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Winter session of Sikkim Legislative Assembly concludes Sine- Die

Sonam Goparma, SIA(East)

Gangtok, February 27: The second day of the Eighth Assembly saw three bills namely Sikkim Ministers, Speaker, Deputy Speaker & Members of Sikkim Legislative Assembly (Salaries and Allowance) Amendment Bill, Bill No 3, Sikkim Legislative Assembly Members (Payment of Pension) Amendment Bill, Bill No 4 and the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, Bill No.1 being unanimously passed by the house during the Legislative Business. These bills were introduced on the first day of the session.

During the Financial Business the first supplementary Demands for Grants 2009-10 was placed by the Chief Minister, Mr. Pawan Chamling who is also Minister in Charge of Finance department and

was unanimously passed by the House. The Sikkim Appropriation Bill, Bill No. 2 of 2010 for the first supplementary demands for grants for 2009-2010 placed by the Chief Minister, Mr. Chamling was also unanimously passed by the House.

The Chief Minister also presented the Finance Accounts 2008-09 and Appropriation Accounts 2008-09 of the Government in the House. He also laid copies of the Sikkim Online gaming (Regulation) Amendment Rules 2009 as notified vide Notification No: 06/FIN/DSSL dated 01/08/2009 published in the Sikkim Government Gazette No: 298 dated 20th of August 2009 on the table of the House.

While the Speaker, Mr. K.T. Gyaltsen presented the Annual reports of Commission and Annual

reports of the Departments during the session.

During his valedictory remarks the Chief Minister who is the Leader of the House assured that the financial grants will be used expansively to build the future of the Sikkimese people and also laid hope and aspiration on his MLAs for full cooperation and support to execute the plans and the policies of the government. Mr. Chamling also vowed to eradicate poverty from the state and make Sikkim first poverty free state in the nation in the near future, and also appealed to everyone to work tirelessly and contribute in making Sikkim an exemplary state in India.

The Speaker also proposed his vote of thanks on the final day of the session and adjourned the House Sine-die.

Minister and officials of RM&DD on a study tour to Switzerland

Gangtok:The Minister RM&DD, Mr. C.B.Karki, accompanied by Mr.Menlom Lepcha, MLA and Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, Zilla Adhyaksha, Up-Adhyaksha, Gram Panchayat Presidents, Secretary-RM&DD, other senior officers of RM&DD and BDOs are currently on a six days study cum exposure visit to

Switzerland. During the visit they will visit University of Fribourg to make an indepth study of Fiscal Decentralization and Strengthening of Institutional and Financial mechanisms for Local Self Governance, i.e. Panchayati Raj Institutions. Switzerland is well known for its Federal Political System with Financial Devolution

and Administrative Decentralization for different tiers of the Government.

The delegation would attend lectures on 1st and 2nd March, 2010 at University of Fribourg, organized by Professor Bernard Dafflon, Professor of Economics

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Three farmers of Sikkim felicitated at New Delhi



A farmer from Sikkim being felicitated by Union Minister for Agriculture Mr. Sharad Pawar at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

On 26th February 2010, 101 numbers of farmers of the country, including three numbers from Sikkim, were felicitated at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on the occasion of release of Coffee Table

Book on Success Stories, as per the press release received from Horticulture and Crash Crop Development Department. The Union Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Sharad Pawar was the chief

guest. The function was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

The details of the farmers from Sikkim who were felicitated at New Delhi are as under:

- Name & Address Activity
1. Mr Arjun Gurung, Rong Bool, Namchi, South Sikkim Vegetables cultivation
 2. Mr. Indra Kumar Rai Sajong, Central Pendam, East Sikkim Ginger cultivation
 3. Kanchanzonga Floratech Coop. Daramdin West District. Rose cultivation

The above farmers were accompanied by department's officer Mr. Sherab Tshering Bhutia, Deputy Director Horticulture, Gangtok Sub-Division.

Government Schools of Sikkim Bags Gobar Times Green School Awards 2009



Mrs. Sharmila Tagore presenting the Gobar Times Green School Award to a teacher from Sikkim at Steim Auditorium, Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

New Delhi: The Gobar Times Green Schools Award is a platform to acknowledge and reward schools which have adopted the most innovative and effective practices to manage natural resources in their own school premises. This programme was conceptualized by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) Delhi in an effort to promote environment education in schools by enrolling teachers/students to

perform precise environment audit of air, water, energy, land and waste. This Green School award is conducted at the national level every year, with schools from across India participating in the annual awards ceremony.

The award is based on an audit of the school's environmental practices carried out by its own students, following a set of

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Photo News



Under Capacity Building the 1st batch of sikkimese students of Carrerscape/Interface International Centre for Culinary Arts in Dubai. (24th January to 23rd April 2010)

Sitting left to right
Back row: Umesh Chamling, Amit Gurung, Sandeep Pradhan, Suren Subba, other national, other national

Middle row: Som Nath Sharma, Kazi Sonam Bhutia, Ongkeela Bhutia, Babita Kumari Chhetri, other national, Albert Subba, Tashi Dhondup.

Front row: Phuchung Bhutia, Sagar Kirat Rai, Pravin Gurung, Ashish Lepcha, other national.

Pearls of Wisdom

A strong positive mental attitude will create more miracles than any wonder drug.

- Patricia Neal

DISTRICT DIARY

CM inaugurates headquarter of Indian Reserve Battalion

L.M.Subba, DIO(West)

Gyalsing, February 23: The Chief Minister, Mr. Pawan Chamling inaugurated the Head quarter of the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) at Pipplay, West District near Jorethang on February 23.

In his inaugural address, Mr. Chamling urged the police officials to protect and preserve the peaceful and tranquil environment prevailing in the state with their service.

He further added that government has been doing whatever they could and in future also will extend all the support and cooperation to see that the forces of the state are looked after properly.

The programme was also attended by Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Chairpersons, DGP, DC (West) officials from the concerned department and local people.

District Consultative Committee meeting

Buddha Hang Subba, SIA(North)

Mangan: The District Consultative Committee (DCC) meeting for North district was held on February 24 under the Chairmanship of District Collector (North), Mr. T.N. Kazi, here at the conference hall, District Hospital, Mangan. It was organized by the Lead Bank under the supervision of Reserve Bank of India. The meeting was also attended amongst other by Mr. E.E. Karthok, General Manger, Reserve Bank of India, Gangtok, Mr. Raju, Assistant, G.M. RBI, Kolkata, Manager of Branch Bank of North District and official members of line department of the Government of Sikkim.

During the meeting, follow-up action points that emerged from the DCC meeting held on 18.12.09 were deliberated and discussed at the length. Altogether, thirteen agenda were discussed in the meeting such as Recovery of Bank's dues, Review of Annual Credit Plan 2009-10, 89, Agriculture and Allied Activities, Industry Sector, Submission of lead Bank Returns etc. Review of the priority sector advances and other special programme, such as Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Scheme, Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojana, Kishan Credit Card, Housing Finance, National Horticulture Board, "No Frills" Accounts & Issue of GCC SCC, Promotion of Self help Group were also discussed.

Meanwhile, Mr. Karthak enquired about all the achievements and progress made by the branch Banks of the District and gave direction to the managers for future plan and advised to seek necessary help from the Panchayats functionaries and line department of Government of Sikkim to achieve hundred percent financial inclusion in the district. On the other side, Mr. Kazi has requested to accord priority to the scheme relating to agriculture and horticulture to boost up agro-based activities in the district. He also assured to the house to provide for necessary help from the line department in achieving hundred percent financial inclusions.

Archery tournament begins at Mangan

Buddha Hang Subba, SIA(North)

Mangan: Archery tournament organised by Mangan Archery Association commenced on March 2 at Public ground in presence of Minister for Power and Energy, Mr. Sonam Gyatso Lepcha. The final match of the tournament will be played on March 16 with Rs. 20,000 as first prize and Rs. 16,000 as second prize along with trophies. Altogether 13 teams are participating in the tournament.

Lama Gondue puja to be held from March 3 to 10

Buddha Hang Subba, SIA(North)

Mangan: Lama Gondue puja committee has unanimously decided to perform Lama Gondue at Ringdhim Gumpa, Mangan from March 3 to 10.

Hence, the committee invites all devotees to take part in the puja.

In the administration

01. Mr. Gay Tshring Bhutia, D.F.O. Zilla Panchayat, West who had been transferred as D.F.O. (Wildlife) North shall continue to function as D.F.O. Zilla Panchayat, West.
02. Mr. Binod Kumar Yonzon, D.F.O. who had been transferred as D.F.O. Zilla Panchayat, West shall continue to function as DFO, Territorial, West.
03. Mr. Lakpa Tshering Sherpa, A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Yuksom, West who had been transferred as A.C.F. Land Use and Environment, South and Block Administrative Centre, Namthang shall continue to function as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Yuksom.
04. Mr. Kharka Bahadur Gurung, A.C.F. Land Use and Environment who had been transferred as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Dentam is now retained as A.C.F. Land Use and Environment Division, West.
05. Mr. Dilli Ram Nirola, A.C.F. R.V.P, Bermiok, West, who had been transferred as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Dentam, West shall continue to function as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Dentam.
06. Mr. Mahakal Gurung, A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Dentam is transferred as A.C.F. (R.V.P), Bermiok, West.
07. Mr. Narpati Gautam, A.C.F. Land Use & Environment, South who had been transferred as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Yuksom, West, shall continue to function as A.C.F. Land Use & Environment, South. He shall hold the additional charge of A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Namthang.
08. Mr. Sangay Kazi, A.C.F. who had been transferred as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Gangtok shall continue to function as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Duga.
09. Mr. Abidal Chettri, ACF, Block Administrative Centre, Geyzing who had been transferred as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Daramdin, shall continue to function as ACF, BAC, Geyzing.
10. Mr. Man Bahadur Subba, A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Daramdin, West, who had been transferred as A.C.F. Block Administrative Centre, Gyalzing shall continue to function as A.C.F. BAC, Daramdin
11. Mr. Rajdeep Rai, Assistant Engineer (Civil), Water Security & P.H.E. Department, Namchi is promoted as Divisional Engineer on officiating capacity and posted as Divisional Engineer, Water Security & P.H. E. Department with Headquarter at Namchi.
12. Mr. Binod Hang Subba, Divisional Engineer, Zilla Panchyat (East), under Rural Management & Development Department, is transferred as Divisional Engineer (West), Water Security & P.H.E. Department with Headquarter at Gyalshing.
13. Mr. Sonam Gyatso Bhutia, Assistant Engineer (Gyalshing), Water Security & P.H.E. Department is transferred as Assistant Engineer (Namchi), Water Security & P.H.E. Department.
14. Mrs. Pushpa Lata Gurung, Assistant Engineer, BAC (Gyalshing) under R M & D Department is transferred to Water Security & P.H.E. Department.
15. Mr. Saurav Tsh. Lepcha, Assistant Engineer (Pakyong), Irrigation & F.C. Department is transferred as Assistant Engineer (Ravangla), Water Security & P.H.E. Department with headquarter at Ravangla.
16. Mr. Moti Chand Pradhan, Assistant Engineer (Planning), Human Resource Development Department is transferred as Assistant Engineer (Pakyong), Irrigation & F.C. Department.
17. Mr. Karma G. Lachenpa, Assistant Engineer (Planning), Water Security & P.H.E. Department is transferred as Assistant Engineer (Planning), Human Resource Development Department.
18. Mr. Emmanuel Rai, Assistant Engineer, Water Security & P.H.E. Department, Gangtok is posted as Assistant Engineer (Planning), Water Security & P.H.E.

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Government Schools...

guidelines specified by CSE in the Green Schools Programme (GSP) manual (2007 edition). The aim of the award is to encourage and support schools and to build up an environmentally aware, active and skilled community of teachers, students and parents.

Government Senior Secondary School Daramdin had maintained its presence in the top 20 schools of the country at the Gobar Times Green School Award since 2007-2008. This year -2009, Reshi Government Secondary School, West Sikkim has emerged as one of top ten schools for the National Award, followed by Linkey Government Secondary School & Namcheybong Government Secondary School (East Sikkim) awarded with the Best Manager's Award in Air and Energy category, respectively.

The Forest Environment and Wildlife Management Department have been working in close coordination with schools in Sikkim regarding environmental activities in the state through National Green Corps Programme, National Environment Awareness Programme. All the schools in the state have an eco-club that is under the direct administration of the District Environment committee headed by the Divisional Forest Officers (LU&E) in the state. ENVIS Centre, Forest Environment and Wildlife Management Department, Government of Sikkim has been

coordinating the GTGSP in the state. During 2009, about 140 various schools of Sikkim having Eco-clubs were intimated for participation, in which 40 schools registered for the programme. Among the 40 schools, 18 schools conducted a rigorous self audit in their respective schools as per the manual provided by the Centre for Science & Environment. The

Reports from the Schools were assessed by the ENVIS Centre, and reassessed by Centre for Science and Environment at the national level, the best of which were nominated for the National Awards.

The top ten schools that were selected for the State awards 2009 are

Sl. No.	Schools	District	Category
1	Reshi Government Secondary School	West	1st
2	Deorali Government Senior Secondary School	East	2nd
3	Phodong Government Senior Secondary School	North	3rd
4	Bermiok Tokal Government Secondary School	South	4th
5	Dentam Senior Government Secondary School	West	5th
6	Namcheybong Government Secondary School	East	Energy
7	Namphok Government Secondary School	South	Waste
8	Rhenock Government Senior Secondary School	East	Land
9	Linkey Government Secondary School	East	Air
10	Palzor Namgyal Girls Senior Secondary School	East	Water

The certificate will be awarded to the respective schools in State Level Green School Award Ceremony which is to be conducted coinciding with environment calendar by the Forest department in March 2010.

At the National level, Gobar Times Green School Awards Festival- 2009 was held at Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Center, New Delhi on 20th February 2010 where Ms Sunita Narain (Director-

Centre for Science & Environment), Mrs. Sharmila Tagore, and Ms. Sheila Dikshit, Chief Minister, Delhi state had presided as the Guest of Honour. Ms Sheila Dikshit gave away awards to the top 10 Delhi schools and Mrs Sharmila Tagore gave away awards to top 10 National Schools, 10 Changemakers and the Best Manager Awards at the National level.

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Gram Sabha of 37-Wok Omchu, Gram Panchayat Unit held

Wok-Sikip, February 22: It may be mentioned here that period starting from 2nd October 2009 to 2nd October 2010 has been declared as the year of Gram Sabha for Empowered People & Accountable Panchayats. In this regard the Gram Sabha of 37-Wok Omchu, Gram Panchayat Unit (GPU) organized a Model Gram Sabha which was supported by the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Karfector, today at Sikip. The gram sabha of Wok Omchu was held in a proper fashion demonstrating the actual proceedings of a Gram Sabha in a village. This gram sabha was chaired by the Panchayat President 37-Wok Omchu GPU, Ms. Bhayatri Rai and the gram sabha started with her opening address. Out of total 300 households of Wok Omchu GPU, 280 households were present in the Gram Sabha as per the registration record.

The true sense of decentralization was seen during

the sabha where the Panchayat President was given the full fledged power to carry out the gram sabha. In addition, the active participation of the public of Wok Omchu GPU in the question answer round between them and the line department representatives of Sikkim Government was also a produce of decentralization. This healthy interaction session saw public especially the youth of the village asking various developmental questions to the government representatives regarding the welfare of their village wherein they were given satisfactory answers to their queries.

Prior to the interactive session, the ward panchayats of Wok Omchu GPU presented their respective proposals related to developmental & upgradation works of their villages in the sabha which were earlier passed in their respective ward sabhas. The proposals were declared accepted

by the president in the gram sabha. The Panchayat secretary presented the financial report of the GPU in the sabha. The entire proceedings of the sabha especially the interactive session was recorded by the record section of the gram sabha.

Besides, the public and the line department officials, the sabha also had members of Social Audit and Vigilance Committee (SAVC) and Village Water Sanitation Committee (VWSC) witnessing the sabha.

The sabha was also addressed by the SIRD Director, Mr. D.T. Bhutia, Director, Panchayati Raj Cell of RMDD, Mr. P.T. Ethenpa and DDO (S), Mr. L.P. Chettri

Later in the programme, a computer set was gifted to the Wok Omchu GPU by SIRD which was handed over to Pan

hayat President by the Director Panchayati Raj.

Three days residential training programme for Manager & Asst. Managers of MPCs

In accordance with implementation of Vaidanathan Committee report on restructuring Credit Co-operative in the state, the 30 Managers and Asst. Managers of all 26 M.P.C.S. Ltd. of the Gyalshing Sub-Division attended the 3 days residential training programme on maintenance of books of accounts & its relevant record from 22/02/2020 to 24/02/2010 at Community Centre, Gyalshing, West Sikkim as prescribed by NABARD, Gangtok. The said programme has been organized by co-operative Department, in collaboration with the regional office of the NABARD, Gangtok. The training programme has been conducted under the supervision of Mr. C.N. Khannal, Joint Registrar, Co-

operative Department, Gangtok. During training Mr. S.N. Sharma Sr. A.O. (South), Mr. Tshering T. Bhutia, A.O. (Gyalshing Sub-Division) and Mr. Thendup Lepcha, Auditor, were the main trainers, who elaborately taught on procedures for maintaining the basic records of primary and secondary books of accounts with illustration. Besides these more emphasis had also been given on maintenance of non-financial records. In addition to this, the managers had been given training on importance of management system and its advantages. Mr. J.M. Pradhan, Joint Registrar (West), Mr. Wangchuk Bhutia, DRCS (West), Mr. Bishwa Gurung, Co-operative Inspector and Mrs. Sabina Rai, Co-operative

Inspector, also give talk on various aspect of accounting system to trainees.

On the concluding day Mr. L. Moorthy, AGM, NABARD regional office Gangtok and Mr. Dipak Tiwari D.G.M., SISCO Bank also attended the programme. Mr. Moorthy also addressed the trainees regarding the important aspects of Common Accounting System and its utility. Mr. Tiwari, DGM (SISCO) briefly described about the procedure adopted in interest calculation on short term, medium term, long term loan and advances. He also elaborately described about Demand Collection Balances (DCB) ledgers to be maintained by the co-operative Societies.

Tourism Deptt. prepares road map of 2010 as Year of Tourism

The State Government had declared year 2010 as Year of Tourism. The Department of Tourism has prepared a road map and programme for the entire year. The event will commence with International Rhododendron Festival from 25th April to 15th May, 2010 at Yumthang.

Advance actions taken by the Department : Wide publicity and marketing through:

1. Road show in Kolkata
2. TTF Bangalore, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Mumbai
3. SATTE in New Delhi
4. Regional Conference in Meghalaya
5. Sikkim Festival in New Delhi
6. Purvottari, North East Tourism Festival, New Delhi
7. All India Association of Adventure Tour Operators Mart in Uttarakhand
8. Inter regional Conference of Tourism Ministers of East & North East, Gangtok

9. Publicity through official website sikkimtourism.travel

10. FM Radio Mirchi in Hyderabad, Chennai, Ahmedabad

11. Advertisements in PATWA Handbook, Today's Traveler Coffee Table Book, Incredible India e-catalogue, some of the popular travel and in-flight magazines

12. Sikkim is participating in International Buddhist Conclave in Nalanda, Bihar

13. Process of Brand name selection has already begun

14. An awareness of Keep Sikkim Clean and Green has been initiated through distribution of garbage disposal bags in all vehicles

15. Publicity during the Commonwealth Games at New Delhi is proposed

The month wise programme for 2010 will include:

April – May – Opening/ launching of International Rhododendron Festival 2010 at Shingba and Lachung in North

Sikkim from 25th April – 15th May, 2010

Hee Bermiok Cultural & Heritage Festival, Temi Tarku Ramnavmi Festival, Adventure/camping tourism

June – 5th June World Environment Day will be celebrated by holding conferences workshops and meetings with all stakeholders

July – Plantations at all tourism destinations by Tourism Department

August – Tharpu Monsoon Festival

September – World Tourism Day will include conferences, workshops, seminars and meetings with all stakeholders focusing on Village Tourism, Wellness Tourism

October – Dusshera, Namchi Mahotsav, Eco adventure activities

November - Conferences, workshops, seminars and meetings

December – Mangan

HEALTH

Exercise

Why should I exercise?

To remain fit as it increases resistance to disease
To look good as it improves your self - image
To feel great as it helps counter anxiety and depression
To avoid heart disease, diabetes, etc
To sleep well
To lower cholesterol
To control body weight and fat distribution
To share activity with friends and family and find opportunity
To meet new friends
To be more productive at work
To build stamina for other physical activities

How long should I exercise?

30 minutes of physical activity of moderate intensity every day, increasing the time, intensity and frequency will result in greater health benefits.

60 minutes of normal walking all 7 days a week.

Where should I find the time for exercise?

You can find time for exercise at home, at work or during leisure

Set aside time for exercise rather than make excuses

Combine shopping, gardening, etc. with exercising

Playing with your children is a good exercise

Take the stairs instead of an elevator (upto 3 floors)

Walk to the nearest grocery store rather than drive.

What are easy, simple and comfortable exercises?

Walking

Cycling

Jogging

Swimming

Dancing

Palying games/ sports

Yogasanas

Gardening and household chores-washing, mopping etc.

In growing children

Helps in bone and body development

Increases functioning capacity of heart and lungs

Builds reserves for coping with stress, diseases and injuries

Maintains overall hormonal balance and good body metabolism

Provides appropriate channel for release of energy

Brings about sound sleep and relaxation

Aids mental growth

In adolescents

Builds good muscle mass and tougher bones

Makes physical appearance attractive

Helps cope with mental stress and difficult situations

Builds-up confidence

Enhances performance in sports and games

Improves immune system and avoids infections

Improves appetite and nutritional status

Young adults

Controls high blood pressure

Prevents diabetes and heart diseases

Maintains body weight and idea! body fat distribution

Helps to adapt challenges in daily life

Older adults

Controls blood pressure

Reduces risk of heart attack

Reduces risk of colon cancer

Controls diabetes

Helps avoid anxiety and depression

Leads to better body balance

Minimizes risk of joint problems

Regularizes bowel movements and avoids constipation

Prevents diseases

Facilitates recovery from injury and diseases

Improves quality-of-life

Festival, Khanchendzonga Festival (Pelling), Gangtok Winter Festival

January, 2011 – New Year Celebrations, Maghey Sangrati Mela (Jorethang)

February – Yuksom Festival

March – State Flower Show at White Memorial Hall, Sikkim Food, Handicraft, Horticulture, Agriculture, Forest and Cultural Festival at Saramsa

April – 13 & 14 Closing/ Valedictory for Tourism Year 2010 and International Rhododendron Festival at Rhododendron Sanctuary at Varsey.

Sikkim has been selected by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India to host Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Conference in 2012 which is one of the prestigious events in the global tourism market. It is a matter of

great pride and privilege that the Ministry of Tourism has seen the potential and confidence in our State to host an event of this magnitude.

Awards which have been conferred to the State of Sikkim in the field of tourism have given a big boost to tourism promotion. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has extended Leave Travel Concession facility to the Central Government Employees to visit North East Region including Sikkim, which has helped in marketing our tourism products.

With constant support and zeal of all stakeholders involved in promotion of tourism of the State, Sikkim will go a long way in making its place in the global tourism map.

Chief Minister meets ten meritorious students

Promad Gautam, SIA

Gangtok: The Chief Minister, Mr. Pawan Chamling met ten meritorious students from different schools of Sikkim who are being provided scholarship by the state government to study in renowned Public school like Sindia Gwalior School and DPS Girls School, Delhi.

These ten students were selected through Chief Minister's Special Scholarship screening test conducted by the department of Human Resource and Development earlier this month. The name of these students are

Emmit Lepcha, Pema Yanki Bhutia, Shweta Sharma, Lhendup Tshering Lepcha, Nitesh Thakuri, Arbind Das, Biren Subba, and Sangay Tshering Sherpa.

Mr. Chamling urged the students to work hard for their future so that they can achieve their goal in life. He said that they were born in a golden period where ample of opportunities are lying in their doorsteps and asked them to avail of these opportunities. He also urged the parents and the guardians to inform other parents about these facilities being

provided by the government. The Chief Minister added that he would like to provide proper education to all the poor people of Sikkim without any discrimination.

During the meeting the parents expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for providing such an opportunity to their children.

The meeting was also attended by the Minister for HRDD, Mr. N.K. Pradhan, Secretary, HRDD, Director, HRDD and their parents, Principal, Sindia Gwalior School.

Seminar on Relation between Bench and Bar vis-à-vis Standards of Professional Conduct and Etiquette

Gangtok: The Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee, High Court of Sikkim organized a day long regional seminar on "Relation Between the Bench and the Bar vis-a-vis Standards of Professional Conduct and Etiquette" at Chintan Bhawan on February 27. The Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court, Dr. Aftab Hussain Saikia was present as the chief guest while Mr. A.N.Ray, former Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim was the guest of honour.

Dr. Aftab Hussain Saikia in his speech stated that today's theme was rightly chosen for discussion and deliberation. The Bar and the Bench should maintain a cordial relation and perform their duties with utmost responsibility.

Mr. A.N. Ray in his address

said that the Bench and the Bar plays a vital role for maintaining the process of clean Justice. He also added that court of law is meant for all people of the country where justice is delivered without any discrimination. He further said that legal person should have vast knowledge about their profession so that they can provide proper justice.

Mr. B.K Sharma, Judge, Gawahati High Court said that coordination between Bench and the Bar is an important wing of the court for smooth functioning of the court administration. He appealed to the gathering to take full advantage of the seminar.

Earlier, Mr. A.P. Subba, Judge, High Court of Sikkim and Convenor, Golden Jubilee

Celebration Committee delivered the welcome speech while the vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Meenaskhi M. Rai, Registrar General and Secretary, Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee.

Mr. A.D. Chaudhary, Senior Advocate and Mr. H. Rehman, Former Assistant Solicitor General of India were present as the resource persons for the seminar.

The Seminar was also attended by Mr. S.P. Wangdi, Judge High Court of Sikkim and officials of High Court of Sikkim, Additional Advocate General of Sikkim, President and Members of Sikkim Bar Association, Senior Advocates, Advocates, Principal and students of Sikkim Government Law College.

Two days training programme for Sikkim state engineers, architects and town planners

Pabitra Chettri, SIA

Gangtok: The Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim, in collaboration with Disaster Management Faculty, G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development organized two days training programme for Sikkim State Engineers, Architects and Town Planners on "Earthquake resistant building and retrofitting" at the Forest conference hall, Deorali on February 2nd and 3rd. The Programme was sponsored by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, Disaster Management Division. The Secretary, Land Revenue and Disaster Management and Development Department, Mr. K.T. Chankapa, was present as the chief guest in the inaugural session.

In his speech, he said that it is well known to all that the entire Himalayan belt is one of the most seismically active region in the world. In the last 110 years, four great earthquakes have occurred along this subduction zone causing large scale damages in the surrounding areas. It was reported that there were large scale damages (Intensity VII and above) in

Sikkim after the 1897 and 1934 events but smaller earthquakes of 1980 and 1988 have also caused damages in Sikkim, he said.

Therefore, there is possibility of widespread damages in the State, as Sikkim is located in the seismic zone IV of the Indian Seismic Zoning Maps, he added. He mentioned that most of the structural damages of the earthquake of 14 February 2006 were observed in and around the State capital, Gangtok. However, after this frequent tremors of earthquake were also felt.

He also expressed that whenever there is a major earthquake most of the casualties were due to collapse of the buildings or due to lack of rescue and relief to the victims under the collapsed buildings. Earthquakes do not kill people but poorly designed or constructed buildings do, he informed. These earthquakes have clearly brought out that one need to have a comprehensive strategy for disaster mitigation which should include planning, design and construction of earthquake resistant buildings through strict compliance of coded provisions

for earthquake counter-measures.

Mentioning about the awareness to be created among the common people, he said that common people are not aware of many aspects of earthquake disaster and better building practices in seismic zones of the country. It is the duty to spread safety awareness and make sure the constructions are in accordance to the required standards to avoid future hazards. This is important especially in Gangtok and in the urban towns due to the growing number of buildings each day.

Prof. Chandan Ghosh resource person from National Institute of Disaster Management, said that the two days training programme will focus on safety standards. Basically, with the help of building bi-lines and disaster management guidelines, the meeting will discuss on how to check vulnerability and risk mapping. He further commented that the State has good development as it has Disaster Management Department and urged the participants to take the training seriously and make the best out of this opportunity.

Chief Secretary of West Bengal calls on Chief Minister

Sonam Goparma, SIA(East)

Gangtok, February 26 : The Chief Secretary of West Bengal, Mr. A.M. Chakraborty called on the Chief Minister Mr. Pawan Chamling at his official residence, Mintokgang.

Mr. Chakraborty who was accompanied by his deputy Addl. Chief Secretary, Mr. Rajendra Kumar along with District Magistrate of Darjeeling and Inspector General of Police North Bengal Mr. K.L Tamta in his brief meeting with the Chief Minister was all praise for Mr. Chamling's government and credited him and his good governance for the peace and tranquil environment which existed in the State of Sikkim.

On the other hand Mr. Chamling said that his main aim and objective is to give good governance to the people and see that overall development takes place in the state.

He also expressed his concern about the bottleneck of National High Way 31 A, and asked for support and cooperation from the West Bengal Government, to which Mr. Chakraborty assured full assistance.

Department of Information & Public Relations Government of Sikkim

Tibet Road Gangtok, 737101

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

CIRCULAR

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

1. Tender Notices will be accepted by the Department for publication having **minimum time of 35 days** before the last date of submission of tenders.

2. Other notices like Employment/Auction etc. will be accepted for publication having **minimum time of 17 days**.

3. In case any Department would like to get the advertisement published in any particular newspaper the name of the same may be indicated with number of insertions to be published, otherwise the advertisements will be issued for publication to newspapers as per the roster maintain by the department.

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

The list of daily and weekly news papers other than Herald Classified published from Sikkim is enclosed.

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

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

This issues with the approval of the Government.

Sd/
COMMISSIONER-CUM-SECRETARY
I.P.R DEPARTMENT

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Minister and...

on Fiscal Federalism, Revenue Generation from user charges for Panchayats and Distribution of Drinking Water. On 3rd March the delegation will visit Le Mouret Municipal Council (Commune) where a first hand exposure to local industrial activities, institutional mechanism, municipal administration, land zoning and planning. On 4th March the delegation will be visiting Charmey Commune to study the Tourism sector and its impacts on the economy and the Social Welfare policy for elderly dependent people. On the same day, a visit to a Mini Thermal Plant will also be undertaken. On 5th March the delegation would make a site visit to Grangeneuve and

Cantonal Agricultural School to get a first hand exposure on treatment of household garbage, solid waste management and School Midday Meal scheme. Mr. M. Pascal, the State Minister of of Institution, Decentralization, Forestry and Agriculture would also interact with the delegation. Mr. Francois Binder who was the former Country Director of SDC in India is coordinating and guiding the whole visit.

This study and exposure tour is a part of the ongoing Indo Swiss Project Sikkim (ISPS) to strengthen the decentralization and devolution of power to Panchayats through capacity building, and is a step towards realizing the vision of the Chief Minister to develop the villages of Sikkim along the line of rural areas of Switzerland.

Save energy, save earth