

(IPR) In the function organized by Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department in the conference hall of the department, financial assistance under National Family Benefit Scheme was presented to forty five (45) beneficiaries.

The Hon'ble Minister Smt. Tulsi Devi Rai, Water Security, PHE, Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim graced the function as the Chief Guest and presented the beneficiaries with the financial assistance amount. Cheques of Rupees Thirty Thousand each were presented by the Minister to forty-five households on the death of their wage earner belonging to BPL category from all the four districts of the State.

The function also saw the launching of the Departmental Website inaugurated by the Minister which is disabled friendly in nature as per WCAG* 2.0 and is developed by M/S Pioneer Technical Cooperative Society, Melli Dara, South Sikkim. The website is hosted under the URL: www.sikkimsocialwelfare.gov.in

The Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department Smt. Tulsi Devi Rai while addressing the function expressed her happiness and satisfaction that the State Government through the department has been greatly successful in assisting and aiding the deserving beneficiaries of the various schemes and programmes of the State Government.

She rendered due credit to the pro-people policies of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim and said that it was due to his vision and endeavour that every individual in Sikkim is entitled to equal opportunity, respect and right.

Earlier, the Commissioner-cum-Secretary Shri. R.Telang, said that no happiness equates to the satisfaction received on knowing that the monetary incentives are reaching the deserving beneficiaries that the State Government has envisioned for. Talking about the website he urged the officers to make good use of the website and update various schemes and programmes which can benefit the public.

The welcome address was given by Additional Secretary SJ, E&W Department, Shri K.B. Pradhan where he welcomed and congratulated the beneficiaries and the government officers. He also talked about the components of the National Social Assistance Programme which is the National Family Benefit Scheme which gives assistance to the bereaved households in the event of the death of the breadwinner of the family. The benefits are given to surviving members of the family who can include spouse, minor children, unmarried daughters and dependent parents on condition that the death of such family head have occurred whilst he/she is more than 18 years of age. The assistance would be given to every case of death of breadwinner in a family.