



# SIKKIM HERALD

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Gangtok (Tuesday) November 01, 2022

Regd. No. WB/SKM/01/2020-2022

## Members of Germany Parliamentary Committee call on Governor and CM



**Gangtok, October 30:** Members of Germany Parliamentary Committee on Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection called on the Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad at Raj Bhawan, today. It was a courtesy call by the Germany Parliamentary Committee led by Herald Ebner, who is on a visit to Sikkim.

The Governor stated that Sikkim holds a lot of potential in organic farming, environment conservation, tourism industry, agriculture etc. He also highlighted the successful trail of saffron cultivation in various parts of

Sikkim. The Germany Parliamentarian appreciated the State government's effort to make Sikkim as the first organic state of the country and shared their observation of the field visits.

Several issues related to organic farming, environmental protection, nature conservation and consumer protection policies were discussed in the meeting.

Head of delegation, Harald Ebner stated that it is important to create a certain framework with

*Contd on page 08*

## CM attends Chintan Shivir

**Haryana, October 28:** Chief Minister, Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Chintan Shivir, which was addressed through video conferencing by the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi. The Chintan Shivir was held at Surajkund.

The Chief Minister said that the State Government will work towards accomplishing the Prime Minister's vision of Team India by adopting the following resolutions, building a developed India, freedom from every thought of slavery, pride in heritage, unity and solidarity and civic duty.

According to the PMO statement, the Chintan Shivir is an attempt to provide a national perspective to policy formulation on internal security-related matters.

According to the PMO, the Shivir will deliberate on issues like modernisation of police forces, cybercrime management, increased use of IT in the criminal justice system, land border management, coastal security, women safety,

drug trafficking, among others.

The meeting is expected to bring more interaction and teamwork in planning and coordination between various stakeholders at the central and state level.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Ministers of States, Deputy Chief Ministers, Home Ministers, Home Secretaries and Director Generals of Police (DGPs) of the States and Director Generals of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Central Police Organisations (CPOs) and officials from central and state government.

Earlier, on October 27, Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang participated in the Chintan Shivir chaired by the Union Home Minister Mr. Amit Shah at Surajkund.

The session aimed to prepare an action plan to implement 'Vision 2047' and 'panch pran' (five pledges) announced by Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi

*Contd on page 09*

## Rashtriya Ekta Diwas observed

**Gangtok, October 31:** Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was observed at a function held in Sikkim Armed Police Ground, Pangthang, today.

Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad was present on the occasion as the chief guest, along with Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang.

The programme also had the presence of Speaker SLA, Mr. Arun Upreti, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Political Secretary to CM, Advisors, Chairpersons, Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors, Chief Secretary, DGP, ACS, Principal Secretaries, Secretaries, Officers from different departments, Officials from the Police department and Indian Army and students.

The National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is celebrated every year on October 31<sup>st</sup> to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, India's first Home Minister, and a great freedom fighter, who



was instrumental in integrating all states to make the Union of India stand out as the largest democratic country in the world. The event is observed across the country on

the 31<sup>st</sup> of October every year.

The function began with the National Salute and singing of the

*Contd on page 09*

## Governor holds meeting on trial of saffron cultivation

**Gangtok, October 30:** Governor Mr. Ganga Prasad held a meeting on the successful trial of saffron cultivation in Sikkim at Raj Bhawan, today.

The meeting had the presence of the Minister of Agriculture and Horticulture Departments, Mr. L.N. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University (SU), Prof. Avinash Khare, Secretary Horticulture Mr. B.B. Subba, Professors from SU, Sr. Officers from Horticulture Department, saffron growers from various districts of Sikkim.

The Governor expressed his happiness over the successful journey of Sikkim University towards saffron cultivation in Sikkim as a joint venture with the Horticulture department and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

He also underlined the evidence of harvesting top-quality saffron in the soil of Sikkim and advised all concerned to be with the farmers for continuous support and encouragement. He also suggested acquiring more technical expertise from Kashmir to increase saffron production for the benefit of the farming community in the State.

He also expressed gratitude to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for their support and shared his vision for widening the



range of exchanging expertise.

He also requested the concerned Ministry to expedite the proposal submitted by the state, seeking fund allocation for saffron cultivation in Sikkim under the Saffron Mission.

He congratulated the farmers of Sikkim and extended his best wishes for future endeavours. He added that the hard work of the

farmers would surely be rewarded, and the state would acquire a unique recognition in saffron cultivation.

The Minister, Mr. L. N. Sharma expressed his heartiest gratitude to the Governor on behalf of the Chief Minister and the State Government for his

*Contd on page 09*

### Pearls of Wisdom

*"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment."*

*- Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## Returning Officer Soreng conducts meeting with contesting candidates

**Soreng, October 29:** The Returning Officer-cum-District Collector Mr. Bhim Thatal convened meeting with the contesting candidates for the upcoming Panchayat Election at the Auditorium of Soreng Senior Secondary School, today.

During the meeting, the RO gave a detailed presentation on various rules and regulations, which are to be followed by the contesting candidates and elaborated on the 'Model Code of Conduct' (MCC) which needs to be strictly followed by them

during the entire election period.

Mr. Thatal also encouraged the candidates to strictly follow the MCC and avoid any illegal means which are prescribed by the Election Commission.

He also responded to the individual questions and doubts of the candidates regarding the MCC and other related issues.

He also introduced all eight Sector Magistrates and Sector Police Officers and mentioned that the candidates can always contact them for any matters related to the elections.

## DC Gyalshing hands instant relief cheque

**Gyalshing, October 25:** A fire broke out at the house of Mr. Makar Bahadur Rai at Karemthang Ward under Sardung-Lungik GPU on October 24 at around 8 p.m. The blaze at the house was brought under

control after hours of firefighting with the help of fire officials and the villagers.

The fire started in the house due to an electrical short-circuit and engulfed the house within minutes, the owner said.

## Meeting with contesting candidates of Mangan district held

**Mangan, October 21:** A meeting with the contesting candidates of Mangan district was held at Zilla Bhawan, Mangan, today.

The meeting had the presence of Returning Officer Dr. A. B. Karki, SP Mangan, ARO, SE (Power), Nodal Officers of the election committee and the contesting candidates of the district.

The RO briefed about the rules and regulations to be followed by the candidates during the election campaign. He urged the candidates to follow proper protocols of election and asked them to approach their respective area's Sector Magistrate and Sector Police, officer assigned for the upcoming Panchayat Election for any

issues.

Earlier, SP Mangan in his address urged everyone to clear any doubts about the election process and the rules and regulations of the election campaign. He also conducted an interactive session with the contesting candidates.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Leu Dun Bum-Ther Monlam Chenmo

**Gyalshing, October 27:** Minister for Agriculture and Horticulture Departments Mr. L.N. Sharma attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Leu Dun Bum-Ther Monlam Chenmo being held at Pemayangtse Monastery, today.

He expressed his

happiness on being a part of the religious ceremony on the seventh chapter of supplication prayers spoken by Guru Padmasambhava.

During the programme, rimpoches, monks and devotees have offered prayers for the peace

and prosperity of the State. The Minister interacted with the organizing committee, devotees and further expressed gratitude for organizing the holy congregation.

## Sector Magistrates and Nodal Officers under Gyalshing District convenes meeting

**Gyalshing, October 20:** A meeting with the Sector Magistrates and Nodal Officers under Gyalshing District was convened at the Conference Hall of DAC, Gyalshing, today.

The meeting was chaired by the DC-cum-Returning Officer, Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda. The meeting briefed the officials on the preparedness for the smooth conduct of polls in the district.

The Returning Officer asked the officers to carry out their respective duties with

dedication and sincerity. The Sector Magistrates were directed to visit and inspect each Polling Station under their jurisdiction to ensure availability of minimum facilities like electricity, water and proper sanitation. She also called upon active vigilance of the Police at Polling Booths and other requisite locations.

Senior Superintendent of Police informed that Sector Police Officers and Police personnel for each Polling Station will be deployed and the details of the

same will be submitted to the Returning Officer.

Deputy Director Election highlighted on the work distribution of Nodal Officers and read out their respective tasks, team wise.

It may be mentioned that Gyalshing district has 18 Territorial Constituencies, 33 Gram Panchayat Units comprising 194 Wards and 194 Polling Stations.

## Sikkim State Commission conducts Legal Awareness Programme

**Mangan, October 20:** Sikkim State Commission conducted the one-day Legal Awareness Programme on Gender Issues for Women in collaboration with Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India at Kabi, Mangan, today.

The members of 21 different SHGs from Kabi have attended the meeting. The Resource persons for the programme were Panel Advocate, SSLSA, Ms. Jyoti Pradhan, Clinical Psychologist, STNM, Ms. Sangila Dorjee and Senior Journalist, Sikkim Chronicle Mr. Nirmal Mangar.

Chairperson, Sikkim State

Commission for Women, Mrs. Chungkipu Lepcha spoke about the services provided by the Women Commission to address the violence on women and in distress. Furthermore, she spoke about how such legal awareness programmes can help in building a better-informed society.

Project Coordinator, Sikkim State Commission for Women, Ms. Kunzang Ongmu Bhutia gave a brief presentation on the objective of conducting the legal awareness programme.

Panel Advocate, Ms. Jyoti Pradhan spoke on the provisions of Domestic Violence Act, various aspects of domestic

violence and also POCSO Act. She also touched upon aspects of child abuse and POCSO Act.

Ms. Dorjee explained various mental issues pertaining to domestic violence and abuse in any other form. Various mental issues such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, etc was also discussed about.

Senior Journalist, Mr. Nirmal Mangar, spoke on the role of media on reporting crimes against women and children. Further, he also highlighted the importance of ethical reporting and responsible journalism.

## State Election Commissioner holds Press Conference

**Gangtok, October 19:** Briefing regarding topics related to the Panchayat Election 2022, at Tashiling Secretariat Conference Hall, Gangtok, today.

The State Election Commissioner Mr. K.C. Lepcha along with Secretary State Election Commission, Mr. T.N. Bhutia and Senior Consultant State Election Commission, Mr. M.N. Dhakal addressed the press briefing.

1. The State Election Commission has announced November 10, 2022 as the date of poll and corresponding preparations commenced from October 11, 2022, filing of nominations commenced from to October 12 to October 18 with October 19 scheduled as the date for scrutiny and October 21 for withdrawal. Only after this, the final list of contesting candidates can be confirmed not before 3 PM. There is a maximum turnout in filing nominations this time compared to 2017. Details shall be furnished after the withdrawal process later.

2. During the course of the final electoral process, doubts and questions were raised on several issues and issue-wise clarification is being circulated for information to the general public.

3. Role and Responsibilities of State Election Commission: It is pertinent to understand the role, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of the State Election Commission of Sikkim with reference to provision of Article 243K in the first instance, which reads "The Superintendence, direction, and control of the preparation of electoral roll for, and the conduct of all elections to the Panchayats shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor. Hence, has jurisdiction limited to the conduct of elections as per the prevailing Acts, Rules, and procedures prescribed. The SEC, therefore, has no jurisdiction to introduce amendments or alter provisions approved through legislative action of the Parliament and the Sikkim State Legislative Assembly.

There are four basic documents to justify this measure.

i) Constitution of India (Article 243), ii) Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1993, iii) Notification issued by RDD on Reorganization of Gram Panchayat Units vide No. 1/RDD/P, dated: 28/7/2022 Notification No. 5/RDD/P, dated: 10/10/2022, iv) Notification No. 5/RDD/P, dated: 10/10/2022.

4. The Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1993 was introduced by the Rural Development Department (administrative department) in pursuance to Constitution 73rd Amendment Act and Notification to this effect was issued by Law Department in due consideration of the provision of Article 243K of the Constitution of India and based on this Act, five successive elections to the PRIS were held without any complaint or dispute. The forthcoming 6th Panchayat Election is also being conducted under the same Act/Rules/procedures.

5. Notification No. 4/RDD/P,

dated: 29.9.2022 followed by Notification No. 11/LD/18, dated: 13.6.2018 provide for the reservation of seats for ST-BL Community and this time, the reservation of BL Community was finalised on the basis of this Notification.

6. Notification No. 11/LD/18, dated: 13.6.2018 is actually a provision of amendment of Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1965, and the provision of the Act as mandated was received assent of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly which is a public issue known to all. It is for the information of the general public that Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1965 was repealed through an amendment in 1982 wherein the issues being raised pertaining to the operation of Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1965 does not arise and are found to be misleading for the forthcoming election.

7. The officials said that under this Act, 20% of seats are reserved for BL ST out of 40% of seats reserved for the ST community. 20% is reserved for BL-ST out of 40% is actually one-fifth of 40%, therefore, if we divide 40% into five parts it is 8+8+8+8+8=40 and one-fifth is 8% BL and 32% ST. This 8% was adopted with a view to ensure that at least 8% of BL community representation is secured. Therefore, the interest of the BL community is amply taken care of.

Similarly, the officials said that they have examined the population data of Linkey Ward, Linkey Parakha GPU under Pakyong district furnished by DESME and RDD, wherein the total population is 410. The population of ST is 261 i.e., 63.66% and if we divide BL and LT within ST comes to 48.54% only and 15.12% of LT. Similarly, OBC(S) is 12.20%, OBC(C) is 12.93%, SC is 2.44%, Others is 8.77%.

8. Moreover, under the Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1993, Chapter 3, Section 13 contains a provision for the rotation of different wards in a Gram Panchayat in such a manner as the State Government may by Notification from time to time specify.

9. It is informed further that the reservation of seats in all Panchayat Elections are generally considered from the State perspective. Therefore, the Government has considered the concentration of the BL population in various other areas of the State. Records show that some Panchayat Wards have a 100% BL concentration of the population.

10. The Government has considered the basis of rotation and concentration of the BL population in other areas as well.

11. The allocations reported in media have been wrongly calculated and are misleading.

12. Therefore, the State Election Commission appeals to all the public not to panic and not to get carried away by misleading information and to cast their votes without fear and favour, and to support the conduct of the election in a fair, smooth and peaceful manner.

**Government of Sikkim  
Public Health Engineering Department  
Gangtok-Sikkim**

Memo No:739/PHED/Mtc-1/Sub-Division

Date:12.10.2022

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, PHED invites scaled tenders under single bid system from the eligible contractors of Class IV enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department. The tender is invited through competitive bidding within the territorial jurisdiction as indicated vide Memo No: 515/R&B/PWD/Secy Dated 12/06/2018 and Memo No: 66/R&B/PWD/Secy Dated: 08/01/2021

Sl. No	Name of Work	Value Work put to tender (In ₹)	Earnest Money deposit @2.5% (₹)	Cost of Tender documents (In ₹)	Time of Completion	Teritorial Jurisdiction
	Augmentation of Water Supply System from Bulbulay to Dicheling, Gangtok, East Sikkim	₹82,74,262.00 (including 18% G.S.T and 1% L.C.E.S.S)	₹2,06,857.00	15000	24 months	Gangtok Municipal Corporation

**TIME SCHEDULE**

- Date of submission of application with Challan/Bank receipt for issue of tender Documents (excluding tender form) : 1.11.2022 (From 10 am to 1.00 pm)
- Date of issue of tender form on submission : 2.11.2022 (From 10 am to 1:00 pm) of TDR (as earnest money)
- Date and Time for submission of tender Bid documents. : 3.11.2022 (From 10 am to 12.00 pm)
- Date and time for opening of tender : 3.11.2022 (From 2.00 PM)
- No tender shall be entertained after the expiry of the above schedule date and time.
- Tender form can be obtained from the office of the Assistam Engineer (Mic-I), Public Health Engineering Department
- The prescribed Non-transferable tender documents & Tender form can be obtained on production of requisite Bank receipt from the State Bank of Sikkim and the same is to be submitted along with the attested copies of the following documents:
  - An application signed by the contractor for availing the Tender Documents
  - Validated/Updated Contractor Enlistment Certificate
  - Latest GST clearance certificate.

**Note:** It is necessary to produce original copy of the above documents certificates for verification at the time of issue of tender documents.

Assistant Engineer (Maintenance - I)  
PHE Department, Gangtok  
(1277, i)

**Government of Sikkim  
Animal & Husbandry & Veterinary Services Department  
Krishi Bhavan, Tadong-737102**

No.25/AH&amp;VS/Adm./2022-2023

Dated: 22.09.2022

**NOTIFICATION**

Whereas the State Government in pursuance of the provisions contained under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 32 of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 and in exercise of the powers conferred by rule 3 of the Sikkim State Veterinary Council Rules, 1988, called upon the persons enrolled in the Sikkim State Veterinary Register maintained under Chapter VII of the Act to elect four members from amongst themselves to establish the State Veterinary Council, vide Notification No. 13/GoS/AH&VS/2022-23 dated the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 289 dated 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Now, therefore, in pursuance of the provisions contained under section 32 of Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 (52 of 1984) and in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 14 of the Sikkim State Veterinary Council Rules, 1988, the Returning Officer hereby publish the list of contesting candidates for election to The Sikkim State Veterinary Council.

Sl. No.	Name of Candidates	Address
1.	Dr. Arjun Kumar Adhikari	Paksam House, Samdur 6 <sup>th</sup> Mile, Gangtok
2.	Dr. Nutan Subba	Near Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Namchi District
3.	Dr. Pem Tshering Bhutia	Daragaon, Tadong, Gangtok
4.	Dr. Phurba Lepcha	Tinpem Busty, Rey Mindu, Gangtok District
5.	Dr. Sunita Joshi	Indira Bye Pass, Gazmer House, Tadong, Gangtok District
6.	Dr. T.B. Ghatani	5 <sup>th</sup> Mile Tadong, Gangtok District

SURESH RAI, SCS  
RETURNING OFFICER CUM DEPUTY SECRETARY  
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETY. SERVICES DEPARTMENT,  
KRISHI BHAWAN, TADONG, GANGTOK.  
(1268, i)

**Printing & Stationary Department  
Government of Sikkim  
Tadong, Gangtok, East Sikkim**

No.381/Ptg. &amp; Sty.

Dated:19.10.2022

**GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC**

This is to inform the general public that the Government Almanac for the year 2023 is under process for approval of competent authority for printing and that the Almanac circulating in the social media is not released by the Printing and Stationery Department.

Director  
Printing and Stationery Department  
Government of Sikkim  
(1293)

**Government of Sikkim  
Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services  
Department**

Krishi Bhavan, Tadong-737102

No.27/AH&amp;VS/Adm./2022-2023

Dated: 21.10.2022

**NOTIFICATION**

In pursuance of Rule 21 (1) of The Sikkim State Veterinary Council Rules, 1988, and under sub-section (2) of Section 32 of The Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984, the Returning Officer hereby publishes the names of the 04 (four) members who have been elected to The Sikkim State Veterinary Council on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

- Dr. Til Bahadur Ghatani
- Dr. Sunita Joshi
- Dr. Pem Tshering Bhutia
- Dr. Phurba Lepcha

(Suresh Rai, SCS)  
Returning Officer cum Deputy Secretary  
Animal Husbandry & Vety. Services Department  
(1294)

**High Court of Sikkim  
Gangtok**

No.:20/Confdl./HCS

Dated.: 20.10.2022

**NOTICE**

In pursuance to the advertisement dated 06.12.2021, and based on the overall performance of the candidates in the written examination held on 03.08.2022 and the viva-voce test on 19.10.2022, the candidates listed below are selected, in order of merit, for appointment to the two vacant posts of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate (Grade-III) in the cadre of Sikkim Judicial Service.

By Order,

Sd/-  
Registrar General  
High Court of Sikkim  
(1295)

**Government of Sikkim  
Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services  
Department**

Krishi Bhavan, Tadong - 737102

No.28/AH&amp;VS/Adm./2022-2023

Dated: 21.10.2022

**NOTIFICATION**

In pursuance of the provisions contained under the Memorandum of Association of The Sikkim Veterinary Association, the Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Secretary hereby publishes the names of elected candidates to be the member of the Sikkim Veterinary Association for the post mentioned against their names:-

Sl. No.	Name	Post
1.	Dr. Sandeep Gurung	President
2.	Dr. Karma Tenzing Bhutia	General Secretary
3.	Dr. Durga Prasad Pradhan	Treasurer
4.	Dr. Pravin Sharma	Joint General Secretary
5.	Dr. Pratik Sharma	Publicity Secretary

Suresh Rai, SCS  
Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Sikkim  
Animal Husbandry & Vety. Services Department,  
Krishi Bhawan, Tadong, Gangtok.

Memo No. 154-160/AH&amp;VS(Adm.)

Dated:21.10.2022  
(1292)

**Government of Sikkim  
Public Health Engineering Department**

No.05/PHED/GOS/08-09/PLG/414

Dated:28/09/2022

**An Appeal**

The water Supply System of Gangtok extends water supply service to most of the areas of Gangtok town. In spite of concerted efforts made by the PHE Department some of the water consumers do not pay their water bills on the pretext of the of not receiving water from the services availed through the approved connection. A list of all such defaulters are being prepared through extensive survey by the department. The department shall disconnect the water connections if the water charges bills are pending or have not been paid.

Therefore, the water connection consumers of Gangtok town are hereby requested to check and tally then water bills in the revenue section of the PHE Department for regularization and updation of water charges bills. The disconnections process of water service lines of any defaulter will commence from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

Sd/-  
Divisional Engineer  
Water Supply  
(1254)

## State level Shaala Siddhi State Capacity Building Programme held

**Gangtok, October 17:** A State level Shaala Siddhi 'State Capacity Building Programme' for Sikkim was held at the Auditorium of Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School, Gangtok under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha, State Project Office, Education Department in collaboration with NIEPA, New Delhi, today.

The event was attended by Director, State Project Office, Samagra Shiksha, Education Department, Mr. Milan Subba as the chief guest followed by Chief Education Officers from various districts, District Education Officials, Block Education officials, BRCs, CRCs, District Coordinators (Shaala Siddhi) and School Heads of Senior Secondary School from all districts of the State were also in attendance.

## Police personnel pays homage to Police martyrs on 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Commemoration Day

**Gangtok, October 21:** On the occasion of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Commemoration Day, DGP, Sikkim Police, Mr. A.S. Rao along with Special DGP, Law & Order, Mr. Akshay Sachdeva, ADGP, Armed Police & Training, Mr. Avichal, DIGP, Special Branch, Mr. Prawin Gurung, DIGP, Armed Police & Training, Mr. Thakur Thapa, DIGP, Range, SP Gangtok and other Police personnel paid homage to all the Police martyrs who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Commemoration Day was

## Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Day observed

**Gangtok, October 21:** Health and Family Welfare Department observed Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Day at all the district hospitals, CHC, PHC and UPHC, today.

The programme was organised by IEC wing of various districts in coordination with the IDD wing. Participants were disseminated with messages on Iodine deficiency leading to a variety of health and developmental consequences known as Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDDs), preventable mental retardation, damage during pregnancy and in early childhood, cretinism, stillbirth and miscarriage and causing significant loss of learning ability.

It may be mentioned that Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) is one of the biggest public health problems of today. Their effect is

## Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways visits Sikkim

**Soreng, October 19:** Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Mr. Shantanu reached Soreng on his third day visit to Sikkim.

On his arrival at Kaluk, the Union Minister was welcomed by

In the opening session, introduction of programme and a brief report on the Shaala Siddhi, Sikkim State was presented by District Coordinator, Shaala Siddhi Mr. Rajesh Thapa.

Resource person from NIEPA, New Delhi, Prof. Rashmita Das Swain and Assistant Professor Mr. A. N. Reddy gave a Power Point presentation on the key components of Shaala Siddhi, 'School Standards, Performance Evaluation, Accreditation for Quality Improvement'.

Director, State Project Office, Samagra Shiksha, Education Department Mr. Milan Subba urged all the participants to have a clear understanding of the various aspects of Shaala Siddhi programme. The event concluded with an interactive session.

observed at Ridge Park in Gangtok wherein, the Police Commemoration Day parade was carried out by the Sikkim Armed Police, led by Police Inspector, Mr. Manoj Kumar Chettri.

Floral wreaths were laid by DGP, Mr. Rao and other Police officers at the Martyr's stand to pay their respects to the martyrs. The 'Salami Shashtra' followed by 'Shok Shashtra' was performed in honour of the Police martyrs who laid down their lives for the safety of citizens of the country.

hidden and profoundly affects the quality of human life. Iodine deficiency occurs when the soil is poor in iodine, causing a low concentration in food products and insufficient iodine intake in the population and to bring down the prevalence of IDD to below 5% in the country and to ensure 100% consumption of adequately iodized salt (>15ppm) at the household level.

Iodine (in the form of iodide) is added to table salt to help prevent iodine deficiency. This has been an affordable and effective way to combat iodine deficiency, but not all salt contains iodine- one as to look for a smiling sun logo on the packet of salt and it should be stored in an airtight container in a cool, dry, dark location. Salt samples were also tested using Spot Testing Kit (STK) to check for Iodine in Salt.

District Officers, and a Guard of Honour was presented by Sikkim Police. The delegate was accompanied by his Additional PS Mr. Subhash Chandra Das along with Protocol officers of the State Government.

## Second round of training programme for Presiding and Polling Officer -I held in districts

**Gangtok, October 20:** ADC, Gangtok Mr. Tushar G. Nihare chaired the second round of the training programme for Presiding and Polling Officers-I for the upcoming Panchayat Elections 2022 at the Conference Hall of Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School, Gangtok, today.

The Resource person for the training programme was Assistant Collector cum Officer Trainee Mr. Girdhari Lal Meena, accompanied by DIO, NIC and Revenue Inspector.

Fifty Presiding and fifty Polling Officers participated in the training programme.

Further, the Officers were given hands-on training on eight Electronic Voting Machines and were oriented with the procedure to follow during the use of EVMs. Likewise, the roles and responsibilities to be carried out by the Presiding and Polling Officers during elections were also discussed in detail.

## MoCVn GoI organises two-day Conference for Ministers of Civil Aviation for all States and UT

**Gangtok, October 18:** Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India, organised a two-day Conference for Ministers of Civil Aviation for all States and Union Territories at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, today.

Sikkim was represented by the ACS, Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Mr. M.L. Srivastava along with team of officers including a Nodal Officer for Airport Security, Mr. Prawin Gurung (DIG Special Branch) from Police Department.

The first day of the Conference had a technical session chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Mr. Rajeev Bansal in the presence of Chairman, Airport Authority of India, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Director General of DGCA Mr. Arun Kumar, Additional Secretary, MoCA, Mrs. Usha Padhee, along with the heads of Civil Aviation Department of all States and Union Territories.

While, the concluding day was chaired by the Union Minister for Civil Aviation & Steel Mr. Jyotiraditya Scindia, as the chief guest along with Union Minister of State, Ministry of Civil Aviation & Road Transport and Highways General (Dr.) V.K. Singh, which saw the participation of Civil Aviation Ministers of various States.

The Conference focused on improvement and strengthening of the National Civil Aviation Sector in view of the fact that the country is likely to experience a strong demand

Similarly in Namchi, a training on Presiding and Polling I officers for Panchayat Elections 2022 under Namchi District was held at the Conference Hall of DAC, Namchi, today.

The Resource person for the training programme was Assistant Professor, Namchi Kamrang College, Mr. Kamal.

53 Reserved Presiding and Polling Officers participated in the training programme. During the course of the training, various important roles and responsibilities of the officials for conducting a smooth and efficient elections were imparted. They were also given hands-on training on Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) and were elucidated about various do's and don'ts of using the EVMs.

Likewise, in Mangan, the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of training programme for the Presiding Officers organised by State Election Commission, was held at the Zilla Bhawan, Mangan on

October 28.

At the outset, Nodal Officer (Training Management), Mr. Palden Norbu Lachungpa commenced the training with a power point presentation on various roles and responsibilities of Presiding Officers.

Later, the trainees were also given first hand training on EVMs.

Earlier, DC Mangan-cum-Panchayat Returning Officer, Dr. A.B karki visited the training session and interacted with the trainees.

While addressing the trainees, he urged them to be disciplined, diligent, punctual and resilient in their duty as Presiding Officers.

He also briefly talked about the procedures of election and polling.

He concluded his address by congratulating and gave his best wishes to the Presiding Officers.

for air travel from the Civil Aviation Market and the rest of the world.

Union Minister for Civil Aviation Mr. Jyotiraditya Scindia laid special emphasis on enhancement of air connectivity to the remote and hilly areas including that of North East to ensure the Government Policy of the Last Mile Connectivity. He also laid emphasis on the improvement of helicopter services and connectivity especially on HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Services) and in the areas where construction of airports was not feasible. He further urged the States to explore all possibilities of augmenting their air transport services on the lines of Air Cargo Operations and MROs as they hold tremendous demand in the international civil aviation market. The Conference also drew special attention of the States for embracing and absorbing the Drone Technology as this was going to be a technology of the near future. Stating that the Drone Technology has already made a headway in certain sectors like land use mapping, agriculture and construction, it is bound to penetrate all other sectors for day-to-day usage.

The meeting also discussed and provided directions to the various States on the matter of RCS (Regional Connectivity Scheme) UDAN, Krishi UDAN Scheme 2.0, Heli Sewa, Civil Aviation Security, establishment of FTOs, and

convergence with DoNER Ministry.

On interaction with the States, the State representative -the Additional Chief Secretary Mr. M.L. Srivastava flagged all crucial issues pertaining to Pakyong Green field airport to the Ministry, the most urgent being the long pending demand for installation of Instrument Landing System. He elaborated on the weather condition of the State due to which, the air travel in the State gets disrupted for almost five to six months in a year largely affecting the flow of tourists in the State. He urged the Government of India to make necessary technical interventions to facilitate landing even in low relative visibility in order to minimise flight cancellations. He also requested not just for continuation but also for enhancement of flight operations by the airlines to Pakyong Airport through the Winter Schedule i.e from the month of October to March 2023, as whether remains mostly favourable for flight operations during the period. He also proposed for the development of one heliport in each district keeping in line with the National Civil Aviation Policy.

The Ministry recorded the submission of various states and assured necessary support to each state's concerns seeking mutual cooperation and support on the part of the states as well.

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## Scrutiny of nomination papers for Panchayat Elections 2022

**Gangtok, October 19:** The scrutiny of nomination papers for the Panchayat Elections 2022 for Territorial Constituencies and Gram Panchayat Wards was undertaken at the Conference Hall of the District Administrative Centre, today.

Observer for Panchayat Election, Gangtok District/Special Secretary Ecclesiastical Department, Mrs. Kincho Doma Lepcha along with Returning Officer Gangtok, Mr. Ragul K. Assistant Returning Officers and officials of District Administration Office were present during the scrutiny process.

The number of candidates for Zilla (Territorial Constituencies) are: Radong Tintek-Nomination papers of 5 candidates were accepted, Samdong Kambal-Nomination papers of 10 candidates were accepted, Tumin Singbel - Nomination papers of 9 candidates were accepted, Simik Lingzey - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Dung Dung Thapa - Nomination papers of 7 candidates were accepted, Khamdong - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Sirwani Chisopani - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Byeng Martam - Nomination papers of 5 candidates were accepted, Samlik Namli - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Rey Rumtek - Nomination papers of 10 candidates were accepted, Luig Ranka - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Bhusuk Nandok - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Tathangchen Syari - Nomination papers of 6 candidates were accepted, Kyongnosla - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Gnathang - Nomination papers of 5 candidates were accepted.

**Gnathang GP:** Tsongo Ward-Nomination papers of 5 Candidates were accepted, Yakla Ward- Nomination paper of 1 candidate was accepted, Kupup Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Gnathang Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted and Zuluk - Nomination paper of 1 candidate was accepted.

**Kyongnosla GP:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Mile Ward- Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, 5<sup>th</sup> Mile Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, 7<sup>th</sup> Mile Ward-Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Karponang Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Kyongnosla Ward-Nomination paper of 1 candidate was accepted

**Rakdong Tintek GP:** Raksay Ward (Rakdong Tintek Gumpa) - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Dikchu Jang Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Lower Rakdong Ward - Nomination papers of 5 candidates were accepted, Upper Rakdong Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Upper Tintek Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Middle Tintek Ward-one candidate's

nomination paper was accepted, and another candidate's nomination paper is put on hold and Tintek Marchak Ward-Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**Samdong Khambal GP:** Khese Ward-one candidate's nomination paper has been accepted, and another is put on hold, Raley Ward-Nomination papers of 5 candidates were accepted, Lower Samdong Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Middle Samdong Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Upper Samdong Ward (Samdong Menagynd Gumpa) - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Upper Khambal Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted and Lower Khambal Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**Tumin Singel GP:** Borong Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Shelay Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Middle Tumin Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Namrang (Tumin Karma Choling Gumpa) - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Dhanbari Ward - Nomination papers of 12 candidates were accepted.

**Patuk Singel GP:** Rhaling Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Kokaley Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted and the other candidate was given time till noon tomorrow, Patuk Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Makha Ward - Nomination papers of one candidate was accepted, Singbel Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Salebong Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted.

**Simik Lingzey GP:** Aritar Ward - Nomination paper of 1 candidate was accepted, Simik (Simik Daduling Gumpa)-Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Lingzey Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Chadey Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Subithang Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**Dung Dung Thasa GP:** Ralap Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Linkhu Ralap Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Rangthu Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Dung Dung Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Ramitey Goan Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Thasa Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**Khamdong GP:** Budang Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Thangsing Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Beng Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Lower Khamdong Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted and

Upper Khamdong Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted.

**Sirwani Chisopani GP:** Serwani Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Dochum Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Namgeything Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Sakyong Ward - Nomination paper of 1 candidate was accepted, Rabdang Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Upper Chisopani Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Lower Chisopani Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted and Upper Teniok Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Lower Teniok Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, and one candidate was given time till noon tomorrow and Shantinagar Ward - Nomination paper of 1 candidate was accepted.

**Byeng Martam GP, 10 Byeng Phegyong GP-** Zinglamasa Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Phegyong (Song Kagyud Gumpa) - Nomination of 4 candidates were accepted, Byeng Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Tirkutam Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, and one candidate has to report tomorrow before 12 noon, Tshalumthang Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Sangkhola Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, and one candidate's was held.

**11 Martam Nazitam GP-** Chuza Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Bering Ward- 4 candidates were accepted, Yangthang Ward - Nominees of 2 candidates were accepted, Martam Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Lingtam Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Nazitam Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted and Patieum Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted.

**Samik Namli- 12 Namli GP-** Namli Ward- 4 candidates were accepted, Radang Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Tumlabong Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Chuba Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Khimsithang Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**13 Samlik Marchak GP:** Marchak Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, and time was given to one candidate till noon tomorrow after the hearing, Chorsten Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Samlik Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Aley Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Namin Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted.

**For Rey Rumtek: 4 Rawtey Rumtek GP-** Chinzey Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Rawtey Rumtek -

Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Neopaneagaon - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Shadugoan Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted; one candidate was given time till noon tomorrow on the issue of the caste certificate, Shyayong Rumtek - Nomination papers of 6 candidates were accepted and Rumtek (Kagyud Gumpa) - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted.

**15 Rey Mendu GP:** Tephyak Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Rey Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, SamaSevik Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Upper Lingdum Dhajey Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Lower Lingdum Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Dhajey Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Barbing Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**Luig Ranka: 16 Ranka GP-** Baliman Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Sangtong Ward - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted, Phenzong Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Malangthang Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted, Rai Goan Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Salangthang Ward - Nomination paper of one candidate was accepted. **17 Luig Perbing GP-** Upper Luig Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Middle Luig Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Lower Luig Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Thamidara Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Changrong Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Parking Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**Bhusuk Nandok: 18 Nandok Saramsa GP-** Upper Nandok Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Lower Nandok Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Nimthang Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, DPH Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted and Saramsa Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**19 Bhusuk Naitam GP-** Yalli Phakalalkha Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Bhusuk Ward - the nomination paper of one candidate has been rejected, one has been accepted, Nandok Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Payuk Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted and Naitam Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

**13 Tathanchen Syari: 20 Kopibari Syari GP-** Lower Syari Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Lower Syari East Ward - Nomination papers of one candidate were

accepted, Middle Syari Mam Gaon Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Zimpung Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Dothapu Gaon Ward - Nomination papers of one candidate were accepted and Kopibari Syari - Nomination papers of 4 candidates were accepted.

**21 Rongey Tathangchen GP-** Lower Tathangchen Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Rongay Maneydara Ward - Nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted, Rongay Gumpa Goan Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted, Chongay Tar Ward - Nomination papers of 3 candidates were accepted and Merrung Ward - nomination papers of 2 candidates were accepted.

The Returning Officer informed that the last date for withdrawal of candidature is on October 21, 2022 until 3 pm. He also said that the symbols would be allotted on October 21, 2022 from 3 pm. After which the identity cards will be issued to all the contesting candidates, he added.

Similarly in Namchi, the scrutiny of nomination papers of candidates who filed their nomination for the Panchayat Elections, 2022 was carried out in the office of Panchayat Returning Officer.

The scrutiny process had the presence of Special Secretary, Social Justice, and Welfare Department Tribal Affairs Division also the Panchayat Election Observer for Namchi District, Mr. Suman Gurung.

During the scrutiny, 331 Gram Panchayat Wards of the district, the nomination papers of 733 candidates were accepted, 13 candidates were rejected and scrutiny of 2 nomination papers were adjourned for the next day. Similarly, the nominations of 144 candidates were accepted, nominations of 2 candidates were rejected for Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituencies.

It may also be noted that the last date of withdrawal of candidatures is on October 21 until 3 p.m, following which symbols shall be allotted to the contesting candidates.

Namchi district has 30 Territorial Constituencies, 54 Gram Panchayat Units comprising of 331 Wards. Similarly, the total number of male and female voters in the district are 70557 and 68442 respectively, and the number of polling stations is 33.

Likewise in Gyalshing, the scrutiny of nomination papers under Gyalshing District was conducted at the District Administrative Centre, Gyalshing, today.

The scrutiny was conducted by District Collector-cum-Returning Officer and AROs in the presence of Election Observer for Gyalshing District, Mr. Dushyant Pariyar, Special Secretary, LRDM Department. 82 nominations were accepted for

## Withdrawal of candidature for Panchayat Election 2022

**Gangtok, October 20:** The first day of the withdrawal of candidature for the Panchayat Election 2022 in Gangtok District for Territorial Constituencies and Gram Panchayat Wards, saw a total of 06 candidates withdrawing from their respective contesting seats.

On the last day of the withdrawal of candidature, 09 candidates withdrew their candidatures in Territorial Constituencies of Gangtok District. Likewise, 44 candidates withdrew from their respective contesting seats in Gram Panchayat Wards.

After the withdrawal, symbols were allotted to the contesting candidates of Zilla Panchayats by the Returning Officer cum DC, Gangtok, Mr. Ragul K at his office.

Similarly, Assistant Returning Officers allotted symbols to the contesting candidates of Gram Panchayat Wards in their respective office.

The candidates were also asked to collect their Identity Cards from the office of the District Administrative Office.

The Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning officers handed over certificates to each uncontested candidates.

In Namchi, following the scrutiny of the nomination papers of the contesting candidates in the Panchayat Election-2022, 02 candidates of Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituencies and 14 candidates of different Gram Panchayat Wards under Namchi District withdrew their nomination on October 20.

On October 21, the procedure of withdrawal of candidatures under Namchi District was carried out by Panchayat Returning Officer (Namchi) Mr. M. Bharani Kumar at District Administrative Centre.

Out of 331 candidates, 205 have laid their candidature in the district. Similarly, in Zilla Panchayat, the total number of Territorial Constituencies going for polls is 27 out of 30 after the withdrawal process.

126 Gram Panchayat Wards under Namchi District was declared uncontested. Likewise, a total of 03 Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituencies was declared uncontested.

Special Secretary, Social Justice, and Welfare Department (Tribal Affairs Division) Mr. Suman Gurung, Panchayat Election Observer for Namchi District also visited the Strong Room located at Namchi Senior Secondary School, today. He may be contacted on: 8768722796, 9434110019 for Panchayat Election related queries. Additionally, the election symbols for the contesting candidates were also allotted.

On the last date of withdrawal, a total of 15 candidates have withdrawn their candidature at DAC, Mangan, on October 21.

A total of 7 candidates have

withdrawn in Zilla Territorial Constituencies (TC), whereas 10 candidates for Gram Panchayat Wards have withdrawn.

The allotment of symbols, submission of election agent form, issuing of identity cards for the contesting candidates were given in the presence of Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officers. Issuance of Provisional Certificates for the uncontested candidates were also presented.

It may be mentioned that out of the 23 Territorial Constituencies of the District, 15 are contesting whereas 7 stands uncontested. 1 seat in Namok Swayem stays vacated as both the nominees withdrew from the nomination.

Out of the 128 Gram Panchayat Wards, 75 stands uncontested and 53 are contesting.

In Gyalshing, the withdrawal of nominations filed by the candidates for Panchayat Election 2022 under Gyalshing District took place at the Office of the District Collector-cum- Returning Officer (RO) at District Administrative Centre, Gyalshing on October 21.

Under Gyalshing District there are 18 Territorial Constituencies (TC) for which, 72 candidates are contesting and 02 Kongri Tashiding TC candidate have been declared uncontested. The RO received 09 withdrawal applications for Territorial Constituencies. Likewise, in 33 Gram Panchayat Units which includes 194 Wards, 48 withdrawal nominations were received and 73 candidates were declared uncontested.

It may be mentioned that, the total number of voters in the district stands at 58,117 out of which 27857 are female and 30260 are male.

The copies of Model Code of Conduct, Identity Card and symbols were presented to all the contesting candidates.

In pursuance to the ensuing Panchayat Elections 2022, District Collector-cum-Returning Officer handed over the Certificate of Election to uncontested candidates under Gyalshing District on October 22.

01 candidate for Zilla Territorial Constituency emerged uncontested and 73 candidates remained uncontested for Gram Panchayat Wards.

In Pakyong, the withdrawal of file nominations for Panchayat Elections 2022 in Pakyong District held at DAC Pakyong on October 21.

The withdrawal form was received by District Collector-cum-Returning Officer, Mr. Tashi Chopel along with ADC Pakyong-cum-ARO Rhenock, Ms. Anupa Tamling, SDM (Hq.) Pakyong-cum-ARO Parkaha, SDM Pakyong-cum-ARO Pakyong, SDM Rongli-cum-ARO Regu and SDM Rangpo-cum-ARO Duga.

A total of 41 candidates withdrew their nominations, out of which 14 are for Zilla Panchayat and 27 for Ward Panchayat.

The uncontested candidates were issued Certificate of Election by the RO Pakyong, Mr. Tashi Chopel.

In Soreng, a total of 12 (twelve) withdrawals for the Panchayat Elections 2022 was received by the office of the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers for Soreng District on October 20.

Earlier, DC Soreng cum Returning Officer Mr. Bhim Thatal made an inspection of the Control Room, Strong Room and other arrangements being made at BED College, Soreng, for the ensuing Panchayat Elections.

He was accompanied by ADC Soreng cum Assistant Returning Officer, SDM Soreng cum ARO and AE Buildings and Housing.

The Returning Officer took stock of the arrangements made for the conduct of the elections. Arrangement of regular water supply, electricity, sitting arrangement for candidates and their agents, parking, and other issues were discussed in detail. He also lauded the officers involved for timely completion of the work.

On October 21, the withdrawal of nominations for the Panchayat Elections 2022 concluded at Soreng.

A total number of 53 withdrawals for Territorial Constituencies (Zilla Panchayat) and Gram Panchayat Wards under Soreng district was registered. Out of the total number of withdrawals, 14 were recorded under Territorial Constituencies, while the number of withdrawals under Gram Panchayat Wards was 43.

The withdrawal of nominations for Territorial Constituencies was received by District Collector cum Returning Officer, Mr. Bhim Thatal, while for Gram Panchayat Wards was received by Assistant Returning Officers, ADC, ADC Development, SDM Soreng, SDM/Hq.

Out of 17 Territorial Constituencies (Zilla Panchayat), polls will be held for 12 Territorial Constituencies spread over 159 Polling Stations. The remaining 5 Territorial Constituencies have been declared uncontested.

Likewise, out of 200 Gram Panchayat Wards, polls will be held for 94 Wards. The remaining 106 have been declared uncontested.

A brief ceremony was held at the Conference Hall, wherein the District Collector cum Returning Officer Mr. Bhim Thatal presented the Certificate of Election to the newly uncontested Panchayats of respective Territorial Constituencies and Gram Panchayat Wards. In his brief address, the DC congratulated them and wished them a successful tenure.

The final list of contesting candidates is being prepared by the office of the Returning Officer in order to forward the same to the Commission forthwith.

## Union Minister Shantanu Thakur chairs meeting to review progress of ADP

**Gyalshing, October 18:** Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, GoI, Mr. Shantanu Thakur chaired a meeting to review progress of the Aspirational District Programme (ADP) at the Conference Hall of District Administrative Centre, Gyalshing, today.

He was welcomed by DC Gyalshing, Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda

along with DC Soreng, Mr. Bhim Thatal and HoDs of line departments.

A detailed presentation was made by the DC Gyalshing on the ADP implementation followed by discussions and deliberations on the different sectors. The Union Minister gave a patient hearing and was apprised on the challenges of the district.

## Three-day training for Officers and staff of IPR Deptt. concludes

**Gangtok, October 21:** The final day of the three-day training for Officers and staff of the Information & Public Relations (IPR) Department was held at the Conference Hall of Soochna Bhawan, today.

The training covered the basics of the Sikkim Service Conduct Rules 1982 and Sikkim Financial Rules 1979. The Resource person for the final day was Director, Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Mr. Binod Sharma. A total of 40 officers and staff attended the training.

Mr. Sharma gave a PowerPoint presentation on Sikkim Financial Rules and covered various topics including the basic of finance to administrative approvals, revenue and receipts, general system of management and control and loans and advances that a government servant can avail.

He also answered all the queries put forth by those attending the training and shared his experiences as a government employee in various departments.

The trainees extended gratitude to the Secretary and the department for organising the training. Later, the Resource person also distributed certificates

to the trainees.

The first day of the training for officers and staff of the Information & Public Relations (IPR) Department was held at the Conference Hall of Soochna Bhawan on October 19.

The three-day training covered the basics of the Sikkim Government Service Conduct Rules 1981 and Sikkim Financial Rules 1979.

The Resource Persons for the training were Deputy Secretary, Food & Civil Supplies Department Ms. Tripti Hangma Subba and Director, Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Mr. Binod Sharma. A total number of 40 officers and staff attended the meeting.

Secretary IPR Mrs. Siphora Targain advised the gathering to be dutiful and added that the training is one step forward to progress.

Ms. Subba gave a PowerPoint presentation on administrative details beginning from how to initiate an official file, its progress and administrative language and jargons. She further shared her experiences as a government employee in various departments where she was posted.

## 15<sup>th</sup> FORENS organized

**Gangtok, October 21:** The 15<sup>th</sup> Forum of Regulators for Eastern and North Eastern State (FORENS) was organized by Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SSERC) from October 19-21, 2022. The meeting was conducted under chairmanship of Chairperson SSERC Mr. K.B. Kunwar.

The conference was attended by the distinguished Chairpersons and members from the states of North and North East region. The inaugural session of

the FORENS meeting saw the presence of Secretary Power Department and Principal Chief Engineers, wherein, Power Point presentation on the power scenario of the State was given and the role of the State Electricity Regulatory Commission was highlighted.

It was also informed by the officials of FORENS that the 16<sup>th</sup> FORENS meet is to be hosted by Meghalaya Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC).

## Chief Secretary visits Special School for Children with Disabilities

**Gangtok, October 20:** Chief Secretary Mr. V.B. Pathak visited 'Special School for Children with Disabilities' in Syari, Gangtok, today.

During his visit, he interacted with special children and also distributed gift items to the children. He also inspected the Special School. Thereafter, a cultural programme was conducted by the Special School Children.

Secretary Women and Child Development Department Mrs. Gangra Pradhan, thanked the Chief

Secretary for providing support to the Special Schools that are being run in the State. While addressing the departmental officials and staff, the Chief Secretary also assured to provide all possible support for the care and education of such special children in the State.

Currently, 88 students are enrolled in the school. The supervision, care and management of the school is being done by the Department of Women and Child Development Department.

## High-level delegation inspects road stretch from Siliguri to Gangtok

**Gangtok, October 16:** Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang in his address during the 70<sup>th</sup> Plenary session of the North Eastern Council held at Guwahati on the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of October, 2022 brought to the attention of the august house the present condition of NH10, the only road link connecting Sikkim with the rest of the mainland. He also informed that owing to the worsening situation of the condition of the road, the state's main source of revenue from the Tourism sector which was just recovering post the COVID pandemic, was being adversely affected and also problematic for the travellers who are commuting on a regular basis.

Subsequently, a high-level delegation from the Ministry headed by the Director General (Road Development) & Special Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India, Chief Engineer (NER), Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India inspected the entire road stretch from Siliguri to Gangtok on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 to take stock of the existing ground reality. They were accompanied by the officials from the Regional Office- MoRTH, Kolkata & Guwahati, State PWD West Bengal & Sikkim, NHIDCL and the Border Roads

Organization during the entire tour.

A meeting was chaired by the Chief Secretary which was attended by DG MORTH and his Team, CE PWD Govt. of West Bengal & his Team, Sikkim PWD officials, NHIDCL and officials from BRO on 17th October, 2022 where the following decisions were taken:

After detailed deliberation and considering the condition of NH 10, MORTH decided that development of road surfaces in entire 52 km stretch of NH 10 in West Bengal will be taken up and surfacing works to be completed by March 2023 positively. Besides out of 20 vulnerable spots identified on NH 10 in West Bengal, slope protection and landslide mitigation works at 4 locations were sanctioned and work will be completed by March 2023. Further, 12 other identified vulnerable locations are to be processed for sanction and proposal for rectification of 4 blackspots to be submitted by the West Bengal PWD immediately.

Officials from NHIDCL informed that the stretch of NH10 (Km 52.00 to Km 80.00: Rangpo to Ranipul) under their jurisdiction would be brought to good trafficable condition within a month's time. The permanent

improvement of the 4 trouble spots (20<sup>th</sup> mile, 19<sup>th</sup> mile, S curve & 32<sup>nd</sup> mile) would require additional time for its study, design of effective measures and execution of the work.

PWD Sikkim officials informed that the stretch of NH10 (Km 80.00 to 92.00: Ranipul to Gangtok) which had only been taken over from NHIDCL in June 2019 and since then no major work had been sanctioned by the Ministry along this stretch till date. DG-MoRTH while intervening, directed the state PWD to immediately put forth a proposal for its necessary repair and resurfacing works to the Ministry for sanction.

Chief Engineer-BRO also informed that a DPR for the long term mitigation measures for the perennial trouble spot at Chandmari had also been prepared by them and the same had been forwarded for sanction.

While concluding the meeting, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim thanked all the agencies for their prompt response to the issues raised and expressed hope that the condition of NH10 would see visible changes within the stipulated deadline for the benefit of all road users by March 2023.

## Training programme for Panchayat Election 2022

**Gangtok, October 24:** The training programme for Presiding and Polling Officers I with regards to the Panchayat Election 2022 (round-2), final shift under Gangtok District was held at the Auditorium of Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School, today.

The resource person for the training was Nodal Officer, Gangtok (Man Power Management) ADC Mr. Tushar G. Nihare along with the trainees for Gangtok district. A total of 100 Presiding and Polling Officers-I attended the training.

Similarly, the training was also imparted to 12 Sector Magistrates of the Territorial Constituencies under Gangtok District for EVM Commissioning.

Nodal Officer, Gangtok gave a PowerPoint presentation on various important roles and responsibilities of Presiding and Polling officers for conducting the Panchayat Election.

Further, the trainees were also given hands-on training on Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) and were elucidated about various responsibilities regarding the election. Likewise, a video was also shown to explain the process of setting up the Polling Booth.

The Polling team will be called with their respective members including 1 Presiding Officer and 5 Polling Officers for both Zilla and Ward for the final round of training.

On October 22, a training

on Presiding and Polling Officers-I for the Panchayat Elections 2022 (Round-2) under Gangtok District was held at the Auditorium of Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary school.

Nodal Officer, Gangtok gave a Power-Point presentation on various important roles and responsibilities of Presiding and Polling Officers for conducting the Panchayat election 2022.

Further, the trainees were also given hands-on training on electronic voting machines (EVM) and were elucidated about various responsibilities regarding election. A video was screened to explain the process of setting the polling booth and a live demonstration was also conducted.

## Election Deptt. Pakyong conducts second round of hands-on training of Presiding Officers

**Pakyong, October 28:** The Election Department Pakyong conducted second round of hands-on training of Presiding Officers of Pakyong District on EVMs at RURBAN Community Complex, RDD Pakyong, today.

The training was held to brief the Presiding Officers about their roles and responsibilities on the polling day. The Presiding Officers were also given hands-on training on Electronic Voting Machines.

During the course of the

programme, Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel, Mr. Mahesh Sharma, talked various duties of Presiding Officers such as major legal provisions, duties at collection centre, duties before and after poll, mockpoll procedure, sealing of machines after mockpoll, sealing procedures.

The Panchayat Returning Officer apprised everyone about the status of Panchayat election in the district wherein out of 164 Polling Stations, 158 will be contested. Further, it was informed

that 3 Territorial Constituencies Zilla and 36 Gram Panchayat Wards, will be uncontested. He also briefed about Polling Stations, EVMs, roles and responsibilities of Presiding Officers on the polling day.

The programme had the presence of SDM (Hq) Pakyong, SDM Pakyong, Deputy Secretary Election Department, District HoDs, Polling Officers and concerned officials.

checked and found in order. Polling Booths with bigger elector numbers were asked to have separate entry and exit for smooth process during the spolling day.

## Returning Officer Gyalshing visits various Polling stations

**Gyalshing, October 30:** The Returning Officer, Gyalshing District, Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda visited various Polling Stations under Hee Martam block to inspect the status of Polling Booths and other arrangements in

connection with ensuing Panchayat Elections 2022.

She was accompanied by BDO-cum-Sector Magistrate Mr. Kailash Gurung and his team.

Availability of water, sanitation and electricity were

## Chief Secretary V.B Pathak chairs third SLAC Meeting

**Gangtok, October 18:** Chief Secretary Mr. V.B Pathak chaired the third State Level Advisory Committee (SLAC) Meeting of Food Safety & Standards Cell, Health and Family Welfare Department at the Conference Hall of Tashiling Secretariat, today.

Various representatives of line departments and officials of Food Safety and Standard Cell, Health and Family Welfare Department attended the meeting.

The main objective of the meeting was to provide the availability of safe, nutritious, wholesome and sustainable food to the public.

The confirmation of minutes of meeting of 2nd SLAC meeting and status of State Food Testing Laboratory (SFTL) was presented by Dr. T. K. Rai, PDHS, H & FW Department.

The implementation of Food Safety & Standard Act, 2006 including activities conducted by FSSAI Cell such as mandatory License/Registration, Food Safety Compliance through Regular Inspection and Sampling (FoSCoRIS), Samplings, Food Safety and Training Certificate

(FoSTaC), Centrally Funded Scheme was presented by Director (FDA), H & FW Department, Dr. Yudok Bhutia. Status of Food Safety on Wheels (FSW) was presented by ADHS, H & FW Department Mr. N. R. Gurung.

Various FSSAI initiatives like Food Fortification, Eat Right Schools, Eat Right Creativity Challenge, Eat Right Campus, Eat Right Mela and Walkathon was presented by JFSC, H & FW Department.

Chief Secretary in his address focused on implementation of FSS Act in the State and directed the concerned department to generate awareness among public on various FSSAI initiatives. He directed to create a robust Food Safety Eco-system in the State and form the sub-committee to monitor the implementation of FSS (Safe food and balanced diets for children in school) Regulation, 2022.

The meeting also witnessed an open discussion, where all officials from line departments gave their respective views and highlighted the matter which needs an intervention.

## AIFNE State Civil/Administrative Service Association Conference held

**Gangtok, October 29:** All India Federation of the North East State Civil/Administrative Service Association Conference was held at Tashiling Secretariat, today.

Various dignitaries and representatives from the North Eastern States were present at the meeting.

President SSCSOA, Mr. Tshewang Gyachho delivered the welcome address.

General Secretary of All India Federation of the North East State Civil/Administrative Service Association, Mr. Shivdular Singh Dhillon reminded all that the State Government needs to develop a robust State administrative system to maintain an efficient service and delivery mechanism for the benefit of the people.

Likewise, the President of All India Federation of the North East State Civil / Administrative Service Association, Mr. J. Chakravorty spoke about the roles

and responsibilities of Civil Service Officers. He further said that Civil Service Officers are the fulcrums of the State Administrative System who are instrumental in creating policies and implementing them effectively.

The meeting discussed in detail about activities regarding the All India Federation of State Civil Service/Administrative Services Association. The meeting agenda also reviewed the progress on implementing the decisions taken in the last session of the meeting held earlier.

Similarly, the meeting proposed to discuss the State-specific issues in detail and to draw an action plan for effectively implementing the proposed deliberations.

Likewise, State Civil Service Rules and Regulations were carefully examined, and the draft rules were circulated for suggestions and feedback.

### Roads and Bridges Department Government of Sikkim Pakyong District

No.2/Div/Pkg/R&B/2022-23/09

Date. 31.10. 2022

#### Corrigendum to Notice Inviting Tender No: 01/ DIV/ PKGIR&B/2022-23/ 05, dated 29/09/2022.

Due to ensuing Panchayat Election in the State of Sikkim till 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the date for opening of tender has been rescheduled as detailed under:

SL. NO	PARTICULARS	Original Date of Opening of bids	Revised Date of Opening of bids
1.	Upgradation and carpeting of road from Padamchey Pacheykani Phatak to Bhasmey Gumpa in Pakyong District, Sikkim.	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2022

Divisional Engineer (Pakyong).  
Roads & Bridges Department,  
Government of Sikkim. (1297)

## Union Minister of State Bhagwant Khuba chairs meeting

**Gangtok, October 28:** Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers, New and Renewable Energy, Mr. Bhagwant Khuba chaired a comprehensive meeting at the Conference Hall of Tashiling Secretariat, today.

Heads of various Departments along with Officials and representatives were present. DC Soreng Mr. Bhim Thatal also participated virtually.

The Minister inquired about the centrally sponsored flagship programmes. He interacted with the officials about the schemes being implemented in the State. He discussed various programmes regarding health, agriculture, education, and power

with concerned representatives.

He stressed the need to expand and implement the flagship schemes of the Government of India and added that these schemes must be adopted in a larger scale with a proactive and collective approach.

Later, a press briefing was also held, wherein, he mentioned about the purpose of his visit to the State to see how the Government of India's flagship programmes are being implemented in the State. He lauded the Health department for the tremendous work in the health sector. He said that the State has successfully provided maximum benefits by expanding the educational

infrastructure. He also mentioned various centrally sponsored schemes in agriculture, Jal Jeevan Yojana, and other schemes, and added that the schemes are being successfully implemented in the State.

He also said that he would take all queries, suggestions, and demands for the futuristic strategy. Later, Union Minister Mr. Bhagwanth Khuba also visited Sherathang, Nathula border and Baba Mandir.

The Minister was accorded a warm welcome by the Army officials and briefed him about the historical importance of Nathula pass.

## DAC Gyalshing conducts orientation-cum- briefing programme on MCC

**Gyalshing, October 29:** The District Administration, Gyalshing, conducted an orientation-cum-briefing programme on Model Code of Conduct and other aspects of Panchayat Election for the contesting candidates of Zilla Panchayat and Gram Panchayat Wards at the Community Hall of Gyalshing, today.

The Returning Officer, Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda chaired the meeting.

The RO gave a detailed on the important aspects of Model Code of Conduct (MCC), which needs to be followed strictly by each contesting candidate. The contesting candidates were motivated to go about their election campaign in a discipline

and dignified manner.

She informed that the MCC issued by the State Election Commission (SEC) has been translated in local language for better understanding of the candidates and called upon each one to adhere to it for the smooth conduct of election. She further added that since the SEC had instructed to adopt eco friendly measures, the translated MCC soft copies would be circulated over WhatsApp. All candidates were also requested to go eco-friendly to the extent possible.

DSP(Hq)-cum Sector Police Officer, Gyalshing imparted the detailed information regarding dos and don'ts on maintaining the law and order according to the MCC.

He introduced all the six Sector Police Officers who could be reached for any grievances. All aspects of seeking permission for rallies, miking etc. were explained alongside the penal aspects for law breakers.

Meanwhile, Deputy Director (Election) read out the Nepali translation of MCC with detailed explanation for the benefit of the contestants. He also introduced all six Sector Magistrates and advised to contact the respective Sector Magistrates in case of any doubts and issues.

Thereafter, in an open house discussion the queries put up by the candidates were resolved.

## Training for Commissioning of EVMs for Zilla Panchayat and Gram Panchayat Wards under Namchi District held

**Namchi, October 29:** A daylong training for Commissioning of Electronic Voting Machine (EVMs) for Zilla Panchayat and Gram Panchayat Wards under Namchi District was held at the Conference hall of District Administrative Centre, today. DC cum Panchayat Returning Officer Mr. M. Bharani Kumar chaired the training alongwith ADC Mr. Anant Jain, ADC (Dev, Namchi and Ravangla) Dr. C.P. Rai and Mr. Sunil Mothey.

Addressing the trainees, the RO informed them to follow the guidelines according to the norms laid down by the State Election Commission. He emphasized on check the various Panchayat Election related equipment during the day of the polls and that the teams should ensure that materials

in the polling bag should include supplies according to the checklist. He stated that there are a total of 205 contesting Wards in Gram Panchayat and 27 Territorial Constituencies Zilla Panchayat. Moreover, he updated that the commissioning of EVMs will be held at Strong Room in the presence of engineers and the room shall be located at Namchi Senior Secondary School.

ADC Mr. Anant Jain elucidated about various measures that the trainees need to undertake during the commissioning of EVMs. He also briefed the process of commissioning of EVMs, which included arranging of Ballot Units (BU) and Control Unit (CU), placing of the ballot paper, removing the CU from its carrying

case along with various other procedures to be followed during the day of commissioning. He also spoke about the do's and don'ts and directed the trainees to ensure clearing of mock polls before sealing of EVMs. Additionally, the ADC notified that the commissioning process will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> November at the Strong Room.

During the course of the training, a short film on familiarizing the trainees with the use of EVMs and election practice was showcased. A hands-on training was also provided to the trainees. The training saw a total of 72 participants including the Assistant Returning Officers, Sector Magistrates and other team members.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> round of training for Polling Officers-I of Mangan district held

**Mangan, October 29:** 2<sup>nd</sup> round of training for the Polling Officers-I with regard to the Panchayat Election 2022, organised by State Election Commission was held at Zilla Bhawan, Mangan, today.

The training also had the presence of Panchayat Returning Officer, Dr. A.B. Karki, Assistant Returning Officers.

Panchayat Returning Officer, while interacting with the trainees also asked them to know

about the duties and responsibilities as a Polling Officers-I so that they can work effectively and efficiently. He also advised them to be disciplined and punctual on the polling day for a peaceful conduct of election.

SP Mangan gave various simulations of situations that can occur on the before and after the poll.

Earlier, Nodal Officer (Training Management)/SDM

Chungthang, Mr. Kiran Thatal gave a power point presentation on various duties and responsibilities of Polling Officers-I

Nodal Officer (Training Management)/ DCSO Mangan, Mr. Palden Norbu Lachungpa, gave a training on Electronic Voting Machines, and later, the trainees were also given hands-on training on the EVMs.

## Three-day training course for Judges and Route Setters conducted

**Namchi, October 31:** Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco Tourism in collaboration with Indian Mountaineering Foundation-East Zone Committee organized three-day training course from October 28 to October 30 for the Judges and Route Setters, today.

The chief guest for the inaugural ceremony was Administrator IHCAE Mr. Rajiv Rai and the closing ceremony was attended by the Chairman, East Zone, Administrator, IHCAE, Resource persons and the faculty.

The programme was observed by Chairman East Zone Mr. M. Banerjee and Secretary, Mr. N. Chakravorty. Mr. M.R. Vijayaraghavan and Senior IFSC judge, Mr. Krishna Kaduskar India's only international judge were present as Resource persons.

For route setting, National level Route setter Mr. Chitrasen and Mr. Raju Karmakar were the Resource persons.

A total of 30 trainees took part in the course from all the zones of India.

*Contd from front page*

### Members of...

regard to climate and sustainable action prosperity.

The Governor urged the delegates to replicate the Sikkim model and engage in organic farming and assured possible support.

Similarly on October 31, the Members of the Committee for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection of the German Federal Parliament led by Mr. Harald Ebner called on the Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang at his official residence in Mintokgang.

Mr. Harald Ebner appreciated the manner in which Sikkim has been working towards environment conservation and protection. The Chief Minister informed about the State Government's initiatives and highlighted the salient features of the incentives schemes, which aim to increase agricultural productivity and enhance the livelihood of the people. He stated that the practice of organic farming has many health and environmental benefits and is now being adopted in several States of the country. The ban on single-use plastic and plastic bottles is also a step towards reducing the negative impact of these non-biodegradable items, he added. The delegates informed the Chief Minister about the return and deposit system, working successfully in Germany.

According to the system,

when a consumer purchases certain products, a deposit amount is paid (Pfand) for the container and will be refunded once the container, bottles, and cans are returned, thereby reducing the amount of waste generation.

Responding to the question with regard to the government's endeavors to sensitise people about environmental conservation, protection, cleanliness, and waste management, the Chief Minister informed about several awareness programmes organised at various levels, including educational institutions, and gram panchayats focusing on sustainable practices. He added that Sikkim was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> position in the Overall Top States (Smaller States & UTs) category under Swachh Survekshan Grameen.

Regarding the rehabilitation of victims of natural calamities and those belonging to the lower strata of society, the Chief Minister said that the government has been relocating people to a safer location and have provided accommodation through schemes like Sikkim Garib Awas Yojana and Sikkim Urban Garib Awas Yojana.

He thanked the delegates for their visit to Sikkim and expressed his desire for collaboration in an effort to combat environmental issues, ecosystem preservation and disaster management.

Chief Secretary Mr. V.B. Pathak, ACS Forest Department Mr. M.L. Srivastava, Secretary to CM Dr. S.D Dhakal, DC Gangtok and senior officials were present during the meeting.

### Printing and Stationery Department Government of Sikkim

Tadong, Gangtok, East Sikkim

No.ADM/110/Ptg./393

Dated:31/10/2022

### General Information for Public

This is for information to all concerned that the rate of Sikkim Government Almanac has been enhanced from ₹10/- to ₹20/-

Sd/-  
Secretary  
Ptg & Sty Department  
(1296)

**KEEP SIKKIM  
CLEAN & GREEN**

Contd from front page

**CM attends...**

during his Independence Day speech this year.

Matters related to developing an ecosystem for cyber-crime management, modernising police forces, increasing usage of information technology in the criminal justice system, land-border management and coastal security and other internal security issues are part of the agenda.

The Chief Minister placed immediate and long-term needs and interventions to the house from the Government of India to deal with the challenges faced by Sikkim. He proposed to raise two more Indian Reserve Battalions, one with a Mahila Battalion including commando trained units.

He also solicited for a special financial package to spread the physical reach and technological coverage of Model Police Stations to provide round the clock safety to tourists largely heading to enjoy the beauty and warm hospitality of rural and remote areas and also to undertake disaster management actions and tackle the increasing man-animal conflicts.

The CM apprised about

setting up a platform for collaborations with the national institution like Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to especially design and float machines, tools, techniques and technology that will cater to the specific security needs of high terrain mountain states like Sikkim, including in areas of fighting forest fires, dislocations triggered by disasters and other climate change impact.

Similarly, he also mentioned a strong need to raise a unit of Border Home Guards that would supplement the national security forces in providing critical local support services including in logistics, intelligence, multi-dimensional vigils, disaster management, borderland human security etc.

He also mentioned the significance of Vibrant Border Village concept launched by the Prime Minister. He said that the critical focus of the State Government is on the livelihood sector, roads, hospital, education, communication, tourism and renewable energy that would be supportive in reducing urbanisation and village abandonment. In this context he requested for exclusive financial and institutional support of the MHA to achieve these targets.

During the meeting, he informed that under the direction of the Home Minister, the State Government has formed Special Anti-Narcotic District and State Level Task Forces so as to control the surge of drugs and narcotics abuse and trafficking.

He also requested the support from the Union Government to electronically track the movement of prescription drugs like 'Spasmo-Proxyvon', 'N10', 'Phensedyl', to strictly monitor the distributor/wholesalers and other prescribing agents.

The CM expressed his gratitude to be a part of the innovative and far-reaching project initiated by the Union Home Minister in realising the PM's vision for the Nation. Several approaches for a well-coordinated planning and implementation of policies related to national importance were discussed during the Shivir.

The meeting also had the presence of Home Ministers from various States, Home Secretary GOI, Chief Secretaries, Home Secretaries and the Directors General of Police of various States and officials from Central and State Government.

Contd from front page

**Governor holds...**

continuous guidance and invaluable advice to transform the concept of Sikkim University into reality. He marked the achievement a historic for the farming community of Sikkim and thanked the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for enabling Sikkim to establish a new milestone to enhance their income. He also shared his experiences of saffron farm visits. He informed that the Horticulture department has submitted a project proposal before the Government of India seeking funds of around ₹seven crores under the Saffron Mission.

Vice Chancellor of Sikkim University, Prof. Avinash Khare, shared various efforts made by Sikkim University throughout the experimental phase and mentioned that the state has witnessed

absolute success in saffron cultivation. He said that the state has met all required conditions, and this year's saffron harvests after the formation of saffron bulbs/combs in Sikkim within two years has evidently proved a tremendous possibility of saffron cultivation in Sikkim's soil.

Professor Shanti Swarup Sharma from Sikkim University made a Power-Point presentation about successful cultivation trials of saffron in Sikkim.

Director Horticulture Department, Mr. Manoj Subba, also made a Power-Point presentation regarding activities of the State Government towards saffron cultivation in Sikkim.

During the programme, the Governor also offered appreciation letters to the saffron growers. Saffron growers Mr. Mangal Bir Subba, Mr. P.B. Mukhiya, and Mr. S.T. Sherpa also shared their experiences.

Contd from front page

**Rashtriya Ekta...**

National anthem.

The Governor inspected the Parade and took the Guard of Honour from the contingents including SAP, 2<sup>nd</sup> IRBn, 3<sup>rd</sup> IRBn, Civil

Police (Male), Civil Police (Female), ITBP and SSB.

The Governor administered the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge to the officers and staff assembled at the function.

Likewise, a two-minute silence was observed in memory of those killed in the Morbi suspension bridge tragedy in Gujarat, where at least 130 people lost their lives, which took place on October 30.

The programme continued with the Governor, the Chief Minister and the dignitaries lighting the lamps and garlanding to the portrait of late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his birth anniversary.

The Governor extended his best wishes on the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and recalled the historic success achieved by him in uniting different provinces for the integration of India. He also underlined the role of security forces along all borderline and appealed everyone to acknowledge and honour their contributions. He applauded the vision of the Prime Minister to make India a self-reliant country and encouraged people to move forward towards self-reliance.

The Chief Minister, in his address, mentioned that the idea behind the celebration of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is to make people aware of the strength of unity. He added that it provides an opportunity to reaffirm the strength of the nation, upholding the unity, integrity and security of the country. He recalled the remarkable role of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and congratulated everyone on National Unity Day. He articulated the inspiring biography of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and his unparalleled contribution to the integration of the Indian union out of 565 different provinces. He

informed that the State has been celebrating this national festival every year since the declaration made by Prime Minister in 2014.

He stressed the need to control drug abuse and narcotics trafficking. He mentioned that everyone should collectively work to track the movement of prescription drugs and should strictly monitor the distributors/wholesalers and other prescribing agents. He also stressed the need for a collaborative effort from all levels to make Sikkim free from drug trafficking. He added that he has advised the concerned controlling authority to deal with such issues strictly. He also directed the Police department to adhere to the norms and guidelines for the maintenance of law and order.

Similarly, the Chief Minister expressed deep condolence over the untoward incident in Gujarat.

Earlier, Chief Secretary Mr.V.B. Pathak briefly introduced the significance and history of National Unity Day, celebrated in the country since 2014. He said that after the independence in 1947, there were more than 565 princely states in the country, but Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel integrated these princely states in the country together under the Union of India. The Chief Secretary reiterated the famous quote made by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on the eve of the first Independence anniversary, "In free India, there is no room for divided loyalties." He marked his respect for Sardar Patel as a social reformist, who is also remembered as the patron for having established the Indian Civil Service System.

The welcome speech was delivered by DGP, Mr. A. Sudhakar Rao. He spoke about the impact of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's contribution to Indian democracy, which he added has left a strong imprint in Indian society.

Artists from the Culture Department presented their songs and dances and students from different Schools also showcased their performances. Similarly, the Fire & Emergency Services demonstrated a Rescue Operation Drill during the programme.

The programme concluded with the National Anthem.

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**Scrutiny of...**

candidates contesting in the Zilla Territorial Constituencies. Likewise, for Ward Panchayats, a total of 391 candidates filed their nominations, out of which, 4 candidates were rejected.

The Election symbols were also allotted to the candidates by the Returning Officer.

In Soreng, the scrutiny of the nomination papers for the was carried out at Soreng DAC, today.

The scrutiny process was carried out in the presence of the Election Observer for Soreng District, Secretary, Department of Information Technology Mr. Yogendra Sharma at the Offices of the Returning Officer, Mr. Bhim Thatal and Assistant Returning Officers.

78 nominations for Territorial Constituencies (Zilla Panchayat)

and 380 nominations for Gram Panchayat Wards were registered for Soreng district.

Out of 78 nominations filed for Territorial Constituency, 76 nominations were found valid whereas 2 nominations have been rendered invalid. Likewise, out of the 380 nominations filed for Gram Panchayat Wards, 371 nominations were found valid and 9 have been rendered invalid.

**Roads and Bridges Department  
Government of Sikkim**

**Memo No: 83/GOS/R&B/SE(N/E)/26** **Date: 1/11/2022**

**CORRINGENDUM**

Corrigendum to Notice Inviting Tender bearing R.O. No.197/IPR/PUB/CLASSI/22-23 Dated: 26/9/2022. Due to the ensuing Panchayat election in the state of Sikkim till 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the date for opening of tender bid for the following works has been rescheduled as under:-

SL No.	Name of work	Original date of opening of bids	Revised date of opening of bids
1	Upgradation, Carpetting, Drainage and Protective works from Dhoring primary school to Ani gumpa Chawang in Mangan District.	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2022.
2	Upgradation and Carpetting of Jushing Zebong road to Mangshilla under Mangan District.	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
3	Upgradation and Carpetting work of Lower Samdong road from Singtam-Dikchu Highway to Lower Samdong in East Sikkim	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2022

**Superintending Engineer (N/E)  
Roads and Bridges/Department,  
Government of Sikkim.  
(1298, III)**



## Union Minister Bhagwanth Khuba calls on Governor

**Gangtok, October 28:** Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Mr. Bhagwanth Khuba called on the Governor, Mr. Ganga Prasad at Raj Bhawan, today.

They had a discussion on various topics especially on organic farming and saffron cultivation.

The Minister of State was highly impressed and delighted to see that Sikkim is practicing organic farming techniques since few years. He also applauded the efforts being made by the State Government in terms of saffron cultivation in the State under the guidance of the Governor.

## Chief Minister attends Chhath Puja celebration

**Namchi, October 30:** Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the Chhath Puja celebration at Jorethang, today. He was accompanied by Minister, Women and Child Development Department Mr. Sanjit Kharel, Area MLAs Mrs. Sunita Gajmer, Political Secretary to CM Mr. Jacob Khaling, President Naya-Bazar Jorethang Nagar Panchayat Ms. Pabitra Sharma, officials and devotees.

The Chief Minister along with the gathering paid their obeisance and performed evening

ganga aarti at the banks of Rangit river.

Addressing the gathering the Chief Minister extended his best wishes on the auspicious occasion of Chhath Puja.

It maybe mentioned that Chhath Puja is one of the major festivals, which is dedicated to the solar deity, Lord Surya, and his sister Chhathi Maiya.

During the course of the occasion, the Chief Minister was felicitated by the Chhath Puja Organising Committee for his contribution to the state.

## CM interacts with patients from Sikkim in New Delhi

**New Delhi, October 29:** Chief Minister, Mr. Prem Singh Tamang met and interacted with the patients from Sikkim undergoing medical treatment at various hospitals in New Delhi, today.

He expressed his concerns

regarding their health and also inquired about the treatment provided at the hospital.

The Chief Minister also assured to provide required assistance and support from the State Government.

## Chief Minister calls on Union Minister Kiren Rijiju

**New Delhi, October 27:** Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang called on the Union Minister, Law and Justice, Mr. Kiren Rijiju at his official residence in New Delhi,

today.

During the meeting they discussed various matters related to Sikkim.

## Music video Kussulay Maruni released

**Gangtok, October 23:** Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang released a music video 'Kussulay Maruni' directed by Mr. Om Prakash Sewa at his official residence, Mintokgang, today.

The Chief Minister commended the efforts of the entire team in producing the music video, which showcases Nepali

culture and traditional art form.

The release was made in the presence of the Advisor to CM, Mr. T.N. Dhakal, Chief Engineer, Roads and Bridges Department, Mr. Hari Shankar Sharma, producer, composer, artistes and other members involved in the production.

## State Election Commissioner visits Strong Room in Namchi

**Namchi, October 31:** The State Election Commissioner, Mr. K.C. Lepcha visited the Strong Room located at Namchi Senior Secondary School, today. He was accompanied by Panchayat Returning Officer Mr. M. Bharani Kumar and other officials.

The Strong Room is guarded

by armed IRB personnel and under 24X7 CCTV coverage.

The Commissioner checked and interacted with the officials to ensure that all arrangements were in place and in conformity with the guidelines issued by the State Election Commission.

## Ganju Lama VC Museum inaugurated

**Namchi, October 24:** Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang inaugurated the 'Ganju Lama VC Museum' at Sangmoo, today. Present during the inauguration were Deputy Speaker (SLA) Mr. Sangay Lepcha, Cabinet Ministers, Major General Gambhir Singh, GOC, 17<sup>th</sup> Mtn. Division, Officials from line departments, representative from Indian Army, wife of Late Mr. Ganju Lama Mrs. Pema Chuki Kazini, Son's Mr. Pema Leyda, Mr. Norden Dorjee Shangderpa, family members and public.

The Ganju Lama VC Museum showcases the life of the great Sikkimese legend Captain Ganju Lama V.C.M.M.P.D. The Museum allows visitors to take a closer look at the life of an inspirational man through rare footages, a wide collection of unseen images, historic texts and other fascinating materials with the motive that it will resonate with people and inspire positive change in the society through the legacy and values of Late Ganju Lama.

The collection in the display includes his medals,



uniforms, artefacts, various souvenirs that he received from the people, institutions from all over the world and other memorabilia closely connected with the Late Ganju Lama.

It is to be mentioned that Late Ganju Lama belonged to 3<sup>rd</sup> 11 Gorkha Regiment and also served as Honorary ADC (Lifetime) to the President of India till his passing away on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2000. Victoria Cross (VC) was conferred upon him on October 24, 1944 and to mark the

occasion, the family of the Late Ganju Lama inaugurated the museum in order to document, inspire and honour the story of valour and of the many other defence personnel of our nation.

During the occasion, a statue of the Late Ganju Lama was also unveiled by the Chief Minister and other dignitaries. A short documentary encapsulating the life story of Late Ganju Lama was also showcased.

## Chief Minister attends Sikkim Awards 2022

**Gangtok, October 22:** Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the Sikkim Awards 2022 held at a local hotel, today.

The award ceremony was organised by the Nirmala Devi Foundation in collaboration with Seed Cell and Positude Event Management Company. Nirmala Devi Foundation is a non-government organisation and mainly focuses to provide

education to the aspiring students of the rural areas. The occasion had cultural presentations by different artists followed by the award ceremony.

The Chief Minister in his address applauded the awardees and expressed his delight on being conferred with the Sikkim Awards. He expressed his gratitude to the organisers for

honouring their excellence in various sectors. He mentioned that the award provides an opportunity to convey collective appreciation to all the awardees who have worked for the welfare of the people as well the State. He also presented awards to the forty-one awardees from different sectors.

## Rashtriya Ekta Diwas observed in all districts

**Namchi, October 31:** Nehru Yuva Kendra Namchi, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with District Administration Namchi and Aryans Club Melli organized Run for Unity to Celebrate Rashtriya Ekta Diwas at Melli bazar, today.

The unity run was flagged off by the chief guest former MLA Mr. Mohan Prasad in presence of former Panchayats and other officials and Heads of Melli Senior Secondary school, St. Thomas school and Sunshine school.

After the run, the participants conducted cleanliness drive under the Clean India 2.0 campaign.

Similarly, Mangan DAC observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, by taking a pledge headed by Additional District Magistrate, Mr. Tenzing Denzongpa, in the presence of SP Mangan, Dr. Tshering Gyatso, along with the Heads of Office and staff of District Administrative Centre.

National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is celebrated on 31<sup>st</sup> October every year since 2014 to commemorate

the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. He was India's first Deputy Prime Minister and is popularly known as the 'Iron Man of India'. A freedom fighter and later a politician who played a major role in the integration of India.

Earlier, a "Run for Unity" for the celebration of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was also organised, in coordination with Education Department and Sports and Youth Affairs Department from DAC Mangan.

The run was flagged off by ADM Mangan.

The Unity Run is one of the many activities, being organised by the Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, GOI to celebrate the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas in a grand and befitting manner.

The run witnessed around 100 participants, from schools in around Mangan. It may be mentioned that State Taekwon-Do Team also participated in the run.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was also observed at different subdivisions under Mangan District.

Likewise, on the occasion of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) and Rashtriya Sankalp Diwas, DC Gyalshing, Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda administered the pledge to all the officers and staff stationed at DAC Gyalshing. Present were ASP, Gyalshing, ADC, SDM Hq and other officers and staff.

At the outset, SDM (Hq.) Gyalshing, Mr. Gopal K. Chettri briefed the significance of the day.

In Pakyong DAC, the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge was administered by DC Pakyong Mr. Tashi Chophel. The pledge was attended by the officials of District Officials along with SP Pakyong, ASP Pakyong and DPO Pakyong.

in Soreng, the National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge was administered by DC Soreng Mr. Bhim Thalal at Government B. Ed. College, Soreng.

The pledge were undertaken by the Head of Departments and officials of the Soreng District.

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