



SIKKIM HERALD

Vol. 64 No. 10 visit us at www.ipr.sikkim.gov.in

Gangtok (Friday) February 26, 2021

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

CM attends foundation stone laying ceremony of various infrastructures



Gyalshing, February 24: Chief Minister, Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the foundation stone laying ceremony of Block Administrative Centre (BAC), Industrial Training Institute (ITI) at Chumbung and Centre of Excellence at Chakung, today.

The Chief Minister in his address highlighted the developments made by the state in the field of education. He informed that the Centre of Excellence shall have world class facilities and infrastructure. The

Chief Minister further informed about the government decision to provide 50 MBBS reservation seats free of cost.

Minister Education, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha in his brief speech said that this Centre of Excellence shall be a state of the art institution with all the facilities.

The event also witnessed colourful cultural performances by the students of surrounding schools.

Co-ordination meeting on SGFF 2021 held



Gangtok, February 26: A co-ordination meeting regarding the Sikkim Global Film Festival 2021 was held at the Conference Hall, Tashiling Secretariat, today.

The meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary, Mr. S.C. Gupta.

The meeting was primarily conducted to discuss agendas and action plan for the forthcoming Sikkim Global Film Festival 2021 to be organised by Sikkim Film Promotion Board under IPR Department during the month of

April 2021.

Various agendas including the date for programme, venue, budget provision including nomination of Sikkim Film Promotion Board members and future actions to be taken were vitally discussed during the meeting.

Also, Sikkim Film Policy, Terms of Reference of SFPB and other important issues related to prevailing COVID-19 situation were discussed at length.

Election to Municipal bodies of Sikkim to be held on March 31: SEC

Gangtok, February 25: The State Election Commission held a press briefing regarding the upcoming 3rd General Municipal Election 2021 in the chamber of the State Election Commissioner, Tadong, today.

According to the press note from State Election Commission Elections to the municipal bodies of Sikkim will be held on 31st March 2021, the results of which will be declared on 3rd April, 2021. Notification will be issued on 1st March 2021 for inviting nomination papers, while the last date for filing nomination is 8th March 2021. Also, the date for scrutiny of nomination will be 9th March and the last date for withdrawal of candidature will be 11th March. The code of conduct will be enforced from 1st March, 2021, after the issuance of final notification.

Sharing more details in this regard, State Election Commissioner Mrs. Nima Laden Yethenpa stated that there is total number of 51 wards, 90 polling stations which includes 40,475 female and 42,341 male.

Also, she informed that the State Government has amended the relevant portion of the Municipalities Act, 2007 which dissolved the existing members of the Municipalities and deferred the Municipal Election for a period of six months.

She also informed that the segregation and preparation of Municipal ward wise Electoral Rolls time being in force prepared and published by the Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim in Assembly Constituency wise with reference to 1st January 2021 as the qualifying date is under progress in the districts as per the newly delimited Municipal wards and the final publication of Municipal Electoral Rolls will be done in the respective districts by the Municipal Electoral Registration Officers on 26th February, 2021. The programme for the election will commence within a couple of days after the final publication of Electoral Rolls.

She further shared that this time as per the Re-delimitation of Municipal wards the total number

of Municipal wards under Gangtok Municipal Corporation has been increased from 17 to 19. The newly created wards under Gangtok Municipal Corporation are Bhojoghari, 2nd Mile and Pani House.

Further, under South District, Nayabazar- Jorethang Municipal Council has been renamed as Nayabazar- Jorethang Nagar Panchayat and Gyalshing Municipal Council under west district has been renamed as Gyalshing Nagar Panchayat.

The total number of municipal wards under Nayabazar- Jorethang Nagar Panchayat and Gyalshing Nagar Panchayat has been reduced from 7 to 5 Wards each.

Election will be held in total 51 wards, in East district Gangtok Municipal Corporation (19 wards) Singtam Nagar Panchayat (5) wards, Rangpo Nagar Panchayat (5).

In South district, Namchi Municipal Council (7 wards),

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Training for Presiding and Polling Officers for Municipal Elections

Gangtok, February 26: The concluding day of training programme of Presiding and Polling Officers-1 for the upcoming Municipal Elections 2021 was successfully conducted at East District Zilla Bhawan, Sichey, today.

Additional District Collector (East), Mr. Tushar Nihare facilitated the training for the Polling and Presiding Officers. He was joined by Sub-Divisional Magistrate HQ, Mr. Anand Sharma.

A total number of 67 trainees attended the training today out of which there were 30 Presiding Officers and 37 Polling Officers.

The trainees were briefed about the importance of having a clean and efficient Municipal election.

Issues such as DOs and DON'Ts were explained to the trainees in detail. Information about the mechanism and workings of the EVMs and VVPATs were also explained.

The training also saw hands-on sessions where the trainees were allowed to get a firsthand experience on the EVMs.



It may be mentioned here that, three round training programme for Presiding Officers and Polling Officers was held at East District Zilla Bhawan, Conference Hall, Sichey on

February 25.

Additional District Collector (East), Mr. Tushar Nihare, as a Resource Person briefed the

Contd. on page 4

Pearls of Wisdom

*“Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom.”
- Aristotle*

District Diary

Chief Minister visits Ralang Monastery

Namchi, February 26: The Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang visited Ralang Monastery, today. He offered prayers at the Monastery for the well-being of the state and its people. The Chief Minister also planted a sapling on the occasion.

Chief Minister inaugurates Model Police Station at Kaluk

Gyalshing, February 23: The Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang inaugurated Model Police Station at Kaluk, today. The new Model Police Station which falls under Soreng Sub-Division, West Sikkim is built at a total cost of ₹1,69,00,000/-. Later, the Chief Minister also attended the foundation laying stone of Nayabazaar and Gyalshing Police Station through Video Conference. The Chief Minister also paid a visit to Phunchok Choling Gumpa at Sribadam in West Sikkim where he offered prayers and interacted with the local people of the area and assured to extend all possible support.

Inauguration programme of Community hall and distribution of street lights and sports items

Gyalshing, February 25: The 72nd Battalion, Sasastra Seema Bal (SSB), Yuksom organised inauguration programme of Community hall and distribution of street lights and sports items under Civic Action Programme in North-East region at Rimbik Secondary School, West Sikkim, today.

The programme was graced by the Deputy Inspector General (DIG), SHQ, Gangtok, Mr. B. K. Pal as the chief guest.

Mr. B.K. Pal informed about the various welfare and developmental activities carried out by the Sasastra Seema Bal in West District under civic action programme. He said that the SSB battalion will always render the support towards the welfare of the people and strengthen the relationship and love in between themselves. He assured to hold such beneficial

events in future with more possibilities.

Earlier, Mr. P. K. Pal, inaugurated the newly constructed community hall at Rimbik school premises constructed by 72nd Battalion, SSB, Yuksom.

The sports equipments were distributed to 12 schools of the District and 11 street lights were handed over to the concern Gram Panchayat Unit.

The programme also witness the presentation of felicitation letter to Mr. S.K. Awadhiya, officiating Commandant, 72nd Battalion and ASI, SSB, Mr. Philip Lepcha by Rimbik School authority for rendering constant support in its upliftment.

The programme also saw cultural programme and momentum distribution.

Awareness programme on women related issues organised

Namchi, February 25: One Stop Centre (South) in collaboration with 181-WHL and Mahila Shakti Kendra (S) organised one day awareness programme on women related issues at Nandugoan BAC, today. The programme had participants from SHGs, Panchayats, BAC staffs and local public.

The programme was graced by AD, SSS, BAC Nandugoan, Mrs. Namgay Doma Bhutia as the chief guest.

Dist.Coordinator, Mahila Shakti Kendra, Ms. Dil Maya Dahal briefed about the Women Empower Schemes.

Helpline Manager, Ms.

Namina Lakhey spoke on 181 Women Helpline Services.

Centre Administrator(S), Ms. Sangita Gurung highlighted the role and functions of One Stop Centre.

Resource Person Advocate Pradeep Rai, OSC (E) spoke on various forms of violence against women and children and the different special laws relating to women and children. He highlighted various provision of the protection of women from Domestic Violence Act 2005. He also informed about cyber crime and cyber stalking. Further, he informed about the free legal aid available to women and children.

Awareness programme on PM-FME Scheme held

Namchi, February 26: An awareness programme on 'Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME) Scheme' was held at the Conference Hall of DAC, today. Organized jointly by DAC, South and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Division, Commerce and Industries Department had Chairman, Farmer Welfare Board Mr. Phurden Lepcha as the chief guest.

Chairman, Farmer Welfare Board Mr. Phurden Lepcha informed that this scheme aims to make India self-reliant by giving impetus to local manufacturing, local market and local supply chain. He also spoke about the objective of this scheme which can strengthen capacities of the micro entrepreneurs and that this scheme can assist the individuals to adapt from the unorganized sector to the formal sector. He also applauded the innovative ideas proposed by the young stakeholders and said that they should relentlessly work towards building up their occupation. He further asserted that the concerned department will aid in making their choice of profession a success as these young

entrepreneurs can in future construct a mega corporation which can employ other masses from the state.

Director State (MSME) Mr. Ravi Kumar informed that the initiative of the scheme is to encourage the micro-entrepreneurs of the state and to generate equitable entrepreneurial opportunities in rural as well as urban areas of Sikkim, particularly among the educated unemployed to become Self Employed by setting up Manufacturing, Services, Business and allied activities by availing loan. He added that this scheme has been launched under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM-FME) Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme and aims to enhance the competitiveness of existing individual as well as the upcoming micro-enterprises. He also gave a short presentation on MSME whereby he highlighted about the various potential possibilities that the budding individuals can build their business on, these business can vary from Organic Agriculture which can be Fruits and Vegetables, Floriculture,

Ornamental Plant Nursery to Food Processing which can include pickle, juice making and many more. He also updated about the loan and other subsidy available with the department as a part of this scheme. He added under the PM-FME scheme, capacity building is an important component and the department will give necessary training as well.

DC (South) Mr. M. Bharani Kumar spoke about the various opportunities that the entrepreneurs can explore in the State. He cited examples such as developing home made wines, face mask, sanitizers and others that the entrepreneurs can create, market the products and generate revenue as well.

AD (MSME) Mrs. Bimla Chettri explained in detail how the masses will get the benefits from this scheme. She also spoke about the eligibility criteria and other documents to be submitted by interested participants.

During the course of the programme, an interactive session was so conducted in which the participants put forward their suggestions, queries to the officials from the department.

Workshop on prevention of cyber crimes amongst children conducted

Namchi, February 26: An online safety workshop on prevention of cyber crimes amongst children was conducted at DAC, Namchi by Sarvahitey a Delhi based Non Governmental Organization. This workshop is an initiative of DC (South) Mr. M. Bharani Kumar in collaboration with DCPO (South).

The workshop covered

topics like Bhishing, Phising, Cyber Bully, adverse effects of hate speech and comments on social media platforms. The workshop also explored various preventive measures to protect from getting trapped into such crimes. Mr. Amit Gupta from Sarvahitey shared Helpline numbers, websites to register complains in situations

detrimental for well-being of children so that a secure online environment can be established.

Girls from Namchi Mayallang Children's Home were the participants of today's workshop. It may be mentioned here that this is a first of its kind workshop held with the children to educate, protect as well as promote internet safety.

Meeting to conduct various sports activities in schools under West District held

Gyalshing, February 26: A meeting pertaining to conducting of various sports activities in schools under West District was held in the office of the District Collector (West), Gyalshing, today.

The meeting was chaired by the District Collector (West), Mr. Karma R. Bonpo along with ADC (West), Mr. Agawane Rohan Ramesh, Additional Director/Education, Mr. K.C. Gyatso, Deputy Director/Sports, Mrs. Nickjey Lamu Bhutia, and Head Master/Middle

Gyalshing Secondary School, Mr. Tashi Ongyal Bhutia.

DC (West) suggested to prepare a precise school's activities calendar and include every saturday as sports day without getting the classes disturbed so as to imbibe positive sport spirit among students. He further suggested to conduct interschool tournaments in the field of football, basketball and badminton based on conditions. He stated that interschool and block level sports activities is much important as the children

will get chance to showcase their talents.

DC West informed that fourteen basketball courts are under project at West district and ground repairing will be done gradually. He also informed about the increase in sports centre with more sports activities in the days to come. Participation in sports contributes to improve academics with no time for the students to unacceptable activities, Mr. Bonpo added.

District Level Science, Mathematics and Environment Exhibition 2020-21 organised

Gyalshing, February 25: A day long District Level Science, Mathematics and Environment Exhibition 2020-21 organised by SCERT Gangtok in collaboration with DIET Gyalshing was held at DIET Gyalshing, today.

The theme for this year Exhibition was 'Technology and Toys.'

A total of 19 schools from West District participated in the event.

District level exhibition had the presence of Additional Director, Education Department, Mr. K.C. Gyatso as the chief

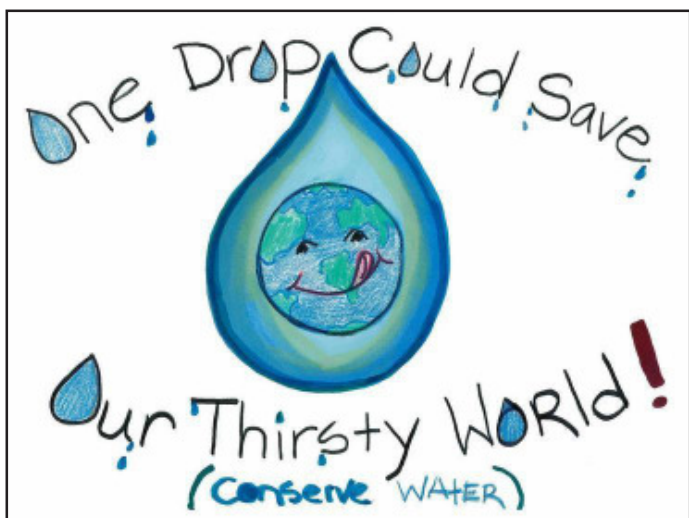
guest, Headmaster Langang Secondary School, Mr. Rajesh Thapa as the special guest.

BDO, Gyalshing, Mr. Mukesh Dahal, Assistant Professor, Gyalshing Degree College, Ms. Udenla Bhutia, Mr. Suman Tamang, Assistant Professor, Chakung Science College were the panel of Judges.

Mr. K.C. Gyatso congratulated participants for their exhibits and also appreciated the efforts of SCERT and DIET Gyalshing for providing opportunities for children to share their creativity.

Gyalshing Girls Senior Secondary School bagged the 1st position, Darap Senior Secondary School stood 2nd. Mangalbaria Senior Secondary School won the third prize. Dentam Senior Secondary School and Yuksom Senior Secondary School took away the 4th and 5th position, respectively.

It may be mentioned here that the winner shall be participating in the State Level Science Exhibition which is scheduled to be held on March 9 at Gangtok.



**Tourism and Civil Aviation Department
Government of Sikkim
Paryatan Bhawan
Tadong-East Sikkim
Website: www.Sikkimtourism.gov.in
Phone no.03259-232218, Fax:03592-232216
Email: secy_tourism@yahoo.com**

No:96/DOT&CAV

Dated:24/02/2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

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

Sl. no	Name of the property	Rent per month (₹)	TDR (Security Deposit) (₹)	Cost of tender form (₹)
01	Cafeteria at Bakthang Falls, Bhojoghari, East Sikkim	26000/-	1,56,000/-	1500

Time Schedule:

- Sale of Tender form : Date: **11th March 2021** during office hour.
- Receipt of Tender form : Date **19th March 2021**
along with the relevant documents Time:**01.00 P.M**
- Opening of Tender Documents in : Date **19th March 2021**
Office of Additional Secretary Time: **02.00 P.M**
Paryatan Bhawan, Tadong
East Sikkim.

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

**Additional Secretary
Tourism & Civil Aviation Department
R.O. No.254/IPR/PUB/Classi/20-21(ii), Dt:25/02/21**

**Government of Sikkim
Excise Department
M.G. Marg Gangtok-737 101
excise.dept@sikkim.gov.in.**

No.35/Excise

Date:15/02/2021

NOTICE

Shri. Pratap Sharma, S/o Bishnu Prasad Sharma, R/o Rowtey Rumtek, East Sikkim working as Head Constable under Excise Department in Head Office, Gangtok has been absenting from his official duty w.e.f. 03.12.2020 till date, without any information and leave application. His whereabouts are also not known thereof.

He is directed to report to the Office of the undersigned within 15 days of publication of this notice, failing which Disciplinary action shall be initiated against him in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Sikkim Government Servant's (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, 1985.

All his family members, relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to convey the contents of this notice to him and advise him to report to duty immediately.

**Joint Secretary
Excise Department
R.O. No.247/IPR/PUB/Classi/20-21(ii), Dt:18/02/21**

**Sikkim Khadi & Village Industries Board
Khadi Bhawan, Deorali, Gangtok - 737102, Sikkim**

Phon:03592-281810, 281221, Fax:03592-281221, Email:sikkimkhadi@gmail.com

Ref. No.30/(52)SKVIB/05-06/

Dated:25.02.2021

AUCTION NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from interested person/parties for auction of a vehicle of Sikkim Khadi & V.I. Board bearing registration no.SK-01/6874 on "**AS IS WHERE IS BASIS**".

The details of the vehicle are as under:-

Type of vehicle

- Bolero DI**
- Engine No. GA54F34013**
- Chasis No. MAIXA2GAK52F27362**
- Year of purchase: 2005**
- Offset price: 35,358/-**

1. The vehicle is parked at Deorali Private Parking and can be inspected during working hours between 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the permission of the Executive Officer and Asstt. Executive Officer Sikkim Khadi & V.I. Board.

2. The tender bid amount along with details of the bidder must be submitted in sealed cover should be accompanied by a refundable TDR for ₹5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only as security deposit drawn in favour of Account Officer, Sikkim Khadi & V.I. Board and should reach to the office of the Executive Officer latest by 12:00 p.m. of 18th March,2021.

3. The tender shall be open on the same day i.e. 18th March 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the presence of the renderers and their representative in the chamber of Chief Executive Officer, Sikkim Khadi & V.I. Board.

4. In the event of the tender being accepted the tenderer should lift the vehicle within seven days after making full payment, failing which the tender will be cancelled and the security deposit will be forfeited.

5. The Chief Executive Officer reserves the right to accept or reject any or an the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

(N.M. Sunar)
Asstt. Executive Officer
S.K.V.I.B.

R.O. No.258/IPR/PUB/Classi/20-21, Dt:26/02/21

**Government of Sikkim
Culture Department
Gangtok-737101,Sikkim**

Ref No:127/SA&M/CD

Dated: 16/02/2021

APPEAL

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

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

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

Contact:

94743-49100

98320-14600

83720-38127

**Additional Director
(State Archives)****Culture Department
Govt. of Sikkim.**

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

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Fax:03592222927

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PBX : 222908

: 222916

: 222028

**Government of Sikkim
Power Department**

No.200/Adl

Dated:23/02/2021

**NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE
POST OF CHAIRPERSON OF SIKKIM
ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

In Accordance with Section 84, 85 & 89 of the Electricity Act 2003, Government of Sikkim invites applications for the post of Chairperson, Sikkim Electricity Regulatory Commission (SSERC) from persons who meet the following Criteria:-

1. The person shall be of ability, integrity and standing who has adequate discerning knowledge of and has shown capacity in dealing with problem relating to engineering, finance, commerce, economics, law or management.

2. The person should not have any financial or other interest with any corporate entity dealing with Generation, Transmission, Trading and Distribution of electricity in Sikkim which is likely to affect prejudicially his or her function as Chairperson of the Commission. The person must give a certificate to this effect while applying for the post.

3. The Chairperson shall hold Office for a term of 5 (five) years from the date he enters upon his office or till he attains the age of 65 (sixty five) years, whichever is earlier.

4. The terms and conditions of Service of the Chairperson will governed by the Gazette Notification dated 29.11.2011 as notified by the Government of Sikkim vide No. 618 dated 29.11.2011 as amended from time to time.

5. The Selection Committee constituted as per the provision of the Electricity Act, 2003, for the purpose of making the selection to the post of Chairperson, reserves the right to consider and recommend any other person fulfilling the criteria laid down in the Act for the post of the Chairperson apart from those who have applied against this advertisement. The Head Quarter of Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission will be at Deorali, Gangtok.

6. Suitable candidates with adequate qualification and requisite age as prescribed above may apply with their Bio-data mentioning their age, qualification, experience, present status etc within 4.30 pm of 15.04.2021 to PCE-cum-Secretary, Power Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok, Pin No. 737101 with the envelope superscribed "Application for the post of Chairperson SSERC.

7. The applicants in Government Service should apply through proper-channel.

(Phigu Tshering Bhutia)

PCE-cum-Secretary

Power Department

R.O. No.253/IPR/PUB/Classi/20-21, Dt:24/02/21

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Sikkim Manipal University hosted 1st Zone-Wise Meeting of NAAC

Gangtok, February 25: The 1st Zone-Wise Meeting of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) on 'All India Analysis of Accreditation Report' for North Eastern Region was hosted by Sikkim Manipal University (SMU), today.

Minister for Education, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha graced the programme as the chief guest.

Minister Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha expressed his pleasure to be the part of this very first ever meeting of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) for North Eastern Region. He informed that NAAC was established in 1994 as an autonomous institution of UGC with its headquarter at Bengaluru with the idea of setting up of benchmark of higher education in the country by the way of assessment in a transparent way through a combination of self and external quality evaluation.

Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha further said that he was pleased to know that NAAC has accredited more than 600 Universities out of around 1000 and 13000 colleges out of 40,000 colleges in the country and proud to share that currently out of 12 Government colleges in State 6 Government Colleges are already accredited by NAAC.

Speaking on the occasion he said NAAC receives and examines a higher quantum of data to assessment and accreditation in the form of Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQARs) and Per Team Report (PTRs) which is a welcome step on the part of NAAC gathering a huge amount

of data about various higher education institutions and to publish "All India Analysis of Accreditation Report" empowering the higher educational institutions to assess their strength, weakness, opportunities, challenges and identity internal areas for improvement by the way of planning and resource allocation.

While concluding his address Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha said that he is confident that the entire higher education fraternity of Sikkim and North Eastern Region shall benefit immensely from this three day session and complimented Sikkim Manipal University for their laudable support in hosting this first zonal meeting.

Additional Chief Secretary, Education, Mr. G. P. Upadhaya in his address said that the eco- system of higher education is of utmost importance as it prepares the students for a meaningful and cooperative role in the society. He stated that universities in order to be effectively operational require a good mix of faculties drawn from local and national levels.

He further said that one of the major consequence of information and communication technology revolution relates to the use of technology that provides extensive information

to the students making them competent and responsible citizens who will be ready to work in multi cultural globalised environment.

Earlier Prof. S. C. Sharma, Director NAAC virtually addressed the session followed by a brief report presentation on an Overview of the "All India Analysis of Accreditation Report" North East Region by Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy, Academic Expert NAAC and by Dr. Wahidul Hasan Sr. Communication cum Publication Officer, NAAC.

'The All India Analysis of Accreditation Report', ably anchored by NAAC, is significant for the Education Departments of N-E State Governments, including N-E Universities and higher education institutes, to sharpen their focus on future endeavours towards quality assurance and enhancement. During this meeting, the distinguished team of NAAC Experts proposes to conduct discussions to obtain valuable views, inputs and suggestions from all stakeholders to make the captioned report more and comprehensive. This will create an efficient ecosystem of high-quality higher education in the North East Region.

The meeting is being organised in both the virtual and physical modes keeping in view the COVID-19 related precautions.

National Conference on Sikkim North Bengal Buddhist Conclave concludes

Gangtok, February 23 : The two-day National Conference on "Sikkim North Bengal Buddhist Conclave" held at Manan Kendra concluded, today.

The conclave was organized by Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) in collaboration with International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi and supported by Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim.

During the conference, many renowned academicians presented their paper and presentations. Also,

local scholars from Sikkim got opportunity to share their knowledge.

On the second day of the conclave, various Resource Persons spoke at length about the importance of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition and how to preserve it. The main idea behind this conclave was to come together, know each other and to find out the strengths and weaknesses. The platform has the potential to draw people from different places, religion following Buddhism in different

ways to connect and discuss issues and challenges and to look forward for collaboration, cooperation and to sustain our own culture, heritage, language and faith.

The programme concluded with cultural presentations along with distribution of certificates to the participants of the conclave.

The conclave came to an end with the vote of thanks proposed by Assistant Director, Ecclesiastical Department, Ms. Karma Choden Bhutia.

Officials of UDD inspects Construction of Link Road from TNHS road to Dhupidara linking Indira Bypass Road

Gangtok, February 24: The Secretary and officials of Urban Development Department along with the contractor inspected the work - "Construction of Link Road from TNHS road to Dhupidara linking Indira Bypass Road near Manbir Colony", today. The new road cutting on Indira Bypass Road side is almost complete and widening of existing road on TNHS side is under progress. The delay was due to presence of water supply lines, sewer

lines, power lines, etc. The shifting of utilities is under process and will take about a month's time. The major pending work is construction of culverts and cross drains, which are being constructed simultaneously with widening of the road after which the carpeting works will be completed before monsoon.

The Department has

directed the contractor to at least make the road into a fair weather one by 31st March, 2021. Once the Adampool to Ban Jhakri Falls road is complete, the residence of Upper Sichey, Development Area, Baluwakhani, etc, can bypass the vehicular jam of NH-10 and reach Adampool at a shorter time span and in process will decongest the main Gangtok road.

Culture Deptt. distributes Sound Systems to various social organizations and Institutions

Gangtok, February 25: The Culture Department organized a programme for distribution of Sound Systems to various social organizations and Institutions. The programme was attended by Minister for Culture Department, Mr. Samdup Lepcha as the chief guest.

Chairman, Sikkim Culture, Heritage and Communal Harmony Board, Mr. Sonam Sherpa who led the Sikkim contingent for the Sikkim Utsav organized by North East Zone Cultural Centre, Kolkata w.e.f. 12th February to 14th February 2021, was felicitated at the programme. Similarly, Preservation Officer, Mr. L.N. Sharma and troupe leader of the Sikkim Contingent for the Tableau, Mr. Yangchok Lachenpa at the Republic Day Parade 2021 at New Delhi were felicitated. The Manan Hall attendants, who are the driving force behind the upkeep and maintenance of the Hall, were also felicitated at the event.

The Minister in his address apprised the gathering on the various initiatives undertaken by the State Government for the preservation and propagation of the Culture and Heritage of the different ethnic communities of the State. He further reiterated that culture is what society is made of. The culture of a society is reflected in its language, folk tales, music, literature etc, which is an integral part of everyday life. He further appealed not to make any individual applications for issue of sound system but only those coming from registered organizations would be entertained. He lauded the efforts of the artistes and the troupe leaders for presenting a befitting performance which highlighted the social and cultural aspect of Sikkim in the national arena.

Earlier, the welcome address was proposed by Secretary, Culture Department Mrs. Sherap Shenga.

Seven-day long exhibition-cum-sale of local products inaugurated

Gangtok, February 23: Secretary, Urban Development Department, Ms. Sarala Rai, inaugurated the seven-day long exhibition-cum-sale of local products made by Women Self Help Groups under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) at Titanic Park, Gangtok, today.

The event was organized by the Sikkim Urban Development Agency (SUDA) under the Urban

Development Department, Government of Sikkim. The theme of the programme was "Home Grown With Love From Our Garden To Your Homes."

The exhibition includes various products such as local organic foods, organically grown plants, bamboo products, hand-made bags, woolen products and toys made by fourteen Women Self Help Groups of the District.

Contd. from front page

State Election...

Nayabazar - Jorethang Nagar

Panchayat (5 wards).

In West Sikkim, Gyalshing Nagar Panchayat (5 wards), in North district Mangan Nagar Panchayat (5 wards) total 51.

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Training for...

officials about their roles and responsibilities with respect to the conduct of election.

The functioning of the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) was also explained and hands-on training session was conducted to familiarize EVM (Control unit & Ballot unit).

The trainees were informed about the various DOs and DON'Ts regarding the polling process in line with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The significance of the conduct of mock poll before commencing the actual poll was emphasized and all the necessary procedures pertaining to the polling process were demonstrated.



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