

DAY 0, Dec 3, 2025 (1- 4 pm)

Workshop #1

The promise of mental health care and support in the Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya.

Facilitated by Priscilla Giri, DLR Prerna

DAY 1, Dec 4, 2025 (8:30 am- 5pm)

8:30 AM

Registration and Opening

9:30 – 9:50 AM

- **Welcome and Introduction** to the Conclave by Reading Himalaya
- Address by Prof. Rajat Kathuria, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University
- Introduction to the Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, Shiv Nadar University by Dr. Devendra Kumar
- Welcome address by Dr. Sohel Firdos, Head of Department, Geography Department, Sikkim University

10:00 – 10:30 AM

Keynote Address

Dr. Smriti Basnett

Senior Consultant, Sikkim Commission on Glacial Hazard Department of Science and Technology, Government of Sikkim

10:30 – 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM – 12:15PM

Panel 1

Too little, too late?

Climate, Environment & Disasters

Panellists:

- Mr. Tashi Chopel Lepcha (Department of Education, Government of Sikkim)
- Dr. Avantika Thapa (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment)
- Dr. Lakpa Tamang (Calcutta University)
- Ms. Abriti Moktan (Pennsylvania State University)

Moderator: Dr. Mona Chettri (Reading Himalaya)



12:15 – 1:15 PM

Group photo

Lunch

1:15 – 3:15 PM

Workshop #2

The waste crisis in the Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya

Facilitated by Priyadarshinee Shrestha, Zero Waste Himalaya and Roshan Rai, DLR Prerna

3:15 – 3:30 PM

Break

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Panel 2

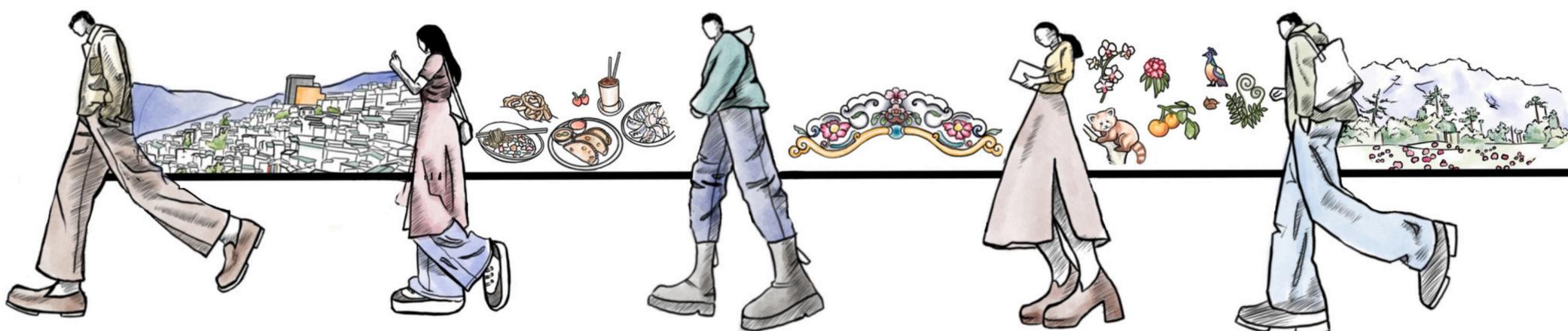
Development or Disaster?

Tourism, Urbanisation & Infrastructure

Panellists

- Mr. Niranjan Kapil (Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim)
- Professor Shrawan Acharya (Jawaharlal Nehru University)
- Ms. Priyadarshinee Shrestha (Zero Waste Himalaya)
- Mr. Dawa Sangpo (Yambong Ecotourism Committee and Sanctuary Asia Mud on Boots Project)

Moderator: Dr. Debolina Kundu (National Institute of Urban Affairs)



DAY 2 DEC 5, 2025 (9:00 am- 5:15 pm)

9:00 – 10:30 AM **Roundtable: Tipping Point Himalaya**

Panellists

- Dr. Debolina Kundu (National Institute of Urban Affairs)
- Dr. Rinan Shah (Shiv Nadar University/Reading Himalaya)
- Dr. Sangay Lachenpa (Sikkim University/Shiv Nadar University)
- Prof. Sohel Firdos (Sikkim University)
- Dr. Sunita Pradhan (Ashoka Trust for Research in Environment and Ecology)

Moderator: Dr. Teiborlang Kharsyntiew (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

10:30 – 10:45 AM **Break**

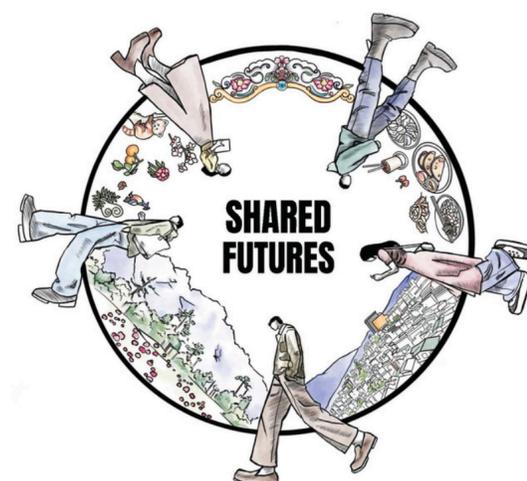
10:45 – 12:00 PM **Panel 3: Hope vs Hustle Youth Aspirations & Challenges**

Panellists:

- Mr. Abhilash Kumai (Eastern Himalayan Foundation)
- Dr. Nancy Lhasungpa (Nar Bahadur Bhandari Government College, Gangtok)
- Ms. Aparajita Rai (IPS) (Superintendent of Police, Kalimpong)
- Ms. Timsong Lepcha (Reading Himalaya)

Moderator: Dr. Binayak Sundas (Centre for Himalayan Studies, North Bengal University)

12:00 – 12:40 PM **Group Photo Lunch**



12:40 – 2:40 PM

Workshop #3

Future Frames: Rethinking Tomorrow Through Visual Negatives

Workshop facilitated by Dishant Pradhan, FLAME University and Dr.Nirvan Pradhan, Narasinha Dutt College, University of Calcutta

2:40 – 3:00 PM

Break

3:00 – 4:45 PM

Panel 4: What gets told

Media, Memories & Representation

Panellists

- Dr. Anisa Bhutia (Indian Institute of Management-Kozhikode)
- Ms. Jenisha Singh (University of Kalyani)
- Ms. Nangsel Sherpa (The Pomelo Collective/KREA University)
- Mr. Nirmal Mangar (Journalist, The Sikkim Chronicles)

Moderator: Mr. Pema Wangchuk, Summit Times

4:45 – 5:00 PM

Break

5:00 – 5:15 PM

Closing Remarks and Thanks

