SIKKIM HERALD

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C20 Conclave concludes



Gangtok, April 30: The Civil 20 (C20)-Sustainable and Resilient Communities Conclave held at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, concluded, today. The valedictory session was attended by Governor of Sikkim, Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya, as the chief guest.

The session was attended by Minister for Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha and other dignitaries.

The programme was joined virtually by Director General, National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), Government of India Mr. Bharat Lal.

The session began with the welcome Address by Special Secretary cum Director, Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority Mr. Prabhakar Rai.

An overview of the C20 Working Group Sustainable and Resilient Communities was presented by Coordinator, C20 Working Group SRC Coordinator Prof. Vinod Menon. He conveyed his appreciation to the C20 platform, which facilitated communication across various organizations. Additionally, he expressed hope for positive takeaways from the conclave.

A detailed summary of the two-day conclave, C20 Working Group Sustainable and Resilient Communities was given by C20 Working Group Sustainable and Resilient Communities Coordinator Dr. Maneesha V. Ramesh.

Ambassador of the Republic of The Gambia Mr. Mustapha Jawara, thanked the State Government for the hospitality and provided an overview of the initiatives taken by the Gambian Government to combat the alarming issue of global warming and its effects. He expressed joy about India being bestowed with the Presidency of G20 for one year and lauded the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' to guide the world towards unity and compassion.

Governor Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya commended the

Contd. on page 10

Governor attends 100th special screening of Maan ki Baat



Gangtok, April 30: Governor Mr. Lakhsman Prasad Acharya attended the 100th special screening of Maan ki Baat as the chief guest, to celebrate the milestone of the programme telecasted live by Doordarshan Kendra Gangtok from Raj Bhawan, today.

DDE Doordarshan Kendra Gangtok, Mr. Niraj Kumar Pandey thanked the Governor for his presence and lauded the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi, which has taken India ahead in paving its way up on the global platform and his efforts in reaching out to his people through 'Maan ki Baat'.

The Prime Minister in the screening of Maan ki Baat, considered it to be a forum of celebration of positivity, thoughts, participation and unity of Indians from all walks of life. It is a seminar

Contd. on page 10

State-Level International Labour Day celebrated



Pakyong, May 01: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the State-Level International Labour Day celebration organised by the Labour Department Gulmohar Park, Kumrek, Rangpo, today.

The event was attended by Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Advisors, Chairpersons, Political Secretary to CM, Zilla Adhyaksha Pakyong, Zilla Upadhyaksha Pakyong, Principal Secretary Labour Department, Secretary Labour Department, DC Pakyong, ADC Pakyong, ADC Dev. Pakyong, ASP Pakyong, SDM Pakyong (Hq.) and Rangpo, BDOs, HoDs along with Pharmaceutical Company Heads.

Chief Minister thanked the workforce for their commitment towards development of the state. He appreciated the tremendous contribution made by them and acknowledged their effort in creating a thriving and inclusive society.

He talked about his announcement to provide labourers with a minimum wage of ₹15000/- made in 2022 and informed that the department will now pay a minimum wage of ₹15000/- to non-regular labourers over 60 who are still employed.

Additionally, he announced that registered Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) will be eligible to apply for a housing loan of up to two lakh rupees with interest paid by the State Government. He added that the children of BOCW registered labourers would also benefit from enrolling for MBBS, sponsored by the State Government.

He added that by registering under the BOCW and ESI, the

Contd. on page 10

Foundation stone laid for Sewa Bhawan

Gangtok, April 29: The foundation stone laying ceremony and bhoomi puja of Sewa Bhawan at Lumsey Tadong, under the aegis of Kanchenjunga Sewa Trust was attended by Governor Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya and Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang, today.

The programme had the presence of Minister for Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Mr. B. S. Panth, MLA Mr. G.T. Dhungel, Advisors, Chairpersons, Panchayats, Service Worker, All India Sewa Trust Mr. Adwita Charan Dutta, Former Judge of High Court of Sikkim, Justice Sonam P. Wangdi, Former Secretary, Mr. D.R. Nepal, Vice Chancellor, Sikkim Professional University Mr. Jay Kumar, Vice Chancellor Sikkim Manipal University, Lt. General (Retd) Dr. Rajan S. Grewal, Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University, Prof Avinash Khare, other dignitaries and invitees.

The Governor commended the foundation for the noble initiative and shared his appreciation for the trust's selfless service. He evoked the wisdom of Mahatma Gandhi and emphasized the importance of selfless service. The Governor praised the state's efforts towards such inspiring initiatives, one such including, Mero Rukh Mero Santati, an initiative conceptualized by the Chief Minister to strengthen the connect between parents, children and nature by planting

Contd. on page 07

Pearls of Wisdom

"Creativity is knowing how to hide your sources"
- C.E.M. Joad

Minister K.N. Lepcha attends Platinum Jubilee Celebration of Tashiding SSS

Gyalshing, April 28: Minister for Education Department Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha attended the Platinum Jubilee Celebration of Government Senior Secondary School Tashiding, today.

Present during the function were Secretary Education Department Mrs. Sumita Pradhan, Secretary Science & Technology Department Mr. Bhuwan Pradhan, DIG Range, Principal Chief Engineer, Chief Engineer, Directors Horticulture, ADC Dev. (Gyalshing), Additional Directors, SDM Yuksom, Joint Directors, Deputy Director and Assistant Directors, BDO(Yuksom),DPO WDZP, Zilla members and Panchayats.

The Minister was accompanied by Deputy Speaker SLA-cum-Area MLA Mr. Sangay Lepcha, Chairman Ecclesiastical Department Mr. R. S. Bhutia and Chairman Transport Department Mr. Basant Tamang, officials, Alumni, staff and public.

The celebration began with paying tribute to the founder members of the school. Thereafter, the chief guest and the distinguished guests were welcomed by offering traditional garland and a flower bouquet.

Deputy Speaker expressed his gratitude towards the chief guest for his constant encouragement and his presence and to everyone in making the event a grand success. He emphasized on the critical role that education plays in enabling individuals to achieve their full potential and give positive contributions to society. He also expressed his gratitude to the Chief Minister for prioritising the quality of education and health in the state.

Principal Mr. T. P. Dahal briefed about the rich history of the school and acknowledged the contribution made by each individual from its inception.

During the event, the chief guest felicitated the (1948-1949 batch students) namely, Mr. Y. Kazi, Mr. D. B. Chettri, Mr. G. B. Chettri, Mr. B. B. Rai, Mr. Phurgay Bhutia, Mr. Norzang Bhutia, Mr. C. B. Kharka, Mr. Amar Lal Pradhan, Mr. Jawahar Lal Gupta and Mr. Janardan Karki. The celebration committee also felicitated retired, transferred teachers and alumni of the school.

As part of the celebration, various cultural shows like traditional dance, Hip- Hop dance and choir songs were presented and the official opening of the raffle draw was also announced.

The Minister along with Deputy Speaker inaugurated the entrance gate constructed in memory of parents of area MLA. Simultaneously, the school library was also inaugurated.

MP cum-Chairperson of Parliamentary Standing Committee chairs review meeting

Namchi, April 28: Member of Parliament-cum-Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Housing and Urban Affairs Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Singh chaired a review meeting at the Conference Hall of Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) at Namchi, today. He was accompanied by the members of the Standing Committee.

Additional Chief Town Planner (CTP) cum Nodal Officer Mr. Navin Rai gave a brief report on the background of Namchi. He stressed upon status of the proposals under Namchi Smart City Limited (NSCL) and highlighted the projects which have been successfully implemented in the district.

The members of the Standing Committee also inspected the Command-and-Control Rooms at ICCC. The meeting also saw substantial discussion and suggestions put forth by the attendees, with regard to the centrally sponsored schemes and policies and its execution.

The representative from the State Government were Secretary, Urban Development Department Mr. M.T Sherpa, CEO Namchi Smart City Limited Mr. Thupden Gyatsho Bhutia, Additional CTP (UDD) Mr. Dinker Gurung, Additional CTP cum Nodal Officer Mr. Navin Rai Namchi Smart City Limited. Also present during the meeting were the representatives from MoUHA, UDD, NSCL, NMC, NHB, SBI and other officials from Government of India and Government of Sikkim.

The delegates also visited Siddheshwar Dham and offered their prayers.

Earlier today, the Chairperson and MPs of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Housing and Urban Affairs were welcomed by Minister for UDD Mr. L.B. Das, Chairman NMC Mr. Ganesh Rai, DC Namchi Mr. M. Bharani Kumar, Councillors and officials from the SBI and NSCL.

Newly elected Zilla and Gram Panchayats take oath in Mangan district

Mangan, April 27: The oath taking ceremony of the newly elected Zilla and Gram Panchayats was administered by DC Mangan Mr. Hem Kumar Chettri at DAC Mangan, today.

The programme had the presence of ADC Dev. Mangan Mr. Kashi Raj Limboo, BDO Mangan Mr. Kailash Thapa and DS Election Mr. Karma Sherpa.

The Zilla Panchayat of 09-Namok Swayem GPU, Mrs. Norzam Bhutia and Gram Panchayat of 05- Gairee ward of Kabi Rongpa GPU were also handed over the certificates of election by DC Mangan.

Orientation workshop on PM POSHAN/ Mid-Day Meal held

Namchi, April 27: A one-day orientation workshop on PM POSHAN/ Mid-Day Meal for HOIS and SMCs of Senior Secondary School, Secondary School, Junior High School and Primary School was held in Namchi Girls' Senior Secondary School, today.

The workshop was organised by the PM POSHAN District Education Office, Namchi for raising awareness and to support proper PM POSHAN or Mid-Day Meal practises in every school.

Various challenges and problems encountered during the practice of the Mid-Day Meal and various initiatives taken by different departments to ensure the safety and well-being of the students were discussed.

The workshop covered several topics related to the importance of maintaining a nutritious diet for students, significance of AADHAR Card for children, establishment of organic gardens in schools, safe environment for children, including protection against child sexual abuse.

Foundation training of newly elected Panchayats held

Namchi, April 26: A week-long foundation training of the newly elected Panchayats under Gyalshing and Hee Martam commenced at SIRD, Jorethang, today.

Minister-cum-Area MLA Gyalshing Bermiok Mr. L.N. Sharma attended the third day session and interacted with the Panchayats. The week-long training commenced on April 24. 81 Panchayats from both the blocks have registered themselves for the training programme.

The Resource persons will cover subjects like 73rd Amendment Act, Sikkim Panchayat Act, Leadership and team building, Jal Jeevan Mission, financial management etc.

The programme also had the presence of Director SIRD Mr. Bishal Mukhiya, senior officials and others.

Sensitization programme on Child Rights and Child related legislations

Mangan, April 28: A District level sensitization programme on Child Rights and Child related legislations for Heads of Schools of Mangan District was organised by District Child Protection Unit, Women and Child Development Department at MDZP Hall, Zilla Bhawan, today.

The programme had the presence of DC Mangan Mr. Hem Kumar Chettri, SP Mangan Mr. Tshering Gyatso, DCPO Mrs. Wendy M. Lepcha, representatives of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), officials of concerned departments and Heads of Schools of Mangan District.

DC Mangan highlighted the importance of the Child Welfare Act and the provision it sets out on providing proper care and protection to the child. He stressed on the need for everyone present to understand and become aware of their roles and responsibilities towards safeguarding of the children with greater care and expressed his hope for the session to be fruitful.

SP Mangan also interacted with the gathering and addressed their queries on the varied aspects of the Child Rights and related legislations. He also spoke on the need for awareness to be disseminated about the Prevention of Child against Sexual Offence (POCSO) Act and Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act.

During the programme, sessions on Child Rights and Child related policies and legislations and also the Role of Child Welfare Committee was presented by DCPO Mangan and representative of CWC, respectively.

The session elaboratively covered the provision of Child Marriage Act, The Child Labour Act, Pocso act and JJ Act. The importance of safeguarding children from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect were reiterated throughout the session. The negative consequences that entail the abuse and neglect of children and the crucial role it plays in the wellbeing of any society were highlighted.

MoS for Home Affairs visits Siddeshwar Dham

Namchi, April 25: The Minister of State for Home Affairs, Government of India Mr. Ajay Kumar Mishra arrived at Siddeshwar Dham, Namchi, today.

He was accompanied by the Principal Staff Officer to the MoS Mr. Yogesh Sharma and PA to the MoS Mr. Love Kumar Singh.

The MoS was accorded a Guard of Honour by the 2nd IRBn Battalion, Pipalay led by HC Mr. Santosh Kumar Chhetri. He was received by DC Namchi Mr. M Bharani Kumar, SP Namchi Mr. Manish Kumar Verma, Vice-Chairman (NMC) Mrs. Sabitri Tamang, Councillors and other officials.

Training-cum-awareness and distribution programme held

Namchi, April 27: Department of Agriculture organised a training-cum awareness and distribution programme of Micro Irrigtion System (Sprinkler and Drip Irrigation) under the scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayee Yojana' component 'Per Drop More Crop' which is being implemented by Agriculture Department for the year 2022-23 at Kewzing Bakhim cluster of Barfung GPU, today.

The programme was attended by MLA Mr. T. T. Bhutia, Zilla Panchayat Mrs. Jashoda Chettri along with ward panchayats of Kewzing Bakhin GPU.

Joint Director, Agriculture Department Mrs. Nirmala Moktan highlighted the key features of the scheme and benefits provided to the farmers under PDMC. She commended the farmers for their involvement in programme and agricultural activities at grass root level.

A technical session was conducted by Assistant Engineer, Agriculture Department Mr. Binaya Basnett. He highlighted the key points for efficient water management in the field and time saving technical knowledge while operating the system.

Review meeting for International Labour's Day celebrations conducted

Pakyong, April 26: The final review meeting for International Labour's Day celebrations was conducted at Kumrek Picnic Spot, Rangpo, today.

The meeting was attended Pr. Secretary Labour Department Mr. C. S. Rao, Secretary Mr. Karma Namgyal Bhutia, DC Pakyong Mr. Tashi Chopel, ASP Pakyong senior officers, Plant Heads, service providers, labour contractors and stakeholders.

Minister for Labour Department, Mr. L.N. Sharma chaired a review meeting with the pharmaceutical companies, distilleries, and ancillary units, in the presence of the Minister for Transport Department Mr. M. N. Sherpa, Advisor Labour Department Mr. Manoj Pradhan and Chairperson Labour Department Mrs. Ganga Parsain.

He inquired about the progress of the ongoing preparatory work and advised ensuring convenience and participation of all labourers. He discussed different aspects of the programme in detail. The participants shared their work progress and reassured to make the event a grand success.

Government of Sikkim
Urban Development Department
Gangtok

No:839(558)GOS/UDD/Jrth/167 **Dated:26/04/2023**

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the following individuals that despite the department earlier issued notices vide notices mentioned against the names they were directed to submit the following documents for revision of Social Housing Unit at Naya Bazaar, West Sikkim.

(i) A certificate from the concerned SDM stating that you were residing within Naya Bazaar, Jorethang Municipal Council prior to 2010.

(ii) A Below Poverty Line/Economically Weaker Section Certificate issued by relevant authority.

Sl. No.	Name	Notice No & date
1.	Shri. Mingma Sherpa	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/333 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
2.	Shri. Maita Raj Subba	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/334 dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
3.	Shri. Dhan Raj Subba	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/335 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
4.	Shri. Narad Mani Khati	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/336 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
5.	Smit Geeta Rai	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/337 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated 19.03.2021
6.	Shri Kamal Rai	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/338 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
7.	Shri. Harka Bdr Biswakarma	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/339 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
8.	Shri. Tara Das	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jarethang/340 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
9.	Shri. Kumar Subba	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/341 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
10.	Shri. Bhim Bdr. Manger	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/342 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
11.	Shri. Sangay Tamang	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/343 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
12.	Shri. Hiya Hang Subba	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/344 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
13.	Shri. Laxmi Kant Basnet	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/345 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
14.	Shri. Ratna Bdr. Pradhan	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/346 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021
15.	Shri. Bijay Rai	839/558/GOS/UDD/Jorethang/347 Dated: 30.11.2020 & 461/UDD/JRT/S dated: 19.03.2021

However, all the individuals have failed to submit the above mentioned documents to the Office of the then Additional Secretary, Urban Development Department, Jorethang, South Sikkim.

Hence, the above individuals are once again directed to submit the above documents to the Office of the Additional Secretary, Urban Development Department, Jorethang, South Sikkim on or before 26th May 2023 failing which an ex-parte decision will be taken.

Additional Secretary
Urban Development Department
(107, ii)

Government of Sikkim
Finance Department
Office of Additional Director, PGIPF
Sonam Tshering Marg, Gangtok

No. 01/CRFP/2023-24 **Date: 01/05/2023**

NOTICE

The State Government has constituted a **Committee for Re-fixation of Pension of Pre 2016 Retirees vide Notification No. 14/FIN/ADM Dated 17/02/2023** for drafting a Ready Reckoner for fixation of their Pension in terms of Resolution No. 841/Gen/DOP dated 01.06.2018.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned to submit their written comments, suggestions, observations or grievances within 15 days from the date of issue of this notice at the address given below:

Member Secretary
O/o Additional Director, PGIPF Division
Secretariat Annexe - II,
Sonam Tshering Marg
Gangtok-737101, Sikkim

Sd/-
Rajendra Sharma
Principal Director
Finance Department
Committee Chairman
(109)

Government of Sikkim
In the Court of Sub-Divisional Magistrate at Soreng, Sub-Division West Sikkim

AFFIDAVIT

I, Silash Subba (Limboo) S/O Late Rattabir Limboo aged about 41 years, by faith Christian, by Occupation Self - Employed, permanent resident of Khanisebong P/O Arubotey and P/S Naya Bazar, West-Sikkim do hereby solemnly affirm on Oath and declare as under:-

1. That, Subba and Limboo is the connotation of the same community.

2. That, my true and correct name is "Silash Subba (Limboo)" and the same has been recorded in my Certificate of Identification bearing Sl. No. 32/DC(W) Dated 09.11.2010, Sikkim Subject Register Vide Serial No. 427, Volume No. XIV, Under Block Khaniserbong, West-Sikkim issued by District Collector, West-District, Gyalshing.

3. That, my name has been recorded as "SILAS LIMBOO" in my Son's Kevin Subba (Limboo) Grade Sheet Cum Certificate of Performance of Class X Secondary School Examination bearing S.No. 0977672 Dated 28-5-2016 issued by Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi.

4. That, my name has been recorded as "Silas Subba" in my Electoral Identity Card bearing Card No. LMV0067546 Dated 14/11/2003 issued by Electoral Registration Officer, 07-Chakung.

5. That, my name has been recorded as "Silas Subba" in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 6795 9218 1853 Dated 29/4/2012 issued by Unique Identification Authority of India, Government of India.

6. That, my name has been recorded as "Silash Limboo" in my Son's (Kebine Mashi Limboo) Birth Certificate bearing Registration No.09/97 Dated 20.1.1997 issued by Registrar of Births and Deaths, Mangalbaria, West-Sikkim.

7. That, the names "Silash Subba (Limboo)", "SILAS LIMBOO", "Silas Subba" and "Silash Limboo" are the names of one and same person, i.e myself and henceforth I shall be known as "Silash Subba (Limboo)" for all official purposes.

8. That, this affidavit is made bonafide.

VERIFICATION

I do hereby verify and set forth in the above paragraphs are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed or suppressed therein. Sworn and signed by me in the Open Court of Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Soreng, West-Sikkim on this 14th day of Nov, 2016 in the presence of the following witnesses.

Deponent
Silash Subba Limbo
BR No.2324N-11044-776, Dt:01/05/2023

Department of Information & Public Relations
Government of Sikkim
Tadong, 737101

No: 43 / IPR / 23-24

Dated: 28 / 04 /2023

ADVISORY

It is reported that various media houses are circulating the pictures and information of the children in need of care and protection in both print and electronic media which is a gross violation of the provisions laid down under Section 74 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Section 74 of the relevant Act is reproduced below for reference:-

No report in any newspaper, magazine, news-sheet or audio-visual media or other forms of communication regarding any inquiry or investigation or judicial procedure, shall disclose the name, address or school or any other particular, which may lead to the identification of a child in conflict with law or a child in need of care and protection or a child victim or witness of a crime, involved in such matter, under any other law for the time being in force, nor shall the picture of any such child be published:

PROVIDED that for reasons to be recorded in writing, the Board or Committee, as the case may be, holding the inquiry may permit such disclosure, if in its opinion such disclosure is in the best interest of the child.

The Police shall not disclose any record of the child for the purpose of character certificate or otherwise in cases where the case has been closed or disposed of.

Any person contravening the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or fine which may extend to two lakh rupees or both.

As such, all the media houses (Print as well as electronic) operating in Sikkim are hereby requested to strictly adhere to and comply with the above said provisions of the Act with a view to avoid any complication as well as prescribed punishment under the Act so that the child's rights and dignity are protected.

Secretary
Information and Public Relations Department
Government of Sikkim
File No: 294/IPR/ADM/09/10

Preparatory-cum-sensitization meeting organised

Gangtok, April 27: A preparatory-cum-sensitization meeting regarding the upcoming State Level Book Fair was convened at the Conference Hall of Education Department, today.

The meeting was chaired by Advisor Culture Department Mrs. Bhim Kumari Sharma, Additional Political Secretary to CM, Mr. Tshering Wangchuk Lepcha, Director Language Mr. Sonam Lepcha, Additional Director Education Mr. Chuksung Lepcha, officials from allied departments, representatives of all literary organisations of fourteen languages, and officers of Education Department were present.

Advisor stated that the Book Fair will be a platform to promote ethnic languages and has prestige associated with it. She spoke about the essence of reading and said that the book fair is one of the many quintessential things that define our culture. She stated that the government has always promoted local writers and their books which helps in bringing out the facets of literature. She informed that Central Library membership has increased from 150 to 800. She affirmed that stalls would be provided for different languages, for the book display. She expressed her gratitude to the Chief Minister for his continued support towards propagating literary activities in the State.

Additional Political Secretary said that the main objective of the book fair is to inculcate reading habit among the students. He informed that this year the third edition of the 'Read and Grow Literary Fest' will be organised in a grand manner at Yuksom. He said that Yuksom is historically significant for Sikkim, and is listed under the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

He informed that Sikkim Art and Literary Festival will be held from May 06-08, where many writers and artists from the State will be invited. Many experts and dignitaries from outside the State will be invited in order to generate more students and public participation, he added. He urged the Education Department to provide necessary support for the initiative and informed that a number of activities in the students' pavilion along with cultural artists' performances will be held.

Earlier, an open discussion was held where the representatives shared their experiences.

It is to be mentioned that the Sikkim Art and Literary Festival will be held at an International Level in collaboration with the Team Art Work, Jaipur at Yuksom. Sikkim Art and Literary Festival will increase in stature from an exhibition phenomenon for publishers, and authors both local and outside the State.

Fax:03592 202927
Phone: 202706
PBX: 222908
222916

Government of Sikkim
Power Department

No.GOS/37/P/CE(S)/2022-23/99 **Dated:01/05/2023**

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (NIT)

For and on behalf of the Government of Sikkim, Chief Engineer, Power Department invites item rate tenders through the e-tender system from the Class 1-AA contractors enlisted with the Power Department, Government of Sikkim as per notification number 511/R&B/PWD/Secy dated 12/06/2018 for the following project.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Sanctioned Amount (₹ in Crore)	Bid value (₹ in Crore)
1.	PACKAGE-I: REPLACEMENT/AUGMENTATION OF OLD/FRAYED CONDUCTOR OF 66KV TRANSMISSION LINES UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS-BASED AND RESULT-LINKED, DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME.	29.93	25.11
2.	PACKAGE-II: 11 KV DOWNSTREAM CONNECTIVITY WORKS OF GANGTOK, PAKYONG AND NAMCHI DISTRICTS UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS-BASED AND RESULT LINKED, DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME.	31.55	26.47
3.	PACKAGE-III: 11 KV DOWNSTREAM CONNECTIVITY WORKS OF MANGAN, GYALSING, AND SORENG DISTRICT UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS-BASED AND RESULT-LINKED, DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME.	32.07	26.91
4.	PACKAGE-IV: REPLACEMENT/AUGMENTATION OF OLD/FRAYED CONDUCTOR (11 KV), REPLACEMENT OF OLD/FRAYED LT CONDUCTOR (LT BARE TO LT AB CABLE AND CAPACITOR BANKS UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS-BASED AND RESULT-LINKED, DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME.	29.76	24.97
5.	PACKAGE-V: REPLACEMENT/AUGMENTATION OF OLD/FRAYED CONDUCTOR (11 KV), REPLACEMENT OF OLD/FRAYED LT CONDUCTOR (LT BARE TO LT BARE, LTBARE TO LT AB CABLE UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS-BASED AND RESULT-LINKED, DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME.	46.97	39.41
6.	PACKAGE-VI: REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING HT OVERHEAD CONDUCTOR LINES WITH COVERED CONDUCTOR AND REPLACEMENT OF OLD/FRAVED LT CONDUCTOR (LT BARE TO LT BARE AND LT BARE LT AB CABLE) UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS BASED AND RESULT-LINKED, DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME.	71.65	60.13

The schedule of events (date wise), instruction to bidders (ITB) and detailed bidding documents along with the technical specifications are available in the website www.sikkimtenders.gov.in Interested bidders may view and download the e-bit document.

Chief Engineer (South) - cum NO (RDSS)
Power Department
Govt of Sikkim, Gangtok
(108, iii)

Read and Advertise
in
Sikkim Herald

Press conference for C20 Conclave

Gangtok, April 27: Civil 20 (C20) India 2023 Working Group on Sustainable and Resilient Communities-Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets is set to launch the Sustainability and Resilient Communities Conclave in the Sikkim from April 29-30, 2023.

The conclave is being organised by the Amrita University (Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham), Kerala in collaboration with the Government of Sikkim. The Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA) and the Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department are representing the State government for the conclave.

In this regard, a press conference was convened at a local hotel in Gangtok, which was addressed by C20 India Working Group Coordinator and Provost, Amrita University, Dr. Maneesha Sudheer, and Secretary Land Revenue and Disaster Management Mr. Anil Raj Rai, in the presence of Additional Secretary LRDM Mr. Rajiv Roka and Associate Director, Amrita University, Mr. G.C. Khanal.

Addressing the press and media, C20 Coordinator, Dr. Maneesha Sudheer, said that the C20 India 2023 is one of the official Engagement Groups of the G20 that provides a platform for Civil Society Organizations (CSO) around the world to voice the people's aspirations to the world leaders at the G20's 2023 Summit in India. The C20 India 2023 Working Group on Sustainable and Resilient Communities – Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets is one of the 14 Working Groups that have been formed under C20 India 2023, she added.

She stated that the C20 conclave is a major event under India's G20 Presidency that aims to bring out extensive dialogue and engagement with Civil Society Organisations, policymakers, representatives from government and non-governmental agencies, and academicians from around the world to understand existing global policies related to the Sustainability and Resilient Communities and to further identify gaps and come up with innovative solutions which will be presented to the G20 nations at the summit in September 2023.

She expressed delight over the conference being held in Sikkim, a state which is truly an example of sustainability and resilience, and shared her work experience in close coordination with the SSDMA on landslide early warning system since 2013. She stated that the conclave will provide an opportunity for people to see how Sikkim has adopted best practices and taken proactive steps to bring in climate resilience and disaster risk reduction.

The conclave will provide an opportunity for the CSOs from all over the world to come to Sikkim and deliberate on the thematic areas of Climate Resilience & Social Justice, Environment Sustainability, Net-Zero Emission Management and Compassion Driven Approaches. The policy deliberations among a multitude of stakeholders will bring out the recommendations to be provided to the G20 leadership team, she added. She hoped that the conclave would bring out dialogues and deliberations to bring out the voice of CSOs to G20 leadership to address the pressing challenges of the day and urged for support from multi-stakeholders to pave the way to develop scalable models that can be adopted to multiple countries.

Secretary, LRDM Mr. Anil Raj Rai extended his gratitude to the Chief Minister and the State government for hosting the C20 conclave in the State and thanked the Amrita University for choosing the State capital Gangtok for the event. The conclave will open opportunity for the State to showcase its sustainable and resilient practices in the G20 map, he added.

He further informed that the C20 conclave in the State will feature training sessions on Sustainable Development & Climate Resilience and Energy Sustainability & Net Zero Targets, parallel to the plenary sessions at Chintan Bhawan, which will be largely participated by teachers and students from various schools and colleges at NB Bhandari Degree College, Tadong and Janta Bhawan, DPH.

The event will have 200 attendees from 22 nations along with many more attendees from around the world joining the conclave via online mode.

The inaugural ceremony on April 29 will be attended by Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang as the chief guest, along with Minister for Land Revenue and Disaster Management, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha, Ambassador Uganda, His Excellency AmbJoyce Kikafunda, C20 Principal Coordinator, Amb. Vijay Nambiar, who will also address the august gathering. President, Amrita University and Troika Member, C20, Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, will present the felicitations.

The valedictory event on April 30 will be addressed by Governor of Sikkim, Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya. The event will also be attended by Ambassador of Gambia to India, Amb. H.E. Mustafa Jawara, as the guest of honour, and Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Power, Agriculture, Science & Technology, Government of Manipur, Mr. Thongam Biswajit Singh.

The event intends to give stakeholders from all over the world a forum to collaborate and exchange ideas, as well as to give academics, professionals, and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) a way to participate in the G20 policy discussions. Other notable dignitaries from the G20 nations will also attend the event. International and local speakers from the government and civic society will also be present.

Basic and Intermediate training workshop on IRS concludes

Gangtok, April 27: The three-day Incident Response System (IRS) Basic and Intermediate training session jointly organised by the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA), the Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department and the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India concluded, today.

The session was facilitated by the Secretary LR&DM and Relief Commissioner, Mr. Anil Raj Rai, Director SSDMA Mr. Prabhakar Rai, Additional Secretary SSDMA Mrs. Parina Gurung, Additional Director SSDMA Mr. Rajiv Roka, Assistant Professor NIDM Mr. Shekher Chaturvedi, Young Professional at NIDM Mr. Arun Verma and other officers of SSDMA and NIDM.

The workshop also had the presence of representatives from the District Disaster Management Authorities, including District Collectors, Additional District Collectors, SDMs, Nodal Officers from State Government departments, representatives from the Sikkim Police, officials and staff from SSDMA, SDRF, Army, and Paramilitary Forces, representatives from the Central Agencies CDW, GSI, and IMD, stakeholders from private institutions and organizations in the state, researchers, and students.

Assistant Professor at NIDM Mr. Shekher Chaturvedi discussed the four main functional areas where command, operations, planning, and logistics are involved during calamities. The objectives, strategies, priorities, and ultimate responsibility of the incident must be clearly established, he added. He also stressed on the significance of developing tactics in advancement of the operation.

He also spoke about obtaining the resources and assistance required to carry out the incident's objectives. Keeping track of incident-related expenditures and providing accounting, purchasing, time tracking, and cost analytics are also essential, he added.

During a brief presentation on the organisation's responsibilities in the event of a natural disaster in the state, SSDMA Director Mr. Prabhakar Rai explained the organization's roles. Along with maintaining law and order, resources, and equipment, he also spoke about the state's ability to effectively manage emergencies. He emphasized the importance of adding hospitals and PHCs in the disaster management strategy as well as strengthening the population segments with specialists who have the skills to manage emergencies.

He also emphasised on updating and revising the Gram Panchayat Disaster Management Plan in the Gram Panchayat Development Plan each year, with roles and responsibilities to mobilize community resources for preparedness and rapid reaction to the disaster. He discussed about the development of human resources in each Gram Panchayat ward to enable prompt response in an emergency.

During the workshop, the house was kept open for interactive discussion regarding the significance of being ready to react to a natural disaster. Additionally, participants discussed the workshop and their opinions of it. The participants' modules and exercises were also incorporated into the session.

Secretary-cum-Relief Commissioner Mr. Anil Raj Rai deliberated on ways to mitigate the consequences of a natural disaster. He stated that negligence is the primary cause of the majority of disasters. People's livelihoods have been impacted by the calamities, and strict adherence to the Sustainable Development Goals should be ascertained to reduce catastrophic events. All public facilities, including schools, hospitals, offices, and future infrastructure, should be constructed to be earthquake- and landslide-resistant, he added.

Earlier, certificates were presented to the attendees of the event by the Secretary-cum-Relief Commissioner, LR&DM, Mr. Anil Raj Rai.

On the first day of session, the workshop was attended by representatives from the District Disaster Management Authorities, including District Collectors, Additional District Collectors, SDMs, Nodal Officers from State Government departments, representatives from the Sikkim Police, Army, and Paramilitary Forces, representatives from the Central Agencies CDW, GSI, and IMD, stakeholders from private institutions and organizations in the state, researchers, and students. Also present was Mr. Gurminder Singh, Commandant of the NDRF in Kolkata.

Director SSDMA Mr. Prabhakar Rai urged everyone to participate in an assessment of the State's efficient and comprehensive calamity management. He informed that it was intended to reduce loss of life and property by strengthening and standardizing the State's disaster response mechanisms. He also informed that a mock drill under the supervision of the NDMA will soon be conducted.

Assistant Professor NIDM, Mr. Shekher Chaturvedi emphasized on the significance of drills to prepare people for natural disasters. He said that despite India's history of successful disaster management, there are many issues that needs to be addressed. He added that modern responses need to be more thorough, efficient, quick, and well-planned, and need to be constructed around a purposeful response process.

Secretary, LR&DM and Relief Commissioner, Mr. Anil Raj Rai stressed on the need to deal with all the natural tragedies responsibly and urged everyone to work together. He added that disaster is a severe climate and ecosystem destruction that completely destroys the beauty and natural vegetation of a region and their occurrence is unavoidable. He stressed on creating preventative measures to monitor the situation and urged everyone to collaborate with the government to save the environment and prevent natural disasters.

Vice Chairman, SSDMA, Prof. Vinod K. Sharma, via video conference highlighted the importance of disaster management and the steps Sikkim is taking to prevent it. He discussed the concept of disaster resilience, which tries to enhance community and government preparedness for calamities and encourage speedy recovery.

Professional of NIDM, Mr. Arun Verma spoke about institutional processes and the disaster management cycle. He said that India's institutional framework for managing disasters is hierarchical and operates at the local, state, district, and central levels. He also stressed on the 2005 Disaster Management Act, aimed at effective management of disasters and concerns associated with or incidental to disasters. He discussed the three strategic objectives of disaster risk reduction integration into sustainable policies and planning, the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms, and capacities to build resilience to hazards, and the systematic integration of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

Guest speaker, Professor Mr. Chaturvedi briefed on the Incident Response System (IRS). He stated that the IRS is a useful instrument for reducing the necessity of taking emergency action. IRS educates its officers of their roles and explained how crucial it was to carefully document a range of actions for better planning, accountability, and analysis. He further mentioned that the guidelines for the Incident Response System (IRS) were issued by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under the DM Act, 2005, for an effective, efficient, and comprehensive response to disasters in India. He added that the IRS is governed by objectives that are clear and measurable.

The training session was also facilitated by Training Officer, SSDMA, Mr. Keshav Koirala. Earlier, a video presentation prepared by SSDMA on the Do's and Dont's during an earthquake was also screened.

MoS for Home Affairs chairs meeting with HoDs of various line departments

Gangtok, April 25: Minister of State for Home Affairs, Government of India, Mr. Ajay Kumar Mishra chaired a meeting with HoDs of various line departments at Tashiling Secretariat, today.

The meeting had the presence of ACS Home Department GOS, Mr. A. Sudhakar Rao, ACS Education Mr. R. Telang, DGP Mr. A.K. Singh, Commissioner-cum-Secretary Rural Development Department Mr. D. Anandan, HoDs of various line departments and concerned officials.

Presentations were made by various line departments to apprise the MoS about the status of centrally sponsored schemes in Sikkim. The objective of the programme was to check the status of various centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in the State.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary Rural Development Department, GoS, Mr. D. Anandan briefed on the central schemes implemented by the RDD which include MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME), Start-up Village Entrpreneurship Programme (SVEP), Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY), Jal Jeewan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyaan (RGSA). In addition, he provided a briefing about Sikkim SRLM interventions in Tourism Sector and myriad of activities of Self-Help Groups such as tailoring and product marketing under the schemes.

Inspector General of Police, GoS, Mr. D.B. Giri highlighted the schemes sponsored by Central Government such as Emergency Response Support Systems (ERSS), Student Police Cadet (SPC), Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU), Women Help Desk under Nirbhaya Fund, Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems, and, Cyber Crime Prevention Against Women and Children (CCPWC) and Narcoitics Drugs and Psychotropic Substance. He also informed the MoS about the status of ERSS in the State and gave an overview of the purchase of equipment made by the Police Department.

Principal Director Health Services-cum-Managing Director National Health Mission, Dr. Anusha Lama, apprised the Minister about various health schemes under National Health Mission, 15th FC Health Grants for the calendar year 2021-22, ECRP-II phases wise budget allocation and status of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission in the State.

Principal Director Sports and Youth Affairs Department-cum-State Nodal Officer Border Area Development Programme (BADP), Ms. Suchitra Thapa, apprised on the development programmes near border areas and civil infrastructure. Within the Vibrant Village scheme, Lachen, Lachung, and Gnathang have been selected.

Programme Officer Samagraha Sikhsa, Mr. D.V. Basnet, apprised about the Samagraha Shiksha Mission and stressed on Nischal's Portable and Microscale Labs Utility, DIKSHA, NISHTA, EMMIS, NIPUN Sikkim and Sikkim Edu Tech etc. and vocational education.

Representatives from Women and Child Development Department, apprised about Anganwadi and Poshan Abhiyaan 2.0., Schemes for Adolescent Girls (SAG), Mission Shakti, Shakti Sadan, PALNA scheme and PMMVY scheme.

The Minister of State commended the works and appreciated the hard work put in by the Anganwadi workers and Health workers.

Awareness programme on HIV/AIDS conducted

Pakyong, April 26: An awareness programme on HIV/AIDS in collaboration with Mahila Patrakar Sangh Sikkim and Sikkim State AIDS Control Society was conducted at Ratna Bahadur Gurung Government Secondary School Tarpin, Rhenock, today.

The programme was attended by Chairman Mr. Santosh Pradhan, Ward Panchayats, BDO Rhenock, AD Education Department, Principals, teachers and students from Rhenock Government Senior Secondary School, Rhenock Goernment College and Ratna Bahadur Gurung Government Secondary School Tarpin.

The programme aimed to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS and educate people about the causes, prevention, and management of HIV/AIDS. The event was attended by the MLA Rhenock Mr. Bishnu Kr. Katiwada along with the Chairperson of the Sikkim Films Board Mrs. Pooja Sharma.

Chairperson Mrs. Pooja Sharma stressed on the significance of the programme and highlighted the importance of creating awareness about the disease and also emphasised on the need to break the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS and create a supportive environment for those living with the disease.

She informed that the first HIV case in India was discovered among six female sex workers in Chennai, and that Sikkim had its first HIV/AIDS case in 1995. In order to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS, she urged everyone to take required precautions.

Health Education Officer Mr. I.K. Chettri stated that unprotected sexual contact, sharing needles or syringes, and transmission from mother to child during pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding are some of the ways of how HIV cells spread. He also deliberated about the symptoms of AIDS, causes and significance of getting tested for HIV.

Junior Category Science Exhibition cum Competition organised

Namchi, April 30: Samagra Shiksha,Namchi organised Junior Category Science Exhibition cum Competition for 37Junior High School on Robotic Technology, today.

The competition was organised under 'Rashtra Avishkar Abhiyan' (RAA) which aims to leverage the potential for science, mathematics and technology learning in non-classroom settings.

The programme was attended by the State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Mr. Milan Subba as the chief guest along with Chief Education Officer, Namchi Mr. K. Inbaraj, Joint Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors from the Sub Divisions alongside Heads of institutions, GTs and students.

The first ever exhibition-cum-competition on Robotics at Elementary level under Namchi District. Tinik Chisopani Junior High School received the first position in the competition followed by Lingyong Junior High School and Bhaisal gaon Junior High School in the second and third positions.

The judges for the science competition were HoD Electrical Department, Center for Computer and Communications Technology Mr. Mukesh Sharma and lecturer (specialist in robotic) Advance Technical Training Center Mr. D. B. Tamang.

Chief Education Officer informed that the exhibition for junior level on Robotics was curated at the district under the RAA incentive. It may be mentioned that under Junior Tinkering Labs students from 37 Junior High Schools, displayed innovative and modified models on Robotics.

Soreng District celebrates World Veterinary Day

Soreng, April 29: Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Soreng District celebrated World Veterinary Day 2023 with the theme 'Promoting Diversity, Equality and Inclusiveness in the Veterinary Profession', today.

The programme was attended by the chief guest JD Fisheries Department (Soreng) Mr. Lobzang Lama and guest of honour Deputy Director Sports and Youth Affairs Department (Soreng) Mrs. Mamita Gurung. Also present were JD Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Service (Soreng) Dr. Kishore Thapa, Veterinary Officers, Assistant Dairy Development Officer and staff.

JD Animal Husbandry thanked the employees of Veterinary Services who have been working tirelessly to providing care for the voiceless creatures. He congratulated the National Awardee 2023 Additional Director, Poultry, Government of Sikkim Dr. Durga Prasad Pradhan. He added that it was an honour and privilege to work dedicatedly on field for the beautiful creatures and requested fellow staff to work enthusiastically.

As informed by the officials, World Veterinary Day is celebrated on the last Saturday of April since 2000. This day is celebrated specially for the recognition of the service and contributions provided by the Veterinary fraternity.

The Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Service Soreng District also felicitated the employees of Soreng District for their contributions towards the Department.

Chief Secretary convenes meeting

Gangtok, April 28: Chief Secretary Mr. V.B. Pathak convened a meeting for the preparation of the State Day-2023 celebrations at Tashiling Secretariat, today.

The meeting was attended by Heads of Departments and concerned officials.

The meeting discussed about allocation of duties and responsibilities of various departments and progress of various departments for the preparation of the 48th State Day celebration.

The Chief Secretary briefed about essential arrangements that need to be made for the programme. He emphasised on specific roles and responsibilities of various departments and encouraged them to work in coordination. Preparation for the celebration of Government Formation Day on May 27 was also discussed. Officials from various departments put forth suggestions and ideas.

Aadhaar enrolment camp conducted

Soreng, May 01: As a part of Aaganma Prasashan initiative of Soreng District, Department of Economics, Statistics and Monitoring and Evaluation (DESME) in cooperation with all the Panchayats from 6 wards of Ribdi -Bhareng GPU, a two-day Aadhaar enrolment camp for old and infirm citizens of Ribdi-Bhareng GPU was conducted at Ribdi Senior Secondary School.

The programme was conducted by the AD DESME Mr. N.T. Tamang, UDC Mr. D.B. Pradhan, Aadhaar Operators, Panchayats from Ribdi-Bhareng GPU for the sick persons, PWDs, senior citizens, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Total number of enrolments in two days was 118.

DC Pakyong inspects Tribal Research Institute

Pakyong, April 28: DC Pakyong Mr. Tashi Chophel inspected the ongoing work at the Tribal Research Institute at Assam Lingzey, today.

The DC directed the officials to complete the assignment efficiently. He also inspected the newly constructed Model School at Assam Lingzey accompanied by Assistant Engineer and Junior Engineers from Education Department.

The Tribal Research Institute concentrates on its core duties as a body of knowledge and research, functioning more or less as an organisation focusing for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, contribution to states' evidence-based planning and appropriate legislation, capacity building of tribals and individuals / institutions involved with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and awareness raising.

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs holds meetings

Gangtok, April 27: The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs held two separate meetings with MoHUA, DFS, UDD, GSCDL, GMC, NHB, HUDCO, NBCC, CPWD and SBI at a local hotel in Gangtok, today.

The meeting was chaired by MP cum Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Singh. The Chairperson was accompanied by members of the Committee.

The State Government was represented by Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim, Mr. V.B. Pathak along with Secretary Urban Development Department Mr. M.T. Sherpa, Special Secretary UDD Mrs. Roshni Rai and other senior officers of UDD and line departments.

Also present were Joint Secretary MoHUA Mr. Dinesh Kapila, Deputy Secretary DFS Mr. Surjith Karthikeyan, Director (Finance) HUDCO Mr. D. Guhan, Director (Project) NBCC Mr. Saleem Ahmad, Special Director CPWD Mr. Ajay Gupta, Executive Director NHB Mr. Rahul Bhave, DMD SBI Mr. Sankar Bala Bhadrapatruni and officers of concerned line departments.

The first meeting was conducted between the Parliamentary Standing Committee and the officers from MoHUA, UDD, DFS, GSDCL, GMC, NHB and SBI. The Parliamentary Committee reviewed various schemes, such as Smart City Mission, AMRUT, Swacchh Bharat Mission-Urban, PMAY (Urban) and PM Svanidhi. Detailed reports were submitted by the concerned Mission Directors, who are responsible for overseeing the implementation of the schemes during the meeting.

The second phase of the meeting was conducted between the Parliamentary Standing Committee and the officers from UDD, CPWD, GSDCL, GMC, NHB, SBI, HUDCO and NBCC. The discussions witnessed reports presented to the Parliamentary Committee by the officers of the concerned departments.

The meeting also witnessed various suggestions from the Committee for the schemes laid down by the Central government to ensure successful implementation.

The Chairperson and Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs are on a study visit to Sikkim. The Committee will proceed to Namchi for further official engagements.

Meeting of SLCS activities in Sikkim organised

Gangtok, April 27: Chief Secretary Mr. V. B. Pathak also the Chairperson of SLCS chaired a meeting of State Level Committee for Standardization and Quality System (SLCS) activities for the State of Sikkim at Tashiling Secretariat, today.

The meeting was organised by Legal Metrology Unit and Consumer Protection Cell, Food and Civil Supplies Department in collaboration with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Kolkata Branch Office-II.

The meeting was attended by the Vice Chancellor of SRM University, Head of various line Departments and officials from various other departments of the State Government and members of the Sikkim Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Consumer Association of Sikkim.

Chief Secretary Mr. V. B. Pathak took important decisions regarding implementation of standards during procurement of goods by various departments and has directed the Food and Civil Supplies Department to conduct trainings for master trainers so that the awareness is percolated to the grass root level. He also directed the Food and Civil Supplies Department to increase the frequency of the SLC meeting to at least once a year to have a robust system of implementation of the standards.

Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies Department Mrs. Deepa Rani Thapa who is also the Member Secretary SLCS informed that SLCS is envisaged as an industrial mechanism to facilitate the cooperation and coordination between BIS and State Government. The committee is expected to deliberate upon standards that need to be implemented as a part of the Government schemes and programmes, identify the areas which require the development of new standards or revision of the existing standards, chalk out strategy for enhancing consumer awareness on quality issues, and suggest the device mechanisms for effective monitoring and Surveillance to stop the misuse of substandard products and services.

Government officials bid farewell to Chief Administrative Advisor

Gangtok, April 29: Chief Administrative Advisor, Mr. A.K. Yadav was accorded a warm farewell on his superannuation in a function organised at Tashiling, Secretariat, today.

Chief Secretary Mr. V. B. Pathak attended the occasion to bid farewell to the superannuated official in the presence of the Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department Mr. A. Sudhakar Rao, Heads of various departments and senior officials of different departments.

The Chief Secretary thanked Mr. A.K. Yadav for his valuable service and expressed gratitude on behalf of the government for his contribution to the State of Sikkim in various capabilities. He wished him a healthy life and stated that all the members present must take forward the tales of experience left behind by him.

Mr. A.K. Yadav shared his experiences and anecdotes to add some lighter moments of his long-serving tenure in the State in different departments. He said that all must work in coordination to implement the government's vision, commitments and policies. He thanked the Chief Secretary and officials for organising the farewell event.

The officers present in the function also shared their experiences of working with Mr. A.K. Yadav.

Earlier, Secretary, Department of Personnel Mr. Rinzing Chewang Bhutia presented a brief career journey of Mr. A.K Yadav. He complimented his hard-working nature, dedication towards his work and his exemplary career. He thanked him for his contribution towards governance in the State.

During the programme, Mr. A.K. Yadav was honoured with khada, souvenirs and gifts by the Chief Secretary and the officers present.

National

World Veterinary Day- 2023

New Delhi, April 29 (PIB): Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in close collaboration with Veterinary Council of India celebrated World Veterinary Day- 2023 at New Delhi at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in order to recognize and celebrate the important roles of Veterinarians in animal and human health and ecology. The theme of World Veterinary Day for the year 2023 is "Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness in the veterinary profession".

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India Mr. Parshottam Rupala graced the event with his presence as the chief guest in august presence of Minister of State of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying,Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh and President, Veterinary Council of India (VCI) Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma among other dignitaries.

Union Minister Mr. Parshottam Rupala, addressed the gathering and highlighted the importance of India's livestock sector in the national economy. He emphasized that the aim of government is to make livestock farming more efficient and sustainable. Various schemes have been revised and realigned to develop entrepreneurship in the sector. The Ministry stands committed to work with all stakeholders for holistic development of the sector. He appreciated the participation of Veterinarians across the country in the event and role of Veterinarians in the implementation of schemes and programs of the Department. Shri Parshottam Rupala launched the VCI portal, released the draft MSVPR, 2023, and a list of outstanding Veterinarians in the event.

Dr. S.K. Balyan highlighted the role of veterinarians in India making significant contributions to the national economy by ensuring the health and productivity of livestock, which forms a crucial part of the country's agricultural sector.

Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma, President, VCI, welcomed the Guests and Veterinary officials participating from the States and apprised the gathering about the work and recent initiatives taken by Veterinary Council of India.

Around 1500 veterinary officials participated from the States/UTs, and 75 veterinarians were honoured as outstanding veterinarians. Technical sessions were organized on One Health, Veterinary interventions for Wildlife Conservation and management, Role of veterinarians in India Army.

Secretary, VCI thanked all the Dignitaries and Veterinary officials participating from the States/ UTs and congratulated the Department for the successful event.

Massive Investment Opportunities for both Start-ups and Conglomerates in the Tourism Industry: G. Kishan Reddy

New Delhi, April 28 (PIB): Ministry of Tourism, Government of India organised Roadshows at New Delhi and Mumbai on April 26 and April 27 with the objective of raising awareness among stakeholders in the Travel and Tourism Industry about the forthcoming 1st Global Tourism Investors' Summit. The Minister for Tourism, Culture and DoNER, Mr. G.. Kishan Reddy chaired the two Roadshows along with senior Ministerial officers.

Addressing attendees at the Roadshow, Mr. G. Kishan Reddy said, "Considering the plethora of experiences the Indian tourism industry offers, such as wellness tourism, adventure tourism, eco-tourism, rural tourism, spiritual tourism and several others, both the State and Central Governments recognise the role that tourism can play in driving economic growth. Therefore, private investment, particularly in hotels and other tourism-related infrastructure, is critical."

The Delhi event saw the presence of eminent industry stakeholders including Mr. Ajay Bakaya, MD of Sarovar Hotels, Mr. Patu Keswani, Chairman and MD of Lemon Tree Hotels, Mr. Deep Kalra, Co-Chairman of CII National Committee, Tourism and Hospitality and Founder & Chairman of Make MyTrip and Mr. Nakul Anand, Executive Director of ITC Ltd. amongst others. They shared their insights on the sector's overview and its future prospects.

Key dignitaries at the Mumbai Roadshow, held on April 27, included Principal Secretary (Tourism), Government of Maharashtra Mr. Saurabh Vijay, Secretary (Tourism), Government of Gujarat Mr. Hareet Shukla, Additional Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board Mr. Vivek Shrotriya, Joint Director, Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan Mr. Pawan Jain also attended and expressed their views during the event.

Prominent industry leaders including Mr. Vishal Kamat, Co-Chair, CII WR Sub Committee on Tourism and Hospitality, CEO, Kamat Hotels India Limited, Mr. Anuraag Bhatnagar, CEO, The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts, Cdr Nevil Malao, VSM (Retd), Vice President Head - Cruise & Navy Cell, J. M. Baxi & Co., Mr. Dhimant Bakshi, CEO, Imagica, Mr. Santhosh Kutty, CEO-Hotels, Mahindra Hotels and Resorts one to one interaction with Minister of Tourism, Mr. G. Kishan Reddy at the Roadshow in Mumbai.

During the Business Seminar, Mr. G. Kishan Reddy stated that, inspired by the ambitious vision of Prime Minister, the Government is working dedicatedly towards the sustained growth and promotion of tourism in India in Mission Mode. Various initiatives are being undertaken to provide both domestic and inbound tourists with memorable experiences. In addition to promoting the Global Tourism Investor summit, the roadshow also provided an opportunity for the Ministry of Tourism to gather feedback from the industry stakeholders.

The objective of the forthcoming Global Tourism Investors' Summit is to highlight India's travel and tourism sector as an ideal investment destination and give investors as well as the Central and State Governments a forum to explore investment opportunities. The participating states will have the opportunity to showcase strengths and unique offerings in terms of investible ready projects in the states to attract investments for tourism infrastructure. The Summit is also expected to facilitate meaningful discussions and collaborations between the Government and the private sector to promote the speedy growth and development of India's tourism industry.

The first Global Tourism Investors' Summit (GTIS) 2023 is being organised in partnership with Invest India as the Investment Promotion and Facilitation partner, and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) as the Industry Partner, with an objective of providing a common platform for global and domestic players to interact and explore investment opportunities in the Indian travel and hospitality sector. The Summit, being organized under the ageis of India`s G 20 Presidency, offers an opportune platform for investors from the G20 countries to explore the Indian tourism industry products among other areas of bilateral/multilateral engagements.

District Kissan Mela-cum-Farmers'Scientist Interaction organised

Gangtok, April 28: District Kissan Mela-cum-Farmers'Scientist Interaction was organised by Atma, Gangtok at SAMETI Conference Hall, today.

The programme was chaired by DC Gangtok Mr.Tushar Nikhare as chief guest along with Additional Director- AH&VS, PC-KVK, Joint Director IPM, Joint Director Horticulture, representative from Fisheries Deptt, Project Director-ATMA, Deputy Director- Horticulture and Deputy Project Director-ATMA. BFAC and DFAC members, SHGs and progressive farmers. SHG'S members displayed their produce during the exhibition, where DC Gangtok interacted with all the members and suggested to market their products.

Project Director-ATMA, Mrs. Rachna Gurung during her key note address thanked DC-Gangtok chairman of ATMA Governing board for his continuous support and guidance to conduct ATMA activities in Gangtok District.

During the programme Ms Susmita lama tamang Deputy PD- gave the presentation on the progress report of ATMA 2022-23 along with the approval of District Action Plan 2024-25. Further Bindhu Dhamala- ADO Nandok presented the progress report of PMKSY 2022-23. Various queries on Organic Farming, production technology, wildlife intervention, seed production, price margin of seeds, pest and disease etc were raised during the Farmers Scientist Interaction.

DC Gangtok on his address provided suggestion about the wildlife intervention and its solution at field level, he emphasized all the SHGs members to form strong groups and market their products under one umbrella. He assured that he will extent all possible support to the farming community. He applauded ATMA activities of Gangtok district and congratulated for successfully conducting District kissan mela cum Farmers Scientist Interaction.

During this programme some of the progressive farmers along with some of the field functionaries of ATMA and Agriculture department were felicitated.

The programme concluded with vote of thanks from BTM Gangtok.

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Foundation stone...

trees to commemorate child birth.

Furthermore, he urged the public to develop more initiatives that can contribute to the state's reputation and set an example for the country.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang, welcomed all the dignitaries and the people present in the function. and expressed his gratitude to the Governor for his valuable presence in the programme.

He stated that the Bhawan would benefit the people of Sikkim and called upon the public to step forward and help in the functioning of the Bhawan. He also mentioned that a Bhawan would be built in Benaras for Sikkim residents who wish to visit the city.

Member of the Trust, Mr. Dinesh Chandra Nepal, on behalf of the Kanchenjunga Sewa Trust expressed gratitude for the presence of the delegates at the puja and provided an overview of the Trust's operations. The Kanchenjunga Sewa Trust introduced in 2010 and registered in 2015 is a non-profit organisation that operates solely on donations. The Bhawan will be built in the land measuring 9000 sq.ft. The trust is dedicated to promoting awareness, conducting educational programmes, organising yoga camps, providing medical assistance, helping old age homes etc.

He also provided a summary of the trust's activities and expressed gratitude to the government for the support and cooperation in ensuring the trust's smooth operation.

Mr. Daya Ram Bhattarai, also a member of the Trust, expressed gratitude to the government for providing the land for the Trust. He gave an insight on the technical working of the Bhawan. He highlighted that the Bhawan is designed to provide benefit to the people of Sikkim, including the availability of doctors on-site, an indoor games hall, meditation rooms, for accommodation purpose etc. Overall, the Bhawan is being constructed for the holistic benefit of the people of Sikkim, he added.

In his special address, Mr. Adwita Charan Dutta emphasized the significance of constructing the Bhawan. He expressed hope that people would come forward in support of the Bhawan and utilize it for its intended purpose.

He also emphasized that the Bhawan is not restricted to a specific community but serves the greater good of all. He urged the people of the locality to take ownership of the facility and continue to strive for peace and unity and engage in selfless service.

During the programme, the Governor and the Chief Minister honoured Mr. Arjun Khatiwada, a marathon runner who has raised awareness by participating in numerous marathons across various cities.

C20 Sikkim Conclave on Sustainable and Resilient Communities inaugurated

Gangtok, April 29: The two-day Civil 20 (C20) Sikkim Conclave on 'Sustainable and Resilient Communities-Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets', organised by the Amrita University (Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham), Kerala in collaboration with the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA) and the Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department was inaugurated at Chintan Bhawan, today.

The C20 India 2023 Working Group on Sustainable and Resilient Communities-Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets is one of the 14 Working Groups that have been formed under C20 India 2023 in the context of India's G20 presidency and aims to provide a platform for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to bring forward a wide range of civil society perspectives and generate specific recommendations and policy proposals to the G20 leadership.

The inaugural session was attended by Minister for Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha, as the chief guest, along with Minister for Power and Transport Department, Government of Sikkim Mr. M.N. Sherpa, High Commissioner of the Republic of Uganda, Ms. Joyce Kakuramatsi Kikafunda, President Amrita University and Troika Member, C20, Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, C20 India Working Group Coordinator and Provost, Amrita University, Dr. Maneesha V. Ramesh, SRC Working Group Coordinator, Professor Vinod Menon, and Relief Commissioner cum Secretary, LR&DM, Government of Sikkim, Mr. Anil Raj Rai.

Over 200 attendees from 28 nations along with State government representatives and officials, and other distinguished guests participated in the high-level conclave.

Minister Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha in his keynote address said that sustainable and resilient communities, in essence, refers to communities that use its resources to meet current needs to achieve a balanced quality of life while ensuring that adequate resources are available for future generations.

He highlighted various proactive measures undertaken by the State government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang, to promote sustainable living. He touched upon the major parameters of environmental, social and economic sustainability, infrastructure and technology and emergency preparedness and stated that Sikkim has excelled in meeting all of these parameters for Sustainable Development Goals for 2021 in Northeastern region of the country.

He also highlighted the vulnerability of the State to various natural calamities considering its unique yet extreme geo-climatic location in the eastern Indian Himalayan Region and how Sikkim has been leading in disaster management regardless of all the complexities. He lauded the dedication and hard work of the SSDMA and other line departments in mitigating natural disasters and further sought support from delegates from all around the world to help the State magnify its stature in disaster management.

He stressed the need to join hands and work selflessly in the face of today's complex and challenging environment in order to fulfill the objective of the theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'.

The Minister expressed hope that the ideas and deliberations emerging from the conclave would be integral in shaping the policy recommendations from Civil 20 India 2023 to the G20 leadership.

High Commissioner of the Republic of Uganda, Ms. Joyce Kakuramatsi Kikafunda presented the special address for the C20 inauguration. She emphasised on the relationship between India and Uganda and termed it as a friendship with 'no strings attached'.

She further marked the recent opening of India's National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) campus at Jinja in Uganda as a historic milestone in the bilateral relationship between the two countries and expressed hope that the relationship becomes stronger over the years to come.

She also highlighted major issues pertaining to formidable health problems and environmental hazards in Uganda and shared her belief that the India's presidency of the G20 will amplify the voice on these important issues.

President, Amrita University and Troika Member, C20, Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, spoke about the importance of spirituality in gaining a deeper understanding of the world and how establishing loving companionship with Mother Nature can help achieve sustainable development.

C20 Principal Coordinator, Amb. Vijay Nambiar, also addressed the gathering via video conferencing and gave an overview of the C20 India 2023. He stated that the conclave aims to ensure that the voices and considerations of the CSOs are taken into account in the G20 discussions and translated into actionable outcomes.

C20 India Working Group Coordinator and Provost, Amrita University, Dr. Maneesha V. Ramesh, presented a brief introduction to Sustainable and Resilient Communities Working Group Conclave and outlined the agenda of the two-day event.

On the occasion, the C20's SRC working group also launched 'Global Seedball Campaign: Seeds of Hope' for the State of Sikkim. The project is in collaboration with AYUDH, the Mata Amritanandamayi Math's global youth wing, and is an initiative with the goal of dispersing one million seedballs in fragile ecosystems worldwide and to create general awareness in people about the significance of seedballs in restoring ecological balance.

Earlier, the welcome address was delivered by SRC Working Group Coordinator, Professor Vinod Menon.

The programme was also graced by the words of the C20 Chair, Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, through video screening.

Simultaneously, a video offering insight into Sustainable and Resilient Sikkim was also screened.

The vote of thanks for the inaugural session was proposed by Secretary, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim, Mr. Anil Raj Rai.

The inaugural session was followed by the Plenary Session covering key topics such as Climate Resilience, Climate Finance and Social Justice, Environmental Sustainability and Biodiversity Conservation, and Food Security and Livelihood Protection.

The Plenary Session on Climate Resilience was chaired by Prof. Vinod Menon, Founding Member, NDMA & C20 SRC Working Grouping Coordinator. The illustrious panel comprised of Ms. Virginia Jameson, Deputy Secretary for Climate and Working Lands at California Department of Food and Agriculture, USA; Dr. K.S. Hosalikar, Head, Climate Research & Services & SI Division, IMD Pune, Government of India; Dr. Tarek Rashed, Vice President and Chief Technical Officer of Civilizology LLC, USA; Ms. Shruti Sharma, Senior Policy Advisor, India Country Program, International Institute for Sustainable Development; Ms. Chungkela Lepcha, Councillor, Chandmari, Gangtok Municipal Corporation, Sikkim; and Mr. Dhiren G. Shrestha, Director, Science and Technology Department, Government of Sikkim.

Likewise, the Plenary Session on Climate Finance and Social Justice was chaired by Professor & Research Head, Amrita School for Sustainable Development, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Dr. Sudha Arlikatti. The panel comprised of Mr. Sam Liccardo, Former Mayor of the San Jose City Council, USA; Mr. Jyotiraj Patra, Climate Change and Adaptation Specialist, Green Climate Fund, UNDP, India; Dr. Saleemul Huq, Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Bangladesh; Mr. Daya Sagar Shrestha, Executive Director at National Campaign for Sustainable Development Nepal (NACASUD-Nepal); and Mr. Shravan Shankar, Co-founder, Climake, Artworks.

The Plenary Session on Environmental Sustainability and Biodiversity Conservation was chaired by Dr. Sudesh Kumar Wadhavan, Former Director General, Geological Survey of India. The panel comprised of Shri Sanjoy Hazarika, Managing Trustee, C-NES, Assam; Mr. Pradeep Kumar, IFS, Additional PCCF-cum-Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim; Dr. Mozharaul Alam, Regional Coordinator, Climate Action, Asia and Pacific Office, UNEP, Bangladesh; Mr. Tobias Nauruki, Team Environment Kenya, Kenya; Mr. Michael H. Glantz, professor/professor/Principal Investigator/Director, CCB (Consortium for Capacity Building), USA; and Dr. Marcella D'Souza, Watershed organization Trust (WOTR), Pune, India.

The Plenary Session on Food Security and Livelihood Protection was chaired by Dr. Viswanathan PK, Principal, Amrita School of Business, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham. The panel comprised of Mr. Dorian Spaak, General Coordinator, Terre et Cite, France; Shri Thomas Legrand, Lead Technical Advisor for the Conscious Food Systems Alliance convened by UNDP, France; Dr. Joris Aertens, Consultant on Sustainable Agriculture Policies, Belgium, and Dr. Kiruba Krishnaswamy, Assistant Professor, Biological Engineering (Sustainable Food Systems Engineering), University of Missouri, USA.

The Plenary Sessions were followed by two Round Table Conferences.

The first-round table conference deliberated on the topic Technologies for Sustainable and Resilient Communities, and was chaired by Dr. Maneesha V. Ramesh, Provost, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, and UNESCO Chair on Experiential Learning for Sustainable Innovation and Development, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham. The session has the participation of an expert panel namely Mr. Dhiren G. Shrestha, Director, Science and Technology Department, Government of Sikkim; Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, Director General, NECTAR; Prof. Gopal Krishna, Managing Director, Syntegral; Mr. Vishal Sharma, General Manager – Sustainability Initiatives, ESRI; Mr. Rahul Kapoor, Head of Corporate Sustainability and Purchase, TCS; and Dr. Krishnashree Achutan, C20 Working Group Coordinator for Technology, Security and Transparency, and Director, Technology Business Incubator, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham.

The second-round table conference was designed to deliberate on the topic Policy, Governance and Sustainable Finance for Sustainable and Resilient Communities.

The session was chaired by Dr. Satyanand Mishra, IAS (Retd), Former Chief Information Commissioner of India. The panel included Prof. Anand Patwardhan, Professor, School of Public Policy and Senior Fellow for Centre for Global Sustainability, Centre for Governance of Technology and Systems Sustainability, University of Maryland, USA; Dr. Soumya Balasubramanya, Senior Economist at the World Bank, USA; Mr. Rafael Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat; Dr. Bhavani Rao (Women in Governance), C20, Working Group Coordinator for Gender Equality and Disability and UNESCO Chair on Women Empowerment and gender Equality, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham; Dr. Markandey Rai, Senior Advisor, UN-HABITAT (United Nation Human Settlements Programme); and Mrs. Kala Rai, Councilor, Municipal Corporation, Gangtok, Sikkim.

Thereafter, a special initiative called 'Udhaharan' was organized to showcase the best practices in the form of screening of short video clippings. The best practices screened on the occasion included Watershed Organization Trust, TERRE Policy Centre, Sacred Earth Trust, Dharmalife Foundation, Association Syndicale Libre de I'Ecohameau du Plessis, POP (Protect Our Plant) Movement, Industree Foundation, Sahyadri Foundation, pay Agri Innovation Pvt Ltd, Auroville Design Consultants, Bunko Junko, Maanushi Foundation, Resolve Trash2Cash, Bhagirath Gramvikas Pratishthan, and SUVARNA.

Meanwhile, as a parallel activity of the C20 Conclave, a two-day side training session is also being conducted simultaneously at two separate venues in the state capital – Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College Tadong, and Janta Bhawan.

The training at NBBDC for students comprises of theoretical and practical training on the concepts, models and tools on Disaster Resilience. The training is conducted with the objective of increasing awareness and understanding of disaster, to use participatory tools for disaster preparedness, to train on the operationalisation of the tools, to generate awareness about the risks and also how to collaborate and coordinate amongst the community members to tackle the disaster.

The training is provided by the staff members of Amrita University, Centre for Wireless Networks and Applications, in association with Government of Sikkim, Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority, and UNESCO-Chair.

The workshop also focuses on training the participants to identify the vulnerable areas in their surroundings, and measures to tackle disasters.

The training session is being participated by students of Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College, students from Tadong Senior Secondary School and Deorali Girls Senior Secondary School.

Likewise, the training session being held at Janta Bhawan deals with the topic Sustainable Development. The training is provided by the staff members of Amrita University, School for Sustainable Development in association with Government of Sikkim, Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority and UNESCO - Chair.

The training on sustainable development is imparted with an objective of understanding the

Contd. on page 10

C20 Conclave on Net-Zero Electricity, Transport and Industry

Gangtok, April 30: The second day of the C20 Conclave began with the plenary session on the topic Net-Zero Electricity, Transport and Industry at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, today.

The session was chaired by CEO, Vasudha Foundation Mr. Srinivas Krishnaswamy. The panel comprised of Member of Parliament Odisha Mr. Sujeet Kumar, Head Sustainability Schneider Electric Mr. Rohit Chasta, Director - Corporate Advisory, Customized Energy Solutions India Pvt Ltd Mr. Chandrashekhar Chincholkar, Director - Impact and Performance, Climate-KIC (Europe), Paris Dr. Thanh-Tâm Lê, Senior Advisor - Climate Science and Global Energy Policy, Climate Action Network International Dr. Stephan Singer.

The first speaker, Mr. Srinivas Krishnaswamy discussed about the issues about the scale and pace of transition which needs to be substantially enhanced. He spoke about global emissions, renewal energy and green initiatives including crucial access to technology at an affordable cost. He also stressed adequate and appropriate safety net requirements to ensure that no one is left behind in the transition journey.

The second speaker, Mr. Sujeet Kumar spoke about necessity for policy interventions, need for fossil fuels reduction and to navigate the global transportation through electric vehicles.

The third speaker, Mr. Rohit Chasta presented about moving in a net-zero world. To reduce energy use, to electrify the processes, to replace the sources of energy like fossil fuels and to decarbonize through digitization. He explained the equation as digital for efficiency, electric for decarbonization resulting in sustainability.

The fourth speaker, Dr. Thanh-Tâm Lê spoke about EU Green deal, which aims to become the first climate neutral continent by 2050. About EU Mission 'Climate Neutral, Smart Cities' 112 Mission Cities have already committed to net-zero by 2030 representing 12% of EU population.

The next speaker Dr. Stephan Singer spoke about the importance of sales and wind that have by far been the largest technical cost-effective potentials. He mentioned about the reduction of methane from coal and gas, and to reduce bioelectricity and fossil carbon capture and storage.

The last speaker, Mr. Chandrashekhar Chincholkar marked few challenges of New Energy/New Mobility Sectors like Battery Supply Chain, Small Modular Reactors- Nuclear Plants and focusing on areas (applies to all technologies) like, cost reduction, funding mix required and skill development/ upgradation. He also extensively briefed about the Energy Storage Asset Management- India. He concluded his presentation with a quote, 'What has gone wrong in the last hundred years, needs to be corrected in the next 25 to 30 years. We need to run four times faster to achieve our Climate Goals, with huge Capital Commitments'.

The Plenary Session on Sustainable Lifestyle, Agriculture, Environment, and Partnerships was chaired by Dr. Murali Rangarajan, Chairperson, Center of Excellence in Advanced Materials & Green Technologies, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham.

The panel comprised of Founder, Energy Swaraj Foundation, Professor, Department of Energy Science and Engineering, IIT Bombay Dr. Chetan Singh Solanki, Co-Chair C20 Indonesia and National Coordinator, - PWYP, Indonesia Mr. Aryanto Nugroho, Director, Climate Action Network South Asia Mr. Sanjay Vasisht, Dr. Minal Pathak Global Center for Environment and Energy, Ahmedabad University, and Senior Scientist Technical Support Unit, Working Group III (Mitigation), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Dr. Louise Jackson, Emeritus Professor, University of California, Davis, USA.

The first speaker, Dr. Chetan Singh Solanki spoke on the energy crisis that the entire globe is currently experiencing, and discussed the importance of comprehending the basic principles guiding the sustainability of life. He argued that since energy usage must be limited and localized in order to be sustainable, there must be a finite amount of it. He also highlighted the three-step solution strategy of Avoid, Minimize and Generate. The speaker urged listeners to minimize their use of it by using energy-efficient appliances. He also focused on generating as little energy locally as possible.

Dr. Minal Pathak discussed greenhouse effects and carbon footprints, which are significantly destroying the environment and causing misery for humans and the rest of the globe. The need to shift the focus to less resource-intensive service offerings was emphasized by the speaker. She additionally suggested adapting the different approaches according to different geographical zones.

Similarly, Mr. Aryanto Nugroho underlined 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' and urged for a stronger global commitment to keep the rise in global temperatures far below 2 °C and explore measures to reduce it to 1.5 °C. Additionally, he discussed the need to speed up the achievement of the global goal of energy access, particularly with regard to clean cooking and electricity, as well as the lack of adequate financial resources and support mechanisms for a full-scale energy transition.

In addition, the speaker made a number of vital suggestions for enhancing climate resilience and slowing climate change, including: respecting the rights of those who are less fortunate and more vulnerable, guaranteeing fair climate action. Adopting effective carbon pricing strategies is encouraged in order to reach the Net Zero Emissions (NZE) objective. In order to achieve climate justice, it is crucial to increase the fairness, decentralization, and measurement of the energy transition while restoring and protecting natural habitats in accordance with human rights. 'By enhancing resource efficiency and waste management systems, as well as by preserving marine and coastal ecosystems, it will be possible to create a healthy and resilient marine environment,' he said.

The next speaker, Mr. Sanjay Vasisht discussed sustainable agriculture in South Asia. He spoke about the immediate threat that climate change poses to food production. He added that there may be transformational adaptation as a result of climate change in regions where crop agriculture, pastoralism, or fishing cannot provide sustainable livelihoods. Indirect effects of climate change on lives and livelihoods are likely to include food price volatility, which can result in food and nutrition insecurity, potential conflict over land and natural resources, migration, and forced displacement.

Dr. Louise Jackson, discussed about Net NET-ZERO Targets by 2050: Methods for Sustainable Agriculture and Land Use in California. The speaker discussed the loss of farm and pasture land, which on average amounts to 50,000 acres per year (1984–2014) and is primarily caused by urbanization. She also talked about land use planning with regional and state funds, for example, greater in-fill urban growth to preserve agriculture. She added that approaches that combine many benefits for landowners and communities to profit from open space include local food production, new sources of income, GHG mitigation, flood protection, recreation, and the preservation of wildlife habitat. Additionally, she discussed improving water quality for locals and agricultural workers, as well as assisting areas affected by droughts and floods that lose their agricultural jobs.

Discussions, suggestions and proposals from the panellists present brought the discussion to a conclusion.

Likewise, the plenary session on the topic Compassion as the Driving Force for Sustainable and Resilient Communities, was chaired by, Prof. Vinod Menon, Founding Member, NDMA.

The panel comprised of Mr. Prasanth Nair, IAS, Special Secretary, SC/ST development and backward classes development, Government of Kerala; Mr. Shyam Kurup, Director, Aries Offshore Engineering /BizTV Network; Ms. Karen Mowad, President, Healthcare Charities, USA; Mr. Gopinathan Achamkulangare, Inspector in the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations System; and Dr. Athi Sivan, Founding Chairman, Amriteshwari Society, Malaysia.

The first speaker, Mr. Shyam Kurup spoke about Sikkim as the Land of Compassion. He highlighted on inculcating the practice of inclusiveness and to work on sustainability. He also mentioned about making compassion a driving force.

The second speaker, Ms. Karen Mowad primarily spoke about building sustainability. She spoke about her experiences about her journey of facing a natural disaster and overcoming it. She also remembered Mata Amritanandamayi, (Amma) the founder, a renowned humanitarian and spiritual leader, for her compassion. She further explained compassion as the most important factor in her life. When our country suffers, we all suffer, and when love fills the heart, love expresses itself with compassion, she expressed.

The third speaker, Mr. Gopinathan Achamkulangare spoke about sustainability and protection of natural environment.

The fourth speaker, Dr. Athi Sivan spoke about developing compassion as Research Framework. He explained compassion as motivation to perform impersonal good actions, individually or collectively which is generally acceptable and can receive consensus among scholars and intellectuals.

The last speaker, Mr. Prasanth Nair spoke on the compassionate approach in government working and administration. It is important that communities that work on compassion is the key factor for development. He majorly spoke about the use of compassionate measures by civil societies and communities for sustainable development.

The plenary session on Compassion driven education and youth empowerment was chaired by Dr. Maneesha V. Ramesh, Provost, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, & UNESCO Chair on Experiential Learning for Sustainable Innovation and Development.

The panel also had the participation of Mr. Anish Shrestha, Executive Director, Youth for Environmental Education and Development Foundation, Nepal, Ms. Avia Destimianti, Co-founder and Executive Director, Yayasan Bela Negara Nasional Indonesia (Beneran Indonesia), Swami Dayamritananda Puri, Executive Director of Mata Amritanandamayi Centers, USA, Mr. John Nelson, Founder of Saranalayam Charitable & Educational Trust, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu, India, and Station, Manager of CUDDALORE 107.8 MHz, India's First Disaster Emergency Radio, which operates from the District Collector Office, Cuddalore, and, Dr. Rajasundar Chandran, Head of Advanced Manufacturing, iPrint HEIA Fr, Switzerland.

Mr. Anish Shrestha talked about compassion as a catalyst for sustainable and resilient communities by empowering youth, including indigenous youth, for DRR, climate action, and sustainable development. According to him, in order to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we must also appreciate the critical role played by indigenous youth. The development of solutions that are anchored in the local context and protect cultural heritage depends on their expertise, practices, and viewpoints. We can make sure that our initiatives are both realistic and equitable by involving indigenous adolescents in our efforts.

Similarly, Ms. Avia Destimianti discussed compassion-driven education with the youth in order to educate and empower them. She spoke about the need for kids to comprehend the value of learning, such as developing a sense of nationalism, belonging, and purpose. She also talked about how kids may apply what they learn to their daily lives and use it to solve problems in their local community through authentic learning. She continued on to discuss experiential learning, which involves students in hands-on learning and in-depth reflection in order to advance information, refine skills, and establish values.

Swami Dayamritananda Puri discussed youth education in relation to their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual development. He advised educators to mentor and train children to become future leaders by teaching them about conclaves and event management. In order to make decisions in their lives, he also emphasized the importance of boosting their confidence levels. He also suggested learning spiritual principles in order to maintain peace of mind.

Dr. Rajasundar Chandran highlighted the five principals of value, openness, realism, influence, and sustainability in his presentation on compassion education and youth empowerment through living labs. The speaker also stressed the significance of developing innovative and complete solutions, as well as social and emotional intelligence. In order to empower young people, he also placed emphasis on developing multicultural understanding, promoting ethical behaviour, leadership, and active citizenship.

The necessity of having a fundamental awareness of how the climate affects you and society was another point, Mr. John Nelson made in his remarks. People with a better understanding of climate science will be better able to respond to the opportunities and problems that climate change will bring to the environment and the economy. He added that society needs people who are knowledgeable about the climate system and can use it to their advantage in both their professional lives and as active members of their communities.

Meanwhile, in the segment called Udhaharan, some of the best

Contd. on page 10

Contd. from page 09

C20 Conclave...

practices in various parts of India were showcased through brief presentations.

The best practices showcased in this segment included India Water Foundation, KCC Sikkim, Save the Hills, IAMAC, Maol Keki Foundation, Agrani Bharat Abhiyan, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, Jan Kalyan Shikshan Prasar, Crosslinks Foundation, TEPOP Association, Gram Vikas, Earth Foundation and Saukhyam.

Later, the round table session on the topic Spiritual Love and A Compassionate Approach as Driving Forces for Sustainable and Resilient Communities was chaired by Swami Amritaswaroopananda Puri, Vice-Chairman, Mata Amritanandamayi Math and Troika member, C20 India. The panel included Amb. Prof. Joyce Kakuramat, Ambassador, Republic of Uganda, Mustapha Jawara, High Commissioner of the Republic of The Gambia; and Prof. Vinod Menon, Founding Member, NDMA and C20 - Sustainable and Resilient Communities Working Group Coordinator.

Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, elucidated on the integral relationship between science and spirituality, and compassion driven action for sustainability and resilience.

Mustapha Jawara, spoke about the philosophy of Vasudaiva Kutumbakam, which unites the world as one family. He said that this philosophy should be the uniting and driving force for building a strong and resilient community and society to overcome obstacles. He added that policies of Governments should also borrow from spiritual values like compassion and love.

Amb. Prof. Joyce Kakuramat, Ambassador, Republic of Uganda, stated that love for the divine has to be translated in our interaction with fellow human beings. This enables us to be tolerant, loving and compassionate, thus ensuring a resilient community.

Prof. Vinod Menon spoke on the vision to inculcate passion for compassion, to build a resilient community.

Likewise, the round table conference on the topic-Sustainable and Resilient Practices Prevalent in Indigenous Communities was chaired by Dr. Sriram Devanathan, Principal, School of Engineering, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham; and the panel included Ms. Patricia Gualinga, Sarayaku, Amazon Ecuador; Ms. Ivanna Olivares Miranda, Comunidad diaguita Taucan, Chilems; Ms. Emily Barrucand, France; Mr. Tom Tshering Lepcha, Deputy Director, Government of Sikkim; and Dr. Prema Nedungadi, Founding Director at Amrita CREATE.

During the conference, Ms. Patricia Gualinga said the vision of Indigenous Peoples offers a critical contribution to protecting ecosystems as important as the Amazon which is known as the lungs of the world, one of the most significant sources of fresh water, and an environment that helps keep planet Earth in balance. She added that it also has a unique biodiversity and ancient indigenous civilizations.

She said, it is crucial that we act from different spheres and realities, put aside our egos, and know that we all inhabit a common home that is Mother Earth.

Ms. Ivana Olivares Miranda discussed the mining firm, which has a long history of violating human rights protections for the environment and seriously contaminating both surface and subsurface water supplies. She explained that almost all of her indigenous community's members stopped working the land due to the catastrophic drought that had been going on for more than ten years due to the hoarding of water from mega-mining, which made it impossible for them to continue with their traditional agricultural practices.

She emphasized, on this process involving a brand-new stage of mining and displacement in the areas inhabited by indigenous people. In addition, there are issues with wealth transfer, exploitation of the land and disturbance of its natural cycles, and threats to indigenous rights and the region, she said.

Another participant, Ms. Emily Barrucand, talked about the value of listening and how people should value love and compassion. She continued by saying that empathy might be a useful tool for encouraging young people, particularly indigenous youth, to take action on topics like disaster risk reduction, climate change, and sustainable development. We can work together to create more equitable and inclusive systems that respect their cultural heritage and give them the resources they need to take environmental action by taking into account their struggles, perspectives, and accomplishments, she concluded.

Mr. Tom Tshering Lepcha spoke about the Lepcha community, which has historically displayed resilience in the face of numerous natural disasters, including major deception, sporadic resource depictions, and epidemic stages. He stated that the Lepchas have shown that there is a natural mechanism that is based in their socio-fabric existence that we may survive and raise once more for this time-tested natural and man-made calamity. Furthermore, he suggested the establishment of a Traditional Knowledge Institute so that the system of traditional knowledge could be professionally documented and discussed locally, nationally, and globally for biodiversity and sustainable development.

Dr. Prema Nedungadi, spoke about good communication and spreading knowledge throughout the world. She appealed for proper training for educators so they could help teach adolescents about the creation of sustainable development. She also suggested the system's comprehensive implementation and emphasized that all trainings and initiatives related to ecological sustainability involve the participation of indigenous people.

The round table sessions were followed by the valedictory session.

Continuing from the first day of the Conclave, the side trainings for school and college students were held simultaneously at Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College Tadong and Janta Bhawan. Extensive training was provided on the topics-Sustainable Development and Disaster Resilience.

Contd. from front page

State-Level...

labourers and their families can take advantage of the welfare schemes provided by the State Government in conditions of maternity, marriage, minor injury sustained in the course of employment, funeral, medical assistance, partial disability sustained in the course of employment. He also said that individuals living below the poverty line will soon obtain inverters for hassle-free electricity supply.

To mark the occasion, the Chief Minister also provided financial relief to 4,797 registered BOC workers through Online Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), amounting to ₹2,39,85,000.

Earlier, Minister for Labour Department Mr. L.N. Sharma spoke about the Employment State Insurance Scheme Sikkim (ESIS) registration procedure, which will provide workers financial stability in the form of healthcare benefits, insurance coverage, and educational opportunities. He also underlined the value of working in society and the necessity of protecting workers' rights.

Additionally, he discussed various plans and initiatives designed to raise the standard of living for both workers and their families.

The event also featured various cultural performances along with financial assistance cheques to 19 BOCW beneficiaries.

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Contd. from front page

C20 Conclave...

organizers of the C20 Conclave for bringing together delegates and experts from various nations under a common platform to deliberate on the crucial issue of climate change and related impact. He expressed confidence that the Conclave was fruitful and could achieve the desired results. He further said that the collective voice of the working groups under C20 would be heard at the policy level in near future.

He said that Sikkim has set a unique benchmark in the area of sustainable development. Initiatives like the 'Mero Rukh Mero Santati', 'Bahini' and numerous other endeavors have testified the resolve and will of the State Government. The Governor fondly remembered his recent tour to North Sikkim where he witnessed environmental and sustainable initiatives taken by the community and also mentioned the State's effort to ban plastic and promote green policies.

The Governor lauded the numerous humanitarian initiatives guided by world renowned spiritual leader Mata Amritanandamayi, whose life and message of love and compassion has inspired and transformed millions of lives around the world. He congratulated the team from Amrita University and the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority for jointly organizing the two-day conclave successfully.

Earlier, a video showcasing highlights of the Conclave & Best Practices of Sustainable & Resilient Communities was screened.

On the occasion, My Earth Assets - a Collaborative Initiative between C20 Working Groups on Sustainable and Resilient Communities and Technology, Security and Transparency, was launched by Minister, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim.

One of the key highlights of the programme was the Collaboration for Building Sustainable & Resilience Communities through the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between various agencies in the presence of Governor of Sikkim and Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, Troika Member, C20.

The MoU was signed between C20, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, UNESCO Chair on Experiential Learning for Sustainable Innovation and Development, and several CSOs such as CAN South Asia (CANSA), Vasudha Foundation, Global Peace Foundation, Industree Foundation, TEAMEnvironment KENYA, Agrani Bharat Abhiyan, Gram Vikas, Energy Swaraj Foundation, CIFF, Water Shed Organization, and POP Movement.

Also, during the programme, a 'Climate Clock' was launched and presented to Minister of Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Mr. Kunga Nima Lepcha by Prof. Chetan Singh Solanki, Founder, Energy Swaraj Foundation, Professor, Department of Energy Science and Engineering, IIT Bombay.

Thereafter, the dignitaries were honored and felicitated by offering mementoes as a token of appreciation.

The two-day C20 Conclave came to a conclusion with the vote of thanks address by Dean, School of Engineering, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Dr. Sasangan Ramanathan.

Contd. from front page

Governor attends...

to learn and connect, a pinnacle of the hard work of the people. He also considers Maan ki Baat to be his spiritual journey, as over the years it has taught the people of this nation the conversion of their views from 'I' to 'Us', he added.

Thoughts from eminent personalities of Sikkim were also shared during the programme.

The Governor said that the programme aims to provide a platform for the Prime Minister to communicate directly with the citizens of India and share his vision for the country. The program also allows citizens to share their ideas, thoughts, and suggestions with the Prime Minister. For nine years the program has been a medium to reach out to the people of India where various prominent schemes such as Beti Bachao Beti Padao, Swacch Bharat Abhiyaan, vocal for local etc have been introduced and touched the lives of Indians from all spheres.

He also mentioned that the Prime Minister in one of his Maan ki Baat screenings applauded the diverse culture of Sikkim and acknowledged the efforts of Mr. Sangay Sherpa in keeping Changu clean and green. He commended Dr. Madan Mani for catering to patients through teleconsultation and for having been in conversation with the Prime Minister in the 98th episode of Maan ki Baat on teleconsultation.

Further, he stated that it is a proud moment for him to be present with various eminent personalities. Maan ki Baat teaches people collective responsibility to take the nation forward. It stands as a platform of equality where thoughts and actions are shared to unite Indians, he added. He lauded the Prime Minister for bringing changes in the lives of many through the programme

The Governor urged all the citizens of Sikkim to learn from one another and welcome positive changes as it comes and to imbibe the determination of accomplishing resolutions for a better and brighter Sikkim and India.

Chief Minister attends One Earth One Health Conclave

New Delhi, April 26: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the 'One Earth One Health' Conclave at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, today.

The event aligned to the theme of India's G20 Presidency, had the presence of Union Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Chief Minister of Tripura Dr. Manik Saha, Minister Tourism and Civil Aviation GoS Mr. B.S. Panth and delegates.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang in his address stated that Sikkim is blessed with rich biodiversity, flora and fauna, pristine nature, prominent tourist places of interest, medicinal plants, herbs-hybrids, and a pleasant atmosphere. Home to glorious mountain peaks, hills and slopes he stated that the natural beauty has attracted tourists from across the world.

Highlighting the healthcare status in Sikkim, the Chief Minister mentioned that all types of health facilities are available, including psychiatry, alternative medicine, and recovery care. He also informed about the existence of different spiritual heritage and added that meditation and healing methods like Sowa-Rigpa are practiced in abundance, including various Ayurvedic treatments. Further, he stated that numerous spiritual organizations have rendered suitable health benefits through their meditation techniques and informed about the awards and accolades conferred to Sikkim. He also welcomed everyone to visit Sikkim to experience mental peace, tranquil lifestyle.

Likewise, he mentioned that the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Sikkim has made significant progress in providing healthcare services to the people of the state and neighbouring areas with a vision to foster a healthy society and added that the remarkable milestones achieved by the Government in the healthcare sector is reflected in the radical changes shown in many Health Indicators which have made an impact on the health of the people of the state.

Additionally, he remarked that Sikkim has a very robust health infrastructure that is accessible with free treatment in all government hospitals, including Primary Health Centres, adding that tremendous progress has been made in the up-gradation of Promotive, Preventive, Curative, and rehabilitative care to the people of Sikkim with improvement in infrastructure, capacity building, manpower placement, and delivery of comprehensive services through Primary Health Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centres, Urban Primary Health Centres, Cluster Health Centres, District Hospitals including State Referral Hospital, and one Private Medical college in the state in Private Public Partnership.

He also informed about initiating teleconsultation services to connect with the patients of remote areas to doctors in the city through the chain of Health and wellness centres and PHCs to reduce expenses. He also mentioned that under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, the largest health insurance scheme in the world, numerous families have been issued golden/Ayushman cards in Sikkim.

He also thanked the Central government for granting 50 MBBS free seats for underprivileged students in the State and expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi for rendering support to the state.

DAC Gyalshing organises capacity building training for Linemen

Gyalshing, April 30: In a first of its kind initiative, DAC Gyalshing commenced training/ capacity building of Power Department Linemen at the ITI, Gyalshing.

The training module designed by the Department in collaboration with Principal ITI, will cover a duration of twenty days to impart training to forty employees (linemen) posted under Power Department of the district.

The programme was inaugurated by DC Gyalshing Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda in the presence of Zilla Panchayat Gyalshing-Omchung- TC Mr. Sagar Sharma, Additional Chief Engineer (Power) Mr. B. K Rai, Divisional Engineer Mr. J. P Subba, Divisional Engineer (Dentam) Mr. Kalzang Bhutia, Assistant Engineer Mr. Bhupen Rana, Principal ITI Mr. B. B. Chuwhan, JEs, Sr. Lineman, Instructors ITI, Officials and others.

Principal ITI informed that various skill development courses have been funded under District Administration on the guidance of the DC. He informed that the training will be continue till May 19 for the first batch of twenty (off campus) trainees while the remaining batch of twenty (from far flung areas and who will reside on campus) will be trained from May 20 onwards. The trainees will be given practical and theoretical classes by the resource persons from the Power department with support & assistance of ITI Electrical Wing. Theory classes and will be limited to a week, after which the trainees will be given hands on training and exposure at field sites.

Addl. Chief Engineer extended his gratitude towards the DC for understanding the need of the department and organising such programmes for skill enhancement and safety of the employee. He shared the basic knowledge on the importance of electrical earthing, direct current, alternative current etc. He also motivated trainees to take advantage of the facility being provided by the Administration.

DC Gyalshing stressed upon the importance of prioritising the training since a lineman's job entails several risks, at times resulting in fatalities and grievous injuries. To eliminate such risk factors, it was necessary to equip them with required skills and proper training for their safety as also to bring about efficiency in their performance.

She called upon the trainees to take the training very seriously during in-house classes as well as practical classes and site visits. She also instructed the ITI to compile all records and come up with a Training Report of all the forty trainees during conclusion of the training programme. She added that ITI Gyalshing is the only technical institute in the district and efforts of one and all should be there to make it a technology hub.

Later, the DC along with other officials inspected the Mechanical and Electrical workshops which was built with funds under Aspirational District. The electrical instructor Mr. Yusuf Biswakarma introduced an electric attendance board and Extension Cord which was designed and developed by the students of ITI.

The team also inspected the Bakery Unit, tasted the millet products and advised them to install stalls in government functions to showcase or market their products. Thereafter, she inspected the classrooms and library where she directed the principal to re-structure the library to make it student friendly.

Contd. from page 08

C20 Sikkim...

importance of sustainable development and its relevance and application. It focuses on enabling the participants to assess the sustainability of their respective communities and also to comprehend various modes of participation to understand the challenges faced by the community.

The training is being given to the teachers of various schools with the aim that they will be valuable resource persons to carry forward the training to larger youth segments and students of their respective schools and also to carry out the practices for sustainable development in their respective communities.

The training session is being facilitated through various theoretical sessions along with participatory workshops by the trainees.

The concluding day of the C20 Conclave will have field visits, plenary sessions, round table discussions, interactive sessions, and the valedictory session.

Press Release from RDD

Guwahati, May 01: Minister for Rural Development Department, Mr. Sonam Lama attended a review meeting under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) and Jal Jeewan Mission held for the eight Northeastern States at Guwahati, today. The meeting was chaired by Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India, Mr. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

Minister Mr. Sonam Lama was accompanied by Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Rural Development, Mr. D. Anandan, Principal Chief Engineer cum Secretary, Rural Development, Mr. L.D. Lamtha, Special Secretary-cum-Mission Director, SBMG, Mrs. Benu Gurung, Chief Engineer cum MD, JJM, Mr. Sanjeev Rai, ADC (Dev.) Gangtok, Mrs. Radha Pradhan and Accounts Officer, Mr. Sonam Bhutia.

The meeting was also attended by Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, Ms. Vini Mahajan, Additional Secretary-cum-Mission Directer, Jal Jiwan, Mr.Vikas Sheel and Joint Secretary-cum-Mission Director, GoI, Mr. Jitendra Srivastava.

During the meeting, Gangtok district was felicitated for its exemplary performance in the NE region under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen). The felicitation was received by ADC, Development, Mrs. Radha Pradhan.

National Award for Sikkim Vet

New Delhi, April 29: Additional Director, Poultry, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department, Dr. Durga Prasad Pradhan received the National Award 2023 on the occasion of World Veterinary Day, today.

The prestigious National Award 2023 was conferred upon Mr. Pradhan at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi from Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India Mr. Parshottam Rupala.

Field visit organised for delegates of C20

Gangtok, April 30: A field visit showcasing the best practices in community level disaster resilience was organised for the delegates of the ongoing Civil 20 (C20) Conclave at Chandmari and Ganesh Tok area, today.

The representatives from Amrita University gave a presentation at the landslide monitoring centre, on how real-world deployment of AI enabled IOT systems for landslide detection and early warning are in use.

Explanations on how the AI system collects the real time data, how network communication with the operating system and monitoring centre and the wirelessly managed IoT enabled deep earth root systems operation were given.

Along with the Resource persons from Amrita University, the field visit was participated by Director Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority Mr. Prabhakar Rai, and officers of SSDMA.

Councillor, Chandmari Ward, Ms. Chungkela Lepcha and local residents also participated in the exercise.

Aspirational District and Blocks participates in National Consultation

New Delhi, April 28: Aspirational District of Soreng, Aspirational Blocks of Chumbong, Chongrang and Namchi and District of Gyalshing participated in the National Consultation with District Magistrates and Block Development Officers in Ambedkar International Centre, Chintan Sivir in New Delhi, today.

Representing officers participated in panel discussions on Accelerating Agriculture in Aspirational Districts and Blocks, Achieving ODF+ Villages and Drinking Water Facilities, Strengthening Delivery of Health and Nutritional Services and Leading from the Front. DMs of Soreng and Gyalshing and BDOs of Chumbong, Chongrang and Namchi constituted the visiting team from Sikkim. The workshop was organised by the NITI Aayog.

Earlier on April 26, the DC Soreng Mr. Bhim Thatal and DC Gyalshing Mrs. Yishey D. Yongda took part in the meeting to review achievements and identification of gaps in the SAMBHAV Block Baiguney and SAMBHAV Village Mabong Segeng of Soreng district and SAMBHAV Block Chongrang and SAMBHAV Village Karji of Gyalshing district, respectively. Both the DCs made presentations on achievements of these areas and the identified gaps.

Secretary, Planning and Development Mr. Rinzing Chewang Bhutia also participated in the panel discussion. Director, Panchayat, RDD Mr. Tenzing Denzongpa from Sikkim was also present in the DoNER meeting. The meeting was organised by the Ministry of DoNER.

KEEP SIKKIM
CLEAN AND GREEN

Governor visits Singhik Govt.SS and Hee-Gyathang SSS

Mangan, April 28: Governor Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya visited Government Secondary School Singhik, today.

He was received by DC Mangan Mr. Hem Kumar Chettri, SP Mangan Dr. Tshering Gyatso, SDPO Mangan, CEO Mangan, Head Master, teachers, staff and students.

The Governor in his address stated that education is the most essential development and the teachers play an important role. He expressed happiness towards progress made by the State in terms of education, safety and priority to a girl child and added, the Government Secondary School Singhik stands is an exemplary.

He advised the HM and teachers to implement the Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana Scheme in the school and assured institutional development.

Teacher, Mrs. Tshering Doma Bhutia gave a brief report on the school and it's academic. Also, various cultural and traditional performances were staged for the Governor's welcome.

Earlier, the Governor also visited 11 Bn. ITBP Camp in Pengong and he was accorded a guard of honour from ITBP female contingent.

Similarly, Governor Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya also visited Government Senior Secondary School Hee-Gyathang.

The Governor expressed happiness on the warm reception and congratulated the teachers on promoting tradition through cultural performance showcasing the diverse community of Sikkim.

He affirmed that every village in the State shall have good healthcare system, education institutes, road connectivity and other basic facilities, and the State and Central Government are working on it jointly. He briefed on the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aushadhi Yojana and advised the public to be aware about such schemes.

He motivated the SHGs to promote their products at big towns and cities to be for big returns and added that many Central government schemes will be implemented in the region to empower the SHGs.

Area MLA talked about issues which requires immediate action and also requested the Governor to adopt one GPU from the region. He also submitted a grievance letter to the Governor.

Zilla Member from Dzongu kept forward various needs and requirements of the area. She also presented report on various issues of road connectivity, bridges, cellular network and other problems faced by the residents of Dzongu.

Earlier, the school principal presented a grievance letter to the Governor.

At the outset, SDM Dzongu also presented a brief report on Dzongu.

The Governor presented National Flag to the Area-MLA, a water filter, white board and stationery during the visit.

Governor chairs meeting

Mangan, April 26: Governor Mr. Lakshman Prasad Acharya who is on a three- day Mangan District tour, chaired a meeting with Minister-cum-Area MLA, Lachen-Mangan Mr. Samdup Lepcha, Pipon Lachen Mr. Sonam Gyatso Lachenpa, Members of Lachen Dzumsa and public at Dzumsa Hall, Lachen, today.

The meeting also had the presence of SDM Chungthang, SDPO Chungthang, BDO Chungthang, Revenue Officer Chungthang, Deputy Director AH&VS Chungthang, Chultimpa Lachen Monastery, Senior Lamas and locals.

The Governor expressed his gratitude to the people of Lachen for the warm reception. He stated that the people of Lachen are wise and takes pride in preserving and promoting their tradition and culture. He further expressed that the ancient way of Indian Panchayati system in Lachen is well preserved.

He mentioned that the Central Government is focusing on developing remote villages close by border areas and Lachen village is one of them. The people in Lachen will soon be able to take benefits of Central scheme which are not yet implemented, he added. He also applauded the State Government on the implementation of Mero Rukh Mero Santati scheme in the state.

Minster Mr. Samdup Lepcha thanked the Governor for his visiting and presented a brief report of the area. He also talked about various Central Government schemes such as Border Area Development Project and Vibrant Village which helps in an overall development of the region.

He stated that under the leadership of the Chief Minister, Lachen has benefitted under various welfare schemes like SGAY, Aama, Bahini and Garib Jan Kalyan Prakoshtha.

Pipon Lachen also presented a brief report on the inhabitants, culture and livelihood of the people of Lachen. He added the area is dependent on tourism for sustainability and hoped for more developmental projects in future.

The Governor earlier presented National Flag to the Pipons of Lachen and also distributed blankets and sewing machines to the beneficiaries.

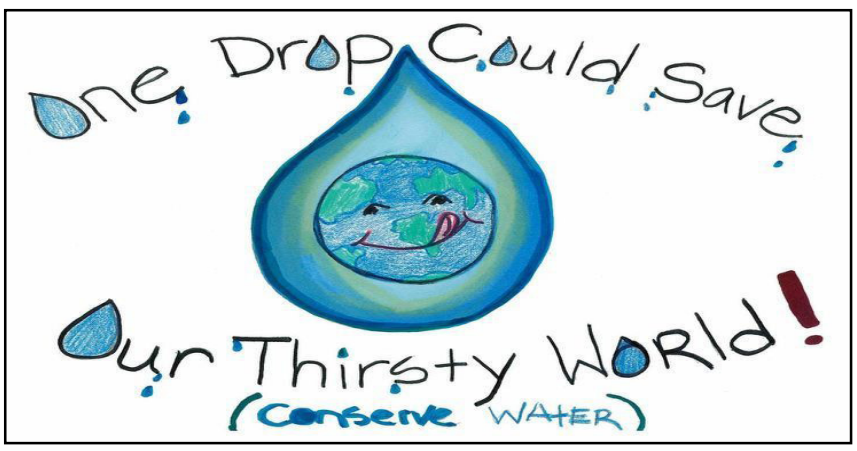
Similarly, the Governor chaired a meeting with Minister-cum-Area MLA Mr. Samdup Lepcha, Pipons Lachung and public of Lachung, at Dzumsa Hall Lachung on April 25.

The meeting also had the presence ADC (Dev.) Chungthang Mr. H.S. Kafley, SDM Chungthang Mr. Kiran Thatal, SDPO Chungthang Mr. Arun Thatal, BDO Chungthang, Revenue Officer Chungthang, Deputy Director AH&VS Chungthang, Pipon Lachung, Members of Dzumsa Lachung and locals.

The Governor was greeted by cultural performances. He applauded the people for conserving the environment and urged them to promote and protect their unique culture and traditions. He also highlighted various Central and State Government schemes such as Janaushadhi, Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, PMGSY, Kisan Samman Nidhi, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, AMA Yojana, BAHINi Yojana, Sikkim Garib Awas Yojana. He said that Lachung will also avail the benefits of the Central schemes which have not yet been implemented.

Minster Mr. Samdup Lepcha briefed on the history and background of the area and its inhabitants. He presented a report on active scheme of State Government being implemented in Lachung. A brief report on Lachung's foray on Saffron cultivation was also presented. He discussed about the ongoing projects in pipeline for Lachung like the installation of Guru Padmasambhava statue and Vibrant village scheme.

The Governor also distributed blankets and sewing machines to the beneficiaries. Earlier, he also visited the Yumthang Valley.



Rashmi Prasad Allay Award 2023 organised

Gangtok, April 28: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang attended the Rashmi Prasad Allay Award 2023 organised by Sikkim Pragya Pratishtan at Manan Kendra, today.

The programme had the presence of Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Political Secretary to CM, Press Advisor to CM, literary personalities, distinguished guests, and students.

Late Rashmi Prasad Allay who was born in 1898 at Gwalpara, Assam, was a writer, a teacher and a great devotee of Nepali language. He is credited for introducing the system of imparting education in Nepali language in the Kingdom of Sikkim in 1920 when Sikkim was still infant in literary field. He was also the first person in Sikkim to initiate Bhanu Jayanti celebrations in the State. To recognize his contribution for education sector in Sikkim, the meritorious award was named after him.

Film-maker Mr. Ugen Chopel Denzongpa (for the year 2022) and musician Mr. Madhu Sudan Lama (for 2023) were conferred with the prestigious Rashmi Prasad Allay Puraskar by the Chief Minister. In the course of the programme, biography of awardees was also screened.

Mr. Ugen Chopel Denzongpa has directed notable Nepali films such as Saino, Trishna, Nepali Babu and Hindi Serial series such as Ajnabee. He is also a recipient of Director Award 1998 and Gurkha Gaurav Award 2010, and several other awards and accolades.

Mr. Madhu Sudan Lama was awarded for his contribution to music and in creation of hits such as Siri Siri and Mirmiray Saanjh. He has also won notable awards such as Giri Puraskar 2020 and Rashtriya Chinari 1990, among several other recognitions.

Both the awardees made their acceptance speech during the programme.

At the commencement of the programme, the Chief Minister was felicitated by the Allay family members. Later, he was felicitated by the Organizing committee for his immense support to the field of literature and art.

Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang congratulated the awardees and expressed privilege on being present in a programme attended by distinguished artists. He gave a brief biography of Late Rashmi Prasad Allay and appreciated Sikkim Pragya Pratishtan (SPP) for bringing his life to light. H also appreciated the work done by SPP on annually organising the award programme. He assured that Government will leave no stone unturned in support of artists, sportspersons and literary figures who strive to work for the community.

In his message to the students, the CM directed them to work for the Community, State and the Country. In this note, he urged them to take exemplary work of the awardees who have set a unique benchmark. Furthermore, he assured about the Government assistance to youth who want to work for the community and bring laurels to the State. He thanked the SPP, participants and attendees for making the programme a success.

Earlier, President, Sikkim Pragya Pratishtan, Mr. Bhim Rawat, apprised about the objective of the award and spoke about the life of late Rashmi Prasad Allay and stressed on inclusion of Rashmi Prasad Allay in academic textbooks. He concluded his address by thanking the Chief Minister and guests for their valuable presence.

The programme included myriad form of dance and music to enrich the award function.

CM calls on Union Minister for Power

New Delhi, April 27: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang called on the Union Minister for Power, New & Renewable Energy, Mr. R.K. Singh at Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi, today.

The Chief Minister submitted a report on the disruption of power supply due to heavy rainfall in different parts of the State during the month of April wherein, the Union Minister assured to forward it to the national authorities for early assessment. The Union Minister also expressed his keen interest to visit Gnathang, one of the vibrant villages in Sikkim.

Further, the Chief Minister expressed his gratitude to the Union Minister for rendering support to the State government in matters related to power reforms and the distribution sector. He also extended an invitation to him to visit the State in the near future.

CM meets patients from Sikkim in New Delhi

New Delhi, April 27: Chief Minister Mr. Prem Singh Tamang met with the patients from Sikkim undergoing treatment in New Delhi, at Sikkim House, today.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by medical staff from DKK Bhawan, New Delhi. He offered financial support to 55 patients and enquired about their health conditions. Special lunch arrangements for all patients at Old Sikkim House, New Delhi was also made.

Patients and their attendants expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for his support.

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