

To,
The Chief Minister
Government of Sikkim

Gangtok, Sikkim, 16th October 2007

Sub: Appeal to protect Dzongu, the holy Land of Lepchas

Hon'ble Sir,

With due respect we, the joint representatives of various Lepcha organizations based in Sikkim, Darjeeling Hills and rest of the world would like to state these few lines for your honour's kind information and consideration.

We the Lepchas Believe:

1. That, no matter where ever we reside at the present moment, Dzongu is the one and only holy land from where the Lepchas originated and will return to our ancestors.
2. That, no matter which religious belief we practice today, we are primarily nature worshippers and so the mountains, lakes, rivers, hills, trees etc in Dzongu are sacred to us.
3. That, mankind might have achieved great feats in diverse fields but the culture, tradition and values are what ultimately defines a person or community. Like wise sacredness and the culture, tradition and values that are prevalent in Dzongu is what unites all the Lepchas of the world and also gives our Identity as a distinct indigenous Tribe.
4. That, the very essence of being a Lepcha is derived from our Physical and spiritual connection with Dzongu.

Under the circumstances, we the Lepchas of the world cannot accept and allow the implementation of any Mega Hydro Electric Power Projects inside Dzongu. **Dzongu must be protected at all Cost** and the entire Lepchas of the world look up to you as our Protector.

Therefore, on behalf of all the Lepchas of the world, we earnestly appeal to your Honour to **"Protect the Sanctity of Dzongu"** as cited and pledged by you. In your wisdom you will clearly perceive that this can be done if only all the Mega Hydro Electric Power Projects in Dzongu are stopped.

For which act of kindness we shall always remain obliged to your honour.

Thanking You,

Yours Faithfully

Lyangsong Tamsang Lepcha

(President, Indigenous Lepcha Tribal Association)