

Gangtok, August 4:(IPR) One of the activities under the directions of Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLISA, was generating awareness through lectures about the Fundamental Duties as envisaged in Article 51A of the Constitution of India to the student members of Legal Literacy Clubs of the Schools.

In view of the above, the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority under the directions of her Ladyship organized an *Awareness Programme On The Importance Of Fundamental Duties As Envisaged In Article 51A of the Constitution of India* for the Legal Literacy Clubs of Schools of East District on **4th August, 2018 (Saturday)** in the Auditorium of the Hon'ble High Court of Sikkim.

The programme commenced with the welcome note from Shri Suraj Chettri, Member Secretary, Sikkim SLISA, who informed the august gathering that Legal Literacy Clubs have been established in Schools for disseminating information about law and to make people aware about their rights and duties through various activities of the Legal Literacy Club so that the students become law abiding citizens and not only boost legal literacy but also help in strengthening the aim of legal services institutions of Access to Justice for the vulnerable and marginalized section of the society.

There are **38** Legal Literacy Clubs in Schools, Colleges and Universities of Sikkim (**34** Schools, **02** Universities (ICFAI and Sikkim University) and **01** Law College throughout Sikkim). Legal Literacy Clubs in Law College was established in 11th June, 2012, while for the schools of East District during the year 2013, South during the year 2014, North during the year 2016 and West during the year 2013.

Legal Literacy Clubs function under the guidance/supervision of "Teacher-in-Charge" of the respective High School/College. 150 student members of the club along with their teacher-in-charge participated in the awareness lecture. The Resource Persons for today's programme were Mr. T.R. Barfungpa and Mr. Zangpo Sherpa, Panel Advocates of Sikkim SLISA.

Shri T.R. Barfungpa, Panel Advocate spoke on how to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem, how to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our National struggle for freedom, how to uphold and protect the Sovereignty, Unity and Integrity of India, etc. while Shri Zangpo Sherpa, Panel Advocate spoke on how to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture, how to protect and improve the natural environment including Forests, Lakes, Rivers and Wildlife, and to have compassion for living creature, how to develop the Scientific Temper, Humanism and the Spirit of Inquiry and Reform, etc.

The programme ended with fruitful interaction between the student participants and Resource Persons.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Bikash Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Sikkim SLISA.

