

Sikkim Express 08-07-20

# Minister Lepcha holds meetings with ministries, agencies on disaster management

## SE Report

**GANGTOK, July 7:** The State Land Revenue and Disaster Management department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to work towards landslide mitigation at Mangan, North Sikkim.

The MoU was signed by State Land Revenue department secretary Ambika Pradhan and NDMA joint secretary Sandeep Poundrik in the presence of State Land Revenue minister Kunga Nima Lepcha and NDMA secretary Pradeep Kumar along with other members Kamal Kishor and D.N. Sharma. The Sikkim team was represented by Sikkim State Disaster Management Agency (SSDMA) additional director G.C. Khanal along with UNDP officers Surojit Baruah and disaster risk reduction expert Keshav Koirala, a press release informs.

Minister Lepcha also attended meetings with NDMA officials in New Delhi on July 4 and 5 regarding the progress on various schemes for disaster risk reduction in the State and discussed on the issues of implementation of Shendai Framework for disaster risk reduction, Aapda Mitra Programme and Mitigation of Mangan Landslide.



Apart from the NDMA, the minister and SSDMA team had another meeting with Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) led by its director of cooperation Mary Laure Crettaz and disaster risk reduction thematic expert Divya Kashyap. The highlight of the meeting was continuation of support to Sikkim through a four-year project on strengthening State strategies for climate action. The thrust areas will be on disaster risk reduction and

water, it was informed. The SSDMA team also had a meeting with Resident Representative of United Nations in India Shoko Nada, additional country director Rakesh Kumar and Chief of Climate Change, Energy and Resilience Unit Preeti Soni. The meeting was to support to Sikkim would be provided under the NITI Aayog's flagship Aspirational Districts Programme and development of roadmap for DRR and development planning for the State. ■ **Contd. on page 7**



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Sikkim Express 08-07-19

# Minister Lepcha holds meetings...

The team also met Chief of Resilience United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) Lars Bernd and DRR Technical Specialist Sarabjit Singh. During the meeting, UNICEF agreed to provide support to health and education sectors of Sikkim with funding support from North East Council under the DoNER ministry. It was also agreed to have meetings with donor

agencies who can provide support in the sector.

A meeting was also held with Union Home Affairs ministry joint secretary S.K. Jindal who appreciated the work being carried out by SSDMA but equally stressed on augmenting the effort to save vulnerable lives and property.

The visit culminated with minister Lepcha briefing Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang

(Golay) in Delhi about the various meetings with Central ministers and international organizations. The Chief Minister appreciated the effort of the Sikkim team and highlighted some major water challenges in Sikkim, which has further worsened due to climate change and tunnelling activities. He called upon the team to work towards a resilient Sikkim, the release mentions.

# MoU signed with NDMA for Mangan Landslide Mitigation

Summit Times 08-07-19

Minister leads meetings with multiple agencies to address climate change and disaster preparedness

## SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 07 JUL:

Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Disaster Management Authority for Mangan Landslide Mitigation, an official press release informs.

Land Revenue Minister Kunga Nima Lepcha attended meetings with NDMA on 04 and 05 July in New Delhi regarding the progress on various schemes for Disaster Risk Reduction in the State and discussed the issue of implementation of Shendal Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Aapda Mitra Programme and Mitigation of Mangan Landslide.

The MoU was signed



between Land Revenue Secretary Ambika Pradhan and NDMA Joint Secretary Sandeep Poundrik in the presence of the Minister and Secretary NDMA, Dr Pradeep Kumar, along with other members, Dr Kamal Kishor and Dr DN Sharma.

The Sikkim contingent was represented by Sikkim State Disaster Management Additional Director GC Khanal along with UNDP officers Dr Surojit Baruah and Disaster Risk Reduction expert Keshav Koirala.

Apart from the NDMA, the Land Revenue Minister and SSDMA also met with Swiss

Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) led by their Director of Cooperation, Mary Laure Crettaz, and Disaster Risk Reduction Thematic Expert Divya Kashyap, the release adds.

The highlight of the meeting was continuation of support for Sikkim through a four-year project on strengthening State strategies for climate action.

The thrust areas will be on Disaster Risk Reduction and Water.

The SSDMA team led by the Minister also visited Nations House where the team had a meeting with Resident Representative of United Nations

In India, Shoko Nada, Additional Country Director Rakesh Kumar and Chief of Climate Change, Energy and Resilience Unit Dr. Preeti Soni.

The highlight of the meeting was support to be provided to Sikkim under the NITI Aayog's flagship Aspirational Districts Programme and Development of Road Map for DRR and Development Planning for the State.

The team also met Chief of Resilience United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) Lars Bernd and DRR Technical Specialist Sarabjit Singh. The highlight of the meeting was UNICEF

agreeing to provide support to Health and Education sectors of Sikkim with funding support from North East Council under the DONER Ministry. It was also agreed to have meetings with DONER agencies who can provide support in the sector.

A meeting was also held with Union Home Affairs Joint Secretary SK Jindal who appreciated the work being carried out by SSDMA but equally stressed on augmenting the effort to save vulnerable lives and property.

The visit culminated with the Minister briefing Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang in Delhi about the various meetings with central ministers and international organizations. The Chief Minister appreciated the effort of the Sikkim team and highlighted some major water challenges in Sikkim, which has further worsened due to climate change and tunnelling activities. He called upon the team to work towards a resilient Sikkim.

Minister leaves for State...

