signed an agreement with Reliance JIO for providing internet connectivity at 17 BACs and 117 GPs.

The Resource Persons also sensitized on effective use of technology and operational methods regarding devices provided on portal. They also conducted hands on demonstration of the application processing for Scheduled Tribe Certificate online for SWS (Single Window System), LDC (Lower Division Clerk), SDM (Sub-Divisional Magistrate).

Administrative Camp held

Gyalshing, April 20: An initiative 'Government at your door step' by the Office of District Collector, District Administration, Rabdentse in continuation to the One Day Administrative Camp was also observed at Gram Prashashan Kendra, Lingchom Tikjek GPU under Yangthang Constituency, today.

A team headed by SDM (HQ), Mr. Anant Jain along with the Revenue Inspector, Mr. Satyam Basnett, District Project Manager, Information Technology, District e-Governance Society, Mr. Pempa Tashi Tamang, concerned departmental staff, Panchayats, representative from NGO and public at large attended the day

long camp.

While deliberating upon the main objective of the initiative SDM (HQ) informed that the motive behind conducting such camp was to create awareness and build confidence among the public regarding the easement and simplified process of the various administrative related works at their door steps.

He also informed that after visiting all GPUs under Gyalshing subdivision, the District Collector's Office would select one GPU and convert it into Model E-GPU, in which, the Panchayat office will process all documents in preliminary stage and send it to SDM office online for further approval. The main

motive of this initiative is to sensitize the general public on the benefits of e-services of the administration and reduce the physical presence of the applicant thus implementing the e-office services for the convenience of the people, he added.

At the camp, various certificates like Economically Weaker Section, Married, Unmarried and others were processed and issued on the spot. Hands on training to the GPU staff regarding online processing of various certificates and sensitized on authentic procedures required for the work was also imparted.

department in previous financial year and discussed on the public oriented programmes and Annual Action Plan for the financial year 2021-22.

He also instructed the concerned officials for proper utilisation of funds in carrying out various activities within stipulated time period. He also directed the officials to conduct field visit in order to monitor proper implementation of the schemes in the field. The Minister also stressed upon stock maintenance of medicines and required

resources in Stockman Centres/ Veterinary dispensaries. He further stressed on strengthening of dairy, piggery, poultry, goat farming and other allied sectors and also advised to conduct motivational programmes to encourage farmers towards livestock farming.

During the meetings, the officials thoroughly discussed various programmes and future course of action of the departments and also gave their invaluable inputs.

Contd. from front page

Civil Services...

government has prioritised the welfare of government servants since the formation of the new government back in the year 2019. The most important role of every government employee is to act as a noble bridge between the State government and the people of Sikkim, he added.

The Chief Minister added that ensuring punctuality and efficiency in government offices leads to an active administration followed by an increase in productivity which in the long run works for the welfare of the citizens, society and the State as a whole.

The Chief Minister acknowledged the presence of former Secretaries of the Government of Sikkim who retired from the service in the last two years.

The Chief Minister also made the following announcements during the course of his address:

1. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Civil Services Award to be presented to the best performing civil servant for distinguished services from next year onwards. He added that the award would also comprise of cash prize and Citation. The Citation will also reflect in the Annual Confidential Report (ACR) of the Government official.

2. Housing flats for all Sikkim Government Officers on payment basis. Land acquisition expense to be borne by the government.

3. Compulsory training for Civil Service Officers in India and abroad.

4. Training for District Officers on legal and criminal procedures.

5. Implementation of "Government on doorstep" approach by mobilizing a system to decentralise all services like residential certificates, domicile, land parcha, etc. into online mode whereby the people can apply online and the delivery will be done to their homes. He urged the office of the District Collectors and BDOs to prepare an implementation roadmap.

6. HoDs and concerned departments directed to send clear and detailed proposals to the Planning and Development Department and the Finance Department for their concurrence. The Planning and Finance Departments were directed to clear the proposals and files within 10 days of receiving them. In case of no clearance within 10 days due to certain issues, the HoDs and concerned officers have been directed to immediately hold a meeting under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary for the needful

measures to resolve the issues.

7. Expenditure in the month of March which is the last month of the Financial Year to be restricted to 20% of the budget.

8. Transfer, promotion and deputation policy to be formulated soon.

The event also featured a series of presentations made by District Collector (West), Mr. Karma R. Bonpo, DC (North), Mr. Tenzing T. Kaleon, Additional DC, East, Mr. Tushar G. Nikhare, District Child Protection Officer, South, Ms. Roshnila Gurung, and Vice Chancellor, Sikkim Manipal University, Dr. (Lt. General) Rajan Singh Grewal, AVSM, VSM.

Retired Director of Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussorie, Mr. Sanjeev Chopra, also joined the event and gave his presentation via video conferencing.

It was informed during the event that a certain mechanism has been devised to monitor and evaluate the best practices of each district which were presented today. Based on this evaluation, the Best Performing District Award will be presented on the occasion of Civil Services Day next year.

Chief Architect, Building and Housing Department, Mr. Rajesh Pradhan, also delivered a brief presentation on status and progress of the state-of-the-art "Civil Services Officers' Institute" which is under construction at Chintan Bhawan premises.

The programme also witnessed the presentations of awards and felicitations. The award of Appreciation for the Best Cabinet Memo was presented to the Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Government of Sikkim while the award of Appreciation for the Best Task Management System was presented to the Department of Information Technology, Government of Sikkim.

Likewise, the award of appreciation for the Best Police Station was awarded to Pakyong Police Station. It is informed that this award was presented by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India to Pakyong PS for bagging the 7th position in the list of 10 Best Police Stations all over India.

The Chief Minister also handed over token of appreciation to all former Secretaries who have retired in the last two years to honour and acknowledge their contributions and services to the State.

The Civil Services Day was dazzled by a series of cultural performances by the civil service officers from various batches.

Earlier, the welcome address was delivered by Principal Secretary, Home, Mr. R. Telang, while the vote of thanks was proposed by Special Secretary, DOP, Mr. Tashi Chophel.

Contd. from front page

Review meetings...

the officials of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department. The meeting had the presence of the Secretary AH&VS Dr. Sangey D. Bhutia, Director Mr. B.M. Chettri, Additional Directors and Schemes heads of piggery, sheep, goatery, feed and fodder, poultry, dairy, veterinary services, statistics, accounts and senior officials.

The Minister reviewed on the activities taken up by the

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Education Department; Government of Sikkim

PO: Tashiling; Gangtok; East Sikkim- 737103.
Telefax: 03592-203338

Ref. 27/SPD/SS/Edn/2021-22

Date: April 24, 2021

CIRCULAR

In continuation of Circular No. 09/SPD/SS/Edn/2021-22 dated April 11, 2021, and Circular No.25/SPD/SS/Edn/2021-22 dated April 20/2021, all central and state government, government aided and private educational institutions, universities, colleges, tutorials, coaching institutes and hostels shall now continue to remain closed till May 31, 2021 due to the recent surge in the COVID-19 infection.

Following instruction are issued for strict compliance with the approval of the competent authority:

1. During the closure of these institutions, only students are not required to come to school for regular classes and educational activities.
2. Teaching faculty members and staff members are required to come to their workplaces on 50% staff attendance basis and all gazetted officers shall attend office regularly as per the guidelines issued with Order No 10/Home/2021 dated 22/04/2021.
3. Government employees shall not leave the station without prior permission of the concerned authorities.
4. Notwithstanding anything in instructions at no. 01 above, and if only such attendance is not possible through online or any other mode, only concerned senior students may attend institutions for specific activities like practical assessment, uploading of marks and other matters related to board examinations only with consent of the parents/guardians, essentially maintaining the COVID-19 related safety protocol
5. All online mode of education including teaching, assignment and assessment digitally shall continue and be taken up, if not already done. For elementary level where online mode of education is not feasible, homeschooling may be continued as per the consent of the parents/guardians and duly maintaining all COVID-19 related safety protocol.
6. All school-heads and teachers shall download Sikkim Edutech or use www.sikkimedutech.in to reach out to the students digitally. Laptops supplied to schools and BACs with preloaded educational contents and smart televisions supplied to the students must be utilized for educational activities.
7. All possible support to the Government aided and private schools registered with Education Department may be extended, including online learning by the respective district authorities, if approached
8. BRCCs and CRCCs working under Samagra Shiksha must actively support online and homeschooling mode of learning and get educational contents from the districts and make available to the teachers for the benefit of students wherever online mode is not feasible.
9. All government employees working in educational institutions and students of 18 years and above are advised to -get vaccinated against COVID-19 once such facility is made available by the Government.
10. All heads of the institutions are requested to take care of their institutions and workplaces and ensure timely cleaning of surroundings and frequent sanitization.
11. All teachers shall assist the administration in dissemination of awareness on and management of COVID-19 in their respective areas.

Special Secretary
Education Department

**Tourism and Civil Aviation Department
Government of Sikkim****Paryatan Bhawan, Tadong-East Sikkim**

Website: www.Sikkimtourism.gov.in, Phone no.03259-232218, Fax:03592-232216
Email: secy_tourism@yahoo.com

Ref No.232/DOT&CAV

Dated:22/04/2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed quotations are invited from interested parties and local educated unemployed youth(s) for taking on lease "New Cafeteria at Bakthang Waterfalls" situated at Bhojoghari, East Sikkim of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department on **AS IT IS WHERE IT IS BASIS**", The details of the properties/assets and additional information can be obtained from the Office of Under Secretary(Assets), Paryatan Bhawan, Tadong East Sikkim during office hour.

Sl. no	Name of the property	Rent per month (₹)	TDR (Security Deposit) (₹)	Cost of tender form (₹)
01	New Cafeteria at Bakthang Waterfall, Bhojoghari, East Sikkim	26,000	1,56,000	1300

Time Schedule:

1. Sale of Tender form : Date: **03.05.2021** office hour.
2. Receipt of Tender form along with the relevant documents : Date **18.05.2021**
Time:**01.00 p.m**
3. Opening of Tender Documents in Office of Additional Secretary Paryatan Bhawan, Tadong East Sikkim. : Date:**18.05.2021**
Time: **02.00 p.m**

The intending contractors/bidder may visit the website of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department i.e. www.sikkimtourism.gov.in for information and further details or contact Office of the Under Secretary (Assets) in Paryatan Bhawan, Tadong, East Sikkim

Additional Secretary
Tourism & Civil Aviation Department
R.O. No.34/IPR/PUB/Classi/21-22(ii), Dt:22/04/2021

**Rural Development Department
Government of Sikkim
South District, Namchi****CORRIGENDUM**

With reference to the NIT called by Head Office, Rural Development Department vide Memo No.187/MGNREGA/RDD dated 05/04/2021, sealed quotation of rates were invited from the interested firms having the valid MGNREGA empanelment with RDD, Government of Sikkim, for the supply of materials for MGNREGA works for the financial year 2021-2022 to be supplied to 3 Block Administrative Centres of South District namely Namthang, Yangang & Melli. The deadline for the submission of quotation was 22nd April 2021 which is now extended till 10th May 2021 and will be opened on 11th May 2021
Rest of the content will remain same.

Additional District Collector(Dev.) cum District Programme Coordinator (MGNREGA)
Rural Development Department, South District, Namchi.
R.O. No.33/IPR/PUB/Classi/21-22, Dt:22/04/21

**Government of Sikkim
Department of Information Technology
Secretariat Annexe-I, Sonam Tshering Marg
Gangtok, Sikkim**

Email id-secy-dit-sik@nic.in, visit us at:www.sikkim.gov.in
Ref no:GOS/662/DIT/2020/322 Dated:26-04-2021

Notice Inviting Tender for "Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Servers, Server Operating Systems & Tablets and Maintenance for a period of 5 (Five) Years" for the implementation of e-Cabinet Project

Department of Information Technology, Government of Sikkim invites Tenders for "Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Servers, Server Operating Systems & Tablets and Maintenance for a period of 5 (Five) Years" for the implementation of e-Cabinet Project. The last date of receipt of Tender is 17th May 2021. For further details please visit www.sikkim.gov.in

Sd/-
Additional Director
Department of Information Technology
Government of Sikkim
R.O. No.37/IPR/PUB/Classi/21-22, Dt:26/04/2021

**Government of Sikkim
Public Health Engineering Department**

Memo No:465/PHED. CE Dated:16.04.2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT for the scheme "Augmentation of Gyalshing Water Supply Scheme in West Sikkim"

The Chief Engineer, PHED, on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, invites tender on Percentage Basis for the above named scheme from the eligible contractors. The details of the tender may be found on the website www.sikkimtender.gov.in

Chief Engineer
PHE Department
R.O. No.27/IPR/PUB/Classi/21-22(i), Dt:19/04/21

**Government of Sikkim
Department of Sports & Youth Affairs
White Hall Complex, Gangtok, East Sikkim**

Ref No:27/SYA/2021

Date:26/04/2021

Advertisement

Department of Sports & Youth Affairs, Government of Sikkim is conducting Selection Trial for the age group of 14 to 17 yrs (Boys) in Football for admission to State Sports Academy, Gangtok. The registration form can be downloaded from Departmental website syasikkim.org and the same has to be submitted to District Officer in-charge, Sports & Youth Affairs at Gyalshing, Namchi, Mangan and Gangtok by 3rd May 2021.

Selection Trial date will be uploaded on the Department website and Department Social Media page Department of Sports Youth and Affairs, Government of Sikkim by 10th May 2021.

Deputy Director
Department of Sports & Youth Affairs
Government of Sikkim
R.O. No.38/IPR/PUB/Classi/21-22, Dt:27/04/2021

**Government of Sikkim
Urban Development Department
Gangtok, Sikkim**

No. 15/UDD/2021

Dated:20/04/2021

**ADDENDUM to Notification No.10/UDD/2021
dated 10.03.2021**

The following procedure shall be followed for levy of fines as detailed under:

1. Upon contravention of Clause 4 & 8 and Schedule I of Byelaws of Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Cleanliness and Sanitation for Urban Sector of Sikkim, 2019, the designated official shall levy spot fine as specified in Schedule I of Byelaws of Solid Waste Management for 'Littering' from the Offender.

2. Challan as at Annexure- 'A' shall be issued to all such offender(s) and proceeds of the fines so collected shall be deposited in the account of respective Urban Local Bodies for areas under Urban Local Bodies.

Challan as at Annexure- 'B' shall be issued to all offender(s) and proceeds of the fine so collected shall be deposited in State Bank of Sikkim under Revenue Head 0045.800.03- Other Miscellaneous Receipts for Class II Bazaar areas under Urban Development Department.

3. Periodic reconciliation of collected fees are to be carried out by the respective Municipality/Bazaar Officer and Area Police Station.

(Sarala Rai)
Secretary
Urban Development Department

Fish Mela concludes



Gangtok, April 21: The two days long Fish Mela organised at M.G. Marg, Gangtok, concluded today with a valedictory function.

The closing ceremony was graced by the Minister for Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department, Mr. L.N. Sharma as the chief guest.

The programme was organised by the Directorate of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department, Government of Sikkim in collaboration with National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad, Government of India.

Addressing the valedictory session, Mr. L.N. Sharma, congratulated all fish exhibitors and winners of best performing stalls in various categories. He also outlined the objective of organising Fish Mela in the State and mentioned that fish farming would also strengthen the rural economy and contribute a remarkable role in making Sikkim, a self reliant state. He also appealed the youth to adopt the profession of fish farming and other livestock farming to build their future.

Underlining the huge requirements of fish annually in the State, he appealed the unemployed youth and farmers to involve themselves in fish farming to meet up the growing demands. The Minister also advised the interested youth to submit an application at the concerned District Level Office to get benefitted with all required inputs, including tanks, feeds and other technical supports to start up the fish farming.

He also elaborated various initiatives taken up by the State Government under the leadership of the Chief Minister to boost farmers economy in piggy, dairy, agriculture and allied sectors.

He also acknowledged the Directorate of Fisheries for their dedication in organising Fish Mela amidst numerous challenges and also advised departmental officials to put extra effort in execution of assigned responsibilities for the ultimate benefits of the farming community in the state.

The Minister for Forest Department, Mr. Karma Loday Bhutia in his address, applauded the initiative of Directorate of Fisheries in holding Fish Mela to encourage farmers from rural areas in the State.

He also touched upon varieties of indigenous fish available in the State and said that

fish farming would be a sustainable source of livelihood and will have greater impact in uplifting the economy as the State has huge fish market.

During the programme, the five best performing stalls were awarded in various categories. Aerika Aquarium Rangpo received the Best Ornamental Fish Exhibit Award while Upper Sribadam Trout Rearing Cooperative Society presented with Best Rainbow Trout Exhibit Award. Similarly, Carp Fish farmers from Daramdin was given the best award in Grass Carp category and Carp Fish farmers of South Sikkim was presented the Best Common Carp exhibit. Likewise, local fishermen of East District received the Best Indigenous Fish Exhibit Award.

The Chief Guest and other dignitaries also handed over certificates to all the participants.

Earlier, the Secretary, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Dr. Sangey D. Bhutia proposed welcome address and the Director, Directorate of Fisheries Mr. N. Jaswant presented the Vote of Thanks.

Director Fisheries also mentioned that the exhibitors sold out the fish of approximately one thousand four hundred seventy six (1476) kilograms till 3PM today, and collected a sum of ₹10,38,300/- in two days. The Mela also served as a platform for fish farmers connecting directly with manufacturing companies for feed and medicine, which shall be beneficial in increasing production in the days to come, he added.

Earlier, on April 20, Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang inaugurated two days long Fish Mela, at M.G. Marg.

Different species of fish including the Rainbow Trout, Carp, Grass Carp, Amur Carp and other local indigenous fish were displayed by the fish farmers of the State, following the COVID-19 safety protocols.

In his address, Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang said that he is overwhelmed to see the young entrepreneurs displaying different varieties of fish in the Mela. He also added that the purpose of organising the event is to encourage the youth to take up fisheries as a sustainable means of livelihood and also to promote fish farming in the State.

Considering the potential of stream water in the state, he encouraged the youth to adopt pond fish rearing in their own

locality which will not only generate the income but will also meet the demand of the market. He further added that a separate budgetary provision will be made in the next budget for the fish farmers in order to augment fish farming community in the State.

The Chief Minister stated that the previous year has been the challenging phase due to global pandemic and added that several steps have been taken by the Government of India and the State Government to face the challenges and threat posed by COVID-19. The Chief Minister also informed that to curb the further spread of COVID 19 in the State, the Government will announce that all the Schools, Colleges will remain close till April 30. He further said that all the Government Offices to function with 50% employees from April 22.

The Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang also appealed to the people of the State to curtail un-necessary travelling out of the State and asked them to strictly follow COVID -19 appropriate behaviour.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Mr. L. N. Sharma marked the event a historic for the state. The programme has been organised to motivate fish farmers and unemployed educated youth towards fish farming to make themselves self sufficient. He stated that the fisheries, Livestock and agriculture farming would be an appropriate medium to ensure sustainable livelihood towards Aatmanirbhar Sikkim. The Minister urged everyone to adopt agriculture and livestock farming to increase GDP of the State thereby ensuring healthy lifestyle. He also articulated on newly launched concept "Future is Farming" to sensitise the masses to indulge into farming and market their agricultural products.

The Minister also mentioned that the farmers from all districts have come forward to participate in much awaited Fish Mela and also expressed gratitude to the farmers for their cooperation during the first phase of COVID-19 pandemic and anticipated the same level of dedication and support in the current wave of COVID-19.

It may be mentioned that the fish farmers from Regu, Bashilakha, Tenkilakha, Pakyong, Sadam, Chouridara, Sokpay, Mangshila, Theng, Marchak, Men Rongong, Chota Samdong, Upper Rimbik, Upper Rumbuk, Sribadam have exhibited various species of fish in their stalls.

Earlier, the Chief Minister along with the dignitaries visited the stalls being put up by fish farmers and also interacted with them.

The Chief Minister also felicitated Dr. Pushpa Tamang with a Certificate of Appreciation for the research work done on Fisheries, who was then working as Research Assistant in Directorate of Fisheries, and had recorded 48 species of local fish in the rivers of Sikkim.

National Panchayati Raj Day 2021

Gangtok, April 24: The National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated through virtual mode duly addressed by Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Mr. Narendra Singh Tomar. The virtual meeting at the State level was attended by Zilla Adhakshya (East), Mr. Samsher Bokhim, Pr. Secretary, RDD, Mr. C.S. Rao, Sabhapati, Budang Kamarey Gram Panchayat, East, Mr. Karma Bhutia, Director Panchayat from NIC, Gangtok, Mr. Prabhakar Rai, with participation of awardee Panchayats and officials of South and North Districts from their respective district headquarters.

The Prime Minister in his address congratulated all the Panchayats and functionaries of the country on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day. He requested the elected bodies to concentrate on the schemes meant for the welfare of the people. The cash awards to the awardees were also transferred electronically by the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister mentioned about the SVAMITVA project launched for providing property cards, and also released the property cards to those states

covered in the first phase. He directed all states to follow up for early execution of the project meant for welfare of the people. He highlighted upon the Drone survey of properties and focused on the activities of the Panchayats like Jal Jeevan Mission, Mission Antodyaya, Public Finance Management System and Online Audit of works for transparency. Further mentioning about India moving ahead towards 75th Independence, he laid emphasis upon the development time fixed by the Gram Panchayats and fulfillment of the same.

Touching upon COVID, he requested all to be vigilant and careful with proper dissemination of information regarding protective measures to be adopted. He said that all should follow the initiative "Dabai Bhi and Kadai Bhi" in view of preventing all from contagion.

Similarly, Chief Minister, Mr. Prem Singh Tamang and Minister for RDD, Mr. Sonam Lama have also congratulated the awardee Panchayats of the state and extended their greetings and good wishes to all on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day-2021.

Photo News



Gangtok: Minister for Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha handing over COVID Safety Kits to Minister for Transport Department, Mr. Sanjit Kharel in the presence of Relief Commissioner cum Secretary, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Mr. T. N. Bhutia, Secretary, Transport Department, Mr. P. N. Sherpa and General Manager, Transport Department, Mr. K. N. Bhutia on April 22.

Government of Sikkim

Culture Department, Gangtok-737101, Sikkim

Ref No:127/SA&M/CD

Dated: 16/02/2021

APPEAL

The State government is presently working to establish the first ever Sikkim State Museum at Gangtok. This prestigious project will celebrate and showcase the richness of our State's enduring history, distinct culture and heritage. Once established, this Museum will be a premiere destination for scholars and discerning members of society including the visiting tourists.

Therefore, the Culture Department would like to appeal to everyone to extend all possible support by donating old photographs, documents and objects of historical importance for displaying in the State Museum. Credit for such donations will be displayed along with the artifacts. Further, if desired, full ownership of the artifacts may be retained by the donors themselves.

This appeal is made to citizens at large to come forward positively and Join hands to help establish the State Museum as a collaborative effort to ensure continuity of our cultural uniqueness and importance.

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RO. No.242/IPR/PUB/Classi/20-21, Dt:17/02/21