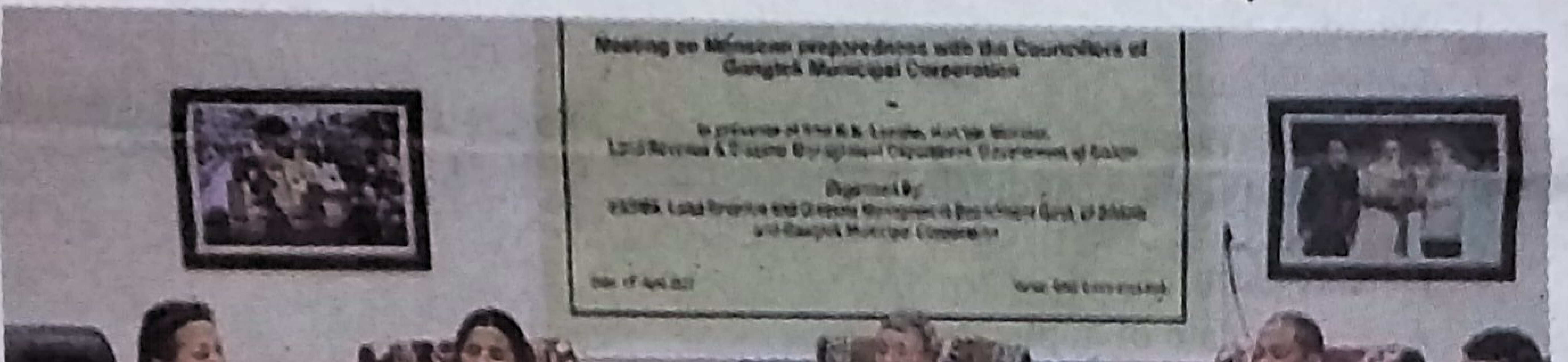
HAMRO PRAJASHAKTI 20/04/22

आपदा तयारीको सन्देश प्रचार प्रसार गर्ने विद्यार्थीहरू सर्वश्रेष्ठ दूतः मन्त्री लेप्चा



गान्तोक, १९ अप्रेल। गान्तोक नगर निगमले सिक्किम राज्य आपदा प्रबन्धन प्राधिकरणको संयुक्त तत्वावधानमा मंगलवार मनसुन पूर्व तयारी बैठक आयोजन गऱ्यो। गान्तोक नगर निगम क्षेत्रको निम्ति आयोजित यस बैठकको अध्यक्षता भू राजस्व एवं आपदा प्रबन्धन विभाग मन्त्री केएन लेप्चाले गरेका थिए। नगर निगमको सम्मेलन हलमा आयोजित बैठकमा मेयर, उप मेयर, पार्षदगण, आयुक्त, प्राधिकरणबाट राज्य राहत आयुक्त, निदेशक र अधिकारीहरू उपस्थित थिए। मन्त्री लेप्चाले आफ्नो सम्बोधनमा आपदा तयारी सबै स्तरमा गरिनुपर्छ भन्ने विषयमा बल दिँदै विभागको तर्फबाट हर सम्भव सहयोगको आश्वासन दिए। उनले आपदा तयारीको सन्देश प्रचार प्रसार गर्ने स्कूलका विद्यार्थीहरू सर्वश्रेष्ठ राजदूत रहेको बताए। उनले पाठ्य पुस्तकहरूमा पनि आपदा प्रबन्धनलाई पाठ्यक्रमको रूपमा सामेल गरिएको जानकारी गराए। उनले मनसुन अगावै हितधारकहरूसित समन्वय सभा आयोजन गर्ने आश्वासन पनि दिए। उनले अपेक्षित परिणामको निम्ति सबैलाई मिलेर काम गर्न आग्रह गरे।

बैठकमा नगर निगम आयुक्त हेम कुमार छेत्रीले निगमको आपदा तयारी गतिविधिहरूबारे जानकारी दिए। यस क्रममा उनले पार्षदगणद्वारा आआफ्नो क्षेत्रमा झोडा र नालाहरूको सफाई गरिएको पनि अवगत गराए। राहत आयुक्त सरला राईले नगर निगम क्षेत्रहरूमा आपदा न्यूनीकरणको निम्ति छुट्टै बजेट आवण्टन गरिएको जानकारी दिइन्। उनले आपदा मित्र योजना अन्तर्गत प्रशिक्षण लिन इच्छुक स्वयंसेवकहरूको नाम चाँडै पठाउन आग्रह गरिन्।

मेयर नील बहादुर छेत्रीले वार्डहरूमा हुने विकास कार्यहरूको जानकारी सम्बन्धित पार्षदहरूलाई पनि हुनुपर्छ ताकि असल समन्वय सुनिश्चित गर्न सकियोस् भनी बताए। उनले बैठक आयोजन अनि विभागको तर्फबाट समर्थनको आश्वासनको निम्ति आभार प्रकट गरे। उप मेयरले आपदा तयारी र संवेदीकरण कार्यक्रम नियमित रूपमा गरिनुपर्छ भन्दै वार्डहरूमा स्वयंसेवकहरूको निम्ति पनि आयोजन गरिनु पर्छ भनी बताइन्। बैठकमा खुल्ला सत्रमा भाग लिँदै पार्षदहरू विभिन्न सुझाउहरू राखेका थिए।

GMC and SSDMA hold pre-monsoon preparedness meet

SUMMIT TIMES 20/04/22

Gangtok, 19 Apr (IPR): A pre-monsoon preparedness meeting for Gangtok Municipal Area was organized by Gangtok Municipal Corporation in collaboration with Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority [SSDMA] in the Conference Hall of the Gangtok Municipal Corporation on 19 Apr, 2022.

The meeting was chaired by Minister, Kunga Nima Lepcha, Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department and was attended by Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councilors along with Commissioner, Gangtok Municipal Corporation and Staff. SSDMA was represented by State Relief Commissioner cum Secretary, Director (SSDMA), and officers from SSDMA.

The meeting commenced with Commissioner, Hem Kumar Chettri, GMC welcoming the chief guest and dignitaries. He also gave a brief background on the Disaster Preparedness activities that GMC has initiated and also mentioned that the Councillors have actively taken part in clearing clogged jhoras in their respective areas. This was followed by a short presentation on the Role of Municipalities in Disaster Risk Reduction. The presentation covered the role of GMC, SSDMA, and DDMA in Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation.

Thereafter, the house was opened for discussion, Minister, Land Revenue & Disaster Management recalled the incident of monsoon calamity of the year 1997 in which different parts of Gangtok were affected and many people had lost their lives. One reason was poor drainage of water leading to clogged jhoras, therefore he emphasized keeping jhoras free from hindrances. Thereafter the following were suggested by different councilors:

The Deputy Mayor suggested that the disaster preparedness and sensitization programme should be a regular practice and it should also be conducted for the volunteers from wards. Arithang councilor suggested a single point of contact for easy distribution of relief in case of a calamity. MG Marg Councilor thanked the State Government for budgetary allocation for cleaning the backside jhoras of the market area. Bojoghari Councilor brought out the problem of dumping of waste by road construction agencies. Lower Sichey Councilor suggested that necessary mitigation efforts should also be focused on low lying areas. Panihouse Councilor spoke on clearing of all construction materials after completion of work by the agencies.

Relief Commissioner cum Secretary, Sarala Rai while thanking the Councilors for their suggestions informed the house that a separate Budgetary allocation has been sanctioned by the Government for Disaster Mitigation at Municipal Areas. She assured the house that all issues that need redressal will be taken up swiftly with stakeholders immediately. She further added that the Councilors should send names of interested volunteers to be trained under the Aapda Mitra Scheme.

Director, Prabhakar Rai, SSDMA highlighted SSDMAs role in Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, he spoke on the institutional Management of Disaster management in the State. He also empathized on following the prescribed SDRF norms for immediate relief management and suggested that relief work should be carried out with due priority to vulnerable areas. While echoing the suggestion of the Secretary he requested the councilors to work in tandem with SSDMA to make a disaster-resilient municipal area with an effective City Disaster Management Plan (CDMP).

Mayor, Nell Bahadur Chettri, GMC thanked the Minister for chairing the meeting while adding that it was the first time that a cabinet minister had chaired such a meeting. He opined that councilors should be informed if there are any developmental works or activities that take place in their wards so that better coordination can be achieved. He further thanked the department for taking the initiative of holding the meeting and assured of all support from GMC.

The Minister in his address credited the councilors for being active and honest with their suggestions and he assured that all possible assistance will be given by the department. He emphasized that disaster preparedness should be taken up at all levels, he said that the best ambassadors for taking the message of disaster preparedness forward are the school children. He informed the house that topics of disaster management have been added to the school syllabus. He also assured the house that a coordination meeting with stakeholders will be taken up before the start of the monsoon. At the end, he requested the house to work in coordination to achieve the desired outcome.

The meeting ended with a Vote of thanks by the Director, SSDMA.