

# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

[A Central University Established by an Act of Parliament of India, 2007]



## Second ANNUAL REPORT (April 2008-March 2009)

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(Established in 2007)

Sixth Mile, Samdur, Tadong, Gangtok, Sikkim, India

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# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

Sikkim University constituted under the Sikkim University Act 2006 (10 of 2007) came into existence on 2 July 2007. It is a Central University established and fully funded by the Government of India. Its objectives as defined in the Sikkim University Act 2006 are as follows:

- (i) To disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit.
- (ii) To make provisions for integrated courses in humanities, natural and physical sciences, social sciences, forestry and other allied disciplines in the educational programmes of the University.
- (iii) To take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching learning process, interdisciplinary studies and research.
- (iv) To educate and train manpower for the development of the State of Sikkim;
- (v) To pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people of that State, their intellectual, academic and cultural development.

## Our Mission

Sikkim University fulfils a long cherished aspiration of not just the people of Sikkim but the entire Eastern Himalayas, to have a national level higher institution of learning. It is located in a very peaceful, accessible and naturally magnificent surrounding and is expected to contribute substantively to the nation building process by:

- mobilizing the rich intellectual heritage of this region,
- galvanizing the academic fervour and creative instincts of the youth and
- developing agencies and institutions that will facilitate cross border interactions.

Sikkim University is being designed in such a way so as to make it known for :

- academic excellence and innovative inter disciplinary research,
- it's all inclusive institutional character and
- a strong instrument of regional development and cross-border integration.

In other words, SU aims to make Sikkim and its surrounding areas including Darjeeling district as an Educational Hub for the whole of Eastern South Asia and South East Asia. The University aspires to make pristine and profusely endowed Sikkim and the adjoining region of Darjeeling as an Intellectual Capital of the Eastern Himalayan region. Therefore, the diverse constituents of Sikkim University shall constantly aspire and relentlessly strive for innovative ideas, broader thinking, wider concepts and solid actions with strong local and regional roots. The University cherishes to achieve a greater height and a deeper depth so that a truly universal institution of excellence and repute that is neutral in terms of ideology, gender, race, geography and religion could be built in the eastern fringes of South Asia.

The University expects to attract students and faculty members from both within India and abroad particularly from the immediate neighbouring countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Myanmar, Nepal and Thailand. This will also supplement the schools and colleges in the region which continue to attract a large number of students from these countries.

The University is trying to bring in the best practices of academic programmes, teaching methods and curriculum designing both from within and outside India. From the very beginning Sikkim University is trying to ensure that there is complete transparency, discreet individual accountability, targeted performance and no red-tapeism in this institution. All its stakeholders would strive to make Sikkim University a corruption free and a green institution in terms of its environmental richness and physical architecture. We also plan to have peon-free office management.



## Visitor, Chancellor and Chief Rector



**Shri BP Singh**  
Governor of Sikkim is the Chief Rector of the University



**Madame Pratibha Devisingh Patil**  
President of India  
is the Visitor of the University.



**Prof MS Swaminathan**  
is the Chancellor of the University

## Executive Council

The First Executive Council of Sikkim University was constituted vide Government of India, Ministry of Human Resources Development notification No.F.36-4/2007 Desk (U) dated 21 February 2008 which consist of the cream of Indian academia, professionals, experts and civil society members.



**Prof. Mahendra P. Lama**  
Vice-Chancellor  
Ex-officio Chairman



**Shri K. T. Chankapa**  
Secretary in-charge of Higher Education  
Government of Sikkim  
Ex-officio Member



**Prof. Mrinal Miri**  
Former Vice-Chancellor,  
North Eastern Hill University, Shillong  
Member



**Shri M.P. Bezbaroah**  
Former Secretary, Govt. of India  
Member



**Prof. Gautam Barua**  
Director, Indian Institute of Technology  
Guwahati  
Member



**Prof. Madhura Swaminathan**  
Economist, Indian Statistical Institute  
Kolkata  
Member



**Prof. Seyed E. Hasnain**  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Hyderabad  
Hyderabad  
Member



**Dr. M. Anandakrishnan**  
Chairman  
Indian Institute of Technology  
Kanpur  
Member



**Dr. Shiv Raj Singh**  
Professor & Chief Scientist  
Institute of Agricultural Sciences  
Banaras Hindu University (BHU)  
Varanasi  
Member



**Shri Nawang Gombu**  
Former Director  
Himalayan Mountaineering Institute  
Darjeeling  
Member



**Dr. S.A. Suryawanshi**  
Former Vice-Chancellor  
Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University  
Nanded (Maharashtra)  
Member



**Shri S. K. Sarkar**  
Registrar  
Sikkim University  
Ex-officio Secretary





## Executive Council Meetings

The Executive Council is the principal executive body of the University. The historic first meeting of the first Executive Council of Sikkim University was held on Friday, 8th August 2008 at The Royal Plaza, Gangtok, Sikkim. The meeting was chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Mahendra P Lama and attended by Prof Mrinal Miri, Shri M P Bezbarooah, Prof Gautam Barua, Dr M Anandakrishnan, Prof Shiv Raj Singh, Shri Nawang Gombu, Dr SA Suryawanshi and Shri Tsegial Tashi (represented Secretary, Department of Human Resources Development, Government of Sikkim). The meeting took far reaching decisions on a wide range of activities /functions of the University, including ordinances and statutes, academic programmes, recruitment of both faculty and management staff, institutional structures, resource mobilization from both public and private sources and acquisition and development of proposed University site at Yangang in South Sikkim.

The ten best selected entries for the logo, motto and flag of the Sikkim University were also presented in the meeting. It was on this day that the Executive Council selected the best logo which was later adopted by Sikkim University. The Vice Chancellor made a presentation on various activities undertaken by the University in its one year of existence. The members appreciated and congratulated the Vice Chancellor on the progress made by the University in such a short span of time. The members visited the office of the Sikkim University at Tadong and interacted with the Sikkim University Team. Many of the members drove home the point that since this is a new University with inter-disciplinary programmes, it need not follow the traditional pattern of setting up several Departments within a School. Instead all the discipline-wise departments could be merged and housed under a number of schools which could conduct academic programmes with a freely exchangeable faculty structures both within and outside the respective schools.

**Second meeting of the First Executive Council of Sikkim University was held on 28th March, 2009, at The Sikkim Retreat, Gangtok.** In this meeting the Vice Chancellor informed the Council that the President of India, in her capacity as the Visitor of Sikkim University has appointed Prof. M. S. Swaminathan as the Chancellor of the University, till 1st July 2012. The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the meeting of the First Executive Council held on 8th August 2008 was placed for discussion and the same was approved. The meeting was also attended by the first Registrar, Shri SK Sarkar, the first Finance Officer, Shri PV Ravi and Fellow Academic, Dr. CB Sunwar.

Members of the Executive Council with the University staff at the office of Sikkim University in Tadong





## Academic Council

The First Academic Council of Sikkim University was constituted vide notification Government of India, Ministry of Human Resources No.F.36-4/2008 Desk (U) dated 16 July 2008 which consists of the cream of Indian academia, professionals and experts.

Following are the members of the First Academic Council.



**Prof. Y.D. Prasad**  
Former Director  
A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies,  
and Former Dean, Faculty of Social  
Sciences, Patna University

**Prof. R.P. Tiwari**  
Dean, School of Forestry & Earth  
Sciences  
Mizoram University



**Prof. A.R. Reddy**  
School of Life Sciences,  
University of Hyderabad

**Prof. Ravi Shankar Srivastava**  
Centre for Studies in Regional  
Development, Jawaharlal Nehru  
University, New Delhi



**Prof. J.P. Sharma**  
In-charge, Department of Commerce,  
Delhi University, South Campus

**Prof. P.K. Banik**  
Director,  
National Institute of Technology, Silchar



**Prof. Suranjan Das**  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Calcutta and  
Former Member,  
University Grants Commission

**Prof. V.S. Prasad**  
Former Director,  
National Assessment and  
Accreditation Council  
Bangalore



**Prof. T. Karunakaran**  
Former Vice-Chancellor,  
Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram  
Tamil Nadu

**Shri Sanjoy Hazarika**  
Director,  
Centre for North-East Studies & Policy  
Research, New Delhi



**Prof. (Dr.) S.F. Patil**  
Former Dean of Science,  
University of Pune &  
Former Vice-Chancellor,  
Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Pune

**Prof. Iftexhar Ahmed**  
Director, AJK Mass Communication &  
Research Centre, Jamia Milia Islamia,  
New Delhi



**Dr. G.S. Yonzon**  
Former Principal, Kalimpong College,  
Darjeeling

**Prof. Tanka B. Subba**  
Head, Anthropology Department,  
North Eastern Hill University,  
Shillong







**Prof. Atul Sharma**  
Former Vice- Chancellor,  
Rajiv Gandhi University,  
Itanagar

**Dr. Neelima Deshmukh**  
Director, Centre for Women Studies &  
Development, Nagpur University,  
Nagpur



**Prof. Tista Bagchi**  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Delhi

**Prof. Anjan Mukherjee**  
Department of Mathematics,  
Tripura University



**Prof. Manvendra Kishore Das**  
Dean, Faculty of Education,  
Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith,  
Varanasi

**Prof. Jose Verghese**  
Former Vice-Chancellor,  
Hidayatullah National Law University,  
Raipur



**Ex-officio Chairman: Prof. Mahendra P Lama, Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University**

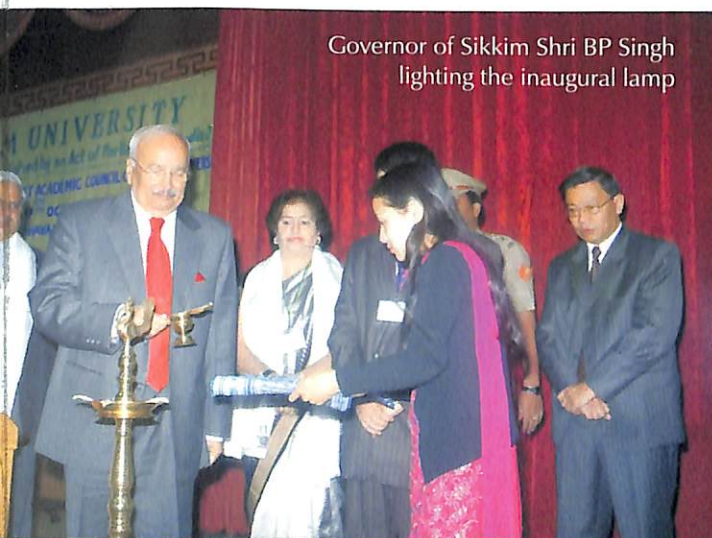
## Academic Council Meetings

The Academic Council is the principal academic body of the University which coordinates and exercises general supervision over the academic policies of the University. The Plenary Session of the First Academic Council of Sikkim University was held on 17th October, 2008, at Chintan Bhawan, in Gangtok. The Vice Chancellor made a presentation on various activities undertaken by the University in its 15 months of existence. The Session was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp by His Excellency, the Governor of Sikkim, Shri BP Singh, who is also the Chief Rector of Sikkim University. Shri P.D. Rai, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Government of Sikkim also spoke on the occasion.

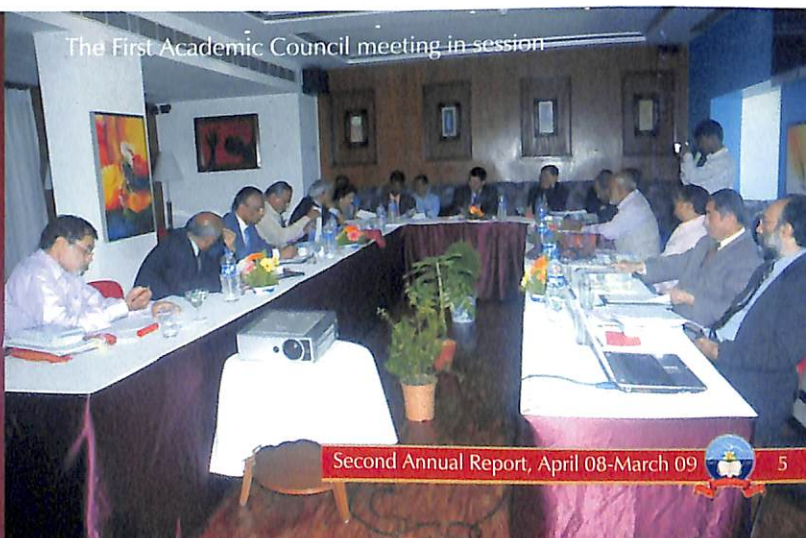
Various undergraduate and post graduate syllabus prepared by Syllabus Review Committees [Curriculum Development Committee] was presented for ratification

Development Committee] was presented for ratification in this meeting. Semester system and Evaluation System implemented in Sikkim University was also ratified by the Academic Council. The Academic Council also desired that the Vice Chancellor would take appropriate steps to review the system through a Committee constituted by him on these new practices of evaluation. The Academic Council authorized the Vice Chancellor to constitute the School Boards for various Schools and also accepted the proposal for creation of a series of departments as approved by the University Grants Commission during the XIth Five Year Plan (2007-2012). Under the guidance of the Academic Council the University is trying to bring in the best practices of academic programmes, teaching methods and curriculum designs both from within and outside India.

Governor of Sikkim Shri BP Singh  
lighting the inaugural lamp



The First Academic Council meeting in session





## Finance Committee Meeting

As per Section 17 (1) of the Statute of Sikkim University Act, 2006, the Finance Committee shall have the following members:

1. Vice-Chancellor
2. Pro Vice-Chancellor
3. One person to be nominated by the Court
4. Three persons to be nominated by the Executive Council, out of whom at least one shall be a member of the Executive Council; and
5. Three persons to be nominated by the Visitor
6. Finance Officer as the Ex-Official Secretary

In order to regulate the entire financial norms and practices in Sikkim University from the very beginning, the Executive Council in its meeting held on August 8, 2008 nominated three persons in the Finance Committee viz., Shri M.P. Bezbaruah, as a representative of the Executive Council, Shri Arjun Syangden, Former Principal Chief Conservator of

Forests, Government of West Bengal and Shri T. T. Dorjee, Additional Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Sikkim.

These members along with a representative of the MHRD Shri S.S. Mahlawat had their first meeting on 8th February 2009 at Hotel Sinclair, Siliguri. The meeting chaired by the Vice Chancellor, discussed various issues related to financial norms, adherence to General Financial Rules and also issues related to the purchase, payments of salaries to staff members appointed on contractual basis and long term development expenditure.

The Finance Officer Shri. P.V. Ravi made a presentation before the members of the committee on Fund Flow and Budget Estimates, which was well received by the members of the committee. While appreciating the efforts made by the Finance Officer in putting the systems and procedures into place so far, the Committee advised him to take all further steps needed in this direction to enable the University to follow the best financial discipline. The Committee was impressed with the immense progress made by the University so far.



First Finance Committee Meeting



## Support from the Government of India and the University Grants Commission

The Government of India led by Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and Ministry of Human Resources Development led by Shri Arjun Singh, have been extraordinarily supportive of Sikkim University project. The Union Government has been highly appreciative of the effort made by this infant institution in highlighting the imperative need of using higher education as an instrument of intellectually and institutionally integrating the North East region with the other relatively developed regions of India.

Shri RP Agarwala, Secretary in the MHRD, Shri Sunil Kumar, Joint Secretary, Shri RD Sahay, Director, Shri SS Mahlawat, Under Secretary and Shri KL Nandwani, Under Secretary have been single-

minedly devoted to building Sikkim University as an institution of excellence in the North East. They have been generously providing resources, invaluable guidance and meticulous in diverse areas of University building.

Prof SK Thorat, Chairman of the University Grants Commission has been inspiring and supporting Sikkim University to tackle the formidable challenges of a new institution building by providing profuse institutional and intellectual support. His esteemed colleagues in the UGC including Prof Mool Chand Sharma, Vice Chairman, Dr RK Chauhan, Secretary, Dr Renu Batra, Joint Secretary, Dr Surendra Singh, Deputy Secretary and Shri Narain Singh, Deputy Secretary, have been of tremendous professional support and invaluable guidance.



UGC Visiting Team in Sikkim University

## Support from the Government of Sikkim

The State Government of Sikkim has provided two buildings on rental basis that were required for initiating this ambitious task of building a University of international standard. The Government of Sikkim has earmarked for Sikkim University a 300 acre land for its campus at Yangang about 56 KM away from Gangtok. Sikkim University has already handed over a sum of Rs 7.5 crore vide letter No SU/07-08/20.1 dated 7th April 2008 (out of the total commitment of Rs 15 crore it made to the

Government of Sikkim for the acquisition of land). The University has been told that the land acquisition process is soon being completed. However, its handing over to the University which was expected to be completed in 2008 only, has not been done till the end of March 2009. Since the University building project has just begun, excerpts from some of these valuable documents exchanged between Sikkim University and other agencies with regard to land acquisition are placed here for both information and conservation.



## Extracts of various letters exchanged in connection with acquisition of land at Yangang

**Letter No. C I/Secy/HRDD dated 5.1.2008 from the Secretary Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim addressed to the Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University on land acquisition proceedings and the tentative cost of land to be acquired.**

"... ..Based on the administrative approval of the Government, a formal request has been made to the District Collector- South for acquisition of 312 acres of land at Yangang, South Sikkim applying the emergency clause of the relevant Land Acquisition Act. In order to facilitate smooth acquisition as well as transfer of land from the landowners and to determine the land rate as per prevailing market value, a public hearing was fixed on 3rd January 2008 at Yangang. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Hon'ble Minister- HRDD and the Hon'ble Minister for Roads & Bridges were kind enough to attend the hearing along with the Hon'ble MLAs of Ranka, Rekdong, Tintek, Wok and area MLA Shri Ramu Damu. As the District Collector is the competent authority to determine and finalise the land acquisition, the public hearing was carried out in his presence".

".....The provisional rate hence, as communicated at the spot verbally by the District Collector-South in the presence of Secretary-Land Revenue is Rs.10 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs) per acre including standing crops, buildings and 30% of solatium admissible under the Acquisition Act. It was decided that only 300 acres of land will be acquired instead of 312 acres originally earmarked....."

".....The overall provisional cost for 300 acres will be Rs.30 Crore (Rupees Thirty Crores). I am therefore directed to request you to kindly communicate the provisional cost of the land to the Government of India so that 50% of the cost which is 15 Crores (Rupees Fifteen Crores) as committed by Government of India is immediately made available to the State Government for payment of land compensation and taking over of the land from the landowners concerned immediately....."

**Letter dated 21.01.2008 from the Prof Mahendra P Lama, Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University to Shri Sunil Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India requesting for release of funds towards share of Government of India for acquisition of land.**

".....The Government of Sikkim has also organised the first public hearing on 3rd January 2008 at Yangang, which was attended by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. Pawan Chamling himself alongwith his Cabinet colleagues, senior officials and members of the family who own the land. The process of acquisition of land has been put on the fast track mode both because of the urgent need of the University and also the likelihood of the Hon'ble President of India visiting Sikkim in the 2nd week of March 2008 in which case both Sikkim University and the Government of Sikkim would like to request Hon'ble President of India to lay the foundation stone of the University at the newly acquired land.



The Government of Sikkim has also informed us that the total cost of acquisition of the land is estimated to be Rs.30 Crore in which they have made the request that a sum of Rs.15 Crore i.e (50 of the total cost of acquisition of land) may be borne by the Government of India as per the commitment made in the aforementioned letter....."

".....I would be grateful if your august ministry could expedite the release of this assistance for the acquisition of land in favour of Government Sikkim at the earliest so that the land acquisition process is completed within 30-40 days....."

**Government of Sikkim Order No. Home/Conf/2008/02 dated 29.01.2008 constituting the Committee to assess the value of houses falling within the land proposed to be acquired at Yangang.**

".....In order to assess the value of houses falling within the land proposed to be acquired for the construction of Central University at Yangang, South Sikkim, the State Government is hereby pleased to constitute a Committee consisting of the following members namely....."

.....The Committee shall submit its report within a period of one month from the date of issue of this order....."

**University Grants Commission, New Delhi letter no. F.30-1/2007(CU) dated 19.03.2008 on release of Grants-in-Aid to the Sikkim University under General Development Scheme as Special Grant during XI Plan period for the year 2007-08.**

".....I am directed to convey the sanction of the University Grants Commission for payment of an on account grant of Rs.7,50,00,000 (Rupees Seven Crore Fifty Lakh only) for meeting the Central Government share for acquisition of land for establishment of Sikkim University, Yangang, South Sikkim under General Development Grant under XI Plan for the year 2007-08 to Sikkim University, Gangtok....."

**Letter no. SU/07-08/20-1 dated 7.04.2008 from the Officer on Special Duty-II, Sikkim University to The Secretary, Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim remitting the sum of Rs. 7.50 Crore towards acquisition of land.**

".... With reference to the letter cited, I am directed to enclose herewith a crossed cheque bearing no. 271718 dated 7.4.2008 (Axis Bank) for Rs.7.50 Crore in favour of "The Secretary, Department of Land Revenue and Disaster Management", Government of Sikkim being the Central Government share for acquisition of land for establishment of Sikkim University at Yangang (South Sikkim)....."

**Letter no. VCO/SU/SG40 dated 13.06.08 from the Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim requesting to expedite the acquisition of land.**

"..... We have two major concerns at the moment. Firstly, since the first instalment of the Development Grant is not yet utilized by your august Government, Sikkim University is not able to send the utilization certificate to the University Grants Commission (UGC) as requested. UGC has also asked us to increase the pace of utilization of the fund otherwise



there is a possibility that this will be diverted to some other Universities where there are more pressing needs.....

Secondly, we are now getting the first instalment of the plan fund for the construction works at the ear-marked site at Yangang. .... it may also be added that Government of India has sanctioned 30 more Central Universities and if we are not able to utilize the initial grant there is every possibility of diverting the fund to other proposed new Universities.

I would also like to state that we have not been able to start many of our programmes because of the non-availability of space. However, we are planning to start some of the Post-graduate teaching programmes in July-August 2008. For that University is looking for suitable buildings on rent basis. ...."

**Letter no.134/874/LR&DM (S) dated 11.07.2008 from the RO-Cum-Asst. Director/LR&DMD addressed to the Secretary, Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim on submission of Utilisation Certificate.**

".....In this connection, I am directed to inform you that this department on receipt of the cheque for Rs.7.50 Crore towards the payment of land compensation at Yangang Block, South Sikkim has sent the said cheque to the District Collector, South for disbursement.....

**Letter no. GOS/DTE/2007/VI(27)/173 dated 11.07.2008 from the Director, Technical Education, Human Resource Development Department to the Officer on Special Duty, Sikkim University on submission of Utilisation Certificate.**

".....I am directed to hereby forward the original copy of the Utilisation Certificate for expenditure of Rs.7.5 Crore issued by the Revenue Officer, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim vide reference No. 1134/874/LR(S) dated 11.07.2008....."

**Letter no. SU/REG/204/689 dated 4.2.2009 from the Registrar, Sikkim University to the Principal Secretary, Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim requesting to expedite the allotment of land at Yangang.**

".....I am directed to request you to kindly take urgent necessary steps for allotting the earmarked land at Yangang in favour of the University so that the money already received from the Government of India by the University is utilized and further amount is received within March 2009. The University is eagerly waiting to deposit the balance amount of Rs.7.5 Crore to the Government of Sikkim and to receive the allotment of land as early as possible. The University has planned to establish 40 academic departments under the XI Plan period ending on 31.03.2012. This would not be possible without immediate allotment of land by the Government....."



## Appointment of First Registrar and Finance Officer

As per the Sikkim University Act 2006 Article 46 (b) the first Registrar and the first Finance Officer are appointed by the Visitor of the University for a term of three years. Accordingly the Visitor (The President of India) nominated two eminent experts as selection Committee Members (with Vice Chancellor as the Chairman). The posts of these two statutory officers were advertised in various local and national newspapers during the last week of February 2008. A large number of applications were received by the University.

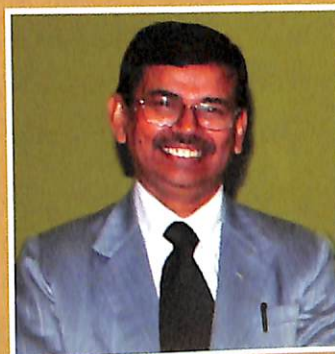
While Sikkim University was preparing to conduct the interview for these posts, it received an Office Order No 2891/G/DPO dated 29.03.2008 signed by the Special Secretary, Department of Personnel..., Government of Sikkim, which mentioned that ".... Additional Secretary, Finance, Revenue and Expenditure Department is hereby transferred and posted as the Registrar, Sikkim University, on deputation with immediate effect." This was a major surprise for Sikkim University as it had never requested for any person in the post of the Registrar from the Government of Sikkim. Sikkim

University responded to this note immediately on 03.04.2008 and again on 04.04.2008 with more details about various provisions of appointment of Registrar under Sikkim University Act 2006 No 10 of 2007 and explaining how it was not possible for the University to accept the deputation of the said official for the post of the Registrar.

In response, University received another note from the Special Secretary, Government of Sikkim mentioning that "the State Government has taken a decision to stand by its earlier decision to post..... as Registrar, Sikkim University." University reiterated its stand and stuck to the position that this action of Sikkim Government was untenable and went ahead with the conduct of the interviews for both positions of the Registrar and the Finance Officer. The first Registrar Shri SK Sarkar, former Registrar of Viswa Bharati University, Shantiniketan and the first Finance Officer Shri PV Ravi formerly of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, joined Sikkim University on 10 October 2008 and 10 September 2008 respectively.



**P. V. Ravi**  
Finance Officer



**S.K. Sarkar**  
Registrar



## Major Tasks

The 20 month old Sikkim University started its office at the erstwhile Youth Hostel Building at 6th Mile, Tadong, Gangtok with a small yet highly committed team of professionals. The University has three major activities at this stage.

**Firstly, to innovatively draft all the rules, regulations, ordinances and statutes.**

**Secondly, to design and launch the interdisciplinary academic programmes, devise attractive admission policy, recruit a good blend of local, national and global faculty and management staff.**

**And thirdly, to steadily build and develop indigenously designed modern physical infrastructure at its proposed Campus at Yangang in South Sikkim.**

## College Level Academic Programmes

### College Reforms

At the moment, besides the four private universities established by the legislative actions of the Government of Sikkim, the following undergraduate institutions exist in the State. All these undergraduate institutions which

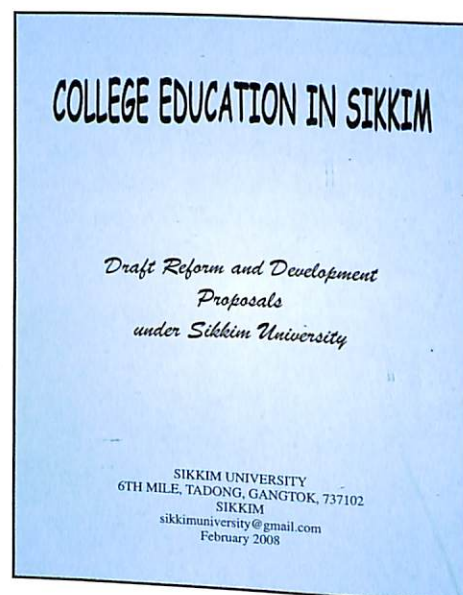
were hitherto affiliated to North Bengal University, Darjeeling district are now affiliated to Sikkim University.

- i. Sikkim Government College, Gangtok (East Sikkim)
- ii. Rhenock Government College, Rhenock (East Sikkim)
- iii. Namchi Government College, Namchi (South Sikkim)
- iv. Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk (East Sikkim)
- v. Dambar Singh College, Gangtok (Private)
- vi. Pakim Paltine College, Pakyong, East Sikkim (Private)
- vii. Loyola College of Education, Namchi (Private)
- viii. Harka Maya College of Education, Gangtok (Private)
- ix. Himalayan Pharmacy Institute, Majhitar, East Sikkim (Private)

Immediately after the establishment of Sikkim University, the University undertook to assess the teaching and infrastructural conditions in various colleges in Sikkim. It carried out a detailed study on the exact status of these colleges in terms of teaching quality, student attendance, evaluation system, success rates, infrastructural facilities and other socio-economic of the students. Based on this

assessment study, the Sikkim University brought out a document entitled **College Education in Sikkim-Draft Reform and Development Proposals under Sikkim University** in February 2008.

This was circulated among 400 persons of the State and outside including the Governor, Chief Minister, Education Minister and other Ministers,





all the Secretaries and Heads of the Departments of the Government of Sikkim, college teachers and students, principals of the senior secondary schools, former bureaucrats, civil society members including professionals, private sector, media, heads of religious institutions and NGOs. A large number of

people responded with very valuable and encouraging comments and suggestions. (please see **Sikkim University, Annual Report 2007-2008**) Most of them however, also mentioned that the colleges in general are really in poor conditions.

### To start with Sikkim University proposed the following:

- i) Raise the minimum percentage of marks required for seeking admissions into the government and other colleges gradually to 50 percent by 2012
  - ii) Fix the intake capacity so that the quality could be improved and burden on the already limited infrastructure could be lessened. This will also facilitate improvement in the quality of service and amenities. Sikkim University found that a large number of faculties/programmes were started without any planning and some of the critical faculties are run by one or two teachers. In many of the government colleges the number of temporary/adhoc teachers is overwhelming. For instance, share of temporary/adhoc teachers is 87 percent in Namchi Government College and 79 percent in Rhenok Government College. Much of the recruitment deflected the primary UGC norms.
  - iii) The recruitment of faculty to be done by strictly following the UGC norms.
  - iv) Sikkim University presented the representatives of the HRDD/Govt of Sikkim with two very clear options. Either to recruit an under-qualified faculty member in the name of giving employment and keep at stake the future of an entire college going generation. Or, to recruit a qualified faculty and brighten the future of the entire generation. The implications of this are widely seen as large number of unemployable graduates join the unemployment basket of the State on a regular basis.
  - v) Sikkim University has assured that it would educate, train and create a critical pool of local scholars, academics and professionals in diverse disciplines in course of next 5 to 8 years so that they can join various colleges and also Sikkim University in its various teaching faculty and research programmes. With these qualifications and trainings they could get steady careers both within India and abroad.
  - vi) Sikkim University plans to undertake the second generation reforms starting 2010. This will include streamlining of college admission policies, introduction of new courses and academic programmes, credit system in evaluation, collaborative exchanges with undergraduate colleges/institutions of various universities both in India and abroad, large scale field exposure to both the students and faculty members, performance evaluation of faculty members and induction of modern teaching techniques including virtual method of teaching and learning.
- Sikkim University has already completed a major portion of college reforms process and has successfully brought the entire college



programmes under Semester System with a newly introduced inter-disciplinary curriculum and evaluation system. So far all these colleges have had annual examination system.

- \* The semester system facilitates intense academic period followed by a prompt evaluation system
- \* The interactive learning process that is adopted under the semester system enables maintenance of individualised performance record of all the students followed by group activity
- \* Semester system is in conformity with the global practices and academic standards and facilitates student exchange, credit transfer and better appreciation of the degrees earned

- \* It enables movement across universities within India and abroad
- \* It allows more interdisciplinary learning through its interdisciplinary programmes and activities
- \* Students are kept academically busy throughout the year within a tight schedule rather than through periods of leisure and hyper activity
- \* Regular conduct of exams which is a core feature of a semester system leads to continuous evaluation of the performance of the student
- \* Declaration of results take place within a tight time frame

## Academic Period

The following tables highlight the academic period and also vacation schedules. Under this system, a short summer break and a relatively longer winter break are available for the students.

Under the new system the final result of each semester will be declared within 20 days from the last day of the end semester examination. This is very much unlike the immediate past system where

Academic Period				
Semester	Academic Period	No. of Teaching Days	Examination Schedule	Declaration of Result
	10th July- 30th November*	144@	1-10 December	30 December
Spring	4th February- 31st May*	117@	1-10 June	30 June

\* Will start on the immediate next week day if these dates fall on Sundays.

@ The total number of teaching days in a Semester includes national holidays, State Government holidays and Sundays. Teaching days will be from Monday to Saturday.

The semesters are named as Spring (*Vasanta*) and Monsoon (*Varsha*) which are the two very crucial seasons for the sustenance of the entire hill and mountain regions.

in case of Part I and Part II, the results were declared after three months and in case of Part III examinations, the results were declared in minimum two months period.

Academic Vacation		
Vacation	Period	No. of Days
Summer Break	11th June - 9th July	27
Winter Break	11th December - 3rd February	55



Vice Chancellor Prof. Mahendra P. Lama made a presentation to all teaching faculties including Principals of 9 colleges on course structure and new semester system to be implemented in the undergraduate course from July 2008. He explained the advantages of the semester system over annual examination system and mentioned that it facilitates a rigorous one-to-one and continuous evaluation process, trains a student and builds confidence; affords more flexibility to the student and brings in a system of prompt evaluation. He further stated that

the semester system empowers a teacher to design her/his teaching and evaluation pattern, and to assess the impact of her/his own teaching, gets an opportunity to introduce new teaching practices, tools and materials which would improve the curriculum.

The inter-disciplinary choice among the subjects by students is one of the important features of the course structure in undergraduate courses introduced by Sikkim University.

## Class Attendance and Evaluation Pattern

In the newly introduced semester system, a student will be continuously evaluated through mid-semester test, term paper/field study/practical examinations, end semester examinations etc.

familiarisation and acculturation. This also means that even a BA pass course student by the time she/he graduates from Sikkim University she/he has to write and make at least 18 presentations. This is expected to change the entire outlook and attitude of a student and make her/him confident and bold.

Pattern of Evaluation	
Pattern of Evaluation	Weightage [%]
Mid Semester Test	20
Term Paper/Field Work Presentation/Practical	25
End Semester Examination	50
Attendance	05
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

A student would be evaluated internally throughout. The above table highlights a detailed evaluation mechanism under Sikkim University for a particular paper. Each college student has to write a term paper based on field work and class room exercises in each subject in all the semesters. She/he has to compulsorily make a presentation in the class and subject herself/himself to cross questioning by the class mates/teachers. Initially this provision could be rather a difficult exercise as students from diverse backgrounds will be doing it for the first time. There will be problems of language along with exposure,

## 5 Marks for 100 % Class Attendance

It is compulsory for a student to attend at least 75 per cent of the class lectures in each paper under all the opted subjects. If a student attends classes over 75 per cent; s/he will be incentivised in the following manner:

- 1 percentage point for 76-80 % attendance
- 2 percentage point for 81-85 % attendance
- 3 percentage point for 86-90 % attendance



- 4 percentage point for 91-95 % attendance
- 5 percentage point for 96- 100 % attendance

This means a student can score a maximum of 5 marks in each paper just by attending the classes regularly.

However, if a student fails to attend the minimum percentage (75%) of classes as prescribed by the University in individual papers she/he will not be able to write the end semester exam. She/he will hence be automatically out of the College roll/register. Under such a situation, she/he has to seek a fresh admission once again. Therefore, a student has to compulsorily attend at least 75% of the classes in each paper and in all the subjects opted by her or him.

### Zero Semester and Improvement Paper Provisions

A college student is required to complete her/his degree within six semesters (three years). However, under extraordinary circumstances (like death of a kin in the family or situation of equal gravity) a student may not be able to write an examination and/or do the course work and fail in the semester.

In such a case, a student may apply for a zero semester as soon as such contingency arises/happens. Each of these cases will be referred to the Academic Council of the University for its decision on such requests. Under such a situation, a student has to repeat the entire semester and could get a degree in more than six semesters. University is also contemplating to introduce performance improvement provisions in the evaluation system where a student could repeat the paper if she/he desires in the subsequent semester.

### Full Internal Evaluation

Unlike in the past when the students used to have only one annual examination, under

Semester system they will have a series of examinations and term papers and tutorials (at least six in one year). They will be evaluated continuously. All the term papers/tutorials along with mid-term test, practical examination and end semester examination scripts will be evaluated by the concerned course teacher internally. This means a teacher teaches, sets the question papers and evaluates the performance of her/his students also. The concerned class teacher allows the students to examine their term papers and mid-semester test answer scripts in the class so that they can assess and discuss with the teachers where they have gone right or wrong. This is a very transparent way to evaluate a student by the course teacher.

However, 30 per cent of the end-semester scripts evaluated by the course teacher concerned would be randomly picked up by Sikkim University and get them evaluated by external examiners. If there is a difference of less than 20 per cent in the marking by the course teacher and the external evaluator, the marks given by the internal course teacher will be regarded as final. If the difference is more than 20 per cent, the script would be sent to a third external examiner and the marks awarded by her/him would be taken as final. If the difference is found in all the paper/scripts picked up on random basis, all the scripts evaluated by the concerned internal teacher would be sent for re-evaluation. This is done to minimize the biasedness and subjectivity of a teacher in the evaluation of an answer script.

Apart from this, a provision for re-evaluation of the scripts on the request of the students against the payment of fees will be done by a two member Committee that will consist of one internal (Sikkim University) and one external representative (Other University). The fee for such re-evaluation is to be soon decided by the University.



## Curriculum Designing

The Sikkim University undertook the college reforms against this backdrop. Its curriculum is now inter-disciplinary and students have facilities to have cross-discipline subject choices. For instance, a student who has done Class XII in Arts can aspire to join B Com in College. Similarly once in College, a student of Physics Honours can take History as an optional subject or a student of Economics Honours can also take any Science subjects like Botany, Zoology, Chemistry as an optional subject. These ample inter-disciplinary choices are given by Sikkim University as students in this age group could be nurtured in a broad and diverse manner for their career development.

Any student (General/Honours course) will also have the freedom/option to take up non-credit course/s available in the college across the discipline. This means if a student from BSc (Zoology Hons) wants to attend/listen to the lectures in History class just out of interest she/he could informally go and attend History class or another student from BCom could attend a Chemistry class lectures in Science Department.

All the college students will have this unique opportunity and freedom to take one non-credit course from the optional subjects available in the college. This is truly voluntary. Such course may be taken from any of the streams. It could be from Arts, Science or Commerce. This is productive



engagement exercise based on knowledge sharing. However, the students will not be evaluated for non-credit course/s. This course is called non-credit as a student need not write any exams, do any term papers and therefore, would not get any marks added to his college degree programme. They could be possibly given a certificate for doing a non-credit course by the concerned course teacher/s.

In the various Curriculum Designing Committees (CDCs) of the under-graduate (college level) programmes, 149 experts in 26 subjects were invited from among the 10 best colleges of India on the basis of their NAAC-accreditation and academic excellence. A large number of them came from best known universities in India.





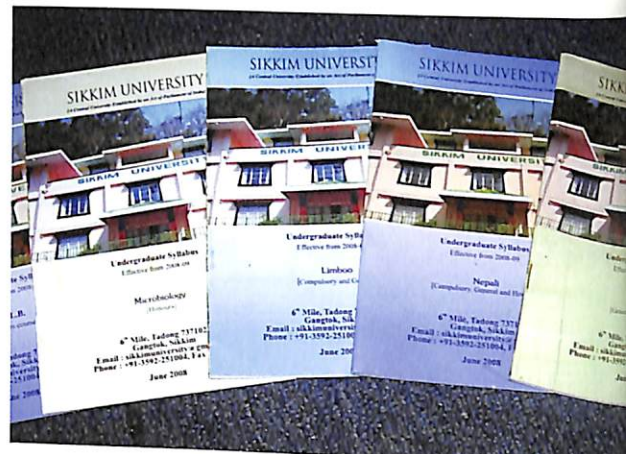
### These institutions and their representatives included:

Christ College, Bangalore  
City College, Kolkata  
Cotton College, Guwahati  
Hindu College, New Delhi  
Lady Shri Ram College, New Delhi  
Loyola College, Chennai  
Miranda House, New Delhi  
Presidency College, Kolkata  
St. Stephen's College, New Delhi  
Shri Ram College for Commerce, New Delhi  
St. Anthony College, Shillong  
St. Xavier's College, Mumbai

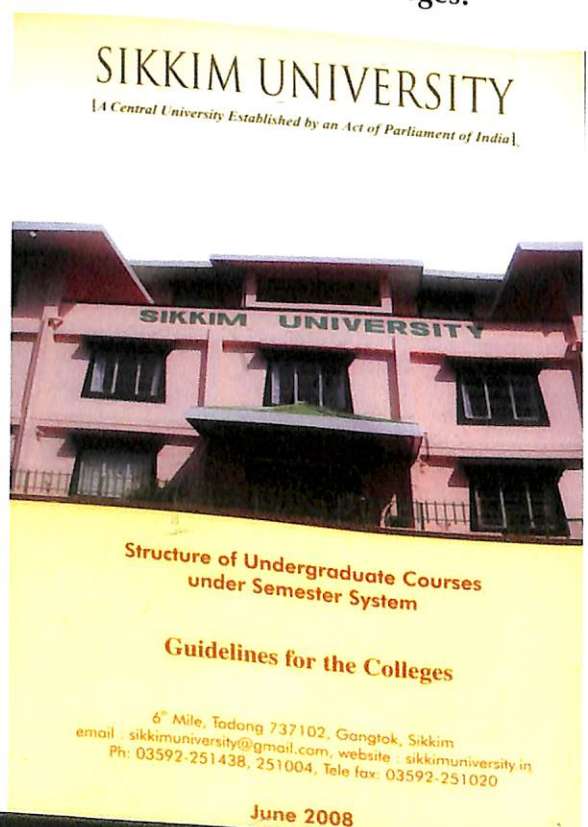
Interestingly, majority of these colleges are listed as 10 best colleges by **India Today et al.** (2 June, 2008).

Similarly, senior faculties including Deans and Heads from different disciplines of:

Al-Ammen College of Pharmacy, Bangalore  
Centre for Social Studies, Kolkata  
Delhi University, Delhi  
Government Institute of Physical Education, Kolkata  
Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi  
Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi  
Indian Institute of Tourism & Travel Management, Gwalior  
Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata  
Jadavpur University, Kolkata  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi  
Kalyani University, West Bengal  
Laxmibai National Institute of Physical Education  
National School of Law India University, Bangalore  
North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong  
North Bengal University, Darjeeling  
Regional Institute of Education, Bangalore  
Regional Institute of Education, Shillong  
St. Xavier Institute of Education, Mumbai  
Tezpur University, Assam



participated in this curriculum designing exercise. University has now published all the curricula. The students, teachers and other stakeholders both inside and outside Sikkim can make use of them. University has also published a very comprehensive guide-booklet for the students on Semester system, entitled "**Structure of Undergraduate Courses under Semester System: Guidelines for the Colleges.**"





## College Affiliation Issue

When Sikkim University was gearing up to launch its first academic program based on semester system in the affiliated colleges from the Monsoon Semester (July 2008), it suddenly and surprisingly received a letter no 133/Secy/HRDD dated July 01, 2008 from the Secretary, Human Resource Development Department of Government of Sikkim which mentioned about the cabinet decision to take all these colleges back to North Bengal University. This letter stated that:

“The State government vide Cabinet decision dated 30.6.2008 has taken a policy decision to request the Central Government through the Sikkim Central University to exempt the following Colleges from the purview of the Sikkim University Act.

- i) (Sikkim Government College, Tadong, East Sikkim)
- ii) (Namchi Government College, Kamrang, South Sikkim)
- iii) (Rhenock Government College, East Sikkim)
- iv) (Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk, East Sikkim)

The exemption is necessary and important as the Government Colleges within the State at present are not prepared both academically and administratively to cope with the various requirement of the Sikkim Central University. Therefore in the best interest of the Colleges as well as the students the above mentioned Colleges should continue their affiliation to the North Bengal University. As and when these colleges are properly equipped both academically and administratively, they will approach the Sikkim Central University for affiliation. The Cabinet further directed the Department that until Sikkim University is fully functional (with all infrastructure in place) all Government Colleges including Sikkim Government Law College will continue to be

affiliated to the North Bengal University.

The academic session for the current year is to commence from July onwards and the process of admission in these colleges have already started, you are, therefore, requested to kindly expedite de-affiliation of these colleges with the Sikkim Central University by invoking Section 6(2) of the Sikkim University Act 2006 No 10 of 2007.”

This unilateral decision taken by the Government of Sikkim without any consultations with the Sikkim University just on the eve of the start of the first academic session under Sikkim University created a huge confusion among the students, their parents, teaching community and civil society. As was widely noted by then [please see *Sikkim University, Annual Report 2007-2008*] Sikkim University had already revamped and re-designed the entire college education system in the State and was ready to launch the same in July 2008. It was very clear about the fact that these colleges came under Sikkim University by the Sikkim University Act 2006 No 10 of 2007 of the Government of India of Parliament Section 6(2) which mentioned

“Notwithstanding anything in any other law for the time being in force, no educational institution within the State of Sikkim shall be associated in any way with or be admitted to any privileges of any other University incorporated by law in India, and any such privileges granted by any such other University to an educational institution within the State of Sikkim prior to the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to be withdrawn on the commencement of this Act:

Provided that the Central Government may, by order in writing, direct that the provisions of this sub-section shall not apply in any case of any educational institution specified in the order.”

***The Gazette of India, Extraordinary PART II Section 1 No10, New Delhi, Thursday, January 11, 2007]***



There were correspondence among the Government of Sikkim, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India and Sikkim University to resolve this issue. However, ultimately the Government of Sikkim withdrew the above note vide its letter No 192/Secy/HRDD dated September 18, 2008 signed by the Secretary, Human Resource Development Department and addressed to Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This letter mentioned :

"this has reference to our earlier letter No 135/SECY/HRDD dated July 2, 2008 in connection with the above mentioned subject. As already informed to you vide letter under reference that the State Cabinet on 30th June 2008 has taken a decision to request the Central Government to exempt all Sikkim Government Colleges including Sikkim Government Law College from the purview of the Sikkim University Act 2006, No 10 of 2007. The Government has taken this decision considering the situation and the ground reality at that period of time. However, it is now almost two months have passed since the State Government's earlier request to your esteemed office.

The current academic session of the Colleges have already started under the Sikkim University for almost two months and further the Sikkim University had declared that they are hundred percent prepared to take over all the colleges including Sikkim Government Law College of the State of Sikkim under its fold from this academic session. The State Cabinet on 11th September 2008 took a decision to review its earlier decision and has now

decided for continuation of affiliation of all the Sikkim Government Colleges including the Sikkim Government Law College to the Sikkim University. I have been therefore directed to communicate the reviewed decision of the State Cabinet taken on 11th September 2008 and request to maintain status quo i.e. to continue with the Sikkim University as per the provisions of the Sikkim University Act 2006, No 10 of 2007".

Meanwhile the students in the Government Colleges lost quite a few weeks of their semester period because of this confusion. Sikkim University and the Colleges had a difficult time in making up these crucial weeks of academic losses. The faculty members and the students of all the affiliated colleges worked hard to cover up these losses. The Principal of the Sikkim Government College in one of his college functions summed up the entire controversy as:

"For the College it was a critical period of academic transition as we switched our affiliation from the North Bengal University to our own Sikkim University. As expected, there were many hiccups and hurdles, coupled with confusion and ambiguity. The situation was further aggravated by the fact that while the newly admitted First Semester students were under the Sikkim University, the II and III Year students were still under the North Bengal University. So we were, and are, literally straddling two boats on a very choppy sea ! And just as we were adjusting to this new scenario, orders came that we were to revert back to North Bengal University for a little bit longer. No wonder then that for about 20 days, confusion reigned supreme. Thankfully, the inevitable decision to remain with Sikkim University was passed and 1st Semester classes began in right earnest."





## College Visits by the University Team

As the above issue was resolved, Sikkim University organized its first combined interactive sessions with the students and faculty members in all the affiliated Colleges in Gangtok, Burtuk, Tadong, Rhenock and Namchi. Led by the Vice Chancellor himself, the interactive session started in the month of September 2008 and was completed by October. This session was made compulsory for the first year students of various colleges which had now come under the jurisdiction of Sikkim

University, and was kept optional for the students of the second and third year as they were registered with North Bengal University.

The primary objective of this interactive session was to introduce the semester system to the first year college students of Sikkim University. The Vice Chancellor made a detailed power point presentation on the Semester System highlighting the benefits of the system.

## First Semester Results Declaration

Right from its inception, Sikkim University introduced a fully automated results declaration system. Semester results are declared within 20 days [i.e. 30th December and 30th June] of the last day of the examination [i.e. 10th December for Monsoon Semester and 10th June for Spring Semester]. The office of the Controller of Examination manages the results. This office has laid down a very scientific practice of attendance checking, coordination in question paper setting, surprise invigilation during the examination, receipt of the evaluated answer scripts, random re-evaluation at the University level and finally, publication of results on its website and also dispatch of score ledgers to the affiliated colleges. This unit also undertakes all the post-examination operations including the analysis of the results across the disciplines, classes and colleges. These analyses are then presented by the University team to all the students and teachers in each of the affiliated colleges and are given to the colleges as feedback for improvement.

Sikkim University declared the First Monsoon Semester results on 30th December 2008 within 20 days of the last day of the exams. Students, faculty members and parents could check their results in its website instantaneously. This was a major milestone as we put to test the system with limited manpower and other resources.



Web page snap shot of the online results declaration

# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

**Wish you all the best!!**

Registration / Roll No. :

Degree :

Exam :

**Submit**







They even distribute the term papers and answer scripts of the mid semester tests back to the students for comments and discussions. University simply puts together the marks sent by the Colleges and does re-evaluation of 30 percent of the randomly generated papers of each subject and each college to ensure that there is no tendency of over or under-marking.

This being an entirely new system, University offered a re-evaluation and a onetime offer of a zero semester provision (a failed student has to do one extra semester to get a degree) to these failed students. Despite these generous offers, some of the students became violent and ransacked the University's main office. They were arrested and booked under various criminal acts. However, this incident drove home the point that under the new pattern of semester based evaluation, students have no other option than to regularly attend the class and treat each and every examination as important.

This incident in a way reflected seven very striking aspects :

- i) Academic standard of majority of the students in the affiliated Colleges is rather low;
- ii) Students have very low reading habit and indicated the need to imbibe this habit right at the school level.
- iii) Students take college life very easy and are not used to rigorous teaching and continuous evaluation system
- iv) A majority of them believe in just passing the examination. "Pass culture" has really been institutionalized.
- v) There is strong need for intake capacity limit at the undergraduate level.
- vi) Many of the Colleges have poor physical infrastructures.
- vii) Except few, most of the colleges continue to have acute shortage of regular teachers.

This also indicated as how difficult it is to initiate a system of quality education. However, University strongly believes that the performance of all these colleges and students could be steadily improved if right kind of teaching techniques, evaluation methods and career orientations are designed and put in place. These students are talented, forward looking and creative who need a constant yet broader orientation both within and outside class rooms. Sikkim University has already initiated all these measures. These are initial hurdles, University is determined to overcome. Teachers and students are now adjusting well to this new system.

University took the above incident as an exception and as a teething problem which rather helped the students to understand the new system better. All these colleges require careful mentoring, close supervision and high degree of motivational inputs to undertake quality academic pursuits.

### Take work seriously, SU appeals to students



Observer News Service

Gangtok, April 3: The Sikkim University (SU) has condemned the act of violence and vandalism at its administrative complex by leaders of the Student Representative Council of Sikkim Government, Tadong on the evening of March 28, 2009.

A press release of the SU alleged that the act of violence was carried out by students who are not even students of the

University. "They are the second and third year students and are enrolled with the North Bengal University," the release said.

The SU alleged that violence was carried out late in the evening of March 29 after the first year (2nd semester) students of the University had accepted the solution proposed by it to accommodate the students who had failed even after the large-scale reevaluation that was

carried out by the University.

According to the University authorities, the failed students were allowed to carry on in the second semester and they were given the benefit of "zero semester" (one time) as a special case. They have been allowed to write the 1st semester examination once again at the end of the course of six semesters, the release said.

This means these

concession.

The provision of Zero Semester has been put in the University statutes and ordinances to help any student who is genuinely affected by any unforeseen situation like the loss of any kith and kin and any other critical medical contingencies.

This solution was brought about in the presence of the representatives of Government of Sikkim, the Principal and the Dean of Sikkim Government College, Tadong and senior police officials on March 28 at the Sikkim Retreat, where the second meeting of the Executive Council of the University had just concluded, the release said. It added that the first year students of the University, who were on agitation, had agreed to this solution.

The Sikkim University feels that the only permanent solution to such a problem is for the students take their studies seriously, attend the classes regularly and

write their examination with due preparations. The University has introduced a liberal system of continuous and total internal evaluation wherein the teaching, setting question papers and evaluations are all done by their respective teachers.



## Meeting with Principals of the Affiliated Colleges

As a practice of maintaining continuous communication and close coordination with the colleges Sikkim University organized a meeting with the Directors and Principals of the affiliated colleges to make an assessment of the completed 1st Semester Examination and Evaluation for the Undergraduate courses on 13 January 2009. Other issues discussed in the meeting were related to the content and structure of syllabus, semester system, college level examination, question paper setting and evaluation pattern.

On 24 March 2009, Sikkim University organised another meeting with all the Principals/Directors and Faculty members of the affiliated colleges and University at Chintan Bhawan to discuss the issues related to the semester system and its adaptations. It also discussed course content of the new Under Graduate course 'The Eastern Himalayan Studies'.



Meeting with the Directors and Principals of the Affiliated Colleges

## II University Level Academic Programmes

### [Post] Graduate and Research Programmes Core Challenges

The core focus of Sikkim University is the post graduate and research programmes. The University has two formidable challenges ahead in its vision and endeavour to make this institution truly high quality and international.

First challenge is to attract a set of professionally committed, suitably qualified and experienced faculty members and management executives to work in a new set up and relatively difficult location. Sikkim University plans to recruit a good number of faculties from among the locally available pool of intellectual resources, from various prestigious universities of India and also fresh doctorates from Universities abroad. This is to ensure that there is an

optimum blending of local, national and international faculty members.

Second challenge is to attract students from diverse backgrounds with keen academic interest, commitment for higher learning and clear professional trajectory from both within India and outside. The University intends to attract a good number of local, national and international students.

The Master's Degree and research programmes are aimed at giving students and faculty members an opportunity and strong base for knowledge enhancement, cross fertilization and broader orientations from local, national and global perspectives. This is one of the reasons as to why we have designed a set of highly relevant non-traditional courses which are generally not taught in conventional university system.



## Masters Programmes 2008-09

Like the affiliated colleges, the University level programmes follow the exact model of semester system including in evaluation. During 2008-09 Academic Session, Sikkim University initiated following two year post-graduate programmes (4 semesters) in four disciplines under four different Schools. These courses were started in the month of September as University had to really struggle to build the basic infrastructures for the conduct of these programmes. These courses were chosen on experimental basis. They were primarily introduced based on the core competence of the

University, demands for the courses and institutional feasibility for undertaking such programmes. A total number of 43 students enrolled under these four programmes.

The faculty members of all the existing departments have been recruited on contractual basis. The UGC has already sanctioned various positions for the faculty members for both existing and upcoming programmes of the University. Sikkim University is now in the process of floating advertisement for the appointment of teachers to these regular positions.

### Department of Social Systems and Anthropology School of Social Sciences [MA Sociology]



Otojit Kshetrimayum



Dr. Swati Akshay Sachdeva



Binu Sundas



Shibsankar Jena

The Department currently offers M.A. programme and will offer M. Phil/Ph.D programmes in 2010-11. The Department endorses an interdisciplinary approach and a comparative perspective. The major emphasis of this Department is to encourage the blending of applied Sociology with a strong foundation on conceptual and theoretical Sociology. The Department encourages learning through active participation of students in

discussions, active tutorial and assignment programme and field studies. It encourages the system of 'Group Learning' by forming small groups of students in each semester and making them discuss their assignments and term papers by assigning a faculty as advisor for each group. The main focus of the Department is to study gender, culture, social structure and other developmental issues both in the national and local context.





## Department of International Relations/ Politics Schools of Global Studies [MA International Relations]



Dr. Sebastian N



Dr. Teiborlang T. Kharsyntiew



Phairembam Newton Singh

This Department currently offers M.A. programme and will offer M. Phil/Ph.D programmes in 2010-11. This Department aims to provide a sound general understanding of the dynamics and complexities of international relations and politics that is grounded in an interdisciplinary programme of study and experiential learning. It introduces students to the major theoretical perspectives on the subject and also the intricate web of international relations between State and Non-State actors, while also paying close attention to major phenomenon such

as globalization and the changing dynamics of political, cultural, social, biological, and economic connections and interrelationships that exist among peoples of the world. This course also provides exposures to students at the ground level through various exchange programmes, relevant case studies and field research thereby familiarising them with both theoretical concepts and actual practices. The curriculum is closely integrated with other programmes like neighbourhood studies, peace and conflict management and sustainable development and livelihood management.

## Department of Peace and Conflict Studies and Management, School of Peace, Conflict and Human Security Studies [MA Peace and Conflict Studies and Management]



Dr. Satyabrata Sinha



P.M. Sorel



Rajendra Prasad

The Department currently offers M.A. programme and will offer M. Phil/Ph.D programmes in 2010-11. The primary focus of the Department is on educating and equipping students with the aptitude and concepts of peace research, conflicts management and resolution. A major purpose of this programme is to widen the knowledge and information base on varieties of conflicts from a very field based perspective and also generate a pool of human resources that can blend and apply theoretical understandings and practical measures to conflict studies and analysis. A primary strength of the Department is its location, in the 'periphery' of

India, and in close proximity to many conflict areas (including Bangladesh's war of independence, Sino-India border, Naxalite movement, insurgencies in the North East, illegal immigration, refugees, demands for statehood and Maoists challenges) on both inter-state and intra-state contexts. Its curriculum contents a major enquiry into the newer variety of conflicts including global warming and climate change. In future, the Department is going to establish broad links with institutions, NGOs, civil society, media groups, govt. as well as international agencies and all those who are directly working in the conflict zones. This is likely to open diverse channels of engagement for the students and faculty alike.



## Department of Microbiology, School of Life Sciences [MSc Microbiology]



Dr. Bimala Singh



Dr. Buddhiman Tamang



Dr. Nagendra Thakur



Dr. Sree Renjini Isac

This Department currently offers M.Sc programme and will offer M. Phil/Ph.D programmes in 2010-11. It is establishing a well equipped laboratory to undertake research in frontiers of Microbiology and also provides infrastructure including modern analytical equipments, up-to-date reading materials and internet access to all students. This programme aims to provide a sound understanding in basic courses in Microbiology and optional courses in the applied microbiology field. Besides research and teaching, graduates for this Department/School could get steady careers in areas like dairy, food and beverages, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, environment, agriculture and natural resources based industries. Considering the strategic importance of this region, this Department is offering courses that will lead to investigative studies in topics

of regional relevance, with respect to local food, flora and fauna and agricultural and environmental systems.

Some of the following post graduate degree programmes already hosted by the Colleges affiliated to Sikkim University (when these colleges came under the affiliation of Sikkim University in 2007) have also been started.

- \* M.Pharm at Himalayan Pharmacy Institute, Majhitar, East Sikkim
- \* LLM at Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk (East Sikkim)
- \* M Ed at Harka Maya College of Education, Gangtok

## Academic Programmes : 2009-2010

Sikkim University proposes to start four more Masters Programmes during the academic session 2009-10. They include:

### 1. School of Social Sciences

BSc-MSc Psychology Studies [Integrated Five Year Programme] (Department of Psychology Studies)

### 2. School of Law and Governance

LLB-LLM Law and Legal Jurisprudence Studies [Integrated Seven Year Programme] (Department of Law and Legal Jurisprudence Studies)

### 3. School of Physical and Chemical Sciences

MSc Physical Sciences (Department of Physical Sciences)

### 4. School of Sustainable Development and Livelihood Management

BSc-MSc Floriculture and Horticulture Management [Integrated Six Year Programme] (Department of Floriculture and Horticulture Management)

In addition to the above Post Graduate programmes, Sikkim University also proposes to launch its Policy Studies Programmes under School of Policy Planning and Studies during its 2009-10 Academic Session.



## Curriculum Designing

In the various Curriculum Designing Committees (CDCs) of the post-graduate programmes mentioned above a large number of academics, professionals and experts participated. They were drawn from universities, research institutions, media, government agencies, private sector and non-governmental organizations. The objective has been to design a curriculum with rigorous academic inputs and also a fair amount of practical and socially relevant contents. These institutions and their representatives included :

### Sociology

Prof. T K Oommen, formerly Chairman of Centre for Social System Studies, JNU, New Delhi

Prof. N. Jayaram, Dean, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Dr. Anna Baleiki Denzongpa, Research Coordinator, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, Gangtok

### International Relations

Professor A. K. Ramakrishnan, Centre for West Asia and African Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Professor Ashwini K. Ray, Centre for Political Studies, JNU, New Delhi

Dr. Siddharth Mallavarapu, Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament, JNU.

### School of Peace, Conflict and Human Security Studies

Prof. A. S. Dalvi, University of Pune  
Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Kapil Kak, New Delhi

Prof. Anup Datta, North Bengal University

Prof. M. N. Varma, Head, Department of Defence Studies, Allahabad University

Col. Tshering Kunjo, Darjeeling

Professor Priyanka Upadhyaya, Director, Malaviya Centre for Peace Research, BHU

Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar (Retd), Chief UN Peace Keeping Force

Ms Ursula McLackland, Secretary General, Universal Peace Federation, Asia

Dr. Sumona Dasgupta, WISCOMP, New Delhi

Prof P. Sahadevan, School of International Studies, JNU

Prof. Sanjay Chaturvedi, Punjab University, Punjab

Shri Salman Haidar, former Foreign Secretary of India

Prof. S. S. Deora, School of International Studies, JNU

Shri Praveen Swami, Special Correspondent, *The Hindu*, New Delhi

Prof. Aslam Mahmood, Centre for Regional Development, JNU

Dr. Paula Banerjee, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, Calcutta

Dr. Jagannath Adhikari, Nepal Development Research Institute, Kathmandu

Shri Akshay Sachdeva, Inspector General of Police, Sikkim

Shri E Rammohan, former Director General of Border Security Force

### Microbiology

Dr. G. Subramanian, Former Director, National Facility for Marine Cyanobacteria, Tiruchirapalli

Dr. Sandip K. Basu, Professor of Eminence, and former Director of National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi



Dr. Pramod K. Yadava, Professor and former-Dean School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi,

### Guidelines for Course Designing

Sikkim University produced a **Broad Guidelines for the Curriculum Designing Committee**. Besides the basic details about the University and newly introduced semester programme, it provides details of principles and objectives that would guide the new curriculum designing under Sikkim University. Experts are instructed to follow the Curriculum Designing Objectives and Curriculum Designing Guidelines. These are primarily aimed at:

- i) Designing the most up-to-date and dynamic course structure that will have strong local/regional flavor/relevance;
- ii) Inducting adequate inter-disciplinary flavor/contents in all the courses and the contents therein.
- iii) Enabling a student to think in a much wider scale and to show them the larger horizons in a particular field of study;
- iv) Encouraging a student towards critical thinking, detached expressions and independent writing;
- v) Demonstrating to the students the importance and necessity of inter-disciplinary approach in any field of study;
- vi) Inspiring students to interact on both intra- and inter-disciplinary basis on realistic environmental settings and make interactive learning essential
- vii) Exposing students to practical and realistic issues and make them work in the fields.
- viii) Cultivating the scientific temperament among the students.
- ix) Training a student to compete with others both in India and abroad in similar field of studies

- x) Enhancing the writing and oral skills of students making them confident, knowledgeable and informed.

Besides the usual course contents, the inclusion of the inputs given in the following guidelines must be ensured by the Curriculum Designing Committee (CDC):

- a) Theory
- b) Adequate citation of local/regional examples
- c) Inter-disciplinary research techniques and learning methods
- d) Aspects of what other Universities both in India and abroad teach
- e) Practical and field based study/training modules and presentation
- f) Interactive class room discussion on relevant major issues;

The CDC shall prescribe the course(s) and specify the methodology and instructional devices to be used. All courses shall have at least 50 lectures of one hour duration and shall be evaluated in 100 marks.

⇒ Experts will also make the following sequence while drafting the syllabus for each paper/subject/course:

- ⇒ A brief introduction
- ⇒ Content in details
- ⇒ Subject-topics with marks
- ⇒ Compulsory reading list for each sub-heading within a particular paper.
- ⇒ Broader reading list
- ⇒ Field exposures
- ⇒ Evaluation pattern

Meeting of Curriculum Development Committee

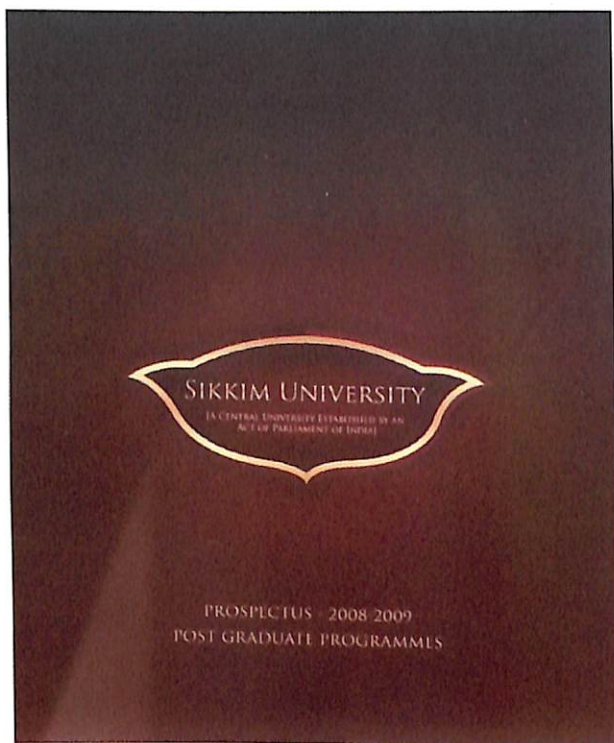




## Post Graduate Admission Process

Sikkim University advertised in many local and national newspapers for its first set of academic programmes (2008-09) at the post-graduate levels. Given the fact that Sikkim University was established hardly 14 months before, it did receive a good response from the students. The University started its semester based first academic programme in September 2008 with the first batch of post graduate students.

From the academic session 2009-2010, Sikkim University plans to conduct an all India entrance test.



## Upcoming Programmes of Sikkim University

Sikkim University will have three distinct interdisciplinary academic programmes consisting of Traditional Programmes, Non-traditional Programmes and Policy Studies Programmes. These programmes are being designed so that they could be introduced in the course of next one decade or so. The University Grants Commission has already

approved 29 academic programmes during the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-2012)

### *i) Traditional Programmes*

These courses are mainstream conventional courses also taught in many other universities in India and abroad. Besides the inter-disciplinary components these courses will also have a strong dose of fundamental research. Under this, following Schools will be set up. Each School will also have 3-9 Centres depending upon the local, national and international requirements. These centres located in various Schools will also introduce both master and integrated M Phil/Ph D Programmes. Though as per the Sikkim University Act all the Centres are regarded as Departments, these Departments will be named as Centres after suitable amendments in the Act in course of time.

#### **1 School of Social Sciences**

- i) Centre for Social Systems and Anthropology (MA)
- ii) Centre for Ethnicity Studies (MA)
- iii) Centre for Mainstream and Mountain History (MA)
- iv) Centre for Geography and Natural Resources Management (MSc)
- v) Centre for Education Planning and Development (MA)
- vi) Centre for Economic Studies and Planning (MSc)
- vii) Centre for Psychology Studies (MSc)
- viii) Centre for Philosophy and Religious Studies (MA)
- ix) Centre for Urban, Regional & Environmental Planning (M Sc)

#### **2 School of Global Studies**

- i) Centre for Globalisation Studies (MA)
- ii) Centre for International Relations (MA)
- iii) Centre for Neighbourhood Studies: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Central Asia including Tibet, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand (MA)

#### **3 School of Law and Governance**

- i) Centre for Public Policy (MA)



- ii) Centre for Human Rights Studies (MA)
- iii) Centre for Law and Legal Jurisprudence Studies (LLM)
- iv) Centre for Mountain and Rural Management (MSc)
- v) Centre for Environmental and Biodiversity Laws (MSc)

#### **4 School of Linguistics and Languages**

- i) Centre for English Language and Literature (MA)
- ii) Centre for Nepali Language and Literature (MA)
- iii) Centre for Asian Languages: Japanese, Thai, Chinese, Korean (Integrated BA and MA - five year degree programme)
- iv) Centre for Indigenous Languages: Bhutia, Lepcha, Rai, Limboo, Tamang and others (MA)
- v) Centre for Linguistic Studies (MA)
- vi) Centre for European Languages: German, French (MA)

#### **5 School of Management**

- i) Centre for Business Administration (Integrated BBA and MBA - five year degree programme)
- ii) Centre for Corporate and Industrial Relations (MBA)
- iii) Centre for Public Programme Management (MA)

#### **6 School of Media, Communication and Information Sciences**

- i) Centre for Library and Information Sciences (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Journalism Studies (MA)
- iii) Centre for Advertisement and Public Affairs Management (MA)

#### **7 School of Computer Sciences**

- i) Master of Computer Applications (Integrated BCA and MCA- five year degree programme)
- ii) Master of Technology in Computer Science (Integrated BTech and MTech- Six year degree programme)

#### **8 School of Environmental Studies**

- i) Centre for Environmental Sciences (MSc)

- ii) Centre for Climate Change Studies (MSc)
- iii) Centre for Bio-resource Management (MSc)

#### **9 School of Biotechnology**

- i) Biotechnology (Integrated BSc and MSc-five year degree programme) (MSc)
- ii) Bioinformatics (MSc)

#### **10 School of Life Sciences**

- i) Microbiology (MSc)
- ii) Plant Sciences (MSc)
- iii) Animal Sciences (MSc)
- iv) Molecular Biology (MSc)

#### **11 School of Physical and Chemical Sciences**

- i) Centre for Mathematics and Statistics (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Physical Science (MSc)
- iii) Centre for Chemical Sciences (MSc)
- iv) Centre for Statistical Sciences (MSc)
- v) Centre for Biochemistry (MSc)

#### **12 School of Planning, Architecture and Engineering**

- i) Centre for Architecture (Integrated BArch and MArch - Seven year degree programme)
- ii) Centre for Earth Science (MTech)
- iii) Centre for Building Technology and Management (MTech)
- iv) Centre for Energy Engineering
- v) Centre for Environmental Engineering
- vi) Centre for Urban Regional and Environmental Planning (Integrated BPlan and MPlan - five year degree programme)

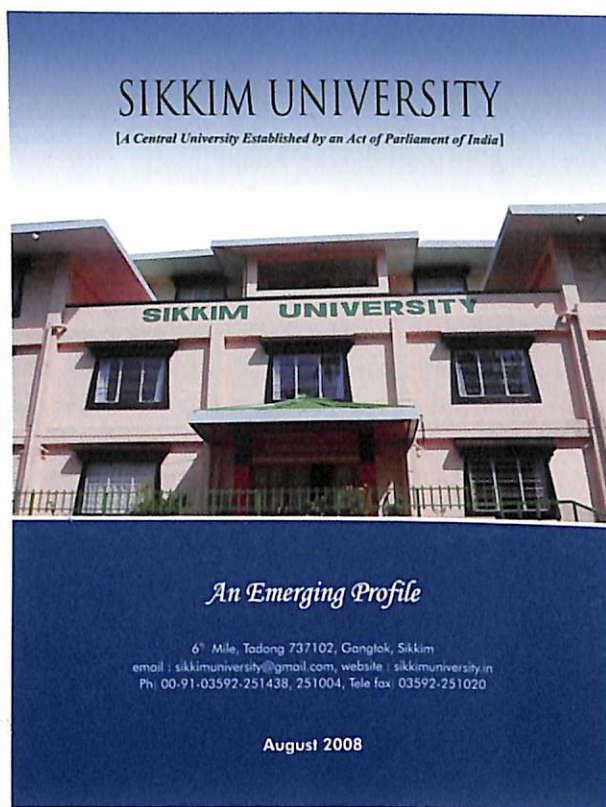
#### **13 School of Medicine**

- i) Centre for Pharmacy Studies (Integrated BPharm and MPharm - five year degree programme)

#### **ii) Non-Traditional Programmes**

These programmes are non-conventional in nature. This also means that these courses are not generally taught as full fledged disciplines in other universities both in India and abroad. These programmes will mostly involve skill oriented disciplines, professional pursuits and specialised courses which have a global perspective and the regional and local contexts.





#### **14 School of Indigenous and Folk Studies**

- i) Centre for Food Science, Technology and Nutrition Management (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Handicrafts, Art, Design and Fashion Technology (MA)
- iii) Centre for Archaeology and Heritage Studies (MA)
- iv) Centre for Ethno Botany and Social Medicine Studies (MSc)
- v) Centre for Folk Music/Theatres/Literature (MA)

#### **15 School of Sustainable Development and Livelihood Management**

- i) Centre for Energy Studies (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Sustainable Mountain Development (MSc)
- iii) Centre for Plantation Management and Studies (MSc)
- iv) Centre for Tourism Development and Management (MA)
- v) Centre for Capacity Building and Profession Development (MA)
- vi) Centre for Innovation, Leadership and Entrepreneurship Development (MA)

- vii) Centre for Veterinary and Agriculture Sciences (MSc)
- viii) Centre for Social Work (MA)
- ix) Centre for Floriculture and Horticultures Management (MSc)
- x) Centre for Sports Studies (MA)
- xi) Transportation and Connectivity Studies (MSc)
- xii) Water Resources Management (MSc)

#### **16 School of Peace, Conflict and Human Security Studies**

- i) Centre for Military Science and Defence Studies (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Border History and Management (MA)
- iii) Centre for Disaster Prevention and Management (MSc)
- iv) Centre for Migration Studies including Intercultural Relations (MA)
- v) Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and Management (MA)

#### **iii) Policy Studies Programmes**

#### **17 School of Policy Planning and Studies**

A major portion of the academic programmes will be devoted to policy research that will cater to larger issues of national interest and are directly relevant to the management of regional and local issues including in the arena of public affairs, national security, livelihood and indigenous people, cross border interactions, disaster management and natural resources.

Sikkim University is already consulting with a number of institutions both in India and abroad in both developing these programmes and identifying the potential sources of faculty recruitment.

This is a School which will host experts/professionals/public figures/scholars of repute and those who would like to come spend a sabbatical or any other academic engagement in Sikkim University. We plan to provide all the facilities for these scholars associated with Sikkim University.





## Development Activities

### Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) Secretary's Visit

In a rare gesture to the Sikkim University, Shri R P Agrawal, Secretary, MHRD Government of India and Shri R D Sahay, Director (Central University), MHRD, visited Sikkim University on 8th and 9th May, 2008. They had a brief confabulation and interactions with the Chief Minister and also held discussions with the Minister of Human Resource Development, the Secretary and other officials of Government of Sikkim and Principals of all colleges during their visit to Sikkim. They remained deeply impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm displayed by the Sikkim University team to take the University project forward.

Vice Chancellor and Shri R P Agrawal, Secretary, MHRD Government of India met Shri G.M. Gurung, Minister, Human Resource and Development Department, Government of Sikkim



Shri R P Agrawal Secretary, MHRD of Government of India with his team at University Management Block





## Exhibition of Logos, Mottos and Flags

Sikkim University had put out an advertisement for designing its logo, flag and coining its motto in local and national newspapers. A cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- had been announced for each of the winning entries. Over 283 entries were received, which were then displayed in the four district head quarters at White Hall, Gangtok [11-12 June 2008], Gymnasium (Table Tennis Hall), Namchi [12-13 June, 2008]; Mangan Tourism Development Committee Office, Mangan [12-14 June, 2008] and Community Hall, Geyzing [12-13 June 2008]. This was done to involve the general public, to garner their opinion in the process of selecting the best and partnering them at the very infant stage of University building project. A large number of people participated and polled their opinions to rank and choose these entries.

After counting of the opinions cast by the general public, the ten best entries were short listed which were placed before the members of the Executive Council which met on 8 August, 2008. The Executive Council unanimously selected the entry designed by Dr (Ms) Shashi Giri Corrie based in Kerala. After a few revisions the final logo has been accepted by Sikkim University. However, no flags and mottos were found to be suitable to the ethos, orientation and vision of Sikkim University. The logo of Sikkim University was presented to the public through a Press Conference on 30 December 2008.

Logo displayed at various locations in Sikkim



School students vote for the best logo







### **Significance of the Logo**

The symbols used in the logo are: Book, Orchid and Mountain.

#### **Book**

The book symbolizes learning and the enhancement of knowledge base which are the primary pursuits of Sikkim University.

#### **Orchid**

The orchid is a symbol of the State of Sikkim. The orchid, a magnificently beautiful flower evokes a sense of elegance, refinement, innocence, gracefulness and is a symbol of endurance. Its flowering means blossoming of knowledge and unfurling of newer personalities in one's life during this crucial phase of association with the University. It thus signifies wisdom, exposure and solidifying of thought process.

The Orchid is also a symbol of peace and positive energy which indicates the purpose for which knowledge is to be applied. The colourful petals like young students carry in them cheerfulness, intellect and energy.

#### **Mountains**

The mountains symbolize the physical environs of Sikkim and the arduous peaks of learning that must be scaled. They also signify the ultimate goal and make clarion call for positive psychological vibrations such as courage, determination, hope, optimism, will power which the University will strive to inculcate.

The illuminating effect of knowledge is symbolized by the rays radiating at the mountain summit depicting awakening, treading of the noble path and using the fruits of learning for the higher noble purpose of betterment of human lives so that knowledge gained is used to light up the world.



**Dr. Shashi Giri (Corrie)**  
Designer & Winner  
Sikkim University Logo



## Interactive Sessions with the Media

The local, regional and national media have been very supportive of all the activities University has been undertaking. This has not only encouraged the University team but also brought the issues of higher education to a day-to-day discussion table in and around Sikkim. The first Press Conference of the Sikkim University was held on 22 July, 2008 at Hotel Royal Plaza, Syari, Gangtok. The University communicated to the media, civil society, policy makers and other stakeholders, both within and

outside Sikkim, on various academic programmes the University has been designing and undertaking for the last one year. The Vice Chancellor made an hour long presentation on the vision, mission, actions programmes initiated by the University. It was attended by over sixty journalists from Sikkim, thirteen journalists from Siliguri and twelve journalists from Kalimpong. The national media like *Hindustan Times*, *Telegraph*, *Doordarshan* and *ANI* were also represented.



The first Press Conference of Sikkim University



Vice Chancellor interacts with the media

## University Grants Commission Team Visit

The expert Committee of UGC led by Prof. R. P. Kaushik visited Sikkim University from 6-8 November 2008. University team made several rounds of presentations to the UGC Team focusing on its vision and orientation, academic programmes, human resources requisites, financial projections and the designs and contents of physical infrastructures. The team also visited the proposed Campus site at Yangang. As a sequel to these confabulations and discussion the visiting team recommended Rs 12,012 lakh under 1st priority and Rs 11,000 lakh under 2nd priority (this recommendation was subject to demand of the

University and availability of funds). Against this recommendation, UGC, for XI Plan, made tentative allocation of Rs 10457 lakh (Roughly 13.61 % of the estimated amount). This includes both general development grant and merged schemes.

University Grants Commission, vide letter under D.O.No. F.24-33/2009(CU) dated 16 February 2009 has conveyed sanction of 201 posts of teaching staff including 29 posts of Professors, 68 posts of Associate Professors and 104 posts of Assistant Professors for the University under XI





Students availing internet facility at the University Library

## Library Facilities

Sikkim University is establishing a world class library with up-to-date, contemporary academic and general books, journals, magazines, research publications, reports and other documents in science and technology, arts and humanities, social sciences and other disciplines and professional subjects. In the last 21 months of its existence, the University has acquired over 4000 books from across the disciplines/subjects including Pharmacy, Library Science, Microbiology, LLB, Economics, International Relations, Political Science, Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Sociology, Research Methodology and others.

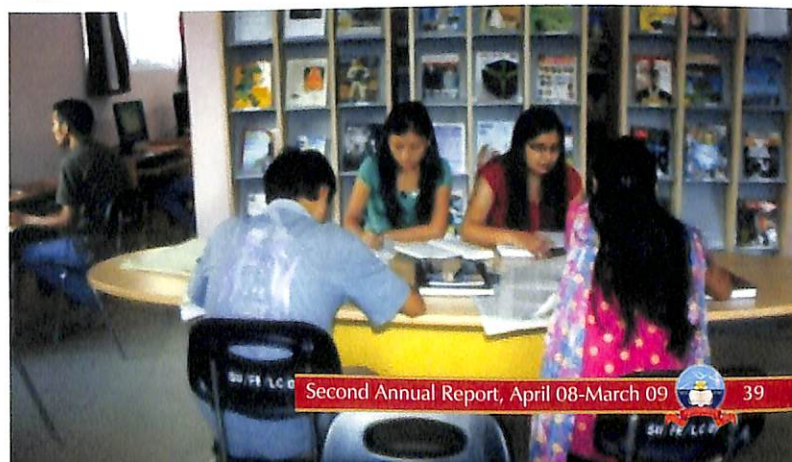
In its mission to provide the best infrastructure to the students and faculty members of the University, Sikkim University has started a separate Library at 6th Mile, Tadong. The library is connected with INFLIBNET, a network that allows free access to journals published from India and abroad. Through INFLIBNET, now the Library can access journals listed in e-resources like Springerlink, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID) and J-Gate Custom Content (J-CCC). The University is also in the process of getting institutional membership of and future collaboration with American Centre Library and British Library.

Given rather dismal level of reading habit in the local society and more specifically among the younger generation, Sikkim University has kept the library accessible to all regardless of their age and affiliations with other institutions etc. University Library is open for all academia, students, intelligentsia and general public in all working days from 9.30 am to 6 pm. A smart identity card system with barcode provision will be provided to all its members. Photocopy facility for users is also provided at a reasonable rate.

Sikkim University is also in the process of establishing its satellite libraries in all its affiliated colleges. These satellite libraries are part of University library network being established in colleges in two phases. In the first phase University is providing books enlisted in the syllabi of all the subjects offered by these affiliated colleges. And in the second phase University will connect the satellite libraries to the central Library with a network that facilitates online browsing of books, journals and newspaper available in the University library.



Devoting time to the Library, a growing trend among the students of Sikkim University





## Meeting with the President of India

The Vice Chancellor Prof Mahendra P Lama had an audience with Madame Pratibha Devisingh Patil, President of India who is also the Visitor of Sikkim University at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on 13th February, 2009. He briefed Madame Patil about the progress made by Sikkim University in 19 months of its existence. The President was deeply

impressed by the progress made by the University and expressed her high appreciation. She showed great interest in the affairs of the University and enquired about its academic Programmes. Prof Lama also extended an invitation to the President to visit Sikkim University.

Vice Chancellor handing important University documents to the President of India, Madame Pratibha Devisingh Patil





## Inner Line Permit to study in Sikkim University

Sikkim is a restricted area for foreign nationals. All the foreign nationals have to obtain Inner Line Permit (ILP) to enter into Sikkim. There are two types of Inner Line Permit. In the first type, all foreign nationals (except specified countries) who want to enter Sikkim have to procure ILP from the office at Rangpo Check Post or at Sikkim Nationalized Transport. Those who want to fly in helicopter can procure the same from the office located at Bagdogra Air Port. This permit can be procured for 15 days which can be extended with a written application to the Joint Secretary (Confidential), Home Department, Government of Sikkim. On a case to case basis an extension of up to a maximum upto 60 days may be granted.

In the second type, specified visitors from the countries like Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Nigeria and Myanmar have to obtain an Inner Line Permit

to enter into Sikkim at the time of procuring Visa. This application for ILP would be scrutinized by Ministry of Home Affairs, and Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. This process generally takes upto 3 months. Only after clearance by these two ministries, the foreign nationals of the above countries can get ILP from the Indian embassies located in their respective countries.

This ILP is generally area specific. The border areas and protected areas are not covered under ILP. No foreign national can visit these areas. Since Sikkim University expects an increasing number of foreign students to register for various academic programmes, a smooth way of procuring these permits by the foreign students, faculty members and other researchers is being worked out which will be institutionalized by the University system.

## Sikkim University Campus

At the moment Sikkim University is running from a building at the erstwhile Youth Hostel Building at 6th Mile, Tadong near Gangtok. Classes are also being conducted in hired buildings. The Sikkim University is keenly waiting for the final handover of the campus site at Yangang in South Sikkim [about 56 kms from Gangtok and 28 kms from Singtam] by the Government of Sikkim.

A consortium of architects, building designers, and land mapping experts from both within and outside country is being constituted to conduct the entire planning and construction activities at Yangang. We plan to have an earthquake proof, energy efficient and differently-abled friendly "green" building with a profuse mix of Sikkimese, oriental and occidental designs. This campus will have all the modern facilities including a digitized library, educational amenities, high class research facilities, automated office system, multi-cuisine cafeteria, guest houses and living buildings, railways-airways counters, a central school,

theatres, sports stadium, music and arts complex, community radio and TV, nature search sanctuaries and media centre.



Yangang campus site



## IV

## Other Academic Activities

## A Cross-Border Dialogue and Other Academic Assembly

Under its academic program, Sikkim University plans to initiate a series of dialogues on various issues of academic and public interests with the immediate neighbouring countries. These dialogues are initiated to understand our neighbourhood from local, national and global perspectives and address issues of common concerns. These dialogues are aimed at creating a reservoir of knowledge and information base, enhance the level of cross-fertilization of ideas and experiences and expand the institutional networking at various cross-border levels. Sikkim University plans to undertake such exercises with all the neighbouring countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and other immediate South East Asian countries.

### i) First India-Nepal Cross Border Dialogue

The first such dialogue entitled "Economic Reforms and Development Dynamics: A Cross Border Dialogue between India and Nepal" was held on 18-19 April 2008 wherein the well known experts from academia, diplomats, media, policy makers, civil society and private sector from both India and Nepal gathered in Gangtok to initiate this dialogue. The participants discussed various issues including trade, transport and communications, environment, migration, people-to-people contacts, investment, energy and water resources. This dialogue was partly supported by BP Koirala Nepal-India Foundation and inaugurated by the Nepalese Ambassador in India Dr Durgesh Man Singh.



Dr. Durgesh Mansingh, Ambassador of Nepal to India in the conference

Economic Reforms and Development Dynamics:  
A Cross Border Dialogue between India and Nepal in session





## ii) Guha Research Conference

Sikkim University co-hosted the Guha Research Conference [GRC] – 2008 from 18-23 October 2008 in Gangtok. GRC brings together India's top biologists and other scientists from both academia and industry from all over the country mainly to discuss the critical issues and challenges in basic and applied research on chemical and biological sciences. These discussions are held in the context of the recent scientific advances and development both within and outside the country. These eminent scientists gathered also deliberated on the future development of Biological Sciences in India in an ambience of no-holds-barred brainstorming. Unlike other such academic and professional gatherings, these deliberations held in either indoors or outdoors with no slides, visual or projections, presented wide opportunity for both public and private entities to present their respective positions in R & D efforts in biomedical research.

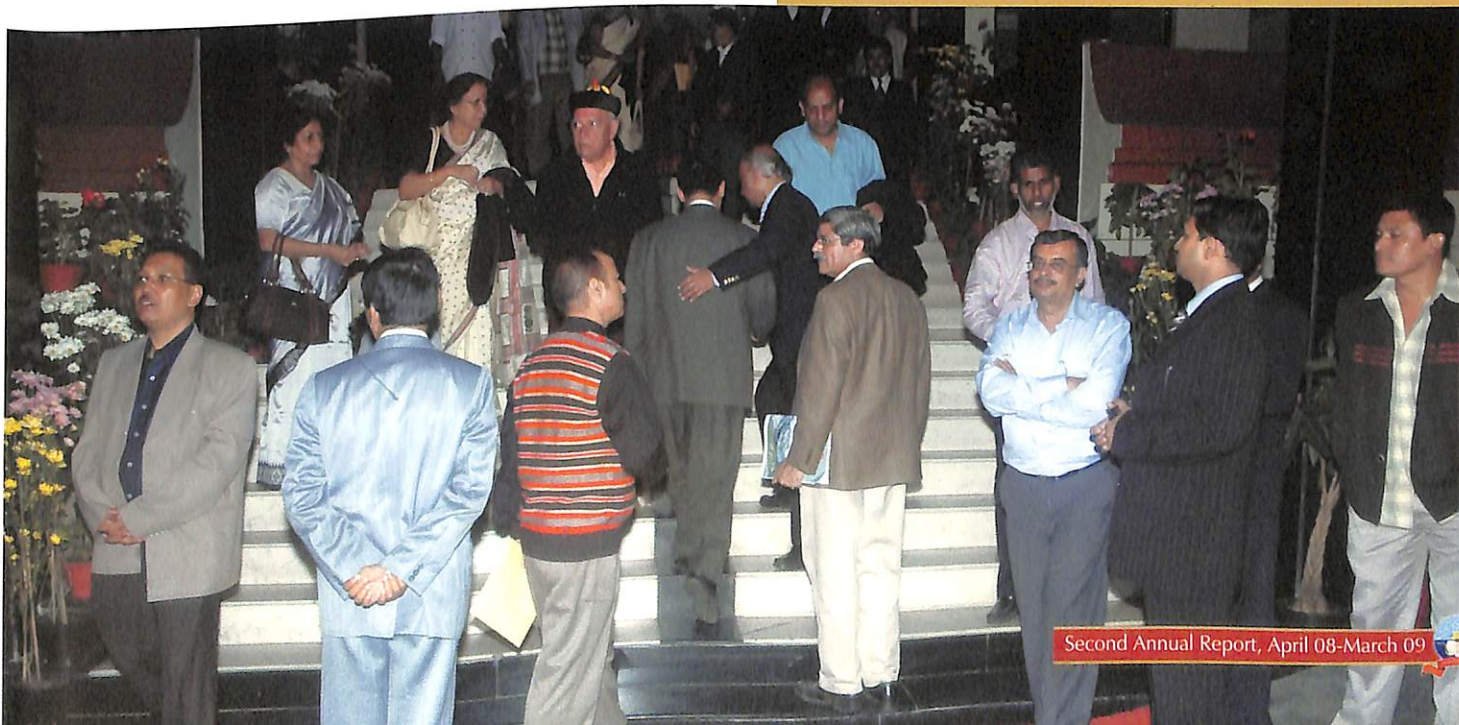
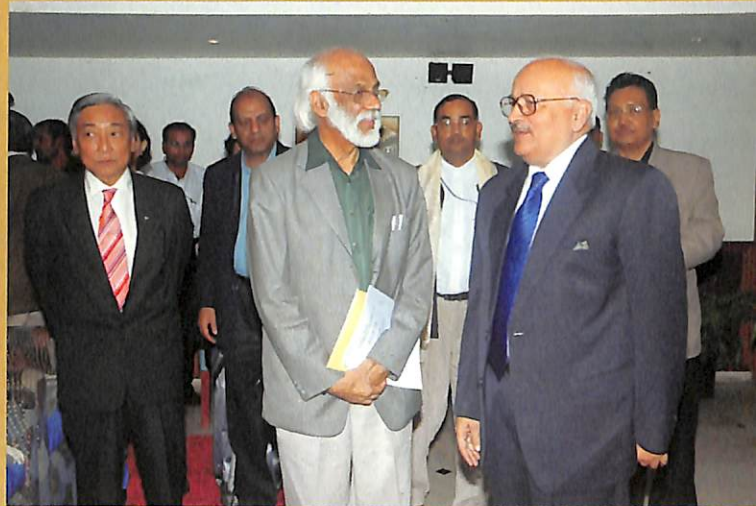
Prof. Mahendra P Lama, Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University addressed the delegates of GRC-2008 along with few invited local scientists, doctors, teachers, civil society members and journalists on October 20, 2008. The collaborative proposals that he put before the GRC, also included:

- I) Interventions in the development of organic and functional foods in this organic

Eminent Scientists at the Guha Research Conference



Governor Shri BP Singh and Chief Secretary of Government of Sikkim





state of Sikkim and the North East region by means of genetic engineering like that initiated at the National Institute for Plant Genome Research (NIPGER). In the long run this should include mega research projects on development of ethnic medicines, development of ethnic foods, floriculture, horticulture, development of bio-resource products, organic farming, etc.

- ii) Helping Sikkim University in the development and commercialisation of drugs and bio-active compounds from the mountain herbs including for dreaded diseases like Hepatitis, Cancer and AIDS by the Central Drug Research Institute and National Botanical Research Institute.
- iii) Providing expertise on the detection of anti-oxidants and anti-carcinogenic compounds from bio-resources for prevention of cancer and other dreaded diseases in the hills and mountain regions by the National Institute of Immunology, AIIMS, and Indian Council of Medical Research.
- iv) And survey on human genome of various ethnic groups of Sikkim and the entire eastern Himalayas by noted institution like Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad. Equally interesting and far reaching would be the detection of anti- ageing genes in some of the oldest populations of the Himalayas, which is well known for their longevity. In the long run this should also include developing repository or gene banks for all endangered species of the Himalayan plants, indigenous crops, etc. and Sophisticated Biotechnology Instrumentation Centre including gene-sequencing and molecular tools for researchers and R & D units.

Governor Shri BP Singh graced the occasion where over 90 eminent scientists and fellows of National Academy of Sciences from different national research institutes, universities and organisations were present. They included Prof. Asis Dutta, former Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Dr. Lalji Singh, Director, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad; Prof. A. Sorolia, Director, National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi; Prof. Sandip Basu, former Director, National Institute of Immunology; Prof. G. Padmananban of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Prof. Dileep N. Deobagkar, Vice Chancellor of Goa University; Prof. N.K. Ganguly, Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research; Dr. Rakesh Tuli, Director of National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow; Prof. Kasturi Datta, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Prof. G.P. Talwar, founder Director, National Institute of Immunology Delhi and Prof. Debi P. Sarkar, Department of Biochemistry, Delhi University, Delhi.





### iii) First Global Lecture Series

With a view to bringing in global perspectives across the spectrum of academic pursuits in Sikkim University, it has launched an annual Global Lecture Series. This is delivered by an intellectual/public figure/professional/ expert of international standing and repute on a theme of global concern and interest with a distinct local and regional relevance to Sikkim University. The inaugural Global Lecture of Sikkim University was delivered by Prof Sakiko Fukuda-Parr of New School University, New York on the theme *Human Development Approaches to Development and the Impact of World Human Development Reports* on 15 December 2008. Prof Fukuda-Parr had been the author of *Global Human Development Report* of the United Nations Development Programme for many years. She delved into various models of development that have been developed and practiced across the world and highlighted the relevance of human development as an instrument of comprehensive development of human society. In her speech Prof Sakiko reflected on the lack of social parity on a global scale. She reflected on various dynamics of the Human Development Report. She presented a picture of how despite so many decades of development, inequalities in resource distribution, gender relations and education etc continue to exist in the world.

Agreeing with the notion that the process of globalisation creates inequalities at various levels across the world, she made a point that globalisation can be redirected in a way so that all countries and people benefit. Highlighting the link between economic growth and human security she cited the examples of India and China in terms of how things are better in these two countries after liberalisation. She further pointed out that democratisation should be used as a tool for realization of greater freedom and security.

While mentioning that the global human development issues have become so pertinent to the local human development issues, she appla-

uded the first *Sikkim Human Development Report 2001* (Social Science Press, New Delhi, 2001) as a pioneering and far reaching report written by Prof Mahendra P Lama. Governor of Sikkim Shri BP Singh who chaired the lecture stated that this lecture is symbolic in three different ways. First, this symbolizes the localization of global initiatives. Secondly, this is indicative of how a proper blending of global and local intellectual activities could bring transformation in human societies. And thirdly, this lecture also represents the critical importance of institutional linkages and networking which are essential for cross fertilization of ideas. Vice Chancellor while making his remarks asked as to "what makes people feel secure?" and stated that "if we know the answer to this question and address ourselves to mitigate the related problems the goals of human development paradigm would have been fulfilled."

Prof Sakiko Fukuda-Parr delivering the first Global Lecture



Shri Sanchaman Limboo, former Chief Minister of Sikkim in the Global Lecture Series





#### iv) IIC-SU Conference

Sikkim University in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi, organised a lecture by Prof Sakiko Fukuda-Parr on "Global Technology and Unequal Development: The Case of Genetically Modified Crops" on 17 December 2008 at IIC, New Delhi. Prof GK Chadha, Member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council chaired the session. Prof Fukuda-Parr mentioned that given the controversial nature of this technology in India, it is essential to have the debate on this issue beyond the ideologically-politically driven framework and shift to a more rational and empirical base. Prof M.S. Swaminathan made erudite commentary on this lecture.



Prof Sakiko Fukuda-Parr and Prof M.S. Swaminathan at IIC-SU Conference

#### International Conference on Sub-regionalism



#### v) International Conference on Sub-regionalism

A three day International Conference on "Sub Regionalism Approach to Regional Integration in South Asia: Prospects and Opportunities" was held during 19-21 December 2008 at Gangtok. It was sponsored by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi. Foreign Minister Shri Pranab Mukherji who had consented to inaugurate this international conference could not come at the last moment. He however, sent his impressive inaugural address and was read out to the gathering by the Vice Chancellor Prof Mahendra P Lama. Shri Mukherji remarked that:

"Our aim is to arrive at a commonality of views, giving all of us a means for ensuring socio-economic development in India as well in its neighbourhood. For this, we need a peaceful periphery. India's foreign policy seeks to promote an environment of peace and stability in our region, and in the world, aimed at enabling India's accelerated socio-economic development and safeguarding our national security. One cannot choose one's neighbours. Our goal, as I mentioned just now, is a peaceful periphery, to enable us to pursue our own development. While a peaceful periphery is our goal, internal developments in our neighbours and cross border issues, ethnicities, migration and sensitivities make these among our most complex and sensitive relationships, where domestic and foreign policy appear closely intertwined.....

A critical element in our long-term strategy of economic integration of our neighbours is the development of border infrastructure which can facilitate faster movement of goods and people. With this in mind Government is in the process of setting up 13 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs), on land borders with Bangladesh, Nepal, and Myanmar, with immediate priority given to Petrapole, Moreh, Raxaul etc. Each ICP will be complete with all required facilities..... India thus has had some significant success in its relations with all countries in the SAARC, ASEAN, MGC and BIMSTEC frameworks. While these frameworks help us to engage at a sub-regional level, the actual impact is felt at the bilateral level since project and idea implementation enables people to people contact at the professional and other levels."



Shri BP Singh, Governor of Sikkim participated in the first session of the Conference. Prof Lama in his inaugural remarks mentioned that "besides the issues of benefits from development cooperation, there are several issues on which a sub-region based approach will be much more meaningful and effective. For instance, the sub-regional approach could be much quicker on the issues of managing and tackling cross border environmental damages like flood, impact of global warming, terrorism, trafficking of people and small arms and narcotics. All these countries are one way or the other affected by these problems. Both the state and non-state actors need to cooperate in all these ventures."

This conference brought together participants from Bhutan, China, India, Nepal and Vietnam and brought forward many critical issues related to connectivity, trade, investment, energy, tourism, natural resources and environment and highlighted the strong need to cooperate at a very local level on issues of common benefits and concerns. The conference came out with important policy suggestions on harmonising tourism policy in terms of coordination in



International Conference on Sub Regionalism Approach to Regional Integration in South Asia

Plenary Session of the International Conference on Sub Regionalism Approach to Regional Integration in South Asia





neighbourhood to create tourism clusters and local community participation. The conference provided policy insights on development of educational system through human resource development, participation and protection of indigenous knowledge. To cope with climate change and on need for sustainable development the conference suggested effective legal framework to protect indigenous flora and fauna, local participation for economic growth and environment protection, organic farming and early warning system etc.

It was agreed in the conference that the region has the essential critical potential for sub-regionalism development. The emphasis was on the need to brand the region as Green Zone to evolve a specific identity linked to natural characteristics, bridge to link South Asia to East Asia; collective action to tackle issues of terrorism, drug and human-trafficking and climate change would generate cooperative synergies while battling crucial threats. It was also agreed that generation of a collective consciousness would be crucial to have more cross-border interactions.

#### vi) College Mentoring and Research Programme Support

Most of the nine colleges which Sikkim University inherited require a serious and constant supervision in terms of academic performance, infrastructural facilities, faculty appointments and research activities. Sikkim University would like these colleges to be competitive and attractive centers of higher education. Since its very inception only, Sikkim University has taken the prime task of mentoring these colleges. These colleges need a fresh motivation, wider orientation and clear directions. In many of the colleges, teachers really lack training and basic amenities. College governing policies need to be drastically reformed both to make them cope up with the higher standard set by Sikkim University and also to make them compete with other similar institutions in the country. No colleges are covered by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). Many of the

colleges were not included in the list of colleges prepared under Section 2 (f) of the UGC Act 1956. Most of these colleges are still not covered by Section 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956.

Numerous interactive sessions have been organized with these affiliated Colleges in their campus in Burtuk, Tadong, Rangpoo, Rhenock and Namchi. Vice Chancellor himself has participated in all these interactive sessions. Sikkim University has also initiated research and academic activities at the college level.

In the last two years University sponsored/organised six seminar/discussion programmes at various affiliated colleges viz., Seminar on "*Modern Trends in Indian Nepali Literature*" [with the Nepali Department, Sikkim Government College]; a workshop on "*Recent Advances in Mathematics and its application*" [with the Mathematics Department, Sikkim Government College], "*Women Empowerment in the Mountain Areas*" [with the Political Science Department, Namchi Government College] and "*Herbal Drug Development Trends and Future Prospects*" [with Himalayan Pharmacy Institute]. The University also supported a minor research project entitled 'Institutional Assessment of Colleges in Sikkim' of Dr. Yodida Bhutia, Lecturer, Sikkim Government College, Gangtok in 2008.

## B International and Other Collaborations

Collaboration in academic activities with various national and international institutions and both private, public and non-governmental agencies is a key element in the main academic pursuits of Sikkim University. It has started collaborative programmes with national and international institutions.

#### i) Mountain Agricultural Heritage

The first International Expert Meeting on "*Dynamic Conservation of Agricultural Heritage*"



*Systems in Mountainous Landscapes*" was organized by the Sikkim University in collaboration with United Nations University (UNU) and Kyoto University, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Government of Sikkim from 4-7 November, 2007. Chief Minister of Sikkim inaugurated this prestigious meeting attended by internationally known scientists and academics from 7 countries. This meeting has led to collaborative research programmes under the FAO's Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) programme and the UNU Environment and Sustainable Development (ESD) Programme.

## ii) Global Studies Consortium

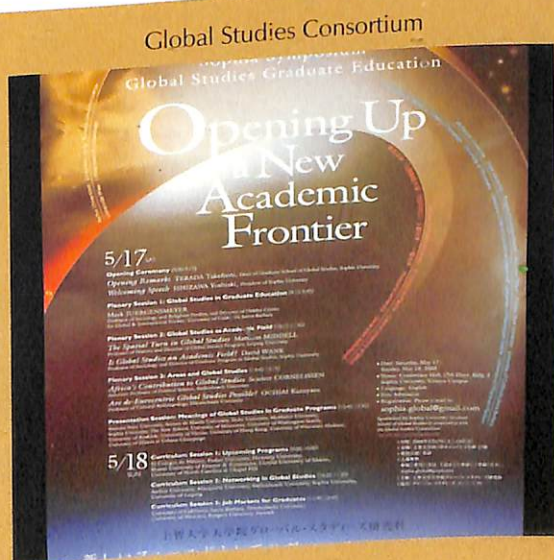
Sikkim University was also selected as one of the seven Global Steering Committee members by a large number of institutions under the Global Studies Consortium in a meeting held at Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan during 16-17 May 2008. This honour was given to Sikkim University for initiating an exclusive School of Global Studies under its forthcoming academic programme. The Global Studies Consortium comprise of the world's noted universities (spread over Europe, Asia, Africa and North America) that conduct programmes on global studies. Prof Lama also made a presentation on "Sikkim University Emerging Global Studies Programme" in this International Symposium.

## iii) Glaciology Commission

Sikkim University is also playing a pivotal role in the Glaciology Commission appointed by the Government of Sikkim to study the impact of global warming on glaciology, hydrological flows and livelihood pattern in the Eastern Himalayan region particularly in Sikkim. Noted Glaciology expert Prof S E Hasnain is heading the Commission which is likely to submit its report by the end of this year.

## iv) Visit by New School Team

As a part of Sikkim University's efforts towards developing region specific academic programmes, Sikkim University invited a team of India - China Fellows to discuss innovative ideas for University's new programmes. Shri Ashok Gurung, Director, India-China Institute, New School University, New York, USA and Dr. Nimmi Kurian, Associate Professor, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi visited Sikkim University as part of this initiative on 29th July 2008. They were later on joined by Shri Li Bo, another India-China Fellow in Darjeeling. During their visit the team held detailed discussions with the University team on developing collaborative programmes. The Academic Coordinator Dr. Jyoti Prakash Tamang made a presentation on his recent research on food microbiology of North Eastern region and East Asian countries.



India-China Fellows





### v) SU-JNU Academic Exchange Programme

Sikkim University hosted and conducted the first interaction with the research scholars and faculty members of the School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 26 December 2008 in Gangtok. The JNU team was led by Prof Rajendra Prasad, Rector of JNU. Various issues were discussed specific to the Department of Microbiology including setting up of the laboratory and research centre. A MOU between Sikkim University and JNU was proposed for the initiation of a refresher course for the Faculty members at SU with respect to teaching, evaluation patterns and hands-on technical training at the Advanced Instrumentation Centre, JNU. The collaborative proposals discussed and given shape included i) short-term orientation for faculty members in JNU, ii) exchange of students between two universities in summer 2009 and iii) research on yeasts diversity in the Himalayas, plant-microbes interaction on lower plant groups or medicinal plants of the Himalayas and dBio – sensor for climate change and natural resource indicators.



Discussion on collaborations between JNU and Sikkim University



Students interacting in the JNU-SU collaborative Programme

## V

### Publications, Awards and Honours

Sikkim University led by its Vice Chancellor, Professor Mahendra P. Lama contributed immensely in the preparation of the following reports:

- *Report of the Expert Committee on Planning for the Sixth Schedule Areas and those areas not covered by Parts IX and IX-A of the Constitution, 2007* [Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India] 2007
- *North East Region: Vision 2020*, published by the Ministry of Development of North East Region (M-DONER) and North Eastern Council, Guwahati. This was released by the Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, on 2 July 2008. Prof Lama was both the member of the National Steering Committee and the report writing team.
- *Sikkim Development Report 2008*, published by Planning Commission, New Delhi, 2008.

This was released by Chief Minister and Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, on 2 July 2008.

- *Report on Problems of Border Areas in North East India: Implications for the Thirteenth Finance Commission*; Sponsored by the Thirteenth Finance Commission, Government of India, New Delhi, 2009

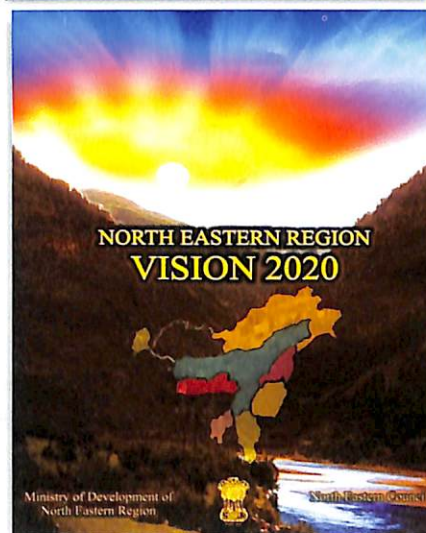
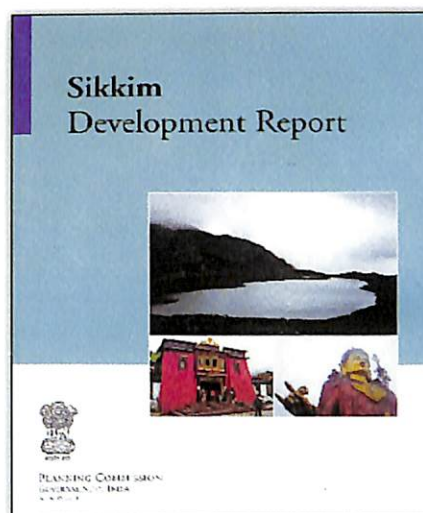
Professor Mahendra P Lama, Vice Chancellor, also completed following five important reports /documents/volumes during his last two years of association with Sikkim University.

- *SAARC Programmes and Activities: Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation*, Asian Development Bank, Manila and South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, Kathmandu.



- *Newer Dynamics of India's Nepal Policy: Challenges, Options and Way Forward*, Policy Planning Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India
- *Human Security in India: Discourse, Practices and Policy Implications*, (a Ford Foundation project being published by ULP, Dhaka, 2009)
- *People without Borders Managing the Refugees in South Asia*, A UNHCR Project to be published by Routledge, London
- *Sikkim-Tibet Trade via Nathu la: A Policy Study on Prospects, Opportunities and Requisite Preparedness* (being published by Indus, New Delhi, 2009)

Prof Lama also received the prestigious title of *India-China Fellow* from the New School University, New York, USA. This was given to him in recognition of his "Leadership and Commitment to Dialogue in China, India and United States" by former Senator Bob Kerry and the present President of New School University in March 2008. He was also honoured with the **Ambassador of Peace** title by the President of



the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 9 September 2008.

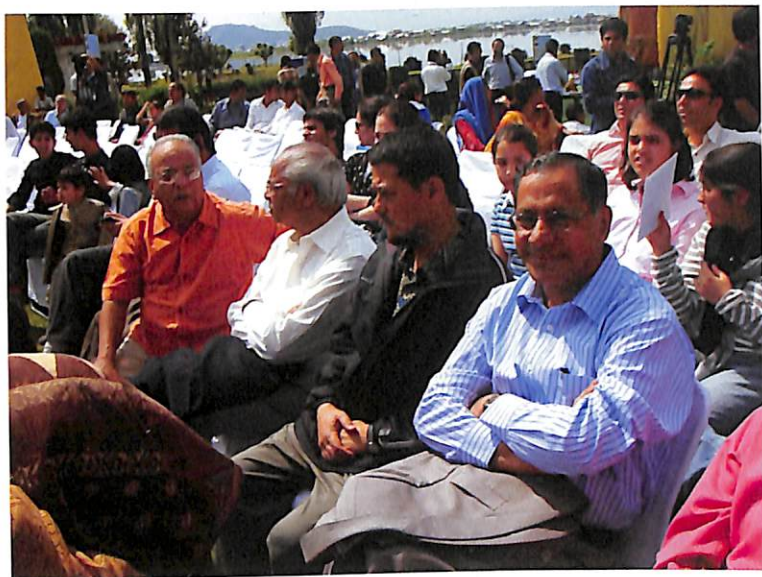
Besides being in various National Committees, Prof Lama was also invited as an international observer in the historic Constituent Assembly Election of Nepal by Nepal Election Observer Committee (NEOC), 10 April 2008.

He has also been appointed as a member of the prestigious National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) under the National Security Council, Government of India in November 2008.

**Prof Lama has also been nominated/selected for the following positions during 2008-09.**

Member, Nominee of University Grants Commission in the Advisory Committee for the Centre for Manipur Studies, Manipur 2008-2011





Vice Chancellors (from left) of Jamia Milia , Kerala, Sikkim and Jawaharal Nehru University in Srinagar, J & K

Nominee of the President of India (Visitor) in the selection of the Registrar of Tezpur University, (Central University), 12th May 2008

Member, Review Committee of the Scheme for Colleges with Potential for Excellence set up by the University Grants Commission 2008-09.

Member, Prime Minister's Task Force and Hill and Mountain Development, 2008

Visitor's [President of India] nominee in the Selection Committee for the teaching posts at MMAJ-Akademiy of Third World studies, Jamia Milia university, New Delhi, June 2008

Member, Board of Research Studies, Nagaland University, 2008-2010.

Member, Standing Committee for Scheduled Castes and Tribes, University Grants Commission 2008-2010

Member, UGC Review Committee for the UGC Scheme of College with Potential for Excellence [IPC Jabin Science College, Hubli, Karnataka] – July 2008

Member of the Advisory Committee of the North Eastern Regional Centre, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Shillong 2008-2010

Member, Adhoc Board of Japanese Studies, Banaras Hindu University, 2008

Visitor's [President of India] nominee in the Academic Council of North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, 2008-2009.

Member, Site Selection Committee appointed by the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India, for the establishment of Central University at Haryana, 2008

Co-convenor, *North East Vision Document 2020* implementation committee on the thematic Group on Panchayati Raj and Local Self Government (Inclusive growth for Inclusive Governance) appointed by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Government of India, October 2008

Member, Executive Council, Indira Gandhi Tribal University, Amarkanthak, Madhya Pradesh, 2008-11

Member, Board of Research Studies, Nagaland University, Nagaland, 2008

Member, Editorial Board, *Refugee Watch*, Journal published by Calcutta Research Group, Calcutta, 2008-2012

**Prof Lama also published several articles in professional journals and national newspapers during 2008-09.**

**These include:**

"Running Cross Country", *Hindustan Times*, New Delhi, May 08, 2008

"Storm Brewing in the Mountains", *The Telegraph*, Calcutta. July 3, 2008

"Can you blame us for SAARCasm?" *Hindustan Times*, New Delhi, July 29, 2008

"Implementation of SAFTA Conventions", *South Asian Journal*, Lahore, July-September 2008

"Cross Border power Trading in South Asia : Emerging New Paradigms", *Energy Security Insights*, TERI, New Delhi, July 2008



"SAARC : Between Rhetoric and Reality", *Himal Southasian*, Kathmandu, August 2008

"Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal" in Gil Loescher, James Milner, Edward Newman and Gary Troller (eds), *Protracted Refugee Situations*, United Nations University Press, Tokyo, 2008

**Prof Lama also attended a number of national and international conferences where he chaired the sessions and presented papers during April 2008-March 2009:**

"Newer areas of Cooperation between India and Nepal" at the Nepal Conference organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, India at Patna, 26-27 April 2008

"Sikkim University : Emerging Global Studies Programme" in the International Symposium on Global Studies Graduate Education, organized by the Consortium of Global Studies and Sophia University, at Sophia University, Tokyo, 16-17 May 2008.

"India-China Border Trade Connectivity: Economic and Strategic Implications and India's Response" in the seminar on "Transport Connectivity in India's Neighborhood: Economic and Strategic Implications" organized by Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), India International Centre, New Delhi, 24 May 2008

Presentation on the major findings and recommendations in the project on "SAARC Programmes and Activities : Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation" sponsored by Asian Development Bank, Manila and SACEPS, Kathmandu, at the Regional Conference on Strengthening Economic & Social Integration of South Asia, organized by South Asia Centre For Policy Studies, Kathmandu, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 30-31 May, 2008

"Bhutan, Nepal and SAARC: Harnessing Traditional Resources with Non-Traditional Instruments" in the conference on "Does South Asia Exist ? Prospects for regionalism in South Asia" organized by the Walter H Sorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Centre, Stanford University, California and Observer Research Foundation, India at Stanford University, California, June 19-20, 2008.

"SAARC Programmes and Activities: Assessment,

Monitoring and Evaluation" at the 1st South Asian Economic Summit organised by Institute of Policy Studies, Colombo and Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Sri Lanka, Colombo, 28-30 August, 2008.

"Cross Border Energy Trading in South Asia : Challenges and Opportunities", at 3rd TERI-KAS Conference on "Resource Security: The Governance Dimension", organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in collaboration with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), Goa, 3-4 October 2008.

Panelist in the session on "Unlocking the Economic Synergies in South Asia" along with Adi B Godrej, India, Jalaj A Dani, Amadou Diallo, Singapore, Abdul Razak Dawood Pakistan, in the 24th India Economic Summit held in New Delhi, organised by World Economic Forum, Switzerland, 16-18 November 2008.

Attended India- China Fellow Residency in Beijing, 14-22 November 2008

Chaired and delivered the valedictory address at the international conference on "Sub Regionalism Approach to Regional Integration in South Asia: Prospects and Opportunities" organised by Sikkim University and Freidrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi, 19-21 December 2008, Gangtok.

"Conflicts and Refugees in South Asia : Emerging Newer Dynamics in International Relations" in the international conference on "Democratizing International Relations" organized by National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 11- 12 March 2009

Attended India-China Fellow Residency in New Delhi, 14-22 March 2009

**Prof Lama also delivered special lectures/spoke in the following national and international forum from April 2008-March 2009:**

Delivered the inaugural address at the first cross border dialogue entitled "Economic Reforms and Development Dynamics: A Cross Border Dialogue between India and Nepal" organised by Sikkim University and BP Koirala Nepal-India Foundation, Gangtok 18-19 April 2008.



Inaugural address on the workshop on "Developing study and psychological skills for better performance", organised by IGNOU, Gangtok, 7 May 2008

Lecture on "Mountain and Hill Development" to Society of the Jesuits in North Point College, Darjeeling, 23 May 2008

Lecture on the "Employment Opportunities in the Darjeeling and Dooars Areas" as the Chief Guest in the 22nd Foundation Day of the Hill Employees Association, Town Hall, Kalimpong, 3 June 2008

Inaugural address at the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Eastern India Regional Centre of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India Siliguri Branch of the, ICAI Bhavan, Siliguri, 1 July 2008

Lecture on "Economic Viability of Gorkhaland" in a seminar on "Smaller States and Stronger Federal Structure : Role of Gorkhaland", Darjeeling and Dooars Intellectual Forum, 29 July 2008, Gymkhana Club, Darjeeling

Lecture on "Economic Viability of Gorkhaland" in a seminar on "Smaller States and Stronger Federal Structure : Role of Gorkhaland", Darjeeling and Dooars Intellectual Forum, 10 August 2008; Town Hall, Kalimpong

Lecture on "Higher Educational Reforms under Sikkim University" at the 19th Foundation Day, Rhenok Education Society at Himalayan Pharmacy College, Ranpoo, Sikkim, 12 August 2008

Lecture on the "Economic and Educational Opportunities in the Eastern Himalayas" as the Chief Guest in the Foundation Day, Kurseong College, Kurseong, 17 August 2008.

Valedictory address at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Science and Technology, Sikkim for the participants in the Regional Workshop and Training on Building Institutional Archives and digital library in Eastern region" organized by Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, 21 August 2008

Lecture on "Aftermath of Nepali Language recognition in the 8th Schedule of Constitution of India in 1992" at the Nepali Bhasha Manyata Diwas Function organized by Paschim Sikkim Sahitya Prakashan, Geyzing, West Sikkim, 22 August 2008

Lecture on "Career Opportunities in Today's world" to the students of various schools in Darjeeling, organised by North Point Alumni Association, Gymkhana Club, Darjeeling 24 August 2008

Lecture on the "Changing Perspectives of Health Issues in the Eastern Himalayas" at the 7th Annual General Body meeting of Sikkim Voluntary Health Association of India, Gangtok, 25 August 2008

Lecture to the State Civil Servant probationers of the Government of Sikkim at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology, Sikkim, 26 September 2008

Lecture on the "Viability of Gorkhaland as a constituent State in India", St Alphons School Auditorium, Kurseong, 29 September 2008

Inaugural address in the national conference on "Herbal Drug Development Trends and Future Prospects" organized by Himalayan Pharmacy Institute, Sikkim, 4 November 2008

Lecture in the Annual Function of the All India Tamang Buddhist Association, at Nepania, Siliguri, 24 January 2009

Valedictory lecture on "Social inclusion : community and university partnership" in the international conference on "Citizenship and Governance: Challenges for Social Inclusion" organized by Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) and North Bengal University, Siliguri, 20 February 2009

## **Publications by Faculty Members**

### **Vimal Khawas, Associate Fellow**

Das, Bhaswati and Vimal Khawas (Eds) (2009), *Gender Issues in Development: Concern for the 21st Century*, Rawat Publication, Jaipur

Khawas, Vimal (2007), "Global Warming and Climate Change: Implications for Human Security of India", *Social Change*, 37 (3)

Khawas, Vimal (2008) Understanding Global Warming, *Academy Journal*: 2007-08, [Sikkim Academy's Annual Journal], Volume 5,

Khawas, Vimal (2009), "Nepalis in India: A Neglected Discourse", in (Eds) TB Subba, AC



Sinha, GS Nepal, DR Nepal, *Indian Nepalis: Issues and Perspective*, Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi

### **Bimala Singh, Department of Microbiology**

Singh, Bimala and R K Kale (2008), "Chemomodulatory action of *Foeniculum vulgare* (Fennel) on skin and forestomach papillomagenesis, enzymes associated with xenobiotic metabolism and antioxidant status in murine model system", *Food and Chemical Toxicology*, Vol. 46.

Singh, Bimala and R K Kale, "Chemomodulatory Effect of *Trachyspermum ammi* on Murine Skin and Forestomach Papillomagenesis", *Nutrition and Cancer: An International Journal* (Accepted on 26th March, 2009).

### **Satyabrat Sinha, Department of Peace & Conflict Studies**

Sinha, Satyabrat (2009), "India Pakistan Peace Process: Incremental Progress?" in (Eds) Anjali Ghosh et al, *Indian Foreign Policy*, Pearson and Jadavpur University.

## **Seminar, Conference Participations, Presentations and Lectures by Faculty Members**

### **Vimal Khawas, Associate Fellow**

Participated in the "Global Digital Photo Contest 2008" organised by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu, to celebrate ICIMOD's Silver Jubilee and World Environment Day 2008. His photograph was selected among 60 best global photographs.

Presented a paper 'Kuhl: An Ingenious Technology of Water Resource Management in the Spiti Valley of Himachal Pradesh', at National Seminar on Science, Technology and Development in the Himalayas, Center for Himalayan Studies, North Bengal University, Darjeeling, 23rd – 24th March 2009

### **Sabastian N, Department of International Relations/Politics**

Participated in the International Seminar "Secular and Democratic Education: Kerala Experiences"

organized by Ministry of Education, Government of Kerala at Trivandrum 4-6 December 2008.

Presented a paper "Global Financial crisis and Its Impact on West Asian/Gulf States" at the National Seminar on *Global Financial Crisis: Implications to India* organized by School of International Relations and Politics, School of International Relations and Politics, Mahatma Gandhi University, 12-14 January 2009.

### **Otojit Kshetrimayum, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Systems and Anthropology**

Presented a paper "Gender, Status and Power: The Case of Handloom Industry in Manipur" in the International Seminar on *Mainstreaming of Women in Work and Political Processes: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward* organized by Women's Studies and Development Centre, University of Delhi, Delhi-110007 from 5-7 November, 2008.

Presented a paper "Cloth, Society and Social Change: Situating Handloom Weaving as an Industry in Manipur" in the *All India Sociological Conference* organized by Indian Sociological Society at University of Rajasthan, Jaipur from 27-29 December, 2008.

Presented a paper "Contextualising Social Organisation in Korea and North East India: A Case study of Kye and Marup" in the International Seminar on *India-Korea Relations in the Resurgent Asia* organized by the Researchers' Association for the Study of Korea at University of Delhi, 20-21 February, 2009.

Presented a paper at the Institute of South Asian Studies, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul, South Korea as part of the Intellectual Exchange Programme organized by Korea Foundation, Government of Republic of Korea, 31 March-5 April 2009

## **Association with Professional Bodies**

### **Buddhiman Tamang, Department of Microbiology**

Member of Association of Microbiologist of India (AMI)

Member of Biotech Research Society of India (BRSI).



## VI

## Students in Action

## i) Department of Social Systems and Anthropology

**Ranka Village Study**

As part of the "Field Study" programme, the Department organized "Ranka Village Study" on 6 December, 2008. This was the first field work study tour primarily to explore and understand the socio-economic profile of the village.

**Friday Lecture Series**

The Department initiated its Friday lecture series which were delivered by: Shri Sandeep Tambe, Joint Secretary, Rural Development Department, Government of Sikkim on "Ecology, Economics and Equity of the Pastoral System in the Kanchenjunga National Park, Sikkim Himalayas, India" 26 February, 2009.

Shri Ravindra Telang, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Government of Sikkim "Meditation for Human Integration" 27 March 2009

Shri Binu Sundas, Assistant Professor, Sikkim University on "Feminisation of HIV/AIDS".

**Health First for Women**

"Health First for Women", a programme to commemorate Women's Day on 9th March, 2009 was organized by the Department in collaboration with Inner Wheel, an international organization belonging to the Rotary Family. Dr. Prachi, Head of the Department of Gynecology, Sikkim Manipal Hospital spoke on one of the most dreaded form of cancer (cervical cancer) prevalent among women and other women related health issues.

**Engaging Sociology**

The Department organised an Interactive Session with Prof. T. K. Oommen, Professor Emeritus at the Center of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, JNU and Prof. N. Jayaram, Dean of School of Social Sciences, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai on "Engaging Sociology".



Earth Hour 2009 and Sikkim "Batti Bandh"

**Batti Bandh**

The Department joined the Earth Hour 2009 and Sikkim "Batti Bandh" campaign and initiated a signature campaign in and around Gangtok from 23rd to 28th of March 2009. The signature campaign was kick started by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Mahendra P. Lama. The campaign aimed at creating awareness about the global climate change and urgent need to make efficient use of energy. As part of the campaign, a quiz competition was organized in collaboration with Nayuma Television, Gangtok.



## i) Department of Microbiology

### Academic Exchange Programme with JNU

Department of Microbiology, Sikkim University conducted a successful Academic Exchange Programme with Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi on 25th and 26th December 2008. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Rector, JNU, along with Prof S.K. Sharma and Dr. Tulika Prasad led the team of 12 Ph. D. research scholars working in the various aspects of yeast biology to Sikkim University.

## ii) Department of International Relations/Politics

### Interactive sessions

The Department organized *Interactive sessions with/on*

- Prof. A.K. Ray (Formerly, Professor of Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) and Prof. I Kamtekar (Professor of Historical Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU) on 14th February 2009.

- Dr. Pritam Krishna Shrestha, Head, External Relations and Communications Office (ERCO), Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, 21 February, 2009

- *Emerging Trends in the Study of International Relations*, 18th March 2009.

### Weekly Film/Documentary Screening

In order to enrich the concept of informal mode of learning and inter-disciplinary character of the University, the department has been organizing programmes and activities which are beyond the formal classroom lectures. The Department in collaboration with the Department of Peace and Conflict, Sikkim University organises weekly screening of films and documentaries on historical and contemporary issues where students, staff and faculties of other departments also participate. Documentaries like "War on Democracy" and movies like "Freedom Writers", "Red Shogun", and "Goodbye Lenin" among others are movies that department has so far premiered. This exercise has provided a platform for the students to discuss issues of national and global importance through audio-visual mode.

### Weekly Discussion Forum

The International Relations Discussion Forum, consisting of faculty members and students of the department conducts regular weekly discussion program on major issues and developments in World Politics on every Monday. Two students present the major developments in world politics during the previous week and then the floor is open for discussion and analysis.

## VII

### Sikkim University Management Strategies and Team

Sikkim University is trying to build a transparent, accountable and result oriented management system with best management and accounting practices. E-governance, multi-tasking, quality service delivery and individual accountability are the hall mark of its management practices. Sikkim University has hired a number of highly motivated and committed academics and management professionals from both local and national sources. The average age of majority of these academics and professionals range from 23-32 years.

As an initiative towards bringing the best management practices, creating individual accountability and adopting a healthy work culture Sikkim University has taken several steps. This has led to a consistently high rate of productivity both among the faculty and the management staff. On an average each of the Sikkim University professional spends good quality 9-14 hours in the University where they are engaged in several academic and management activities. For them a new institution building project with a very clear vision and action trajectory has been both a challenge and opportunity.



University has set up several committees with both inside and outside members in areas like curriculum designing, purchase and supplies of goods, hiring of services, accounting and audits,

### Fortnightly Reviews

Sikkim University conducts fortnightly management staff meetings for better coordination among the staff members and to add accountability to the duties assigned. The meetings are held on the first and third Monday of every month. The meeting is presided over by the Vice Chancellor and in case of his absence, by the Registrar or the Finance Officer. All attending this meeting are expected to come prepared with their job status report of the weeks gone by. Each staff member gives a detailed update on the status of the work assigned. Apart from the discussion of the specific job duties the meeting also acts as an open forum for any management related issues.

### Staff Motivation and Work Culture Assessment Surveys

Sikkim University recognizes work culture as a powerful component of an organization's success. It is actually the basis for both productivity and

performance enhancement. In an organization every individual has the potential to perform if he or she gets proper motivation, the right opportunity and the freedom to work. An employee gets motivated to perform when she/he is satisfied with the work environment or the culture she/he is working with, because the University believes that in the long run success is achieved when ordinary people perform extraordinarily. Sikkim University regularly conducts internal work culture assessment surveys through its own staff members. These surveys address to issues related to building a strong sense of organizational identity and internal community spirit and performance upliftment which includes factors related to vision, mission, values alignment, fulfillment and leadership development.

For this, a questionnaire was formulated and distributed among management staff of Sikkim University. The last survey found that all the staff members expressed positive attitude towards the organization and mentioned that University has a good existing work culture. They expressed the need to consolidate it further. However, the staff members raised simple issues like the antivirus and computer maintenance, need to hire experienced and qualified people with good knowledge of financial regulations and rules in the finance wing.



Snap shot of the in-house Management Staff Satisfaction and Work Culture Assessment Survey



## Sikkim University Management Team

Vice Chancellor : **Prof. Mahendra P Lama**

### ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT

Dr. C. B. Sunwar, Fellow (Academics)  
 Dr. Vimal Khawas, Associate Fellow  
 Dr. Omprasad Gadde, Executive (Programme) II  
 Kalpana Dahal Chhetri, Asst Executive( Academics)  
 Dr. Kamal Subba, Asst Executive ( Evaluation)  
 Amber Mangar, Office Support

### ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

S K Sarkar, Registrar  
 S. Gopinath, Officer on Special Duty  
 S. K Pradhan, Officer on Special Duty  
 Sangeeta M Rasaily, Executive (Programme) I  
 Sharmistha Rai, Executive  
 Bisulal Subba, Asst Executive  
 Kessang Doma Bhutia, VC's Office  
 Minu Thapa, Office Support  
 Satyam Rana, Asst Executive  
 Dakshata Lawer, Asst Executive  
 Karma Doma Sherpa, Asst Executive



**ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT**

Nawraj Pradhan, Car Support

Prem Chettri, Cafeteria Support

Parsuram Chettri, Cafeteria Support

LB Chettri, Office Support

Kishor Rai, Security Support

Ram Bahadur Gurung, Security Support

Deo Kumar Chettri, Office Support

Sushant Rai, Office Support

Puran Kumar Ghatraj, Cleanliness Support

Radhika Chettri, Cleanliness Support

Rajesh Mangar, Car-cum-Office Support

Gopal Ghatraj, Car-cum-Office Support

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

PV Ravi, Finance Officer

GR Gurung, Accountant

K. Vibgyor, Asst Executive (Accounts)

Vishal Tamang, Asst Executive (Accounts)

Christina Rai, Asst Executive (Accounts)

**LIBRARY MANAGEMENT**

Khagen Kalita, Asst Executive (Library)

Shikha Shailee Moktan, Asst Executive (Library)

Pawan Lama, Office Support (Library)







### ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT

Dr. C. B. Sunwar  
Dr. Vimal Khawas  
Dr. Omprasad Gadde

Kalpana Dahal Chhetri  
Dr. Kamal Subba  
Amber Mangar



### ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

S K Sarkar  
S. Gopinath  
S. K Pradhan

Sangeeta M Rasaily  
Sharmistha Rai  
Bisulal Subba

Kessang Doma Bhutia  
Minu Thapa  
Satyam Rana

Dakshata Lawer  
Karma Doma Sherpa  
Nawraj Pradhan

Prem Chettri  
Parsuram Chettri  
LB Chettri





### ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Kishor Rai  
Ram Bahadur Gurung  
Deo Kumar Chettri

Sushant Rai  
Puran Kumar Ghatraj  
Radhika Chettri

Rajesh Mangar  
Gopal Ghatraj



### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

PV Ravi  
GR Gurung  
K. Vibgyor

Vishal Tamang  
Christina Rai



### LIBRARY MANAGEMENT

Khagen Kalita  
Shikha Shailee Moktan  
Pawan Lama



# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

## GANGTOK



# ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

## 2008-09



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**Separate Audit Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on the  
Accounts of Sikkim Central University, Gangtok for the year ended 31 March 2009**

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of Sikkim Central University, Gangtok as at 31 March 2009 and the Income & Expenditure Account/ Receipt and Payment Account for the year ended on that date under Section 20 (1) of the Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 read with Section 33 of The Sikkim University Act, 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Sikkim Central University. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

2. This Separate Audit Report contains the comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) on the accounting treatment only with regard to classification, conformity with the best accounting practices, accounting standards and disclosure norms, etc. Audit observations on financial transactions with regard to compliance with the Law, Rules & Regulations (Propriety and Regularity) and efficiency-cum-performance aspects, etc., if any are reported through Inspection Reports/ CAG's Audit Reports Separately.

3. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidences supporting the amounts and disclosure in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

4. Based on our audit, we report that:

i. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;

ii. The Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account/Receipt & Payment Account dealt with by this report have been drawn up in the format approved by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

iii. In our opinion, proper books of accounts and other relevant records have been maintained by the Sikkim Central University as required under Section 33 of the Sikkim University Act, 2006 in so far as it appears from our examination of such books.



iv We further report that:

**A Income & /Expenditure Account**

**Depreciation : Rs. 34.56 lakh**

- (a) This is overstated by Rs.0.30 lakh on account of excess provision of Depreciation on Electrical fitting.
- (b) This is understated by Rs.1.36 lakh on account of charging Depreciation @ 5 per cent instead of 7.5 per cent on Furniture and Equipments.

This has resulted in an overstatement of surplus as well as Capital Fund by Rs.1.30 lakh.

**B Grants-in-aid**

Out of grants-in-aid of Rs.26.58 crore received during the year, the Organization could utilize a sum of Rs.3.28 crore only leaving a balance of 23.30 crore as unutilized grants as on 31 March 2009.

- v. We report that the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account/ Receipt & Payment Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts.
- vi. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said financial statements read together with the Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts, and subject to the significant matters stated above and other matters mentioned in Annexure to this Audit Report give a true and fair view in conformity with accounting principle generally accepted in India;
  - a. In so far as it relates to Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Sikkim Central University, Gangtok as at 31 March 2009; and
  - b. In so far as, it relates to Income and Expenditure Account of the surplus for the year ended on that date.

Place: Gangtok

Date: 12 January 2010

  
Accountant General



### Annexure

1. **Adequacy of Internal Audit System:** The Sikkim University, Tadong was established under the Sikkim University Act, 2006 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007 only. The University is in the process of evolving Internal Audit System.
2. **Adequacy of Internal Control System:** Internal Control System in the University needs further strengthening.
3. **System of Physical verification of fixed assets:** Physical verification of fixed assets was not done.
4. **System of Physical verification of inventory:** Physical verification of inventory was not done.
5. **Regularity in payment of statutory dues:** The Management is regular in deposit and payment of rent, rates and taxes with appropriate authorities except dues indicated in Schedule 3 of Annual Accounts.

  
Sr. Audit Officer



# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY, GANGTOK

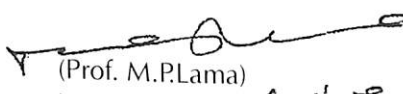
## Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2009

	Schedule	Current Year 2008-09 (Rs)	Previous Year 2007-08(Rs)
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Capital Fund	1	29,27,32,549	5,24,24,112
Earmarked Funds	2	7,50,00,000	7,50,00,000
Current Liabilities	3	70,27,752	-17,876
<b>Total</b>		<b>37,47,60,301</b>	<b>12,74,06,236</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets (net Block)	4	2,45,04,930	11,95,152
Investments from Earmarked Funds		0	0
Investments (others)		26,19,00,000	0
Current Assets, Loans & Advances	5	8,21,08,978	33,19,855
Cash at Bank		62,46,393	12,28,91,229
<b>Total</b>		<b>37,47,60,301</b>	<b>12,74,06,236</b>

  
(Vishal Ramang)  
Assistant Executive

  
(Gajraj Gurung)  
Accountant

  
(P V Ravi)  
Finance Officer

  
(Prof. M.P.Lama)  
Vice-Chancellor  
29/05/09



## SIKKIM UNIVERSITY, GANGTOK

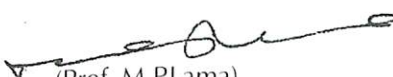
## Income &amp; Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.03.2009

<b>A. Income</b>		
Particulars	Schedule	Amount (Rs)
Grants in Aid/Subsidies	6	265800000
Academic Receipts	12	2087533
Income from Publications		
Other Income	8	35282
Prior Period Income		
Total - A		267922815
<b>B. Expenditure</b>		
Establishment Expenditure	9	8551872
Academic Expenses	10	2631482
Administrative Expenses	11	18200328
Depreciation		3456117
Prior Period Expenditure		
Total - B		32839799
Balance being surplus carried to Capital Fund (A-B)		235083016

  
(Vishal Kamang)  
Assistant Executive

  
(Gajraj Gurung)  
Accountant

  
(P V Ravi)  
Finance Officer

  
(Prof. M.P.Lama)  
Vice-Chancellor  
27/05/09



## SIKKIM UNIVERSITY, GANGTOK

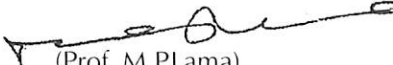
## RECEIPTS &amp; PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

Receipts	Rs.	Receipts	Rs.
Axis Bank	122891229	Advances on Capital Account	75000000
Vijaya Bank	0	Advertisement & Publicity	5102134
Cash in Hand	0	Bank Fixed Deposits (Made)	296200000
Academic Receipts	1804283	Books	8184842
Admission Fees	232200	Computers	8030085
Bank Fixed Deposits (realised)	34300000	Contingencies	80158
Grants in Aid	265800000	Electrical Fittings	189408
Interest Received	1594372	Electricity Charges	50760
Other Income	21628	Furniture & Equipment	4423238
Registration Fees	127550	Plant & Machinery	7400
Misc Refunds	1146820	Examination Expenses	328918
		Gardening	1460
		Honorarium	113088
		Hospitality	1369066
		Lease Rent Deposit	709600
		Leave Salary	146109
		Legal Expenses	114368
		LTC expenses	198325
		Magazines & Journals	47008
		Maint. Of Furniture	64818
		Maint of Building	1540535
		Maint of Computers	29081
		Misc Expenses	388988
		Other Advances	5015765
		Establishment expens	32773
		Other Liability Payments	9535
		Other receivable payments	850000
		Postage & Telegram	33294
		Prepaid insurance	22181
		Printing & Processing	361187
		Stationery	900354
		Rent, Rates & taxes	1404481
		Repairs & Mainte	218463
		Salaries & Allowances	6217320
		Security Expenses	99700
		Seminar Expenses	513716
		Staff Welfare	8947
		TA Advabce	168500
		Telephone & Internet	249160
		Telephone Deposit	210100
		Travel & Conveyance	843671
		Vehicle Running Charges	652448
		Water Charges	11935
		Sundry minor payments	1528770
		Axis Bank	4496122
		Vijaya Bank	1750271
<b>Total</b>	<b>427918082</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>427918082</b>

  
(Vishal Ramang)  
Assistant Executive

  
(Gajraj Gurung)  
Accountant

  
(P V Ravi)  
Finance Officer

  
(Prof. M.P.Lama)  
Vice-Chancellor  
29/05/09



## Schedule 1 - Capital Fund

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Opening Balance	5,24,24,112	0
Add: Surplus	23,50,83,016	55000000
Add: interest earned surplus funds	52,25,421	177542
		2501
sub-total	29,27,32,549	55180043
		2755931
Les: Utilised		
Closing Balance	29,27,32,549	52424112

## Schedule 2 - Earmarked/Endowment Funds

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Opening Balance	7,50,00,000	0
Add: Grants received during the Year (for acquisition of Land)	7,50,00,000	7,50,00,000
Sub-Total	15,00,00,000	
Less: Grants Utilised	7,50,00,000	0
Closing Balance	7,50,00,000	7,50,00,000

## Schedule 3 - CURRENT LIABILITIES &amp; PROVISIONS

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
<b>A. CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
TDS Payable	-2,71,139	-7,527
Income Tax Payable	2,16,036	-26,875
CPF Payable	59,018	7,270
		120
Cont. Pension Payable		8,134
VAT Payable	-529	-529
Cess Payable	3,116	
\Profession Tax Payable	850	-125
Licence Fee Payable	25,994	-3,543
LIC Payable	15,761	2,504
Post Office SB Payable	2,465	-35
Other Liabilities (Credit)	68,99,680	2,730
Student Welfare Fund	8,500	0
Laboratory Caution Deposit	22,000	0
Library Caution Deposit	46,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,27,752</b>	<b>-17,876</b>



## Schedule 5 - CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS &amp; ADVANCES

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
<b>A. CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
1. Cash on hand	0	0
2. Bank Balance (with Axis Bank)	44,96,122	12,28,91,229
3 Bank Balance with Vijaya Bank	17,50,271	
Total (A)	62,46,393	12,28,91,229
<b>B. LOANS &amp; ADVANCES</b>		
1 Advances to Employees	1,14,293	
2. Long Term Advances to Employees	0	
3 Lease Rent Deposit	8,09,600	1,00,000
4. Prepaid Expenses	22,181	
5. Deposits	2,13,100	6,000
6. Income Accrued but not due	36,31,049	
7. Other receivables	23,18,755	16,74,955
9. Advances to suppliers		15,38,900
10 Advances on Capital Account	7,50,00,000	
Total (B)	8,21,08,978	33,19,855
Total (A) + (B)	8,83,55,371	12,62,11,084

## Schedule 6 - GRANTS IN AID/SUBSIDIES

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
<b>GRANTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR</b>		
From UGC for Maintenance	26,58,00,000	5,50,00,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	26,58,00,000	5,50,00,000

## Schedule 7 - INTEREST EARNED

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
<b>A. FIXED DEPOSITS</b>		
1. Plan Grant	52,25,421	0
2. Maintenance Grant		
3. Others		
<b>B. SAVING BANK ACCOUNTS</b>		
4. Bank Interest		0
<b>TOTAL</b>	52,25,421	0



## Schedule 8 - OTHER INCOME

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Other Income	35,282	2,501
Total	35,282	2,501

## Schedule 9 - ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Salaries and allowances to regular employees	48,78,462	10,17,625
Salaries to adhoc staff	27,79,027	4,50,625
Staff Welfare	1,20,320	3,450
Dearness allowance	0	9,659
Fees to visiting Professors	0	19020
PF contribution	37,127	5,432
Leave salary/pension contribution	6,86,502	1,33,876
Other establishment expenses	50,434	1,42,673
TOTAL (A)	85,51,872	17,82,360
Add: Outstanding Expenses	0	
TOTAL (B)		-
Less: Prior Period Expenses	0	-
TOAL (C)	0	
GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C)	85,51,872	17,82,360

## Schedule 10 - ACADEMIC EXPENSES

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Seminar/workshop expenses	13,13,156	92,497
Printing and processing (others)	3,61,187	71,579
Miscellaneous expenses	54,393	1,58,143
Cultural & Social events	5,428	-
Examination Expenses	3,99,905	-
Honorarium	2,99,088	
LTC Facilities	1,98,325	-
TOTAL (A)	26,31,482	3,22,219
Add: Outstanding Expenses	0	
TOTAL (B)	26,31,482	3,22,219
Less: Prior Period Expenses	0	
TOAL (C)	26,31,482	3,22,219
GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C)	26,31,482	3,22,219



## Schedule 11 - ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Rent, Rates & Taxes	32,37,781	32,622
Electricity charges	50,760	1,998
Water charges	11,935	4,500
Vehicle running charges	6,78,988	1,03,170
Postage & Telegram	66,407	10,624
Telephone & Internet	2,52,360	22,536
Advertisement & Publicity	51,02,134	11,200
Travel and Conveyance	26,31,851	1,90,760
Hospitality	19,07,433	25,000
Repairs & Maintenance	2,18,463	12,375
Maintenance of building	17,50,803	65,841
Miscellaneous Expenses	9,54,647	2,714
Magazines and journals	47,008	59,297
Legal Expenses	1,27,500	
Maintenance of computers	41,181	
Printing & Stationery	10,04,038	
Security Charges	1,17,039	
<b>TOTAL (A)</b>	<b>1,82,00,328</b>	<b>5,42,637</b>
Add: Outstanding Expenses	0	-
<b>TOTAL (B)</b>	<b>5,42,637</b>	
Less: Prior Period Expenses	0	-
<b>TOTAL (C)</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C)</b>	<b>1,82,00,328</b>	<b>5,42,637</b>

## Schedule 12 - ACADEMIC RECEIPTS

Particulars	Current Year (Rs)	Last Year (Rs)
Tuition Fee	2,04,000	-
Admission Fee	2,32,200	-
Library Fee	25,500	-
Laboratory Fee	63,000	-
Registration Fee	1,50,550	-
Examination Fee	42,500	-
ID Card Fee	4,600	-
Sports Fee	17,000	-
Practical Examination Fee	21,000	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,22,815</b>	



## SCHEDULE 13

### Notes on Accounts

**1. Contingent Liabilities**

As on 31-03.2009, no suit is pending, against the University in any of the courts in the country.

**2. Capital Commitments**

No contract is remaining to be executed on Capital Account and not provided for in the financial statements as at 31.03.2009

**3. Depreciation**

As per Accounting Policy of the University, the depreciation has been charged on the assets of the University at the following rates.

Buildings	2%
Electrical Installation and Equipment	5%
Plant & Machinery	5%
Scientific & Laboratory Equipment	8%
Office Equipment	7.5%
Audio Visual Equipment	7.5%
Computer & Peripherals	20%
Furniture & Fittings	7.5%
Vehicles	10%
Books & Journals	10%
Others	10%
Full Depreciation is provided on additions made during the year	

**4. Income Tax**

The University has applied to the Income Tax Authorities for exemption under section 10(23 c) of the Income Tax and hence no provision has been for income tax in the accounts.

**5. Land at Yangyang**

The Government of Sikkim has agreed to allot to the University a approximately 300 acres of land at Yangang for construction of the Campus. Towards Government of Share on Cost of Land, the University received a grant of Rs.750 lakh from UGC during March 2008 and the balance Rs.750 lakh during January 2009. The University has deposited a sum of Rs.750 lakh during April 2008 and the balance Rs.750 lakh in April 2009 to the Government of Sikkim. Till depositing, the amount was shown under "Earmarked Funds" in the Accounts. The Amount deposited is depicted as Advance on Capital Account. The University is yet to get the land allotted by the Government of Sikkim.



**6 Rent for Administrative Building**

Sikkim University was established on 02.07.2007. The University is presently functioning in the Youth Hostel Building, Tadong provided by the Government of Sikkim from September 2007. The Government of Sikkim has determined the monthly rent for the Building at Rs.80,900/- which the University has disputed. As per the actual plinth area measured by the University the rent payable per month works out to Rs.72,463. Since the Government of Sikkim has not accepted the rent proposed by the University based on actual measurement, the university has paid under protest, a sum of Rs. 15,37,100/- for the period from September 2007 to March 2009 in May 2009 @Rs.80,900/- claimed by the Government of Sikkim. Accordingly, the university has made provision for rent of the corresponding amount in the accounts for 2008-09. The matter is still under correspondence with the State Government.

**7. Interest earned on unspent UGC Grants**

As per extant instructions of UGC, interest earned on parking of surplus funds of UGC Grant shall be treated as part of Grant. The interest earned on investment is shown as income in the Income & expenditure account relates to the interest earned on investment of surplus of funds of grants received from UGC which were not required for immediate disbursal.

**9. Physical Verification of Assets**

A Committee has been constituted by the University to conduct physical verification of all the assets and stores. The report of the committee is awaited.

**10. Internal Control**

The University has prepared its internal control manual and using the same in the Finance wing. In order to strengthen the internal control, the internal audit work for the year 2008-09 was entrusted to M/s G.Choudhury Associates, Chartered Accountants, Gangtok. The University is taking action on the various observations made by the internal auditors.

**11. Regrouping of Figures**

The figures are re-grouped wherever necessary.

**12. CPF Contribution**

The University, on its rolls, has statutory officers (Registrar & Finance Officer) who are recruited for a fixed tenure. In their cases they have contributed PF contribution from their salaries. The University is yet to introduce the New Pension Scheme as no regular post has been filled up till 31.03.2009. The University has not constituted any PF scheme also. In the circumstances, the contribution made by the statutory officers has been considered as liability in the accounts pending constitution of regular PF or Pension scheme. The University did not make any matching contribution against the contributions made by the statutory officers.

**13. Provision for Gratuity**

During the year 2008-09, no regular post has been filled up except tenure posts of Registrar and Finance Officer. Therefore, the University did not make any provision towards Gratuity. It is also to the fact that during the year 2009-10, on filling up of regular posts the University will introduce new contributory pension scheme to its employees.



## SCHEDULE 14

### SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1. BASIS FOR PREPARATION OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts are prepared under the Historical Cost convention unless otherwise stated and generally on the Accrual method of accounting, unless otherwise stated.

#### 2. REVENUE RECOGNITION

Fees from Students, Sales of Forms, Interest on Savings Bank Deposits are accounted for on Cash Basis.

Income from Property/Assets and interest on Investments are accounted for on accrual basis. Interest on staff advances are accounted for on accrual basis.

#### 3. FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Fixed Assets are stated cost of acquisition including inward freight, duties and taxes and other incidental expenses related to acquisition, installation and commissioning.

Fixed Assets are valued at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation on fixed assets is provided on straight line method at the following rates

Buildings	2%
Electrical Installation and Equipment	5%
Plant & Machinery	5%
Scientific & Laboratory Equipment	8%
Office Equipment	7.5%
Audio Visual Equipment	7.5%
Computer & Peripherals	20%
Furniture & Fittings	7.5%
Vehicles	10%
Books & Journals	10%
Others	10%

Full Depreciation is provided on additions made during the year.

Where an asset is fully depreciated, it will be carried at a residual value of Re.1 in the accounts.

Assets created out of Earmarked Funds/Sponsored Projects, where the ownership of such assets vests with Sikkim University, Depreciation is charged at rates applicable to the respective group of assets.

Assets gifted to Sikkim University are set up by credit to Capital Fund and merged with Fixed Assets and depreciation is charged at the applicable rates.

Books received as gifts are valued at selling price printed on the books. Where the selling price is not mentioned, the valuation is done by assessment and accounted for.



**4 RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

Retirement benefits are provided for in the accounts on the basis of actuarial valuation at the end of each year.

**5 INVESTMENTS**

All investments are valued at cost

**6 GOVERNMENT AND UGC GRANTS**

Government and UGC Grants are accounted for on realization basis.

To the extent utilized towards capital expenditure, the government grants and grants from UGC are transferred to the Capital Fund.

Government and UGC Grants for meeting Revenue Expenditure are treated to the extent utilized, as income of the year in which they are realized.

Unutilized grants (including advances paid out of such grants) are carried forward and exhibited as Liability in the Balance Sheet.

**7 INVESTMENT OF EARMARKED/ENDOWMENT FUNDS AND INTEREST INCOME ACCRUED ON SUCH INVESTMENTS**

To the extent not immediately required for expenditure, the amounts available against funds are invested in approved Securities and Bonds or deposited for fixed term with Banks, leaving the balance in Savings Bank Accounts.

Interest received, interest accrued and due and interest accrued but not due on such investments are added to the respective funds and not treated as income of the university.

**8 SPONSORED PROJECTS**

In the case of Sponsored projects the amounts received from the sponsors are credited to Current Liabilities and as and when the expenditure is incurred /advances paid the concerned project account is debited with allocated overhead charges. Overhead charges recovered from the projects are treated as income of the Sikkim University.

The debit balance of individual sponsored projects is exhibited under Current Assets being recoverable from sponsors.

**9 FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Fellowships and Scholarships are accounted for in the same way as Sponsored projects except that the expenditure generally is only on disbursement of Fellowships and Scholarships, which may include allowances for contingent expenditure by the Fellows and Scholars. When the Fellowships and Scholarships are awarded by the Sikkim University itself the same is accounted for expenses.

**10 INCOME TAX`**

The income of the University is exempt from the Income Tax Act under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act. No provision for Tax is therefore made in the accounts.



Children at the proposed University Land Site at Yangang in South Sikkim

*- Our dream and conviction is to make  
each of you  
a Ph. D., a High Class Professional and a Conscious Citizen*

