

DECLARATION

I, **Yashmin Bhandari** declare that the Thesis entitled “**Floriculture and Floriculturists: A Sociological Study**” is my own work conducted under the supervision of Prof. Ujjwal Bhui and the thesis has not been submitted by me for any research degree in any other University/Institute.

This is being submitted to the University of North Bengal for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology.



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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that **Yashmin Bhandari**, a registered Ph.D candidate of Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal, has completed writing her Ph.D Thesis on “**Floriculture and Floriculturists in Sikkim: A Sociological Study**”.

Yashmin Bhandari has done this work under my supervision. In doing the work, she has fulfilled all the requirements of doing Ph.D as stipulated in the relevant provisions of the Ph.D Regulation, 2009.

This is also to certify that the candidate has incorporated all the suggestions made or given at the time of the Departmental Pre-Submission Seminar into the final body of the thesis. The thesis is her original work and she has worked hard for the completion of this work.

I am forwarding the thesis for necessary action.





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FLORICULTURE AND FLORICULTURISTS IN SIKKIM: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY A Thesis Submitted to the University of North Bengal For the Award of Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology at the Centre for Himalayan Studies Submitted by YASHMIN BHANDARI Supervised By DR. UJJWAL BHUI CENTRE FOR HIMALAYAN STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL RAJA RAMMOHUNPUR DARJEELING, WEST BENGAL PIN - 734013 JANURAY, 2023

1 CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION 1.1 Background of the Study Flowers form important aspects of human society. Flowers carry unspoken messages which give flowers something worth for. The use of flowers has automatically given their value and has shown their worth to people from all walks of life. With the growing importance of flowers, the demand for flowers has also increased all over the world. A good number of people earn their livelihood by growing flowers or making sure that the flowers reach the customer's hand in the form they want at reasonable prices (Kolavalli, 1991). Consequently, floriculture as an important economic pursuit has developed in the present day. Floriculture is the term used for the cultivation of flowers and other ornamental plant materials scientifically and commercially, and the production of their by-products such as oils, scents and medicines etc. Floriculture characteristically comes under the aesthetic branch of horticulture (Chowdhury and Mishra, 2001). Growth of ornamental plants, plant breeding (to produce offspring) for the development of flowers and floristry (the production, commerce and trade of flowers) are by and large involved in floriculture. The Report of the International Labour Organisation (1999) entitled "The World Cut Flower Industry: Trends and Prospects" states that India and China have dominated the world concerning the area under cultivation for flowers though the yield per hectare is comparatively low. The major issue is that China and India have low purchasing power for imports of flowers and also the quality of flowers produced by these two countries is too low for export.

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YASHMIN BHANDARI

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAU	Assam Agriculture University
AEZ	Agriculture Expert Zone
ASIDE	Assistance to States for Development of Infrastructure and Allied Activities
CAEPHT	College of Agricultural Engineering and Post-Harvest Technology
CAU	Central Agricultural University
CITH	Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture
CPRI	Central Power Research Institute
CPCRI	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute
DAC	Department of Agriculture and Co-operation
DACS	Denzong Agriculture Cooperative Society
DONER	Development of North East Region
FSADD	Food Security and Agriculture Development Department
GAD	Gender and Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Production
GMC	Gangtok Municipal Corporation
GOI	Government of India
HCDD	Horticulture and Cash Crops Development
IARI	Indian Agricultural Research Institute
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research

IIHR	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research
IPR	International Patent Rights
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
NBPGR	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources
NERAMAC	North East Regional Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Ltd
NHB	National Horticultural Board
NRCO	National Research Centre for Orchid
MPCS	Multipurpose Cooperative Societies
PHC	Primary Health Centre
SIMFED	Sikkim State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd
SKM	Sikkim Krantikari Morcha
SKUAST	Sher- e- Kashmir University of Agriculture Science and Technology
VPKAS	Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan
WAD	Women and Development
WFP	World Food Program
WID	Women in Development
WTO	World Trade Organization