

PRESS RELEASE- INUAGURAL FUNCTION OF SIKITEX 10

The Department of Information Technology after its establishment in the year 2000 has been putting a lot of effort and contribution in promoting E-governance in the State.

To disseminate information on the technologies and trends in the I.T sector the Department has been organizing, an annual interaction "SIKITEX" a premier I.T exhibition and conference in Sikkim ,in fact the only I.T fair which is now an eagerly awaited event in the calendar of technology meets.

SIKITEX is aimed to provide a platform for companies to showcase and launch I.T products, services and technologies to a wide but targeted audience. The department had organized SIKITEX-09 on 17th & 18th September'09.It had 40 major companies participating in the event and around 7000 visitors. Encouraged with the success of sikitex-09 the department is organizing SIKITEX-10 on the 7th & 8th of October '10 at a much grandeur scale. The event does not have any financial investment from the State Government and is organized completely from sponsorships from the various companies participating in the event. This year we have entries from 55 major I.T companies and they will get an opportunity to highlight their technologies, services and other activities that can be offered to the industry and public at large. The exhibition will focus on the technologies/know-how.

SIKITEX-10 will have official participation from Government of India, organizations and various companies. The official delegations will focus on various issues, challenges and emerging technologies through session during the seminar and presentations. Topic includes Crime Criminal Tracking Network Systems, Cyber Security, Modernized Land Management System, Mobile financial Inclusion, Cloud computing, Geographical Information System in planning, GIS in vehicle tracking.

SIKITEX-10 will provide a unique opportunity for industry to pick a product/technology for commercial exploitation, for Academics institutes to identify industry needs, experience sharing and interaction with experts and much more. There are attractive prizes to be won in the category of Gaming competition, fastest typist and on the spot quiz competition.

Donka -The E-Panda which is the mascot for SIKITEX-2010 will be an added attraction to the event.

The event has already gained national stature and we would like to evolve it into an international one henceforth.

The inaugural function of SIKITEX-2010 will include a visit to the exhibition stalls by the Chief guest and release of the following CDs and conferring of Awards:

I). TALKING BOOKS FOR THE VISUALLY CHALLENGED.

There is a dearth of reading material in Braille and in the audio format for the visually challenged. The Department of Information Technology has already converted all Sikkim Board text books to Braille for the visually challenged children at Blind School at Namchi.

We have now embarked on a mission to convert various books to audio in the daisy format. This will enable children to hear the books being read out to them through a daisy player. We have prepared a series of talking books in the daisy format for the visually challenged students of Sikkim and put them on a CD.

II). CD on TIBETOLOGY.

To preserve this ancient scripture in the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology and the monasteries, the Ministry of Information Technology Government of India has initiated a project for their digitization.

As a part of the project, the works of His Holiness the **Vth** Dalai Lama have been digitized and put on a DVD.

III). GIS GOOD PRACTICE AWARD ✨

From this year we have instituted SIKITEX -I.T good practice award. Geographical Information System using satellite imagery and cadastral map can be used effectively for making good administrative decisions. Out of the entries received the paper titled "**A WEB BASED APPLICATION STUDY FOR ILMAP FOR EAST & SOUTH DISTRICTS OF SIKKIM**" by Mr. V.Raghu of Andhra Pradesh State Remote Sensing Application Centre, Govt. of A.P, Hyderabad has been adjudged as the best.

IV). BEST USAGE OF I.T FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION ✨

We have also instituted the best usage of I.T for poverty alleviation award. The government has committed to make Sikkim a poverty free state and in this regard I.T can also play an important role. Various I.T tools are available for improving income generation. Computer Aided Design is one such tool. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) Kolkata has implemented a project named "**COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN FOR WEAVERS/ARTISIAN OF SIKKIM**" at the Directorate of Handlooms & Handicraft Gangtok. It has helped the Directorate and Self Help Groups to come up with new designs for carpets and handicrafts and this has helped ultimately in improving Income generation.

This year's award goes jointly to the CDAC and Directorate of Handloom and Handicraft.

V). SIKITEX I.T. MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD ✨

Shri T.G.Bhutia Scientist D/DIO joined NIC since its inception in Sikkim in 1996. He has immensely contributed in promoting Land Record Computerization in the State.

The Department of Information Technology Government of Sikkim recognizes his contribution to the furtherance of Information Technology in the State and awards him **The SIKITEX-I.T. Man of the Year Award.**

Soft copy of the Minister's and Chief minister's Speech can be obtained from Mr. Vaishnav Gajmer (Mobile 9733034073; e-mail vaishnav.gazmer@nic.in) or can also be accessed from official website www.sikkim.gov.in