



# MONTHLY BULLETIN

JANUARY 2020 ISSUE 1

## New Year Greetings by the Governor to the ITB Jawans



### January 1 – Gangtok, East Sikkim

Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim Shri Ganga Prasad exchanged greetings and good wishes for New Year 2020 with staff and ITBP Jawans posted at Raj Bhawan in a special function held today at Raj Bhawan. Wishing for a prosperous and fulfilling New Year to all staff, officers and ITBP jawans, Hon'ble Governor also distributed blankets, sweets and gifts to all present in the function.





## **NAMSOONG FESTIVAL CELEBRATED WITH MUCH FERVOUR IN NAMPRIKDANG DZONGU**

**N**amsoong, the annual festival of the Lepcha community was celebrated with myriad activities and fanfare at Namprikdang Ground in Dzongu, North Sikkim from the 2nd to 4th of January, 2020. The three-day festival was inaugurated by Forest Minister, Shri Karma Loday Bhutia. Minister Shri Bhutia expressed joy of being part of a historic festival like the Namsoong festival and thanked the Namprikdang Namsoong Celebration Committee for offering him an opportunity to be part of the festivities. He called for safeguarding and preserving the unique socio-cultural and historical identity of Dzongu as a sacred place. He also assured Government support to develop Dzongu in relevant sectors. The second day of the festival was graced by Chief Minister, Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay). The Chief Minister in his address made a strong commitment to develop Dzongu under “Care Dzongu Programme” ensuring special protection of sanctity and

sentiments of Dzongu and its people. He announced to construct roadways in Dzongu. He also touched upon huge potential of Dzongu in diversified field and encouraged the youth to continue lifelong learning process to take Dzongu to the greater height of development.

The Chief Minister also informed that the state government has reserved five seats of CMMSS particularly to the students of Dzongu in addition to annually allotted 50 seats.

The final day of the festival had Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Shri. L.B. Das as the chief guest. He extended his greetings to the people of Dzongu and surrounding areas and reiterated the Government’s commitment to work for the development of the people of Dzongu.

Cultural shows, release of books and songs, football tournament, musical night, traditional stalls and rural sports formed the highlights of the festival.





## Uttarakhand Minister visits South and West Districts of Sikkim

Minister for Tourism, Irrigation, Minor Irrigation, Culture, Watershed Management and Indo-Nepal Uttarakhand River Projects, Government of Uttarakhand, Shri Satpal Ji Maharaj visited different places of significance in the South and West Districts of Sikkim from 2nd of January, 2020. The Minister along with his family visited Siddheshwara Dham at Solophok namchi and offered prayers. He also visited places of interest like Samdruptse, Tathagata Tsal at Ravangla and Pelling in West Sikkim.



## Uttarakhand Minister Calls on Chief Minister

On his second leg of visit, Shri Satpal Ji Maharaj called on Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) at Power Guest House, Jorethang on 4th January, 2020. The meeting also had the presence of Cabinet Ministers of Sikkim.

The Chief Minister welcomed Shri. Satpal Ji Maharaj to the State on behalf of the people of Sikkim. He updated the visiting Minister about the progress of work at Manav Uthan Sewa Samiti Centre at Pakyong and assured early completion. Minister Shri. Satpal Ji Maharaj thanked the Chief Minister for his commitment and his far sighted vision to develop Pakyong area as a major pilgrimage tourist destination in the near future.







## Chief Minister inaugurates newly adopted Model Villages in North Sikkim



Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) inaugurated newly adopted Model Village in North Sikkim presence of Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture and AH&VS Shri Lok Nath Sharma, Minister-cum-Area MLA Shri Samdup Lepcha and other cabinet Ministers on the 3rd of January, 2020. The Department of Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Government of Sikkim has adopted Ringhim, Nampatam, Malling ward under Ringhim Nampatam GPU and Pakshep ward under Singhik Sentam GPU, as a Model Village in the North District.







## Chief Minister attends Rainbow Trout Festival in West Sikkim

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang attended the Valedictory Ceremony of the weeklong Rainbow Trout Festival held at Upper Sribadam, West Sikkim, on 4th January, 2020. The festival was organised by Sribadam Rainbow Trout Festival Organizing Committee in collaboration with Trout Rearing Cooperative Society Ltd.

The Chief Minister marked the event as a significant occasion that closely related with the livelihood of the people and future of the locality. He also congratulated Trout Rearing Cooperative Society for taking initiative of Trout culture in cluster form and expressed happiness on the attractive income generated by the farmers through trout culture and further encouraged people to adopt this lucrative business, comprehensively.

The Chief Minister expressed his vision to transform Rinchengpong constituency through Tourism Development and

informed that a survey has been completed to take up various developmental activities in the constituency. Chief Minister also assured to open Rambang Check-post with an objective to explore and promote tourism in the west district.

Minister Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Shri Lok Nath Sharma, in his address, said that the region of Sribadam is climatically favourable for trout culture and the farmers are getting attracted with impressive income earned by few of the farmers in the locality.

The Chief Minister also visited the Community Hatchery at Upper Sribadam, W. Sikkim. He released “fry” (Seed Production) into the raceway tank. He enquired about the technical aspects of Trout culture and discussed with the officials regarding supportive requirements to increase trout production on a larger scale.





## The All India Chief Minister's Gold Cup International Football Tournament Makes a Comeback after a 5-year Sojourn

The 9th All India Chief Minister's Gold Cup International Football Tournament organised by South District Football Association (SDFA) kicked off at Jorethang Play Ground on 5th of January, 2020.

Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Departments Shri Kunga Nima Lepcha officially declared the tournament open.

A total of fourteen (14) teams from Sikkim, Kalimpong, Darjeeling, Shillong, Kolkata, Punjab including clubs from Nepal and Bhutan participated in the tournament.







## Prince of Football Talent Hunt launched at Paljor Stadium

Minister for Sports & Youth Affairs Shri Kunga Nima Lepcha inaugurated the Winter football Coaching Camp ‘Search of Prince of Football Talent Hunt’ at Paljor Stadium on 5th of January, 2020.

Football Icon Padmashree Bhaichung Bhutia, Secretary, Sports & YA Department Shri Kuber Bhandari, along with Director SYA, Departmental coaches and parents were present on the occasion.

The programme was a collaborative effort of Shri Bhaichung Bhutia & the Sports & YA Department.

The participants comprised of Under-15 and Under-13 children from districts who will be representing at state level competitions after the camp. The state level teams will be provided exposure trips to New Delhi. The Prince of Football two members will be provided exposure trip to Europe by Shri Bhaichung Bhutia. Scholarship will also be provided by him.

The winter coaching camp for football & other sporting events would be taken up in phased manner in all the four District of Sikkim.





## Four-Day Painting Workshop in the Capital

A four day Painting Workshop organised by North East Zonal Cultural Centre in collaboration with Culture Department, Government of Sikkim commenced on 5th January, 2020 to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Art enthusiasts from all over state gathered at Manan Bhawan to participate in the workshop which went on till 8th January 2020. Renowned Artist and President

of Oviya Art Circle Ms. Deepa Rai speaking during the inaugural function thanked Culture Department Government of Sikkim and NEZCC for facilitating such platforms for art enthusiasts to assemble and work together. “Such initiatives facilitate the Artists to showcase their creativity, interact and encourage budding artists to open their talents for economic ventures,”, she stated.





## Month Long Winter Coaching Camp and Talent Hunt at Namchi

A Month long winter coaching camp and talent hunt 2019-20 for South District was initiated at Namchi Central Park on 6th January, 2020. The camp was organized by Department of Sports & Youths Affairs in coordination with the office of District Collector (South).

The camp focused on various sports disciplines such as Football, Badminton, Taekwondo, Karate, Table Tennis, Boxing and Volleyball. The activities were held at Singithang Playground and Indoor Stadium in Namchi. A total number of 105 participants were involved in various sporting events, most of them being below the age of 19 years.



## Road Safety and Law Enforcement Drive

The Transport Department in collaboration with the Police Department will be conducting a three-month long drive on “Road Safety cum Enforcement Drive” all over the state. The objective of this drive is to create awareness and provide necessary warns and precautions so that possible accidents can be prevented. This will further bring the increasing number of road accidents under control.

All vehicles will be checked for authentic documents and the drivers will be monitored to examine if they are driving under the influence

of alcohol or any illegal substance. Overloading of vehicles will also be checked and those found violating any of these rules will be penalised.

Vehicles that have been checked will be provided with a “checked” sticker. For the convenience of all road users and vehicle owners, the transport department in collaboration with NIC have provided an online service portal. This service will help people with process of permits, paying token taxes up to five years and applying for driver’s license etc.

The drive will go on until the 31st of March 2020.



## IPR Minister attends Sakewa Festival

Minister, IPR Department, Shri Lok Nath Sharma attended the festival of Sakewa (Udhawli Puja) Celebration 2019-20, at Arithang Martam, West Sikkim, on the 6th of January, 2020. The programme was organised by Akhil Kirat Rai Sangh (AKRS), Bermiok Martam, West Sikkim and had host of cultural and traditional activities depicting the rich culture of various communities, more specifically the Rai community.

The Minister in his address, congratulated the organizing committee AKRS and extended best wishes on behalf of the state government, and highlighted the Government's commitment to provide a cordial environment for all communities to practice and showcase their culture.

The Minister also assured to develop and transform Bermiok Senior Secondary School as a Model School in the West District during his tenure.

## IPR Minister addresses Farmers through Community Radio

Minister Agriculture Horticulture and Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services Department Shri Lok Nath Sharma addressed farmers through 91.2 FM, Radio Kanchenjunga in the early hours of 6th January, 2020.

He highlighted various schemes and programmes dedicated to the farmers of Sikkim in details. He also articulated future scope of newly launched Model Villages in the state, futuristic benefits for farmers through Sikkim IFFCO Organic Limited, governmental intervention to address issues of wildlife interference along with the provision of



compensation for producers, upcoming financial incentives for Milk Producers and progressive farmers, conservation of variety of Siri cow and other endangered species. He also threw light on the provision of subsidised loan for farmers and encouraged people to adopt agriculture as a lucrative profession.

He also congratulated the Martam-based Community Radio Station for the initiative and advised the station to disseminate social centric programme.





## Governor and Chief Minister exchange New Year Greetings

Governor of Sikkim, Shri Ganga Prasad and Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang exchanged New Year greetings at Raj Bhawan on 8th January, 2020.

The Chief Minister had called on the Governor to extend his New Year greetings.

Governor Shri. Ganga Prasad reciprocated the greetings and wished the Chief Minister happiness and well-being. He further shared his resolve to work earnestly for the happiness and prosperity of the people of Sikkim.



## Two schools from Sikkim win 1st prize at Zonal Level Band Competition

Girls from West Point Senior Secondary School and boys from North Sikkim Academy won first prize of Rs. 10,000 in their respective categories at Zonal Level Band Competition representing Sikkim at National Level in New Delhi.

State Education Minister, Shri Kunga Nima Lepcha and Additional Chief Secretary, Shri G.P. Upadhyaya extended their congratulation to the winning teams.

This landed them an opportunity to participate at the National Level Band Competition held on 22nd January, 2020 at National Bal Bhawan, New Delhi.





## State Government mulls over ways to decongest National Highway 10

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang witnessed a project demonstration on 10th January, 2020 to explore an alternative to the existing road infrastructure in the State, mainly to facilitate smooth movement of vehicles in and around the State by the consultant of Lion Marsway JV Tunnel DPR Project of New Delhi. Present in the meeting were Minister Roads & Bridges, Shri Samdup Lepcha and senior Government officials.

Due to the inflow of tourist has been on a significant rise to the tune of 20% year to year growth with

expected numbers to reach 3 million in next five years from current 2 million, the State Government proposes to provide an Intra-State and Inter State Corridor for all weather connectivity and de-congest the main route between Rangpo and Ranipool to Gangtok connecting all districts.

The state Road and Bridges Department has planned to appoint some reliable agencies as the consultant for preparing the feasibility study and detailed project report for proposed tunnel corridors.



### Agri-Consultancy Service Office Inaugurated at Rangpo

Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly Shri. L.B Das, along with Minister Agriculture Shri. L.N Sharma attended the inaugural ceremony of the consultancy service office of Kossher Infra Services Private Limited and Vishal Experts Services Private Limited at Rangpo on 10th January, 2020.

The main objective of the office is to provide consultancy services which have the speciality in project development, investment development and facility management and assist local entrepreneurs to develop and sustain through sharing of ideas and initiatives.





## West Sikkim students on exposure visit to Kerala



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A group of 39 meritorious students from 33 schools across West Sikkim embarked on a student exposure program, “Explore and Learn” to Kerala from Sikkim between the 3rd of January – 17th of January 2020.

The exposure program had been initiated as per the vision of the Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang to provide such exposure visits to the rural children of Sikkim. The Chief Minister had flagged off the exposure tour on 30th December 2019 during the Kanchenjunga Tourism Festival at Pelling, West Sikkim.

The exposure program which is being funded by REC Foundation as a part of their Corporate Social Responsibility had been facilitated by the Office of the District Collector, West Sikkim with an objective to provide exposure to the students and showcase to them the larger world outside Sikkim.

The 15 days program entailed visiting reputed schools across Kerala, student exchange programs and cultural programs with local schools, classroom interactions at schools, interactions friendly football matches with local school schools and visiting places of historical significance apart from the visit to places of local tourist interests.



## Chief Minister calls for immediate solution to de-congest traffic in the State Capital

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang chaired a meeting at the conference hall of New Tashiling Secretariat in regards to the existing traffic management issues in the capital Gangtok on 11th January, 2020.

The primary aim of the meeting was to discuss and deliberate upon the traffic problem plaguing the state capital and the various solutions being considered towards solving this public menace.

Chief Minister, Shri Prem Singh Tamang, while addressing the meeting, reiterated the commitment of the State government towards solving the rising problem of road congestion in Gangtok and stated that unless bold and concrete measures are initiated, this problem will continue to remain unsolved.

The CM suggested the relocation of certain taxi stands, government services outside of the main town, creation of tourist entry permit systems from Districts and Sub-divisions and carpooling systems for all Government officials during peak tourist season.

Chief Secretary, Shri S.C. Gupta, while addressing the meeting, stressed on change in habits, infrastructural development and proper traffic management as the possible interventions for mitigation of traffic congestion in the State capital. He urged parents of school children to shift from individualised vehicle system to sending their children in school buses and also suggested shifting the timing of garbage collection by GMC trucks to late evening to ease traffic woe in the capital. He further said that developing Ranka as a sub-city would also help in mitigating traffic issues with the relocation of general services stores in the said area.

Stakeholder departments introduced solutions like introduction of cable car systems, tunnel transport system, providing more road space, relocation of

public services, shifting towards mandatory usage of school buses for students, making walking convenient for the public, reliable and universally accessible and friendly transport systems were discussed and deliberated upon at the meeting. They also expressed that the commitment and resolve of the state government towards the welfare of the Sikkimese is evident through the invitation to the members of the civil society to actively participate in the process of state building.

The Chief Minister took precise note of the solutions that were offered by the stakeholder departments and agencies and directed for extensive follow up to be done on these so that an immediate solution can be implemented to solve the inconvenience faced by the public of Sikkim.







## Meeting Deliberates on preparing Sikkimese Youth for Work in Japan

Chief Secretary Shri S.C. Gupta chaired a meeting between Skill Development Department and officials from Japan at the Conference Hall of Tashiling Secretariat organized by the Skill Development Department.

The meeting had the presence and participation of Shri Tomio Isogai, Advisor/Short Term Consultant, NSDC/Japanese Representative, Ms. Kazuko Barisic, Advisor, Shri Rajeev Gupta, Founder, Japan Centre of Excellence, Guwahati, Shri K. Shrinivasulu, Principal Secretary, Dr. Pemba Tshering Bhutia and concerned officials.

The main agenda of the Meeting was to prepare local skilled manpower fluent in Japanese

language to be sent to Japan as on the Job Interns/Apprentices under Japan Technical Internship Training Programme (TITP) especially in IT, Hospitality, Nursing, Elderly Care Sectors.

The Skill Development Department is given the task to carry forward the programme - Development of NE Region of India through Japanese investment under CSR Funding.

Chief Secretary Shri S.C. Gupta in his address expressed optimism about the possibilities of exploring the possibilities to send Sikkimese youth to Japan TITP as Interns under CSR funding for preliminary training of the youths in learning Japanese languages.





## Governor meets representatives of National Blind Association, Sikkim

Governor Shri Ganga Prasad met representatives of National Blind Association (NBA) of Sikkim at Raj Bhawan on 11th January, 2020, to discuss about the operation of organisation in the State. He also handed over a small token of gift to students and staffs of the School.



## Rimbi Maghey Mela kicks off at West Sikkim

The Deputy Speaker SLA, Shri. Sangay Lepcha attended the inaugural ceremony of the Rimbi Maghey Mela 2020 as the Chief Guest and inaugurated the Rimbi Maghey Mela at the Sewaro Rock Garden Rimbi, Yuksam, West Sikkim.

Shri Lepcha congratulated the committee for their commendable job on organizing the mega event and wished them the very best for the remaining 5 days event. He also appreciated the traditional stalls which help to showcase and revive the cultural diversity of Sikkim. He urged the public to enjoy the festival wholeheartedly and to maintain peaceful atmosphere during the 6 days long event.

Cultural programs, Traditional and Departmental stall along with musical program by various singers and bands of Nepal, Darjeeling and Sikkim are the chief attractions of the Rimbi Maghey Mela 2020. The Rimbi Maghey Mela will conclude on 17th January, 2020.







## BLOCK LEVEL WORKSHOP HELD IN KABI



A day long Block level Workshop on Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019, various child related legislations & child protection mechanisms for members of the Village level Child Protection Committees of Kabi Block was held in North Sikkim on January 14, 2020.

Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee (CWC), North, Smt. Mingma Doma Bhutia and DCPO, North, Smt. Wendy Lepcha highlighted on the role of CWC in handling cases of Child in Need of Care and the provisions of child related legislations like JJ Act, 2015, POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019, etc., Child Protection Scheme under Social Justice & Welfare Department and the roles of Child Protection Committees Protection (CNCP). They urged all the Block and Village Level Committees to produce the child before CWC or report any such case relating to child in need of care and protection.

After the programme, the Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee, DCPO, North, BDO, Kabi and members of VLCPCs inaugurated child friendly rooms in four Child friendly GPUs of the Kabi block which will be monitored by the Village level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs) for effective implementation of the child protection mechanism in the community.



## Sikkim Youth Shines at National Youth Festival

Ladorjee Tamang, son of Shri Rapden Tamang of Mangarzung, West Sikkim, won the first prize in Guitar (Solo) along with Maharashtra at the 23rd National Youth Festival which was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, from 12th to 16th January, 2020.

Ladorjee was later felicitated by Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang at Jorethang on the occasion of the final match of Chief Minister's Gold Cup International Football Tournament.

## Immunization Programme on HPV and Pulse Polio held in North Sikkim.

An Immunization Programme on HPV vaccination and Pulse Polio organized by District Health Society North was held in North Sikkim on January 16, 2020.

The program coincided with Polio National Immunization Day under which children between the age of 0-5 years will be given Pulse Polio drops. The main purpose of the programme was to eradicate Polio in the district in particular and also in the state as a whole.

All the ICDS centres remained open on 19th of January followed by house to house activity on 20th and 21st January, 2020.



## Chief Minister attends Rimbi Maghey Mela

Chief Minister Shri. Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) attended the Rimbi Maghey Mela as the Chief Guest at the Sewaro Rock Garden, Rimbi, West Sikkim on January 14, 2020.

The Chief Minister in his address expressed his gratitude and joy towards the public of Yuksam-Tashiding constituency and West Sikkim for organizing the event. He also extended his warm greetings on the occasion of 'Maghe Sankranti' to all present.

The Chief Minister applauded the committee of Rimbi Maghey Mela for their unhindered energy and zeal to make the event successful. He further mentioned the importance of cooperation by the public which is a must for overall development of the state.

He stated that the State can develop only with the cooperation of all thus one needs to work together with the society in order to progress. It was informed by him that Sports has been an important part which the State Government is taking as priority amongst others areas of governance. He mentioned that the state needs to bring out new

stars and sportspersons who would represent India and Sikkim for which concentration towards sports is being given.

Touching the vehicle safety mechanism in the state, he stressed on the importance of traffic rules and safety which all are to follow and mentioned the concern of state government in saving lives of vehicle owners and passengers.

The Chief Minister mentioned the incentives provided by State Govt for farmers who are hard-working, and produce high yield.

During the program the Tourism Department presented an amount of 1.50 lakhs as financial aid to the Rimbi Maghey Mela Committee. The 'Certificate of Gratitude' was also given to individuals and organizations who contributed towards the rehabilitation of landslide hit Tsong village in West Sikkim.

The Chief Minister also attended the Kokfewa Tongnam (New Year) of the Limboo Community at Lingchom, West Sikkim prior to attending the Rimbi Maghey Mela.







## NABARD E Shakti Project for SHGs launched in East Sikkim

The Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) operating under Rural Development Department is taking several initiatives to facilitate Sikkim people to acquire, stabilize and pursue their livelihood options in an economically sustainable manner with objective to reduce poverty in rural areas. With the assistance from NABARD, a project for digitization of all Self-Help Group (SHG) was launched in East Sikkim. The project aims at digitization of all the SHG accounts to bring SHG members under the fold of Financial Inclusion thereby helping them access wider range of financial services together with increasing the bankers' comfort in credit appraisal and linkage by way of integrating SHG members with the national Financial Inclusion agenda. The facility aims to improve the quality of interface between SHG members and Banks for efficient and hassle-free delivery of banking services by using the available technology. The e-shakti portal will act as a medium to showcase the financial credibility of the SHGs so that the bankers would be able to take quick decision in extending the credit to the SHGs.

## Governor inaugurates statue of late MP at Bihar



Governor of Sikkim, Shri Ganga Prasad attended the inauguration function of statue of late Member of Parliament, Shri Uma Shankar Singh at Renua Siwan, Bihar on the occasion of his 80th Birth Anniversary on January 17, 2020.

The governor mentioned the contribution of late Shri Uma Shankar Singh in social service including education, his dedication for service of people is exemplary. The Governor also felicitated martyr families, sportsperson, artist, felicitated personalities, service of martyr and different personalities of the State of Bihar.

## Soreng Sub-division introduces Winter Sports Coaching Camp

The Winter Sports Coaching Camp under the Soreng Sub Division was officially declared open by Pega Retired Headmaster and National Awardee, Shri Dinesh Pega on 17th January 2020.



## 11th SARAS Sikkim Trade Fair at Jorethang

The 11th Sikkim Sale of Articles of Rural Artisan Society (SARAS) Trade Fair 2019-2020 which is an exhibition cum sale organised by Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission under Rural Development Department, Government of Sikkim was showcased at New SNT Complex, Jorethang from 19th to 23rd January.

This trade fair provides a platform for rural entrepreneurs from across the country as well as Sikkim to showcase their products such as Self Help Groups home-made artefacts, house decors, paintings, garments, food and organic produces, jewellery, biodegradable articles and many more and boasts about rural artisans and their finesse in their areas of expertise.

A total of 203 stalls were setup in the SARAS fair, of which 158 belonged to the State of Sikkim.



## Sikkim Wins the Best Exhibit Award at Eastern India Science Fair 2020

The 45th Eastern India Science Fair (EISF) 2020, which was held from 14th to 18th January 2020 in Birla Industrial and Technological Museum (BITM), Kolkata saw Duga Secondary School from East Sikkim with its model “Smart Pollution-free Ayurvedic Industrial Model” win the best exhibit Acharya PC Roy Trophy among the 11 North East and Eastern States.

This is the third year in succession when Sikkim has won the coveted award after five days of gruelling judgment. This year, 11 schools from Sikkim had participated in the EISF 2020 after winning the State Level Science, Mathematics and Environment Exhibition 2019-20 held in Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Deorali from 26th to 28th November 2019.





## 12th Statistics Olympiad Conducted

The 12th Statistics Olympiad was conducted at Deorali Senior Secondary School on 19th January 2020 by AIMSCS, Hyderabad, which is a Premier Institute in the country. The examination was conducted by the Institute to encourage those with an aptitude for numbers and numerical reasoning.

With the collaborative effort of the Education Department, Government of Sikkim and the CR Rao AIMSCS, Hyderabad, the examination centre was established in Sikkim. Gangtok is the only centre for this examination from the entire North East India. In Sikkim 100 Students were registered in Junior level out of which 74 were present. To motivate the students, their entry fee was paid by Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan under Education Department.



## Speaker & Deputy Speaker meet UP Chief Minister

On the concluding day of 7th CPA India Region Conference held in Lucknow, Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Shri L.B Das and Deputy Speaker, Shri Sangay Lepcha met Chief Minister of UP, Shri Yogi Adityanath.

The Chief Minister presented a copy of the publication titled 'The Tangible Culture Heritage of Humanity- Prayagraj Kumbha 2019' to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.





## Governor attends Golden Jubilee Celebration of Chaurasia Samaj



Governor Shri Ganga Prasad graced the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Chaurasia Samaj in Jamshedpur. He congratulated the Chaurasia Samaj and all the members for the completion of 50 years of establishment of the Samaj. He gave the message of unity to society and urged the members to work

together for the betterment of the society. He remembered the members of the Chaurasia Samaj both past and present, for having contributed, and for being part of the great achievement of the Samaj during the last 50 years of its existence.

## Week long Campaign for "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" in North Sikkim



A week lang campaign for 'Beti Bahao Beti Padhao' kick-started in North Sikkim from 20th January, 2020. The campaign included door-to-door collaborative effort with AWW & ASHA, handing away Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao sticker with message in all the visited places such as houses, Public buildings, panchayat offices etc.

Sensitization programme on value of girl child in any society and Social awareness were held where CDPOs identified local champions and engaged them in awareness programmes where PPT on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, cultural programme, Distribution of baby box to celebrate birth of girl child and felicitation were organised.





## Awareness Prograamme held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra Namthang

An Awareness programme on Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services was held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namthang on January 20, 2020. The programme was graced by Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Departments Shri Lok Nath Sharma, in the special presence of Minister-cum-Area MLA, Namthang Rateypani Constituency Shri Sanjeet Kharel as the Guest of Honour.

During the programme, e-Voucher benefit distribution programme under MI Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) Scheme was officially launched by the Minister duo. Token of various facilities including construction of GENAP tank, Green House, Cold Storage Unit, Vegetable Collection Centre, Vermicompost Unit were also handed over to the beneficiaries.

In his address, Minister Shri L.N Sharma outlined the importance of agriculture as an important source of livelihood and added that the State Government is dedicated and committed to uplift Sikkimese people in this field. He stressed that efforts are being made to convert Sikkim into a producer state especially in areas such as vegetable and milk production. The Minister assured to introduce

new technology in the state to encourage fisheries farm and increase in vegetables in the year 2020. The state government is formulating an effective strategy to protect cultivations from wildlife interference and to reopen Gaucharan etc., he added.

The Minister also interacted with the staff and took details of various activities and further advised them to develop KVK as a model in all types of activities to encourage and support the villagers.



## Pariksha Pe Charcha in Gangtok



The third edition of the Pariksha pe Charcha, an initiative of Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi involving students and teachers to discuss beating exam stress, was organised at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi. In Sikkim, the live telecast of this event was witnessed by a large group of students, parents and teachers at Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School. The live session was facilitated by State Education Department. The programme at TNSSS was graced by Minister for Education Sri Kunga Nima Lepcha as the Chief Guest. While addressing the gathering, the Minister thanked the students for being present in this programme despite it being Winter Vacation for the students.



## Chief Minister meets renowned Cardiologist

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang met the globally renowned Dr. Naresh Trehan, CMD, of Medanta Hospital, Gurugram, on January 21, 2020. The meeting included discussion about medical issues pertaining to the common residents of the state who find it difficult to travel outside for their medical check-up and treatment.

On the request of the Chief Minister, Dr. Naresh Trehan agreed to send a team of specialist doctors to Sikkim for screening and creating awareness.

Dr. Naresh Trehan is regarded as one of the best Cardiac Surgeons in the nation. He is a well-known cardiovascular and cardiothoracic surgeon. He has been awarded the highly prestigious Padma Bhushan and the Padma Shri by the Government of India.





## Lok Sabha MP attends the DISHA Meeting at Gyalshing



**L**ok Sabha MP, Shri Indra Hang Subba chaired the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) for West District on January 22nd, 2020. The meeting was organized by the Rural Development Department (RDD) and District Administration Center (DAC) and was held at the West District Zilla Panchayat Conference Hall, Gyalshing, West Sikkim.

The MP, who is also the Chairperson of the Committee, in his address, mentioned that the West District is blessed with all the ingredients and it is the duty of concerned personnel to provide the best for the rural population. He urged the elected representatives and officials from PMGSY, PHE and Energy and Power Department to give their best for the public. He also mentioned that the key element in the progression of the district is close

inter-departmental coordination and also amongst the elected representatives. It was stated that the MP-LAD fund would solely be used for Education Department purposes for the year 2020.

He further talked about the 'Transfer Policy' which is being formulated at the State Level to sort the issues of the lack of manpower in the districts. He stressed on the importance of the "Zero Waste Policy" which needs to be implemented from the rural level. He also informed that the BDOs along with the Panchayats need to sensitize the public of their areas to discard their wastes in proper manner and not dump in Jhoras and streams. He also mentioned that the DISHA Meeting needs to be done "Quarterly" for which he is willing to attend positively to see the progress of the District Administration.



## Commercial Taxes Division to hold Awareness and Enforcement Drive on GST



The Commercial Taxes Division, Finance Department in association with Sikkim Hotels & Restaurants Association (SHRA) has decided to organize an awareness drive on GST (Goods and Services Tax) followed by an enforcement drive to ensure timely payment of GST and other taxes.

The enforcement drive will commence from 17th February, 2020. A press conference in this regard was organized by the Commercial Taxes Division of the Finance Department, here in the capital.

The main objective of this conference was to inform hoteliers that the Commercial Taxes Division will launch enforcement action from 17 February 2020 against the defaulting hoteliers.

## The Second Edition of Tribal Sports Talent Hunt at Mangan

The Tribal Research Institute, SJ&WD, Government of Sikkim, in collaboration with Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sikkim organised its second edition of Mapping of Tribal Sports Talents at Mangan on January 23, 2020.

This edition was funded by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

Various disciplines of sports such as Archery, Table Tennis, Taekwondo and Football in age group of 9 to 14 years was conducted by the department.

The Objective of the program was to provide a platform to identify innate sports talents from these tribal children and to hone their skills in chosen games and equip them for national and international arena.

## Training Programme for Government Advocates



A day-long Training Programme for the newly appointed Assistant Government Advocates cum Assistant Public Prosecutors was held at the Administrative Training Institute, Gangtok, on 23rd January, 2020. The training programme was organized by the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department, Government of Sikkim.

The first training session was chaired by Shri Jagat B. Rai, L.R-cum-Secretary, Law & P.A. Department, Government of Sikkim and the second session was conducted by Senior Advocate Shri N. P. Sharma.





## Chief Secretary administers National Voter's Day Pledge



The Chief Secretary of Sikkim, Shri S.C Gupta administered the National Voter's Day Pledge at New Tashiling Secretariat on 24th January, 2020.

The Chief Secretary administered the pledge of the National Voter's Day that commits to uphold the democratic traditions of India and the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections with active, fearless and uninfluenced participation in every electoral process held in the country.

The National Voter's Day or the Rashtriya Matdata Diwas is celebrated on the 25th Of January every year, since 2011, in order to encourage more young and first time voters to take part in the political process of the world's largest democracy.

## "National Girl Child Day 2020" Celebrated



"National Girl Child Day 2020" was celebrated at conference hall of District Zilla Panchayat Bhawan on January 24, 2020.

The main objective of the celebration was to instil the goal taking the message of girl child empowerment to the future generations.



## Lok Sabha MP chairs DISHA Meeting for South District



Lok Sabha MP Shri Indra Hang Subba chaired a daylong meeting on District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee Meeting (DISHA) for South District organized by Rural Development Department (RDD) and District Administration Center (DAC). The meeting was held at the Conference Hall of South District Zilla Panchayat Bhawan on January 24, 2020.

The meeting was called to deliberate on the role of all the line departments to facilitate timely execution of approved projects under the District and upon transparency and accountability towards execution and implementation of the schemes introduced by the Government.

## National Girl Child Day Celebration at Mayal Lyang Children Home

National Girl Child Day Celebration was observed at the premises of Mayal Lyang Children Home in Namchi on January 24, 2020. The occasion was a part of week-long events of celebration of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme.

It is organised by State Resource Centre for Women under Social Justice and Welfare Department, South District.

The main objective of the meeting was to disseminate the information that women have an equal contribution for building society and for awareness in health, education and nutrition for the development of girl child in the society.







## Workshop for Frontlinestaff of Forest Department

A one-day State Level Workshop on “Roles and Responsibilities of Frontline Staffs” of Forest Department was held at the conference hall of Forest Secretariat on January 24th, 2020. The workshop was organised by JICA assisted Sikkim Biodiversity Conservation and Forest Management Project (SBFB), Department of Forest & Environment, Government of Sikkim. Forest Minister, Shri Karma Loday Bhutia, in his inaugural address lauded the SBFP for organizing the vital training workshop for the front-line workers. He announced incentives to be given to all the front-line staffs for their contribution to the department. The Minister spoke about various administrative issues mentioning the cadre review system and

about the proposal for “Creation of Foresters Welfare Fund” and urged all the staff to contribute to this initiative.

PCCF cum Principal Secretary, Forest, Shri M.L. Shrivastava in his key note address said that frontline staffs should be equipped and trained for programme implementation and for forest protection as it is the most important sector in the department as they are the ones who are responsible for execution, and function as the interface between the department and the public. The programme also had a presentation on training supported by SBFP-JICA for officers and frontline staffs of F&ED by Additional Project Director- 1.



## National Voter's Day celebrated across the State



The National Voter's Day pledge was administered by Chief Electoral Officer, Shri Ravindra Telang in the East, District Collector. Likewise, the pledge was administered by DC Shri Karma Bonpo in the West District, Additional District Magistrate, North, Shri Surat Gurung in the North and District Election Officer, South, Shri K. Ragul in the South district.

On the occasion, a few new registered voters were presented with the voters card, along with felicitation of Best Electoral Literacy Club, Best District and State Level BLOs, Best AERO, Best ERO, and best Nodal Officer.

## Chief Minister convenes meeting with Engineers & Officers of Power Department



Chief Minister convened a co-ordination meeting with Power Department officials at Chintan Bhawan on 25th January, 2020.

The main purpose of the meeting was to review the response of engineers at various levels to the complaints of the public about the erratic power outages in the state, and also to assess the performance of the department in every aspect. Recommending corrective actions, the Chief Minister assured all possible help and support to the Department but at the same time he added that the Department should be totally responsible for providing continuous power supply to the general public.

He added that Power Department is a business-oriented Department and hence Government will provide all necessary help to transform the Power Department into a revenue generating department.





He further added that sense of responsibility should prevail among the politicians, officials and local public at large and urged the officials to sentimentally engage with public.

He directed the officials from the Power Department to put forth the ground realities before the Government in order to curb the power shortages in the state. He also suggested framing of proper rules and regulations by the department to achieve the targeted revenue and ensure timely revenue collection.

The Chief Minister mentioned that all the pending land compensation will be paid in the coming days and directed the Department to collect all the necessary information regarding the same.

In conclusion, the Chief Minister specifically stressed on proper district wise outsourcing of personnel of all line departments in the state. He urged the department to work fearlessly for the state, and provide the necessary service to the public at any cost.

The Meeting was also addressed by Minister, Power, Shri M.N. Sherpa, who put forth his valuable suggestions to streamline the functioning of the Department, for the larger convenience of the public.



## Chief Minister attends 26th Annual Youth Convention of EPCS Church



Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) attended the 26th Annual Youth convention at EPCS Church at Rambak, Chakung, West Sikkim on January 24th, 2020. The Chief Minister in his address informed that the Government will provide all possible support for the upliftment of all communities and religions. He mentioned that the State of Sikkim is known for the cultural and religious harmony. He informed that the State Government is working tirelessly to improve the status of the rural populous and their habitat. He also informed that the Government desires to improve the Energy and Power related issues within the state.



## 71st Republic Day celebrated in the State Capital



Sikkim joined the rest of the nation in celebrating the 71st Republic Day of India with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm. The State level function was held at Paljor Stadium, and was graced by Governor Shri Ganga Prasad as the Chief Guest and Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang as the Guest of Honour. The function begun by unfurling of the national flag, and reviewing of the Republic Day parade put out by the smartly turned out personnel from local band members and army band.

The day included appreciating the efforts of freedom fighters who fought for the independence

of India and said that India has come a long way since the adoption of the Constitution on January 26th, 1950.

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

March Past, Cultural Presentations, Self Defence Demonstration, and Army Equipment Display formed the highlights of the day.





## Chief Minister lays Foundation Stone of State Civil Services Officer's Institute



Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) laid the foundation stone for the proposed State Civil Services Officers' Institute at Chintan Bhawan complex in Gangtok on the 27th of January, 2020.

The proposed State Civil Services Officers' Institute is a multipurpose building which has been conceived to provide an integrated physical environment which will serve as a binding force in maintaining relationship among Civil Services officers working in various organizations in the State and to imbibe within a spirit of cooperation in all aspects of civil services.

In his brief address, the Chief Minister said that the proposed institute is dedicated exclusively to the zealous Civil Services officers who actively deliver diligent work for the development of the State. He added that the centre will also aid various departments and the State Government in reducing accommodation expenses on guests and resource persons from outside the State who otherwise are usually housed in hotels and lodges.

Referring to all Civil Services officers and government employees as the backbone of the government, the Chief Minister extended gratitude to all for their consistent hard work and dedication towards the State and its people.

## West District Administration sends students on exposure tour

Furthering the cause of education and aligning it with the vision of the Chief Minister of Sikkim, the District Administration, West Sikkim sent two groups of 54 meritorious students each of class VIII of Government schools across the district to Odisha and Gujarat for a student exposure and learning program titled "Explore and Learn."

The objective of the 11 days exposure program is to further instil upon young minds the ability to think big and dream bigger, share with the students of various schools across Odhisa and Gujarat, the cultural aspects of Sikkim, learn about Odhisa and Gujarat and its culture and heritage and meaningfully engage with students of various schools across the state, thereby fostering a spirit of togetherness and bonding.





## Top brass of Army call on Governor

The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, Lieutenant General, Shri Anil Chauhan along with GOC, Sukna based 33-Trishakti Corps, Lieutenant General, Shri Nav K Khanduri and GOC, 17th Mountain Division, Gangtok, Major General, R. C Tiwari called on Governor, Shri Ganga Prasad at Raj Bhawan on January 28, 2020. The Army Commander briefed the Governor about present security situation

at Sikkim borders and informed that the situation is peaceful. The Governor appreciated the efforts of the army at Nathula for rescuing thousands of tourists and providing them basic administrative facilities during emergency.



## Sikkim prepares for prevention of Corona Virus

A meeting was convened by State Chief Secretary Shri S.C Gupta to discuss the State's preparedness with regard to the Corona Virus on January 28, 2020.

Chief Secretary, Shri S.C. Gupta in his address said that the meeting was convened to seek preventive measures and caution against any suspected case of Corona Virus, and to assess the preparedness for prevention of any outbreak. He urged the heads of departments and all stakeholders to be alert and work in close coordination.

During the meeting, the Do's and Dont's was listed for everyone to take into serious consideration for effective prevention and an assurance was given that there was no need to panic. He, however, maintained that any symptom of Corona Virus, such as running nose, severe cold and cough should immediately be reported, and facilitated to the nearest health facility.







## Agriculture Minister tours Tamil Nadu and Kerala



Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Shri Lok Nath Sharma, commenced his four-day official tour to Tamil Nadu on 28th January, 2020.

During the tour, the Minister visited important Government and Private farms of Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry, Veterinary Services and Amul factory in the state of Tamil Nadu. Thereafter, he proceeded to Kerala where he carried out a daylong extensive visit at various farms of Fisheries, Dairy Farming and Industrial Plants.

Minister Sharma along with the CEO Sikkim Organic Mission Dr S Anbalagan, visited the Fresh Water Fish Seed Farm and Ornamental Fish Hatchery at Neyaar Dam in Thiruvananthapuram. With the view to improve fish production in the state of Sikkim they perceive the practices and the technical aspects of artificial breeding, hatching and rearing, water saving practices, feeding and other components which can be adopted for further strengthening of Fisheries farming in the State.

The Minister also called on the Chairman of Thiruvananthapuram Regional Cooperative Milk Producers Union Ltd (TRCMPU) Shri Kallada Ramesh. They discussed on the sphere of dairy development in collaborative support and exchanged inputs and ideas to improve production of milk and dairy products.





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Thereafter, Minister Sharma also visited the Dairy Industrial Unit of Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, popularly known as “MILMA” at Thiruvananthapuram. The Chairman and the Managing Director of MILMA informed details about the functioning of the milk industry that aims at socio-economic progress of the dairy farmer through procuring, processing and marketing of milk.

Later, he visited at Milco Dairy plant at Attingal, Trivendrum. The Milco Dairy is a co-operative of dairy farmers who run various business activities like dairy processing unit, farm input production unit, heifer park. The Minister interacted with the Board of Directors and staff to take educating information behind the success of the co-operative. Milco produces variety of products like milk, ice creams, desserts, fermented products, sweets and chocolates etc. The high value of their produce by value addition was noted to encourage educated youths into entrepreneurial perspectives. Later, the Minister also visited Jaya Krishna (JK), a private dairy Farm at Kollam, Chirakkarthazham. He said that the purpose of the visit was for the welfare of the farmers in Sikkim with the implementation of impressive activities in practice.

During his visit, Minister Shri Lok Nath Sharma also called on the Minister for Milk and Dairy Development, Government of Tamil Nadu Shri Thiru K.T. Rajenthra Bhalaji at his residence in Chennai. Minister Shri Bhalaji assured all possible support and coordination in the field of dairy development between the two states.



The Minister also visited the farm of Department of Horticulture Plantation Crops, Tamil Nadu Horticulture Management, Govt. of Tamil Nadu at Madhavaram, Chennai. Likewise, he visited Mushroom Production Unit wherein Milky Mushroom Shed, Oyster Mushroom Shed and Mushroom Beds Packing Units were established and took stock on the various technical aspects, process of production and post-harvest management and the Integrated Chocolate Making Unit in the premises.

Likewise, the Minister visited two different farms in Vellore District - the Integrated Farming Centre at Virinjipuram and the Coconut Farm at Nawalakhe.

Later, the Minister called on the Minister for Commercial Taxes and Land Revenue, Government of Tamil Nadu Shri KC Veeramani at Circuit House, Vellore. Both the Ministers exchanged greetings and shared new initiation of their Government. Minister Shri Lok Nath Sharma also discussed on the subjects of agriculture importance and techniques & approaches applied for best practices in Tamil Nadu which can be adopted in Himalayan state of Sikkim in near future.





## Roads & Bridges Minister inspects Bridge in Lachen

Minister for Roads & Bridges Shri Samdup Lepcha on January 29, 2020 inspected the ongoing construction of the 360 feet Munshithang Bailey Suspension Bridge, which will serve as a life line between Lachen and rest of the state.

The Minister travelled along the entire length of the bridge on foot and took the stock of ongoing construction of the bridge which is being jointly built by 86 RCC (GREF) and Corps of Engineering (Army).

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## Roads & Bridges Minister chairs coordination meeting



A sub-divisional level coordination meeting was convened by Minister Roads & Bridges Shri Samdup Lepcha with all Government Officers and staff of Chungthang Sub-division, Army officers, GREF, ITBP, Hydro Power Companies and other Central Government officers on January 29, 2020 at Chungthang.

Minister, Shri Samdup Lepcha in his address directed all govt officers and employees to maintain punctuality in the office, maintaining proper attendance of staff, to maintain proper office records, creating employee chart in the offices, keeping proper work details of all contractual works, financial details, participating in all national festival and state festival celebrations positively.

The GREF officials were asked to maintain the condition of the roads. Necessary directions were also given for installation of road signs, zebra crossing especially in school areas, to upgrade road side drainage system, construction of parapets, etc. The Army and ITBP were requested to provide more medical and CSD facilities to local people.



## Sikkim becomes the first State in country to launch the Rural Management Curriculum for BA and MA degree



Sikkim achieved this feat in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE) under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The curriculum was officially launched by Minister of Education, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha, at his official chamber in Tashiling Secretariat on January 30,

2020.

The Minister expressed gratitude to MRNCRE for developing an innovative curriculum and congratulated all for the honour received by the State in being the first in the country to have launched the curriculum.

## Martyrs Day observed across the State



The Martyrs Day was observed throughout the State of Sikkim on 30th January, 2020, with two minutes silence in memory of those who gave their lives in the struggle of India's freedom.

At Tashiling Secretariat, Chief Secretary Shri S.C Gupta observed Martyrs Day along with the officers and staff assembled in front of the Secretariat. The participants observed two-minutes' silence as a mark of respect to the Father of the Nation and all the freedom fighters.

The day was observed in all the district

headquarters, with the respective District Collectors administering the silence to the officers and staff of the District Administrative Centres.

Similarly, the Martyr's Day was observed in all Sub-Divisional and Block Offices.

On this day every year, Martyrs' Day is observed to honour the sacrifices made by countless brave Indians who sacrificed their lives for the nation. It is a day ripe to remember the ideals that these valiant souls sacrificed their lives for- Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.





## RDD Minister attends the Launching Program of the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission of Soreng Rurban Cluster



The Program on the 'Launching of Soreng Rurban Cluster under the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission' was held at Conference Hall, SDM Office at Soreng, West Sikkim on January 30, 2020.

Addressing the gathering, RDD Minister Shri Sonam Lama highlighted the importance of the program that large parts of the Rural areas in the country are not stand-alone settlement but part of a cluster of settlements, which are relatively proximate to each other. These Clusters typically illustrate the capability for the growth, have economic potentials and derive locational and competitive advantage hence considering these factors the Government of India has proposed the 'Shyama Mukherjee Rurban Mission'. He further added that every individual should cooperate to make the plan a successful one and reap the benefits of the RURBAN project to the fullest so as to make the areas under the project to create

## Sensitization for Corona Virus in Mangan

Mangan Nagar Panchayat conducted an Awareness-cum-Sensitization meeting with Stakeholders of Shops, Business communities and Local Taxi Driver Association under Mangan Nagar Panchayat on Preventive and Precautionary Measures on Corona Virus.

The Meeting was also attended by Councillors of Mangan Nagar Panchayat.

The resource person of the meeting was Dr. Tenzing Choden, Sr. Specialist of District Hospital Mangan.

During the meeting, Shri, Tempo Tashi Bhutia, MEO, MNP gave general information about Corona Virus.

Dr. Tenzing Choden, Sr. specialist of District Hospital Mangan explained in detail about Corona Virus and the precautionary measures on the do's and don'ts as a preventive measure and the details of the steps taken by District Hospital and the Government.

avenues for development and economic freedom. He also congratulated the public of Soreng for having being selected under Rurban mission and wished them the best of what the project will make of them.

MLA Soreng Shri Aditya Golay in his address encouraged all the Officers and the public to work together to make the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission (SPMRM) a success. He also informed about the vision of SPMRM being the Development of a cluster of villages that preserve and nurture the essence of rural community life with focus on equity and inclusiveness without compromising with the facilities perceived to be essentially urban in nature, thus creating a cluster of "Rurban Villages".

The mission was initially launched on 16th September, 2015 by the Ministry of the Rural Development, Government of India.



## Chief Minister calls on Vice President

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang called on the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu at his official residence in New Delhi on the 30th of January, 2020.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Lok Sabha MP Shri Indra Hang Subba, Secretary to HCM Shri S.D Dhakal and Resident Commissioner Sikkim House, New Delhi Shri A. K Chand.

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang extended his invitation to the Vice President to visit Sikkim during the month of March 2020, which the Vice President gracefully accepted and said that he will be visiting Sikkim from 14th to 15th of March this year. The Vice President will be inaugurating the newly constructed Thakurbari Temple in Gangtok and will also be attending the 2nd Convocation of SRM University as the Chief Guest, during his visit to Sikkim.

The Vice president was all praise for the effort with which the Chief Minister of Sikkim has taken the State forward with zeal and vigour after forming the Government last year.

He was also vocal about how Sikkim has been exemplary in working towards safeguarding ecological balance and environment protection without compromising on overall development.

The Chief Minister expressed his heartfelt gratitude towards the Vice President and also informed him about the award won by the state of Sikkim recently in the field of tourism.

He also informed how the footfall of tourists in Sikkim, both domestic and international has shot up in the last one year.

Further, the Chief Minister also discussed in detail about various issues of Sikkim with the Vice President.







## Governor grants audience to representatives and students of SLYA



**G**overnor Shri Ganga Prasad granted an audience to representatives and students of Sikkim Lepcha Youth Association (SLYA) at Raj Bhavan on 30th January, 2020.

Hon'ble Governor interacted with school students of Lepcha and other communities of class X and XII who are undergoing winter coaching camp organized by SLYA in collaboration with the State Education Department for students of Class X & XII. The association has been encouraging such coaching camps since 1997.

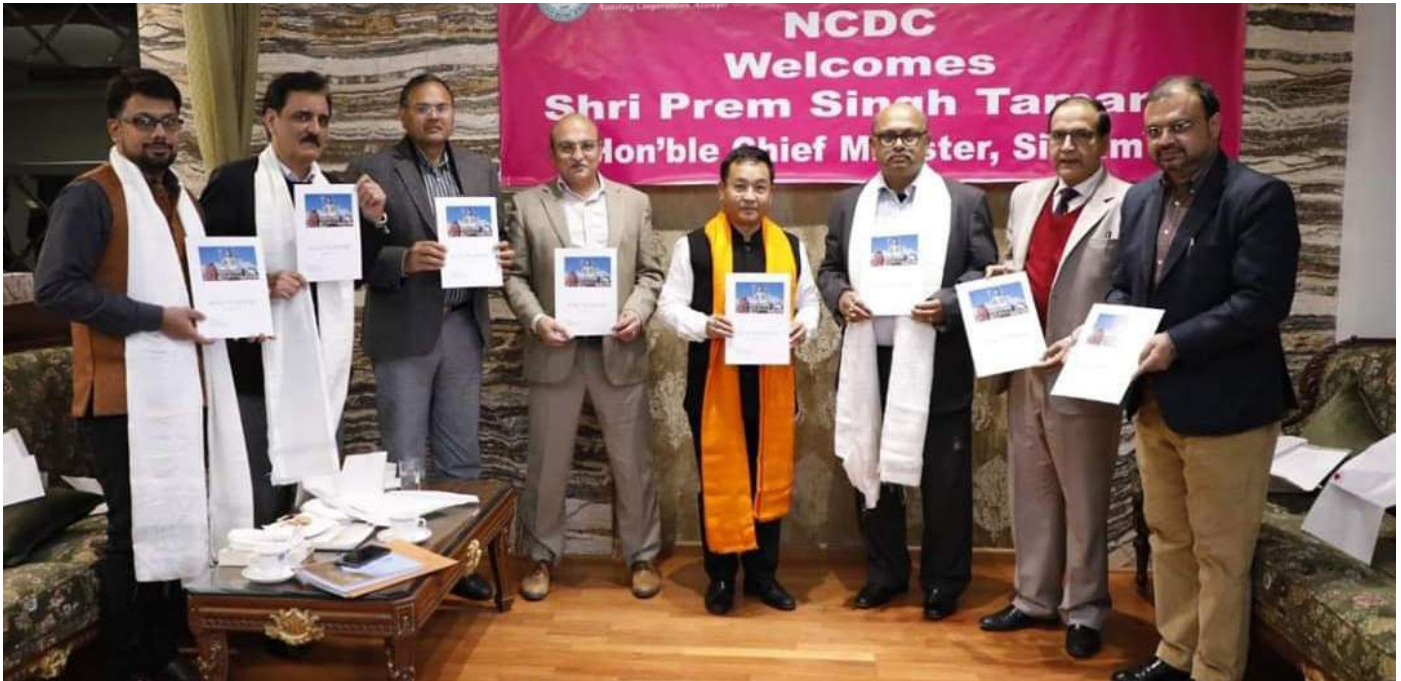
Encouraging the young minds, the Governor urged the students to inculcate competitive spirit in them so that they can equate themselves at par with the other students as several institutions provides wide range of opportunity.

The Governor also handed over cheque of Rupees fifty-one thousand to the association as discretionary grant from Raj Bhavan. He further announced to sponsor students of Lepcha community excelling in board exams.

The Governor lauded the association for their initiatives and encouraged them to organize more such coaching camps across the State in near future.

During the programme, the Governor also felicitated teachers and members of the association and students of the coaching camp who shared their experiences.

As a token of gratitude, SLYA offered Lepcha musical instrument 'Tungbuk' to the Governor.



## Chief Minister meets MD, NCDC

A meeting of Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang with MD, NCDC on development partnership with Cooperatives of Sikkim through NCDC was held on 30.01.2020 in Sikkim House, New Delhi. The meeting was attended by senior officials from Govt. of Sikkim and from NCDC.

After the felicitation of the Chief Minister and welcome by MD, NCDC, a release of document on “NCDC IN SIKKIM” was made by the Chief Minister. A presentation on the NCDC, its schemes, strategy to develop cooperatives with special focus on opportunities and possibilities to finance projects of Rs.3000 crores for Sikkim for cooperatives was made by MD, NCDC. In the deliberations, MD, NCDC highlighted the mega projects by NCDC in the recent past for Dairy, Piggery and other Livestock projects in the North-Eastern states of Meghalaya and Nagaland with the support of state governments. MD, NCDC also assured the Chief Minister that NCDC can assist the Sikkim government for cooperatives in all possible ways and at all levels. It was also added that Sikkim being a pioneer state for organic produce, the issues related to marketing, branding and tie-up with ASEAN countries for high value realization can be made possible through cooperative model of business and value chains. NEDAC, an international platform for Asia and Pacific countries for strengthening agricultural cooperatives, can also help in this tie-up in case the state govt. takes up its membership.

Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang agreed to the observations of the MD, NCDC and highlighted that the areas of the tourism especially home stay, fisheries particularly trout fish, dairy, marketing of organic agriculture products like honey, ginger, cardamom are the immediate priorities and focus areas of the state govt. The state government has already initiated a scheme to incentivise the farmers to increase production in fisheries, dairy and agriculture. He expressed his keen desire to seek appropriate financial assistance for scaling up of these activities from NCDC being Government of India statutory organisation. He also showed his interest in MoU with NCDC to be finalized before budget so that adequate provisions can be kept in the state budget to implement the identified activities in cooperatives through NCDC lending. Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang suggested to hold a meeting in Sikkim shortly with the Chief Secretary and his team of Head of relevant departments and MD, NCDC to work out the specific plan for cooperative development and associated lending by NCDC. It was brought out by the Chief Minister that ‘seeing is believing’ and in this spirit a team of senior officials and personnel from the cooperative sector of the state may be taken on field visit to Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh to study successful cooperative societies in the priority areas for possibilities of cooperative development in Sikkim.





## Month-Long Sports Camp Concludes

A month-long Winter Coaching Camp organized by the Sports & Youth Affairs Department successfully concluded at Palzor Stadium on 31st January, 2020. Minister for Forest & Wildlife Management Department, Shri Karma Loday Bhutia graced the closing day of coaching camp as the chief guest and Political Secretary to HCM, Shri Jacob Khaling as the guest of honour.

A total of 340 children had participated in this winter coaching camp in five disciplines (Badminton, Basketball, Football, Karate and Taekwondo).

Addressing on the occasion, Minister, Shri Bhutia appreciated the interest of the parents who manage to send their kids for the camp and said that this camp would definitely bring positive impact in their lives in the long run. He encouraged the children to excel in field of sports along with academics.

Shri Jacob Khaling while extending his gratitude to the Sports & Youth Affairs department for successfully conducting the camp, informed that the government is committed to bring overall development in the field of sports with world class infrastructure and more tournaments in various disciplines.

Secretary, Sports & Youth Affairs Department, Shri Kuber Bhandari informed that the department is conducting District level women football league for the first time from March 2020. Further, he informed that the department of Sports and Rural Development Department is jointly organizing GUP level sports meet from 25th February 2020 to 29th February 2020 throughout the state.

On the occasion, Sikkim football team along with the Manager handed over the runner- up trophy of Dr. T Ao Cup held at Kohima, Nagaland recently to the Secretary, Sports and Youth Affairs.

The closing day also saw the demonstration of different sports by the students, distribution of token to the coaches and certification to the children by the chief guest and guest of honour.





## State Level Workshop on Jal Jeevan Mission



A day-long State Level Workshop on Jal Jeevan Mission was conducted at Manan Kendra, Gangtok, on 31st January, 2020. Jal Jeevan Mission is an initiative taken by the Government of India to provide Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.

The workshop was organised by Rural Development Department, Government of Sikkim in collaboration with stakeholders of the state to share the importance of conservation of water. The main objective of the programme was to disseminate the Government's water mission scheme to rural governing bodies of Sikkim.

The workshop was attended by State RDD Minister Shri Sonam Lama, Zilla Adhyakshas, Principal Secretary, Rural Development Department, Shri C.S. Rao, Resource Person from Jal Shakti Mission, Government of India, Shri A. Muralidharan, District Magistrates from all districts, Additional District Collectors (Development), SEs, AEs, JEs, Government officials from various Departments, and Panchayats.

Minister Shri Sonam Lama in his address expressed hope that the mission to provide water to every household will be a successful

mission. He urged the rural governing bodies to use natural spring water to implement water mission for continuous and uninterrupted water supply in their respective areas and requested coordination of all line departments to serve the people of Sikkim.

Resource Person, Shri Muralidharan in his address talked about the importance of conserving water due to alarming reports of depletion of water supply in rural areas of India. He stated that it was the vision of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in the form of Jal Jeevan Mission to provide sufficient water supply to the rural areas. It was reported that it is the largest water supply mission in the world. Shri Muralidharan gave a brief note on Trinity programme under the mission to provide infrastructure, sustainability and grey water area. He reminded that the District Magistrates play a big role in the mission as the Chairman of Water Mission in their respective districts. After concluding his speech, he interacted with the stakeholders.

During the workshop, the role of Panchayati Raj Institution for Water Mission was also highlighted.





## Host of Activities and Cultural symbolism mark Jorethang Maghey Mela Celebrations 2020

**C**hief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) inaugurated the Maghey Sankranti Mela, 2020 at Jorethang playground on the 15th of January, 2020. Present on the occasion were spouse of the Chief Minister, Smt Saradha Golay, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, MP (Lok Sabha), Shri Indra Hang Subba, Political Secretary to HCM, Chairpersons, Advisors, Chief Secretary, Heads of Departments, Government Officials, Mela Committee members, and public at large.

At the outset, the Chief Minister attended the puja ceremony at Trikaleshwar Temple. Thereafter, he formally inaugurated the four-day Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela, 2020 themed 'Hamro Sanskriti Hamro Gaurav' organized by Jorethang Maghey Mela Celebration Committee. He also visited a total number of 33 departmental stall put up at Jorethang Playground premises. Further, the Chief Minister along with dignitaries also inaugurated the Sale of Articles of Rural Artisans (SARAS) trade fair.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister extended his best wishes on the auspicious occasion of Maghey Sankranti, 2020. He spoke at length about the importance of this event and informed that this day is particularly observed as the ending of paush and the beginning of Magh month, according to hindu lunar calendar. He also added that during the Sankranti festival most of the households use ban and other types of tarul as the main component to mark the festival.

The Chief Minister mentioned that this year the State Government had planned to celebrate the Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela in a different way by inculcating a sense of sportsmanship by organizing different tournaments such as 9th All India Chief Minister's Gold Cup International Football Tournament and Inter-constituency level Football Tournament. The Chief Minister highlighted that Sikkim should produce talents particularly in the field of sports and reach golden heights and bring about laurels to the State and the country.

He added that Jorethang in due course of time should be transformed into a must visit tourism spot as this place has strong connectivity towards the South and West district. He urged the officials to work in tandem with the locals and positively change Jorethang into the most sought after destination. The Chief Minister also brought to light that this mela should attract much business opportunity for the locals and the budding entrepreneurs.

Speaking about infrastructural development, the Chief Minister said that a state of art Hospital, College and Nepali Sanskriti Bhawan will be set up in the locality. The budget for the same would be allocated during the next financial year, he added.

The inaugural programme was also addressed by MLA Salghari Zoom Constituency, and Cheif Patron of Jorethang Maghey Mela 2020, Smt. Sunita Gajmer.

During the program, the Chief Minister distributed golden



## Government of Sikkim

cards to five beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY).

The final match of the Inter-constituency Level Football Tournament was played between Barfung and Salghari Zoom constituencies wherein the latter emerged winner with one goal to nil.

Sanjeev Rai of Salghari Zoom was named Man of the Match. Later, the Chief Minister announced that the winners of this tournament will get direct entry into the next Chief Minister's and Governor's Gold Cup Tournament. He also said that a state level football team will be constituted comprising of the best players from this tournament.

The second day of Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela was graced by Minister Rural Development Department Shri Sonam Lama. Also present were political secretary to the Chief Minister Mr. Jacob Khaling, MLA cum Chief Patron of the Mela Celebration Committee Smt Sunita Gazmer, representatives from South District Football Association and Mela Committee alongside public at large.

The first Semi-Final of the 9th All India Chief Minister's Gold Cup International Football Tournament was played between Shillong R. S. C and Sports Hostel Odisha in which the former emerged victorious with a scoreline of six goals to nil.

The third day of Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela was graced by Minister for Roads and Bridges Department Shri Samdup Lepcha. Also present were Minister for Energy and Power and Labour Department Shri M.N. Sherpa and MLA cum Chief Patron of the Mela Celebration Committee Ms. Sunita Gazmer alongside MLA Shri Aditya Golay, representatives from South District Football Association and Mela Committee and public at large.

The 2nd Semi-Final of the 9th All India Chief Minister's Gold Cup International Football Tournament was played between Transport United Bhutan Vs Oil India FC in which the latter emerged victorious with a score line of three goals to nil.

The fourth day of Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela 2020 had Minister for Transport, Buildings and Housing Departments Shri Sanjeet Kharel as the chief guest.

The day's programmes comprised of colourful cultural and musical performances showcased by the local and artists from Nepal.

Thereafter, the chief guest visited various traditional stalls put up by the different communities followed by SARAS trade fair.

Later, the Minister also made an inspection to new SNT complex and interacted with the officials and staff.

## Information & Public Relations Department

He enquired about the functioning of the office and its requirements.

As a part of Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela Celebrations an awareness programme cum Walkathon themed stop child sexual abuse was held at MG lane, Jorethang on the 18th of January, 2020. Organised by Social Justice and Welfare Department, in coordination with the office of DCPO South, the programme was mainly convened to disseminate information and awareness on child sexual abuse and to generate awareness regarding the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Amendment 2019.

The programme was graced by MP, Lok Sabha Shri Indra Hang Subba as the Chief Guest. Present amongst others were Political Secretary to HCM Shri Jacob Khaling, Area MLA Smt. Sunita Gazmer, Secretary Social Justice and Welfare Department Shri Hem Kumar Chhetri, DC (South), Shri Ragul K, SP (South) Shri Pravin Gurung, SDM (Jorethang) Shri R.B. Bhandari, SDPO (Jorethang) Shri Santosh Shrestha, Officials, children from various Child Care Institutes of South District and Jawaharlal Navodaya Vidyalaya Pipalay, IRBn, Police personnels and general public.

The programme also saw an impressive performance by UNB (Ugen Bhutia) a rapper from Gangtok, Kauso Entertainment, and musical performance by the children from Turuk Children Home.

Thereafter, a walkathon was flagged off from MG lane Jorethang on this theme by the Chief Guest which was actively participated by the dignitaries and local gentry.

This open for all walk for a cause was being organized for the first time in Jorethang covering the entire town and later culminated at Green Park.

One of the main attractions of the Maghey Sankranti Mela was the host of traditional and State Government Departmental stalls at display. The traditional stalls were put up at the premises of New SNT complex whereas the departmental stalls had been put up at volleyball ground. A total number of 33 stalls from various departments were stationed. The main objective of these stalls was to highlight the availability of schemes, departmental achievements and progress made by the State Government. This year, a melange of departments showcased their materials ranging from mountaineering kits from the tourism department to organic produces, legal aids clinic, health awareness schemes and many more.

In a bid to go eco friendly this year, the organizing committee of Jorethang Maghey Sankranti Mela, 2020 introduced hand-made water bottles made out of bamboo. These organic bottles are attractive to look at wherein plastic free Sikkim has been encrypted with an image of the most popular flower of the state, Orchid.