

SIKKIM

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strong floriculture sector

- Sikkim is home to around 5,000 species of flowering plants, 515 rare orchids, 60 primula species and 36 rhododendron species. This makes it one of the leading states in the Northeast region in terms of production and supply of cut flowers to mainland consumer markets.

Strong potential of medicinal plants industry

- Of the 6,000 medicinal plants in India, over 424 plants (including the famous *Artemisia vulgaris* that is used as an antiseptic) are grown in Sikkim. Moreover, it is all set to be recognised and certified by the Government of India under National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) proposed under the 12th Five Year Plan.

Second-largest producer of cardamom

- The state is considered as a huge cardamom epicentre of the world, producing around 18 per cent of large cardamom in the country. Additionally, India is the world leader of the crop, producing over 50 per cent of the global yield.

Presence of world's third highest peak

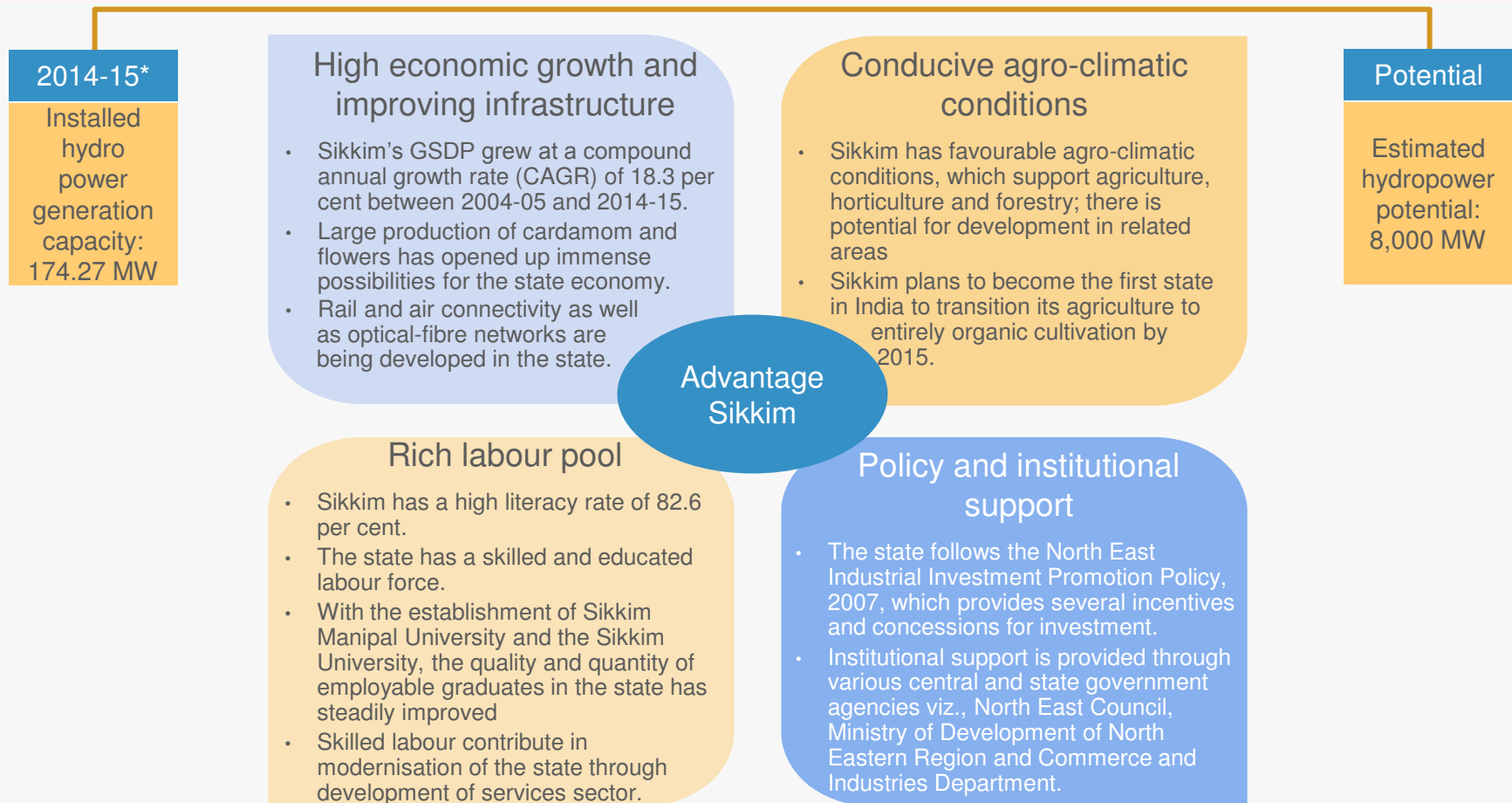
- Sikkim has mighty snow-capped peaks including the Kanchenjunga, the world's third highest peak, which attracts a large number of tourists from across the globe.

Agrarian economy

- The state's economy is largely agrarian, based on the terraced farming of rice and the cultivation of crops such as maize, millet, wheat, barley, oranges, tea and cardamom.
- Sikkim produces more cardamom than any other Indian state, and is home to the largest cultivated area of cardamom

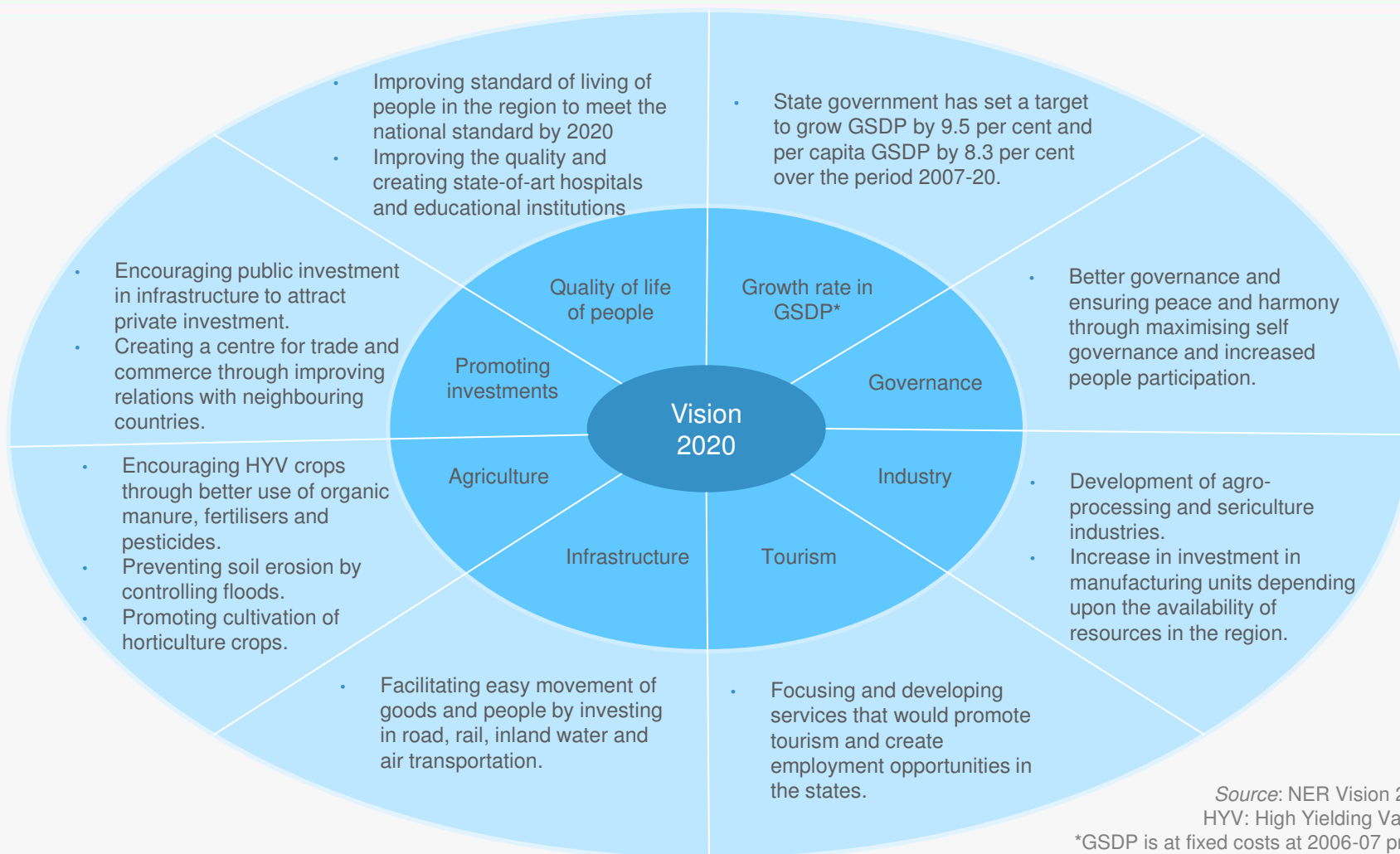
Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India TechSci Research

ADVANTAGE: SIKKIM



Source: Central Electricity Authority, GSDP: Gross State Domestic Product; *As of December 2014

NORTH EAST REGION VISION 2020



SIKKIM FACT FILE



- * Sikkim is surrounded by vast stretches of Tibetan Plateaus in the north, the Chumbi Valley of Tibet and the Kingdom of Bhutan in the east, the Kingdom of Nepal in the west and Darjeeling district of West Bengal in the south
- * Sikkim has four districts – East Sikkim, West Sikkim, North Sikkim and South Sikkim. The district capitals are Gangtok, Gyalshing, Mangan and Namchi respectively

- * Nepali, Bhutia, Lepcha, Limboo, Magar, Rai, Gurung, Sherpa, Tamang, Newari and Sunuwar (Mukhia) are the commonly spoken languages. Hindi and English are also widely spoken.
- * Sikkim has 10 mountain peaks, 84 glaciers, 315 glacial lakes (including the Tsomgo, Gurudongmar and Khecheopalri), five hot springs, and eight mountain passes – making it an ideal tourist location. The Teesta and the Rangeet are the two major rivers with nearly hundred tributaries.

Parameters	Sikkim
Capital	Gangtok
Geographical area (sq km)	7,096
Administrative districts (No)	4
Population density* (persons per sq km)	86
Total population (million)	0.61
Male population* (million)	0.32
Female population* (million)	0.29
Sex ratio* (females per 1,000 males)	906
Literacy rate* (%)	82.6

Source: Sikkim State Portal, Census 2011

SIKKIM IN FIGURES ... (1/2)

Parameter	Sikkim	All states	Source
Economy			
	2014-15	2014-15	
GSDP as a percentage of all states' GSDP	0.10	100.0	TechSci Estimates based on "Advanced Estimates" provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Sikkim
GSDP growth rate (%)	-6.66%	7.3	TechSci Estimates based on "Advanced Estimates" provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Sikkim
Per capita GSDP (US\$)	3,204	1,389.61	TechSci Estimates based on "Advanced Estimates" provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Sikkim
Physical Infrastructure			
Installed power capacity (MW)	318.48*	272,502.95	Central Electricity Authority, as of May 2015
Wireless subscribers (No)	48,298,487^	973,347,094	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Broadband subscribers (No)	3,380,000**	100,760,000	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
National Highway length (km)	309.0	92,851.07	National Highway Authority of India April-2015
Social Indicators			
Literacy rate^ (%)	82.6	73.0	Census 2011
Birth rate^ (per 1,000 population)	17.1	21.4	SRS Bulletin, September 2014

^West Bengal (including Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim and excluding Kolkata), As of May 2015, *As of June 2015, **As of March 2014, ^As per Census 2011, ^^As of December 2014, SRS: Sample Registration System

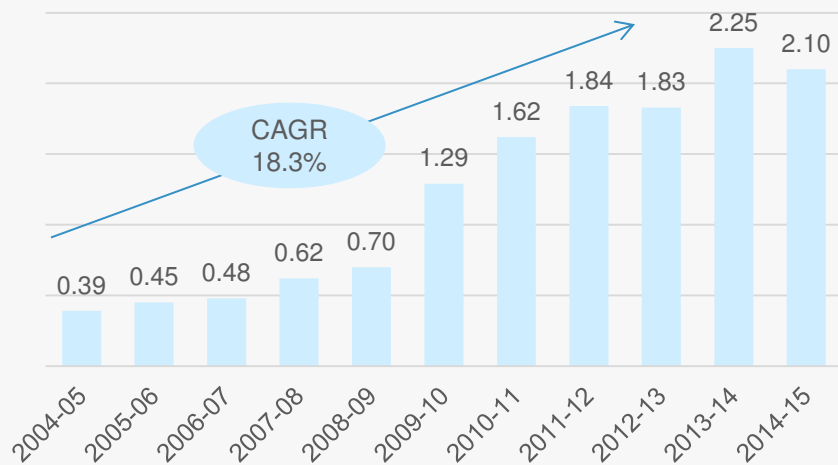
SIKKIM IN FIGURES ... (2/2)

Parameter	Sikkim	All states	Source
Investment			
FDI equity inflows (US\$ billion)	3.02*	248.5	Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, April 2000 to March 2015
Outstanding investments (US\$ billion)	4.4	2,414.2	CMIE (2013-14)
Industrial Infrastructure			
PPP projects (No)	33	1,409	DEA, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

PPP: Public-Private Partnership
*Including West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

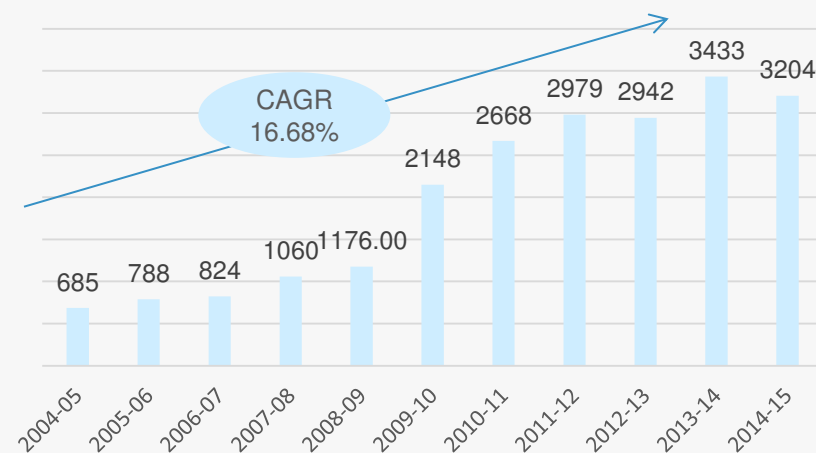
ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT – GSDP

GSDP of Sikkim at current prices (in US\$ billion)



- * At current prices, Sikkim's total gross state domestic product (GSDP) was US\$ 2.1 billion in 2014-15.
- * GSDP expanded at a CAGR of 18.3 per cent between 2004-05 and 2014-15.

GSDP per capita of Sikkim at current prices (US\$)

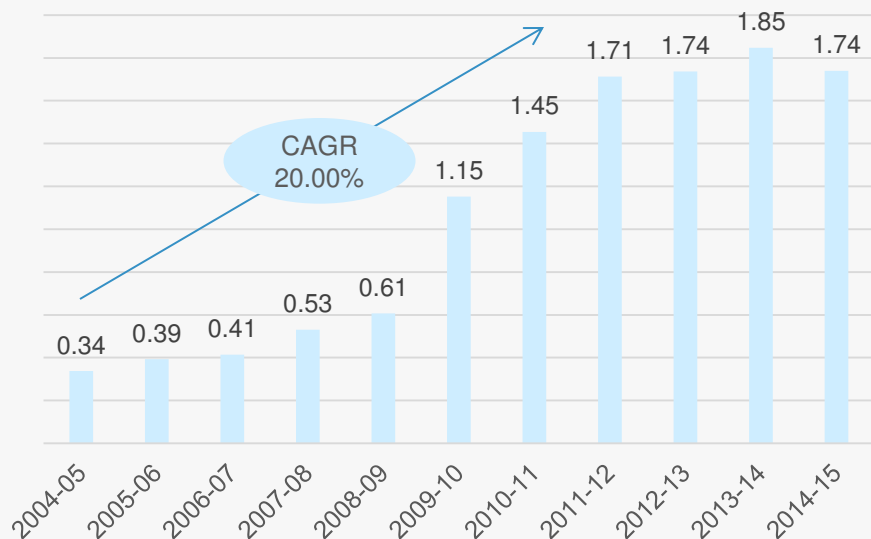


- * The state's per capita GSDP was US\$ 3,204 in 2014-15 compared to US\$ 685.5 during 2004-05.
- * Per capita GSDP increased at a CAGR of 16.68 per cent* between 2004-05 and 2014-15.

Source: TechSci Estimates based on "Advanced Estimates" provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Sikkim, Government of Sikkim

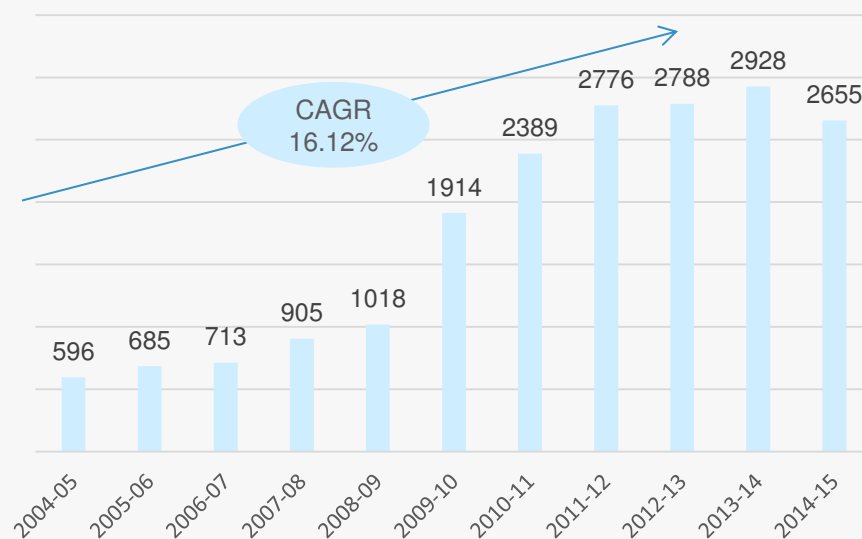
ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT – NSDP

NSDP of Sikkim at current prices (in US\$ billion)



- * At current prices, Sikkim's total net state domestic product (NSDP) was US\$ 1.74 billion during 2014-15.
- * NSDP expanded at a CAGR of 20 per cent between 2004-05 and 2014-15.

NSDP per capita of Sikkim at current prices (US\$)



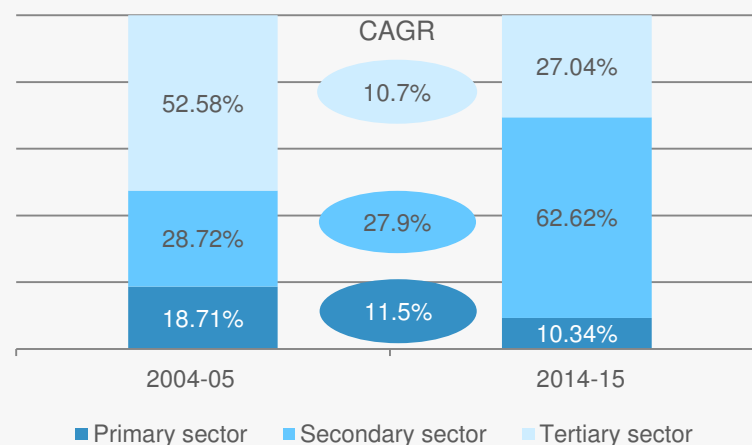
- * Sikkim's per capita NSDP was US\$ 2,655 in 2014-15 compared to US\$ 595.6 during 2004-05.
- * Per capita NSDP increased at CAGR of 16.12 per cent* between 2004-05 and 2014-15.

Source: TechSci Estimates based on "Advanced Estimates" provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Sikkim, Government of Sikkim

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT – PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF GSDP

- * There has been a drastic shift in the sectoral contribution from primary and tertiary to the secondary sector. The overall performance of the economy of the state during 2014-15 was encouraging.
- * At a CAGR of 27.9 per cent, the secondary sector has been the fastest growing among the three sectors from 2004-05 to 2014-15. It was driven by manufacturing, construction and electricity, gas & water supply.
- * In 2014-15, the secondary sector contributed 62.22 per cent to the state's GSDP at current prices. It was followed by the tertiary sector at 27.04 per cent and primary sector at 10.34 per cent.
- * The tertiary sector grew at a CAGR of 10.7 per cent between 2004-05 and 2014-15. The growth has been driven by trade, hotels, real estate, finance, insurance, transport, communications and other services.
- * The primary sector grew at a CAGR of 11.5 per cent between 2004-05 and 2014-15.

Percentage distribution of GSDP



Source: TechSci Estimates based on "Advanced Estimates" provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Sikkim, Government of Sikkim

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT – AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

- * The state's economy is largely agrarian, based on the terraced farming of rice and the cultivation of crops such as maize, millet, wheat, oil seeds, pulses, spices, cereals barley, oranges, tea and cardamom
- * The agriculture sector contributed around 9.86 per cent to Sikkim's GSDP in 2014-15.
- * Agriculture provides livelihood to more than 64 per cent of the people of Sikkim, either directly or indirectly.
- * Sikkim is the top producer of large cardamom, contributing over 80 per cent to India's total production.
- * Sikkim aims to make the state's farming fully organic by the end of 2015. As of June 2015, about 40 per cent of the state's farmland was organic. Organic farming demonstrations have been made in over 3,000 hectares (ha) of land, and bio-fertilisers have been introduced in 5,340 hectares.
- * The Sikkim AGRISNET is an internet-based agriculture information centre to promote scientific agricultural methods and convert research into practice in the agricultural sector.

Annual production of key crops

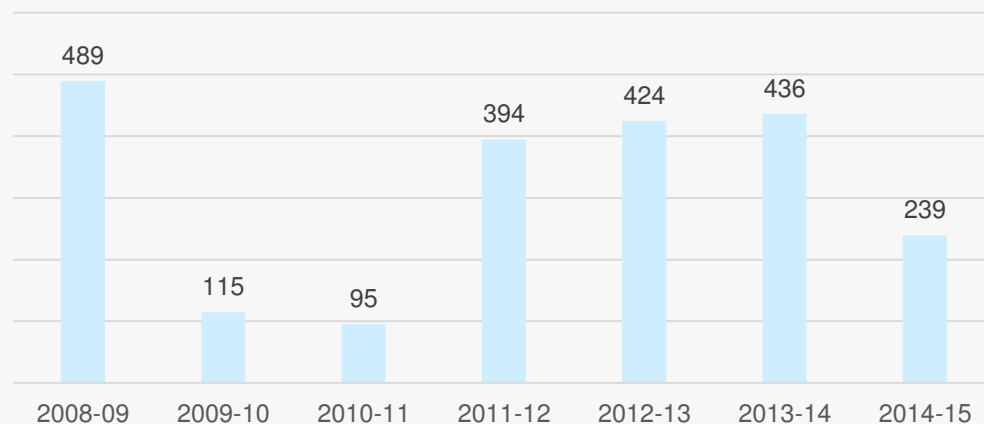
Crop	Annual production – in 2013-14 ('000 tones)
Maize	68.82
Rice	20.26
Finger millet	2.97
Oilseeds	7.06
Pulses	5.83
Buck wheat	3.49
Cardamom	3.69*

Source: ENVIS Centre: Sikkim Annual Report; Sikkim Agrisnet; Spices Board
Ha: Hectare; *3rd estimate

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT – INVESTMENTS

- * FDI inflows reached US\$ 3.02 billion* from April 2000 to May 2015.
- * A major part of these investments was directed towards power generation
- * There are 27 completed electricity projects in the state. The central government has invested heavily in the hydro electric power generation projects in Sikkim
- * Himagiri Hydro Energy Pvt Ltd. Plans to develop 300 MW hydroelectric project, Panan HEP. This project is expected to be commissioned by September 2015

FDI Inflow Sikkim (US\$ million)



Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion
*Including West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

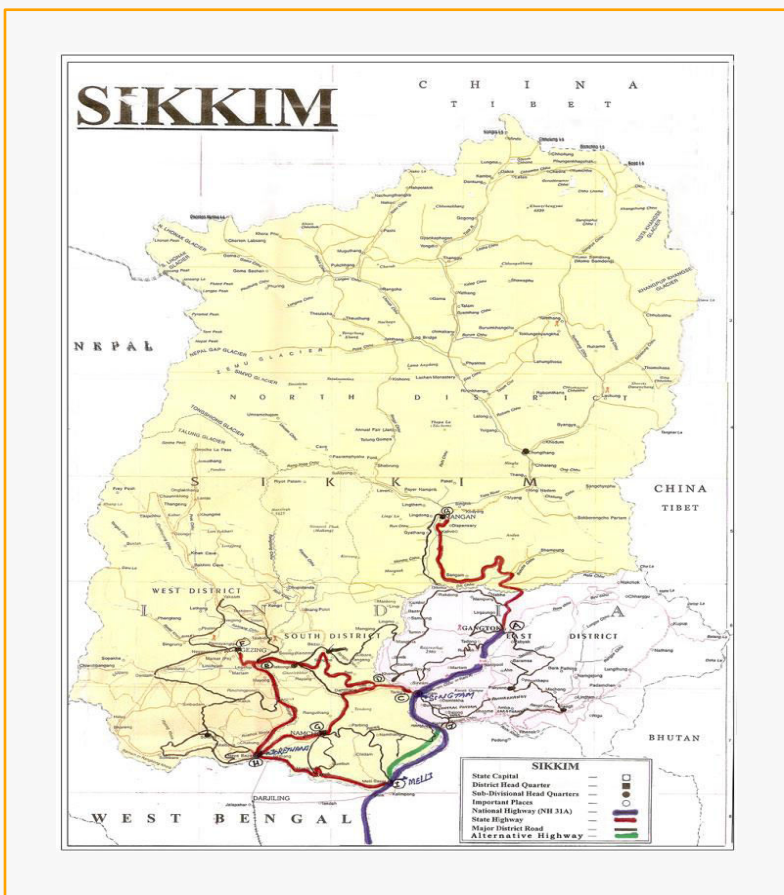
ANNUAL BUDGET 2015-16

Major sector-wise allocation as per Budget 2015-16

Sector	Annual allocation (US\$ million)
Social services	235.26
General economic services	67.43
Agriculture and allied services	64.68
Transport	22.20
Irrigation and flood control	17.23
Rural development	29.51
Energy	37.14
Special area programme	0.33
General services	220.26
Industry and minerals	6.19
Rural development	29.51
Science, technology and environment	0.93

Source: Finance, Revenue and Expenditure Department,
Government of Sikkim, Budget 2015-16
1USD=INR 60.28

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE – ROADS ... (1/2)



- * Sikkim had a total road length of 3,256.9 km and 216 road bridges in 2014. The state is connected to West Bengal and the rest of India through National Highway (NH)-31A.
- * Sikkim is a State with the highest road density in the country and have received Bharat Nirman Award in Rural Road in 2009.
- * The state Public Works Department (PWD) and the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) maintain the roads. The Sikkim Nationalised Transport (SNT) operates 114 buses (covering 43 routes), 64 trucks and 33 tankers across the state.

Road type	Length (km)
National highways (NH)	309
State highways	203
District roads	1,871.5
Border roads (Including NH)	873.4

Source: Public Works Roads and Bridges Department
Government of Sikkim, mhupa.gov.in
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE – ROADS ... (2/2)

- * The state government has proposed a vision for the development of roads and bridges until 2020.
- * The road network, including surfaced and unsurfaced roads, has expanded by 22 per cent in Sikkim against an average of 10 per cent in other small states during 2011-14.
- * Some of the objectives under the vision are:
 - * To provide safe, comfortable and stable roads, with the capacity to handle high loading.
 - * All places of tourist or economic importance to be connected with major district standard roads.
 - * All national highways to be four-laned.
 - * All state highways to be double-laned.
 - * Bus/truck terminus will be constructed at all district headquarters and other major stations
 - * 600 km of major district roads to be made intermediate lane and efforts to black topped with permanent bridges.

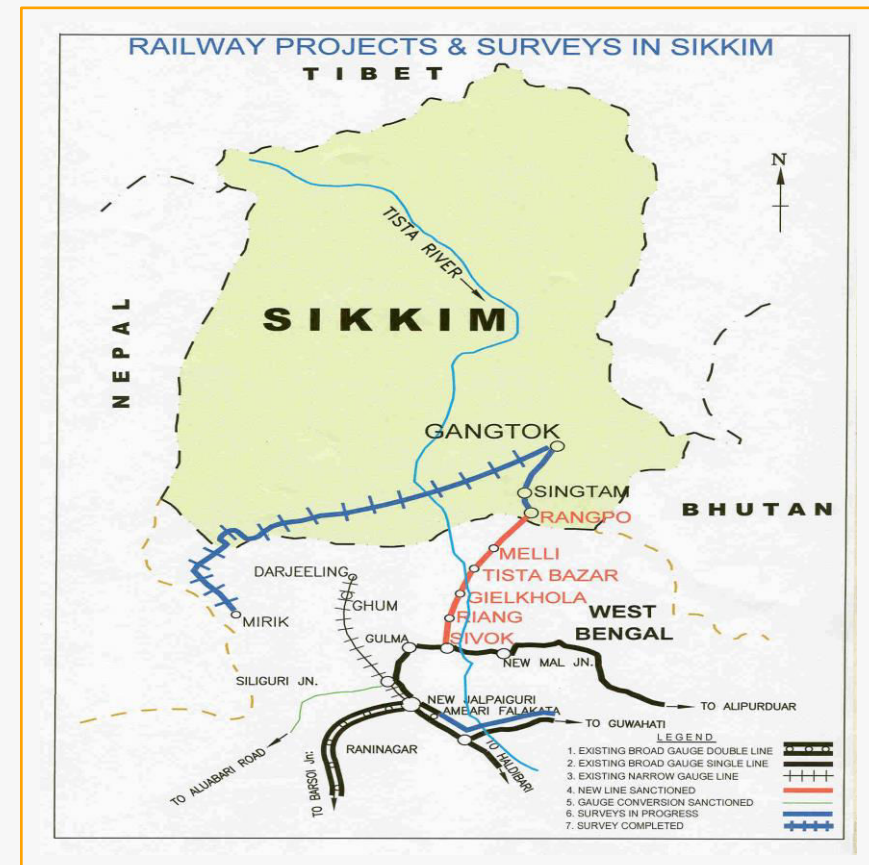
Physical targets for different activities (in kms)		
Type of work	2010-15	2015-20
New road connectivity	180	233
Upgradation from intermediate lane to 4 Lane roads	20	-
Upgradation from single lane to 2 lane (SH)		
a. PWD	32	103
b. BRO	68	-
Upgradation from single lane to intermediate lane (MDR)		
a. PWD	200	200
b. BRO	190	201
Improvement of ODR	180	240
Replacement of bridges (No)	9	8

Source: <http://sikkim-roadsandbridges.gov.in/vision.pdf>
 PWD: Public Works Department; BRO: Border Roads Organisation;
 MDR: Major District Roads, SH: State Highway, ODR: Other District Roads

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE – RAILWAYS AND AIRPORTS

- * Indian Railway Construction Company has started the construction of rail connectivity between Sevoke and Rangpo. The tentative deadline set by the Indian Railways for the project is December, 2015.
- * Total length of rail track between Savor and Rangoon will be 52.7 km
- * Rail connectivity between Rangpo-Siliguri is also under construction.
- * Construction of much anticipated airport at Pakyong has started adding to Sikkim's infrastructural achievements. Helicopter services are available from Bagdogra (West Bengal) to Gangtok.
- * As of July 2015, 75 per cent of development work has been completed at Pakyong airport, and it is expected that the airport would be up and functional completely by September 2017.
- * Furthermore, it is expected that the airport construction which includes navigational aids and passenger terminal would be completed by June 2017, and once full operational, the airport would be capable of handling ATR-72 type of aircraft.

Source: North-East Region Rail Infrastructure presentation;
Ministry of Railways, Sikkim Times, June 2013,
Assorted news articles

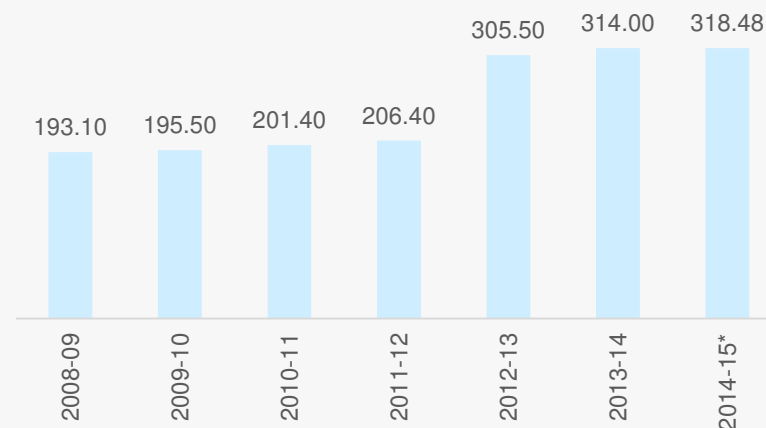


PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE – POWER

- * As of June 2015, Sikkim had a total installed power generation capacity of 318.48 MW. It consisted of 167.37 MW under central utilities, 99 MW under private utilities and 52.11 MW under state utilities.
- * Thermal power contributed 92.1 MW to total installed power generation capacity, while hydropower and renewable power contributed 174.27 MW and 52.11 MW respectively.
- * About 27 hydroelectric power plants (HEPs) are being set up under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode.
- * Sikkim has a peak hydroelectric capacity of 8,000 MW with a firm base of 3,000 MW; providing a huge potential for development.
- * Some power projects, such as Teesta Stage III Hydel Power having a capacity of 1200 MW and Teesta VI Hydro Power with a capacity of 510 MW; are scheduled for completion in the next 36 months.

- * The central government has sanctioned a comprehensive scheme of US\$ 788.72 million to strengthen transmission and distribution in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

Installed power capacity (MW)



Source: Central Electricity Authority, June 2015

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE – TELECOM

- * Sikkim is among the states with the highest tele-density in the country.
- * Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been acting as a facilitator for the state government and providing telephone connections in the state with 500,140 wire-line and 2,050,565 wireless subscribers as of March 2014.
- * Vodafone launched its services in Lachung as first private telecom operator in the region. With this expansion, it has now covered more than 91 per cent of population in Sikkim.
- * Virtual Private Network (VPN) and 3G-services are available in the state.
- * Forty five common service centres have been constructed across the state. The centres provide an internet-based interface for implementing various government programmes and schemes.
- * Postal services are available through India Post and other private courier services.
- * As of March 2014, the state had 209 post offices.

Telecom infrastructure (May 2015)	
Wireless subscribers	48,298,487 [^]
Wire-line subscribers	424,260 [^]
Broadband subscribers	338,000,0*
BSNL wire-line subscribers	500,140 [^]
Telephone exchanges	47*
Post offices	209*

Source: Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, [^]West Bengal (including Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim and excluding Kolkata)
*As of March 2014

Major telecom operators in Sikkim
Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Reliance Communications Bharti Airtel Tata Teleservices Vodafone Essar IDEA Cellular

Source: Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

- * Under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), the rehabilitation of sewerage systems of Gangtok is being undertaken at a cost of US\$ 5.3 million. Water treatment and distribution system upgradation are also being undertaken at a cost of US\$ 15.74 million.
- * To extend financial support to the state government and to provide water supply facilities in towns having population less than 20,000, the centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) was launched that has been merged with Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT). Under this, US\$ 8.7 million has been allocated for development of water supply systems and sewerage in Mangan, Namchi, Jorethang, Melli and Rangpo.
- * The Sikkim Water Security & Public Health Engineering Department (WS & PHED) provides water supply to Gangtok, six major notified towns, 41 other urban towns and 92 notified rural marketing centres. Gangtok has a requirement of 30 million litres per day and the WS & PHED has a storage and distribution capacity of 45.5 million litres.
- * The Union Ministry of Science and Technology has sanctioned a US\$ 0.9 million biotechnology park at Pakyong in June 2012. The park will have all facilities including a research centre at the regional level for North-east states.
- * In September 2013, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) launched North East Rural Livelihood Project (NERLP) that would create 0.3 million jobs in Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The US\$ 115.1 million project would be implemented during the 12th Five Year Plan and is financed by the World Bank. It would be implemented in 14 blocks of Sikkim. The project is expected to be completed by 2018.

Project implementation status by JNNURM

Name of works	Cost (US\$ million)	Progress (As of August 8, 2014)
Rehabilitation of Trunk Sewer along NH starting from Hospital Dara to STP and sewer mains – Gangtok	5.3*	Completed
Upgradation and modernisation of raw water trunk mains and water treatment plant for Greater Gangtok	15.74**	80 per cent of work completed

Source: JNNURM, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, Building Material and Technology Promotion Council, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Ministry of Science and Technology
*At 2007-08 rates, **At 2009-10 rates

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: KEY PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS ... (1/2)

Project name	Sector	Project cost (US\$ million)	Stage
Panan Hydro Power Project	Energy	200.85	Under construction
Chujachen Hydro Power Plant	Energy	95.77	Under construction
Taramchu Hydro Power Plant	Energy	27.04	Others
Infrastructures for Evacuation of Power from IPP Projects	Energy	16.59	Others
Teesta -III Hydro power project	Energy	1316.67	Under construction
Teesta - VI Power Plant	Energy	669.49	Under construction
Teesta -II Power Project	Energy	298.37	Under construction
Teesta -I Hydro Power Plant	Energy	265.36	Under construction
Rangit-IV Hydro Power Plant	Energy	173.02	Under construction
Talem HEP Power Plant	Energy	152.64	Under construction
Dikchu Hydro Power Plant	Energy	117.47	Under construction
Lethang HEP	Energy	123.08	Under construction

Source: Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: KEY PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS ... (2/2)

Project name	Sector	Project cost (US\$ million)	Stage
Ting Ting HEP	Energy	121.43	Under construction
Tashiding HEP	Energy	115.71	Under construction
Rongnichu Storage Hydro Power Plant	Energy	96.96	Under construction
Rangit - II Power Plant	Energy	60.25	Under construction
Jorathang Loop Power Project	Energy	60.25	Under construction
Rorathang Power Plant	Energy	24.88	Under construction
Bhasmey Hydro Power Plant	Energy	31.14	Under construction
Upper Rimbi HEP	Energy	13.17	Under construction
Kalez Khola HEP Power Plant	Energy	10.71	Under construction
Hee Khola HEP Power Plant	Energy	5.26	Under construction
Bermelee Khola HEP	Energy	4.69	Under construction
Kissim Khola HEP Power Plant	Energy	2.49	Under construction

Source: Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE – EDUCATION ... (1/2)

- * In 2013-14, Sikkim had a literacy rate of 82.6 per cent; the male and female literacy rates were 87.3 per cent and 76.4 per cent, respectively.
- * The Sikkim Manipal University (SMU), a partnership between the Government of Sikkim and Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG), provides technical, healthcare and science education. It is rated as one of the top universities in the country.
- * Distance education is available for students via SMU and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).
- * The state launched Sikkim Human Resource Development Mission 2013, Sikkim Youth Empowerment and Self Reliant Mission 2013, and Sikkim Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in the year 2013 to enhance the quality of education.

- * Sikkim has secured third rank in the category of Elementary Education in the country as per the Educational Development Index (EDI) released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2014. The EDI was measured based on four constituents of Access, Infrastructure, Teachers and Outcome

Educational infrastructure (2013-14)	
Universities/University Level	7
Colleges	15
Technical education	3
Nursing	3
Teacher training	5

Source: NEDFi Databank

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE – EDUCATION ... (2/2)

Primary education statistics (%)	
Gross enrollment ratio (2013-14)	Class I-V: 132 Class VI-VIII: 98.4 Class I-VIII: 118.6
Dropout ratio (2010-11)	Class I-V: 9.1 Class I-VIII: 48.8 Class I-X: 57.4

Source: Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

Literacy rates (%)	
Literacy rate	82.6
Male literacy	86.55
Female literacy	66.39

Source: sikkim.gov.in, , Census 2011

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE – HEALTH

- * Sikkim has an impressive health infrastructure, one of the best in the country.
- * The state fares better than the national average in almost all health indicators.
- * Health tourism is being promoted in the state to utilise its medical infrastructure and boost the economy.
- * The state had 24 primary health centres, 147 sub-centres, two community health centres and four district hospitals as of March 31, 2014.
- * The Department of Health and Family Welfare is instrumental and responsible for implementation of various national programs in the areas of health and family welfare as well as prevention and control of communicable diseases in the state.
- * The state government has simplified the medical reimbursement system to the below-poverty-line and government employees. The work for construction of 575 bedded Multi-Specialty Hospital at Sichey is in progress and expected to complete by December, 2015.

Health infrastructure (As on March 31, 2014)	
Primary health sub-centres	147
Primary health centres	24
Community health centres	2
District hospitals	4
Central referral hospital (STNM Hospital, Gangtok)	1
District tuberculosis centre	1
Centre referral hospital	1

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Health indicators (2013)	
Population served per government hospital	18,424 [^]
Population served per government hospital bed	390 [^]
Birth rate (per thousand persons)	17.1
Death rate (per thousand persons)	5.2
Infant mortality rate*	21

Source: Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, Government of India, Sample Registration System (SRS) Bulletin, September 2014
*Per thousand live births, [^]As of January 2012

CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- * There are three ethnic communities in Sikkim: Lepcha, Bhutia, Tibetan and Nepali. Buddhism and Hinduism are the two main religions followed in the state. It has nearly 200 monasteries, of which the most well known Buddhist circuits are the Pemayangste, Tashiding, Rumtek, Enchey, Phensang, Ralong, Phodang and Tolung.
- * Important festivals in the state are Bumchu, Dasain, Losar, Losoong, Maghe Sankranti, Namsoong, Pang-Labhsol, Saga Dawa, Sakewa, Sonam Lochar, Tamu Lochar, Tendong Lho Rum Faat, Tihar, Lhabab Duechen, Drupka Teshi and Trungkar Teschu.
- * Sikkim has the steepest rise in altitude over the shortest distance; its temperature varies from tropical and temperate in the southern districts to alpine and tundra in the northern peaks.
- * The state is richly endowed with rare and exotic flora and fauna, which includes 4,500 different flowering plants, 550 types of orchids, 36 varieties of rhododendrons, 28 bamboo species, over 144 mammals, 552 species of birds and 600 different butterflies – making it a nature lover’s paradise.

Major parks and monastery in Sikkim

Name	Place
Central Park	Namchi
Maney Chokerling Monastery	Ravang
Library cum Museum	Namchi
Pemayangtse Monastery	Pelling
Enchey Monastery	Gangtok
Phodong Monastery	Gangtok
Rumtek Monastery	Rumtek
Himalayan Zoological Park	Gangtok

Source: State Portal of Sikkim, Government of Sikkim, Urban Development and Housing Department, South Division, Namchi

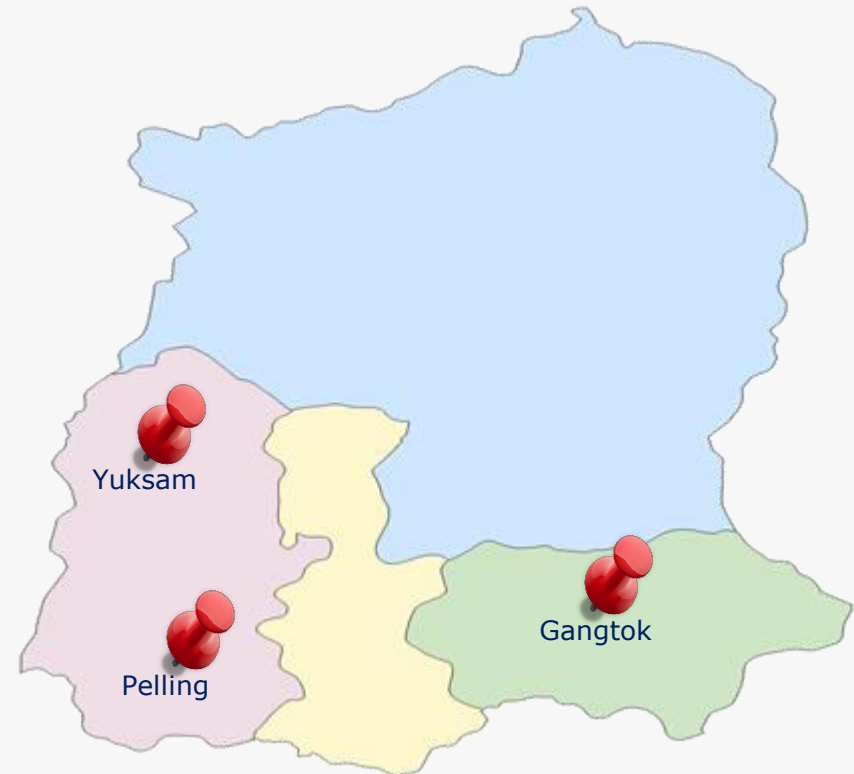
INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- * Brewing, distilling, tanning and watchmaking are the main industries located in the southern regions of Sikkim.
- * A small mining industry exists in the state, extracting minerals such as copper, dolomite, talc, graphite, quartzite, coal, zinc and lead.
- * Sikkim has identified Rangpo-Gangtok, Melli-Jorethang, Jorethang-Rishi and Ranipool-Gangtok as industrial corridors with provision for giving land to investors on a lease basis.
- * Sikkim is a leading north-eastern state in hydroelectric power development with 28 different projects identified under PPP mode.
- * The units that are engaged in the manufacturing sector are mainly dealing with pharmaceuticals, chemicals, liquors, foam mattresses, food products, iron rods, etc.
- * Sikkim has identified agro-based industries, horticulture and floriculture, minor forest-based industries, animal husbandry and dairy products, tourism-related industries, IT including knowledge-based industries, precision oriented high value-low volume products, hydro-power, tea, education and hospitality as thrust sectors.
- * The Information Technology (IT) Department, Government of Sikkim is in the process of setting up a state-of-the-art IT Park and National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) at Pakyong.

SMART CITIES

- * The central government has announced plans to develop Gangtok, Pelling, and Yuksam cities as smart cities as in coming years.

Smart cities in Sikkim			
Cities	Population	Area (sq km)	Literacy rate
Gangtok	100,286	19.63	89.33%
Pelling	NA	NA	NA
Yuksam	1855	NA	77.74%



Source: TechSci Research
Note: NA- Not Available

KEY INDUSTRIES

- * The Commerce and Industries Department of Sikkim is involved in promoting trade and industry in Sikkim.
- * The Sikkim Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Limited (SIDICO) is the state-level institution engaged in promoting, financing and developing the tiny and Small Scale Industries (SSI) sector in the state.
- * Ecotourism, handicrafts and handlooms, silk reeling and processing, precision engineering, electronics, IT, medicinal plants, floriculture, tea, spices, honey and biotechnology are key areas identified by Sikkim.
- * Being a potentially eco-fragile location, the people of Sikkim support the promotion of pollution-free industries.
- * Sikkim has large opportunities for tourism, hospitality, horticulture, floriculture, organic farming and infrastructure development due to a rich resource base and enormous untapped potential.
- * The Sikkim Information Technology Business Summit & Sikitex 2014 held in September 2014 showcased technologies and trends in the IT sector of Sikkim, and sought to invite investments in IT (BPO & KPO, software, hardware, etc).

Key industries in Sikkim

- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Floriculture
- Agro-processing
- Handlooms and handicrafts
- Hydroelectric power
- Tea
- Large cardamom
- Minerals
- Sericulture
- Horticulture
- Electronics
- Pharmaceuticals

KEY INDUSTRIES – FLORICULTURE

- * Sikkim's geographical and environmental conditions are quite conducive for development of floriculture at a higher altitude.
- * Sikkim is home to around 4,500 species of flowering plants, 550 rare orchids, 30 primula species and 36 rhododendron species, presenting avenues for investment in floriculture.
- * The existing industry is at a nascent stage and has the potential to be developed and promoted towards an export-oriented business.
- * The Sikkim government has announced a technical collaboration with floriculturists from the Netherlands and Thailand to develop the state's potential in floriculture and market cut flowers from the state globally.
- * Sikkim's most important commercial flowers are Cymbidium Orchids, Gladiolus, Carnation, Gerbera, Asiatic and oriental Lilies, and Anthurium, among others, that can be grown for domestic and export markets.
- * The Government of Sikkim organised the 4th International Flower Show in May 2015, aimed at promoting the floriculture industry in the state.
- * In 2013-14, cut flower production increased to 1,900 MT in the state.

Production of cut flowers (million units)	
Year	Production
2008-09	6.6
2009-10	20.0
2010-11	23.0
2011-12	21.0
2012-13	21.4
2013-14*	1.9

Source: International Flower Show Sikkim 2013; National Horticulture Board Report 2013-14; *Represented as '000 MT

KEY INDUSTRIES – MEDICINAL PLANTS AND BAMBOO

- * Sikkim houses 11 oak varieties, 28 bamboo varieties, 16 conifer species, 362 types of ferns and ferns allies, 9 tree ferns, and over 424 medicinal plants and herbs
- * The agro-climatic conditions in the state support a wide variety of exotic flora and fauna that have utility in the medicine sector.
- * Around 22 different medicinal and aromatic plants are cultivated under contract farming for the National Medicinal Plants Board.
- * The state has identified medicinal plants and bamboo as among the priority sectors for investment.
- * Sikkim has 28 varieties of bamboo, offering potential for developing the handicrafts, construction, medicine, packaging and food processing industries.

Important medicinal plants and their medical use

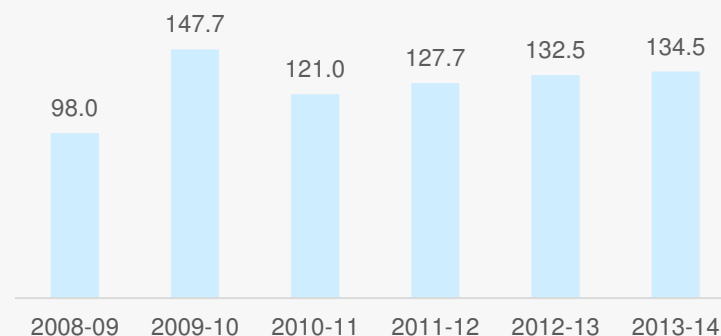
Name of the plant	Medicinal value
Nardostachys grandiflora (Jatamasi)	Tonic, antispasmodic, diuretic, laxative
Aconites	Rheumatism and fever
Artemisia vulgaris	Antiseptic
Piper longum	Anti-venom and anti-asthmatic value
Picrorhiza kurrooa	Effective against malaria

Source: Department of Ayurveda and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India

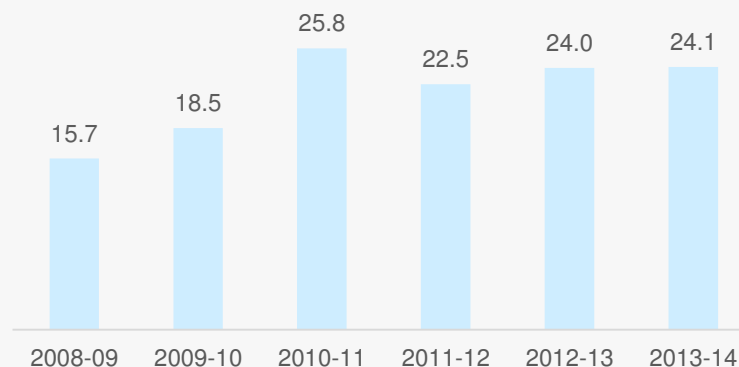
KEY INDUSTRIES – AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING

- * Agriculture is vital to the progress of Sikkim as more than 64 per cent of the population depends on it for their livelihoods.
- * The Sikkim AGRISNET is an internet-based agriculture information centre to promote scientific agricultural methods and convert research into practice in the agricultural sector.
- * Sikkim has a suitable climate for agricultural and horticultural products. It supports multiple crops; viz., rice, wheat, maize, millet, barley, urad, pea, soya bean, mustard and large cardamom.
- * The surveyed arable land in Sikkim is 109,000 ha, of which only 9.5 per cent is used; this provides a vast untapped potential for development. The Sikkim government is working on a plan to achieve 100 per cent organic farming by 2015.
- * A ginger processing unit has been set up at Birdang in west Sikkim for processing and value addition of organic ginger for marketing.
- * Production of vegetables and fruits increased at a CAGR of 6.54 per cent and 8.95 per cent, respectively, between 2008-09 and 2013-14.
- * There are large areas of fallow land available, which have potential to be converted into productive farms for cash crops.

Production of vegetables (in '000 MT)



Production of fruits (in '000 MT)



Source: Indian Horticulture Database 2014-National Horticulture Board, TechSci Research, MT: Metric Tonnes

KEY INDUSTRIES – HYDROPOWER ... (1/2)

- * It is estimated that Sikkim has a peak potential capacity of 8,000 MW and a steady 3,000 MW of hydroelectric power. About 28 hydropower projects are being set up in the state under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode.
- * According to the latest list of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Sikkim has 21 live hydropower projects with a total installed capacity of 318.48 MW.
- * The Teesta and Rangeet are the two major rivers with nearly a hundred tributaries. The Teesta descends from an elevation of about 3,600 m to about 300 m over a distance of 175 km. It can be harnessed for power generation in six stages.
- * The 1,200 MW Teesta-III hydropower project in the state was commissioned in December 2013, and is currently under-construction.
- * In May 2013, Gati Infrastructure Private Limited commissioned a 99 MW hydro electric power project in the state. The US\$ 95.77 million project would harness water flow from Rangpo and Rongli rivers through run-of-river design with turbines and generators supplied by Alstom India Limited.
- * Him Urja Infra Pvt. Ltd. plans to develop Teesta Stage-II hydroelectric power project. The construction work is expected to commence in January 2016.
- * In January 2015, NHPC Ltd. Commissioned a 520 MW hydro electric power project, Teesta Stage-IV in the state. This project is located on river Teesta in North district of Sikkim between Dikchu and Mangan (District Headquarter). This project involves an investment of US\$ 596.34 million.
- * In April 2014, Essar Projects Infrastructure Asset bagged an order worth US\$ 65 million for the execution of civil works at the 300 MW Panan Hydro Electric Power (HEP) Project. The project is expected to take 48 months to complete.

Source: Central Electricity Authority, April 2014, Energy & Power Department- Government of Sikkim

KEY INDUSTRIES – HYDROPOWER ... (2/2)

- * The waterfalls of Sikkim that fall from high altitudes and are perennial in nature are conducive for setting up hydroelectric power plants.
- * NHPC is setting up a hydro-electric power plant (including two operating projects) in Sikkim, with a generation capacity of 5,295 MW.
- * A total of 11 hydro electric power projects with a capacity of 2,455 MW (of which the private sector contributed 1,935 MW) have been identified for benefits during the 12th Five Year Plan in the state.

Hydroelectric power projects under construction	
Developer	Installed capacity (MW)
Teesta Urja Ltd	1,200
Lanco	500
Dans Energy	96
Gati Infrastructures*	150
Shiga Energy	97
Sneha Kinetic Energy	96
Sikkim Hydro Ventures Ltd.	66

Prospective hydroelectric power projects	
Developer	Installed capacity (MW)
Himalayan Green Energy	280
Him Urja Pvt Ltd	330
NHPC	520
Himagiri Hydro	300
Gati Infrastructure	71
Lachung Power Pvt Ltd	99
TT Energy	70

Source: Hydro Development Plan for 12th Five Year Plan; Central Electricity Authority; Livemint, September 2011; Projects Monitor; *Includes 2 projects Sada-Mangder HEP & Bhasmey HEP, NHPC: National Hydroelectric Power Corporation, TechSci Research

KEY INDUSTRIES – TOURISM ... (1/2)

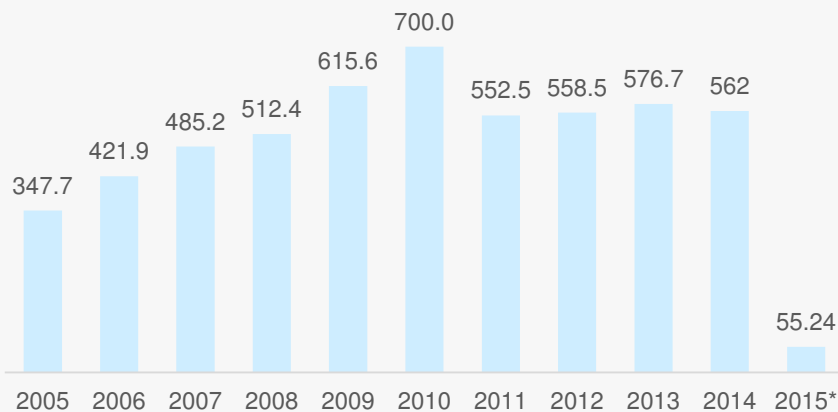
- * Tourism in Sikkim has emerged as the new profession of the Sikkimese people with its vast natural potential.
- * Promotion of village tourism, homestay, cultural tourism, trekking tourism, ecotourism, wellness tourism, flori-tourism and adventure tourism has given fillip to the tourism trade in the state where a large number of people are engaged under different employment opportunities.
- * Sikkim has the perfect blend of natural wealth and topography, which ranges from tropical to temperate to alpine. The state is richly endowed with thick forests, flora and fauna, lakes, glaciers and mountain peaks, which makes it a tourist paradise.
- * Creation of tourist complexes, ecotourism, adventure tourism, ethnic-culture tourism, health farms, hotels, convention centres, tourist travel services, etc., are various avenues for investment in the tourism sector.
- * Cho-Lhamu lake situated in Sikkim is the highest lake in the country and sixth highest in the world. It is expected that recognition of this lake will boost tourism in the state.
- * The state has mighty scenic snow-capped peaks including Kanchenjunga, the world's third highest peak that attracts a large number of tourists from across the globe.
- * Sikkim was rated as the best place to visit in 2014 by The Lonely Planet. The state has been able to bag 7 out of 25 central government's national projects to promote India as destination for adventure tourism globally.
- * In February 2014, Sikkim also won the National Tourism Award for efficiently implementing rural eco-tourism projects in the state.

Source: Department of Tourism, Government of Sikkim,

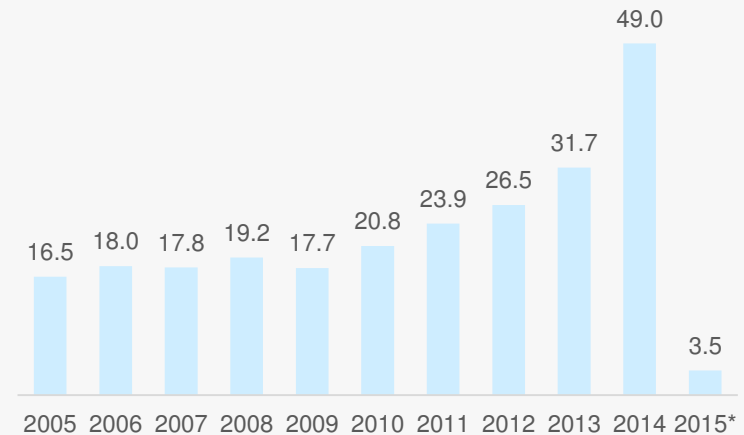
KEY INDUSTRIES – TOURISM ... (2/2)

- * The state received 55,239 domestic and 3,458 foreign tourists as of January 2015.
- * Sikkim is setting up a fossil park in Mamley (south Sikkim), where rare one billion-year-old Stromatolite fossils occur.
- * GSI plans to set up a geological museum in Sikkim, displaying fossils, rock samples, etc., from various parts of India. This would attract palaeontology enthusiasts across the world.

Domestic tourists (in '000)



Foreign tourists (in '000)



Source: Ministry of Tourism- Government of India, Sikkim Tourism, Government of Sikkim; Sikkim Tourism, *As of January 2015

KEY INDUSTRIES – IT

- * Sikkim's IT policy aims to increase the use of IT in the industrial and government sectors. With a high literacy rate, affordable cost, strong English-speaking population, improved telecommunications connectivity and favourable climate, Sikkim is well poised to serve the IT industry.
- * 40 Community Information Centers (CIC) have been set up across the remotest of regions in the Sikkim to bring Information Technology to the grass root level of people
- * The IT policy provides several incentives and concessions for investments in the IT sector. The Government of Sikkim has placed information technology high on its agenda.
- * The Department of Information Technology has been set up for preparing extensive projects; particularly aiming at e-governance, promoting IT enabled services such as medical transcription, telemedicine and computerised braille.
- * The Department of Information Technology, Government of Sikkim is in the process of setting up a state of the art IT park and National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) at Pakyong. The IT Park will have state-of-the-art facilities that will offer a plug and play environment and cater to the specific needs of the information technology and business process outsourcing (BPO) segments.
- * The Department of Information Technology proposed the use of optical mark reader (OMR) technology for any examination conducted for employment in the state. This proposal has been approved by the North East Council (NEC). This would fasten the process of recruitments in the state. The state government is using IT tools for the disabled people in Sikkim, thus, making them more productive and providing them opportunities to earn livelihood.
- * In June 2015, Software Technology Parks of India, an autonomous society of Department of Electronics and IT, Ministry of Communications and IT, Government of India, invited Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of companies that want to set up BPO operations in North-Eastern region (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland Sikkim and Tripura) under North East BPO Promotion Scheme (NEBPS).

KEY INDUSTRIES – SERICULTURE

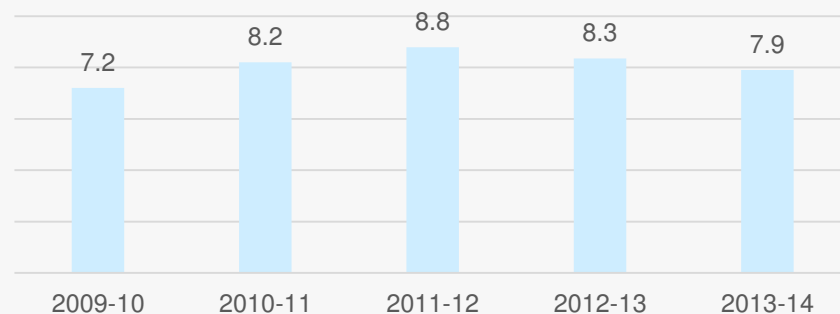
- * Mulberry, muga, eri, oak-tussar and silk are cultivated in Sikkim.
- * The Sericulture Directorate is responsible for development of sericulture in Sikkim. The Directorate is maintaining three sericulture farms, one each in east, south and west district.
- * Forest Department has two sericulture farms, one at Rorathang (east Sikkim) and the other at Mamring and Namthang (south district).
- * The sericulture potentiality of Sikkim state has been explored jointly by the State Department and Central Silk Board, through launching a flagship programme titled Catalytic Development Programme.
- * Over the years with consorted efforts from the both ends (state and central governments), considerable success have been achieved by the state sericulture industry in generating employment.

Source: Central Silk Board, Directorate of Sericulture, Sikkim

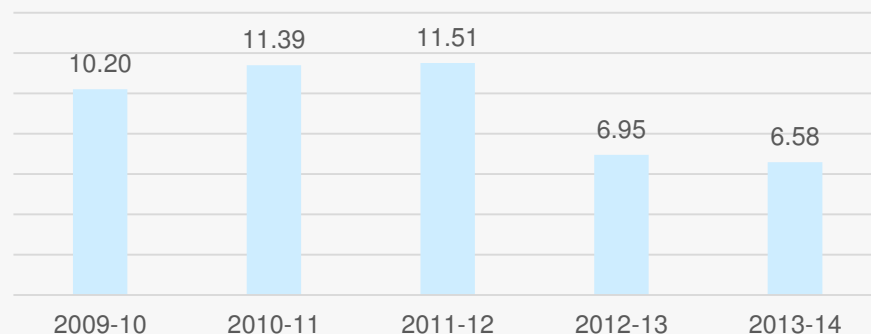
KEY INDUSTRIES – HANDLOOM AND HANDICRAFTS

- * Carpet weaving, blanket making, handloom, cane and bamboo, thangka painting, lepcha hat-making and angora shawl-weaving are the various handlooms and handicraft activities practised in Sikkim.
- * The industry has a great potential to generate income and employment in the state.
- * In order to give a boost to the sector, the Government of Sikkim has been making several efforts, which include providing training to upgrade the quality and designs of the products; bringing expertise and professionals for their marketing and supply, etc.
- * Directorate of Handicrafts and Handlooms, Government of Sikkim, promotes and preserves the rich arts and crafts of the state.
- * The khadi and village industry's total production in the state was valued at US\$ 7.9 million, while sales stood at US\$ 6.58 million over 2013-14.

Khadi and village industry production in Sikkim (US\$ million)



Khadi and village industry sales in Sikkim (US\$ million)



Source: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India;

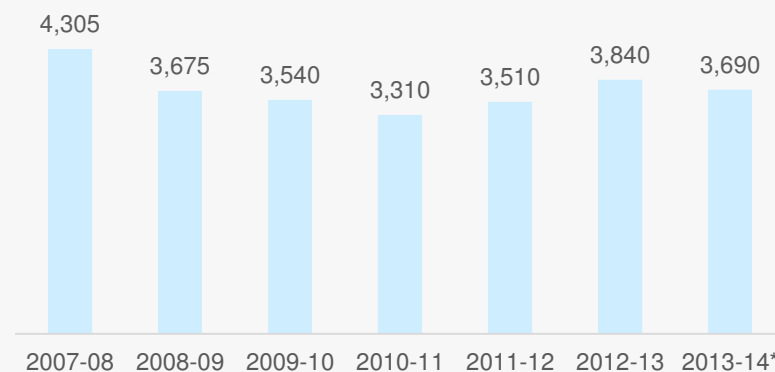
KEY INDUSTRIES – TEA

- * Tea grown in the Temi region of south Sikkim is famous by its brand name Temi Tea. The tea has its unique flavour and about 100 metric tonnes of tea is produced annually.
- * Temi Tea Estate was established in the year 1974 over an estimated area of 440 acres. The garden employs about 400 regular and seasonal workers. The tea produced is exported as well as sold in local and national markets.
- * Temi Tea Estate offers assistance to small-scale growers and producers by providing quality planting materials. It also produces some of the best clone planting materials, which are distributed among small tea growers' cooperatives in the state.
- * During the harvesting season, Temi Tea Estate produces 100,000 kilograms of saleable tea.
- * Under the assistance of Temi Tea Board, tea growers societies like Sang-Martam Tea Growers' Cooperative Society have started flourishing, which will further increase the production.
- * Efforts are underway to source direct buyers in foreign markets for Sikkim's tea and the field is open for investors interested in increasing Sikkim's tea production capabilities.
- * Major buyers of Temi Tea are Germany, the UK, the US and Japan. Moreover, the state is trying to diversify the product range (including redesigning of more attractive packets for value addition) due to growing demand for green teas.
- * The Sikkim Government plans to set up Tea Development Corporation of Sikkim, which will be the nodal agency for developing the tea Industry in Sikkim. It would work to expand the Temi tea estates in the state and acquire new gardens either wholly or partially owned by the government.

KEY INDUSTRIES – LARGE

- * The state is considered as a large cardamom epicentre of the world and produces more cardamom than any other Indian state.
- * India contributes 50 per cent to total large cardamom production in the world. Sikkim is the second-largest producer of the crop in India, accounting for more than 16 per cent of total production.
- * The crop produced in the state is mainly exported to Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Singapore and the Middle East, and is the preferred choice among these nations due to its distinctive aroma and colour.
- * During 2013-14, the government proposed a plan to cover 2,720 ha. (large – 1,820 ha, and small - 900 ha) under replantation for cardamom.
- * The Spices Board has proposed to replant 5,000 hectares and rejuvenate 2,500 hectares of large cardamom in Sikkim during the 12th Five Year Plan.
- * The demand for large cardamom in the export market is bound to increase steadily. Internal consumption of cardamom is also increasing day-by-day.

Production of cardamom (in tonnes)



Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Spices Board, Business Today, January 2013
*3rd Estimate, TechSci Research

KEY INDUSTRIES – MINERALS AND MINING

- * Sikkim is endowed with substantial deposits of minerals of economic importance which when properly explored and exploited will give a boost to the economy of the states. A major portion of the state is covered with forests. Most of the mineral deposits are located mainly in forest areas.
- * Sikkim has significant, untapped natural resource reserves of coal, limestone, marble, quartzite, graphite, fire clay, feldspar, silica sand, granite and brick earth.
- * Contour mapping and survey of minerals is being carried out by the Department of Mines, Minerals and Geology, of the Government of Sikkim.
- * Occurrences of high grade quartzite with over 90 per cent silica have been found in parts of east, west & south Sikkim.
- * Graphite in the state occurs over parts of west and north districts. Workable occurrences are located at Chitre-Dariely & Dentam-Uttarey areas of west Sikkim. The graphite is made up of 40-60 per cent fixed carbon.
- * Sikkim has extensive deposits with bands of dolomite limestone in Rangit valley Tectonic Window.
- * The state is endowed with sizeable deposits of marble around Tsunghang, Tsongo and Tolong.
- * Coal deposits in the form of small pockets have been found in parts of south and west Sikkim. Total coal reserves were estimated at 101 million tonnes in 2014.
- * The state is also projected to have marble deposits of 30.0 million tonnes in the Chungthang Valley.

Source: Department of Mines, mines.gov.in, Minerals and Geology, Government of Sikkim, Ministry of Coal, TechSci Research

KEY INDUSTRIES – PHARMACEUTICALS ... (1/2)

- * Pharmaceutical is an emerging industry in Sikkim due to tax incentives offered by the state government as well as low manufacturing and labour costs.
- * Sikkim is home to 14 major pharma companies, which have significant investments in the state. These include Cipla, Sun Pharma, Zydus Cadila, Alembic, IPCA, Alkem Lab, Intas Pharma, Torrent Pharma and Unichem.
- * The North-East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, 2007 and the pollution free atmosphere are highly beneficial for pharma investments in Sikkim. Some of the policy incentives are:
 - * 100 per cent excise duty exemption on finished products.
 - * 100 per cent income tax exemption.
 - * 30 per cent capital investment subsidy on investments in plant and machinery.
- * The state attracted pharmaceutical investments of US\$ 414.73 million till 2014.

Source: Sikkim Human Development Report 2014, The Telegraph, TechSci Research, News articles

KEY INDUSTRIES – PHARMACEUTICALS ... (2/2)

<p>Cipla</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cipla is one of the world's largest generic pharmaceutical companies with presence in over 170 countries. It exports raw materials, intermediates, prescription drugs, over the counter (OTC) and veterinary products, among others. • With 23,472 employees worldwide, the company generated revenues of US\$ 1.88 billion during 2014-15.
<p>Sun Pharmaceutical industries limited</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India-based Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited is a global pharmaceutical company headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It manufactures and sells pharmaceutical formulations and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) mainly in India and the US. • The company offers formulations in therapeutic areas such as cardiology, psychiatry, neurology, gastroenterology and diabetology. • With over 13,000 employees, Sun Pharmaceutical generated revenue of US\$ 4.55 billion during 2014-15.
<p>Zydus Cadila</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India-based Cadila Healthcare is a pharmaceutical company headquartered in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. It is the fifth largest pharmaceutical company in India and is a significant manufacturer of generic drugs. • Cadila Healthcare has global operations in four continents spread across the US, Europe, Japan, Brazil, South Africa and 25 other emerging markets. With 13,181 employees worldwide, the company generated total revenues of US\$ 907.37 million in 2014-15.

KEY APPROVALS REQUIRED

List of approvals and clearances required	Department
Incorporation of company	Registrar of Companies
Registration, Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum, industrial licences	Commerce and Industries Department
Permission for land use	
Allotment of land	
Site environmental approval	Sikkim Pollution Control Board
No-objection Certificate and consent under Water and Pollution Control Act	
Registration under States Sales Tax Act and Central and State Excise Act	Excise Department, Sales Tax Department, Commercial Taxes Division, Finance, Revenue & Expenditure Department
Commercial taxes	
Sanction of power	Energy and Power Department
Power feasibility	
Power connection	
Approval for construction activity and building plan	Building & Housing Department, Public Works Department
Water and sewerage clearance	Water Security & Public Health Engineering Department
Water connection	

CONTACT LIST

Agency	Contact information
Commerce and Industries Department	Government of Sikkim Gangtok-737101, Sikkim Phone: 91-3592-202 670 Website: sikkimindustries.gov.in E-mail: industriesdept@yahoo.co.in
Energy and Power Department	Energy & Power Department Gangtok, Sikkim Website: www.sikkimpower.org E-mail: pbsubba@sikkimpower.org
Sikkim Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Limited (SIDICO)	Bhanu Path, Gangtok-737103, Sikkim Phone: 91-3592-202287, 202637, 209622, Fax: 91-3592-202287 Website: www.sidico.org E-mail: mdsidico@rediffmail.com
Directorate of Handloom and Handicrafts	Director, D.H.H, Gangtok East Sikkim Phone: 91-3592-203 126/202 926

COST OF DOING BUSINESS IN SIKKIM

Cost parameter	Cost estimate	Source
Hotel costs	US\$ 30-150 per room per night	Industry sources
Office space rent (2,000 sq ft)	US\$ 500-2,500 per month	Industry sources
Residential space rent (2,000 sq ft)	US\$ 100-500 per month	Industry sources
Labour cost (minimum wages per day)	Unskilled: US\$ 1.8 Skilled: US\$ 2.8	Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India

STATE ACTS & POLICIES ... (1/2)

Sikkim Ecotourism Policy 2011

Objectives

- To establish Sikkim as an ultimate and unique ecotourism destination, offering memorable and high quality learning experiences to visitors to contribute to poverty alleviation and promote nature conservation.
- To promote ecotourism in a sustainable manner based on the Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria.

[Read more](#)

Sikkim Tourism Policy 2010

Objectives

- To build Sikkim as an attractive tourist location and promote the sector as an economic growth engine.
- To promote sustainable development of tourism and encourage the private sector to develop tourism-related infrastructure and services without disturbing ecology and the environment.

[Read more](#)

STATE ACTS & POLICIES ... (2/2)

North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP) 2007

Objective

- To promote the Northeast as an attractive investment destination through several concessions and incentives.

[Read more](#)

IT Policy of Sikkim 2006

Objectives

- To employ IT to provide better governance and generate employment.
- To improve productivity in government departments through computerisation.

[Read more](#)

EXCHANGE RATES

Exchange rates (Fiscal Year)

Year	INR equivalent of one US\$
2004-05	44.81
2005-06	44.14
2006-07	45.14
2007-08	40.27
2008-09	46.14
2009-10	47.42
2010-11	45.62
2011-12	46.88
2012-13	54.31
2013-14	60.28
2014-15	60.28
2015-16 Q1	64.01

Source: Reserve Bank of India

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