

SKM Party Election Manifesto 2019

1. Special Flagbearer Programmes :

a. Employment for all unemployed :

All unemployed youths will be given regular government job, within 100 days of formation of SKM government . Those who cannot get employment will be eligible for an allowance of Rs.10,000/= per month.

This was done after indepth study and analysis by economists, intellectuals and retired high ranking officials of the finance department. This will be done after taking due sanction from the cabinet and after passing the necessary law from the state assembly.

2. The poor and deprived of the state has to survive on the MGNREGA scheme of the central government where the wages are very low. If SKM is voted to power then the state government will also contribute to the wages wherein a minimum wage of Rs. 300/= per day will be guaranteed.

3. Grant of Rs.5 lakhs within 5 years to the female head of the family. This amount will be transferred to the bank account of the female head.

4. As in other states all Saturdays will be declared as a public holiday. Government schools will also declare Saturdays as a holiday. Laws will be brought in to implement this rule.

5. Soreng sub-division in West Sikkim and Pakyong sub-division in East Sikkim will be upgraded to district level.

6. Appointees of OFOJ (One Family One Job) scheme to be regularised within 100 days. :

The present government with a view to reap electoral dividend , hurriedly and haphazardly implemented this scheme. This was done without passing the necessary law in the state assembly and as such it is not legally tenable. As it has been mentioned in the appointment letter that the job is "purely temporary" , the intent was to never regularise these appointments.

As it was the brainchild of SKM and was part of our 2014 manifesto. SKM will give justice to the appointees and regularise the jobs within 100 days of forming the government.

7. REGULARISATION OF AD-HOC TEACHERS.

It has been observed that since long , ad-hoc teachers have been contributing in a steller manner in imparting knowledge to children in towns and villages.

Acknowledgeing their contribution such teachers will be regularised by enacting a " One Time Relaxation" provision from the NCTE criteria .

Ad-hoc teachers whose service has not completed five years will be given salary in the "Equal Pay For Equal Job" criteria .

The students who are under going specialised high level training in teaching profession shall be appointed annually.

Currently 100 - 200 teachers are retiring annually . Such posts will be filled up by due process.

8. NO REGISTRATION AND MUTATION FEES ON INHERITED LAND.

The present government is levying heavy taxes on land inherited by the childrens from their parents.

SKM if voted to power will waive the registration and mutation fee on inherited land. The process for registration and mutation of land shall also be simplified.

9. PUCCA HOUSES FOR DWELLERS OF KUTCHA HOUSES.

Currently there are more than 30,000 kutcha houses and huts in Sikkim. SKM promises that without discriminating between party affiliation, religion, caste and sub-caste (gotra) , all poor people will be provided with a pucca house.

According to our programme people who are eligible for the Rs.15 lakh house will be given cash directly and also provided with a colour TV and furnitures.

10. PUCCA HOUSE FOR URBAN POOR.

SKM promises to deliver pucca house or apartments to the urban poor who have been residing in unauthorised shanties, kutcha houses and in rented rooms for ages.

11. LOAN WAIVER FOR FARMERS.

It has been observed that farmers have taken loans from banks and financial institutions and are not being able to pay back. Their original documents are mortgaged in such institutions . This is causing hardship to their children and grand children to apply for official documents .

We will waive off the loans upto a limit of Rs. 5 Lakhs and return their original documents within 100 days if voted to form the government .

12. LOAN WAIVER FOR UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS.

The educated unemployed youths who have taken loans under the "Chief Minister Self Employment Scheme" and other schemes have not been able to repay their loan inspite of the Chief Minister declaring that such loans will be waived off in 2014. These youths have been getting notices from the banks and other financial institutions.

When SKM government is formed, such loans will be waived off and all the original documents will be returned to the youths.

13. As Sunday is the only day when "Haats" are held in Sikkim, the government employees have to go to haats on the only holiday of the week.

Responding to these difficulties and also respecting the religious sentiments, we shall allow for haats throughout the week as was the tradition earlier.

14. Employees whi have been degraded to be upgraded.

Since 2014 employees who have been regularised have been degraded and their salary has also been reduced. For example an LDC/ Driver who has worked for 10 years in muster roll has been appointed as an Asst.LDC/Driver. Now according to new government rule ,they will have to give service for a further period of 5 years or more to get to their earlier designation.

When SKM forms the government then the employees who have been degraded shall be upgraded to their earlier designation and their salary shall also be raised.

15. CITIZEN AMENDMENT BILL 2019 NOT TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN SIKKIM.

The Citizen Amendment Bill 2019 is very dangerous to the interest of Sikkim and Sikkimese. Though the present government supported the bill in the Lok Sabha.

SKM promises that it will not support this bill and it will not be implemented in Sikkim. As we do not want to endanger and compromise on the security of Sikkim and its people.

16. PLANS FOR EMPLOYEES OF PRIVATE COMPANIES.

We will ensure 90% job reservation in private companies such as hydro power projects, Pharma Companies, Electronic Companies etc. Respecting the Honble Supreme Court's direction of "Equal Pay for Equal Work", the minimum salary of employees of such companies will be Rs. 20,000/= per month.

After amending the "memorandum of understanding " the salary will be handed through government agencies.

With these measures the respect, rights and privileges enjoyed by both the government and private sector employees will come at parity.

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1. The Human Resource Development Department (HRDD) will be bifurcated into two separate departments. The primary level and the higher level education departments. This will create an administration which is simple and transparent . The division will help the departments to be more effective and accountable .

2. Sikkim will have its own education board. New syllabus will be formulated here. Subjects relating to Sikkim's history, culture, economics, social sciences, political sciences and other subjects will be researched here. These will be included in the syllabus from primary level to higher level.

3. The Rural Management and Development Department will be bifurcated into two divisions. Two secretariats will be formed. One to handle rural roads and bridges and the other for other activities of the department .

This will lead to a transparent , accountable and simple administration .

4. The vocational teachers under SIBIN will be appointed as government teachers by the department.

5. Laptops to be distributed to students annually . Smartphones will be provided to college students.

6. Written tests to be the only criteria for appointment in government jobs. Viva- Voca will be done away with.

7. To reach the benefits to the villagers, villages will be transformed into smart villages. A master plan will be devised to develop all villages in Sikkim.

8. To mitigate the traffic congestion in Gangtok and it's surrounding areas, a modern approach will be taken up. With the guidance of world class and experienced specialists, a monorail and/or a cable car facility will be started from Gangtok and Ranipul.

9. Educated and talented students will be encouraged to go for high quality jobs in developed countries. A department to cater to job opportunities in foreign country to be created to brighten the future of Sikkimese youths.

10. Below Poverty Line (BPL) family will be given a free colour television.

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POLITICAL ISSUES :

1. Article 371(f) of the constitution is the life and soul of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha. We may melt away or be obliterated but will never allow for the weakening or dilution of this " Security Shield".

One of the prime reasons for the birth of SKM party was that the present government is trying to kill the spirit of Article 371(f) everyday.

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha will further strengthen Article 371(f) and protect this " Security Shield" so that it may survive and thrive for generations to come.

2. The present government for the past 25 years has been systematically destroying the old laws of Sikkim. Because of which our relevance , rights and special identity is under threat. Our main objective is to see that the rule of Sikkim by the Sikkimese is preserved for ages to come.

For this to happen , the old laws should be protected. These old laws are not only the rules of the past but also a legal provision to insure that the future of Sikkim stays in the hands of Sikkimese people.

The old laws which are applicable today will be continued and whatever that has been discontinued or diluted will be restored to it's natural form. Honouring the Constitution of India, we shall not allow for the prestige, honour and tradition of the old laws to be violated in any manner.

3. LOCAL PROTECTION ACT.

In the present scenario influx has increased significantly throughout Sikkim. To stop this influx and for the benefit of the Sikkimese people in general and the youth in particular, a "Local Protection Act" will be enacted as per law.

SDF in it's election manifesto of 1994 had promised to enact a "Local Protection Act" law in point No.3 of the document. The leader who has ruled continuously for the past 25 years and who claims that "My speech is like words inscribed in stone", has not been able to fulfill his promise.

The people who voted happily to merge Sikkim with India and expected their future generations to be protected has been betrayed by SDF party. Leave alone this even old laws have been effectively diluted through time. Rule 4/4 of the Sikkim Government Establishment Rules 1974 has been openly violated by this cruel government .

When SKM forms the government then all the laws which are beneficial for the people of Sikkim will be retained. Honouring the Constitution of India, new laws will be enacted to check the influx of people . For this purpose we are prepared to pay any price. This is our declaration .

4. PROTECTION OF POLITICAL RIGHTS OF BHUTIA/ LEPCHA COMMUNITY.

The rights of the minority B/L community will be protected as it is. The present government has diluted the provision of Revenue Order No.1 by leasing out the land of B/ L community to outside companies. This has led to Bhutia/Lepcha communities becoming landless in their own state.

SKM condemns this action of the state government and guarantees that the 12 seats of B/L and 1 seat of Sangha will be protected. We are committed to this.

5. REVENUE ORDER NO.1 TO BE PROTECTED.

The present government has infringed upon the sanctity of Revenue Order No.1 by enacting the "Land Transfer Act" of 2005. Because of this act land belonging to Bhutia, Lepcha, Nepali and others are easily transferred to people from outside the state.

When SKM forms the government then the "Land Transferred Act" of 2005 will be scrapped and Revenue Order No.1 will be given full protection.

6. HH 17th KARMAPA TO BE INSTALLED AT RUMTEK DHARMACHAKRA CENTER.

Due to the false report submitted by the present government to the center, HH 17th Karmapa has not been allowed to visit Sikkim.

According to our election manifesto of 2014. SKM Party has held indepth and sincere talks with the center regarding the security situation and permission had also been obtained for his visit.

The sad part is that the present government is neither serious nor willing for the auspicious occasion to take place.

When the SKM government is formed then on the initiative of the state government all the necessary formalities will be done. All the necessary permissions will be taken to clear the way for His Holiness the 17th Karmapa's visit to Sikkim.

7. LIMBU-TAMANG SEAT RESERVATION.

Since the elections of 2014. SKM party under the leadership of Shri P.S.Golay and it's 2 MLA's have made numerous representations in Delhi for reservation of L/T seat in the state assembly.

According to representatives of the Indian Government and ruling central party leadership it is learnt that the Sikkim government's unclear stated positions , double talk and wrong documents are the reasons why L/T seat reservation could not be realised. What the Government of India and senior central leadership has told us, we can bang the desk and say that it is because of the approach of the state government ; that the Limbu-Tamang community has to bear this injustice .

In the last five years we have made very good relations with the central leadership because of our sincere approach to the matter. After seeing our commitment to the issue and sincerity in our approach . The central leadership has assured us that if we continue to remain sincere and committed and if SKM forms the government . Then they have assured us that the L/T community will get the seat reservation very soon.

Faithfulness and sincerity being our identity and life. We will in whatever way possible deliver the L/T seats in the assembly. We vow on Mother Sikkim that we will breathe in peace only after we have delivered the Limbu-Tamang seat reservation.