



Chapter III Other Schemes

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

(ENVIS CENTRE) SIKKIM

“On Status of Environment and Related issues”

Official Website: www.sikenvis.nic.in Email: sik@envis.nic.in

Introduction

Established in 2002 and fully operational by 2006, Environmental Information System (ENVIS) is a plan programme under the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India.

ENVIS is a distributed environmental information network with the mandate of collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination to varying users, which include decision-makers, researchers, academicians, policy planners, research scientists, etc. The Focal Point of ENVIS is located in the Ministry that coordinates the activities of all the ENVIS network partners to make ENVIS a web-enabled comprehensive information system.

Subject Area

“On Status of Environment & Related Issues”

Objectives of ENVIS

Long Term Objectives:

- To build up a repository and dissemination centre in Environmental Science and Engineering
- To gear up the modern technologies of information acquisition, processing, storage, retrieval and dissemination of environmental nature;
- To support and promote research, development and innovation in environmental information technology.

Short Term objectives:

- To provide national environmental information service relevant to present needs and capable of development to meet the future needs of the users originators processors and disseminators of information.
- To build up storage, retrieval and dissemination capabilities, with the ultimate objective of disseminating information speedily to the users.
- To promote national and international cooperation and liaison for exchange of environment related information.
- To promote, support and assist education and personnel training programmes designed to enhance environmental information processing and utilizing capabilities.
- To promote and exchange of information amongst developing countries.

Administration

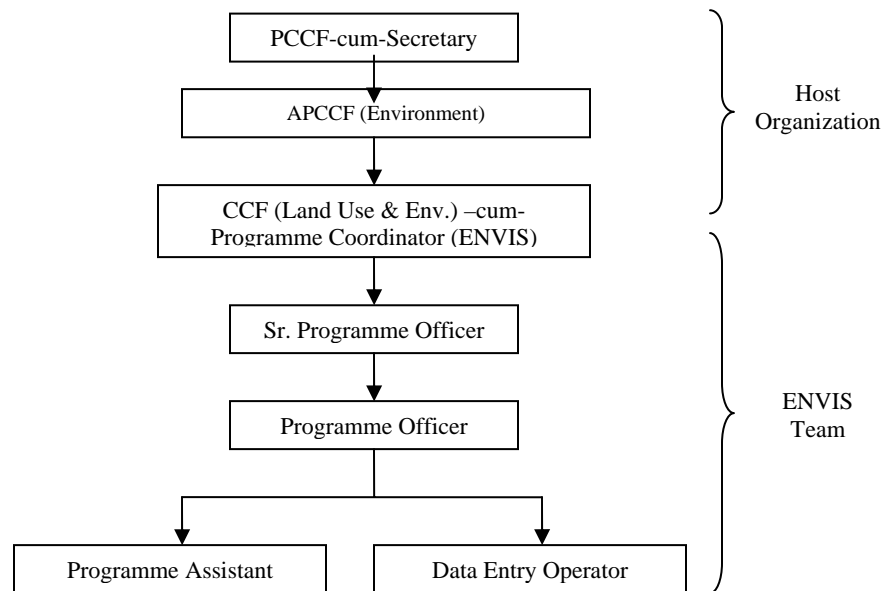
This Centre is under the overall administrative control of the PCCF-cum-Secretary with the support of Addl. PCCF and Chief Conservator of Forests of Land Use and Environment Circle.



The day to day affairs of the ENVIS centre are being managed by one Sr. Programme Officer, one Programme Officer and one Programme Assistant.

Working Environment

The ENVIS team in Sikkim considers the following hierarchy in its effort in collection, collation, storage and dissemination of Environmental & related information.



*Host Organization: Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department
Government of Sikkim*

ENVIS Team:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Mr. C. Lachungpa, | Programme Coordinator |
| 2. Mr. Rajen Pradhan, | Senior Programme Officer |
| 3. Ms. Sandhya Pradhan, | Programme Officer |
| 4. Mr. Laxuman Darnal, | Programme Assistant |

Services

- >> Website: www.sikennis.nic.in
- >> Bi-annual Newsletter (PANDA)
- >> E-Newsletters
- >> State of Environment Report
- >> ISBEID (Indian State-level Basic Environment Information Database)
- >> Library Facility
- >> Online/ in-person Query Services
- >> Environment Awareness Programmes
- >> Other Publications/Reports
- >> IT support/ LAN/ Intranet/Internet maintenance and services



Other Annual Activities

- >> National Environment Awareness Campaign
- >> National Green Corps Programme
- >> Green School Programme

Archives of Publication

Our centre is also responsible to maintain an extensive collection of publications (both the host organization and the centre itself). So far, the collection of our centre is categorized as below:

- ENVIS Quarterly Newsletter
- ENVIS Pamphlets
- National Environment Awareness Campaign
- National Green Corps
- State Green Mission
- Annual Plan Reports
- State of Environment Report.
- State Environment Pollution Report.
- Case Studies of Landslide Treatment & Erosion Control Work in Sikkim
- Newsletters from other network partners.
- Journals of Hill Research.

Sl. No	Year	Financial Grant-in-aid received from the ministry	Activities /achievements
1.	2006-07	Rs. 5,25,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development of database ➤ ENVIS Website officially launched. ➤ Database application for Library management developed and updated on the ENVIS website. ➤ State Environmental Report data collection started. ➤ ENVIS Centre actively participated in various occasion of the Host Department. ➤ NEAC activities undertaken by ENVIS.
2.	2007-08	Rs. 6,09,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The website (Home page: www.sikenvi.nic.in) was re-structured to provide better flexibility and reliable flow of data. ➤ ENVIS Newsletter Issue 1 published. ➤ Report on Treatment of Landslide & Erosion Control under TDET Project – South Sikkim prepared ➤ State of Environment Report Prepared for the first time. ➤ ENVIS Newsletter Issue 2 published.
3.	2008-09	Rs. 6,52,400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ENVIS Center Sikkim has also been assisting the State Environment Agency in implementing MoEF's (CSS) programmes such as National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC), National Green Corps (NGC) and Van Vigyan Kendra (VVK). ➤ Frequent updating of contents in the ENVIS website. ➤ State of Environment Report 2007 Published ➤ Compilation and designing of EIA & EMP of Rangit II HEP (60 MW). ENVIS Centre assisted the host department and Sikkim Power Ventures Pvt. Ltd. in preparation of the reports. ➤ A report on Treatment of Landslide & Erosion Control under TDET Project – West Sikkim prepared. ➤ Newsletter Vol. II Issue 1 Published highlighting the following achievements:



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Workshop: Sikkim ENVIS organized a sensitization workshop for NGOs and Schools on National Environment Awareness Campaign 2008-09 on the theme "Climate Change" at Gangtok, Sikkim ➤ Various publication for the year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pamphlets on National Bamboo Mission and State Green Mission prepared. • <i>State of Environment Report 2007</i> • <i>Awareness material (pamphlet) on National Environment Awareness Campaign 2008-09 on the theme "Climate Change".</i> • <i>Awareness material (booklet) on Solid Waste Management</i> • <i>State Green Mission Phase III Broacher</i> • <i>Booklet on Forest Centenary Celebrations 2009.</i> • <i>Pamphlet on Sidkeong Tulku Bird Park</i>
4.	2009-10	Rs. 6,52,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ENVIS Centre have been renovated and upgraded with modern facelift facilities to strengthen the work environment. ➤ Centre released "Climate change" poster; released a Report on "Impact of Landslide and Erosion Control Treatment" West Sikkim. Panda Biannual Newsletter Published and Launched. ➤ ENVIS Center Sikkim has also been working in close coordination with the host and other regional centres like CEE in implementing MoEF sponsored programmes such as National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) and National Green Corps (NGC). ➤ ENVIS Centre launched the Gobar Times Green School Programme (GTGSP) in Sikkim at a state level, the first of its kind in the state. ENVIS team coordinated the programme and 140 government schools were registered for the year 2009. ➤ Programme Officer attended the Environment Educators Meet and Gobar Times Green School Award Ceremony at New Delhi. ENVIS centre received three national awards (namely Top 10 School and best manager's award) on behalf of the schools participating in GTSGP.

LIST OF ENVIS PUBLICATIONS TILL DATE

Newsletters



PANDA 2009



Vol 2. No. 1



Vol 1. No.2



Vol 1. No.1



Reports



SoE Report



Treatment of Landslide and Erosion Control in South Sikkim



Treatment of Landslide and Erosion Control in West Sikkim



National Green Corps Programme in North Sikkim



Compilation of Gazette Notifications on forest, env. & wildlife



National Environment Awareness Campaign on Solid Waste Management



Compilation of the status of forest nurseries and future action plan 2009-2010

Pamphlets/ Brochures



ENVIS Pamphlet



State Green Mission Pamphlet



Climate Change Pamphlet



World Environment Day 2010



Solid Waste Management Booklet



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) launched by the ministry of environment and forests, Government of India, during 1986-87 seeks to enhance awareness of the people about various environment issues with a view to invoke their voluntary participation in the efforts for protection of environment and conservation of natural resources. NGOs, educational and training institutions, professional associations, scientific bodies, community organizations besides a range of other agencies including those of government participate in the campaign. These bodies singularly or in partnership with other organizations undertake programmes for creating environment and awareness accompanied by field action at the local regional and national level.

Ever since 1996, Forest Environment & Wildlife Management Department (FEWMD) has been playing a key role in raising the awareness level of local and global environment to the mass through the National Environment Awareness Campaign., State Pollution Control Board was appointed as RRA from 1996-2004 and, 2005 onwards ENVIS Center under Land Use & Environment Circle has been appointed as RRA till date.

ENVIS Centre in coordination with the District Environment Committees coordinates and implements the programme in all the districts in Sikkim. ENVIS Centre coordinates all the activities under the NEAC of informing the organization about the year theme by officially publishing on the official website of ENVIS Centre Sikkim www.sikenvvis.nic.in and also in local media. The application form and the Guidelines are then disseminated in the form of hard copies free of cost to the participating organizations. The proposals submitted by the participating organizations are scrutinized by the RRA and sent to the ministry for approval. All the participating organizations and schools are then given financial assistance for awareness and action oriented activities according to the proposals sanctioned by the Ministry every year.

ENVIS Centre conducts a post sanction workshop with the NGOs and School for encouraging the participants to actively participate and spread awareness among the general public etc.

Year Wise NEAC theme since 1996:-

- ❖ 1996-97: Pollution Prevention and Control
- ❖ 1997-98: Conservation & Plantation of Trees for Environmental Protection
- ❖ 1998-99: Keep our Water Resources Clean
- ❖ 1999-00: Keeping our Environment Clean & Green
- ❖ 2000-01: Sustainable Development
- ❖ 2001-02: Sustainable Development
- ❖ 2002-03: Water- Elixir of Life
- ❖ 2003-04: Water- Elixir of Life
- ❖ 2005-06: Solid Waste Management
- ❖ 2006-07: Solid Waste Management
- ❖ 2007-08: Biodiversity Conservation
- ❖ 2008-09: Climate Change
- ❖ 2009-10: Climate Change
- ❖ 2010-11: Biodiversity Conservation.



Snapshots of Awareness Activities.....



Workshop



Banner Campaign



Training



Street Theater



Exhibition

Snapshots of action activities:-





National Green Corps (NGC) Programme

Apart from successfully introducing environmental education into the schools as a regular curriculum, the Department have singled out schools to be the principal nucleus for disseminating the ethnics of environment to the society by constituting eco clubs, nature clubs etc. and have started providing financial assistance for every school clubs..



We all know that we are part of the environment we live in and the solution to many environmental problems lie in our attitude towards environment. Be it awareness to keep our surroundings clean or the realization to conserve natural resources by re-using and recycling wherever possible, they all are attitudinal. On the surface it looks simple. But changing the attitudes of 100 crore people is not going to happen overnight. The best way to attempt to bring about a change in the attitudes in the society is through children. They have no vested interests. They are impressionable. They are our future. They are the single most important influence in any family. With this realization the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India has decided to launch the National Green Corps Programme (NGC) in all Districts of our vast country.

OBJECTIVES

- To make children understand environment and environmental problems.
- To provide environmental education opportunities for school children.
- To utilize the unique position of school children as conduits for awareness of the society at large.
- To facilitate children's participation in decision making in areas related to environment & development.
- To bring children into direct contact with the environmental problems facing the society they live in and make them think of solutions.
- To involve children in action based programmes related to environment in their surroundings.

METHODOLOGY

- The scheme will be operated through Eco-clubs to be formed in member schools.
- Each such club will have 30-50 children, who show interest in environment related issues.
- Each Eco-club will be supervised by a Teacher In-charge, who is selected from among the teachers of the member school on the basis of his/her interest in environment related issues.
- Each Eco-club will be provided with a kit of resource material in the language of their preference apart from a token monetary grant of Rs. 1000/- per annum for organising different activities (Please see the suggested list of activities)
- There will be District Implementation and Monitoring Committee to supervise, organise training for In-charge teachers, and monitor periodically the implementation of scheme at the District level.
- There will be a State Steering Committee to oversee the implementation of the scheme.
- The State Nodal Agency will coordinate the implementation of the scheme in the State and organize related activities like training to Master Trainers.
- The National Steering Committee will give overall direction to the programme and ensure linkages at all levels.



Green School Programme

Green School Programme (GSP) is a self-assessment programme in which teachers and students perform rigorous environment audits of water, air, land, energy and waste within their school premise. It aims to encourage and support schools to build up an environmentally aware, active and skilled community of teachers, students and parents. This programme is conceptualized by the New Delhi-based Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) in an effort to promote environment education in schools by enrolling teachers/students to perform precise environment audit of air, water energy, land and water. This Green School award is conducted at the national level every year, with schools from across India participating in the annual awards ceremony.



CSE, New Delhi in collaboration with Environmental Information System (ENVIS Centre), under Forest Environment Wildlife Management Department launched Gobar Times Green Schools Programme (GTGSP) at the state level for the first time in Sikkim in 2009 of which about 140 schools participated. Three government schools of the state have been conferred National Awards for 2009 based on the all India green school ratings, namely;

- Govt. Sec. School, Reshi, West Sikkim - Top 10 green schools of

India

- Govt. Sec. School, Namcheybong, East Sikkim - Best Manager of Energy
- Govt. Sec. School, Linkey, East Sikkim - Best Manager of Air



Green School Programme was launched again for its second successive year-2010. This year a two days Green School Teachers training were conducted on the 27th -28th of July 2010 at Sikkim Science centre, Marchak, East Sikkim. This programme was jointly organized by Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology in collaboration with Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and ENVIS Centre for Forests Environment

and Wildlife Management Department. Mr. Bhim Dhungel Hon'ble State Forest Minister, Mr, M.L.Arrawatia Secretary for Science and Environment, Mr. Y.P.Gurung Joint Director (Lu&E) Forest Environment & W/L Management Department, attended the Programme. The teachers from all the districts in Sikkim (a total of 60 teachers) participated in the training programme. Mr. Ashish Shah and Ms. Ajanta from Centre for Science & Environment (CSE) New Delhi were invited as resource persons for providing hands on training on the Green School Manual. The



training was done mainly to help the teachers understand the manual better and conduct the programme accordingly in Schools.

This year approximately 82 schools have registered for Green Schools Programme.

Sikkim State NGC Eco-Club Students amongst the Greenest of Greens in the Country

The activities of National Green Corps programme being implemented by school eco-clubs and coordinated by the ENVIS Centre under Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department for stimulation of environment awareness has been appreciated as the Greenest of Greens in the first ever National Conference of Children and Youth held at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh from Aug 25-30, 2010 where 21 States participated.



Students preparing the nation's longest hand print eco-banner

The National Green Corps Sikkim represented the event with a team of 8 members; (5 students, 2 teachers and 1 officer from the Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department). A week long event featured eco-exhibition, eco-project works, eco-painting, eco-drama, eco-puppetry, eco-filming, mock eco-parliament, nature trail, cultural and literary presentation on special state relevant environmental features. The participating eco-club students from Sikkim state presented their environmental endeavor and their initiatives in the Green School activities. The initiatives of the state government towards environment protection and conservation through various programmes like State Green Mission, 10 minutes to earth, Smritivan, State level Green School Programme and so on were also highlighted during the event. Sikkim state was much appreciated for its environment endeavor and its sustainable development.

The participants from Sikkim were Miss Yangchen Bhutia (CI X), Miss Chetna Chettri (CI X) and Ms. Purnima Sharma (Teacher) from Deorali Girls Sr. Sec. School, Master Norbu Lepcha (CI VII) from Mangan Sr. Sec. School, Master Rajendra Pradhan (CI IX), Miss Kazal Bhagat (CI IX) and Mr. Ghanashyam Pradhan (Teacher) from Reshi Govt. Sec. School, and Mr. Rajen Pradhan, Sr. Programme Officer, ENVIS Centre from Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department. The selection of the students was based on the guidelines provided by NCERT. The above school children have shown good performance in the Green School Programme. The event was an excellent platform to interact, share and visualize the role of school children as agents of change and for dissemination of environmental information among the public at large. The national meet provided an image of unity in diversity where students, teachers and officers from various states, MoEF, NCERT were brought under one roof to rejuvenate and inculcate the global vision to protect the only mother earth.