



a year of achievements

published on the
first anniversary of
parishad government

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

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OF FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF
PARISHAD GOVERNMENT**

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

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Newly constructed District Administration Centre at Namchi

INTRODUCTION

The Parishad Government completes on October 18, 1980 a year since assumption of power. One year does not count much in the life of a Government seeking to bring about all-round progress in the State and raise the standard of living of the people. Yet, the determination of the Government to go all out to catapult the State along the path of progress and its perseverance in this task is reflected in the concrete results achieved in various facets of life in the State.

Pamphlets covering the achievements made by the new Government in the first 100 days, and 200 days, of its administration have already been published. This pamphlet seeks to give a resume of the achievements of the Government in the period covering one year since the inception of the new Government.

It is heartening that during the period under review a strong and stable government took the reins of administration at the Centre under a highly experienced and effective leader in Smt. Gandhi, who, to our great good fortune, happens to have an intimate acquaintance with the people of Sikkim and their problems. It has been the endeavour of the State Government to strengthen the bonds of good relations between the Centre and the State. The opportunities which the leaders of the State have had of coming into personal contact with Central leaders have helped further the mutual goodwill and understanding.

The period under review saw, apart from the launching of various new schemes and implementation of on-going schemes, the formation of Sikkim Milk Producers Union to streamline collection and marketing of milk with a view to ensuring reasonable price to the milk producers on the one hand and to making available quality milk to consumers on the other. The period also saw the extension of free education up to Class XII for the first time in the history of education in the State. This is no mean achievement by any standards.

At a time when some other States in the North-East region are plagued by communal strifes, this State has displayed singular communal harmony. The Government seeks to preserve and promote this ethnic harmony. The concern of the various ethnic groups about the formula regarding reservation of seats in Sikkim Assembly has also received urgent attention of the Government, as is borne out by the statement made on

the subject by Sikkim's M.P., Shri Pahalman Subba, in the Lok Sabha when deliberating on the Bill No. 79 of 1979 early this year. Shri Subba *inter alia* said, "This has caused an imbalance in the political structure of Sikkim and concern among the Nepalese who are born and bred in Sikkim. While supporting the reservations provided of 12 seats for the Bhutias/Lepchas and one for the Sangha and two for the Scheduled Castes, I feel that there should be a reservation for the Nepalese of Sikkim in the bill of a minimum of 15 seats". The Union Law Minister, however, observed in the course of moving the Bill that the suggestions that have been made can be considered for the future elections, but inasmuch as the elections have already been held, I commend to the House the acceptance of the Bill as it stands."

The first Budget Session of Sikkim Legislative Assembly since the new Government came into power was held in March this year, when the House passed the Rs.20.24 crore Plan Budget for 1980-81, representing an increase of Rs.2.44 (14 per cent) over last year's Plan Budget. The House constituted four Committees, including the Public Accounts Committee. It also ratified the Constitution (forty-fourth amendment) Bill and passed several Bills including the G.M.C. (Amendment) Bill No. 3 of 1980.

The Chief Minister attended in August the two-day meeting of the National Development Council, presided over by the Prime Minister, which approved the draft framework of the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85). The Sikkim Legislative Assembly met for its autumn session in September. The House passed four Bills, including the Sikkim Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupation and rent recovery) Bill No.9 of 1980.

The session saw the tabling of a no-confidence motion against the eleven month-old Parishad Government. The Ruling Party, however, weathered the storm by defeating the motion by 19 votes to 10 with one abstention. The victory of the Ruling Party is a vindication of its continued popularity.

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

As in the rest of the country over 85 per cent of Sikkim live in rural areas, the bulk of whom are farmers. The prosperity of the State, therefore, hinges to a large extent on the development of rural oriented economy. For this reason the Government first amended the Sikkim Cultivators' Protection (Temporary Provision) Amendment Act, 1979, to give relief to the tillers of the land by increasing the tenure of the provision of the Act from 2 to 4 years.

Additionally, several newschemes have been sanctioned by the Government. They cover, among other things, plantation and rejuvenation of orange orchards, propagating high yielding seeds and other inputs, improving marketing, and cardamom research. The Government is also planning to set up a farmers' training centre in East District in addition to the one functioning in West District so that the new training centre may serve the needs of North and East Districts and the existing centres may be available to serve the needs of South and West Districts. No economic improvement of the rural mass can be achieved without proper linkage of production with marketing. So the Government is planning to implement a newscheme "Marketing Intelligence". During the Sixth Plan two more Regional Sub-centres at Hee-Gaon (West District) and at Chujachen (East District) under Regional Centres of Gyalshing and Pakyong respectively will be established.

The Government has also authorised the Department to incur the following expenditure:

- (1) Rs.4.45 lakhs for maintenance of and propagation of progeny orchards.
- (2) Rs.2,38,200/- for coffee cultivation.
- (3) Purchase of 1040 tons of fertilisers at a cost of Rs.14,97,000/-
The Department will arrange the sale of fertilisers at different VLW Centres at reduced rates i.e., after deducting 100 per cent subsidy on transport handling and 25 per cent subsidy on the cost of fertilisers at source price.
- (4) Construction of VLW quarters at the cost of Rs.6,36,000/- covering all the districts.



A bumper harvest of wheat in West Sikkim. The Agriculture Minister and other Cabinet Ministers are also seen in the picture.

(5) The Plan budget for agriculture this year is Rs. 214 lakhs, which represent an increase of 34 lakhs (19 per cent) over last year's Plan budget.

(6) A sum of Rs. 2,06,600/- for the uninterrupted implementation of new plantation and orange orchards rejuvenation schemes started in 1978-79.



A sample of record radish produced in South Sikkim.



A milkman delivering his morning milk production at a milk collection centre.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

Since the new Government assumed power a number of steps have been taken for the promotion of livestock development in the State.

Sanction has been accorded for the construction of "Pashu Shiksha Kendra" building with a view to imparting education on cattle breeding in the State.

For the benefit of livestock owners in general, and milk producers in particular, three more Veterinary Dispensaries have been set up, one each at Thanbong, Sumbuk and Rumtek.

The Department has deputed two candidates for undergoing Indian Dairy Diploma Course at Anand and at Bangalore. The object is to build up a force of trained local personnel to take over and run the dairies. To motivate the farmers to take to dairying as a means of livelihood and educate them on the subject, films are also screened in the villages. To help milk producers and to streamline the distribution of milk to the consumers Sikkim Milk Producers' Union was formed on April 14, 1980, which, in fact, is the first of its kind in the State.

With a Board of Directors, selected from the Union members and Government Officials, it took over the responsibility of distribution of milk with effect from July 1, 1980 from S.L.D.C. Sikkim will receive Rs. 1 crore from National Dairy Development Board for development of dairy under Operation Flood II. The Government has also granted the Milk Producers' Union a financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 2,74,320/- for meeting the expenditure on transportation of milk, purchase of G.I. sheets, furniture etc.

To find out the sources of infection on the cattle of Sikkim epidemiological studies are being carried out and epidemics like foot and mouth disease and Liver Fluke disease have been brought under control.

To estimate the major livestock products and to know their actual position in the State, a sample survey has been started under the Investigation and Statistical wing of the Department.

Under All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Sheep Breeding ICAR researches are being conducted on physiological aspects of adoption of sheep in agroclimatic conditions and also the causes of mortality of sheep in Sikkim.

For improvement of cattle of Sikkim 12 exotic bulls have been allotted to remote villages. Three Artificial Insemination Centres have been added and a farm at Pangthang has been set up for breeding strains of cattle. To save the farmers from losses due to death of milch animals, cattle insurance policy has been further approved.

Planting and distributing of fodder grasses have also been intensified. 20,000 cuttings of perennial grasses and 500 ficus sapplings of grasses like Nevara and Dudilo have been planted. In the current year 40,000 cuttings of fodder grasses have been distributed to farmers.

A flock of sheep numbering 150 has been maintained at Dentam and 21 breeding ram have been distributed to villagers for enlarging the strength of their flock. Under Pashmina Goat Programme a team of one officer, one supervisor and six farmers from North District have been sent to Ladakh to study the technique of Pashmina goat rearing and fibre utilisation.

The Department has also maintained 200 sows at the farm in Gangtok and the piggery farm at Gyalshing has been strengthened to 50 sows. A new farm for 30 at Rabangla is under construction.



The new dairy building coming up at Tadong under Operation Flood Phase I of NDDB.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

For the first time in the history of education in Sikkim, the Parishad Government has extended free education to all students upto the terminal stage of school education. Supply of textbooks on 50 per cent Government subsidy has been extended to all students upto Class XII. In the past these facilities were available only upto Class VIII. To recognise the contribution of teachers to educational improvement in the State 2 to 5 advance increments have been sanctioned from the Teachers Day (5.9.1980) to teachers with more than 10 to 25 years of continuous service. Payment of advance increments have also been sanctioned on the basic qualifications of teachers. These benefits to students and teachers will cost the exchequer an extra expenditure of approximately Rs.2.5 lakhs a year. To ensure regular supervision and inspection of all schools upto high school level, and District Education Officers' Offices, two Zonal Deputy Directors have been appointed.

An evening Law College in the current academic session has been set up in Gangtok and the building proposal for the Government Degree College including selection of site has been finalised.

It has been made a uniform policy to teach 3 languages upto Class VIII and the study of Lepcha and Limboo languages has been extended upto Class VIII. It is proposed to extend the teaching of these languages in Class IX and X.

There has been great improvement in enrolment at various stages of education. Comparative figures for 1979 and 1980 are given below.

Enrolment at various Stages of Education:	1979	1980
Pre-Primary State	2550	3050
Primary Stage: Classes I—V	39684	42509
Middle Stage: Classes VI—VIII	6409	7818
High Stage: Classes IX & X	1406	1583
Higher Secondary: Classes XI & XII	383	696

Additional Teachers Appointed :

School Mothers : 15; Primary Teachers : 76;
 Science Graduates : 87 ; Arts Graduates : 63; and Post Graduates : 5;

Additional Courses of Study at (+2) Stage:

Commerce stream has been introduced in Pelling, Namchi and Enchey Higher Secondary Schools, and Science stream has been introduced in Enchey Higher Secondary Schools.

Attention has also been paid to educational planning in the remaining years of the Sixth Five Year Plans, keeping in view the long term progress of education in the State.

For the first time causes for drawbacks of education in the State have been identified, and following ways and means have been recognised as essential for improving the quality of education.

- (a) Consolidation and improvement of all 400 existing schools, particularly the 320 primary sections;
- (b) Rigid control on upgradation of schools through progressive monitoring of enrolment data;
- (c) Improvement of teachers education and recruitment of competent teachers at all stages;
- (d) Curriculum renewal and examination reform; and
- (e) Determined improvement in administrative and supervisory control. A plan outlay of 9 crores has been proposed in the years 1981-1985 against an outlay of 1 crore in the year 1980-81.

Sports Calendar:

For the first time in the State a sports calendar has been introduced to regularise the various sports tournaments.

Sikkim schools participated in National School Games at Gauhati and Delhi, for the first time during the period under review. The following tournaments/meets have been organised in the State for the first time:—

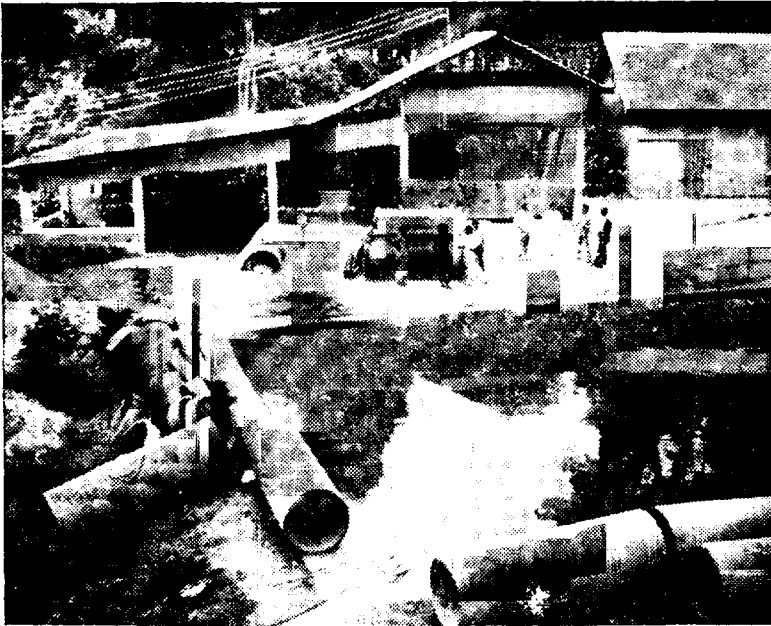
- (i) Inter High School Athletic Meet;
- (ii) Open State Athletic Meet;
- (iii) Open State Volleyball Championship;
- (iv) Inter High & H.S. Schools Volley Ball Tournament;
- (v) Inter High & H.S. School Football Championship and
- (vi) Sub-Junior Football Tournaments at School Complex, District and State Level.

INDUSTRIES

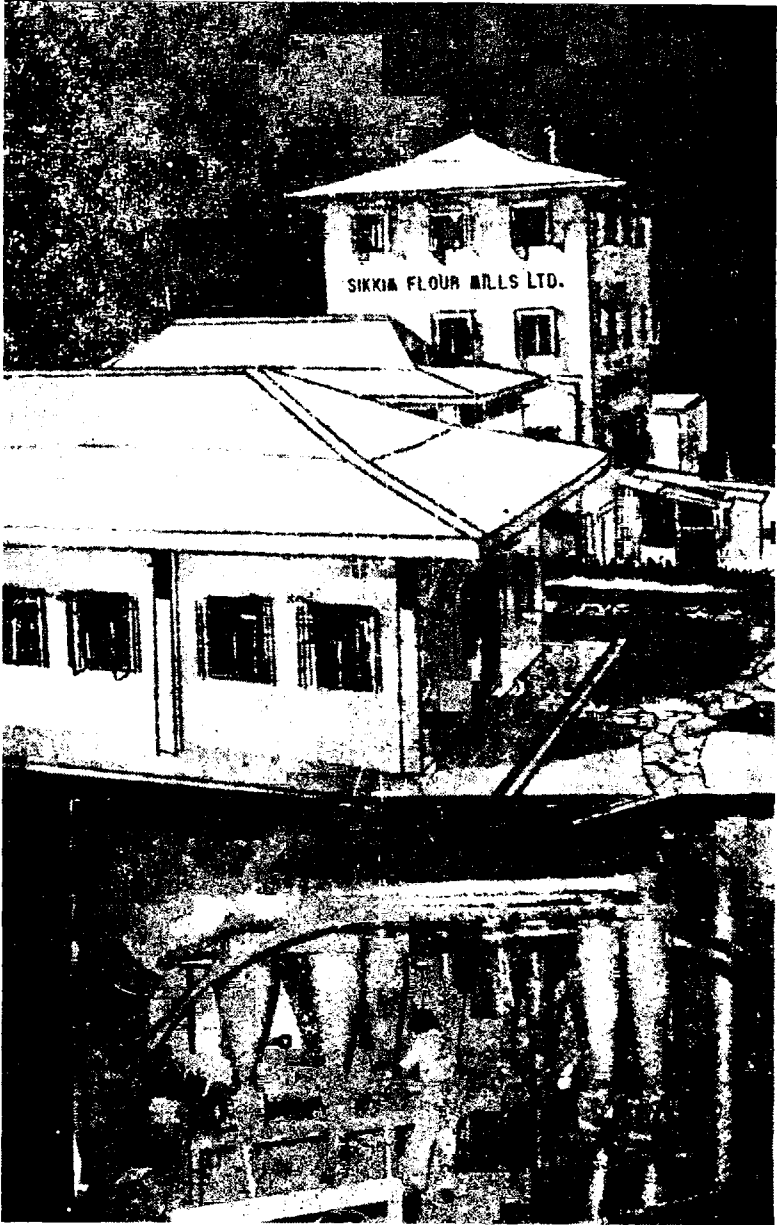
Industrial Department forms an important part of the State Government's development programme. The reason is not far to seek. The availability of arable land being limited, the growing population cannot depend on agriculture alone for livelihood.

Since the new Government came into power, as many as 46 new industrial units have been registered. They cover such industries as manufacture of card board box and paper products, rice dehusking and grinding mill, carpet weaving and leather work.

The Sikkim Industrial Development and Investment Corporation has sanctioned a total loan of Rs.13.5 lakhs to various industrial units including the hotel industry. The Corporation has also made available to the industrial units scarce raw materials like paraffin wax, match wax, mutton tallow, wollen yarns and cement.



Concrete hume pipes being rolled out from the newly constructed factory at Majitar.



The Sikkim Roller Floor Mills at Tadong.

Steps have been taken to improve the training facilities at the Industrial Training Institute at Rangpo, where local youngsters get vocational training in seven different trades. Construction of a hostel building sanctioned by the present Government is nearing completion.

A Rs.7.5 lakhs workshop has been sanctioned for the training institute at Rangpo and the construction work has already started. A batch of 69 trainees passed out of the Institute on July 31, 1980. Two local instructors have been sent to the Central Institute for Instructors at Kanpur and Calcutta.

The Government has sanctioned Rs.6 lakhs during the current financial year for the Roller Flour Mill at Taldong, which has already gone into production.

To complete the expansion programme of the Government Fruit Preservation Factory at Singtam, the Government has sanctioned and released Rs.7 lakhs during the current financial year.

The District Industrial Centre building at Jorethang, the construction of which is going on in full swing, is likely to be completed in a few months.

The Government has also initiated a programme to organise vocational training camps at various places. The first camp imparting training in cutting, tailoring and knitting for a period of three months was organised at Namchi and completed on April 15.

The next camp was organised at Pelling in West Sikkim and completed in August. Encouraged by the enthusiastic response from the public, it has been followed up with another camp at Pelling from early September. A similar programme has been organised at Mangan. This is in addition to the training programme in cane and bamboo work organised first at Mangan and now going at Djongu.

A scheme for setting up a training centre in handloom at Namchi, has also been sanctioned by the Government.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

The Government is also attaching a lot of importance to cottage industries. The number of trainees at the Government Institute of Cottage Industries has gone up to 281 this year from 250 in 1979-80.

Since February this year a Branch Training Institute has been opened at Chungthang on popular request to train local youths in carpet, tweed and blanket weaving. Extension of the existing Branch Institute Building at Lachung has been taken up. Construction of a show room cum class room as an annexe to the Institute and a workshop shed to meet the needs of the growing number of trainees have also been sanctioned.

To popularise Sikkimese handicrafts two more sales emporiums have been opened, one in New Delhi (at Barakhamba Road) and the other in the Gangtok Bazar in the ground floor of Tourist Information Office.



Above : Vegetable dyes being prepared at Lachung carpet weaving centre.

Below : Girls at cutting, tailoring and knitting centre in Gangtok.



SIKKIM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Government have bifurcated the Sikkim Public Works Department into two separate departments, one dealing with roads and the other with public health activities, each under a Chief Engineer.

The Government have sanctioned a large number of road construction schemes which will facilitate transport communication in the interior and help economic development of the rural areas. Some of the roads sanctioned recently are as follows.

1. Construction of road to Tingbong Village from SBS road at a cost of Rs.17.53 lakhs.
2. Construction of road from Ranipul to Lingzey at a cost of Rs.14.27 lakhs.
3. Construction of Pangthang-Lingdok road at a cost of Rs.23.72 lakhs.

These new roads will open up extensive areas in North District and East District and will pave the way of for socio-economic uplift of the large number of population served by these new roads.

The Government have also sanctioned initial cost for survey investigation and preparation of project for remote areas and have accorded high priority for construction of road from Tashiding to Ralang touching extensive interior areas like Karchi, Mangnang, Nar Khola, Dupi Dara and Brong. This road, when completed, will fulfil a long-cherished need of the people of the area who live in far-flung areas and lack communication with the capital.

The Government have also sanctioned initial cost for survey, investigation and project preparation for Darab-Nambu road which will open another part of rural areas and benefit rural masses. Construction of road from Reshi to Rinchenpong in West, Lingmo to Sokpay, Manpur to Sumbuk and Namchi to Sadam in the South District have made considerable progress and the population of the area will be substantially benefitted when these roads under construction are completed.

A large number of bridges have been sanctioned and are at various stages of construction. Some of the bridges are as follows:

1. Hee Bridge and Martamey Khola bridge on Melli-Turuk road.
2. Akar Bridge between Jorethang and Nayabazar.
3. Khani Khola and Kali Khola bridges on Melli-Phong road.
4. Chuchenchu Bridge on Machong-Rongli road.
5. Kow Khola Bridge on Lingmo-Sokpay road.
6. Jhor Khola Bridge on Rongli-Rolep road.
7. Colepchu Bridge on SBS road.
8. Improvement of Mamring Suspension Bridge.

A large number of short span bridges and culverts on existing roads for facilitating transportation have also been sanctioned and are under construction. The Government have also laid emphasis on consolidation of existing network of roads by providing protective works and carrying out improvements. Unfortunately, during recent monsoon considerable damage has been done to communication network in South and West. The Government have now taken action to restore the damages immediately at a considerable cost to ensure regular flow of essential commodities to the affected areas. The Public Works Department has been strengthened and is poised to achieve further progress in communication development in the State in times to come.

SPWD II

PUBLIC HEALTH

In the past only Gangtok was provided with fully treated water. 1981-1990 has been declared as Decade for sanitation and water supply, by U.N.O. In an effort to provide fully treated water and sanitary facilities to all sections of the population, a Rs.25.52 crore scheme has been drawn up for town and rural marketing centres.

Rural Water Supply

Construction of Singtam Water Supply Augmentation, sanctioned earlier, is at final stage of completion. Construction of Rs.7.57 lakh Singtam Water Supply filter treatment plant has also been started and order for supply of the machinery has already been placed. Sanction has been accorded to two fresh water supply schemes, one for Penlong Bazar in North Sikkim and the other for Mazitar bazar in South Sikkim.

Gangtok Water Supply Scheme

A master plan for augmentation of water supply for the projected population of 1990 has been drawn up and the first phase of work, involving a cost of Rs.160.82 lakhs, has been cleared by Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation of Ministry of Works and Housing, Government of India. This plan will cover the supply mains and treatment units. For this work, survey and investigation work for complete "design'ng" of the distribution system will be taken up with the help of computers. On the basis of the result, phase II work on distribution network will be taken up. The entire scheme is estimated to cost Rs.4 crore to Rs.5 crore. The work under phase I has already been taken up for which sanction for Rs.66.99 lakhs has been accorded.

Sewerage

The Department has completed 90 per cent of sewer drains (main and sub-main) and trunk sewer drains for Gangtok sewerage scheme. Sanction has also been accorded to a scheme for construction of a sewerage treatment plant (Stage I) at Gangtok. The Land Revenue Department has been approached to help acquire the construction site.

Housing

Family quarters for various grades of Government employees at Syari, sanctioned earlier, are at advanced stages of construction. The scheme includes 24 unit of Class II quarters, 18 unit of Class III quarters and 36 units of Class IV quarters, Sanction has also been accorded to a new scheme for constructing 48 units Class III quarters and 6 units of Class I quarters.

Besides, a Rs.5.7 lakh-scheme for constructing 6 unit of Class III and 12 units of Class IV quarters at Gyalshing and a Rs.5.2 lakh-scheme for constructing a similar number of quarters at Jorethang have been sanctioned.

Secretariat Building

A Rs.2.8 lakh-scheme for constructing a canteen building at the Secretariat and a Rs.4 lakh-fire protection work scheme for new Secretariat building have been sanctioned and civil works of the second scheme have been completed.

District Secretariates

The construction of Rs.18 lakh-District Office building at Rabdentse has achieved 90 per cent completion and a site for constructing the District Administration Centre at Mangan has been finalised.

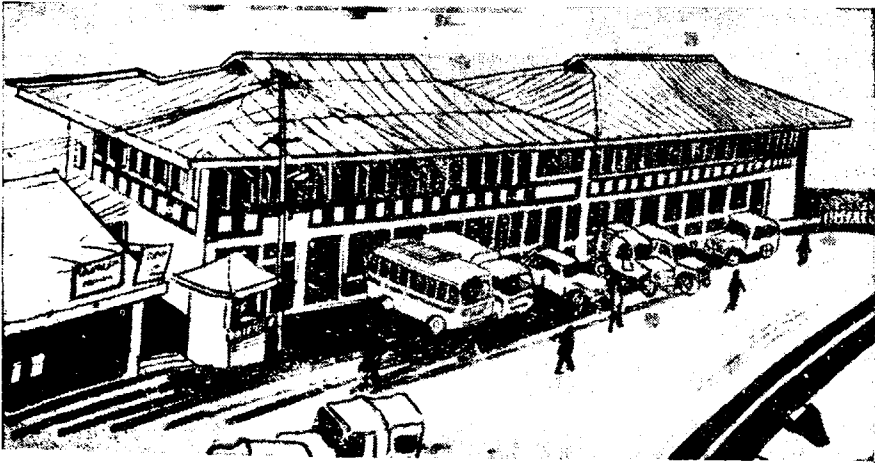
Construction of Sub-Division office, godown and garrage at Kaluk and office building for Motor Vehicle and Excise Department at Jorethang has been taken up and is in progress.

The Rs.15.87 lakh MLA Hostel building in Gangtok is nearing completion.

TOURISM

An important step taken by the new Government for promoting tourist industry is the opening of a branch of the Tourism Department at Siliguri, with a Deputy Director as the head, who has been authorised to endorse permits of tourists intending to visit Sikkim. This step saves the tourists a time-consuming and expensive trip to Darjeeling for obtaining inner line permits from Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling before coming to Sikkim. The office at Siliguri also provides prospective tourists with information and guidance to help them plan their trips according to individual needs.

Another important landmark in the development of tourism infrastructure is the functioning of the commercial wing of the Tourism Department since April 1, 1980. The wing covers hospitality and transport, which have been streamlined for bringing about greater efficiency. The transport section at present boasts a fleet of 13 vehicles, including a 20-seater delux coach, a 10-seater minibus, land rovers, a pickup, jeep wagonets and ambassador cars, which carry tourists to and from Kalimpong, Darjeeling and Siliguri, besides places of tourist interest in Sikkim. To promote trekking facilities, the Department organised in April this year a 12-day trekking programme in South Sik-



Tourist Information Centre and annexe at Gangtok Bazar.

kim with Namchi as the base camp in collaboration with Youth Hostel Association of India on an experimental basis. It was a great success as 240 youths from all over the country and 80 students from Sikkim found it a stimulating experience.

For the convenience of high altitude trekkers the Department has constructed a chain of tourist huts at Choka, Dzongri, Thangsing and Jhemathang. Trekking roads to Dzongri have been repaired and camping sites have been levelled to accommodate 15 tents at a time. The Department has also acquired camping equipment worth of Rs.2 lakhs. Attention is also being paid to environmental and hygienic condition of places of tourist interest. A programme has been drawn up to carry out beautification and sanitary improvements at Pemayangtse, Sangacholing, Phodong and Rumtek monasteries. A Rs.44,000 toilet has already been constructed at Rumtek as a part of the programme. Steps are also being taken to build up picnic - cum - recreational spots at Tashi View Point, Rumtek bridge site and Naya-bazar and a roller skating ring at Gangtok. The Government is also planning to construct six sets of latrines at Phurtsachu hot spring in Western Sikkim.

The construction of a Rs.1.90 lakh- tourist restaurant has already been taken up and is nearing completion. The advice and cooperation of Haryana Tourism has been sought for the interior decoration, which is also going apace. The efforts of the Department has already started paying dividends, if the statistics of the tourist inflow is any indication. The number of tourists visiting Sikkim in 1979 was 3,800 foreign nationals and 31,900 domestic tourists, compared with 3,000 foreign nationals and 24,000 domestic tourists in 1978.

To ease the accommodation problems of the tourists, the Department proposes to construct a chain of tourist lodge complexes at Gangtok, Rangpo, Nayabazar, Yoksum and Singhik. Cafeteria-cum-souvenir shops are also proposed to be set up at Rabongla and Phodong.

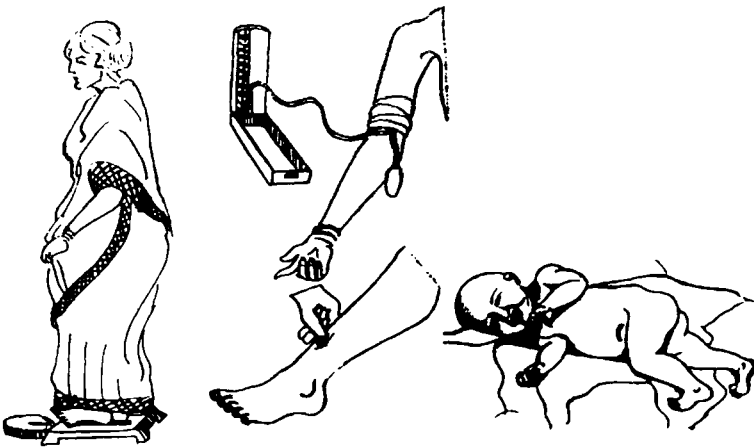
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

The medical and health facilities in the State have made a tremendous breakthrough in tune with progress in other spheres of welfare activities.

The hospital at Gangtok has been serving the purpose of a Central Referral Hospital (C.R.H.). The Government has accorded approval for constructing a separate building to house the Central Referral Hospital. A post-partum block, Maternity and Child Health and Paediatric ward are proposed to be constructed in the compound of the existing T.B. ward in the current financial year. The project involves an estimated expenditure of Rs.73,51,320/-.

The State boasts 15 Primary Health Centres, having achieved the national norm of one Primary Health Centre for every 20,000 population. Considerable headway has been made in constructing buildings to house them. Already, five buildings have been constructed while another 5 are nearing completion. Action has also been initiated for taking up the construction of the rest.

The State has sanctioned 41 Primary Sub-Health Centres, including 8 in the current financial year. Training Camps for Anganwadi workers under Integrated Child Development Scheme have



been organised from time to time. At the moment 60 workers are undergoing training in Working Women's Hostel at Deorali. This is the fourth batch of Anganwadis to be trained in the State bringing the total number of trainees to 300.

The number of beneficiaries under mid-day meal programme, which covers children in the age group 6 - 11 years, has gone up to 40,000 now from 33,531 in 1978-79, and 38,249 in 1979-80. The mid-day meal, which used to consist of soyabean biscuits in most schools with a few exceptions where sweet buns and gram choley were provided instead, has increased in variety and now include roasted groundnut, assortment of roasted groundnut, gram and rice flake and cow's milk (boiled), too.

The number of beneficiaries under special nutrition programme, which cover children of the age group 0-6 years, pregnant mother and nursing mothers, has also gone up to 32,000 now from 20,220 in 1978-79 and 31,751 in 1979-80. The Department has been successful in continuously supplying Balamul, whose food value is reportedly three times that of soyabean biscuits, since January this year.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Government of Sikkim has effected an upward revision of daily wages of workers borne on muster roll in the State. The revision constitutes a 25 per cent increase. The workers affected by the revision number 32 categories and include Supervisor, Carpenter (Grade I, II and III), Mason (Class I, II and III), Painters (Class I, II and III), Ordinary workers (Male and Female), boys and girls, Electrician, fitter, Welder-cum-Denter, Pipe Fitter, Mette Reader, Driver etc.

Workers working from 8001 ft. to 12000' have been authorised to draw an additional 50 per cent over normal wages and those working between 12001' and 16000 ft. have been authorised to draw 75 per cent extra wage over the normal wage.

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

The Law and Legislative Department consists of two main wings i.e. the Legal Affairs Wing and Legislative Wing, The Legal Affairs Wing has been advising the Government in matters of legislation, appeals etc on legal and constitutional matters and assisting other Departments in all matters of legal nature referred to it.

The legislative Wing, which has been entrusted with the work of drafting all Government Bills, Ordinances and Regulations, has drafted a number of the important Legislations in the past one year, including the following:

- (1) The Sikkim Housing and Development Board Act, 1979.
- (2) The Panchayat (Amendment) Act, 1979.
- (3) The Sikkim Cultivators' Protection (Temporary Provisions) Amendment Act, 1979.
- (4) The Fisheries Act, 1980.
- (5) The Sikkim Weight and Measures Act, 1980.
- (6) The Gangtok Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 1980.
- (7) The Sikkim Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Act, 1980.
- (8) The Police (Sikkim Amendment) Act, 1980 and
- (9) The Sikkim Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised—Occupants Rent Recovery) Ordinance, 1980.

SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The present Legislative Assembly has not only ratified Forty-fourth Amendment bill but also passed bills. In its first session, which was held from October 20, 1979. to November 7, 1979 the House passed:

- a) The Sikkim Cultivators Protection (Temporary Provision) Amendment Bill No. 3 of 1979.
- b) The Sikkim Housing and Development Board Bill No. 4 of 1979.
- c) The Sikkim Panchayat (Amendment) Bill No. 5 of 1979 and
- d) The Appropriation Bill No. of 1979.

In the next session held from March 10 to 26, 1980, the House ratified the Constitutional (Forty-Fourth-Amendment) Bill and passed the following:

- a) Budget for 1980-81 and Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1979-80.
- b) The Sikkim Fisheries Bill of No. 1 of 1980.
- c) The Sikkim Weight and Measures Bill No. 2 of 1980.
- d) The Gangtok Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill No. 3.
- e) The Sikkim Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill No. 4.
- f) The Police (Sikkim Amendment) Bill No. 5 of 1980.
- g) The Sikkim Appropriation Bill No. 6 of 1980.
- h) The Sikkim Appropriation Bill No. 7 of 1980.

During March 1980 session the House also constituted the following Committees for a period of one year:-

1. The Public Accounts Committee,
2. The Estimates Committee,
3. The Government Assurances Committee and
4. The Rule Committee.

The Government has granted approval for the construction of a new Assembly House at the site where Dak Banglows are located at present.

The autumn session of the Assembly passed the following bills:-

- (a) The Sikkim Entertainmet Tax Bill No. 8 of 1980.
- (b) The Sikkim Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupation and Rent Recovery) Bill No. 9 of 1980.
- (c) The Sikkim Minister, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Members of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly (Sataries and Allowances Amendment Bill No. 10 and
- (d) The Sikkim weight and Measures (Amendment) Bill No. 11 of 1980.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Rural Development Department carries out inter-alia implementation of various development schemes in the rural areas with a view to raise the socio-economic conditions of the villagers. The main schemes implemented by the Department are as follows:—

1. Irrigation.
2. Village water supply scheme.
3. Construction/improvement of village tracks.
4. Construction of bridges on village tracks.
5. Exploration of ground water.
6. Construction of Panchayat Ghar.

Apart from the above, the Department is also entrusted with the following types of construction work :

(a) Primary Schools and Teachers Quarters for Directorate of Education.

(b) VLW Quarters-cum-Store for Agriculture Department. Civil work of other departments are also entrusted to Rural Development Department for execution.

The Government recently redesignated the Department as Rural Development Department and the following organisations and programmes have been brought under the ambit of the Department for more effective implementation of the schemes meant for uplift of the rural areas:—

1. Small Farmer's Development Agency.
2. Social Welfare.
3. Intensive Development Programme.
4. A.N.P.
5. Khadi & Villagers Industries.
6. Integrative Rural Development.
7. Trysem.
8. Women's Programme with UNICEF help.

Irrigation being an essential prerequisite for raising food production and other cash crops, the two irrigation organisations, Bigger Minor Irrigation and Smaller Minor Irrigation, have been amalgamated and brought under the ambit of Rural Development Department. The decision has been taken primarily to accelerate implementation of irrigation schemes throughout the State. Since last October 1979, twenty-one minor irrigation channels have been renovated and nine new such channels have been constructed at a total expenditure of Rs.13,72,215/-.

The construction of various types of bridges, village tracks, drinking water supply schemes, primary school building and VLW quarters have also been going apace. 63 new bridges were constructed and 18 bridges were repaired at an expenditure of nearly Rs.34,50,000/-.

All the villages in Sikkim are proposed to be covered with safe drinking water supply during the International Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Decade (1981-90). Sector reports relative to Sikkim has already been prepared and forwarded to the authorities concerned.

In view of the Decade Plan the Department has placed special emphasis on drinking water supply for the rural areas during the Sixth Five Year Plan period 1980—85. The Plan has been formulated accordingly in keeping with the Decade Plan (1981—90).

41 Panchayat Ghars have already been completed and a proposal to construct 11 more Panchayat Ghars during the current year has been approved.

DROUGHT RELIEF SCHEMES

The prolonged drought in 1979 severely affected the farmers of Sikkim. The Government took urgent steps to bring relief to the drought afflicted and sanctioned Drought Relief Schemes estimated to cost Rs.20 lakhs.

Under the schemes the affected families were engaged in bench terracing rural composting, water conservation, demonstration of cultivation of crops like potato and maize demonstration and seed distribution. Reports coming from the District agriculture authorities indicate that the following amounts have been distributed in the districts :

Amount	No. of Beneficiaries
(A) South Rs.7,85,6,000/-	3236
(B) West Rs. 6,59,322/50	2881
(C) East Rs. 3,43,431/-	1931
(D) North Rs. 1,34,186/-	576
Total Rs.19,22,549/-	8624

The names of the beneficiaries in the Districts and their addresses are being published in the Sikkim Herald.

SCHEDULED TRIBES & CASTES WELFARE

A scheme has been drawn up to provide grants and aid to members of Scheduled Tribes. A cash payment of Rs.2,000/- each has been sanctioned for deserving families of Scheduled Tribes, for any of the following purposes:

- a) Repairing and construction of dwelling house.
- b) Purchase of a pair of Bullocks,
- c) Improvement of agricultural land (fencing and terracing)
- d) Grants to artisans (Carpet weaver, wood carver, basket weaver, mask carver)

The amount has been increased to Rs.4 lakhs this year against Rs.2 lakhs in 1979-80 and this help is admissible only to those families whose income does not exceed Rs.6,000/- per annum.

For post matriculation studies the Government has awarded scholarships to 51 students belonging to Scheduled Tribes and 10 students belonging to Scheduled Castes during the year 1980-81 at the rate of Rs.70 per month as maintenance allowance and Rs.100 and Rs.50 as clothing and book allowance per annum respectively.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT

The Department of Ecclesiastical Affairs looks after the maintenance and welfare of religious institutions in Sikkim. According to existing records, there are 76 monasteries, 82 mani lhakhangs, 50 mandirs 7 churches and one mosque. But there are also many small religious institutions, including a number of new ones, totalling over a hundred yet to be officially recorded.

During the past one year reconstruction of historically important monasteries were taken up :

- (a) Ralong Monastery in South.
- (b) Namchi Ngadak Monastery in South.
- (c) Yapring of Pemayangtse Monastery in West.
- (d) Sharchok Bayphuk Monastery in South.
- (e) Thongmochi Gumpa in North.

Total expenditure incurred was Rs. 5,12,000/-.

Financial assistance has been extended for repair or renovation works of the following monasteries, mandirs etc.

1. Monastery	—	7 Nos.
2. Mani Lhakhang & Tsamkhang		5 Nos.
3. Mandir	—	5 Nos.
4. Church	—	1 No.

Total expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,20,000/-.

108 Mani Lhakhors (Prayer wheels) made of copper around Duddul Chorten at Deorali, Gangtok have been installed and white washing of important chortens at Tashiding and Yuksam has been carried out.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Cultural Affairs has taken several measures to promote arts and culture, build up State archives, preserve the ancient monuments and strengthen the District Libraries since the present Government came into power.

Promotion of Art and Culture:-

Under Central sponsored programme for "Inter-State Exchange of Cultural Troupes" a cultural troupe from Rajasthan visited Sikkim in December, January 1979-80 and presented cultural shows at Gyalshing and Gangtok. Similarly, a 26-member cultural troupe from Sikkim visited West Bengal in March, 1980 and put up two shows, one at Howrah and the other at Calcutta. Besides a 20-member cultural troupe from the Manipur Fine Arts Centre, New Delhi, visited our State on the invitation of the Chief Minister of Sikkim and entertained the public with colourful cultural shows. A 25-member cultural troupe was also sent to Delhi in January, 1980 which participated in the Republic Day Celebrations, 1980, and proceeded to Haryana on the invitation of the Government of Haryana. Judging by the warm reaction of the audience, we feel sure that such cultural exchanges will help promote understanding between the people of Sikkim and those of other States. A 5-member delegation of tribal representatives also visited Delhi on the occasion of the Republic Day Parade to represent the tribals of Sikkim.

A sum of Rs.1,00,000/- was sanctioned as an annual grant-in-aid to the Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology for the year 1979-80. A sum of Rs.2,26,290/- was sanctioned to construct a double-storeyed hostel near the Community Hall, Gangtok, to accommodate the members of the cultural troupe coming from the other States as well as rural artistes coming to perform in the capital. The construction will be taken up by the S.P.W.D. soon. A rented building near the Community Hall has been hired to house the office of the Song and Drama Unit of the Department, pending construction of the hostel. The proposed establishment of Sikkim State Academy of Art and Literature will constitute a landmark in the history of promotion of cultural activities in Sikkim. The proposal is under the active consideration of the State Government.

Archaeology

Promotion of archaeology is also high on the list of schemes of the Department. The historic 'Bheyul Chorten' or the 'Stupa of Nepal' near the Khechoperi lake in West Sikkim was brought under the purview of the 'Preservation of Ancient Monuments' of Sikkim on the recommendation of the Identifying Committee. Repair works and clearing of the compound surrounding the Chorten has already been completed at an expenditure of Rs.47,1901. A scheme to fence lake Khechoperi in West Sikkim with barbed wire at an expenditure of Rs.3,20,262/- was sanctioned in the month of March, 1980 with a view to preserving the sanctity of the lake, and to protect the lake from encroachment by animals. As a step towards preservation of the old ruined palace at Rabdentse in West Sikkim, the jungle in and around the old palace has been cleared.

The works of clearance of old ruined palace and repair of the Bheyul Chorten both in West Sikkim have been executed by the Department itself on the lines of the Archaeological Survey of India on the recommendation by the Identifying Committee constituted for the purpose. The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act of 1972 (52 of 1972) has been enforced in the State of Sikkim by the Government of India from April 15, 1980 and the Government of India has issued Gazette Notification appointing the Deputy, Director of Archives as registering Officer under the said Act.

Museum

The proposed State Museum is yet to be set up and organised. Antiques worth Rs.9,390/- of historical, traditional and religious significance were purchased to be displayed in the Museum on the recommendation of the Antique Committee. The Government has also sanctioned a sum of Rs.1,00,999/- to the Bhanu Salig Samiti to install a life size bust of Kavi Bhanubhakta at Gangtok in addition to the previous grant of Rs.20,000.

Library

Rs.10,000/- was sanctioned to purchase books to add to the library at the Community Hall in February, 1980. The selection of sites for construction of a composite building of Archives, Museum and Library at Gangtok as well as the District Library buildings both at Gyalshing, in West Sikkim, and Mangan, in North Sikkim, are receiving active attention of the Government.

Gazetteer

A number of scholars have been requested to rewrite the sections and chapters of the State Gazetteer. The compilation of the various aspects of the Gazetteer under the direction of the Editor, Gazetteer Unit of Central Government, New Delhi, is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

State Archives

In pursuance of the Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission, and the policy of the Government of India, the State Archives in Sikkim has been started, and is being organised on modern scientific lines. Inspection of the departmental record preserved in Home, Police, Revenue, Finance, Motor Vehicle, Education SNT, High Court, Ecclesiastical, Establishment, Income Tax and L.S.G. Departments has been made. All problems were discussed with the respective departmental heads and officers and necessary guidelines for scientific arrangement, classification of records, their proper maintenance and preservation, record management, reference media and the like were given to them. Scientific arrangement, classification, labelling and listing of the records pertaining to the Home, Revenue, Finance, Police, and Income Tax Departments have been done. Construction of a building for Archives in consonance with the prescribed specifications and requirements is under the active consideration of the State Government. Meanwhile, a rented house is being used. Steps were taken to obtain documentary films on archives. Action has been taken for obtaining publications, literature and reports from the different departments of the Sikkim Government and Gazette of West Bengal. A good many of them have been received. Important resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the National Committee of Archivists were accepted by the Sikkim State Archives. The Director, National Academy of Administration, Government of India, Mussoorie, has been contacted to incorporate record management system and other allied aspects of records in the training course of I.A.S.

The Sikkim State Archives has been enrolled as Institutional Member of the Institute of Historical Studies, Calcutta.

FORESTS

The Department has recently taken up new plantations of fast growing economic species of trees in an area covering 1000 acres. Fencing of the vulnerable points was done to an extent of 10 Kms. and regularly patrolled. Cleaning, weeding and cultural operations were carried out in all the areas. Pulpwood plantation to the extent of 500 acres and 100 acres of fuelwood plantation have also been completed in the past three months. In a bid to meet seedling requirements of the Department the Territorial Circle has produced 18 lakh seedlings from local nurseries. An additional 10 acres of new nursery has been created recently.

Under the scheme of Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests, 300 acres have been brought under plantation. There is a proposal to create new nurseries totalling 40 acres within the current financial year. Steps have been initiated to this end.

There are virgin forests in many parts of Sikkim which are stocked with over-mature, dead and dying trees. Left to the mercy of nature, such forests would eventually go waste as the decay and decomposition would continue without being replaced by natural regeneration, for the trees have gone beyond the stage of reproduction. It is necessary to fell the trees clear and plant fast growing and more economical trees afresh to boost the production of timber and firewood. The Department is therefore tapping the over-mature forests of Ganchung Reserve Forests area. To extract these logs economically 2 Kms. of truckable forest road has been constructed, linking it up with the Temi Tarku-Namchi Road. In the process 36,000 maunds of firewood, 24,000 bags of charcoal and 10,000 cft. of timber have been harvested by the Utilisation Circle in the past three months.

Wild Life:-

As usual the "Operation Trap Demolition" was taken up in the Western and Northern sectors of the Khangchenzonga National Park. Different groups led by an Assistant Wild Life Officer entered Khangchenzonga National Park in the last week of September. The leader of the Western Sector successfully apprehended 3 notorious poachers who had crossed from Nepal Border and were operating within the Khangchenzonga National Park.



*The Chief Minister planting a sapling on
Vanamahotsava festival*

Fisheries :-

Improvement of Menmoitso link road and construction of R.C.C. bridge and protective works of the road were taken up. In trout fishery programme, 3 lakh eyed ova of brown trout were produced, reared and stocked in Backcha Chu, Lachenchu in the North the Rongyechu in the East and Kaletchu in the West up to April, 1980.

For propagating trout fishery in West Sikkim, a rearing unit at Moneypong with hatching capacity of 12 lakhs of ova has been set up.

Under carp and cat fish programme, the ponds at Soreng farm were extended and 2 lakhs of common carp fry obtained for stocking in natural ponds, or rearing in farms for sale to pisciculturists in the State.

Thirty-seven village farmers have been given loan and technical advice to start fish culture.

Soil Conservation :

Afforestation of 2,000 acres were taken up during this period and the Soil Conservation Circle produced 15 lakh seedlings of fast growing species for afforestation purposes in the last three months. Under protective work schemes for various areas threatened by landslides a total of 15,000 cubic metres of protection work were taken up in all landslide affected places in this rainy season. These works were executed through Panchayat nominees endorsed by the M.L.As of the areas concerned.

HIGHER DEARNESS ALLOWANCE FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

The Government's aim is to promote the welfare of all sections of the population, including the Government employees who form the backbone of the administration and play an important role in implementing various development projects meant for the uplift of the people. To offset the effects of rising cost of living, the Government has sanctioned five instalment of Dearness Allowance for the various groups of its employees.

The D.A. increase has been effected for the first time on the basis of Central Government D.A. The five instalments of D.A. sanctioned are effective from (i) December 1, 1978 (ii) August 1, 1979 (iii) November 1, 1979 and (iv) February, 1980 and (v) May 1. The first instalment of 2 1/2 per cent of pay subject to a minimum of Rs.15/- was sanctioned only for those employees whose basic pay was upto Rs.900/- p.m. The five instalments of D.A. total up to a minimum of Rs.47/- p.m. and a maximum of Rs.112/50 p. ₹

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

A. Apart from the schemes sanctioned or executed during the 200 days of the new Government, the Government have sanctioned the following schemes for improving the maintenance of towns and civic amenities :

1.	Providing protective works at Reshi Bazar, West Sikkim	Rs. 1,30,500/-
2.	Providing levelling and improvement of yard at Daramdin Bazar in West Sikkim	Rs. 45,000/-
3.	Construction of Public Latrine at Daramdin West Sikkim	Rs. 30,600/-
4.	Construction of Public Latrine at Rorathang East Sikkim	Rs. 29,650/-
5.	Construction of Public Latrine at Rhenock, East Sikkim	Rs. 29,000/-
6.	Construction of Public Latrine at Dentam, West Sikkim	Rs. 29,500/-
7.	Construction of Meat Stalls at Rangpo, Rongli, Melli and Soreong	Rs. 98,240/-
8.	Providing protective works at Pakyong Bazar	Rs. 72,540/-
9.	Restoration of Jhora training work at Rani- pool Bazar, East Sikkim	Rs. 18,550/-
10.	Providing catchments at Sombaria Bazar, West Sikkim	Rs. 3,500/-
11.	Construction of Public Latrine at Singtam Bazar, East Sikkim	Rs. 31,190/-
12.	Construction of Public Latrine at Bermiok Bazar, West Sikkim	Rs. 42,500/-
13.	Construction of Public Latrine at Legship Bazar, West Sikkim	Rs. 44,100/-

B. Sikkim Entertainment Tax Act, 1980.

The cinemas have long been screening films in the State without a legal system for the realisation of Entertainment Tax. To provide a legal basis for the realisation of Entertainment Tax, the new Government have passed the Sikkim Entertainment Tax Act, 1980 recently which comes into force from the date of its publication in the Gazette.

GANGTOK MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Achievements of the Gangtok Municipal Corporation in the first year of Parishad Government's administration are briefly as follows:

1. Boundary pillars have been fixed around the G.M.C. limit.
 2. One Escort tractor with carrier and six garbage containers have been purchased for easy and quick disposal of garbage.
 3. One 8-unit quarters for Safai Karmacharis has been constructed.
 4. One portable pump has been procured for cleaning of choked drains.
 5. Further public toilets at Tathangchen, Chandmari and near Slaughter House have been constructed for the facility of the public.
 6. A portion of Link Road to Arithang from Ch. 11 to 22 has been constructed.
 7. Widening and improvement of Kazi Road, Tibet Road and Development Area Road have been taken up to cater for better and comfortable turnover of vehicles.
 8. Footpaths at various places within the G.M.C. area have also been constructed.
 9. A portion of bazar drain has been constructed for free flow of rainwater and waste water with the provision of R.C.C./steel with grating slab over it.
 9. Certain jhorashave also been trained at Tadong, Deorali, below Paljor Stadium, near Hospital, behind State Guest House, below T.N.H.S. School and behind Lal Market.
- Concreting of jhora behind Girls High School has also been taken up besides other drains within the Corporation limit.

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National Institute of Educational
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The Speaker, Shri Sonam Tshering, inaugurating the concrete hume pipe factory at Rongpo in July this year.

NIEPA DC



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