

Sixth Quarterly Report submitted by the State of Sikkim in compliance with Order dated 12.09.2019 passed in O.A. No. 606/2018 in the matter of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

The present report i.e., the 6th quarterly report now being submitted relates to the progress made in the above said matter between the period from **July 2020 to September 2020.**

- 1) Hon'ble Minister Forest & Environment Department, Govt. of Sikkim, Shri Karma Loday Bhutia, convened a meeting on 2nd August 2020 at Sidkeong Tulku Conference Hall (C Block), Forest Secretariat-Annexe-3, Deorali, East Sikkim, to discuss issues pertaining to safe disposal of COVID-19 waste and site selection for cremation/burial of COVID-19 victims. Short term and long term solutions were highlighted to overcome the gaps in infrastructure for biomedical waste disposal. The meeting was also attended by Political Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Hon'ble Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Gangtok Municipal Corporation, Chairman, SPCB-Sikkim and Head of Offices of concerned departments.
- 2) Various orders were issued by the State government for containment of spread of COVID-19.
- 3) A review meeting with the concerned departments was held on 4th September 2020 at Sidkeong Tulku Conference Hall (C Block), Forest Secretariat-Annexe-3, Deorali, East Sikkim, wherein the issues pertaining to COVID-19 waste disposal and action taken so far were deliberated upon. The use of COVID-19 of BMW application by all concerned was insisted upon.
- 4) State Pollution Control Board-Sikkim proposed installation of Refuse Derived Fuel Plant in solid waste processing facilities as an advisory to the State Government for lessening the load on the present facilities thus increasing the life of the same.
- 5) GMC and other Municipal Bodies carried out collection, transportation and transportation of solid waste as per the laid down procedures. Besides management of solid waste during COVID-19 pandemic they carried out sanitization of market complexes, highways, residential areas and Government buildings. They coordinated with Health Department for collection, transportation and disposal of solid waste from quarantine centres within their jurisdiction as well. They also took the responsibility of

cremation of dead bodies of COVID 19 victims under strict guidelines as directed by competent agencies.

- 6) Regular co-ordination meeting with Central Monitoring Committee under Ministry of Jal Shakti with regard to progress made in solid and liquid waste management in the State.