



# Pickle Industry in Kalimpong

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### ABSTRACT

This paper focuses on the importance of pickle industry, the uses of the pickle and how does it provide its important share in overall economic development of Kalimpong. The generation of employment from this industry and its impact on the economy of the district of Kalimpong. Recently, the industry has seen huge growth on its supply and has also seen huge growth in demand for its product.

### KEYWORDS

Dallekhorsani, Hamroachaar, Dalle masala, Bamboo shoot (Taama)

### OBJECTIVES

1. To ascertain the role of pickle industry (HamroAchaar)
2. To analyze the impact of pickle industry (HamroAchaar) on the economy of Kalimpong.
3. To study the reasons for the growth on supply of the products of HamroAchaar.

India is a country known for spices and with Nepali community as well it is no different. Kalimpong is a

district in the Indian state of West Bengal which is located at average elevation of 1250 mtrs (4101 feet above sea level).

Pickle / Chutney/ Achaar forms one of the most important food item in our culture that is served along with the daily meal. All the spices and pickle business finds a great value in Indian market and the production is so high that we are among the leading exporters in the world.

'HamroAchaar' is a business venture started in Kalimpong and it is profitable. It was established in the year 2016. It is supplying products all over the country. 'DalleKhorsani' is one of the hottest spices available in Himalayan region and it has always been in great demand. So any venture dealing with pickles would capitalize on the market of 'DalleKhorsani' and 'HamroAchaar' is no different. The products that are supplied by the industry includes 'Dalle paste', 'Dalle Masala', 'Bamboo Shoot,' commonly called as 'Taama' in local language, 'Jack Fruit', 'Dry Pickles' etc.

**TABLE 1: Details of the expenditure, income, number of workers and working hours in the pickle industry (HamroAchaar)**

Average monthly expenditure	1.5-15 lakhs
Average monthly Income	10 -60 lakhs
Average Income of workers	6000-7000
Number of workers working in HamroAchaar industry	20(16-Female, Male 04)
Working hours	Max 4 hours.

Source: Primary

The above table makes it clear that the pickle industry creates huge profits from its products. Sometimes average monthly income of the industry is 5 times more than its expenditure. Total number of workers at present is 20 out of which 16 workers are female and 4 workers are male. Working hours of the industry is maximum 4 hours and minimum 2 hours for which the workers are paid 6 to 7 thousand respectively per month. The industry has seen growth in employment level as

there were only 7 workers working in the industry in the beginning and now total number of workers at present is 20. The reason for the increase in supply of the products of HamroAchaar is because of the increase in demand of the products (Pickles) of this industry, and of the growing demand of the pickles produced from this industries exports of pickles has also increased.

Therefore it is clear that pickle industry (HamroAchaar) generates employment and provides



its share in overall economic development of kalimpong district.

The special feature regarding the industry is all the products are handmade and cent percent organic. All the employees working for this venture are women who are educated but unemployed. So the venture is doing a noble job by uplifting women of all caste. The employees can work from home on their comfort as no specific work timings are scheduled for any of its employees.

Mushroom Pickles is one of the major products and small mushroom growers are getting benefitted and encourage as the demand is always high. As a result mushroom cultivation in Kalimpong has increased significantly. The pickle industry is also giving formal training to the mushroom growers so that their productivity is high.

The preservatives are not used so the product is healthy as it is organic and that is one of the important feature of this growing business in Kalimpong. Because of this business the cultivation of Mushroom and Silam has increased which otherwise was on a dying state. So it has revived several species of food which was on the verge of extinction. All these crops are profitable as it requires less manure and fertilizers. All the products are made available online so that fetching a product anywhere in India is not an issue.

The company is taking special care of its raw material suppliers so that they don't have to incur loss. The major setback for a farmer is lack of demand and less sale but in this case company takes up all the unsold vegetables such as carrots, radish, cabbage etc. and utilize it to prepare mixed pickles that too are in demand in the market.

Some of the products such as ginger candy are extremely innovative as it is famous among children giving them a good taste as well as health benefits. The employment has increased in the town as the employees are in demand as the product is getting sold all over the country.