

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INDIAN MUSEUM COMPLEX  
27 JAWAHARLAL NEHRU ROAD, KOL-16.

No. 13-229/2000/Estt

Date: September 10,2004

To  
Shri R.N. Chakraborty, Assistant Secretary,  
Home(Political) Department,  
Government of West Bengal  
Writers Buildings,Kolkata

Sub: Actual determination of the Gorkha and the Sikkimese Community

Sir,

With reference to your letter no. 4099-P dated 29.06.2004, I am directed to communicate the report as follows:

The term Sikkimese, in fact, is a generic term given to the early settlers and the indigenous groups of Sikkim which include the following Communities:

a)The Lepcha(the original inhabitants), b) The Denzonga or the Sikkimese Bhutia, c) The Drukpa d) The Kagate e) The Lachungpa and the other small groups. Like wise the Gorkha or the Gurkha is a Blanket term, which include those communities who originally came from Nepal. Dr. K.S Singh, IAS(Retired), the ex-Director General, Anthropological Survey of India, in his monumental publication on People of India( a national project) excluded the Bhutias or those who belonged to the greater Bhote(Tibetan) civilization from the Gorkha. It is also invariably a fact that in India any migrants from Nepal called themselves as the Gorkhas. The Gorkhas belonged to both Hindus and Buddhist fold and also the admixture of both the religions. Since the time of British rule till date, the Indian administration( as various records show) included the Sherpa within the Gorkha though the Sherpa belonged to the greater Tibetan Civilization or the Civilization of the Bhote. Hence, the Gorkha include the following groups; the Chettri, the Rai, the Tamang, the Thami, the Bhujel, the Nepali Brahman, the Dammi, the Gurung, the Yakha, the Kami, the Magar/Manger, the Newar/Pradhan, the Sarki, the Sunwar, the Thakuri, the Sherpa and the Limbu.

The mean statures(mean heights) of various groups according to the published reports are as follows:

1. Sikkimese Bhutia(The Sikkimese)=1642 mm 2. Lepcha(The Sikkimese)= 1570 to 1584 mm 3. Kagate (The Sikkimese)= 1572 mm 4. Brahman (the Gorkha)=1631 mm 5. Newar (The Gorkha)=1614 mm to 1621 mm 6. Kami (The Gorkha)=1618 mm 7. Limbu (The Gorkha)= 1603 mm 8. Manger/Magar(The Gorkha)= 1587 mm 9. Gurung(The Gorkha)=1608 mm 10. Sherpa(The Gorkha)=1574 to 1605 mm.

The main stature of the remaining groups shows a short height and varies from 1571 mm to 1605 mm.

This report is for your kind information and knowledge.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/- ARUN KUMAR SINGH  
HEAD OF OFFICE



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The mean stature (mean heights) of various groups according to published reports are as follows :

1. Sikkimese Bhutia (The Sikkimese) - 1642 mm
2. Lepcha (The Sikkimese) - 1570 mm to 1584 mm
3. Kagate (The Sikkimese) - 1572 mm
4. Brahman (The Gorkha) - 1631 mm
5. Newar (The Gorkha) - 1614 mm to 1621 mm
6. Kami (The Gorkha) - 1618 mm
7. Limbu (The Gorkha) - 1603 mm
8. Mangar/Magar (The Gorkha) - 1587 mm
9. Gurung (The Gorkha) - 1608 mm
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