NOTIFICATION

Whereas the Lepcha Tribal Community, one of the three ethnic communities of the State of Sikkim, is the indigenous inhabitants of the State;

And whereas, excepting a small fraction of this Tribal Community in urban areas, the bulk of the population of the Lepcha Tribal Community live in remote areas of the State and in small settlements, where the soil and the topography of land are not suitable for agriculture but more suited for their primitive tribal way of living viz; hunting, fishing, collecting forest produces and producing agricultural crops in their traditional way;

And whereas, their simple and shy nature always hindered their socio-economic and educational growth and developments;

And whereas, due to their poor economic condition and illiteracy, there is high rate of infant mortality in this Community resulting in declining population of Lepcha Tribal Community;

And whereas, to protect and safeguard this vanishing Tribe and to uplift their socio-economic, educational, political status and to give them a distinct identity, the State Government has deemed it expedient to confer special status to this Community;

And whereas, to protect and safeguard this vanishing Tribe and to uplift their socio-economic, educational, political status and to give them a distinct identity and special status, the Sikkim Legislative Assembly in its Session held from 21st to 28th February, 2005 passed a resolution for declaring the Lepcha Tribal Community of Sikkim, as the Primitive Tribe Group;

Now, therefore, the State Government hereby recognizes and declares the Lepcha Tribal Community of the State as the Primitive Tribe Group in the State of Sikkim.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR.

R. K. PURKAYASTHA, SSJS
LEGAL REMEMBRANCER-CUM-SECRETARY,
LAW & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM.