



WE ARE VICTIMS OF OUR OWN  
CONDITIONING: 'THAPPAD'  
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WHY SO MANY EPIDEMICS ORIGINATE  
IN ASIA AND AFRICA – AND WHY  
WE CAN EXPECT MORE  
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IF NEED BE, I'LL CREATE  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR MYSELF:  
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# SummitTIMES

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## SIKKIM DEMOCRATIC FRONT CELEBRATES 28TH FOUNDATION DAY

# SDF on the mend, will form Govt in 2024: Chamling

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 04 MAR:

Sikkim Democratic Front party president, Pawan Chamling, beamed confidence today, announcing that SDF will form the government after the 2024 elections. The present dispensation, he quipped, was already wallowing in anti-incumbency barely nine months into office.

The former CM also quipped that if it wants, SDF can even form the government before the elections, but will not do even if the opportunity arrived.

"We will return to office with proper mandate which we are confident we will receive," he said.

He was addressing leaders, workers and supporters at the 28th Foundation Day celebrations of the party here at SDF Bhawan on Wednesday.

The SDF president also reminisced about the strug-



gles faced during the formation of the party back in 1993 and stressed that the aspiration of the Sikkimese people for a democratic and

pro-people party was delivered by SDF.

"Our politics was not just limited to forming the government. We had a long term vision

for Sikkim's future and the people brought us to government and allowed us to serve them for 25 years," he expressed.

On the present government,

Mr Chamling said that the present political situation was the same as the situation before SDF arrived on the scene.

"SDF has just lost the elec-

tion but we are still in the people's minds and this was not the defeat of our principles, policies, programmes and vision. We learned many lessons and have received the opportunity to correct our mistakes and also know the reality about people in the party," he said.

He highlighted that leaders and workers still in the party were the real supporters of the policies and principles of the SDF and the true soldiers working in the interest of peace and development.

Mr Chamling repeated his earlier comments of their being no alternative for him or SDF in Sikkim and claimed that only SDF can safeguard the peace and security of the State and give momentum to development in the State.

On behalf of the party, he also congratulated and conveyed his best wishes to the Sikkim

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### COORDINATION MEET CHARTS OUT ACTION PLAN AGAINST CORONA VIRUS

## Govt to suspend Inner Line Permits as precautionary measure

GANGTOK, 04 MAR (IPR):

Chief Secretary, S.C. Gupta chaired a meeting at Tashiling Secretariat today to review and discuss preparedness and action plan for any possible coronavirus outbreak in the State following reports of confirmed cases of novel coronavirus in some parts of the country.

The meeting also had the presence of Director General of Police, A.S. Rao, Principal Secretary, Health, K. Srinivasalu, Principal Secretary, RDD, C.S. Rao, DG cum Secretary, Health, Dr. Pempa T. Bhutia, Principal Director, Animal Husbandry, Dr. N.B. Chettri, IPR Secretary, Namrata Thapa, Transport Secretary, Raju Basnet, MC, GMC, H.K. Chettri, Director, SSDMA, G.C. Khanal, District Collectors of East & West, SPs of West & North and other officials from line



departments.

The meeting was also joined by DC South, DC North, and ADC West via video conferencing.

The Chief Secretary, in his address, raised concern over the recent cases of coronavirus outbreak in India stating that this situation has changed the dimension of the problem for Sikkim as well and thus requires a proper and effective action plan in the State.

Stressing on prioritising containment issues, the CS directed the

concerned representatives to issue advisory that discourages locals from travelling to affected countries and follow screening and quarantine process for the ones coming back to the State from abroad. He also suggested deploying additional police force at check-posts along with well-trained and equipped medical team for efficient screening.

The CS urged all to spread awareness on the dos & don'ts and guidelines

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## Rumbuk School celebrates golden jubilee with CM

GYALSHING, 04 MAR [IPR]:

Chief Minister PS Tamang [Golay] announced that a "world class residential school," with manpower appointed through competitive exam, will be established in the State to provide the best education.

He was attending the golden jubilee celebration of the Government Secondary School, Rumbuk, West Sikkim, as the chief guest today.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by the Deputy Speaker, Sangay Lepcha, Cabinet Ministers Lok Nath Sharma, MN Sherpa, Bhim Hang Limboo, SBS Chairperson DB Gurung, Press Advisor to the Chief Minister CP Sharma, officials and other dignitaries.



The Chief Minister extended his congratulations to the Rumbuk School family and alumni members on completion of fifty glorious years and stated that education was a priority sector of the state government

and reiterated his commitment to educational growth and development into new dimensions in the State of Sikkim.

He also detailed the various initiatives taken by the Government for the welfare of employ-

ees and urged them to deliver on their assigned duties with utmost sincerity and dedication. He also assured to reward the best performing employees for their meritorious services.

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## SDF celebrates 28th Foundation Day

### Announces 'One Vote One Work' initiative

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 04 MAR:

Sikkim Democratic Front celebrated its 28th foundation day in a grand manner here at SDF Bhawan on Wednesday. The party celebrated its foundation day as an opposition party for the

first time this year.

The celebration was chaired by SDF president, Pawan Chamling who was accompanied by his wife, Tika Maya Chamling, senior leaders, workers and supporters of the party.

On the occasion, Sikkim Democratic Front unanimously passed eight resolutions. The party passed a resolution to implement 'One Vote One Work' in the State. It was stated that after a

successful implementation of One Family One Job in the State, now the party is planning 'One Vote One Work' initiative. However, details about this initiative were not revealed during the function.

In other resolutions, the party reiterated its commitment to continuously work towards safeguarding the special rights and old laws of Sikkim guaranteed under Article 371F, seat

reservation for Limboo and Tamang in the State Assembly, tribal status to 11 left-out communities of Sikkim and Income Tax exemption to Old Settlers of Sikkim.

The party also reiterated its stand on other issues to allow 17th Gyalwang Karmapa, Ogyen Trinley Dorje to visit Sikkim and to continuously work in the interest of Sikkim and its people by following policies and ideology of the party.

## LTVC reiterates demand to restore ST reservation in govt jobs to 15%

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 04 MAR:

A delegation of Limboo Tamang Voluntary Committee [LTVC] representatives met Principal Secretary Tenzing Gelek, Special Secretary Tashi Cho Cho, Joint Secretary Samdup Bhutia and Under Secretary Prakash Rai of the Department of Personnel at Tashiling Secretariat here on Wednesday.

LTVC has sought a meeting of all stakeholders to restore reservation for Scheduled Tribes seats in government employment to 15%. This quota, it may be recalled, has been reduced to 13% in Sikkim.

An LTVC press release informs that the delegation submitted a letter requesting a meeting of all stakeholders - BL, SC, ST, OBC, MBC.

The DoP Joint Secretary, the release informs, assured that due process will be followed by the department on the matter.

Also, the department mentioned that they are examining the Law Department recommendations and will do all the needful and send the file to State govt for necessary action within a week, the release adds.

LTVC representatives plan to visit DoP in a week's time and inform that they will follow up the matter till an official notification restores the ST job reservation to 15%.

This is a gift to the entire LT communities of Sikkim from LTVC once the law is enforced, the release concludes.



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## Gangtok needs more parks for children

NISIM SUBBA

GANGTOK, 04 MAR:

The Children's Park near Paljor Stadium is the only functioning park for children in the capital and since its renovation a few years ago it has become a popular spot for children to spend time outdoors. With ever increasing urbanization, finding open spaces for kids to safely play in has become a major problem. In such a scenario this Children's Park has become an oasis for children of all ages.

Speaking to Summit Times, father of a 10-year-old, Pema Topgyal, said, "I am very happy that there is a place like this for children in Gangtok. it's built very nicely. My son had been wanting to come here and we have come here today with my nephews, who are from the US, who are visiting Sikkim. It's fantastic that there is a place like this in Gangtok."

He added that Gangtok needs more such parks and centres where children can play sports like basketball.

"This park is more suited for



children aged upto 10 years so a place for older children is also needed. Paljor Stadium indoor gymnasium is open only in the mornings and evenings so it would be great if there were other places where kids could play basketball during the day time," said Mr Topgyal.

He also highlighted that children nowadays spend a lot of time indoors, watching TV or playing

computer games, so such an outdoor space would encourage them to spend time outdoors.

That the children enjoy being in the park is evident and on weekends the park is packed with kids, which points towards the need for more alternatives.

Another parent also highlighted the need for proper children's libraries in the capital.



LAND FOR SALE  
(URGENT SALE)

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Serious Buyer may contact : **83720-77482/ 94341-36989/ 98320-82664**