

## **“Differentiate between past and Present Sikkim”: CM to youths**

**Gangtok:** “We are in the path of making a new Sikkim, which is our dream and which we have promised repeatedly”, said Chief Minister Dr. Pawan Chamling. He urged youths to “differentiate Sikkim of the past and present Sikkim”.

Chief Minister was addressing over 5000 local educated and uneducated youths who had gathered to hear him at Palzor Stadium’s Gymnasium Hall on November 21. He advised youths not to be demoralized and pointed out the State government has created numerous opportunities to make the youths self reliant and self employed through different schemes. He mentioned tourism, business, agriculture, horticulture and floriculture sectors in which the state government is using its full potential to create job opportunities which the youths need to capitalize. He warned saying, your opportunities may be taken away by outsiders if you do not recognize and capitalize them. “Opportunities are like time and tides which wait for none”, he noted.

Chief Minister said, youths must come out of old mentality SDF Government is establishing the “Best Task Force” in the state. Youths must develop themselves mentally and get ready to grab every opportunity provided.

“Keep trust on me; I promise to provide you every protection needed”, he said. Citing his own example he said, “to make myself capable to serve people, I have struggled for 30 years continuously”, adding “hard work and right vision towards a set target are key to success”. He said, today’s youths have to set an example as the next generation “is ready to follow your foot steps”. Dr. Chamling announced, a National Institute of Technology (NIT) will be established at Ravangla in South Sikkim for which 300

acres of land is ready and 200 more is needed for this ambitious project. Youths will be given various trainings in the NIT to make them skilled and capable of coping with every technical hurdle which they lacked so far. He further said, Livelihood Schools will be established in every constituency where youths will be given professional trainings. A special board will be established for proper supervision of these institutions, he informed. He urged the youths to be positive towards the steps taken by the government. He warned them saying, “Opportunists with vested interest are looking at youths for their narrow political gain”.

## **“Be courageous to do positive journalism”, CM tells scribes**

**Gangtok:** Chief Minister Dr. Pawan Chamling has called upon the journalists in Sikkim to “be courageous to do positive journalism”. Stating that “responsible and creative journalism is needed”, he said, “Media has quantitatively advanced in Sikkim because of a democratic government in the state”. Till 2002, there was not a single daily newspaper in Sikkim and now there are one dozen daily and five dozen weekly newspapers in the Sikkim. “However”, Dr.Chamling said, “It’s the responsibility of the journalists to improve quality” of news service.

Chief Minister was speaking as chief guest at a function held by Press Club of Sikkim in association with Information and Public Relations departments, Government of Sikkim, at Forest Conference Hall, Deorali, to celebrate National Press Day, November 16, on the theme,. “Changing nature of Indian journalism”, as chosen by Press Council of India. Minister of Forest, Mr. Bhim Dhungel, IPR Minister, Miss. Neeru Sewa, and Press Advisor to CM, Mr. Bhim Dahal, Secretaries of IPR and Forest departments, Directors of IPR a PIB, Advisor to Press Club,

Mr.C.D. Rai, Club officials, IPR officials and a large number of journalists attended the function.

“Journalists are of this planet, from this society, living in the society”, Chief Minister said and fervently pleaded to them to “work in the interest of the society”. Elaborating he said, “People in the society will be benefited by environment-friendly thinking and writing in the media which will articulate the society to do its part” in furtherance of the environment measures taken in Sikkim and “no other state in the country”. He cited ban of grazing in reserve forests, ban of plastics, and ban of scaling mountain peaks, formation of Glacier Study Commission in Sikkim “for the first time in the country”. Why not convey the message to the people that, in environmental care, “Sikkim is a model state in the country”, he asked.

He pointed out that “capacity building” of people to make them job worthy is another area in which “Sikkim has shown the path to the country”. In furtherance of its capacity building policy, the state government will now set up “Livelihood Schools”, one in each constituency, “for skill development of everyone to be job worthy”. This

**Fund for scribes’  
Welfare and a building for  
Press club announced**

Chief Minister has announced a one-time grant of Rs.5 lakh for journalists’ welfare fund instituted by Press Club of Sikkim. He also announced a building for PCS “as in Delhi and Kolkata”.

Both the announcements by CM in the National Press Day function were his on the spot response to the charter of demands before him on the day by the PCS President Mr. Parasmani Dangal.

Move in Sikkim “is for the first time in the world”, he said, He assured that the state government will be a facilitator in skill development of journalists as well. Profiling the achievements of his government, Chief Minister pleaded to journalists to “analytically compare” leadership qualify from state to state and country to country and, accordingly, report to the people. Such a positive and creative journalism will foster the desirable “psychological environment” in the state, he noted. Earlier, IPR Minister Miss. Sewa in her address spoke of the necessity of “belongingness” in the society. She urged media to focus on it, along with infrastructure, human resource development and education system in the state, while stressing on “maturity” in media work. Speaking on the given theme that technology has driven a big change in media in the state, he pleaded for state government awards to encourage rural journalists. PCS President Mr. Parasmani Dangal spoke of the success record of media in Sikkim vis-à-vis the role of the Press Club. He gave a memorandum to Chief Minister with several demands. PCS General Secretary, Mr. Bhim Rawat and Working President, Mr. Amit Patro, also spoke on the occasion.