

SIKKIM UNIVERSITY
4th Six Monthly Report
April 15 – October 14, 2014

I have been preparing six monthly reports on the University meticulously and sending them to the Visitor, Chief Rector, Chief Minister of Sikkim, Chancellor, Secretary (HE) of MHRD, Jt. Secy (CU & L) of MHRD and Secretary of UGC to keep them informed about the University. This report is the 4th report of its kind and pertains to the period between April 15 and October 14, 2014.

1. Revision of the syllabi of all the 34 undergraduate subjects was completed successfully. The revised syllabi were implemented from July 2014. This involved massive operation under the guidance of the six Deans of Schools. For each subject one committee was constituted consisting of the UG teachers, one coordinator from the PG department and at least one subject expert from outside the University.
2. The University submitted its Self Study Report for NAAC accreditation and the NAAC visiting team is expected in early December 2014.
3. The University successfully conducted the admission for 2014-15 on the basis of merit list of marks obtained at qualifying degrees as well as admission tests in some departments and as per the reservation policy of the Government of India. One striking feature of the admission this year is an unprecedentedly large number of applications from students of Northeast India. If this trend continues Sikkim University may emerge as an important destination for the students of the entire region, even as some see it as a temporary result of the “racial” attacks on the students from the region in some big cities like Delhi, Pune and Bangalore.
4. The University started issuing bilingual notifications, office orders, office memorandums, advertisements for various posts, etc in both Hindi and English thereby giving a thrust to the use of Hindi language in the University administration.
5. The University started its official email service powered by Google.com and it is now being used extensively for administrative purposes to reduce the use of paper. The University plans to switch over to total e-governance after moving to campus, which is not possible at present because it is functioning from 27 hired buildings spread over a distance of 17 kms, but automation of departments like finance and examination is already accomplished and the University is going for online admission,

admission tests and applications for various jobs in the next couple of months.

6. The VII Foundation Day of the University was celebrated on 2nd July 2014. The Foundation Lecture was delivered by the former editor of *The Statesman*, Sri Sunanda K. Datta-Ray on “The ‘Near Abroad’ Concept and big countries like Russia, China, India and the US”. The chief guest on the occasion was Sri R. B. Subba, Hon’ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of Sikkim. The Foundation Day celebration also included launching of the new interactive and user-friendly website of the University based on Joomla technology and a book titled *Gender Perspectives: South Asian Writings in English and English Translation* edited by Basudeb Chakraborti and A.S. Chandel and published by Today and Tomorrow Printers and Publishers, New Delhi.
7. Out of 62 candidates appointed to various faculty positions 59 joined and 3 regretted during the period under report.
8. Selection committee meetings for the posts of Security Officer, Asstt. Engineer, Assistant Registrar, Junior Engineer (Civil), Junior Engineer (Electrical) and Assistant Registrar were held successfully. Appointment letters will be issued after the Executive Council approves the recommendations of the selection committees.
9. Service books of all teaching and non-teaching staff were prepared for the first time and successfully completed.
10. Preparation of Roster Registers for reservation of all teaching and non-teaching posts was completed.
11. The construction of boundary wall achieved about 50 percent completion.
12. The selection of architectural firm for preparation of DPR, master plan of the campus and building designs was completed. This took much longer than expected due to time required to verify the complaints against the shortlisted firms.
13. Finally, although the state government is yet to handover the remaining amount of 35 acres of land to the University it has already identified the land in contiguity with the 265 acres of land already handed over and part payment has been made to the landowners. The remaining land being totally unencumbered, campus development work can start there as soon as it is handed over to the University.

14. On the flip side, the total non-encumbrance of the 265 acres of land already handed over to the University still remains a thorny issue between the state government and a few villagers due to court cases, general elections and by-poll in the same constituency during this year.
15. The selection committee meetings for appointment of the Finance Officer, Librarian and Assistant Librarian have not been convened for non-receipt of the Visitor's nominees. The applications received for the above posts have been already screened.
16. The University Court is yet to be constituted by the Visitor and the University is yet to receive the Visitor's nominees for reconstitution of its Academic Council and Executive Council.

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