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Governor grants audience to YVK and NIFAA



Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad with NIFAA, an organization of Tripura and Sikkim at Raj Bhawan.

Gangtok, January 25: Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad granted audience to Yuva Vikash Kendra and National Integrated Forum of Artists and Activists (NIFAA), an organization of Tripura and Sikkim at Raj Bhawan, today.

The team of Yuva Vikash Kendra and NIFAA was in Sikkim for a three-day tour as part of

'Sadhbhavana Tour 2020' whose basic motive is to strengthen the peace, harmony, brotherhood of North East and its integrity.

The Governor wished all the members a successful 'Sadhbhavana Tour' and gave his blessings for their future endeavour.

National Voters' Day observed

Gangtok, January 25: The 10th National Voters' Day with the theme of "Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy" was celebrated at the Conference Hall of Zilla Bhawan, East District, today.

The celebration was graced by Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim, Mr. R. Telang accompanied by District Magistrate (East), Mr. Raj Yadav, Special Secretary, Rural Development Department cum Roll Observer for Special Summary Revision, Mr. Anil Raj Rai, Additional Secretary, Election Department, Mrs. Roshni Rai, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Shyam Pradhan and Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mr. Hemant Rai. Also present in the programme were BLOs, EROs, AEROs, Zilla Panchayat members, students, principals and the new registered voters.

The main objective of the programme was to encourage new voters to take part in the election process of the largest democracy in the world.

During the programme, the National Voters' Day pledge was administered by the Chief Electoral Officer.

The CEO in his address lauded the freedom enjoyed by citizens of India as compared to other neighbouring countries. He stated that India has sustained itself as the largest democracy in the world due to constitutional rule and independent institutions such as the Supreme Court, Election Commission of India etc.

He urged those present in the meeting to become responsible voters to sustain democratic values in the country. Furthermore, he added that one

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Sikkim celebrates 71st Republic Day



Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad reviewing the Republic Day parade during the 71st Republic Day Celebration at Paljor Stadium.

Gangtok, January 26: Sikkim joined the rest of the nation in celebrating the 71st Republic Day of India with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm. In the state level function organised at Paljor

Stadium here in the State capital, the Governor of Sikkim, Mr. Ganga Prasad unfurled the national flag, and received the National salute. The Governor then reviewed the Republic Day

parade put out by personnel from ITBP, SSB, SAP, 2nd and 3rd IRBn, Sikkim Police (Male and Female

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CM lays foundation stone for State Civil Services Officers' Institute

Gangtok, January 27: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang laid the foundation stone for the proposed State Civil Services Officers' Institute at Chintan Bhawan complex in the capital in the presence of Minister of Buildings & Housing Department, Mr. Sanjit Kharel, Deputy Speaker (SLA), Cabinet Ministers, Chief Secretary, Mr. S.C. Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, GMC Mayor, DC (East), heads of departments of the State Government and other dignitaries.

The foundation stone laying ceremony was followed by a short briefing session in the auditorium of Chintan Bhawan wherein Chief Engineer, Buildings & Housing Department, presented a technical report on the Civil Services Officers' Institute.

The State Civil Services Officers' Institute is a multipurpose building which has been conceived to provide an integrated physical environment which will serve as a binding



Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang unveiling the plaque of the State Civil Services Officers' Institute at Chintan Bhawan complex.

force in maintaining relationship and to imbibe within a spirit of among officers working in various organizations in the State

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Pearls of Wisdom

"It is never too late to be what you might have been."
- George Eliot

District Diary

National Girl Child Day 2020 observed

Mangan, January 24: North Sikkim celebrated "National Girl Child Day 2020" in a grand manner with a theme 'Empowering the Girl Child is Empowerment of the Society and the Nation' at the conference hall of Zilla Panchayat Bhawan, Pentok, today.

Additional Magistrate (North), Mr. Surat Gurung graced the occasion as the chief guest.

Addressing the gathering ADC (North), Mr. Somnath Adhikari talked about the objective of the celebration of BBBP week and said that everyone must imbibe the goal of BBBP and take this as 'each one teach one' so that better result could be achieved in future. Mr. Adhikari informed that during this period, various activities pertaining to BBBP have been organised throughout the district and he called for mass participation of the public.

CDPO (Mangan), Mrs. Lanzey Donka Denzonga elucidating the 'National Girl Child Day' said that every year, January 24th is celebrated as National Girl Child Day to offer support and new opportunities to the girls and encourage gender equality. The day is also celebrated to increase awareness about inequalities faced by girls and women in terms of education, healthcare, nutrition, legal rights, protection, and honour.

DRCHO (North), Ms. P. K. Basnett talking on child sex ratio informed that according to 2001 census, in North Sikkim, the sex ratio was 995 per 1000 male and in 2011 it was 929 per 1000 male. Apart from this, she also spoke on Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (PC&PNDT).

The weeklong "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" (BBBP) celebration 2020 which had started on 20th January 2020 concluded on January 26th.

The closing ceremony was organised by the District Task Force (DTF) at conference hall of

Zilla Panchayat Bhawan, Pentok, North Sikkim wherein Minister for Roads & Bridges and Culture Affairs Department, Mr. Samdup Lepcha was present as the chief guest.

During the weeklong BBBP celebration the DTF had conducted various events and nominated best girl achievers in different fields.

Best girl achievers in academics were presented to Prena Gajmer (class XII) of Mangan Senior Secondary School for scoring 85% in science; Dawa Lhamu Lepcha (class XII) of Phodong Senior Secondary School for scoring 59% in Commerce and Tshering Ongmu Lepcha (class X) of Kalzang Gyatso Senior Secondary School for 65%. The Best School Management Committee was presented to Sonam Choda Lepcha Memorial Secondary School, Lingdong, Dzongu, North Sikkim.

Best girl achiever in sports to Doma Lepcha, D/o Tashi Lepcha, Mangan Senior Secondary School. Best Supervisor to Chumi Sherpa, Chungthang; Diku Maya Pradha, Phensong and Aruna Rai, Dzongu.

Local Champions were Dichen Ongmu Lepcha (cricket); Dikcha Bishwakarma (Boxing) and Dolma Lhamu Lachenpa (Academics). Best CDPO was Lanzey Donka Denzonga, CDPO (Mangan). Also, the winner of painting and essay competition was presented to Wangdul Lachenpa, Mangan Senior Secondary School; Ayush Sharma, Mangan Senior Secondary School and Sangay Doma Bhutia, Kalzang Gyatso Senior Secondary School.

For Essay writing competition the award was presented to Manisha Rai of Kalzang Gyatso and Hasim Akhtar of Mangan Senior Secondary School.

Similarly, National Girl Child Day Celebration was observed at the premises of

Mayal Lyang Children Home in Namchi. The occasion is a part of week long events of celebration of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme. Organised by State Resource Centre for Women under Social Justice and Welfare Department, South District, the programme had the presence of Sr. DPHNO (South) Mrs. Bijay Laxmi Rai as the chief guest, DPHNO (Ward) Mrs. Durga Pokhrel, State Project Co-ordinator (State Resource Centre for Women) Mrs. Pabitra Bhattarai, CDPO (Namchi) Mr. Laxman Tamang along with officials and staff of concerned Department.

Addressing the gathering, chief guest, Mrs. Bijay Laxmi Rai spoke on gender discriminations based on education, work place and in daily life faced by girl children. Informing that women have an equal contribution for building society she urged for awareness in health, education and nutrition for the development of girl child. She also touched upon the topics such as Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994 which is the ban on prenatal sex determination to stop female foeticides.

In his brief address, CDPO Namchi, Mr. Laxman Tamang highlighted on the significance and objectives behind the celebration. He informed that the celebration is to bring awareness as well as to provide support and opportunity to girl children. In addition, he also spoke about various programmes provided under Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) to the girl children of country wherein they can avail benefits.

As a part of the celebration, the programme also had counselling on Menstrual Hygiene Management presented by Aganwadi Worker to the children. The girls of Mayal Lyang also participated in dance, games and art competition wherein prizes were also awarded to them.

Winter Coaching Camp 2020 organized

Mangan, January 26: A month long "Winter Coaching Camp 2020" jointly organized by the Sports and Youth Affairs Department, North District and North Sikkim Sports Wing successfully concluded, today.

Minister for Roads & Bridges and Culture Department, Mr. Samdup Lepcha attended the closing day of winter coaching camp as the chief guest.

Interacting with the children of the camp, the Minister complimented the children for successfully completing a month long coaching camp in various discipline and wished them well, saying he hoped that they

would become good citizens of the country.

He encouraged the children to excel in sports in order to bring laurel home and to outshine on international stage. On the other hand, he also advised the children to do well in academics.

Lastly, the Minister asked the children to take full advantage of such camps and to make positive use of the skills which they have learned during the month long camp.

In total, 125 children had participated in this winter coaching camp and underwent month-long training in four different discipline i.e. Taekwondo, Football, Archery

and Table Tennis.

Winter coaching camp 2020 which started on January 05 had five coaches viz. Mr. Michael Lepcha (football), Mr. Kunzang Kazi (football), Mr. Phurba Sherpa (Taekwondo), Mr. Dawa Zigden Lepcha (Archery) and Mr. Sonam Wangchuk Bhutia (Table Tennis).

The closing day also saw the felicitation of coaches with token of appreciation, exhibition futsal match, Taekwondo demonstration, cultural show and distribution of winter coaching camp certificates to the children.

MP (Lok Sabha) chairs meeting on DISHA

Namchi, January 24: MP (Lok Sabha), Mr. Indra Hang Subba chaired a daylong meeting on District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee Meeting (DISHA) for South District organized by Rural Development Department (RDD) and District Administration Center (DAC) at the Conference Hall of South District Zilla Panchayat Bhawan, today.

The MP who is also the Chairman of the DISHA Committee attended the meeting accompanied by DC (South) Mr. Ragul.K, Zilla Adhyaksha (South) Mrs. Tshering Dem Bhutia and other dignitaries.

DC (South) in his welcome address highlighted the importance of DISHA meeting and the implications it bears for South District as a whole. He further, elaborated that the formation of DISHA will fulfill the objective of ensuring better coordination among all the elected representatives of the State and the officials for working efficiently and in a time-bound manner towards holistic development of South district.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Indra Hang Subba expressed his delight over the line department's commitment towards presenting a comprehensive account of the ongoing schemes and programmes under their respective departments for the welfare and upliftment of the public. Furthermore, he spelled out the role of all the line departments

to facilitate timely execution of approved projects under the District and urged upon transparency and accountability towards execution and implementation of the schemes. He spoke about the need for effective coordination and cooperation between the stakeholders, elected representatives and the public to facilitate better outreach of programmes for the rightful beneficiaries. He also shared his optimistic vision of reforming the structure of State and Centrally sponsored schemes in the district which will eventually make room for newer and progressive development. Additionally, he also informed the attendees of the meeting that DISHA committee possess powers in seeking effective follow up of issues raised during today's deliberation. In this regard, the MP called for a time bound follow-up meetings for examining, monitoring and tracking the progress report of every line department that presented their PPT in the meeting.

Power Point presentations by various Departments namely Social Welfare Department, Health, Smart City, PHE, Agriculture and Horticulture, Energy and Power, UD&HD, Education Department were presented. It may be informed that this was the first preliminary meeting of DISHA under South District and a meeting once in every quarter will similarly be held henceforth.

Mapping of Tribal Sports Talent held

Namchi, January 27: In pursuit to endeavour "Mapping of Tribal Sports Talent" in South district, the Tribal Research Institute in collaboration with Sports & Youth Affairs Department organised its 3rd edition of programme at Namchi, today.

Funded by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India the department conducted various sports talent hunts viz. Volleyball, Karate, Taekwondo, Football and Badminton. The tribal children from different localities of South district actively participated in these event under careful guidance of

the respective coaches. Best two talents from each categories will be invited to showcase their skills at Gangtok later. The department proposes to sponsor best 10 talents to visit Sports Academy outside the state in the next financial year. A similar kind of talent hunts activities will be conducted in the West and East district soon.

The programme was graced by Joint Secretary SJEWD, Mr. Sunil K Mothey, ACF (Forest), Mr. Tsheten Lepcha, Deputy Director (HQ), Mr. Jigme Lepcha, Officials from TRI and the respective coaches.

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**Government of Sikkim
Department of Personnel
Gangtok**

No. 3772/GEN/DOP.

Dated:16/01/2020

ADVERTISEMENT

Application in the prescribed form are invited for the appointment in the following posts on contractual basis under Sikkim Vigilance Police, Government of Sikkim for the retired officers of equivalent rank of Superintendent of Police and Deputy Superintendent of Police in Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

1. **Superintendent of Police** **02 posts.**
2. **Deputy Superintendent of Police** **02 posts.**

In case no eligible local candidates apply for the post, applications from non locals shall also be accepted. .

The details terms and conditons related to requirement can be seen at official website of www.sikkimdop.gov.in/www.sikkim-vigilance.gov.in/www.ipr.sikkim.gov.in under Notice board. Eligible candidates have to submit their application up to 15/02/2020 by registered/speed post or email at gos.dopart@gmail.com (scanned) only. Shortlisted candidates will be called for interview at Office of the Director, Sikkim Vigilance Department/Department of Personnel, Gangtok.

**ADDL. SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF SIKKIM
DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL**

R.O. No.333/IPR/PUB/Classi/19-20(ii), Dt:22/01/20

**Government of Sikkim
Office of the Sr. Superintendent of Prisons
State Central Prison
Rongyek**

Memo No:15/GOS/JAIL/97(P-III)/2019-207/487

Dated:21/01/2020

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotations are invited from registered firms of Sikkim for Supply of ration, grocery, hardware and electrical items to the State Central Prison, Rongyek and District Prison, Namchi for the period with effect from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021. The rates quoted by the firms inclusive of all transportation/carriage charges upto point of delivery i.e. the Central Prison, Rongyek and District Prison, Namchi as and when the items are requisitioned shall be final for all purpose.

The quotations addressed to the Sr. Superintendent of Police/Prison, Rongyek should reach the office of the undersigned on or before 10 A.M. on 03/03/20. The Tender Selection Committee shall open the tenders in the office of the Superintendent of Police/Prison, Rongyek at 11 A.M. on the same day in the presence of the Tenderers or their authorized agents.

The quotation shall be accompanied by a state Bank of Sikkim, T.D.R. made in favour of the Sr. Superintendent of Police/Prison, Rongyek for 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand) only alongwith certified copies of the concerned firms registration, valid Trade License, GST registration etc. The failure to submit anyone of the above mentioned documents shall render the quotation void.

The tender Selection Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

The Tender documents can be obtained from the Office of the Sr. Superintendent of Police/Prisons, Rongyek between 10.00 A.M. to 2.00 P.M. on all working days with effect from the publication of Tender Notices.

**Sr. Superintendent of Police/Prison,
State Central Prison, Rongyek.**

R.O. No.334/IPR/PUB/Classi/19-20(iii), Dt:22/01/20

**Government of Sikkim
Sikkim Government Law College,
Lower Burtuk, Gangtok, Sikkim**

Ref. No. 213/SGLC/19-20

Date: 24.01.2020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited from interested persons/firms for operating canteen at ground floor of Sikkim Government Law College, below Helipad, Lower Burtuk, Gangtok.

1. Minimum yearly rent fixed is 36,000/- (Rupees thirty six thousand) only.
2. Temporary deposit of 1000/- (Rupees one thousand) only have to be deposited in the State Bank of Sikkim in favour of Principal In-charge, Sikkim Government Law College Gangtok.
3. The person/firms whose tender will be accepted will have to deposit the rent within five days. Otherwise his TDR will be forfeited and falling which it will be awarded to next higher bidder.
4. Last date & time for receipt/submission of tender document by hand or post is on or before 21st February 2020, at 3 p.m. And the same will be opened on 26th February 2020, at 1. P.m. In presence of such tenderers who may desire to be present.
5. Agreement between the College Administration and the successful bidder have to be signed.
6. The successful bidder should deposit yearly rent within five days in favour of Principal In-charge, Sikkim Government Law college.

**Principal In-charge
Sikkim Govt. Law College,
Lower Burtuk, Gangtok**

R.O. No.339/IPR/PUB/Classi/19-20, Dt:27/01/20

**Department of Information and Public Relations
Government of Sikkim, Tadong, Gangtok
ATTENTION**

Instances of non-receipt of Sikkim Herald in various Departments have been reported even though the same are being delivered by the Department regularly.

In view of above, it is proposed to deliver the Sikkim Herald to a designated delivery point in different Departments through a designated contact person (Nodal Officers) which will facilitate in keeping track of regular delivery of Sikkim Herald to them.

Although some Departments have already complied, there are still few Departments who have still not designated a Nodal Officer for the same. Kindly intimate the name, designation and contact number (both landline & mobile) of the Nodal Officer who will be responsible for receipt of Sikkim Herald in their respective Departments at the earliest to the undersigned.

**Assistant Director (Pub.)
sikkimherald_ipr@yahoo.com
Mob.No. 7908097115**

**Government of Sikkim
Motor Vehicles Division, Transport
Department
Yatayat Bhawan**

Ph No:03592-201073. Fax No:03592-201074.
Email:headofficemvd@gmail.com

No. GOS/MVD/T/2019-20/Adm./933 Dated: 05/12/2019
To,

**Shri Bishnu Chettri
Driver (MR)
Moter Vechile Division
Transport Department
Government of Sikkim
Gangtok.**

NOTICE

It is for your information that you have been absent from your duty w.e.f. 01.07.2019 without prior permission or leave application. This is extremely irregular and against the decorum of the office.

Therefore, you are directed to report for duty within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice failing which your service will be terminated automatically thereafter.

**Sd/-
SECRETARY**

Transport Department
R.O. No.288/IPR/PUB/Classi/19-20, Dt:06/12/19

**National Highways Division
Roads & Bridges Department
Government of Sikkim
Nirman Bhawan**

e-mail: nhwingsikkim@gmail.com

No. 04/GOS/R&B/19-20/76 Date:27/01/2020

GENERAL INFORMATION

It is to bring to the kind attention of the General Public as well as various Government agencies that the road stretch from Ranipul to Gangtok (KM 80 to 92.040) is a part of the National Highway-NH 10 and its maintenance and operation are governed by the Control of National Highways (Land & Traffic)Act,2002.

It has also been observed that various Government agencies as well as a number of private individuals have been engaged in un-authorised digging along the Highway which is damaging the pavement.

Accordingly it is to inform that all concerned should invariably obtain necessary clearances from the designated Highway authority before carrying out any construction/alteration works along the National Highway. Defaulters are liable to be prosecuted under the relevant section of the Act

**Divisional Engineer(NH)
Roads & Bridges Department,
Government of Sikkim.**

R.O. No.340/IPR/PUB/Classi/19-20(ii), Dt:28/01/20

**Department of Information & Public Relations
Government of Sikkim,
Gangtok**

No.(378-II)/IPR/09-10/341 Date: 12.02.2010

CIRCULAR

In order to give wide publicity of Tender Notices/Employment Notices published in Sikkim Herald Classified and other local news papers the following procedures will be followed with immediate effect.

Tender Notices will be accepted by the Department for publication having **minimum time of 35 days** before the last date of submission of tenders. Other notices like Employment/Auction etc. will be accepted for publication having **minimum time of 17 days**.

Heads of Departments are requested to send the Tender Notices/ Employment Notices for publication **in triplicate** duly observing the above time limit.

No bill for advertisement pertaining to other department other than IPR should be entertained for payment if the same is **not certified** by Under Secretary/Director/ IPR.

All Tender Notices/Employment Notices etc. to be sent to the Department addressed to Secretary or Director, I.P.R. Department through official channel only and under no circumstances the I. P. R. Department will accept the advertisements sent through unauthorized person.

This issues with the approval of the Government.

**Sd/-
COMMISSIONER-CUM-SECRETARY**

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Sikkim celebrates...

Platoons), Sikkim Home Guards, NCC, Army Band, and Sikkim Police Pipe and Brass Bands. This was followed by an impressive march past by the contingents. Mr. J. Jaya Pandiyan, IPS, SDPO Namchi led the contingents as the parade commander, and he was supported by Parade 2 I/C, Police Inspector Mr. Pema Rana, SHO Chungthang.

The state level function was graced by Chief Minister of Sikkim, Mr. Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) as the Guest of Honour. The programme also had the presence of Minister for Education & Sports & YA, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha, Minister for UD&HD, Mr. Arun Upreti, MLA Mr. B.K. Khatiwara, MP Lok Sabha Mr. Indra Hang Subba, Political Secretary to Chief Minister, Mr. Jacob Khaling, Chief Secretary, Mr. S.C. Gupta, DGP Mr. A. Shankar Rao, all Heads of Departments, and senior officers of the State administration.

The Governor in his address, reminisced the efforts of freedom fighters who fought for the independence of India and said that India has come a long way since the adoption of the Constitution on January 26, 1950.

Growth and development of Health, Women's Rights in the State of Sikkim was the highlight of the Governor's address at the 71st Republic Day celebrations. Further, he talked about the benefits provided by the Government to employees such as Health Insurance policies and also touched upon the prodigious work done by the State in terms of Education, Women Empowerment, Rural and Urban Management, Tourism etc. The Governor enlightened everyone about the vision of State Government to solve issues such as road congestion, and continuous supply of electricity and water. He talked about transforming ourselves into responsible citizens towards our duty, our community and the State. He further said that the State Government despite of all its achievements should not rest on its laurels and must make bold steps to ensure sustainable development of our future generation. In the end, the Governor concluded by congratulating the Police medal winners and State awardees for bringing laurels to the State.

Customary to the Republic Day Celebrations in the State of Sikkim, Police Personnel from the state were feted with the decorated Presidents Police Medal and exemplary employees of the Government of Sikkim were awarded the Sikkim State Meritorious Service Award in recognition for their admirable and dedicated services to the State.

It was announced that Mrs. Tshering Yangzom, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Home Guards & Civil Defence was

awarded the Police Medals on the eve of Republic Day, 2020, for her outstanding service.

The President's Police Medal for 2018 was awarded to Miss. Eden Subba, SPS, Additional Superintendent of Police for her selfless service towards the State.

The following Government employees were honoured with the Sikkim State Meritorious Service Awards on the occasion are Mr. Rajendra Chhetri, Director, Information and Technology Department; Mrs. Arpita Rasaily, Private Secretary, Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom; Mr. Chandra Bahadur Chhetri, Sub Inspector, Training Branch, Police Headquarters; Mrs. Meena Rasaily, Head Assistant, Excise Department; Mr. Sonam Pintso Bhutia, Sub Inspector, Mangan, Food and Civil Supplies Department; Mr. Surbir Rasaily, Senior Artiste (Musician), Culture Department; Mr. Nar Bahadur Chhetri, Cameraperson, Information and Public Relations Department; Mr. Dorjee Wangda Bhutia, Driver, Printing and Stationery Department and Prem Kumar Rai, Office Attendant (Higher Education), Education Department.

Mr. Pemba Tshering Sherpa who won Bronze medal in weight-lifting at Khelo India Games 2020, and Mr Ladorjee Tamang who won 1st position in Guitar Solo at 23rd National Youth Festival recently in Lucknow were also presented with appreciation awards for their accomplishment and for bringing laurels to the State.

Amidst loud cheers of encouragement, the Governor presented trophies to contingents based on their performance in the Republic Day parade. The Sikkim Police Female Platoon took the 'All Round Best Platoon Award' followed by Indo-Tibetan Border Police which won the 'Second Best Platoon Award'. The 'Best Band Contingent Award' was presented to Army Band while NCC walked away with the 'Consolation Prize'. The selections were made by a jury constituted for the purpose.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang, and other dignitaries joined the Governor in releasing two publications, namely, Tourism & Travellers Outreach Handbook - by the Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, and Sikkim's MSME Story (The journey of growing state and its enterprise) - by the Commerce & Industries Department.

The Governor, Chief Minister, Cabinet Ministers, MP (Lok Sabha), MLAs, and other dignitaries visited the army equipment display where they were extensively briefed about the various equipments on display by top officials of the army.

The programme also had colourful cultural presentations by the students of Kendriya Vidyalaya Gangtok, who performed an Integration Dance, while artists of the Culture

Department presented a folk dance depicting the tradition of Sikkim. One of the highlights of the day was the Girls Self Defence Demonstration under the Beti Bachao Beti Padoo programme. An initiative of the Sports & Youth Affairs Department, this programme is being taken to every school in the state to empower the girl child.

Earlier, the showering of flower petals by the Helicopter (organized by Tourism & Civil Aviation Department) added more colour to the day's proceedings.

The state level programme concluded with the tune of the National Anthem performed by Sikkim Police Brass Band.

71st Republic Day was also celebrated at the premises of High Court of Sikkim. Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, Mr. Justice Arup Kumar Goswami hoisted the National Flag and received the guard of honour presented by the Sikkim Armed Police personnel. This was followed by the recital of National Anthem by the legal fraternity present on the occasion.

The function also had the august presence of Judge, High Court of Sikkim, Mrs. Justice Meenakshi M. Rai, and Judge, High Court of Sikkim Mr. Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan.

Also present during the occasion were the ex-officio members of High Court of Sikkim, judicial officials, senior advocates, panel advocates, bar members and staffs and officials of High Court of Sikkim.

Also, the 71st Republic Day was celebrated at the premises of the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority.

Judge, High Court of Sikkim, Mrs. Justice Meenakshi M. Rai, who is also the Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

On the occasion, Mrs. Justice Meenakshi M. Rai hoisted the national flag and received the guard of honour, in the distinguished presence of Judge, High Court of Sikkim, Mr. Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan, and Retired Judge, Mr. Justice A.P. Subba.

This was followed by singing of the National Anthem. The programme also had the presence of judicial officials, panel advocates, officers from various Departments and staff members of the Sikkim SLSA.

Similarly in Namchi, 71st Republic Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and patriotic fervor at the premises of Namchi District Administrative Centre. Organised by South District Administration, District Level Cultural Show in collaboration with Namchi Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) the occasion had the presence of Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Departments Mr. B.S. Panth. Present amongst others were District Collector (South) Mr. Ragul K, SP (South) Mr. Prawin Gurung along with SDMs, HoDs, officials, police personnel, NYK members and

staff of the district.

At the onset of the programme, chief guest was accorded the Guard of Honour followed by unfurling of the tricolour and singing of National Anthem.

Thereafter, DC (South) and SDM (HQ) read out the messages from the Governor of Sikkim and Chief Minister of Sikkim, respectively.

Addressing the gathering, chief guest extended warm greetings on the occasion of the 71st Republic Day. Speaking on the importance of the Republic Day celebration in the country the Chief Guest informed about the historical background of the important day and how the Constitution of India came into force. Mr. Panth spoke about how the leaders and freedom fighters of our nation have sacrificed in order to establish our great nation and we should not forget about those sacrifices. Mr. Panth also highlighted that Sikkim has always strived to be a model state in the country and the State Government has laid prime focus on the development of tourism in a sustainable manner.

During the programme, the chief guest felicitated Tanak Project Samiti from Temi Tarku,

Future Club from Sadam, Lakshya Club from Namthang and the Team VOICE, an NGO based in Namchi for their active participation in the event. The program also saw colourful cultural extravaganza performed by the various clubs, NGOs and participants from Nehru Yuva Kendra.

Also, North Sikkim celebrated the 71st Republic Day

in a grand manner with much patriotism. Chief Guest of the day, Area MLA -cum- Minister for Roads & Bridges and Culture Affairs Department Mr. Samdup Lepcha unfurled the national flag followed by national anthem and guard of honor at Zilla Panchayat Bhawan complex, Pentok, North Sikkim.

Addressing the gathering Mr. Lepcha extended his warmest Republic Day greetings to the gathering and paid his rich tribute to the martyr of the country who sacrificed their lives. He talked about the importance of the Republic Day and urged everyone to imbibe honesty, faithfulness and a feeling of oneness towards one and all. He sought cooperation from the people to take Sikkim into new success of development and assured that the government shall work tirelessly for development of the state and for the benefit of public.

The Message of the Governor and Chief Minister were read out by ADC/N and SDM, Mangan, respectively.

On the occasion, chief guest also handed over "Best District Employees Award" to Mrs. Dawnu Lepcha, Data Operator, Education Department and Mr. Ramesh Chettri, Plant Operator, Public Health Engineer Department.

Meanwhile, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Mangan also Felicitated 'Sikkim Lepcha Youth Association, Dzongu Branch, Passingdang, North Sikkim' in the area of social service with certificate of Appreciation and cash incentives of 25000/-.

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CM lays...

cooperation in all aspects of civil services.

Proposed institute will provide banqueting services for all the State Civil Services officers and their family as well as guest room facilities for State guests and resource persons from outside the State for their comfortable stay in Sikkim. Additionally, the centre will also facilitate organizing and promoting conferences, seminars, lectures and trainings while also housing a food court for the public.

As guided and directed by the Chief Minister and the Chief Secretary, various other services including library facilities, health wellness centre, recreational facilities and other provisions will also be introduced in order to make the institute a state-of-the-art infrastructure with inbuilt facilities.

It is further informed that since the structure will be built adjacent to Chintan Bhawan, the amenities provided by both the buildings can be exchanged and availed when required.

In his brief address, Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) said that the proposed institute is dedicated exclusively

to the zealous Civil Services officers who actively deliver diligent work for the development of the State. He added that the centre will also aid various departments and the State Government in reducing accommodation expenses on guests and Resource persons from outside the State who otherwise are usually housed in hotels and lodges.

Reiterating that the State Government will remain steadfast in its support for the benefit of the people of Sikkim, the Chief Minister urged all to practice responsible leadership and work in tandem towards the growth and development of the State. Referring to all Civil Services officers and government employees as the backbone of the government, he extended gratitude to all for their consistent hard work and dedication towards the State and its people.

The State Civil Services officers have also extended deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Chief Minister and the State Government for sanctioning the long-overdue project.

Earlier, the welcome address was presented by PCE-cum-Secretary, Buildings & Housing Department while the vote of thanks was delivered by Additional Secretary of the department.

Training programme for newly appointed Assistant Government Advocates-cum-Assistant Public Prosecutors organised

Gangtok, January 24: A day-long training programme for the newly appointed Assistant Government Advocates-cum-Assistant Public Prosecutors was organised by the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department at the Administrative Training Institute, Gangtok, today.

The training programme was chaired by L.R.-cum-Secretary, Law & P.A. Department, Mr. Jagat B. Rai. The two-session training programme was specially organised for the recently appointed Asst. Government Advocates cum Asst. Public Prosecutors to educate them in the intricacies of the legal matters. The programme served also as an Orientation Programme for them and was conducted by two of Sikkim's respected and reputed Senior Advocates Mr. A.J. Sharma and Mr. N.P. Sharma.

In the first session of the day, Resource Person Mr. A.J. Sharma enlightened the gathering on the basic concept

of civil cases under the Civil Procedure Code, 1980 r/w Evidence Act, 1872 and Limitation Act, 1973 all the while drawing attention to filing of nature of suits, plicant, filing of written statements, injunction application, stay of suits, filing of evidence of affidavits, filing of documents, issuance of commission, appeal, revision, second appeal, additional evidence in appeal, amendment, rejection, judgement on admission, suits of Specific Relief Act and suits for Defamation.

Following the first session, the second session of the day was conducted by Senior Advocate Mr. N.P. Sharma who discussed the basic concepts of Criminal Cases under Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 r/w Evidence Act, 1872 and Limitation Act, 1973 mainly focussing on the filing of charge sheet, pecuniary jurisdiction, cognizance of offences by Magistrates and Court of Session, bar of taking

cognizance, examination in chief, cross-examination and re-examination, framing of charge, joinder of charge, alteration of charge, additional evidence appeal, revision, evidence for defence, warrant trial and summary trial, bail, recalling of witnesses, Proclamation for person absconding, attachment of property of person absconding, compounding of offences, withdrawal from prosecution and procedure in cases of unsound mind/lunatic.

It may be mentioned that the topics discussed therein by the two Resource People will prove to be very helpful to the new Legal Practitioners in their careers. The very informative and knowledgeable day concluded with an encouraging speech by Joint Secretary, Law & P.A. Department, Ms. Choden Gyatso along with the distribution of Certificate of Participation to all the trainees/ attendees.

Commercial Taxes Division in association with SHRA to organize awareness drive on GST

Gangtok, January 23: The Commercial Taxes Division, Finance Department in association with Sikkim Hotels & Restaurants Association (SHRA) has decided to organize an awareness drive on GST (Goods and Services Tax) followed by an enforcement drive to ensure timely payment of GST and other taxes. The enforcement drive will commence from February 17, 2020. A press conference in this regard was organized today by the Commercial Taxes Division of the Finance Department in the capital.

The press conference was jointly addressed by Mayor (GMC) Mr. Shakti Singh Choudhary, Commissioner (Commercial Taxes Division) Mr. Jigme Dorjee Bhutia, Director (Accounts) Tourism Department, Mr. Tseten Dorjee Bhutia, SP (East) Mr. Hari Chettri, and President (SHRA) Mr. Roshan Pradhan.

It was informed that GST is a consumption based tax system, and this feature of GST has generated more revenue for consumer states like Sikkim and other states of the North - East Region.

The overall collection of Commercial Taxes Division during April-December 2019 has grown by 21.28 % in comparison to collection of April-December 2018. Further, GST collection during April to December 2019 has grown by 17.32 % in comparison to collection of April to December 2018; Per capita collection of GST from April to December 2019 in Sikkim is 3,505.00 which is highest among all the states of India. Second position is held by Goa with per capita collection of

2,488.00 and Delhi is third with 2,203.00.

Nevertheless, in sector wise analysis of revenue collection it is found that the collection of GST from Hotel sector remains below par compared to other sectors of the State Economy. Department conducted a field survey of the hotels and found that the number of defaulters are very high and the majority of the defaulters are ignorant about the consequential law. It is essential to make stakeholders aware about the legal provision before taking coercive action. Hence, the Commercial Taxes Division arranged to publish notices in local newspapers urging the hoteliers to obtain registration, pay GST in time and file returns regularly.

It was also informed that this Joint Press Conference was specially held to inform hoteliers that the Commercial Taxes Division would launch enforcement actions from 17 February 2020 against the defaulting hoteliers. It may even include the arrest of the defaulters under Section 69 of the Sikkim Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017. All hoteliers should make sure their GST payment is up to date before 17 February, 2020.

It has been noted that most of the property owners and license holders have leased out their business to a third party. In such cases, it is the duty of the Lessor (the property owner or licensee) to register himself/herself as a taxpayer providing leasing service. He/she should collect GST on the lease amount and deposit the GST to the Government.

When the Lessor is

registered, he/she will automatically compel the lessee also to obtain registration as taxpayer providing service of supply of food and accommodation services. The lessee can take credit of the tax paid on lease amount so extra tax burden could be avoidable.

It was further informed that in the current scenario, the lessor is neither taking registration nor paying tax on the lease amount. This is creating an opportunity to the Lessee to evade tax. It may be true that the lease deed is a mere bunch of paper work and can be shielded, but the ongoing hotel business is hidden neither in the physical market nor in the Internet market. If the Lessee does not take the registration for the hotel business, then by default the person holding the license issued by UDHD or Municipality 'or the BDO office to run the hotel will be responsible to pay the GST for the business turnover. Usually the license holders are property owners themselves or their nominees. It should also be noted that the Commercial Taxes Division is part of the Common Forum constituting Income Tax Department, Private Banks and Public Banks. The forum regularly shares all information about financial transactions.

In today's state of information technology advancement it is not possible to remain hidden from the eye for a very long time. Any kind of tax, interest, and penalty can be recovered through various measures empowered in the GST Act including Auction of properties, it was stressed upon.

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National Voters'...

should not vote influenced by caste, religion and communal feelings.

On the occasion new registered voters were felicitated by the chief guest. He also felicitated the Best Electoral Literacy Club, Best District and State Level BLOs, Best AERO, Best ERO, and best Nodal Officer.

Similarly, on the occasion of 10th National Voters' Day, the District Election Officer (DEO) cum District Collector (South) Mr. Ragul K administered the National Voters' Day pledge at a celebration held at Namchi DAC Conference hall.

The event also had the presence of SDM (Namchi) Mr. Agwane Rohan Ramesh, SDM (HQ) Mr. Chiran Rizal along with the officials and staff of Election Department, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and newly enrolled young voters.

In his address, the DEO South spoke about the significance of National Voters' Day celebrations and informed the gathering that casting of vote is a democratic practice. He urged all the eligible voters to value and exercises their franchise to elect a rightful candidate.

During the programme, DEO South administered the National Voters' Day pledge besides presenting Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) numbers to 4 newly enrolled young voters of the district. He also presented awards and certificates to the Best Performing BLOs under South District based on their performance during 2019 Sikkim Legislative Assembly-Parliamentary Elections and Bye-Elections of Poklok-Kamrang constituency.

The names of the awardees from 8 different constituencies under South District are as follows:

Zoom-Salghari- Mrs Purnima Chettri; Barfung- Mr. Basu Dev Khanal; Poklok-Kamrang- Mr. Dawa Tshering Lepcha; Namchi-Singhithang- Mr. Mani Kamal Gurung; Melli- Mr. Hom Nath Sharma; Namthang-Rateypani - Mr. Mukunda Dhungel; Temi-Namphing- Mr. Gokul Prashad Subedi; Rangang-Yangyang- Mr. Pahal Man Limboo and Tumin Lingee - Mr. Pashu Ram Sharma.

During the course of the programme, a message from the Chief Election Commissioner of India was also displayed before the attendees.

Similarly in Mangan, Election Department, North Sikkim celebrated the 10th National Voters Day on 25th January 2020 with the theme "Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy" at District Election Conference hall, Mangan. The programme was organised by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim.

Additional Magistrate (North), Mr. Surat Gurung graced the function as the chief guest along with SDM (Mangan), Mr. Karma Thupden Bhutia, SDM (Dzongu), Mr. Tshering Norbu Bhutia, Deputy Director, Education (North), Mr. Sajan V. Sebestain, Deputy Director, Election, North, Mr. Biswa B. Raj Gurung.

ADM/N, Mr. Gurung speaking on the occasion congratulated young voters who just turned 18 and received their right to vote for the first time. He mentioned that after entering into an adult franchise one should become more responsible in order to bring about positive changes in the society and country as a whole. Right to vote is one of the fundamental rights of a citizen thus the new registered voters must exert their rights in a befitting manner for the good cause.

During the celebration SDM (Dzongu), Mr. Bhutia read out the national voters day message of the Chief Election Commissioner of India and ADM/N administered the national voters' day pledge.

The event also witnessed the felicitation of new registered voters and distribution of Election Photo Identity Card.

Likewise, in Gyalshing, the 10th National Voters' Day with the theme "Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy" was celebrated in a grandeur manner at Bhanu Shalig, Gyalshing which was organised by the Office of the Chief Electoral. (DC West) Mr. Karma R. Bonpo was present as the chief guest and accompanied by ADC (West) Mr. Karma L. Lepcha; SDM (HQ) Mr. Tushar G. Nihare, and newly registered voters of Gyalshing.

The chief guest in his address gave an introduction to National Voter's Day and expressed that National Voter's Day is observed so that people rededicate themselves to their constitutional rights. He also pointed out that this day is observed not only to spread awareness with regard to the democratic right of voting but to encourage more young voters to take part in the electoral process as well as to honour the newly enrolled voters.

DC (West) also called upon every individual specially the newly enrolled voters to exercise their franchise and added that responsibility is essential in every citizen and appealed for maximum participation of people in future election. In his address he highlighted about the NVSP (National Voters' Services Portal) and initiatives taken by the BLOs for purification process and empowering voters through various awareness programmes.

The chief guest administered the Voters Pledge to the participants and also gave away the token of EPIC to newly enrolled voters.

CM conducts co-ordination meeting with Power Deptt.

Gangtok, January 25: The Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang convened a co-ordination meeting with Power Department officials at the Conference Hall of Chintan Bhawan, today.

Minister for Power and Labour Department, Mr. M.N. Sherpa attended the meeting as the guest of honour along with Chief Secretary cum Home Secretary, Mr. S.C. Gupta; Additional Chief Secretary, Power Dept, Mr. A.K. Yadav, Additional Chief Secretary cum Dev Commissioner, DPER & NECAD, Mr. V.B. Pathak; PCE cum Secretary, Power Department, Mr. A.B. Rai; Secretary, CMO Mr. S.D. Dhakal and officials from Power Department.

The main purpose of the meeting was to review the response of engineers at various levels to the complaints of the public about the erratic power situation in the state.

Recommending corrective actions, the Chief Minister assured all possible help and support to the Department but at the same time he added that the Department should be totally responsible for providing continuous power supply to the general public. He added that Power Department is a business oriented Department and hence Government will provide all necessary help to transform the Power Department into a revenue generating department.

Mr. Prem Singh Tamang, also provided suggestions for proper streamlining and ways to bring the department back on track and added that Power department is a vital department and development of the state is impossible without the supply of power and electricity. He suggested for analysis on the maintenance incurred by the Department and sought early rectifications in all the discrepancies faced by the Department. Also adding that a sense of responsibility should prevail amongst the politicians, officials and local public at large, he urged the officials to sentimentally engage with public.

The Chief Minister directed

the officials from Power Department to put forth the ground realities before the Government in order to curb the power shortages in the state. He hinted at framing and implementation of proper rules and regulations by the department to achieve the targeted revenue and ensure timely revenue collection. He also mentioned that all the pending land compensation will be paid in the coming days and directed the Department to collect all the necessary information regarding the same. He also specifically stressed on proper district wise outsourcing of personnel of all line department in the state.

Lastly, the Chief Minister urged the department to work fearlessly for the state and urged them to remain unbothered about victimisation of employees and perform their duties to the fullest.

Earlier, Minister Mr. M.N. Sherpa welcomed and thanked the Chief Minister for attending the meeting despite his busy schedule. Speaking to the gathering, the Minister stated that maintaining discipline and decorum within the department is of the utmost importance, therefore the Minister sought for collective responsibility among the staff and employees for the smooth functioning of the department.

The Minister asked the officials from the Power Department to highlight and convey the information prior to power cuts before the public through various social media forums. He also suggested for organising training and awareness programmes for the linesmen and meter readers of the department in order to gain more knowledge and acumen in their respective fields.

Speaking on the shortages of man power in the department, the Minister suggested for proper adjustment in the appointment system through proper deputation and utilization of the employees. Further, he suggested for timely payments of increments among the field functionaries including linesmen and meter readers.

He also highlighted on

taking safe precautionary measures to curb untoward accidents among the field functionaries and suggested for 100% metering of all households and welcomed suggestions for remedial measures to stop illegal connections in the state.

The Minister further directed the power officials to maintain and repair outdated stations and sub stations especially at rural area and added that it was the responsibility of power officials to deliver continuous power supply to the rural belts. He further sought necessary reports and informations regarding all the power solar light installation in the state from the department.

The Minister also urged for proper interaction of top level officials with the field functionaries on a regular basis for proper co-ordination among the employees in the department. He sought report on all the pending and incomplete works under the civil section of the department and also suggested for maintaining proper records and exact figures of engineers, staff and retiring field functionaries of the department.

Mr. Sherpa also suggested for proper relocation of sub stations by the roadside for suitable placements of sub stations and for proper storage facilities for equipments and tools and directed the concerned officials to submit all the reports regarding forest clearances despite it being a lengthy process.

Earlier, Mr. A.B. Rai presented an overview of the Power Department before the Chief Minister and highlighted on the services provided by the department over the yesteryear. He also put forth agendas and grievances of the power department before the Chief Minister.

The second phase of the meeting witnessed an short open house interaction between the Minister and officials of the Power Department wherein all the matters and issues pertaining to the Power Department were discussed at length.

Chief Secretary administers Voters' Day pledge

Gangtok, January 24: The Chief Secretary Mr. S.C. Gupta administered the National Voters' Day Pledge at New Tashiling Secretariat, today.

The pledge was administered in lieu of the National Voter's Day or the Rashtriya Matdata Diwas falling on the 25th of January which is a Gazetted holiday in the state of Sikkim.

Secretaries, Heads of Departments, officials and staff stationed at the New Tashiling Secretariat were in attendance while the Chief Secretary administered the pledge of the National Voter's Day that commits to uphold the democratic traditions of India and the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections with active, fearless and

uninfluenced participation in every electoral process held in the country.

The National Voters' Day or the Rashtriya Matdata Diwas is celebrated on the 25th of January every year, since 2011, in order to encourage more young and first time voters to take part in the political process of the world's largest democracy. Considering the low participation of young voters in elections, the Election Commission of India came up with this initiative that would identify all newly eligible voters every year and enroll them on time. The eligible voters are handed over their EPIC cards and also provided with a unique badge with the logo, "Proud to be a Voter- Ready to Vote" on this day.

Forest and Environment Deptt. holds State Level Workshop

Gangtok, January 24: One-day State Level Workshop on "Roles and Responsibilities of Frontline Staff" of Forest Department was held at the conference hall of Forest Secretariat today. The workshop was organised by JICA assisted Sikkim Biodiversity Conservation and Forest Management Project (SBFB) Department of Forest & Environment.

Minister for Forest Department, Mr. Karma Loday Bhutia, graced the occasion as the chief guest, in the presence of PS-cum-PCCF-cum-CPD, Mr. M.L. Shrivastava; PCCF cum-Project Director SBFP, Mr. N.W. Tamang, dignitaries, Officials and staff, members from NGOs, SHGs, Resource person and the front line guards.

The Minister in his address lauded the SBFP for organizing the vital training workshop for the front line workers and announced incentives for their contribution to the department. He also spoke on the various administrative issues mentioning the cadre review system and about the proposal for "Creation of Foresters Welfare Fund" and urged all the staff to contribute to this initiative.

The Minister asked the concerned officials to give NOC to the schools which had crossed 110 years (e.g. Enchey Senior Secondary School and Bhojoghari School) and to set up a Check post at the entrance of West Sikkim along with a fire brigade system as it falls under the Low Belt Area.

Mr. M.L. Shrivastava in his key note address said that frontline staff should be equipped and trained for programme implementation and for forest

protection as it is the most important sector in the department who are responsible for execution, and function as the interface between the department and the public.

He said that JICA has been supporting the department since long and the priority areas such as Human Wildlife Conflict and State Technology system has been defined. He stated that the department is focusing on technology sector quoting the example of Madhya Pradesh which is very advanced in Forest fire, plantation module and wildlife module.

He further added that the department is strengthening the policy of people's participation to make the management more inclusive and urged all the front line staff to take full leverage of the one day training programme.

Project Director, Mr. N.W. Tamang said that the front line staff should be responsible for safeguarding the forest areas, restore environment and create sustainable future. He highlighted that today's programme focuses on developing technological skills among the front line staff as they should have a viable solution to analyse and to report to the concerned officials.

The programme also saw felicitation of three front line staff/ Forest Guard, namely, Ms. Reshmi Chettri, Ms. Kalpana Chettri and Prem Kumar Chettri for their contribution towards the department.

Earlier, there was a presentation on training supported by SBFP-JICA for officers and frontline staff of F&ED by Additional Project Director-1.

Herald Illustrated

(from the Archives)



Old Pemayangtse Monastery

