



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**  
**Tourism & Civil Aviation Department**  
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**SIKKIM TOURISM**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**



Yet another addition in the list of Tourism Awards the State has received, Sikkim has been adjudged as the Best State in Tourism Related Programmes and Development of Infrastructure for the year 2009-10. The award was given away at the National Tourism Awards Function on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at the Convention Hall, The Ashok ,Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. Smt Meira Kumar, Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha was the Chief Guest and actor Ms Priyanka Chopra was the Guest of Honour of the function presided over by Shri Subodh Kant Sahai, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Government of India. The Award was received by the Resident Commissioner, New Delhi, Government of Sikkim with officers of Sikkim Tourism, New Delhi, on behalf of the State Government and was handed over to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, Dr Pawan Chamling, on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011 at Gangtok.

The 20<sup>th</sup> of such award so far for the State in the field of Tourism, the award undoubtedly showcases the rapid stride in tourism development in the State in a short period of time. A recognition of such magnitude not only brings forth the collective effort of the Government and

the local stakeholders in taking tourism of the State to higher level but also adds responsibility to maintain a position in the National tourism scenario in the days to come.

Another achievement of State Government is declaring tourism as Infrastructure Industry and adoption of Code of Conduct for Safe and Honorable Tourism. Sikkim is now a star shining brightly in the Himalayas with a prominent position in the World Tourism map. The future of tourism is secure with a positive support of the State Government and devoted and enthusiastic stakeholders whose untiring efforts are worth a mention and appreciation. Tourism has now reached the far flung areas in the State. The local people through Tourism has understood the value of preserving environment, culture, tradition and heritage which are the invaluable treasures that will undoubtedly direct the State towards attaining a top position in the International tourism scenario.

The Department earnestly appeals to all involved in tourism promotion to follow Responsible tourism towards making Sikkim one of the best Eco-tourism destinations.

-sd/-

(S.B.S. Bhadauria)  
Secretary  
31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011

### **The Sikkim State: Number of Awards In Tourism: Till March 2011**

| Sl. No. | Year      | Name of Award  | Awarder   | Awardee   |
|---------|-----------|--|---|---|
| 1.      | 1998-1999 | National Tourism Award Best Tourism Performing State in the North-East 1998-1999                     | Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 2.      | 1999-2000 | National Tourism Award Best Tourism Performing State in the North-East 1999-2000                     | Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India   | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 3.      | 2000-2001 | National Tourism Award Best Tourism Performing State in the North-East 2000-2001                     | Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 4.      | 2001-2002 | National Tourism Award Best Tourism Performing State in the North-East 2001-2002                     | Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 5.      | 2002-2003 | National Tourism Award Best Tourism Performing State in the North-East 2002-2003                     | Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 6.      | 2005-2006 | National Tourism Award Best Tourism Performing State in the North-East 2005-2006                     | Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 7.      | 2006-2007 | National Tourism Award Best State for Tourism related Programmes along with Madhya Pradesh 2006-2007 | Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India  | Jointly Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim & Madhya Pradesh                    |
| 8.      | 2005      | Best Eco-Tourism Destination   | Hospitality India   | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 9.      | 2007      | Most Picturesque Destination   | Today's Traveler Platinum Award   | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 10.     | 2008      | Best Example of Community Based Tourism  | CNBC AAWAZ  | Hee-Bermiok Tourism Development and Heritage Conservation Society , West Sikkim |
| 11.     | 2008      | Emerging Tourism State   | Today's Traveller Platinum Award  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 12.     | 2008      | BEST TOURISM STATE<br>- Best State for Adventure<br>- Tourism  | Safari India National Tourism Awards  | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 13.     | 2008      | Sikkim as Best Adventure Tourism Destination   | Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) International Award at ITB Berlin | Govt. of Sikkim   |
| 14.     | 2008      | National Tourism Award Best State/ Union Territory   | Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India   | Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim   |

|            |             | <b>Tourism Related Programme 2007-08</b>   |  |   |
|------------|-------------|--|--|---|
| <b>15</b>  | <b>2009</b> | <b>Most Responsible Tourism State</b>  | <b>Today's Traveller Diamond Award</b>       | <b>Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim</b>                      |
| <b>16</b>  | <b>2010</b> | <b>National Tourism Award<br/>Best State Tourism Related Programme 2008-2009</b>                                     | <b>Ministry of Tourism Govt of India</b>     | <b>Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim</b>                      |
| <b>17</b>  | <b>2010</b> | <b>Best State for Adventure Tourism</b>  | <b>Safari India National Tourism Awards</b>  | <b>Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim</b>                      |
| <b>18</b>  | <b>2010</b> | <b>Best Performing State</b>   | <b>Commonwealth International Trade Mart</b> | <b>Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim</b>                      |
| <b>19</b>  | <b>2010</b> | <b>India's Most Progressive Tourism State</b>  | <b>Today's Traveller Award</b>               | <b>Tourism Department, Govt. of Sikkim</b>                      |
| <b>20.</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>National Tourism Award<br/>Best State in Tourism Related Programmes and Development of Infrastructure 2009-10</b> | <b>Ministry of Tourism Govt of India</b>     | <b>Tourism &amp; Civil Aviation Department, Govt. of Sikkim</b> |

-sd/-

(S. B. S. Bhadauria)  
Secretary  
Tourism & Civil Aviation Department