



GANGTOK - SIKKIM

National Conference Series
on Sport for Employment

FOCUS GROUP
DISCUSSION



May 15, 2016

Sponsored by





SPEFL – Sports, Physical Education, Fitness & Leisure Skill Council FGD

Date: 15th May, 2016.

Location: Hotel Magpie, Church Road, Gangtok.

Convened By: Sumit Kumar Agarwal, Principal Associate, Tanjun Associate LLP

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes.

Following the earlier meeting of SPEFL-SC Gov. Council Member Shri Sumit Kumar Agarwal with:

Shri. R.S. Basnet: Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim

Dr: K. Jayakumar: IAS, Secretary, Department of Labour, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & capacity building, Government of Sikkim

Ms. Nima L. Yethenpa: SCS, Secretary Sports & YA, Government of Sikkim

Mr. D.L. Ramu Damu: SCTS, Joint Director & State Director, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & capacity building, Government of Sikkim

Agenda:

1. Introduction to SPEFL-SC
2. Presentation on SPEFL Sector Skill Council.
3. Opportunities for Employment in Sports
4. Opportunities for becoming TPs and extending the PMKVY
5. Introduction to Tanjun Associate LLP, NAUKRIS Consortium
6. Question & Answers.
7. Refreshments.

Attended by:

1. S.D.Dhakal, Secretary, SSERC, Government of Sikkim (Former Chief Administrator and founder team member of of State Institute of Capacity Building, Sikkim's skill development centre)
2. Ms. Jashoda Chhetri, Under Secretary, IEC, Hon'ble CM's office
3. Abhimanyu Dhakal, Head, Marketing & Strategy, Shoten Group
4. Mr. Piyoosh Bhowmick, on behalf of Siliguri Football Clubs
5. Deepa Gurung, Director, Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Center, Gangtok
6. Manisha Sharma, Director, Tag Along
7. Pronoy Saha, Retainer, Tag Along
8. Selina Pradhan, Student, SGC, Tadong
9. Ajay Gurung, Student, SGC, Tadong



10. Chumkila Bhutia, Student, SGC, Tadong
11. Kukula Denzongpa, Student, SGC, Tadong
12. Marcus Rai, Student, SGC, Tadong
13. Ganesh Chettri, Student, SGC, Tadong
14. Pramila Thapa, Student, Sikkim Manipal University
15. Kopila Mukhia, Student, Sikkim Manipal University
16. Ritee Mukhia, Student, Sikkim Manipal University
17. Shiva Bishwakarma, Student, Sikkim Manipal University
18. Sandeep Gurung, Student, Sikkim Manipal University
19. Rishi Mohra, Student, Sikkim Manipal University
20. Mithilesh Sharma, Student, Sikkim Manipal University

Minutes of Meeting

1. Introduction of SPEFL and its activities by Sri. Sumit Agarwal, Principal Associate, Tanjun Associates.
2. Self – introduction of the attendees including their work/professional background.
3. Presentation on the sector skill council.
 - a. Inception
 - b. Introduction to sports management.
 - c. Sports training and management as a viable career option.
 - d. Current models of sports management and business across the globe.
 - e. Gap in sports management and sports related employment in the country.
 - f. SPEFL as an SSC is the nodal agency in implementation on Sports, Physical Education, Fitness and Leisure.
 - g. Introduction to the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)
 - h. Focus on development of traditional sports.
 - i. Pro – Kabaddi League, as a model for emulation for development of traditional sports.
 - j. Sikkim and mountain region centric programs and training need to be designed for sport.
 - k. A successful model, if developed in Sikkim, can be emulated anywhere in the country.
 - l. The scope of employment therefore, is very large and encompasses various levels of expertise in training and management.
4. Question & Answers – The session was of 10 minutes duration. Many questions were taken during the presentation itself. Some of the questions asked in this session were:
 - a. What is the infrastructure requirement of the training partner?
 - b. What is the average time period from registration in SSC to starting of course?
 - c. Is the registration one time or recurring?
 - d. How can hatha yoga and meditation be developed into a training curriculum of a 2 week duration?



- e. What kind of traditional sports are we talking of? How do we resolve conflicts if someone challenges the rules and guidelines created by us?
 - f. Do we have any MBA program in India for Sports Management?
5. Mr. Sumit Agarwal answered these questions and also shared his ideas pertaining to each question. He summarized by highlighting the huge gap in requirement of sport management and the supply of expertise in each specialized area of action. He suggested that the students should broaden their horizons and look at careers, which are just developing to get a first mover advantage.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:



Mountain Biking:

Members of Tag Along made a detailed presentation about the need for developing mountain biking, not only as a popular sport but also as a viable means of attracting eco-tourists and decongesting remote roads. They presented their concept paper and details of their recently concluded and highly successful mountain biking expedition.

The primary occupational competencies required for making this sport a great success will be guides, maintenance persons, paramedics and retail advisors at the point of cycle sales.

Some pictures from the Tag Along expedition



Other Adventure Sports:



Sikkim is the destination of choice for adventure sports in the east of India. It has some of the most scenic as well as tough treks and climbs, Paragliding (Sikkim has an association), Yak safaris, kayaking and rafting down the mighty Teesta, and last but not the least the high adventure into the mighty Kanchendzonga's base camp and beyond. There seemed to be a large demand training for trekking guides, camp managers and high altitude porters, as currently they were being mostly brought in from Nepal and other parts of India. There is definitely a training and employment opportunity waiting to be tapped.



Football/Futsal

Traditionally Sikkimese people have had an umbilical bond with football. The Sikkim Football Association, The United Sikkim Football Club and hundreds of other smaller outfits are followed by youth with passionate frenzy. A match at the Palzor Stadium in Gangtok is no less than FIFA in terms of energy and show of loyalties. Sikkim has produced some of the best footballers in the country including the legendary Bhaichung Bhutia.

As we were discussing the need for small court, small team futsal in this backdrop, unknown to us India was already preparing to launch the Futsal premier league. However, it comes as a pleasant confirmation of what the youth in Sikkim already feels. They were vehement about the need for more community coaches for futsal and trained futsal turf developers and maintenance persons. The meeting ended with an invitation to visit the rooftop Futsal court recently developed in Tadong, Gangtok. (In picture)



SPEFL-SC promised to look into the possibility of giving focus to Futsal as an employment opportunity. 20 days later it was proved right by the launching of the premier league.



Archery:

Archery is a sport which is very popular amongst the Sikkimese. It is especially played during the harvest season and can be considered as a ritual practice here.



Hailing from Namchi, Sikkim, Tarundeep Rai is an Indian archer. He is the first Indian to win the men's silver medal in Archery at the 16th Asian Games, 2010. The request was to create community coaches in Archery.