SIKKIM HERALD

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Scientists from ICAR-NEH call on Governor



Gangtok, November 16: A team of scientists from ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hill Region (ICAR-NEH), Tadong Centre, Sikkim led by Dr Ashok Kumar, Regional Head called on Governor Mr Dushyant Gautam at Lok Bhavan, today.

During the meeting, Regional Head extended an invitation to the Governor to attend the upcoming International Conference on 'Transforming Hill Agri-Food Systems through Innovation, Resilience and Entrepreneurship', which is scheduled to be held on November 26 and 27 in Gangtok. The two day International Conference is being jointly organised by ICAR-NEH Region, Sikkim Centre and Indian Association of Hill Farming, (IAHF) Umiam. It was informed that several institutions, universities, agriculture colleges, Farmer Producer Organizations and farmers had been invited to participate in the conference.

He also briefed the Governor on various agricultural activities, research initiatives and innovations being undertaken by the ICAR Centre at Tadong for the development of agriculture in the State. During interaction with scientists and other ICAR team, the Governor held extensive discussions on the agricultural, research and development activities carried out by ICAR in the State.

The Governor stressed the need to encourage the younger generation to look at agriculture as a field, offering a wide range of opportunities. He underlined the importance of young agricultural professionals and students in taking forward scientific advancement, entrepreneurship and innovation in the sector. He also stressed that Sikkim has significant potential for organic products and urged the ICAR experts to work closely with farmers for better market access and strong supply chain networks.

He encouraged them to devise a proper plan and research to further development through ICAR to maximise the State's potential for organic farming.

The Governor also underlined the importance of better market access for Sikkim' organic

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DIG (ITBP) Gangtok meets Governor

Gangtok, November 16: Mr Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Sector Headquarter, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Gangtok paid a courtesy call on Governor Mr Dushyant Gautam at Lok Bhavan, today.

During the courtesy meeting, DIG briefed the Governor on the deployment of ITBP battalions different forward posts in Sikkim and other security arrangements along the international border.

The Governor acknowledged the challenges faced by ITBP in guarding the border, particularly in difficult terrain and adverse weather conditions. He lauded and appreciated the ITBP's unwavering commitment and dedication to safeguarding the nation's borders.

Sikkim INSPIRES mid-term review focuses on outcomes and sustainable livelihoods

Gangtok, November 17: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended the mid-term review meeting of Sikkim INSPIRES (Integrated Service Provision and Innovation for Reviving Economies), a World Bank-supported programme at Samman Bhawan, today. The meeting reviewed the programme's progress, implementation challenges and priorities for the remaining period, with a focus on strengthening institutional mechanisms and translating targets into measurable economic outcomes for the people of Sikkim.



In his address, Chief Minister called for renewed coordination among departments to accelerate implementation and ensure that the programme delivers tangible benefits to the people. He described Sikkim INSPIRES as an important component of the State Government's vision of a developed and prosperous Sikkim, emphasising that educational progress must translate into practical skills, sustainable employment and improved household incomes.

Highlighting the State Government's initiatives to promote employment and entrepreneurship, the Chief Minister referred to One Family

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Chief Minister attends National Press Day Celebration 2026

Gangtok, November 16: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang attended the National Press Day 2026 Celebration under the theme, 'Journalism: Populist or Responsible' at Manan Kendra, today.



Chief Minister extended greetings to the journalist fraternity on the occasion of National Press Day and conveyed his wishes on the auspicious occasion of Chhat Puja.He highlighted the importance of journalism in a democratic society, describing the media as a mirror of the State Government. He emphasised that examining the actions of those in authority, raising public issues and ensuring accountability are essential responsibilities of the press.

He stated that journalists in Sikkim enjoy a free and secure working environment under the present Government. Reaffirming the State Government's commitment to press freedom, he assured that no journalist or media house had been restricted from reporting, expressing opinions or questioning the Government. Highlighting initiatives undertaken for the welfare of the journalist fraternity, he mentioned about the provision of a permanent building for the Press Club of Sikkim, a 17-seater bus to facilitate journalists' travel and an annual grant of ₹20 lakh to the Press Club. He also noted that eligible senior journalists receive

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Pearls of Wisdom

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."

-Albert Einstein

Contd. from front page

Chief Minister...

a monthly pension of ₹12,000/-, besides government assistance for medical treatment and other personal and family-related needs.

Referring to the history of Indian journalism and the contributions of James Augustus Hicky, Lokmanya Tilak and Mahatma Gandhi, he reiterated that questioning those in power and highlighting issues concerning public welfare are fundamental responsibilities of journalism. He urged journalists to uphold the values of independent, responsible and fearless reporting.

The Chief Minister further assured continued support for the journalist fraternity and reiterated his commitment to safeguarding the independence and security of media professionals. He congratulated the recipients of various journalism awards presented on the occasion, recognising their contributions to reporting on climate change, human rights, women's issues and rural journalism.

He also appreciated the officials of IPR Department who received Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of their dedicated service. Concluding his address, he congratulated to the Press Club of Sikkim as it completes 25 years in 2027 and assured State Government's support for the milestone celebration. He encouraged journalists to continue serving as the voice of the people and contributing towards strengthening democracy and accountability in the State.

Mr Ashit Rai, Chairman, Information and Public Relations (IPR) Department, proposed the introduction of an annual Northeast Film Festival to be hosted on a rotational basis by the eight Northeastern states. The proposed festival, he said, would promote regional cinema, cultural heritage and the creative economy while providing a common platform for filmmakers from the region. He highlighted the State Government's initiatives under the leadership of Chief Minister to support the media fraternity through institutional, financial, infrastructural and medical assistance. He also outlined departmental initiatives, including the Sikkim Linguistic Heritage Learning Series, documentation of traditional knowledge and cultural practices, digitisation of administrative processes, financial assistance to filmmakers and internships for youth.

Recalling the Sikkim International Film Festival held in March 2026, he said that the proposed Northeast Film Festival would help strengthen the region's presence on national and international platforms. He also acknowledged the contribution of journalists in upholding democratic values and keeping the public informed.

Mr Yougan Tamang, Press Secretary to the Chief Minister, expressed gratitude to the journalist fraternity for their support and cooperation during his decade-long career in journalism. Reflecting on his transition from journalism to public service, he described himself as fortunate to have experienced both sides of the media-government relationship. He acknowledged the support and encouragement extended by Chief Minister to the youth of Sikkim across various fields, including sports, arts, entertainment, education and politics.

Highlighting the release of 'Press Record: The Compilation of Official Communication and Commentary from the Office of the Press Secretary to the Chief Minister, Volume I', covering the period from October 2024-June 2026, he described the publication as an effort to document the Government's official communications, responses and development initiatives. He stated that the compilation contained over 100 press communications and releases, reflecting the proactive and responsive functioning of the Chief Minister's Office. He further informed that Volume-II would be released shortly. He emphasised that the publication was intended to place factual information before the public and serve as a record of the State Government's work, while encouraging constructive criticism and greater accountability.

He also highlighted the State Government's efforts since 2019 to strengthen the media fraternity through policies, schemes, grants and exposure visits. Stressing that a strong and independent media is essential for a healthy democracy, he noted that the Government must remain receptive to questions, including difficult and constructive criticism. Describing the Chief Minister as media-friendly, accessible and responsive, he appreciated his willingness to address challenging questions from journalists and reaffirmed the important role of independent media in strengthening democratic institutions.

He also highlighted the newly released Digital Media Empanelment Guidelines 2026, stating that they had been formulated through consultations with journalists and press associations over the past years under the initiative of the IPR Department. He clarified that the guidelines were intended as an enabling framework rather than a regulatory mechanism, with the objective of strengthening digital media and creating opportunities for journalists to establish and develop their own media enterprises.

Concluding his address, he described the release of the guidelines as a significant milestone for the media fraternity of Sikkim and expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister, IPR Department and the journalist community.

Earlier, Ms Annapurna Alley, Secretary, Information and Public Relations Department, emphasised the importance of accuracy, fairness, accountability and responsible reporting, particularly amid the rapid dissemination of digital information and the growing challenge of misinformation. She highlighted the vital role of journalism in strengthening democracy, maintaining social harmony and acting as a bridge between the Government and the people.

Highlighting the department's initiatives, she stated that the IPR Department was evolving into a technology-driven institution with an expanded focus on public communication and creative economy development. She highlighted initiatives such as the Sikkim International Film Festival and the Creative Hub, aimed at promoting film tourism, nurturing local talent and generating opportunities for youth through the Orange Economy. She also outlined the Department's efforts to modernise Government communication through digital platforms, AI-enabled engagement and multilingual outreach. Among the proposed initiatives were a visual equipment bank, a single-window permission portal and opportunities in digital media, animation, visual effects and gaming.

Drawing attention to departmental challenges, she stressed the need for a comprehensive cadre review to address the mismatch between employees' technical skills and their designations, ensure career progression and strengthen the department's technical workforce. She also sought Government support for modernising outdated equipment and infrastructure.

She congratulated the Senior Information Assistants on their recent promotion to the post of Assistant Director and commended the members of the department who were recognised for their dedicated service. She further highlighted the need to fill the vacant post of Sub-Editor in Newari language section.

Emphasising the preservation of Sikkim's history and cultural heritage, she highlighted the ongoing digitisation of archival footage and documentation of traditional knowledge, folktales, customs and cultural practices. She also sought support for the construction of an annex building for the IPR Department to address its growing space and infrastructure requirements.

She reaffirmed the Department's commitment to responsible journalism, transparent public communication and the preservation of Sikkim's cultural heritage, while expressing gratitude to the Chief Minister for his continued support to the media fraternity.

The programme commenced with a two-minute silence in memory of late senior journalist Mr Bijay Bantawa, followed by a welcome song presented by officers and staff of the IPR Department. A video presentation showcasing the department's key achievements was also screened, along with video messages from journalists across West Bengal and the Northeastern region on the occasion of National Press Day.

Dr Saurabh Sharma, Guest Speaker and Associate Professor at OP Jindal Global University, delivered an address on this year's theme, 'Journalism: Populist or Responsible'. While, Dr Jasmine Yimchunger, Head of the Department, Mass Communication, Sikkim University, delivered an address on 'Media Landscape in Sikkim through an Academic Lens'.

The occasion also witnessed the presentation of the following journalism awards:

1. Chief Minister's Award for Reporting on Climate Change: Ms Sristi Pradhan.

2. Chief Minister's Award for Reporting on Human Rights: Mr Jeewan Limboo.

3. Chief Minister's Award for Reporting on Women's Issues: Ms Archana Pradhan, Editor-in-Chief, Sikkim Awalokan.

4. YN Bhandari Best Journalism Award 2026: Mr Dilli Ram Dulal, Senior Editor, Himali Bela.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to IPR Department personnel, namely; Ms Pema Dolma Lachenpa SIA, Mangan District, Mr Shashwat Sharma, SIA, Gangtok District, Mr Siddhartha B Gurung, Photographer, Soreng District, Mr Sangam Rai, SIA, Namchi District, Mr Sandeep Subba, JIA, Gyalshing District, Mr Raja Chettri, Computer Operator, Pakyong District, Mr Kiran K Pradhan, Videographer, Gangtok District, Mr Aita Bdr Gurung, Cameraperson, Gangtok District and Mr Karma Lama, Data Analyst, Gangtok District in recognition of their dedicated service.

Winners of the Creative Content Writing Competition were also recognised. The winners were Ms Sristi Lohar, BA Journalism and Mass Communication, SRM University, Sikkim, Mr Gopal Rai and Mr Narayan Sharma, both pursuing BA Journalism and Mass Communication at Sikkim Government College, Namchi.

The winners of the Online Photography Contest, organised around themes exploring the evolution of the press, mobile journalism and the changing media landscape, were:

1. First Place: Mr Shayal Gurung - 'No Screen Needed'.

2. Second Place: Mr Tshulthrim Wangdi - 'Resilience'.

3. Third Place: Mr Umesh Sunam- 'Media Landscape'.

The Chief Minister also released the following publications on the occasion:

1. Sikkim Today magazine, IPR Department

2.Digital Media Empanelment Guidelines 2026, IPR Department

3. The Press Record: Compilation of Official Communication and Commentary from the Office of the Press Secretary to the Chief Minister, Volume I, by Press Secretary to the Chief Minister Mr Yougan Tamang.

4. Quiz Book: Sikkim @50, by Chief Learning Officer, 24 Hours Inspired, Mr Dewakar Basnet.

This was followed by an address by the recipient of the YN Bhandari Best Journalism Award 2026, Mr Dilli Ram Dulal, who expressed gratitude to the Selection Committee, Press Club of Sikkim, IPR Department and the Chief Minister for recognising his three decades of contribution to journalism.

Reflecting on the legacy of YN Bhandari, he described him as a pioneer of Indian Nepali journalism, highlighting his contribution through the publication of Dainik Awaz in Gangtok during the 1970s. He noted that the newspaper played a significant role in strengthening democratic awareness, civil rights and the movement for constitutional recognition of the Nepali language.

Adding to the cultural proceedings, Mr Son Kumar Khaling, Nepali Translator, IPR Department, presented a flute rendition of 'Eh Kancha Malai Sunko Tara', originally sung by Ms Aruna Lama. This was followed by a dance performance by staff of the IPR Department.

The final segment of the programme was organised by the Press Club of Sikkim, during which the Club expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister for his continued support to the press fraternity. The segment also witnessed the presentation of the Grameen Patrakarita Puraskar 2026 to Mr Mahendra Sewa, Editor of Fastest Fast Sikkim, and the unveiling of the Silver Jubilee logo of the Press Club of Sikkim by the Chief Minister. The programme concluded with a dance performance by members of the Press Club.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr Sunil Kumar Mothay Director, Information and Public Relations Department.

The programme was attended by Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, DGP, Secretaries and HoDs, senior officers, officials, members of PCS and JUS among other dignitaries.

DEO-cum-DC Pakyong reviews preparations for Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls 2027

Pakyong, November 13: Ms Pari Bishnoi District Collector-cum-District Election Officer Pakyong convened a meeting with representatives of recognised national and state political parties, to discuss the Special Summary Revision (SSR) of the Electoral Rolls with reference to January 1, 2027 at DAC Pakyong, today.

The meeting had the presence of ADC (Hq)-cum-ERO, SDM (Hq)-cum-ERO, SDM Pakyong-cum-ERO,Under Secretary, Election Department, along with officials from Election Department and representatives of SKM and CAP Sikkim, political parties.

During the meeting, DC-cum-DEO briefed on the objectives and key provisions of the Special Summary Revision, including the rationalisation of polling stations, verification of electors and updating of electoral records. She informed that political parties may submit proposals to the concerned Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of their respective constituencies in case any changes or modifications are required in the existing polling station arrangements.

She further informed that the draft electoral roll would be published on November 30, 2026 and apprised the participants of the schedule for the filing of claims and objections, their subsequent disposal and the final publication of the Electoral Rolls.

Additionally, DC-cum-DEO directed all Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to undertake the necessary preparatory activities for the smooth and effective conduct of the revision process, which would include physical verification and rationalisation of polling stations, analysis of electoral data, verification of deceased electors, establishment of Help Desks and regular monitoring of the ECINET dashboard.

She also emphasised the importance of conducting regular meetings with representatives of all recognised political parties to familiarise them with the SSR schedule, procedures and guidelines.

Highlighting the importance of voter enrolment, she urged the concerned officials and representatives of political party to facilitate the registration of new voters and informed that special camps would be organised, wherever required to facilitate voter registration and address issues relating to electoral roll entries.

She further clarified that citizens seeking enrolment as voters must fulfil the prescribed citizenship requirements and complete the necessary verification process through the designated process in accordance with the applicable guidelines.

Appealing for active public participation, she urged all stakeholders to ensure the inclusion of every eligible citizen in the Electoral Rolls and urged to work in coordination to ensure smooth conduct of SSR 2027.

During the meeting, the EROs also shared their inputs and suggestions regarding the effective management and updating of electoral records, while representatives of political parties raised queries.

Furthermore, DC-cum-DEO held a video conference with the EROs and AEROs across the district to brief them on the procedures, objectives, responsibilities and implementation guidelines for the timely and systematic completion of the Special Summary Revision (SSR) of the Electoral Rolls with reference to January 1, 2027.

Government of Sikkim
Social Welfare Department
Jan Sewa Bhawan

Memo No. 6/SWD/EC/NIT /2026-27/146 **Dated: 27/10/2026**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of Governor of Sikkim, the Superintending Engineer (NSG - 1), Social Welfare Department, Goverment of Sikkim, Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, Lumsey, Tadong, Gangtok District, Sikkim invites sealed tenders from the eligible contractors of appropriate class Vide Notification No. 21/R&B/PWD/Secy/2023-24. Dated 18.10.2023 Vide Notification No. 35/Secy. Dated 19.09.2024, vide notification number 40/R&B/PWD/Secy/ 2023-24. Dated 31.01.2024 for the work (s) listed under: -

Sl.No	Name of Work	Value put to Tender (in ₹)	Completion Time (in months)	Amount of Earnest Money @ 2.5% For issue of tender form (in ₹)	Amount of Bank receipt for cost of tender Document (in ₹)	Constituency / GPU/ Ward
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of 50 Bedded Tribal Girl's Hostel at Sombaria Sr. Sec. School under Soreng District	₹1,85,68,609/-	24 Months	₹4,64,215/-	₹50,000/-	32 - Upper ThambongGPU

Time Schedule is as follows: -

i)	Date for submission of application with Bank receipt, for issue of tender documents (Excluding the tender form)	Start date: 27/11/2026 (From 10:00 hrs. to 15:00 hrs.)
ii)	Last Date for the issue of tender form	01/12/2026 (From 10:00 hrs. to 16:30 hrs.)
iii)	Date and Time for submission of Tender documents	03/12/2026 (From 10:00 hrs. to 13:00 hrs.)
iv)	Date and Time of opening of Tender	03/12/2026 (From 13:30 hrs. onwards)
Place of Tender: 32 - Upper Thambong GPU		

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

1. Tender is open only to the eligible Contractors/Firms of appropriate Class/Area.
2. The intending tenders/contractors should apply in writing for issue of tender documents. The application would invariably by signed by the contractor himself/herself. The tender documents will not be issued to any person other than the INTENDING TENDER.
3. The applicants should enclose attested copies of the (a) Valid GSTIN Registration Certificate, (b) Latest Income Tax Clearance Certificate as per the Indian Income Tax Act and (c) Validated Contractor Enlistment Certificate, and Professional Tax Clearance Certificates along with the application. It is mandatory to produce the original validated/updated Enlistment Certificate during sale/issue of the Tender Document for verification (d) PAN card.
4. The prescribed Non-Transferable Tender Documents (excluding the Tender Form) can be obtained during the period specified in the table above on production of receipt deposit to the revenue of the respective GPU for cost of tender documents.
5. Earnest Money Deposit @2.5 % in the State Bank of Sikkim in the form of deposit receipt of schedules bank which includes in the form of temporary deposit receipts fixed deposits receipts in favor of the Account Officer, Social Welfare Department of the Department Tender Form shall be issued only on the production of the deposit receipt to the contractors who has obtained the tender documents, on production of deposit receipts of 2.5% earnest money.
6. The Tender documents, including the Tender Form with quoted offer should be placed in a sealed cover with the name of the Tenderers and the name of the work superscripted on it. Supporting documents listed at SL3 (a), (b) and (c) above should be enclosed with the offer.
7. Sealed Tenders may be deposited in the Tender Box in the concerned ward on the date and time indicated above.
8. Tenders will be opened by a Tender Opening Committee as prescribed by the Government in the presence of the tenderer on the date and time indicated above.
9. The Tenderer should sign on every page of the tender documents as Acceptance of the General Direction and Conditions of Contract and other laid down norms.
10. **The rate quoted shall be considered for Civil Work amounting to ₹1,72,29,509/-. For Electrical works, the cost put to tender amounts to ₹13,39,100/- The provision for GST@18% and Labour Cess @1% will be over and above the tender value. The quoted rate for Electrical works will be considered on AT- PAR basis** Any over writing and correction should be avoided and if made should be authenticated. Incomplete/ Conditional tenders shall be rejected forthwith.
11. In case of any discrepancy in rate(s) printed in the Schedule of Rates and Quantities issued with the tender document, rates as per approved Schedule of Rates will be taken as correct. For items outside the SOR, the rates shall as per the technically checked/estimate/analysis. Decision of the Principal Chief
12. Engineer cum Secretary/Head of the Department will be final in this regard.
12. The Work Value, scope and quantum of work are subject to change, the contractor shall execute the work as per the directives of the Department. No claim on this account shall be entertained whatsoever.

If any extra claim is made, it shall be as per the agreement rates.

13. Avoidable damages due to negligence of the contractor shall be at his own risk and cost. The Department shall not be liable for payment of such damages (if any), including accidents to laborer at site.
14. The offer shall remain valid for a period of 90 days. The work should commence within 15 days from the date of issue of work order.
15. The department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
16. Subletting of contract work is against the norms and if it comes to the notice, the original contract shall be cancelled and appropriate action shall be initiated as per the rules.
17. The Department also reserves the right to increase, decrease, alter or modify the item of works as indicated in the NIT without assigning any reason thereof.
18. The contractor will have to pay all taxes and duties as applicable and notified by the State/Central

Government and no claim shall be entertained in this regard whatsoever.

19. The rate quoted shall be inclusive of prevailing taxes.
20. The department reserves the right to reject the incomplete tender without any reasons there-off.
21. The Contractor has to submit the work program / bar Chart in the initial stage.

Superintending Engineer (NSG - I)
Social Welfare Department
Government of Sikkim
(104)

Government of Sikkim
Tourism & Civil Aviation Department
Paryatan Bhawan, Metro Point, Gangtok, Sikkim.

N.I.T. No: 20/TD **Dated: 05/11/2026.**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Referred to paragraph 9.7 of SPWD Manual 2009)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer (S/W), Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim invites percentage rate sealed tenders from the eligible contractors of Class II-B, enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department through competitive bidding within the State for the following works separately:

Sl No.	Name of work	Amount put to tender (exclusive of cess and GST)	Completion Time (in months)	Amount of Bank Receipt for the cost of Tender Documents (including the Tender Form) (₹)	Amount of Earnest Money @ 2.5% (₹)
01	Development of Tourism Amenities at Phamrong Waterfalls, Yuksam-Tashiding, Gyalshing District Sikkim.	₹3,25,32,959/-	24	₹1,00,000/-	₹8,13,324/-

TIME SCHEDULE:

SL. No	Particulars	Date of Time
1	Date of Publication	05-11-2026
2	Issue of Tender Documents (including the Tender Form)	06-11-2026 to 03-12-2026, Office hours
3	Date and Time for submission of Tender	04-12-2026, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
4	Date and Time of Opening of Tender	04-12-2026, 2:00 PM onwards
5	Place of Opening of Tender	Mini Conference Hall, Paryatan Bhawan Gangtok

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT:

1. Tender is open to the eligible Contractors/Firms of Class I-B, enlisted in Sikkim Public Works Department. Eligibility criteria and calling of tender is governed by Notification no. 21/R&B/PWD/SECY/2023-24 date 18/10/2023.
2. The intending tenders/contractors should apply in writing for issue of tender documents. The application should invariably be signed by the contractor himself/herself.
3. The applicants should enclose attested copies of the following along with the application:
   (a) Validated/Updated Contractor Enlistment Certificate. It is mandatory to produce the Original validated/updated Enlistment Certificate during sale/issue of the Tender Document for verification.
   (b) Pan Card
   (c) Photo copy of latest voter ID card
4. The prescribed Non-Transferable Tender Documents (excluding the Tender Form) can be obtained during the period specified in above table from the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim, on production of requisite Bank Receipt of the State of Sikkim towards the cost of Tender Document (non-refundable) under the receipt Head "1452-Tourism-800-Other Receipts- Cost of Tender Form " to the Chief Accounts Officer concerned.
5. Earnest Money Deposit @ 2.5% of the cost put to tender shall be deposited in the form of Temporary Deposit Receipt (TDR)/Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) from the State Bank of Sikkim or any Nationalized Bank operating in Sikkim in the favour of the Chief Accounts Officer, Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok. In the case of female tenderer, the issue of tender form is governed by Notification No. 104/R&B date 08/10/2020 and amended notification no. 40/R&B/PWD/SECY/2023-24 DATED 31/01/2024.
6. The tenderer shall inspect the site and have their own and correct assessment before submitting the bid.
7. The tender documents, including the Tender form with the quoted offer in the BOQ provided should be placed in a sealed cover with the name of the tenderers and name of the work superscripted on it. Supporting documents listed in sl.no. 3 should be enclosed with the offer.
8. Sealed tenders may be deposited in Tender Box in the office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Tourism and Civil Aviation Department on the date and within the time indicated above
9. Tenders will be opened by Tender Opening Committee as prescribed by the Government in the presence of the tenderers on the date and time indicated above.
10. The Tenderer should sign on every page of the tender documents as Acceptance of the General Direction and Conditions of Contract and other laid down norms. The rate quoted should be both in figures and words and should be exclusive of GST and all other Taxes and Levies. Over writing and correction should be avoided and if made should be authenticated. Incomplete/Conditional tenders shall be rejected forthwith.
11. In case of any discrepancy in rate(s) printed in the Schedule of Rates and Quantities issued with the tender document, rates as per approved Schedule of Rates will be taken as correct. For items outside the SOR, the rates shall be as per the technically checked estimate/analysis. Decision of the Principal Chief Engineer/Secretary/ Head of the Department will be final in this regard.
12. The Work value, scope and quantum of work are subject to change, the contractor shall execute the work as per the directives of the Department. No claim on this account shall be entertained whatsoever. If any extra claim is made, it shall be as per the agreement rates.
13. Avoidable damages due to negligence of the contractor shall be at his own risk and cost. The Department shall not be liable for payment of such damages (if any), including accidents to labourer at site.
14. The offer (Work Order) shall remain valid for a period of 90 days. The work should commence within 15 days from the date of issue of Work Order.
15. All the conditions as mentioned in the NIT and corrigendum/addendum (if any) shall be deemed to be a part of the agreement to be entered with the contractor.
Security deposit shall be collected by deductions from the running bills of the contractor @ 5% of the value of work done.
16. The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
17. The recoveries of GST and Royalties on Forest produces shall be as per rates notified by the Government from time to time and applicable on the date of payment. In no case, claim of any contractor for deduction as per rates incorporated in Analysis of Rates or Schedule of Rates or Rates on the date of tender shall be acceptable.
18. Sub-letting of contract work is against the norms and if it comes to the notice, the original contract shall be cancelled and appropriate action shall be initiated as per the rules.
19. In case the man powers employed by the contractor are from outside the State or neighbouring countries, it shall be the responsibility of the contractor to get them registered with the Labour Department, Government of Sikkim as per the relevant labour Laws
20. The Department also reserves the right to increase, decrease, alter or modify the item of works as indicated in the NIT without assigning any reason thereof.
21. The contractor shall also make arrangements to have photographs of the works taken at least at three stages of the construction period 1.e. beginning middle and completion stage.
22. Damages to properties in and around the work site must be avoided at all cost.
The contractor shall be held responsible for any acts of negligence and shall be made to make good the damages.
23. The contractor will have to pay all taxes and duties as applicable and notified by the State/Central Government and no claim shall be entertained in this regard whatsoever.
24. The contractor shall engage graduate/diploma engineers) at the project site during the period of execution of work as per the norms prescribed in the Enlistment rules and grade of contractors as well as requirement at site determined by Engineer-in-charge.

Superintending Engineer (S/W)
Namchi/Soreng/Gyalshing
Tourism & Civil Aviation Department
Government of Sikkim
(106)

READ AND ADVERTISE
IN SIKKIM HERALD

Government of Sikkim
Health and Family Welfare Department
Jan Sewa Bhawan,Lumsay

No: 970/H&FWD/Adm/2026-27 **Dated: 04/11/2026**

CORRIGENDUM

In continuation of the earlier Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for allotment of 06 (six) Pharmacy Shops in the basement of New District Hospital, Namchi, Sikkim, issued by the Health & Family Welfare Department, it is hereby informed to all the concerned that the date for collection of bid forms was inadvertently mentioned as "**07/09/2026 to 19/09/2026,** instead of **07/11/2026 to 23/11/2026"**

Therefore, all the intending bidders are requested to collect the tender form from 07/11/2026 to 23/11/2026, from the Office of the Chief Account Officer-I (CAO-I), 2nd Floor, Health & Family Welfare Department (Block-B) **JAN SEWA BHAWAN, Lumsey, Gangtok.**

All other terms and conditions of the original Notice Inviting Tender shall remain unchanged.

Under Secretary/ Adm
Health & Family Welfare Department,
Government of Sikkim

Government of Sikkim
Health and Family Welafare Department
Gangtok

No:-29/PDHS/H&FWD/2026-27 **Date: 02/11/2026**

Information to the Bidders

Sealed bids are invited from eligible, validly licensed, and experienced pharmacy/drug retail operators for the allotment, on a monthly rental basis, of 03 (Three) Pharmacy Shops situated in the basement of the New District Hospital, Namchi, Sikkim, for the retail sale of medicines, surgical items, and allied healthcare products to patients, attendants, and the general public. The Bidder shall be a Certificate of Identification (COI) / Sikkim Subject Certificate (SSC) holder. The details of the schedule are as under:-

Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Time
Issue of Bid Documents Commences	07.11.2026	11:00 A.M. onwards
Issue of Bid Documents Closes	23.11.2026	2:00 P.M.
Last Date for Submission of Bids	24.11.2025	Till 1:00 P.M.
Opening of Bids	24.11.2026	2:30 P.M onwards
Venue for Opening of Bids	Office of the Principal Director-III, Health & Family Welfare Department, Gangtok	-

Interested bidders may collect the Bid Forms and Terms and Conditions of Contract from the Office of the Chief Accounts Officer-I (CAO-1), between 11:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. on any working day, from 07.09.2026 to 19.09.2026, on production of a non-refundable Bank Receipt of ₹10,000/-, credited under Major Head 0210-01-800 - Other Receipts (Sale of Bid Document), for the pharmacy shop allotment at the New District Hospital, Namchi.

Principal Director
Health & Family Welfare Department
Government of Sikkim
Jan Sewa Bhawan, Gangtok
(105, I)

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Sikkim INSPIRES...

One Job, Chief Minister's Entrepreneurship Initiative, the Aama Scheme, support for self-help groups and homestay initiatives. He also underscored the potential of creative industries, tourism and emerging technologies, announcing support through innovation hubs and acceleration centres to encourage entrepreneurship and enterprise development.

The Chief Minister further highlighted plans to establish Career Counselling, Training, Employment and Entrepreneurship Institutes in every district to enable young people to access guidance, training and career opportunities closer to home. Acknowledging delays in the preparation of district-level plans, he expressed confidence that implementation would gain momentum and that the remaining programme targets would be achieved within the stipulated period.

Emphasising that the success of Sikkim INSPIRES must be reflected in improved livelihoods, increased household incomes and greater economic independence for women and youth rather than in reports and targets, he called for aligning the programme's outcomes with the State's Vision 2047. He reiterated the Government's commitment to the principles of a whole-of-government approach.

The Chief Minister also expressed gratitude to the World Bank, Independent Verification Agency, senior government officials, implementing departments and all stakeholders for their continued support and contribution towards the programme.

In his opening remarks, Mr R Telang, Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman of the Programme Governance Committee, emphasised the importance of coordinated governance and institutional strengthening to ensure sustainable employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for the youth and women of the State. He highlighted that, under the vision of the Chief Minister, Sikkim INSPIRES had adopted a whole-of-government approach, bringing together multiple departments to create an enabling ecosystem for entrepreneurship, skill development and sustainable livelihoods.

Stressing accountability and outcome-based implementation, he said that the programme's targets were being assessed through independent third-party verification to ensure objective measurement of progress. He observed that development must move beyond physical infrastructure towards building strong institutions and sustainable livelihood opportunities. He further called for a change in mindset among officials and the public, emphasising the need to explore employment and entrepreneurial avenues beyond conventional government jobs in pursuit of the vision of Viksit Sikkim 2047.

Earlier, the meeting commenced with a context-setting presentation by Programme Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Ms Rohini Pradhan.

The Programme Director subsequently presented the programme-level progress report, outlining achievements across its key development objectives, followed by observations and expectations from the World Bank team.

Presenting the programme's mid-term progress, Ms Rohini Pradhan informed that all 10 legal covenants had been fulfilled and 21 of the 50 Disbursement-Linked Results (DLRs), representing 42 percent of the total targets, had been achieved. All six Year Zero prior results and five Year One targets had been completed, while seven of the 11 Year Two targets had been achieved. She also informed that eight of the 12 Programme Action Plan requirements had been completed, with two targets originally scheduled for Year Five achieved ahead of time.

Outlining the programme's four development objectives, she highlighted ongoing efforts to strengthen employment opportunities for youth and women, promote entrepreneurship, align skill development with market requirements and improve workplace safety and care systems. She acknowledged implementation challenges across districts and departments but expressed confidence that the remaining Year Two targets would be achieved in the coming months.

Highlighting priorities for the remaining two-and-a-half years, she stressed the need to accelerate ground-level implementation, ensure timely fund disbursement, strengthen cross-cutting areas such as mental health and care infrastructure, and operationalise the Employment and Entrepreneurship Promotion Facility (EEPF) as a sustainable institutional mechanism beyond 2029. She also underlined the importance of strengthening existing government systems to ensure continuity of the programme's outcomes beyond its implementation period.

World Bank Team Lead Ms Verena Phipps commended the Government of Sikkim for keeping the programme on schedule at its mid-term stage, noting that only 18 per cent of World Bank-financed operations globally conduct mid-term reviews on time. She observed that Sikkim INSPIRES had evolved from an ambitious concept into a coordinated whole-of-government platform, bringing multiple departments together to expand economic opportunities for women and youth across all six districts.

Acknowledging progress in institutional development, entrepreneurship support and inter-departmental coordination, Ms Phipps stressed that the focus during the remaining implementation period must shift towards measurable outcomes, particularly employment generation, job retention and enterprise growth. She also emphasised the importance of strengthening community outreach, mobilising private investment, expanding the care economy and ensuring long-term institutional sustainability. She observed that the programme's core design required further strengthening rather than restructuring and expressed confidence that continued collaboration between the World Bank and the State Government would help translate the initiative into lasting economic benefits, positioning Sikkim as a model for other States.

The meeting had the presence of Dr Pradeep Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary-cum-PCCF Forest and Environment Department, HoDs of all eight priority departments, representatives from World Bank, IVA IIM Kozikode, PMC, EEPF along with senior officials from the Government of Sikkim.

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Scientists from...

products through proper marketing strategies and stronger supply chain networks. Highlighting Sikkim's distinction as India's first fully organic state, he stressed the need to further strengthen organic agricultural production to enhance the state's visibility and competitiveness in national and international markets.

He suggested various measures that the ICAR could undertake to promote scientific research, innovation and encourage sustainable agricultural practices. He emphasised the importance and need to leverage ICAR's expertise to strengthen mountain-based agri-food systems, enhance agricultural productivity and create new opportunities for the farming community.



Executive Members BAS call on Governor



Gangtok, November 16: Executive Members of Badminton Association of Sikkim (BAS) led by President, Mr Jacob Khaling called on Governor Mr Dushyant Gautam at Lok Bhavan, today.

During the meeting, BAS extended a formal invitation to the Governor to attend the closing ceremony of 49th Inter-State, Inter-Zonal and Junior National Badminton Championships 2026 as the chief guest which is scheduled to be held on November 21 at Indoor Hall, Paljor Stadium, Gangtok.

The executive members informed the Governor that for the first time, the Badminton Association of Sikkim under the aegis of Badminton Association of India is hosting the prestigious national-level junior badminton championship. The tournament is commenced on November 14, 2026 featuring 33 teams from different States and Union Territories in Boys' Singles, Girls' Singles, Boys' Doubles, Girls' Doubles and Mixed Doubles in Under-19 age category.

Governor appreciated the efforts of the BAS and said that hosting such national-level events not only inspired local youth to take up sports but also promotes the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat', programme by bringing together players from across the country.

Governor visits Lok Bhavan employees' quarters

Gangtok, November 16: Governor Mr Dushyant Gautam and First Lady of Sikkim Ms Laxmi Gautam visited Lok Bhavan employees' quarters today and interacted with them. They were accompanied by Mr Jitendra Singh Raje Commissioner cum-Secretary Lok Bhavan.

During the visit, the Governor toured various blocks of quarter and reviewed about availability of basic facilities and other amenities. He interacted with employees and heard their grievances. He directed the officials to undertake necessary repair and renovation works and ensure regular maintenance of the quarters to improve living conditions for employees and their families.

Interacting with employees and their families, the Governor said that ensuring adequate facilities and amenities for Lok Bhavan employees is one of his top priorities.

Chief Minister inaugurates MICU at STNM Hospital

Gangtok, November 16: The newly established 14-bedded Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) at STNM Hospital, Sochakgang was inaugurated by Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang, today.

Developed under the healthcare infrastructure development programme and CSR initiatives of Sun Pharma Limited, the 14-bedded Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) will provide specialised critical care.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Mr G T Dhungel Minister for Health and Family Welfare and AYUSH Departments and MLAs-cum-Advisors.

Prior to unveiling the foundation stone, the Chief Minister offered prayers at Sangay Menla (Medicine Buddha) statue within the STNM complex and virtually inaugurated other CSR-funded school programmes by Sun Pharma Limited.

Also present were Mr Sandeep Tambe Principal Secretary Education Department, Mr Tshewang Gyachho Secretary Health and Family Welfare Department, Mr Tashi Chophel Secretary School Education Department, Mr Wasif Ali CSR Manager Sun Pharma, Plant Head Sun Pharma, officials from Sun Pharma Limited and senior doctors and officials of the department.

KEEP SIKKIM CLEAN AND GREEN

Union Minister of Defence visits Sherathang

Pakyong, November 8: Mr Rajnath Singh, Union Minister of Defence, Government of India, visited Sherathang, as part of his visit to the region, today.

The Union Minister was received by Mr Rohan Agawane DC Gangtok, Dr Tsering Namgyal Gyatso Senior Superintendent of Police for Gangtok and Mr John Gurung Joint Secretary Home Department along with Senior Army Officers.

During his visit, Union Minister paid homage at the Sherathang War Memorial, honouring the brave soldiers who made supreme sacrifice in service of nation and paid tribute to their courage and valour in safeguarding the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Union Minister interacted with one defence personnel deployed in the region and acknowledged their dedication and service in protecting the nation's borders under challenging conditions.

Additionally, he visited Baba Harbhajan Singh Mandir and paid his respects at the revered shrine, which holds immense significance among Army personnel, before proceeding to his next destination.

Also present were Ms Gegge Norbu Namchangcorpa, Senior Superintendent of Police, Special Branch, Mr Santosh Baniya ASP Special Branch along with officials from concerned departments.

49th Yonex-Sunrise Junior National Badminton Championships inaugurated

Gangtok, November 16: Chief Minister Mr Prem Singh Tamang inaugurated the Individual Event of the Yonex-Sunrise 49th Inter-State, Inter-Zonal and Junior National Badminton Championships 2026 at Indoor Badminton Hall, Paljor Stadium, Gangtok, today.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister welcomed the dignitaries, players, coaches and officials from across the country to Sikkim. He described the hosting of the prestigious championship as a historic milestone for the State and a reflection of Sikkim's growing presence on the national sporting map.

He expressed gratitude to the Badminton Association of India (BAI) for entrusting Sikkim with the responsibility of hosting the championship and acknowledged the support and encouragement of its President, Mr Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister of Assam. He also commended the Badminton Association of Sikkim (BAS) and all those involved in organising the event.

Highlighting the importance of sports in shaping young minds, the Chief Minister stated that sporting activities play a vital role in fostering discipline, confidence, leadership and character. He reiterated the State Government's commitment to strengthening sports infrastructure and creating greater opportunities for young athletes to excel at national and international levels. He further underscored the Government's focus on youth development, women's empowerment, health and inclusive participation in sports.

Expressing confidence that the championship would provide a valuable platform for emerging badminton talent while further strengthening Sikkim's sporting culture, he wished all participants success and encouraged them to uphold the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

In his welcome address, Mr Jacob Khaling Political Secretary to CM also President of BAS, extended greetings to the Chief Minister, dignitaries, representatives of the Badminton Association of India, technical officials and participating contingents. Describing the championship as a landmark achievement for Sikkim, he highlighted the participation of nearly 600 delegates, including around 460 players representing all 28 States and five Union Territories.

He expressed gratitude to the BAI for giving Sikkim the opportunity to host this prestigious championship and acknowledged the continued support of the Chief Minister and the State Government, particularly for according the event the status of a State-level programme.

The Chief Minister was presented with the tournament memento by Mr Bishal Mukhia, President, Jorethang Badminton Association. Special mementoes were also presented to him by members of the Indian Junior National Team, representing the country at the Dutch and German Open World Grand Prix 2026, as well as by representatives of the Gujarat and Assam Badminton Associations. The Indian Junior National Team also presented a special memento to President BAS.

Adding a cultural dimension to the occasion, students of North Sikkim Academy, Mangan, presented a cultural performance titled 'Three Roots, One Soul'.

The ceremony also featured oath-taking, administered by Master Aansh Dhamala of Sikkim, Bronze Medallist at North East Zonal Badminton Championship 2026, on behalf of all participating players.

The Chief Minister formally declared the Yonex-Sunrise 49th Inter-State and Inter-Zonal Junior National Badminton Individual Championship 2026, open.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Mr Sukant Das, General Secretary, Badminton Association of Sikkim.

Among those present were Minister for Forest and Environment Department, MLAs-cum-Advisors, Chief Secretary, Advisors, Chairpersons, Zilla Adhyakshas, OSDs, HoDs, representatives of Badminton Association of India and Badminton Association of Sikkim and senior officials.

District-level Buyers and Sellers Meet-cum-SHG Exhibition

Pakyong, November 14: Mr Arun Kumar Upreti, Minister for Rural Development Department inaugurated the District-level Buyers and Sellers Meet 2026-cum-Self-Help Group (SHG) Exhibition at Duga School Ground, today.

The Minister was accompanied by Mr LB Das MLA who also serves as the Chief Patron of the Organising Committee.

The three-day event, being held from November 14 to 16 is organised by the Block Mission Management Unit (BMMU), Duga, under the Sikkim Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM), Rural Development Department.

The inaugural programme began with the declaration of exhibition open by the chief guest, followed by a visit of the exhibition stalls by the dignitaries. The stalls featured an array of locally produced goods, traditional handicrafts, food products and other items prepared by Self-Help Groups, highlighting entrepreneurial potential of rural producers.

The Minister underscored the importance of empowering Self-Help Groups and strengthening the rural economy through collective participation, entrepreneurship and market-oriented livelihood activities.

An overview of the District-level SHG Buyers and Sellers Meet 2026 in Pakyong District was presented by Ms Bidya Biswakarma Chairperson, Co-operation Department.

CEO, SRLM, RDD, highlighted the objectives of the initiative, emphasising the importance of strengthening market linkages, encouraging entrepreneurship and generating sustainable livelihood opportunities for SHG members.

The three-day meet aims to establish stronger connections between buyers and sellers, facilitating direct market access for SHG products and encourage rural entrepreneurs to expand their businesses. The initiative is expected to create new marketing opportunities, promote local products and strengthen the economic participation of rural women and producers.

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