

















REPORT ON

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION 2021

June 5, 2021 | **SIKKIM**



Report by
Sikkim State ENVIS Hub
Forest and Environment Department
Government of Sikkim, Gangtok





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Programme Banner





REPORT ON

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION 2021

Theme: "Ecosystem Restoration"

June 5, 2021 | Sikkim

The World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated every year on 5th June since 1974, engaging governments, businesses and citizens in an effort to address the pressing environmental issues. It is the United Nations Day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. This year the WED theme was 'Ecosystem Restoration' and on this day, the UN decade 2021-2030 for ecosystem restoration was launched.

Symbolic Plantation drive: In the state of Sikkim, the Forest and Environment Department steered the state-wide celebration of the WED by engaging all sections of the society for generation of true environmental consciousness. In the current situation, wherein, the state-wide lockdown was extended to contain the pandemic till 7th of June 2021 in the State of Sikkim, the department of Forest and Environment organised a symbolic programme on a much reduced scale of ceremonial plantation followed by flagging of the fire tenders (4 nos) by the Hon'ble Governor and the Hon'ble Chief Minister at Raj Bhawan premises.









Pictures: Plantation by the Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim Shri Ganga Prasad and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang at the Raj Bhawan premises. The dignitaries also flagged off the fire tender vehicles (4 nos) of the Forest and Environment Department vehicle at Raj Bhawan premises. (Video Report: https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=search&v=539219900579944&external_log_id=23df6248-0c61-4b1d-b8c0-fd2c00c12aa9&q=sikkim%20chronicle)





District-wise plantation: The Forest and Environment Department at respective districts and blocks also organised similar plantation drives with other dignitaries at local levels duly following social distancing and all Covid-19 SoPs. The events were coordinated by DFOs of Environment & Soil Conservation, Territorial, Social Forestry and Wildlife divisions of respective districts. Seedling distribution booths were set up at various blocks to avail plantation stock for local public, NGOs, JFMCs, EDCs and other local bodies for taking up plantation at institutional premises, government office premises, barren lands, private holdings, forest areas and so on.

Plantation drives are carried in Gyalshing, DAC complex in presence of DC West, Sr. SP West, SDM Gyalshing, DFO (E&SC), ACF (E&SC), ACF (T), Block Officers along with Nursery Staffs of E&SC & Territorial Division of West District. The program was organised with strict compliance of Covid-19 SoPs.





Soreng Sub-division under Soil Conservation and Territorial celebrated World Environment Day 5 June, 2021 with limited invites at Soreng. Chief guest was Shri M N Subba, Advisor Sports and Youth Department, Government of Sikkim. Total 50 nos of different species were planted.









At Pakyong East Sikkim, Sub-Division officers and staff along with Hon'ble area MLA (Namcheybong), Advisor, ADC, SDM, D.E (Power), police personals, line department officers, JFMC executive members and local public planted flowering species. Seedlings of different plant varieties are also distributed to local public.













Plantation drive was also carried out at Kitam Bird Sanctuary premises in South Sikkim on the occasion involving frontline staffs of Wildlife South division. Plantation was done mostly along the roadside of the sanctuary.







World Environment Day was observed at Melli (Territorial) Range with participation of JFMC president of Rateypani. On the occasion 250 number nos saplings of baganvellia, tankiphul, jarul and other flowering species were planted.















World Environment Day was also observed by cooperative societies across the state. Cooperative being economic entities are entrusted with social responsibility. On the occasion, various cooperative societies like Padamchey multi-purpose Cooperative Society Ltd (MPCS), Namcheybong MPCS from east district, Hee-Gyathang MPCS, Mayel MPCS, Phensang MPCS and Tingchim Chadey MPCS from north district fulfilled their responsibilities by taking up plantation various species in their complex and compound, carrying cleanliness activities in their localities and creating awareness on restoring and preserving our ecosystem.













Online Events: To engage students from schools and colleges and general public per se, the Sikkim ENVIS Hub of the Forest and Environment Department conducted online competitive events such as quiz, painting and drawing, slogan writing, open photography and short video contest with cash prizes up to Rs 20,000 supported by the department. The online event was hosted in Sikkim ENVIS website www.sikenvis.nic.in and the entries were accepted from 1st of June till 5th of June, 2021 till 5pm, while the online quiz on three categories were conducted live for 30 minutes on June 5, 2021 from 11.00 am to 11.20 am.



Online Event flyer

The online activities were conducted on 5 different events categories into 9 sections.





The online events conducted from 1st of June to 5th of June 2021 till 5pm recorded **6985** participants in various categories.

The prize money associated with the awards of various online events is supported from the State Environment Agency of Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim. The quiz results were declared the same day at 3 pm.

_	As on 05 June, 2021 5.00	PIVI [Closes	at əpmj			
SN .	Category	No of Entries Received	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	
1	Painting Drawing - Primary Students till Class 5	928	5000	3000	2000	10000
2	Painting Drawing - Class 6 to 12	1658	10000	8000	5000	23000
3	Slogan - School Students	962	8000	5000	3000	16000
4	Slogan - College Students	424	10000	8000	5000	23000
5	Photography	1302	15000	10000	8000	33000
6	Short Video	368	20000	15000	10000	45000
7	Quiz - Primary Students till Class 5	333	5000	3000	2000	10000
8	Quiz - Students of Class 6 to 12	685	8000	5000	3000	16000
9	Quiz - College Students of Class	325	10000	8000	5000	23000
	Total	6985				199000
	Quiz held on June 5, 2021 from 11 am to 11.30am					



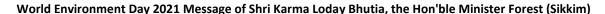




Other Awareness and Extension Activities: The Forest and Environment Department has taken up various measures and included activities in its various schemes and annual plan of operations for sensitization, generating awareness among masses and restoring the ecosystem through plantations, other engineering measures concomitantly generating livelihood opportunities. Also, in the past three years, cocoon production in the state has increased by three times and through construction of 1000 silk rearing houses, it has greatly benefitted 1000 women silk worms farmers supported under intensive sericulture development in the State. Under the Green Skill Development Programme, total 175 beneficiaries have been supported in the last years with green skill training for income generation activities in bamboo crafts, beekeeping, enhancing solar energy systems and through propagation of forest fire management activities such as composting, marketing of products like organic manure, bio fuels like briquette, marketing of pure honey and so on. Sikkim is one of the most progressive states in the country for forest and environmental conservation and has won many laurels and national awards.

Media Publicity: Sikkim ENVIS Hub actively coordinated in pre-event awareness activities such as:

- Message (English and Hindi) of the Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim Shri Ganga Prasad was published in social media, print and e-media. (*Copy in Annexure –I*)
- Message (English) of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang was published in social media, print and e-media. (*Copy in Annexure –II*)
- AV Message (English and Nepali) of the Hon'ble Minister Forest Shri Karma Loday Bhutia was published in social media (Youtube, Facebook, ENVIS website).
- AV Message (English and Nepali) of the Addl. Chief Secretary cum PCCF Shri M L
 Srivastava IFS in social media (Sikkim Chronicle Facebook channel).
- Prepared hoarding both print and digital which was circulated and reached more than 20000 viewers.
- Day-long broadcast of jingles and clips of messages of the dignitaries in radio and FM media on 5th of June 2021.





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VS-WS7OrYsM





Message on the eve of World Environment Day 2021 by Shri M L Srivastava IFS, ACS-cum-PCCF/ HoFF Sikkim



Video: https://www.facebook.com/thesikkimchronicle/posts/2976153832703779

Banners and Hoardings







Activities by Eco-Clubs and Educational Institutions:

On the occasion of World Environment Day 5th June, 2021, several activities were conducted by Eco-clubs at schools and colleges and other educational institutions of the State. Brief report as received is compiled as under.

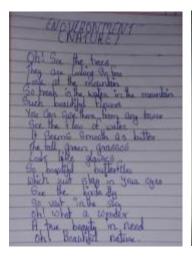
On 5th June 2021, Lingdok Sr. Sec. School observed the World Environment Day to spread awareness about the need to protect the environment and the ways to do it. The students participated in different activities with the focus on the theme for the year 2021 "Ecosystem Restoration"





Students Reeza Subba (X) and Adhitya Ghimirey (IX) gave a short speech highlighting the objectives of observing the Day and the steps to be taken forward to stop the collapse of the biodiversity.







Various activities such as painting, drawing, slogan writing, essay and poem reciting were participated by students from standard (II-XII).





The students were also actively involved in outdoor program such as plantation, gardening and weeding (all these activities were performed in their own surrounding without any violation of the lockdown protocol)



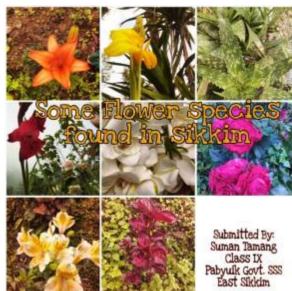




The event was conducted successfully with a lot of enthusiasm by children while staying safe at homes with constant guidance and monitoring from the teachers

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Pabyuik Govt. Senior Secondary School wishes everyone a very fruitful and Productive Environment Day. Despite the pandemic, we all could stand together for our Mother Earth in our own innovative ways. We, the Pabyuik team congratulate all the participants and thank each one for their contribution. We would also like to thank this group and others for providing a platform to encourage each one of us. "The Earth is what we all have in Common".









On the occasion of World Environment Day $5^{\rm th}$ June, 2021 observed by Luing Sr. Secondary School East Sikkim



Rey Valley International School celebrated World Environment Day 2021 with great zeal. Many activities such as poster-making, picture story, essay writing drawing, painting etc. were conducted on the theme of 'Ecosystem Restoration'. Total 45 students participated in the painting/drawing competition organised by ENVIS Forest Dept. The students very efficiently showed and blended the aspects of Ecosystem through their activities.







Government Junior High School Tumin Namrang observed World Environment Day with cleaning of school compound and drawing competition virtually and online today on 5th June 2021





Plantation activities were conducted on the occasion of World Environment Day 5th June, 2021 by, West Point Sr. Secondary School East Sikkim











SUMIN LINGCHEY SECONDARY SCHOOL SINGTAM celebrated World Environment Day 2021 with considerable passion. Many activities were carried out by the students, under the guidance of Green teacher Master Raju Gajmer, keeping in mind the Theme "Ecosystem Restoration". Activities such as poster making, speech on importance of world environment day, drawing, painting, cleaniness drive at school by school safai karma Chari, plantings of saplings by students and teacher were conducted at their residents. Also students took part in various online activities organised by ENVIS FOREST DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM. The students showcased there interest and talents in very enthusiastic manner. It shows that students are aware of importance of ecosystem in our planet.









Gor Secondary School North Sikkim celebrated WED by clearing the school compound and vegetable gardens and planted fruit trees of school of unwanted weeds by students and teachers.



Govt Girls' Secondary School Mangan, North Sikkim celebrated world environment day with speech by students, poster making and plantation work.







Navey Primary School observed world environment Day at their homes.



On the occasion of World Environment Day 5th June, 2021 students of Passingdang Secondary School marched towards environment cleanliness by picking up the dirty paper and plastic of Passingdang surrounding.











Langang Secondary School, West Sikkim celebrated WED virtually. It was a big learning experience for the kids to celebrate nature, by planting at homes, making slogans, online quizzing and delivering talks in presence of the recipient of Green Guru Award 2020, Mr. Nosang Muringla. The program started with a motivational talk from Mr. Nosang, who actually helped children know that working for the environment is not an occasional activity. We need to do it 24x7, as a sane human being who loves mother earth. A small presentation on biodiversity and interaction with the guests were the other important activities in the meet. Mr. Simon Subba, another environmental- activist also took part in the interaction. The program was managed by the nodal teacher Mr. GR Kharka and hosted by the HM, Mr. Rajesh Thapa. Earlier in the morning, NCC of the school carried out a plantation work under the guidance of the CTO Ms. Leela Subba. The school has plans to work on birds and butterflies under the guidance of Mr. Nosang, along with plans to initiate massive awareness related to Menstrual Hygiene and the associated stigma, once the situation normalizes. The meet was organized by the Eco and Sanitation Clubs, functional in the school.















Eco club of Govt. Sr. Sec. School Darap, Wes Sikkim observed world environment day based on theme "Ecosystem restoration". With taking care of this pandemic situation, school conducted webinar and virtual competition to provide awareness among all about the environmental issue and its importance on human developments. The webinar was participated by school principle, all teaching and non-teaching staff and students.. In the same virtual met, house-wise quiz competition, essay, painting and photography competition were conducted. It took 2 and ½ hour to conduct this virtually. At the end, with the idea of "Each one Plant one", every one planted one sapling in and around homes following all the SoPs.











On World Environment Day 2021 Eco Club of Government Secondary School Lingi Paiyong South Sikkim observed WED 2021 virtually by organising different for students. All the members of Eco Club as well as other students also took part in the virtual activities. The activities included Video Message, Eco Bricks Development, Wastes Paper Bags making, Plantation drive, Wealth from Wastes activities, making of Cardboard Box Holders, Nature Art Collage and Puppets Making. Above activities were designed in line with this year theme of Ecosystem Restoration.







Students from Melli Gumpa Senior Secondary School conducted plantation work.



On the Occasion of World Environment Day Celebration, students from Menglee Maneydara Governemnt School participated in plantation drive.







Annexure – I



Shri Ganga Prasad Governor Raj Bhawan

Gangtok

Message of Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim on the occasion of World Environment Day, 5th June 2021

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2021, my best wishes to all fellow citizens of Sikkim for their well being and safety in this peaceful and tranquil state blessed by Gurupadmasamva.

In 1972, the UN General Assembly designated 5th June as the World Environment Day and every year this day is celebrated across the world with specific theme. This year's theme for World Environment Day is "Ecosystem Restoration" and this year marks the beginning of UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. Ecosystem restoration will assist in recovering of ecosystems that are degraded or destroyed on one hand while conserving the ecosystems that are still intact and ensure that they stay so on the other.

Although, we are celebrating world environment day, we are not without deep concerns for life on the planet and more so for mankind in current times. The nation is passing through difficult phase because of the mayhem done by Covid-19 pandemic. Our development has been paralyzed, economic growth has been deeply affected. We stand together with the nation and the entire world today in this hour of COVID-19 pandemic, in consolidation of our efforts in conservation of environment as we observe the World Environment Day on 5th June 2021. The situation in general is grim as the country battles with a pestilence of gargantuan proportions, that has claimed many lives so far and continues to do so. Our greatest sympathies goes out to all the people who have succumbed to the corona virus menace in form of Covid-19. Our deepest appreciation of efforts by all the frontline workers from every sector whose dedication and relentless service has made a huge impact on containing the spread of the contamination to varying degrees. Regardless, life is resilient and we need to focus on aspects of the restoration, rejuvenation and growth. So we celebrate the World Environment Day that stands as a silent guardian to life despite facing numerous onslaughts. We, as a state, stand proud today at one of the highest forest cover ratio in the country and also species a part of biodiversity hotspot. And as we celebrate world environment day we focus on how this year's theme "ecosystem restoration" resonates perfectly with Sikkim's splendour. We cannot contain our pride and awe in declaring even at such an hour, how we are blessed with the majestic repositories of nature and how well the Sikkimese people have preserved this natural heritage. Sikkim has been accorded as the state with the best environmental policies by FAO selected among 25 other countries nominated in this category. Sikkim has also initiated a carbon neutrality vision in line with IPCC SR 15 report to achieve the targets determined in the Paris Agreement whereby the rise of global temperature needs to be maintained below 2°C, preferably at 1.5°C. In sync with the NDC goals, Sikkim has managed to maintain its forest and tree cover at 47.12% of its geographical area and remains an overall carbon negative state so far. Our greatest strengths lie in the blessings of the Creator as a mega biodiversity hotspot.

Also Sikkim is one of the fastest growing economies in the country. The state's GDP per capita is rated third in the country after Goa and Delhi. The state also has a host of green policies that are aligned with development initiatives to comprehend NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with primary focus on the environment, society and economy. If we as a state, learn to cherish our environment then we can always be assured that the environment would in its ways cherish our existence in perfect harmony with nature. Our conservation efforts needs to be at a landscape level encompassing the entire eastern Himalayan ecosystems rather than a fragmented approach which does not appropriate a wholesome conservation of the biological units. Since nature does not recognize political boundaries, even our efforts at its preservation should echo these natural laws and a joint effort from all Sikkimese people to achieve this harmony with our environment is solicited at this World Environment Day 2021. Let us restore the degraded environment and preserve what we are endowed with and leave a pristine natural legacy for posterity. I urge my fellow citizens to observe this day by planting at least one seedling of your choice at your house premises or cleaning your own compound and dwelling houses without making any gathering duly respecting and following the Covid containment protocols and guidelines issued by the Government. Clean Environment sound existence.

Jai Hind!





Annexure - II



Shri Prem Singh Tamang Chief Minister of Sikkim Tasiling Secretariat Gangtok

Message of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim on the occasion of World Environment Day, 5th June 2021

I extend my greetings to the people of Sikkim on the occasion of World Environment Day.

The World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated every year on 5th June since 1974, engaging governments, businesses and citizens to sensitise and address the pressing environmental issues. This year the theme is 'Ecosystem Restoration' and will witness the launch of the UN decade for ecosystem restoration (2021-2030).

Ecosystems are the web of life on Earth, including forests, rivers, wetlands, grasslands, estuaries, coral reefs etc. Ecosystem restoration means assisting in the recovery of ecosystems that have been degraded, as well as, conserving the ecosystems that are still intact.

Sikkim is a small, beautiful Himalayan state and profoundly rich in biodiversity. The effects of global warming and pressing environmental issues have impacted our state and have the potential to cause environmental hazards. The recent glacial lake outburst in Uttarakhand is one example and caution too. On this day let us all garner our true environmental consciousness to act at institutional as well as individual levels with concrete climate action in tune with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sikkim is already on the path of ecosystem restoration through its dedicated actions. Despite continued developmental activities in the State, our forest and tree cover has enhanced by 4% in the past two and half decades. Sikkim has 30.77% of the state total geographical area under Protected Area Network, the highest in the country. The Kanchendzonga National Park has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List under the mixed Heritage category i.e. 'Natural' and Cultural', the only national Park in the country to achieve this laurel. The Kanchendzonga Biosphere Reserve has also been included in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves by the United Nations

Similarly, the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim was awarded ESRI India "Special Achievement in GIS" Award 2020. It was adjudged the best Forest Department in the country for use of Geomatics Technology.

In the current unprecedented crisis of global pandemic due to Covid-19, while Sikkim is affected, we have been fighting strongly to contain the pandemic. Let us all observe this important day by staying home and follow green good deeds and necessary protocols to contain the pandemic.

Let us pledge to continue with our efforts and keep our environment clean, healthy and advocate environmental protection and conservation. Let us fortify Sikkim's position as a pioneer for conservation efforts in India and across the world and come together to make Sikkim a model State for climate change action.

On this World Environment Day, I appeal to everyone to be a part of global action for ecosystem restoration and conservation. Happy World Environment Day.





Happy World Environment Day