Women’s Day celebrated

New Delhi, March 07: The Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang called on Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, Mr. N.K. Singh at New Delhi, today. During the call on, the Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang apprised him regarding Sikkim’s dependency on transfer of funds from the Union and despite the relatively higher capita income the tax base of the State is very low as the bulk of the GDSP of the State which is derived from manufacturing and power generation does not result in a corresponding increase in local consumption. More than three fourth of revenue receipts of the State comes by way of tax transfers from divisible pool and from various grants from the Central Government, he said.

New Delhi, March 06: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the Conference on Draft North-East Water Management Authority Bill 2020 in New Delhi, today. The Chief Minister in his address stated heavy monsoon as the reason for the erosion of the river basins in both Teesta and Rangit leading to loss of life and properties. Thus, the establishment of the North-East Water Management Authority (NEWMA) would be beneficial to the local communities and the state. The Chief Minister mentioned that the flow of the rivers in both Teesta and Rangit has a mountainous landscape and the difficult terrain causes difficulties in carrying out developmental works. He also mentioned the uncertainty in the resource flows from the centre and at times back loading of these transfers near the end of the year creates financial constraints for the state. He requested for support and cooperation in the state’s debt redemption which would be highly appreciated.

Keeping this in mind the Chief Minister requested for State Specific Grants which he felt is necessary to provide additional resources for certain schemes have been affected by Global Warming. These two rivers are glacier-fed and have been facing problems due to the melting of the glaciers resulting in the irregular flow of water for irrigation, hydropower production, drinking water, etc. which is result people of Sikkim are facing difficulties. Citing this Chief Minister suggested incorporating the provision of conservation of glaciers, education, and awareness to the local communities and maintenance of traditional practices in the Bill. Talking about the mountainous terrain of the state, he mentioned that the flow of the water is mainly towards the southern region due to which the government had to build catchment areas for perennial regions. The Chief Minister emphasized on the importance of including a provision regarding the development of catchment areas in the region as a perennial source of water during dry seasons. He also spoke on the importance of including a provision concerning the protection and conservation of drying springs in the region and talked about adopting these methods in the state.

The Chief Minister also mentioned the conservation of high altitude lakes and the development of artificial lakes to conserve rainwater to be incorporated in the Bill. He stressed on the conservation of the Himalayan region and biodiversity as a long term solution for water supply due to the northeast region falling under the Eastern Himalayas which is a major source of water for plain areas as well.

The Chief Minister informed the Chairman that Sikkim has a mountainous landscape and the difficult terrain causes difficulties in carrying out developmental works. He also mentioned the uncertainty in the resource flows from the centre and at times back loading of these transfers near the end of the year creates financial constraints for the state. He requested for support and cooperation in the state’s debt redemption which would be highly appreciated.

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Conference on Draft North-East Water Management Authority Bill 2020

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang called on Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, Mr. N.K. Singh at New Delhi.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang and others on the occasion of International Women’s Week at the Auditorium Hall of Manan Kendra.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the event as chief guest along with Mrs. Sharda Tamang (Golay), as guest of honour. The programme also had the presence of Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Zilla Adhyaksha (South), OBC Chairperson, Advisor to Chief Minister, Political Secretary to Chief Minister along with Nari Shakti Committee members.

The celebration commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Minister which was followed by the cake cutting ceremony. At the onset of the programme, Mr. N.K. Singh (Golay) was felicitated by Nari Shakti in recognition of her exceptional work to empower women.

The Chief Minister in his address, remembered the contributions of the women who aided in forming the new government and said that women play an important role in facilitating changes in the society. He stated that women in Sikkim have made great progress and are no less than their male counterparts. He reiterated that the State government will always advocate equality for women in all sectors in order to empower them. Stressing on women supporting women, Mr. Golay contd.on page 5
Gangtok (Friday), March 13, 2020

District Diary

District launch of Poshan Pahkawa organized

Namechi, March 10: DC (South) Mr. R갈. K chaired a meeting with regard to the formation of a District Level Review Committee (DLRC) in order to examine all the appointments made under One Family One Job (OFOJ) scheme at DAC Namechi, today.

Addressing the meeting, DC (South) stated that in view of the recent circular issued from Department of Personnel (DOP), the final verification of the OFOJ appointments has been delayed. He also directed the officials to carry out all the appointments under South District.

Capacity Building Strategies for Managing Complex Disasters in Face of Climate Change held

Gyasingh, March 06: The Two Day Capacity Building Strategies for Managing Complex Disasters in the Face of Climate Change Climate Change Schools initiative: Making Schools Climate Resilient was organized in collaboration with Sikkim State Education Department and the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) on March 05 to March 06, 2020.

The education minister expressed his concern over the field inspections of Husbandry farm, Lachung, and further stressed to the concerned department to fulfill its commitments and obligations.

Minister-cum-Area MLA of Rabum, Lachen, today.

Mr. Samdup Lepcha underlined the significance of every species available in the highlands of North Sikkim. He also applauded the departmental activities in Veterinary Services in the South District and anticipated sustainable growth in the future period as well. He also advised to select deserving and interested farmers to distribute newly procured sheep from Ladaak. He also emphasized on the need of following the mortality with full accountability, this year.

Secretary Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Mr. BB Siba stressed upon need of unified efforts for conservation of endangered variety of animals. He also underlined the climatic and geographical condition of mountainous North District enriched for farming and rearing of high value cattle breeds.

During the programme Minister Sharma distributed token of Backyard Poultry Chucks with grant in aid, which was also informed to be distributed to all total 187 Hundred Eighty Seven beneficiaries in the district, Power Tender, Concentrate feed and fodder, Chaff cutter etc.

Earlier, both the Ministers carried out field inspections and visited Improved Rabbit Rearing Shed of Angora and Broiler breed and also planted saplings of Ficus Hooker in the Organic Temperate Foster Nurseries.

They also visited Trout Hatchery-cum-Trot Rearing Unit at Rabun and discussed with the concerned Secretary regarding the construction of new infrastructure for fisheries and farms to develop livelihood activities for fisheries with farming quality with workers.
**District Diary**

**Swacchata Programme cum Childline Advisory Board Meeting**

Gyalshing, March 05: The Children Collaborative Organisation (Gyalshing) organized Swacchata Programme cum Childline Advisory Board Meeting at Conference Hall, WHC Gyalshing. The meeting was graced by Mr. Tshering L. Lepcha, S.P. West, Mr. Karma Prasad Tamang, Mr. Hemanta Lepcha, along with Milan Subba. ADC Dev (Gyalshing), Mrs. Anusha Lama, CMO West, HoDs, Officials from various departments and the Students of different Schools of Gyalshing.

SP (West) in his address, stated that the Officials need to know their roles with regards to Childline and child welfare. He also asked all HoDs, Block Development Officers of West Sikkim to sensitise and educate the public about the Childline Helpline at their respective offices and areas. SP West reiterated that proper sensitization needs to be carried out in order to tackle child-related problems and thus proper guidance needs to be taken by the concerned heads.

ADC Dev (Gyalshing) in his briefing mentioned to move towards Swacchata by making it a massive movement that seeks to engage everyone in the task of cleaning homes, work places, villages and surroundings, in a collective effort. According to him, it is flexibility to Government, as sanitation is a State subject and to decide on their implementation policy, use of funds and mechanisms, taking into account State specific requirements. This is to enable States to develop an Implementation Framework that can utilise the provisions under Swacchata programme as per the needs to maximize the impact of the interventions, he elaborated.

The CMO (West), Mr. Chitran Rai briefed on the on vision and mission of the Swacchata Mission, 1998, actions of childline, intervention model, child related activities and the notable achievements and exercises of the Childline collaborative organization till date.

The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss preparedness and action plan for any possible Corona Virus outbreak in the State, today.

The meeting was attended by DGPM Principal Secretary, Health Principal Secretary, RDD, DC-Gumti, Secretary, Health, Principal Director, Animal Husbandry, Secretary, IPR, Secretary, Transport, DC, SP, East, West, South and North, other officials.

The points discussed and decided in the meeting was:

1) Health Department: Free Headquarters shall strengthen Check posts with adequate manpower. To duty roster to be relooked and restructured.
2) District Collectors of the districts nominated as In charge of COVID-19 response, in co-ordination with the tourism departments.
3) Tourism Department to conduct meetings with Travel Agents (Tourist Hotels) at the earliest.
4) Secretary.IPR highlighted that Communication plan be prepared in order to create awareness and spread awareness generation program in every states, formation of volunteers awareness public meetings, global, Panachayat level, block level and trainings.

The meeting also had an open floor where the framing of future strategies and action plans for eradicating child trafficking, child labour, child abuse and other issues from the district were discussed.

**Technology Week-cum-Kishan Mela kicks off**

Mangan, March 05: Three day-long Technology Week-cum-Kishan Mela officially kicked off at the Festival Grounds, Mangan, today. The Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Mr. Rinzing C. Sharma reiterated that the state government is fully committed to the welfare of the citizens at all levels.

He emphasised on the tremendous potential of agriculture sector in Sikkim. District and urban farmers to make optimum utilisation of unutilized land. He also advised FPOs to be more proactive and determined to enhance production and to export the product in global markets after processing and value addition of the product, suggested "Green Economy in Sikkim Himalaya.”

He informed farmers about the provision of subsidized loan initiated by the state government in Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal and Husbandry, and Veterinary Services for Goattery, Dairy, Poultry, Piggy, Fisheries departments.

Minister also informed about the financial incentives and subsidies under National Cardamom and Black cardamom cultivation and urged public to be aware of available facilities. He also outlined on the scope of advanced technology based on dairy farming and shared the planning of the department to adopt improved techniques for economic growth of the farmers in near future.

In his address, Minister Mr. Rinzing C. Sharma also urged farmers to share their knowledge in the respective societies and also touched upon importance of farmers to share their knowledge and encouraged them to adopt modern techniques developed by Agricultural scientists.

He also suggested to form various groups in the society and to adopt farming practices of particular type of cultivation of their interest. Minister Mr. Lepcha also urged concerned field staff to guide the farmers at community level and requested to address the needs of Cardamom Storage Unit and Transportation facilities at the earliest.

Pr Secretary Agriculture and Horticulture, Mr. R. Telang advised farmers to adopt the acquired technical knowledge in practice. He advocated farmers to develop positive attitude and never to be disheartened in the face of any challenge faced in agricultural farming. He also encouraged farmers to be more organized. The farmers should adopt agriculture professionally and to address the constraints and impediments for surplus productivity.

Secretary Agriculture Department, Mr. Rinzing C. Bhutta informed all that the schemes under government sectors are clearly dedicated to the farmers and the farmers should take complete benefits of the schemes. He also underlined the provision of financial benefits of 6000/ to every 4.5 acres of Krishan Sammi Nidhi (PMKSN) on annual basis and advised them to consult with the officials at district level to ensure inclusion of name of every farmer in the respective schemes.

During the programme, Minister Mr. Sharma handed over Poly Tank & PVC Pipe, Farm Machines, Knoxpl Satyr, Chaff Cutter, Power Tiller, Spices Grinder, Micro irrigation under KVK (North), Grinder, Micro irrigation under KVK (North), Farm Farming techniques developed by Agricultural scientists. He also received token of Kharagnath Poultry Bread. He also handed over Soil Health Card and Certificate of Appreciation to the progressive farmers.

Senior Scientist and Head KVK (North), Mr. T.T. Bhutta presented technical report on the activities being carried out by KVK Mangan and elaborated on the improved farming friendly techniques developed by Agricultural scientists.

Earlier, Agriculture Minister Mr. Sharma visited stalls and interacted with the farmers and exhibitors from KVK Mangan, CAEPAH Ramput, Fruits and Vegetables Exhibition of Government of India, Juthi Organic Farm Produce (Under ARYA project), Organic Produce of the farmers, University of Agriculture, Farming techniques developed by Agricultural scientists.

Some of the organisations that were present included: Chozum SHG, Monakama SHG from Ranom, Bayal SHG from Sitdwali, Patangkong SHG from Mangshila, Kayem Khyon SHG from Kayam, Bumri Tavot SHG from Nsam, Rongnyong KYSHG from Pasingdung.

**CS reviews and discusses preparedness and action plan for any possible Corona Virus outbreak in State**

Gangtok, March 04: Chief Secretary, Mr. S.C. Gupta chaired a meeting to review and discuss preparedness and action plan for any possible Corona Virus outbreak in the State, today.

The meeting was attended by DGPM Principal Secretary, Health Principal Secretary, RDD, DC-Gumti, Secretary, Health, Principal Director, Animal Husbandry, Secretary, IPR, Secretary, Transport, DC, SP, East, West, South, North and other officials.

The points discussed and decided in the meeting was:

1) Health Department: Heads of Departments shall strengthen Check posts with adequate manpower. To duty roster to be relooked and restructured.
2) District Collectors of the districts nominated as In charge of COVID-19 response, in co-ordination with the tourism departments. The tourism department to conduct meetings with Travel Agents (Travel Agents and Hoteliers) at the earliest.
3) Secretary.IPR highlighted that Communication plan be prepared in order to create awareness and spread awareness generation program in every states, formation of volunteers awareness public meetings, global, Panachayat level, block level and trainings.
4) The meeting also had an open floor where the framing of future strategies and action plans for eradicating child trafficking, child labour, child abuse and other issues from the district were discussed.

**Department of Information and Public Relations**

Government of Sikkim, Tadong, Gangtok

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

Date: 12.02.2020

CIRCULAR

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

1) 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 by the Department for publication having minimum time of 10 days.

2) Heads of Departments are requested to send the Tender Notices/Employment Notices for publication in Triplicate duly observing the minimum time limit.

3) No bill for advertisement pertaining to other department other than (IPR) should be entertained for payment if the same is not certified by the account officer of IPR before the submission of the same.

Tender Notices/Employment Notices etc. to be sent to the Department addressed to Secretary or Director, I.P.R. Department, Government of Sikkim, Tadong, Gangtok. Department will accept the advertisements sent through unauthorized person.

This is with the approval of the Government.
First Advisory Board Meeting on Disability held

Gangtok, March 06: Minister for Social Justice and Welfare Department Dr. M.K. Sharma chaired the First Advisory Board Meeting on Disability at Chintan Bhawan, today.

During the meeting the HODs of the line departments, Medical Specialists, Doctors, senior officials deliberated on the major issues in the disability sector like Unique Disability ID Project and also issues relating to programmes and schemes of the state to take care of social security schemes and programmes for persons with disabilities. The meeting also had discussion on the constitution of State Advisory Board on disability to exercise the powers conferred and to perform the functions assigned to it under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.

Minister Dr. Sharma appreciated the sincere efforts made by the Department of Social Welfare for efficient and effective implementation of various provisions/sections of RPWD Act, 2016. He further directed all the members to work in tandem so as to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act in letter and spirit.

It was also mentioned that the board shall meet at least once in every six months and shall observe rules and procedure with regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as may be prescribed by the State Government. The board shall also be the state level consultative and advisory body on disability matters, and shall facilitate the continuous evolution of a comprehensive policy for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and the full enjoyment of rights.

The meeting also discussed the role and function of the State Advisory Board on disability, such as:
1. To advise State Government on policies, programs, legislation and projects with respect to disability.
2. To review and coordinate the activities of all Developments of the State Government and other Governmental and non-Governmental Organizations in the State which are dealing with matters relating to persons with disabilities.
3. To take up the cause of persons with disabilities with the concerned authorities and the international organizations with a view to provide for schemes and projects for the persons with disabilities in the State plans.
4. To recommend steps to ensure accessibility, reasonable accommodation, and non-discrimination for persons with disabilities, services of the built environment, and their participation in social life on an equal basis with others.
5. To monitor and evaluate the impact of laws, policies and programmes designed to achieve full participation of persons with disabilities.
6. To ensure such provisions as may be assigned from time to time by the State Government.

Further, it was apprised to the Board that the Social Justice and Welfare Department has been implementing number of Schemes for Persons with Disabilities.

On the occasion, a power point presentation on the status of implementation of various provisions of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (section-wise) along with Sikkim Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 was made by Joint Secretary Social Welfare Division Mrs. Rohini Pradhan.

Further, it was also desired by various members that there should be Free Travel concession in buses, 100% UDID implementation, holding of awareness camps, Websites accessibility and effective Redressal of problems faced by PwDs with multiple Disabilities.

Government of Sikkim
Social Justice and Welfare Department
Child Protection Scheme
Gangtok

Sl.No. | Post | Date of Exam | Morning/Afternoon
--- | --- | --- | ---
1 | Protection Officer | 28/03/2020 | Afternoon
2 | Programme Officer | 29/03/2020 | Morning
3 | Legal cutt Prabitation Officer | 29/03/2020 | Morning
4 | Accountant | 29/03/2020 | Morning

Timing:
Morning paper: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Afternoon paper: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The subjects/ syllabus for the written examination is as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Syllabus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>General Knowledge</td>
<td>English, Sociology, Social Work &amp; Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Protection Officer</td>
<td>General Knowledge, English, Sociology, Social Work &amp; Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Legal cutt Prabitation Officer</td>
<td>General Knowledge, English, Sociology, Social Work &amp; Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Accountant</td>
<td>General Knowledge, English, Accountancy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Besides the above subjects, the applicants should have basic knowledge of the Child Protection Scheme.

There will be one question paper for each post, consisting of questions on the subjects indicated in the table above and knowledge about Child Protection Scheme. The question paper will be of 100 marks and will be multiple choice questions only.

Duration: 2 hours.

Forest & Environment Deptt. organises Green Skill Development Programme

Gangtok, March 05: Sikkim State ENVIS, the Forest & Environment Department organized the Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) courses in Forest Fire Management, Bamboo Crafts and Solar Energy Systems from 05-25th March.

The Green Skill Development Programme was undertaken in the State under the aegis of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India with an aim to impart green skill training to youths and local people who had to discontinue their education due to financial or social constraints.

Minister of Forest & Environment, Mr. Karma Loday Bhutia, attended the inaugural session of the programme as chief guest today at the Forest Conference Hall in Deorali. He was accompanied by PPCF cum Principal Secretary, Mr. M.L. Srivastava, Project Director, SBFP-JICA, Mr. Nima Wangdi Tamang, Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Mr. DC Nepal, Additional Chief Engineer, CREDA, Power & Energy Department, Mr. Dilip Kumar Sharma, and other officials of the department along with resource persons and participating candidates.

During the meeting the Minister stated that the GSDP courses will enable the youth to explore opportunities beyond government jobs thus helping them to be self-dependent. He urged the participants to dedicate their time and energy in taking full advantage of the programme in order to emerge as well-equipped experts in the field they choose for their livelihood in the near future.

Highlighting on the scope of the GSDP courses, the Minister concluded his address while encouraging all to share the knowledge gained during the process at grass root level for sustainable development of rural economy.

PPCF cum Principal Secretary, Mr. M.L. Srivastava, in his address, said that the GSDP is an important programme that offers great livelihood potential and added that every target course under GSDP will help render employment alternatives beyond government sector for the youth of the State and also encouraged the participants to explore the potential of solar energy systems and contribute in strengthening bamboo crafts in the State through the GSDP course.

He reiterated that the State government has consistently supported programmes placed for the development of the youth and has voiced for women empowerment in the State with full dedication. Therefore, he urged the participants to take full advantage of the opportunity and use it to further their skill set.

The programme was followed by a technical session conducted by Senior Programme Officer, ENVIS, Mr. Rajen Pradhan, and Scientific Associate State Biodiversity Board, F&Env Department, Dr. Bharat Kumar Pradhan.
Cabinet approves and sanctions various proposals

Gangtok, February 27: In the Cabinet meeting, the Government approved and sanctioned the following proposals:

**Home Department**
Implementation of modernization of State Police Force 1,74,00,000/- (Rupees one crore seventy four lakhs ninety two thousand).

Purchase of 20 nos. of Bolero for Sikim Police for SHOs & SDPOs 1,34,26,926/- (Rupees one crore thirty four lakhs sixty six thousand nine hundred twenty six).

**Education Department**
Implementation of Samgara Siksha Project for 2019-20 17,69,20,000/- (Rupees seventeen crores sixty ninety two lakhs).

**Revenue and Environment Department**
Implementation of Conservation and Management Action Plan of Afforestation in North Sikkim 1,15,55,355/- (Rupees one crore fifteen lakhs fifty five thousand three hundred fifty five).

**Commerce and Industries Department**
Advance payment for procurement of land at Pangchhami, Melhi Block, South Sikkim for the establishment of Sea Port 4,18,80,000/- (Rupees four crore eighteen lakhs eighty thousand).

**Building and Housing Department**
Construction of Sikkim Civil Service Officers Institute near Chintan Bhawan 20,92,09,165/- (Rupees twenty crores ninety two lakhs ninety two thousand).

**Finance Department**
Printing of Sikkim Revenue Stamp and Darbar Papers 22,49,50,000/- (Rupees twenty two crores forty nine lakhs fifty thousand).

**Agriculture Department**
Implementation of Agriculture Census Scheme 56,86,00,000/- (Rupees fifty six crores eighty six thousand).

**Tourism and Civil Aviation Department**
Construction of approach road to Norbding Throng, 15,39,59,583/- (Rupees fifteen crores thirty nine lakhs fifty nine thousand).

The Cabinet considered the proposal for the construction of Sikkim Garib Arwas Yojana for 3050 houses at an estimated cost of 553.71 crores (Rupees five hundred fifty three crores seventy one lakhs).

Replacement and shifting of alignment of airfield at Namchung from Chuba source to Namchung Water Supply Scheme in South Sikkim 680,00,000/- (Rupees sixty eight crores).

Release of payment of Sikkim Rice Reserve (Rupees thirty crores forty six lakhs ninety two thousand).

**Urban Development and Housing Department**
Release of payment of administrative and office expenditure under Atal Mission for rejuvenation and Urban Development for the year 2019-2020 2,14,00,000/- (Rupees two crores fourteen lakhs).

**Department of Skill Development**
Release of grant-in-aid to Sikkim Institute of Capacity Development for financial year 2019-2020 1,51,47,000/- (One crore fifty one lakhs forty seven thousand).

**Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department**
Implementation of Scheme pertaining to the welfare of Yaks and Highlanders of North Sikkim 50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs).

**Social Justice and Welfare Department**
Construction of Lepcha Heritage project at Naga, Namthang 1,46,34,800/- (Rupees one crore ninety six lakhs thirty four thousand eight hundred).

**Power Department**
Payment of damage compensation of house and land belonging to the family of construction of Rothak Jethang 66KV transmission line 50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs).

Renewal of Facility Management Service (FMS) contract with Tata Consultancy Services Limited for the year 2019-20 10,99,59,907/- (Rupees ten crore nine lakhs fifty nine thousand nine hundred and seventy six).

**Health and Family Welfare Department**
Implementation of Chief Minister’s Comprehensive Annual Health Check-up for Healthy Sikky (CATCH) 25,00,00,000/- (Rupees twenty five crores lakh).

**Social Justice and Welfare Department**
Transfer of fund to Sikkim State Child Development Society for implementation of ICDS Scheme 30,67,67,700/- (Rupees thirty crores sixty seven lakhs seventy thousand).

**Rural Development Department**
Carpentry of approach road to Norbding Throng, 66,00,000/- (Rupees sixty six lakhs).

**Commerce and Industries Department**
Grant-in-aid to Sikkim Khadi and Village Industries Board for the current financial year to meet up the arrear in salary 52,81,00,000/- (Rupees fifty two crores eighty one lakh).

**Culture Department**
Establishment cost of Namgyal Institute of Tibetology 40,00,000/- (Rupees forty lakhs).

**Construction of Lepcha Heritage project at Naga, Namthang 1,46,34,800/- (Rupees one crore ninety six lakhs thirty four thousand eight hundred.**}

**Department of Skill Development**
Release of grant-in-aid to Sikkim Institute of Capacity Development for financial year 2019-2020 1,51,47,000/- (One crore fifty one lakhs forty seven thousand).

**Urban Development and Housing Department**
Up-gradation of Road and side drain at Maj Gaun Circular Road at Jorethang South Sikkim 1,51,47,000/- (One crore fifty one lakhs forty seven thousand).

**Social Justice and Civil Aviation Department**
a) Improvement of approach and protective wall at the proposed site for Herbal Medical and Spiritual Healing Complex at Nandu Gaon 50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs).

**Finance Department**
Transfer of 50 Lakhs to Tourism and Civil Aviation Department for first phase of work at the same site from Building & Housing Department 50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs).

**Department of Personnel**
The Cabinet approved the proposal to completely banned the partial employment w.e.f 1st April, 2020. 

**Ecclesiastical Department**
Release of grant-in-aid to various Religious Institutions in the State for the financial year 2019-20 8,30,00,000/- (Rupees eight crores thirty lakhs).

**Finance Department**
Procurement of Cyber Forensic Laboratory cum Training Centre for investigation of cyber cases 1,47,61,950/- (Rupees one crore forty seven lakhs sixty seven thousand).

Women’s Day...

urged and appealed to all women to be united and work with a single goal of uplifting Sikkim towards the path of prosperity. He added that the State government will extend all possible help to those women who are economically vulnerable.

Further, he informed that during the upcoming budget session, some pre-youth and pro-poor budgets will be presented whereby all the promises made in the party manifesto will be duly fulfilled.

He also announced that from April 01, 2020 there will be no re-employment or extension of services. He also assured that the demands placed by the Chief Minister’s initiatives will be taken into consideration and necessary steps will be undertaken for the best interests of the society and the society as a whole.

On the occasion, six women of Sapsa and Karunion were also felicitated by the Chief Minister. A series of cultural performances were presented on stage by school students and dance groups.

Conference on...

well. He also requested the social organisations, local traditional bodies, and the traditional practitioners to be made major stakeholders in the proposed Bill. The Chief Minister informed the successful implementation of Dhara Vikas Yojana for the revival of dying springs and water bodies in the state. He said that this practice has been successful to a large extent and should be included in the proposed Bill. He also suggested the formation of another Ministry of Social Welfare that would advise the authority.

CM calls...

which the state considers important.

During the call on the Chief Minister, the Chief Minister, Mr. N.K. Singh assured full support and cooperation from his end.

The Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang was accompanied by Additional Chief Secretary Mr. V.B. Pathak and Additional Secretary to Chief Minister Mr. S.D. Dhakal.

Contd from front page
West Bengal
Minister for Roads & Bridges calls on Chief Minister of Sikkim to

55 students selected under CMMSS for 2020-21

A total of 55 students from across the state of Sikkim were selected to undergo higher education in reputed public schools both within and outside the state under the Chief Minister’s Meritorious Scholarship Scheme (CMMSS) for 2020-21. The programme was graced by Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang as the chief guest.

The Chief Minister in his address, congratulated the selected students, and their parents and teachers for the progressive outcome and also thanked the State Education Department for their effort.

He said that the State Government launched CMMSS from the year 2010 with an aim to provide free education to talented and deserving children from underprivileged family with an opportunity to study in reputed public Schools both within and outside the State. He stressed that this year, fifty-five students have been selected, instead of fifty, which included five students from the indigenous Lepcha community from Dzongu in North Sikkim, as a special encouragement to them. Till date, 884 Students have taken admission in reputed Public Schools both within and outside the State under the Chief Minister’s Meritorious Scholarship Scheme (CMMSS) as of this year.

The Chief Minister also urged Education Department to arrange an annual exposure tour programmes for students. He also mentioned about the Anti- Drugs Counseling fund separated by the department which will be used by the schools, and UPSC coaching camp to be organized at North Eastern Hill University, Shillong.

The function was also attended by Deputy Speaker Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Ministers, Advisors, Deputy Mayor GMC, Heads and officers of various Departments, teachers, students, and guardians.

Minister for Roads & Bridges calls on Chief Minister of West Bengal

Minister for Roads & Bridges, Mr. Samdup Lepcha, called on a meeting with the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Ms. Mamata Banerjee at the office of Chief Minister of West Bengal in Nabanna Bhawan, Kolkata in the presence of Upper Tadong MLA—Mr. G.T. Dhungel, in the presence of Mr. Lepcha and Mr. Dhungel.

The meeting was held in view of the connectivity issues between Sikkim and neighbouring State of WB which is of great importance to both the States and the entire country.

During the meeting, Mr. Samdup Lepcha laid out the issues that affected the connectivity between Sikkim and West Bengal which included the ongoing construction of Vanaduct at Rangpo, proposal of new flyover at Railway crossing at Sevoke Road and alternate bridge over Teesta River; administrative support from the Government of WB for speedy construction of railway line from Siliguri to Rangoon, junction improvement of connecting Mouza and relocation of Haat at Salugara.

The meeting concluded with a positive note and the HCM of WB assured to give her full support.

This was followed by a meeting of Mr. Lepcha and Mr. Dhungel with the Chief Secretary of WB. Mr. Rajiva Sinha, and Secretary, Department of Land Reforms, WB, Mr. Manoj Pant.

The meeting also had the presence of Principal Chief Secretary to the Government of WB, Mr. Prashad, Assistant Engineer, Gangtok Smart City Dev. Ltd., Mr. Aswin Nirola, Assistant Engineer, Roads & Bridges, WB, Mr. Veninder Singh.

The DG-DG-cum-Secretary, Health Deptt. holds press conference regarding preparedness of Coronavirus

DG-cum-Secretary, Health Deptt. holds press conference regarding preparedness of Coronavirus

Speaking to the media, Dr. P.T. Bhutia informed that adequate precautionary measures are being taken by the Government of India through daily updates and video conferences. The DG-CM -Secretary requested the people not to indulge in rumour mongering through social media or any other medium, as it leads to unnecessary panic. He added that such activities will be dealt with very strictly as per the provisions of law. He said that although there is no reported case of Corona Virus in the State till date, there should be no complacency and all precautionary measures such a personal hygiene and sanitation should be strictly maintained. He emphasized that public gathering of any kind should be avoided to keep ourselves safe.

The DG-CM-Secretary informed that the State Government has issued certain travel advisories especially with regard to foreign nationals. He informed that all foreign nationals in the State who have been quarantined and their hotel rooms have been quarantined and they are under close watch. So far, no symptoms of Corona Virus have been found in any of the foreign nationals, he informed.

Speaking about the ongoing thermal scanning of passengers at the State borders in Rangpo, Miriali, Rambong, Dr. Bhutia informed that there is still dearth of adequate manpower to assist the health officials. This, he said, was causing traffic congestion and delay and inconvenience to commuters. He took the opportunity to appeal to NGOs to extend their support so that the screening process is expedited. He said that interested NGOs can contact the Health Department for any assistance. He also expressed that his team and other teams for scanning would be deployed, and flying squads is being planned to make the process of scanning simple.

He informed that the Health Department has requisitioned for additional Thermal Scanners for the State borders as well as for hospitals and health centres. He also shared that the Government is also contemplating on using mechanical thermal scanners at the three check-posts so that the people can be scanned at a time. He reiterated that re-bridged Isolation Ward each in STNM Hospital and CRH, Manipal has been designated.

The DG-CM-Secretary maintained that Inner Line Permit and trade at Sherecherung Trade Mart stand suspended. Advisory has been issued through the Ecclesiastical Departments to restrict the movement of monks outside the State. Schools have been directed to make students aware about Corona Virus in the morning assembly every day.

In his concluding remarks, the DG-CM-Secretary reiterated the strong commitment of the State Government to prevent the outbreak of Corona Virus in the State. He appealed to the people to keep themselves informed about the symptoms and take simple precautions. He also shared the help line number ‘104’ for any assistance. He expressed his gratitude to the Chief Minister, Ministers, Chief Secretary, DGP, various Government Departments and the media for their proactive involvement at every level to deal with this health emergency.

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